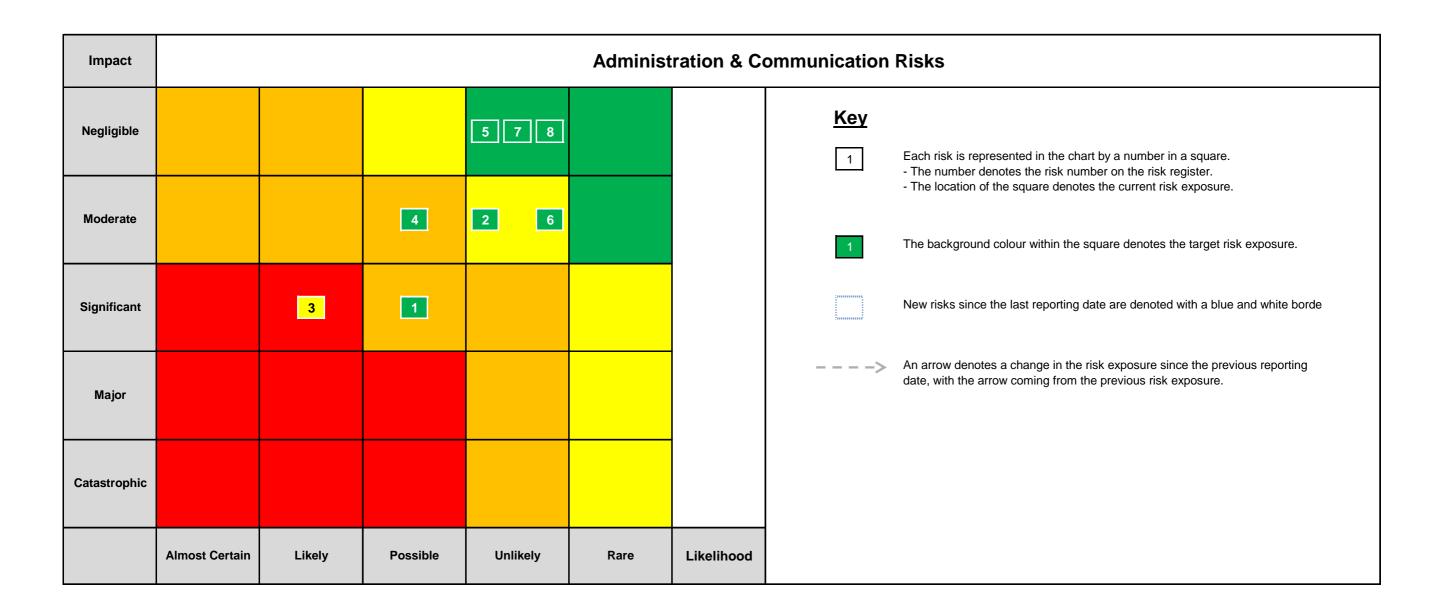
Administration and Communication Risks Heat Map and Summary



