

New global standard for pension fund recognises high quality of training and development

West Midlands Pension Fund has successfully achieved an industry accreditation for ‘Approved Employer’ status from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) on February 3, 2016, which will run for a period of three years.

The endorsement reinforces the Fund’s Investors in People certificate. The £11.5bn Fund achieved the new accreditation by demonstrating that it has objectives and dedicated resources focused on the development of its employees, and that these are kept under frequent review.

Existing and potential employees wanting to work for the Fund can be confident that the organisation is committed to supporting the continuing professional development (CPD) of all of its employees. As a result of the Fund achieving this accreditation, ACCA-qualified members will automatically meet the body’s CPD requirements.

David Kane, Head of Finance for West Midlands Pension Fund, said: “We are delighted to have achieved ACCA Approved Employer status, which is a powerful and important recognition of our commitment to ensuring that our employees receive the highest standards of training and development. We understand that investing in the skills and knowledge of our employees is fundamental to the success of the Fund, and our ability to recruit and develop high-quality accountants provides assurance to our members that their pensions are being well looked-after.”



West Midlands Pension Fund Accountant, Erik Bagnall, shows off the accreditation.

A spokesperson for ACCA, said: “ACCA are happy to award the Professional Development approval to West Midlands Pension Fund, this stream supports the continuing professional development (CPD) of your ACCA members.”

The Fund is now working towards achieving a second ACCA accreditation for its trainee development stream, a signal of its commitment to attracting and developing the accountants of the future.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

West Midlands Pension Fund

The West Midlands Pension Fund is one of the largest funds of the LGPS in England and Wales. As at 31 March 2015, it provided pension services to 277,558 current and former employees of the seven West Midlands district councils and 473 participating employers. The Fund was valued at £11.5 billion on that date and employed 116 FTE members of staff.

The West Midlands Pension Fund strives to be a best practice organisation, delivering a customer-focused service, while providing value for money to its stakeholders.