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PENSIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

Tuesday 20 December 2011 Town Hall, Main Road, Romford

Members 7: Quorum 3

COUNCILLORS:

Conservative Group (4)

Residents' Group (1)

Labour Group (1)

Independent Residents' Group

(1)

Eric Munday (Chairman)

(Chairman)
Damian White (Vice-

Chair)

Roger Ramsey Melvin Wallace Ron Ower

Denis Breading

Jeffrey Tucker

Trade Union Observers

Admitted/Scheduled Bodies Representative

(No Voting Rights) (2)

(No Voting Rights) (1)

John Giles, (Unison)

David Holmes

TBC

For information about the meeting please contact: James Goodwin 01708 432432 email: james.goodwin@havering.gov.uk

AGENDA ITEMS

1 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) - receive

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still declare an interest in any item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as correct the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2011 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 PENSION FUND PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2011 (Pages 7 - 20)

Report attached.

6 URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any other item in respect of which the Chairman is of the opinion, by reason of special circumstances which shall be specific in the minutes that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

7 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

To consider whether the public should now be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, if members of the public were present during those items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972; and, if it is decided to exclude the public on those grounds, the Committee to resolve accordingly on the motion of the Chairman.

8 REVIEW OF INVESTMENT MANAGERS' PERFORMANCE FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2011 (Pages 21 - 36)

Report from Hymans Robertson attached.

9 UBS TRITON PROPERTY FUND (Pages 37 - 58)

Report attached.

10 STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS (Pages 59 - 76)

Report attached.

Ian Buckmaster Committee Administration & Member Support Manager



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PENSIONS COMMITTEE Town Hall, Main Road, Romford 9 November 2011 (7.30 - 9.10 pm)

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group Eric Munday (Chairman), Roger Ramsey,

Melvin Wallace and Georgina Galpin

Residents' Group Ron Ower

Labour Group

Independent Residents Group

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Denis Breading and Jeffrey Tucker.

All decisions were taken with no votes against.

The Chairman reminded Members of the action to be taken in an emergency.

36 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

37 WHISTLE BLOWING REQUIREMENTS OF THE PENSIONS ACT

Officers informed the Committee that they had carried out the annual review of the whistle blowing obligations. The Committee **noted** the report which advised that no breaches had been reported.

38 REVIEW OF THE PENSION FUND CUSTODIAN

The annual review of the performance of the Pension Fund Custodian, State Street, had been finalised. The Custodian operated a wide range of functions which fell within two categories:

- Safe Keeping and Custody, and
- Investment Accounting and Reporting.

Officers had indicated that they had confidence that the assets were secure and accounted for correctly. They also indicated that they had confidence that accurate accounting records were maintained. State Street and officers also undertook quarterly reconciliations of accounts in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) format and this process was proving to be successful in that any errors were identified early and could therefore assist the closedown process at the year end.

Officers informed the Committee that they were satisfied with the performance of State Street with regard to Safe Keeping and Custody functions and would like to see the improvements made for Investment Accounting and Reporting functions continued.

As reported at the last review, officers had been in discussion with State Street over the level of fees. Officers advised the Committee that a new fee schedule had been negotiated and operated from 1 August 2011 on the basis that the new fees will deliver savings in the region of 15%.

The Committee **noted** the report.

39 REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

In line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and good practice, the London Borough of Havering as an administrating authority undertook an annual review of the Statement of Investment Principles (SIP). Since January 2010 the administering authority must publish the compliance against a revised set of six principles. The Committee's attention was drawn to two areas where the Pension Fund did not fully comply with the principles.

- Principle No. 3 Risk and Liabilities.
 - Point 12 The annual report should include an overall risk assessment in relation to the fund's activities. This could be done by summarising the contents of a regularly updated risk register, of which an analysis of the risks should be reported periodically to the committee. As the Pension Fund currently did not have an overall risk register, officers were proposing that a risk register be developed in 2011/12.
- Principle No. 4 Performance Assessment
 - Point 19 (under decision making bodies) The Committee was required to set out its expectations of its own performance in its business plan. This should include standards relating to the administration of the committee's business such as: attainment of standards set down in CIPFA's knowledge and skills framework; achievement of required training outcomes etc.
 - Officers advised that the Committee was in the process of completing the Knowledge and Skills framework self assessment forms, as produced by CIPFA. The results would feed into the training plan.