03 September 2024

Clwyd Pension Fund - Control Risk Register

Administration & Communication Risks

Objectives can be found within a separate summary

Risk Risk Event (this [event] could no: happen)	Risk cause (due to [cause])	Risk Impact (which may result In the following [impact] to our objectives)	Strategic objectives at risk (see key)	Current impact (see key)	Current likelihood (see key)	Current Risk Status	Internal controls in place	Target Impact (see key)	Likelihood	Target Risk Status	Meets target?	Date Not Met Target From		Further Action and Owner	Risk Manager	Next review date	Last Updated
Insufficient suitably trained 1 administration and communications staff	 Difficulty in retaining staff (potentially due to low pay grades) Difficulty in recruiting (potentially due to low pay grades) Poor training programmes Lack of time to invest in training including system understanding 	 Delays in provision of information to members/calculations of benefits/other processes Errors in information / calculations / processes Increased pressure /expectations on trained staff Additional unbudgeted costs (overtime / external support) Complaints / IDRPs, rectification costs & reputational damage 		Significant			 1 – Annual appraisal process with a mid-year review. Informal development discussions as required. Personal development plan for each staff member including objective setting and specific training preferences. 2 - K&S Policy, plan and ongoing monitoring in place for senior management team 3 – Existing providers and/or National Framework can be utilised if required for undertaking work or supporting with training /expertise 4 - Admin management team meetings [weekly] to monitor work volumes and trends 5 - Ongoing KPI/SLA reporting to management team/AP/PFC/LPB 6 - Staff recruitment/retention and organisational issues regularly considered at AP, PB and PFC 7 -Staffing budget reconsidered annually as part of Business Planning 8 - System /functionality controls and internal checking requirements in place 9 - Periodic external quality reviews of processes / procedures undertaken 10 - Project Team in place to focus on implementing changes and protect any impact on BAU 11 - Impact of potential or actual vacancies and/or other absences discussed regularly within management team ensuring priority work continues unaffected 12 - Issues with recruitment quickly identified, reviewed and discussed with FCC to increase success of appointments 13 - Fundamental review of Administration Team structure in summer 2023, having regard to trends in workflow and forecasting to the future. 	Negligible	Unlikely		Current impact 2 too high Current likelihood 1 too high		Mar 2025	 Work ongoing relating to recruitment, retention, succession planning including pay grade benchmarking. (KW/SB/AR) Ongoing training of recent recruits (SB/AR) Carry out staff satisfaction survey (KW) List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024
2 Employers don't provide timely and accurate information	 Employers lack of understanding (including Poor comms and pace of change) Employers lack of resource Employers payroll systems have restrictions or are not fit for purpose Employers have insufficient resources allocated to pensions matters No or limited access to efficient data transmission 	 Delays in provision of information to members/calculating benefits Errors in calculations / 	A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, C1, C2, C8,	Moderate	Unlikely		 1 - Administration strategy in place (including employer expectations & escalation) and regularly reviewed 2 - Employer engagement through Pension Board 3 - Employer steering group established (Councils' senior officers) 4 - Employer group engagement meetings established (all employers). 5 -Meetings with employers to discuss any ongoing data issues and provide training where required in line with the employer escalation procedure. 6 - LGA employer training guides issued 7 - I-connect in place for all Fund employers 8 - Regular data checks / reconciliations including additional checks as part of the year end processes (the newest additional check is Assumed Pensionable Pay data) 9 - Employer Liaison Team services available 10 - Independent data checks/analysis by actuary and monitoring against TPR data scores 11 - Monthly employer performance monitoring / communications 	Negligible	Unlikely		Current impact 1 too high	10/06/2024	Dec 2024	 1 – Implement employer escalation procedure (which covers joiners, leavers and retirements) (KW/AH/KWi) 2 – Expand ELT service to more employers to improve accuracy and timeliness of information (KW/KR) 3 – Develop and implement Data Improvement Policy (KW) 4 – List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024
3 Significant changes required to existing administration and communications processes and procedures	External factors (Current examples: McCloud, Pensions dashboards, backdated pay awards, Employer membership changes)	lack of understanding of changes	A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, C1, C2, C6, C7, C8, C9		Likely		 1 – Weekly admin management team meetings to monitor workloads and trends 2 - Ongoing KPI/SLA reporting to management team/AP/PFC/LPB 3 – Existing providers and/or National Framework can be utilised if required (e.g. implementing changes / training) 4 – Project Team in place to focus on implementing changes and protect any impact on BAU 5 - Technical / Comms Team in place to focus on interpreting regulations / updating communications 6 - Large projects have formal programme/project management e.g. McCloud Programme in place, including governance structure with Steering Group, PMG and regular workstream meetings 7 - Participation in wider groups to ensure Administration Team have a good understanding of changes e.g. POGs and the Pension Administration Manager sits on PLSA working group for Pensions Dashboards 8 – Doing Altair "testing site" role for the integration of the Administration system and Pensions Dashboard 9 - Annual business planning considers expected changes including budget and resourcing needs 10 – Various means of engaging with employers to proactively identify potential changes / issues 	Moderate	Unlikely		Current impact 1 too high Current likelihood 2 too high	10/06/2024	Mar 2025	 1 – Fully test and implement all software releases for McCloud fixes to enable completion of McCloud data validation/upload and benefit rectification (AH/JT) 2 – Project team to be fully implemented and take on all major admin projects (KWi/KW) 3 – Pensions Dashboard formal project meetings to commence (KWi) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024
4 Communications to scheme members are misunderstood, not inclusive, or are not received / not read	 Lack of skilled staff with communications skills / EDI awareness (including plain language) Best practice not being followed High cost of communication restricting ways of communicating Members not i-connect registered / confirmed as paper preference (black hole) Members not reading MSS alerts/ post (e.g. low priority) Issues with MSS log ins (including forgotten passwords) Members not updating email and/or postal address 	-Additional costs / lack of	A1, A2, A4, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8, C9	Moderate	Possible		 1 – Communications Strategy in place and regularly reviewed – a focus on digital engagement and inclusivity of communications 2 – Annual communications survey for scheme members 3 – Specialist communication officer in team 4 – Internal checking requirements in place for bulk / template communications 5 – Access to consultant's communications specialists if required to fill any gaps in Fund resource/expertise 6 – Engagement with member representatives on Pension Board and PFC 7 - Member self-service in place 8 – Plain Language review of website undertaken 9 – Website meets accessibility requirements 10 – Ongoing feedback from member focus groups 11 – Annual business planning considers development of expected communications changes including budget and resourcing needs 12 – Regular address tracing exercises undertaken 13 - Participation in wider groups e.g. POGs to share ideas and discuss effective communications and regular groups (which will replace MSS) 	Negligible	Unlikely		Current impact 1 too high Current likelihood 1 too high	10/06/2024	Mar 2025	 1 – Finalise Plain Language website review (KM/AH) 2 – Finalise Plain Language review of all communications beyond website (KW) 3 – Implement new communications strategy (other actions) in line with business plan (KM/KW) 4 – Assess gap in skills post Comms Officer recruitment (KW/KM) 5 – Agree and implement communication actions relating to EDI policy (KM/KW) 6 – List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024
Communications to employers are 5 misunderstood , not inclusive, or are not received / not read	 Employers not confirming changes in staff / contact details Employers not reading alerts / emails (e.g. lack of capacity/low priority) 		A1, A2, A3, A4, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13	Negligible	Unlikely		 1 - Communications Strategy in place and regularly reviewed – a focus on digital engagement and inclusivity of communications 2 - Administration strategy in place (including employer expectations & escalation) and regularly reviewed 3 - Employer engagement through Pension Board and PFC 4 - Employer steering group established (Councils' senior officers) 5 - Employer Liaison Team services available 6 - Employer group engagement meetings established (all employers) 7 - Meetings with employers to discuss any ongoing data issues and provide training where required in line with employer escalation procedure 8 - Annual communications survey for employers 9 - Internal checking requirements in place for bulk / template communications 10 - Independent data checks/analysis by actuary and monitoring against TPR data scores 11 - Monthly employer performance monitoring with formal escalation process / increased engagement where not meeting KPIs 12 - Specialist communications specialists if required to fill any gaps in Fund communications resource/expertise 14 - Annual business planning considers development of expected communications changes including budget and resourcing needs 15 - Participation in wider groups e.g. POGs to share ideas and discuss effective communications 	Negligible	Unlikely					 Finalise Plain Language review of all employer communications (KW) Implement new Implement new Implement new Assess gap in skills post Assess gap in skills post Comms Officer recruitment (KW/KM) Agree and implement Communication actions relating to EDI policy (KM/KW) List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024

