

MEETING	PENSIONS COMMITTEE
DATE	16 DECEMBER 2009
TITLE	EXAMINATION SUCCESSES
RECOMMENDATION	FOR INFORMATION
AUTHOR	DAFYDD L EDWARDS – HEAD OF FINANCE

1. As part of the Pensions Unit's staff development and improvement in the complex world of pensions, staff were given financial and practical support in order to seek relevant qualifications.
2. The main qualification in the field of local government pensions is the 'Diploma in Local Government Pension Management' by the Institute of Payroll Professionals – Pensions Faculty' (IPP).
3. This is a two year course involving work completed in students' own time. Practical support is provided by the Unit's experienced staff, and additional days off are provided to prepare and complete each of the six assignments.
4. It is a pleasure to report that this year four members of staff succeeded in gaining the Diploma and to qualify for full membership of the IPP, namely:
 - Gwennan Medi Williams (Pensions Officer)
 - Robin Glyn (Pensions Systems Officer)
 - Dafydd Richard Owen (Pensions Officer), and
 - Ayesha Lisa Blake (Communications Officer).

This means that seven members of staff from the Pensions Unit are now full members of the IPP.
5. The IPP graduation ceremony was held in London on 16 October 2009 and I am pleased to report that Ayesha Lisa Blake won two prestigious national prizes for being the Best Year 2 Student (Pensions), and the prize for the best TMA6 Dissertation.
6. No doubt the Pensions Committee would like to congratulate the staff on their success and thank them for their efforts.