The Committee expressed their concern that nearly two years into the life of the Committee not all Councillors had undertaken the necessary training. Although members had been asked to complete the Knowledge and Skills framework questionnaire the Committee urged members who had yet to complete this to do so as a matter of priority. The Committee had appreciated the training provided by Fund Managers in the past but would welcome training on the mechanics of administrating the Pension Fund, not just on the state of the market.

The Committee **AGREED** that all members of the Committee should identify their training needs and receive training and that Group Leaders be invited to nominate substitutes to receive training as well.

The Committee further **AGREED** that the Governance Committee be requested to amend the Terms of Reference to require all members of the Pensions Committee to avail themselves of suitable training within six months of their appointment to serve on the Committee. Failure to avail themselves of the training would disbar them from membership until such time as they undertook the training.

The Committee **AGREED**

- 1. the proposed amendments to the Statement of Investment Principals; and
- 2. that officers develop a risk register during 2011/12 to ensure compliance with Principle No.3 Point 12 and that action be taken re training as set out above.

40 REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

As required by Regulation 31 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008 officers had undertaken a review of the Pension Fund's Governance Compliance Statement. The Committee's attention was directed to two key points.

a) Section 2. Constitutional arrangements

The Pensions Committee's current duties and terms of reference included in the Governance Compliance Statement were as stated in the Council's constitution as follows:

- i) "To consider and agree the investment strategy and statement of investment principles for the pension fund and subsequently monitor and review performance".
- ii) "Where appropriate and above staff delegation levels, to recommend staff to invite tenders and award contracts for actuaries, advisers and fund managers or other related investment matters".

- iii) "To appoint and review the performance of advisers and investment managers for Council and pension fund investments".
- iv) "To take decisions on those matters not to be the responsibility of the Cabinet under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 relating to those matters concerning the Local Government Pension Scheme"

The Committee **AGREED** to recommend to Governance Committee that the wording of ii) & iii) be amended as follows:

- 1. Item ii) Change to "Recommend the authorisation of staff to invite tenders and to award contracts to actuaries, advisers and fund managers and other related investment matters";
- 2. Item iii) Change to "To appoint and review the performance of advisers and investment managers for pension fund investments."
- b) **Appendix A** set out the authority's position on compliance against the set of best practice principles. The Committee's attention was drawn to two principals where the authority was not fully compliant. Officers did inform the Committee that it did not have to be fully compliant, but where it was not compliant it had to state why.
 - i. Principle B Representation Item (a)(iii) To meet the required standards all stakeholders are afforded the opportunity to be represented by, where appropriate, appointing independent observers. Members reaffirmed their decision not to employ the services of an independent professional observer to participate in the governance arrangements on the basis that the current monitoring arrangements were sufficient for the size of the fund.
 - ii. Principle D Voting To meet the required standards a declaration should be included in the governance policy statement on the justification for not extending voting rights to each body or group represented on the committee. The Committee agreed to extend voting rights to the representative or representatives of the scheduled and/or admitted bodies.

41 PENSION FUND ANNUAL REPORT - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

The Committee were advised that the Pension Fund Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2011 had been prepared in accordance with Regulation 34 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008. In accordance with the Regulations the annual report was required to contain the following:

- a) Management and Financial Report
- b) Investment Policy and Performance Report
- c) Scheme Administration Report

- d) Actuarial Report
- e) Governance Compliance Statement
- f) Fund Account and Net Asset Statement (including Audit opinion)
- g) Benchmarking Report
- h) Funding strategy Statement
- i) Statement of Investment Principles
- j) Communication Strategy
- k) Any Other Material

Officers answered all questions raised by the Committee and the Committee:

Agreed that

- 1. The Pension Fund Annual Report be published electronically; and
- 2. The Chairman and Group Director, Finance & Commerce formally sign off the Annual Report.