Risk Risk Event (this [event] could no: happen)	Risk cause (due to [cause])	Risk Impact (which may result In the following [impact] to our objectives)	Strategic objectives at risk (see key)	Current impact (see key)	Current likelihood (see key)	Current Risk Status	Internal controls in place	Target Impact (see key)	Target Likelihood (see key)	Target Risk Status	Meets target?	Date Not Met Target From	Expected Back On Target	Further Action and Owner	Risk Manager	Next review date	/ Last Updated
6 Communications to scheme members are inaccurate	- Poor data quality - systems with underlying errors or poor functionality - staff errors / poor peer review	 Incorrect amounts of benefits are paid Members rely on incorrect information to make decisions Complaints / IDRPs-, rectification costs & reputational damage 	A1, A2, A4, C1, C6, C7, C8, C9	Moderate	Unlikely		 Administration strategy in place and regularly reviewed 2 - Internal checking requirements in place 3 - I-connect in place for all Fund employers 4 - Regular data checks / reconciliation including additional checks as part of the year end processes (the newest additional check is Assumed Pensionable Pay data) 5 - Periodic review of template communications for accuracy, including website 6 - Independent data checks/analysis by actuary and monitoring against TPR data scores- 7 - Participation in wider groups e.g. POGs to share ideas and discuss effective communications 8 - Engagement with software provider regarding system developments relating to Communications, e.g. Engage (which will replace MSS) 9 - Fundamental technical content review of website carried out during 2023/24 	Negligible	Unlikely		Current impact 1 too high	10/06/2024	Mar 2025	 Finalise technical review of all member communications beyond website (KW) Develop and implement Data Improvement Policy (KW) List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024
7 Communications to employers are inaccurate	- Poor data quality - systems with underlying errors or poor functionality - staff errors / poor peer review	 Employers rely on incorrect information and therefore, provide incorrect data which may result in incorrect member benefits Complaints / IDRPs-, rectification costs & reputational damage 	A1, A2, A3, A4, C1, C6, C9, C10, C11, C12, C13	Negligible	Unlikely		 Administration strategy in place and regularly reviewed 2 - Internal checking requirements in place 3 - Employer engagement through Pension Board 4 - Employer steering group established (Councils' senior officers) 4 - Employer group engagement meetings established (all employers). 5 - Meetings with employers to discuss any ongoing issues. 6 - I-connect in place for all Fund employers 7 - Independent data checks/analysis by actuary and monitoring against TPR data scores 8 – Periodic review of template employer communications, including employer information on website, for accuracy 9 - Participation in wider groups e.g. POGs to share ideas and discuss effective communications 	Negligible	Unlikely		٢			 Finalise Plain Language review of all employer communications (KW) Develop and implement Data Improvement Policy (KW) List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024
The Fund does not have appropriate pension administration/ communication systems	 Systems not being kept up to date for national changes/best practice by suppliers Not being kept up to date, or used effectively, by the Fund Ineffective contract terms Inappropriate procurement terms Lack of appropriately trained staff Lack of engagement from Council IT High pace of external change High cost of systems 	 Services not being delivered, or Delays in delivery Increased costs due to 	A1, A2, A4, A5, C3, C4, C7, C8, C9, C11, C12, C13	Negligible	Unlikely		 1 – System provider appointed following procurement exercise using national framework (and CPF were founding authority on national framework). 2 – Ongoing annual service review of Heywood contract for main admin/communication systems 3 - I-connect and MSS implemented and regularly reviewed 4 - Regular review of effectiveness of workflow procedures to ensure are fit for purpose 5 - Implementation of other Altair modules including Altair Insights to ensure effective/efficient use of available systems 6 - Ongoing engagement with Heywood and other users (including national groups) about software enhancements including timeliness of upgrade, and a hosted fund so receive software updates early 7 – Participation at national events/engagement with wider market to understand options for enhancements / improvements in systems 8 – Testing of all upgrades carried out before going live 9 - Ongoing checking for data issues and of day-to-day processes to assist in identifying issues 	Negligible	Unlikely		٢			 1 – Appoint pension dashboard ISP in line with new national dashboard timetable (KW/KWi/AH) 2 – Develop and test all processes for national pension dashboard readiness (KW/KWi/AH) 3 – Consider future options for website hosting (KW/KM/AH) 4 – List of all checking processes to be developed (KW) 	Karen Williams	10/07/2024	10/06/2024

