Cost Management, Benefit Design and Administration (CMBDA) Committee
9 November 2026 11.00am
18 Smith Square, London and Microsoft Teams

Paper F: Workplan Update

Key points to note

The committee continues to advance a workplan which includes a number of longer-term aims.

Recommendation

That the committee to submit the committee workplan at Annex A to the Board for approval.

Background

The workplan at Annex A details the main items of work that are expected to be undertaken by the committee over the next year.

We will put this workplan on the Board's website to ensure that administering authorities are aware of the work proposed by the committee. This paper will be updated and brought to all subsequent meetings to give an update of activity.

A more detailed account of the Gender Pensions Gap working group's programme of activity can be found in Paper E.

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Annex A – CMBDA Workplan

Workstream	Details	Action for next Committee	Timescales
Opt out data	Work with MHCLG to devise a system to enable collection and analysis of opt out data	Detail of content and timing of actions to be agreed with MHCLG. We expect MHCLG to have published draft regulation changes and guidance before the date of the next meeting	Government's intention is to require opt-out reporting as at year-end FY 2026-27, reported in fund annual reports for that year
MHCLG consultations on member benefits	Government response to Access and Fairness has now been issued. Partial response to Access and Protections (in relation to mayors and councillors) also issued. The committee will continue to work with MHCLG on the government response to Access and Protections	Work still needed on A&F proposals on opt-outs and forfeiture. Government response on rest of Access and Protections expected soon.	Waiting detailed timetable from MHCLG but expectation that this work is completed by the end of the calendar year.
HMT Cost Control Mechanism and SAB Scheme Cost Assessment	Process for the 2024 CCM approaching conclusion (results have been published for several other public sector schemes)	We expect an update on timetable from GAD at this meeting	Ongoing
Board survey showed evidence that employer exits are increasing significantly, driven by	Board agreed to: - systematise gathering of data on employer exits - Clarify regulations on when exit credits are due	We have written to MHCLG proposing these actions and will report back to the committee when we have a response	Awaiting response from MHCLG, timescales will be set for the work once we have a response

Workstream	Details	Action for next Committee	Timescales
financial pressure and possibility of exit credits.	- Propose to government that they ban incentivisation of members opting out		
Gender pensions gap (GPG)	There is a detailed paper and programme of work on this under agenda item 9	Work is progressing and committee should expect updates in relation to: - Explore and propose a standard GPG definition and reporting approach - Adapt the 'Mind the Gap' employer best practise guide - Explore ability of member self-service portals and other tools to communicate more flexible career histories - Support the next steps for collection of additional opt-out data	See paper under agenda item 9 for timelines for the various elements
Pension Administration Strategy (PAS) Guidance	Support MHCLGs development of statutory guidance through a PAS working group	Work is progressing and committee should expect updates in relation to discussions so far, decisions made and expected timescales for delivery.	See paper under agenda item 11