42 CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

Officers informed the Committee that on 7 October 2011 the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) had issued a consultation document with proposals to deliver short term savings in the Local Government Pension Scheme of £900m per annum nationally by 2014-15, equivalent to a 3.2% increase in employee contributions. Further proposals were expected to follow on the longer term changes proposed by Lord Hutton as part of his review of public sector pension schemes.

The DCLG had indicated for the LGPS that it did not propose to achieve its target solely from increased contributions, but was looking to combine these with reductions in benefits. Details of the options proposed by the DCLG were provided to the Committee. They had indicated that they were prepared to consider other options which deliver the same level of savings, although these fully costed proposals would need to be submitted well before 6 January 2012.

On 2 November 2010 the Government had published a further document "Public Service Pensions: good pensions that last". This document set out recommendations for Public Sector Pensions from April 2015. The key points from the proposals were:

- Benefits already earned were protected.
- For those in final salary schemes, those past benefits would be linked to their final salary when they leave the scheme or retire.
- For those public service workers who, as of 1 April 2012, had ten
 years or less to their current pension age, the Government's
 objective was that they would see no change in when they could
 retire, nor any decrease in the amount of pension they would receive
 at their current Normal Pension Age.

• Government would continue to pay more overall toward pension benefits than the workforce.

The Committee had a full and frank discussion on the two proposals and **AGREED** that officers should prepare an Executive Decision for sign off by the Lead member for Value in agreement with the Chair of the Pensions Committee.

Chairman 20 December 2011



PENSIONS	REPORT
COMMITTEE	
20 December 2011	

Subject Heading:	PENSION FUND PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2011				
Report Author and contact details:	Debbie Ford				
	Pension Fund Accountant				
	(01708) 432569				
	debbie.ford@havering.gov.uk				
Policy context:	Pension Fund Managers' performances				
	are regularly monitored in order to ensure				
	that the investment objectives are being				
	met.				
Financial summary:	This report comments upon the				
	performance of the Fund for the period				
	ended 30 September 2011				

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Clean, safe and green borough	[]
Excellence in education and learning	
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	[]
Value and enhance the life of every individual	[X]
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	

SUMMARY

This report provides the Committee with an overview of the performance of the Havering Pension Fund investments for the quarterly period to 30 September 2011. The performance information is taken from the Quarterly Performance Report supplied by each Investment Manager, the WM Company Quarterly Performance Review Report and Hymans Monitoring Report.

The net return on the Fund's investments for the **<u>quarter</u>** to 30 September 2011 was **-8.8%**. This represents an under performance of **-2.1%** against

the combined tactical benchmark and an under performance of **-20.7%** against the strategic benchmark.

The overall net return of the Fund's investments for the <u>year</u> to 30 September 2011 was -2.2%. This represents an under performance of -2.0% against the annual tactical combined benchmark and an under performance of -14.3% against the annual strategic benchmark.

Members should bear in mind that the markets have seen unprecedented volatility since the latter half of 2007, with further market falls during 2008. The markets did rally during 2009 and 2010, erasing some of the earlier losses. However the outlook for the global economy remains unclear with the immediate priority being the debt crisis in the US and the Euro-zone.

It is now possible to measure the individual managers' annual return for the new tactical combined benchmark since they became active on the 14th February 2005. These results are shown later in the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 1) Considers Hymans performance monitoring report and presentation (Appendix A).
- 2) Receive a presentation from the Funds Property Manager (UBS) and the Funds UK/Global Equities Passive Manager (State Street Global Assets).
- 3) Notes the summary of the performance of the Pension Fund within this report.
- 4) Considers the quarterly reports provided by each investment manager.
- 5) Considers and notes any Corporate Governance issues arising from voting as detailed by each manager.
- 6) Considers any points arising from officer monitoring meetings (section 4 refers).
- 7) Notes the analysis of the cash balances (paragraphs 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 refers).