<u>Clwyd Pension Fund - Control Risk Register</u> Objectives for Administration & Communication risks

Policy/Strategy	Reference	Objective
	A1	Provide a high quality, professional, proactive, timely and customer focussed administration service to the Fund's stakeholders
	A2	Administer the Fund in a cost effective and efficient manner utilising technology appropriately to obtain value for money
Administration Strategy	A3	Ensure the Fund's employers are aware of and understand their roles and responsibilities under the LGPS regulations and in the delivery of the administration functions of the Fund
	A4	Ensure the correct benefits are paid to, and the correct income collected from, the correct people at the correct time
	A5	Maintain accurate records and ensure data is protected and has authorised use only
	C1	Increase awareness and understanding of the Scheme and provide sufficient information so stakeholders can make informed decisions
	C2	Communicate in a clear, concise manner
	C3	Ensure we use the most appropriate means of communication, taking into account the different needs of different stakeholders, but with a default of using electronic communications where efficient and effective to do so
	C4	Look for efficiencies and environmentally responsible ways in delivering communications through greater use of technology and partnership working
	C5	Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of communications and shape future communications appropriately
Communications	C6	Increase awareness and understanding of the pension scheme and how it works
Strategy	C7	Encourage members to take ownership of their pension and understand the broader benefits of the pension scheme
	C8	Maintain and build positive members experiences along every member's journey, wherever they are on their journey
	C9	Reduce the need for face-to-face meetings and phone calls
	C10	Increase awareness and understanding of the information required by the Fund from employers
	C11	Encourage employers to take ownership of the data and help their employees understand the broader benefits of the pension scheme
	C12	Maintain and build positive relationships with employers regardless of their size or expertise
	C13	Make the management of the Fund more efficient for both the Fund and employers

