

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**Pensions and Investment Committee
15th December 2023****REPORT BY: Head of Finance****SUBJECT: Data Quality Testing 2023**

REPORT FOR: Information

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In 2015, the Pensions Regulator (TPR) assumed responsibility for Public Sector Pension Schemes. Prior to this, in June 2010, TPR issued guidance on the approach that they consider to be good practice for measuring the presence of member data.

The Fund produced a Data Quality testing and monitoring procedure document in May 2017, with a formal Data Improvement Plan published in October 2018.

This was reviewed in 2020 and again in September 2022.

2 Background

- 2.1 In May 2017, the Fund produced a Data Quality testing and monitoring procedure with specific reference to the testing and ongoing monitoring data quality. This was in advance of the requirement to report in The Pension Regulator (TPR) Annual Return, scores against specific scheme Common Data and Scheme Specific Data, which is now incorporated into the Data Improvement Plan.

3. Data Quality Testing – Common Data**3.1 Benchmark**

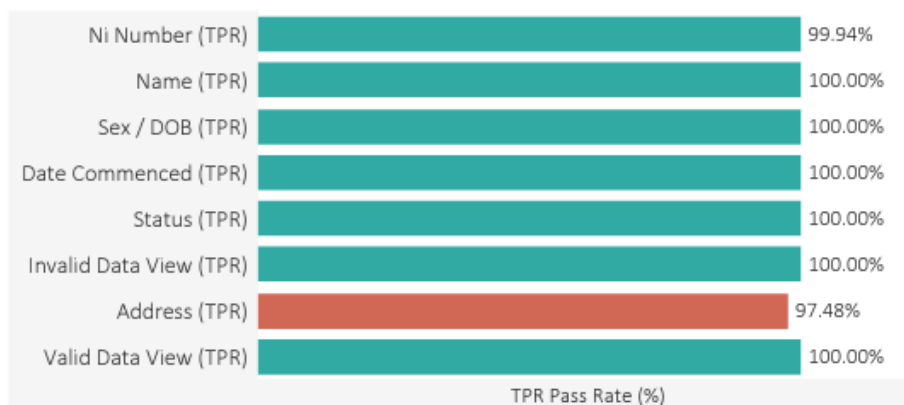
TPR have set targets of 100% accuracy for data created after June 2010 and 95% accuracy for data created beforehand.

Summary of 2023 Common Data results

The chart below indicates performance for each data category against the TPR benchmarks. The results presented herein are generated from data extracted from the Live Altair service in October 2023 for all tests and used a new reporting tool available to the Fund. The overall

percentage of tests passed for Powys' common data is **98.5%** (98.3% in 2022 and 97.7% in 2021).

TPR Pass Rate % by Test Category



- 3.2 7 of the eight categories met the highest benchmark of greater than 98%. The lowest scoring category concerned member addresses, which returned a score of 97.48%.

This score is impacted on address formatting anomalies where, for example, an address is complete, but a post code sits on address line 4, rather than in the post code field.

The general quality of the common data tested at Powys is of a high standard.

4. Data Quality Testing – Scheme Specific Data

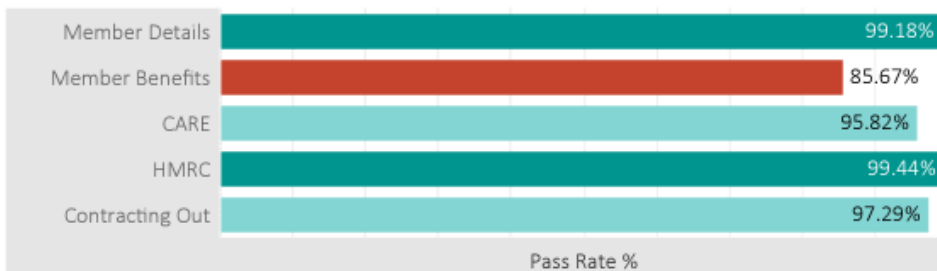
4.1 Benchmark

The graph below indicates performance for each data category against the TPR benchmarks. The results presented herein are generated from data extracted from the Live Altair service in October 2023 for all tests and used a new reporting tool available to the Fund. The overall percentage of tests passed for Powys' scheme specific data is **93.37%** (91.95% in 2022 and 91.87% in 2021).

Grand Total | TPR Pass Rate %



Grand Total | TPR Pass Rate % by Test Category



Work has started on investigating the reasons for the Member Benefits score of 85.67%, but initial indications suggest that it is in relation to a historic way of recording internal aggregations of records, which has no impact on member benefits. A data cleansing exercise will be carried out to update these data fields over time.

5. TPR Annual Return and Data Improvement Plan

5.1 The above scores will be reported to TPR as part of the annual scheme return.

The data improvement plan places a priority on improving those areas of data that can directly impact a scheme member's pension benefits. This plan was approved at the Committee meeting on the 7th of October 2022.

6. Recommendation

6.1 To note the contents of this report.

Recommendation:		Reason for Recommendation:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note contents of the report. 		For information	
Person(s) To Action Decision:	Pension Fund Manager		
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:			
Relevant Policy (ies):	N/A		
Within Policy:	N/A	Within Budget:	N/A
Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Chris Hurst	01597 827640	01597 826290	churst@powys.gov.uk

Relevant Portfolio Member(s):	Councillor David Thomas
Relevant Local Member(s):	