REPORT DETAIL

1. Background

1.1 A major restructure of the fund took place in the first quarter of 2005. A further restructure of the fund took place during the first half of 2008 and these changes were reflected in a revised Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) adopted by members in September 2008 and subsequently

- updated in June 2010 and November 2011. Implementation of the revised strategy is currently ongoing.
- 1.2 A strategic benchmark has been adopted for the overall Fund of Gilts + 2.6% (net of fees) per annum. This is the expected return in excess of the fund's liabilities over the longer term. The main factor in meeting the strategic benchmark is market performance.
- 1.3 Individual manager performance and asset allocation will determine the out performance against the strategic benchmark. Each manager has been set a specific (tactical) benchmark as well as an outperformance target against which their performance will be measured. This benchmark is determined according to the type of investments being managed. This is not directly comparable to the strategic benchmark as the majority of the mandate benchmarks are different but contributes to the overall performance. No revisions were made to individual fund manager benchmarks as part of the investment strategy review. However the asset allocation has been revised and these are shown in the following table against the manager's benchmarks:

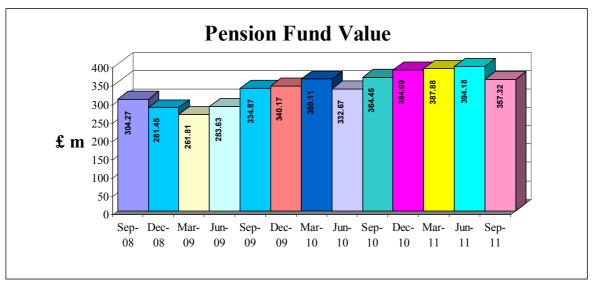
Manager and % of total Fund awarded	Mandate	Tactical Benchmark	Out performance Target
Standard Life 20%	UK Equities -Active	FTSE All Share Index	2%
State Street (SSgA) (Account 2) 25%	UK/Global Equities - passive	UK- FTSE All Share Index Global (Ex UK) – FTSE All World ex UK Index	To track the benchmark
State Street (SSgA) (Account 1) 15%	UK/Global Equities - Passive	UK- FTSE All Share Index Global (Ex UK) – FTSE All World ex UK Index	To track the benchmark
Royal London Asset Management 25%	Investment Grade Bonds	 50% iBoxx Sterling Non Gilt Over 10 Year Index 16.7% FTSE Actuaries UK Gilt Over 15 Years Index 33.3% FTSE Actuaries Index- Linked Over 5 Year Index 	0.75%
UBS 10%	Property	IPD (previously called HSBC/AREF) All Balanced Funds Median Index	To outperform the benchmark
Ruffer 5%	Multi Asset	Not measured against any market index – for illustrative purposes LIBOR (3 months) + 4%.	To outperform the benchmark

1.4 The Committee appointed a Multi-Asset Manager (Ruffer) and a Passive Equity Manager (State Street Global Advisors Limited (SSgA)) in February 2010. Both Managers commenced trading from 8th September 2010.

- 1.5 The mandate with the Global Equities Manager (Alliance Bernstein) was terminated in February 2011. Assets were transferred to State Street Global Advisors pending further consideration of the investment strategy. The Fund has gone through the tendering process in the search for a new Global Equity Manager and a Special Pensions Committee has been scheduled for the 15th December at which an appointment will be made.
- 1.6 UBS and SSgA manage the assets on a pooled basis. Standard Life, Royal London and Ruffer manage the assets on a segregated basis. Performance is monitored by reference to the benchmark and out performance target. Each manager's individual performance is shown in this report with a summary of any key information relevant to their performance.
- 1.7 Since 2006, to ensure consistency with reports received from our Performance Measurers, Investments Advisors and Fund Managers, the 'relative returns' (under/over performance) calculations has been changed from the previously used arithmetical method to the industry standard geometric method (please note that this will sometimes produce figures that arithmetically do not add up).
- 1.8 Existing Managers are invited to present at the Pensions Committee Meeting every six months. On alternate dates, they meet with officers for a formal monitoring meeting. The exception to this procedure is the Multi Asset (Ruffer) and the Passive Equity (SSGa) Managers who will attend two meetings per year, one with Officers and one with Pensions Committee. However if there are any specific matters of concern to the Committee relating to the Managers performance, arrangements can be made for additional presentations.
- 1.9 Hyman's performance monitoring report is attached at **Appendix A**.