Risk Evaluation and Likelihood and Impact Explanations

The following information outlines how risks are to be evaluated. It is based on the FCC evaluation system incorporated in its Risk Management & Strategy (January 2024) but has been customised in places to better fit the management of Clwyd Pension Fund.

		Impact How severe would the outcomes be if the risk occurred					
		1 Negligible	2 Moderate	3 Significant	4 Major	5 Catastrophic	
Ĭ	1 Rare	Green 1	Green 2	Yellow 3	Yellow 4	Amber 5	
Likel How likely hag	2 Unlikely	Green 2	Yellow 4	Amber 6	Amber 8	Amber 10	
	3 Possible	Yellow 3	Amber 6	Amber 9	Red 12	Red 15	
ihood will the risk pen	4 Likely	Yellow 4	Amber 8	Red 12	Red 16	Red 20	
k	5 Almost Certain	Amber 5	Amber 10	Red 15	Red 20	Red 25	
ent of risk:							

Assessment of risk:

Interpretation of risk exposure

Risk Exposure	Score	Approach	Action
Red	12-25	Unacceptable	Risks outside of the Fund's risk appetite
Amber	5-10	Tolerable	Risks within the Fund's risk appetite but not at a level which is acceptable.
Yellow	3-4	Adequate	Risks within the Fund's risk appetite which need to be monitored by Senior Management, if risk deteriorates.
Green	1-2	Accept	Risks within the Fund's risk appetite.

Criteria for assessing impact (based on FCC with CPF customisation):

		CPF Examples		
escription	Service Delivery		Reputation	Legal
	Unable to deliver most key strategic outcomes or priorities / statutory duties not delivered	 The Fund's liquid assets (invested assets, contributions and asset cashflows) are fully exhausted and future benefits/contractual 	Public Inquiry or adverse national media attention	Legal action almost certain unable to defend
5 Catastrophic	 Major impact on workforce impacting more than half of CPF teams or more than 50% of staff Consistently missing both legal and Fund's agreed delivery timescales (greater than 50% of monitored timescales being missed) Incorrect actual benefit calculations affecting more than 500 members Incorrect general/estimate information being communicated that could impact 25%+ A, D or P members (categories separate or merged) Delay in paying pensioners by more than 3 working days 	obligations cannot be paid - Reduction in funding level (e.g. 30% or more since the last valuation) and/or expected returns outlook versus the last valuation assumption) which when combined is expected to persist at least to the next actuarial valuation which would result in unaffordable employer contributions which materially affect public services - A shift in the demographic profile of the Fund which would result in unaffordable employer contributions which affect public services - A material number of employers (including one or more of the major Councils) become insolvent and cannot pay required contributions which subsequently affects other employers in the Fund	Formal DLUHC/TPR/SAB or other regulatory intervention/exercise of their powers	Multiple IDPRs and Pensio Ombudsman expected (100 almost certain unable to defend
	Severe service disruption on a service level with many key strategic outcomes or proprieties delayed or not delivered		Intense public and media scrutiny	Legal action almost certain difficult to defend
4 Major	 Serious impact on workforce impacting at least two CPF teams (but less than half) or more than 20% to 50% of staff Missing some legal and Fund's agreed delivery timescales (20% to 50% of monitored timescales being missed) Incorrect actual benefit calculations affecting 250- 500 members Incorrect general/estimate information being communicated that could impact 10-25% A, D or P members (categories separate or merged) Delay in paying pensioners by 1 or 2 working days 		Engagement from DLUHC/TPR/SAB relating to the situation (but not formal intervention/powers being exercised)	Some IDRPs and Pension Ombudsman expected (20 100)

