

**Committee and Date**

West Mercia Supplies Pensions
Joint Committee

September 2027

WEST MERCIA SUPPLIES PENSIONS JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2026

In the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ

10.00 - 10.10 am

Responsible Officer: Shelley Davies

Email: Shelley.davies@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257718

Present

Councillor Peter Stoddart (Chairman)

Councillors Roger Evans (Vice Chairman), Zona Hannington, Matt Jenkins and Paul Davis
(Substitute for Ollie Vickers)

1 Election of Chairman**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Peter Stoddart be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Graham Biggs, Alex Wagner, Josh Robinson and Ollie Vickers (Substitute: Councillor Paul Davis).

3 Appointment of Vice-Chairman**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Zona Hannington be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

4 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None received.

5 Minutes**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2025 be approved as a correct record.

6 Public Questions

There were no public questions received.

7 Statement of Accounts 2025/2026 and Annual Governance Statement 2025/2026

The Treasurer, Duncan Whitfield presented the report which outlined the Statement of Accounts 2025/26 and the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26. He reminded members that the Joint Committee had been established to manage the pension liabilities of former West Mercia Supplies employees and reported that the accounts showed the pension reserve had reduced during the year from £341,000 to £291,000, reflecting the latest actuarial assessment of the pension position.

RESOLVED:

1. That the finalised Statement of Accounts 2025/26 be signed by the Chairman and the Treasurer be approved.
2. That the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 be approved.

8 Pensions Liability Charges 2026/ 2027

The Treasurer, Duncan Whitfield presented the report, detailing the Pension Liability Charges 2026/2027. He explained that the charges had been calculated in line with the policy framework previously approved by the Joint Committee and determined the costs that needed to be recovered from the four member authorities.

Duncan Whitfield advised that in accordance with the joint agreement, the cost would be shared equally between the four authorities, resulting in a charge of £15,325.68 for each authority. He also confirmed that Shropshire Council, as the lead authority, would continue to incur the costs initially and recover the appropriate share from each authority through a single annual invoice.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Pension Liability charges for 2026/27 as set out in section 7 of the report in line with the policy approach as approved by Joint Committee in the Policy decisions 2025/26 report 26th September 2025, be approved.
2. That the amounts due to be paid by each Member Authority in respect of the Member Authority Liability Charges set out in section 8 of the Treasurers Report, and the payment mechanism set out in section 9 of the Treasurers Report be approved.

9 Policy Decisions 2027/28

The Treasurer, Duncan Whitfield, presented the Policy Decisions 2027/28 report, explaining that while the report did not determine the actual pension liability charges for 2027/28, it sought approval of the policy framework and methodology that would be used to calculate those charges.

Members were advised that the estimated deficit recovery payments were currently anticipated to be approximately £17,000 for 2027/28 and £17,600 for 2028/29,

although the final amounts would be determined through the pension fund valuation process.

RESOLVED:

1. That the current position in relation to Deficit Recovery Payments set out in Section 7.1 of the report be noted.
2. That the policy under which Compensatory Added Years, Lead Authority Costs and Other Costs are calculated and charged as set out in sections 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 respectively of this report be approved.

10 Scheme of Delegations to the Treasurer

The Treasurer, Duncan Whitfield presented the report, outlining Scheme of Delegations to Treasurer.

RESOLVED:

That the scheme of Delegations attached at Appendix A of the Treasurers Report be approved.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting would take place in September 2027, date to be confirmed.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: