

#### The Local Government Pensions Committee Secretary: Jeff Houston

# CIRCULAR

Please pass on sufficient copies of this Circular to your Treasurer/Director of Finance and to your Personnel and Pensions Officer(s) as quickly as possible

## No. 255 – JANUARY 2012

## NINTH ANNUAL LGPS "TRUSTEES" CONFERENCE

## **14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2012 – BLACKPOOL**

### LOOKING AHEAD TO 2014 AND WHAT THAT MAY BRING

#### Purpose of this circular:

1. This Circular has been issued to announce the ninth Annual LGPS Trustees' conference organised by the Local Government Pensions Committee (LGPC).

#### Background:

- 2. Responding to numerous requests from elected members, the LGPC staged an inaugural trustees' conference at York back in September 2003. The conference was specifically aimed at elected members with responsibility for the Local Government Pension Scheme in their area, and a number of speakers addressed issues from a "trustee" perspective.
- 3. Following the success of the inaugural event, the conference became an annual event in October of each year but our Eighth Annual Trustees' Conference was postponed from October 2010 and took place in June 2011. It has been decided to keep with this late-Spring calendar position going forward.

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#### **Intended Audience**

- 4. Delegate places have never been restricted to elected members only; indeed the conference has been attended by many officers who either support pension committees or hold pension fund investment or administration responsibilities, along with trade union and other scheme member representatives.
- 5. Bearing in mind the present LGPS 2014 Project, the 2012 Conference may also be of particular interest to Pension Managers who will be faced with both managing and communicating the transitions to the scheme membership, and also Directors of Finance and other budget holders who will be faced with the financial implications of scheme changes.

#### Venue and Programme

- 6 The conference programme will have its popular lunchtime-tolunchtime format commencing on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and concluding on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012. Having previously been held at numerous locations across Great Britain (Bournemouth in 2011), the conference moves North this year to Hilton Hotel, North Promenade Sea Front, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 2JQ, see: <u>http://www1.hilton.com/en\_US/hi/hotel/BLKBLTW/index.do?WT.srch=1</u>
- 7. The conference is now bookable (see the section below on 'Cost and Booking'). At this stage, the programme is yet to be finalized and it is envisaged that a further Circular will be issued in March 2012 which will include a full programme of events.
- 8. If you wish to discuss speaking or sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Pensions Training and Development Manager in the first instance by email to <u>tim.hazlewood@local.gov.uk</u>

#### Cost and booking

- 9. The conference fee is all-inclusive. All meals from arrival to departure, overnight accommodation at the Hilton, and all delegate materials are included in the conference fee which has been kept at £475 plus VAT. The conference also includes a pre-dinner drinks reception, an after-dinner speaker, and a delegate gift, courtesy of our sponsors Hymans Robertson, Prudential and UBS Global Asset Management.
- 10. If delegates wish to stay the night before it is their responsibility to book this direct with Hilton Hotel, however, please quote that you are attending this conference and a discounted rate will be applied and the Hotel will ensure that they have the same room.

- 11. Early booking is highly recommended as places are limited. Although final details of the conference will follow in another Circular, in order to avoid any disappointment, the event has been uploaded on our on-line events booking facility which is part of the Local Government Employers' website at <a href="https://www.lge.gov.uk/lge/core/page.do?pageld=119624">www.lge.gov.uk/lge/core/page.do?pageld=119624</a> Delegates who book their places early will receive an email with an advanced copy of the Circular, so it is important that correct delegate email information is supplied when booking.
- 12. Please be sure to note our cancellation policy contained in our Terms and Conditions which you will be asked to confirm you have read when completing your booking details on the booking events page. You will also need full delegate details to hand including the address to which the invoice for payment is to be sent. Purchase order numbers must also be provided if required by your organisation to pay invoices. Although, to avoid any disappointment as, it is anticipated that this Conference will sell out quickly, it is recommended that you book your place and once your PO has been raised to let Elaine English elaine.english@local.gov.uk know and she will add it to your booking and ensure it is presented on your final invoice.
- 13. If you experience any difficulties in using the on-line website booking facility, please contact Elaine English, LGPS Executive Officer, by email <u>elaine.english@local.gov.uk</u>

#### ACTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING AUTHORITIES

14. All Administering Authorities are urged to copy this Circular to all employers in their Fund or bring the Circular to the attention of employers by directing them to it on the LGE website.

Tim Hazlewood Pensions Training and Development Manager 30 January 2012

#### **Distribution sheet**

Local authorities who have registered for notification of Circulars Pension managers (internal) of administering authorities Pension managers (outsourced) and administering authority client managers Officer advisory group Local Government Pensions Committee Trade unions DCLG COSLA SPPA Regional Directors Private clients Website

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