	Disruption to one or more services / a number of			
	key strategic outcomes or priorities would be delayed or not delivered	 The Fund's liquid assets (invested assets, contributions and asset cashflows) are 40% as a proportion of total assets and the ability 	Local media interest. Scrutiny by external committee or body	Legal action expected
3 Significant	 Some impact on workforce impacting one CPF team or 10% to 20% of staff Missing some legal and Fund's agreed delivery timescales (10% to 20% of monitored timescales being missed) Incorrect actual benefit calculations affecting 100- 250 members Incorrect general/estimate information being communicated that could impact 5%-10% A, D or P members (separately or merged) 	not to pay future benefits/obligations may have a major impact - Reduction in funding level (e.g. 15-20% since the last valuation) and/or expected returns outlook versus inflation (e.g. 0.5% to 0.75% per annum versus the last valuation assumption) which when combined is expected to persist at least to the next actuarial valuation which would result in a significant increase in employer contributions which affect public services - A shift in the demographic profile of the Fund which would result in significant increase in employer contributions which affect public services - A significant number of large employers (non-Council) become insolvent and cannot pay required contributions which then impact on other remaining employers	Negative national level information (e.g. outlier on LGPS league tables)	Some IDRPs and Pension Ombudsman expected (5 to 20)
	Some temporary disruption to a single service areas / delay in delivery or one of the Council's key strategic outcomes or priorities	 The Fund's liquid assets (invested assets, contributions and asset cashflows) are 60% as a proportion of total assets and the ability not to pay future benefits/obligations may 	Internal scrutiny required to prevent escalation	Legal action possible but unlikely and defendable
2 Moderate	 Manageable impact on workforce impacting 5% to 10% of CPF staff Missing some legal and Fund's agreed delivery timescales (5% to 10% of monitored timescales being missed) Incorrect actual benefit calculations affecting 50- 100 members Incorrect general/estimate information being communicated that could impact 2%-5% A, D or P members (categories separate or merged) 	 have a moderate impact Reduction in funding level (e.g5-15% since the last valuation) and/or expected returns outlook versus inflation (e.g. 0.25% to 0.5% per annum versus the last valuation assumption) which when combined is expected to persist at least to the next actuarial valuation which would result in a moderate increase in employer contributions which affect public services A shift in the demographic profile of the Fund which would result in a moderate increase in employers become insolvent and cannot pay required contributions which then impact on other remaining employers 	Negative regional level information (e.g. outlier on Welsh league tables)	Some IDRPs and Pension Ombudsman expected (up to 5) but mainly informal complaints
	No Noticeable Impact	- The Fund's liquid assets (invested assets, contributions and asset cashflows) are >60% as a proportion of total assets and the ability	Internal review	Legal action very unlikely and defendable
1 Negligible	 Little impact on workforce involving less than 5% of CPF staff Missing some legal and Fund's agreed delivery timescales (less than 5% of monitored timescales being missed) Incorrect actual benefit calculations affecting less than 50 members Incorrect general/estimate information being communicated that could impact less than 2% A, D or P members 	not to pay future benefits/obligations may have a moderate impact - Reduction in funding level (e.g. 0-5% since the last valuation) and/or expected returns outlook versus inflation (e.g. 0% to 0.25% per annum versus the last valuation assumption) which when combined is expected to persist at least to the next actuarial valuation which would result in a negligible increase in employer contributions which affect public services - A shift in the demographic profile of the Fund which would result in a negligible increase in employer contributions which affect public services - A low number of smaller employers become insolvent and cannot pay required contributions which then impact on other remaining employers		Very small number of informal complaints (under 10) and unlikely to be any IDRP or Pensions Ombudsman claims

Criteria for assessing likelihood

Liklihood of risk occuring						
5 Almost Certain	More than 95% Chance	Very likely to occur				
4 Likely		Will probably occur				
3 Possible	50% Chance	A chance it might occur				
2 Unlikely		Could occur but unlikely				
1 Rare	Less than 5% Chance	May only Occur in exceptional circumstances				

Criteria for assessing the difference between the current and target risk exposures:

Symbol	Description
$\overline{\mathfrak{S}}$	The current Risk Exposure score, impact or likelihood of the risk, either individually or combined does not meet the criteria set out below.
	The Risk Exposure score is 11 or less; And the current impact and likelihood of the risk are individually no more than 2 classifications higher than the target, and/or the combined difference is no more than 3 classifications higher than the target.
\odot	The Risk Exposure score is 11 or less And the current impact and likelihood of the risk are equal to, or less than, the target impact and likelihood.