

meeting PENSIONS ADMINISTRATION SUB-COMMITTEE

date 3 FEBRUARY 2011 agenda item number 7

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR (HUMAN RESOURCE)**

### **NEST EGG**

### **UPDATE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO DISTRIBUTION METHODS**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Pensions Administration Sub-committee on the changes to the distribution methods of Nest Egg and the savings realised.

#### **2. Information and Advice**

- 2.1 Nest Egg is the Pensions Office's own bright and informative newsletter produced twice yearly. The publication informs the scheme member, in plain English, of issues relating to the pension scheme, for example complex regulation, fund performance, meeting dates / times etc.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 22 October 2009, the Pensions Committee agreed to a change in the way Nest Egg was distributed to members. This was in response to advances in new technology and to improve the cost effectiveness of the publication.
- 2.3 An article was placed in Issue 20 detailing the changes to be implemented for subsequent editions and a form was included for members to notify the Pensions Office of their requirements. The changes were re-iterated in Issue 21. The availability of Nest Egg is also highlighted in a number of other areas of the Pensions Office communication, including the Retiring Member Pack, Pension Membership / Application Form, the Statutory Notification, and a page including a simple option form is accessible on the scheme's website.

- 2.4 The following table shows the number of paper copies sent through the post for the last 3 editions of Nest Egg:

Issue 20	75,517
Issue 21	23,074
Issue 22	23,746

This shows a reduction of up to 52000 paper copies from Issue 21 onwards.

An email link to the Nest Egg publication was sent out on 8 December to 750 recipients. The link to access the Nest Egg publication was also placed on the County Council's intranet. This link was also provided to other employers enabling them to publish it on their own intranet sites.

- 2.5 The following table shows the effect of the changes on the cost of publication with regard to the design, print and distribution:

Issue 20	£28,644
Issue 21	£10,762
Issue 22	£10,908

For the two editions during 2010/11, the cost of production was £21670. Over these two editions, this represents a total cost saving in the region of £35,000 (£17,500 for each edition) to the Fund.

### **3. Statutory and Policy Implications**

- 3.1 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service and where such implications are material they have been described in the text of the report.

### **4. RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 The Pensions Administration Sub-committee is recommended to note the contents of the report.

**MARJORIE TOWARD**  
**SERIVE DIRECTOR (HUMAN RESOURCES)**

**Background Papers Available for Inspection**  
None

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**  
All