2. Fund Size

2.1 Based on information supplied by our performance measurers the total combined fund value at the close of business on 30 September 2011 was £357.32m. This valuation differs from the basis of valuation used by our Fund Managers and our Investment Advisor in that it excludes income. This compares with a fund value of £394.2m at the 30 June 2011; a decrease of £36.86m. The movement in the fund value is attributable to a decrease in cash of £2.47 and a decrease in fund performance of £34.39m. The internally managed cash level now totals £1.1m, of which an analysis follows in this report.



Source: WM Company (Performance Measurers)

2.2 An analysis of the internally managed cash balance of £1.1m follows:

CASH ANALYSIS	2009/10	2010/11 (Updated)	2011/12
	£000's	£000's	£000's
Balance B/F	-7999	-4763	-8495
Benefits Paid	26926	25702	16170
Management costs	1939	1895	647
Net Transfer Values	2639	-3053	-172
Employee/Employer Contributions	-28251	-28333	-13944
Cash from/to Managers/Other Adj.	0	176	4696
Internal Interest	-17	-119	-8
Movement in Year	3236	-3732	7389
Balance C/F	-4763	-8495	-1106

The 2011/12 figures are based upon an interim report and are subject to further adjustments.

- 2.3 Internally managed cash had been decreasing during 2009/10; the significant factor being the reduction in net transfer values (more members of the fund transferring out than in). A clarification in the regulations was required before a number of 'Transfers In' could be processed. This has since been received and the numbers of 'Transfers In' processed had increased, hence why the cash levels have risen.
- 2.4 As agreed by members on the 24 March 11, internally managed cash of £7m was transferred to UBS in May 2011. Income received of £2.1m not needed for reinvestment by Fund managers was transferred from our custodian on the 25 May 2011 to top up the internally managed cash.

2.5 Officers are anticipating that internally managed cash in 2011/12 will continue to reduce due to the amount of benefits being paid out of the scheme exceeding contributions received. Officers will be looking at ways of accessing income earned from investments to boost the cash flow for 2012/13.

3. Performance Figures against Benchmarks

3.1.1 The overall net performance of the Fund against the new **Combined Tactical Benchmark** (the combination of each of the individual manager benchmarks) follows:

	Quarter to 30.09.11	12 Months to 30.09.11	3 Years to 30.09.11	5 years to 30.09.11	
Fund	-8.8%	-2.2%	5.2%	0.2%	
Benchmark return	-6.9%	-0.1%	6.7%	2.6%	
*Difference in return	-2.1%	-2.0%	-1.4%	-2.4%	

Source: WM Company

3.1.2 The overall net performance of the Fund against the **Strategic Benchmark** (i.e. the strategy adopted of Gilts over 15 years + 2.6%) is shown below:

	Quarter to	12 Months to	to	5 years to	
	30.09.11	30.09.11	30.09.11	30.09.11	
Fund	-8.8%	-2.2%	5.2%	0.2%	
Benchmark return	14.9%	14.2%	13.8%	9.7%	
*Difference in return	-20.7%	-14.3%	-7.6%	-8.7%	

Source: WM Company

The Fund's revised strategy adopted in September 2008 has not been fully implemented and historical performance greater than three years is no reflection of the revised strategy.

3.1.3 The following tables compare each manager's performance against their specific (tactical) benchmark and their performance target (benchmark plus the agreed mandated out performance target) for the current quarter and the last 12 months.

^{*}Totals may not sum due to geometric basis of calculation and rounding.

^{*}Totals may not sum due to geometric basis of calculation and rounding.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE (AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2011)

QUARTER	Standard Life	Royal London	UBS	Ruffer	SSgA A/C 1	SSgA A/C 2
Return (performance) Benchmark	-20.1 -13.5	6.4 7.5	0.8 1.6	-1.3 0.2	-14.6 -14.6	-14.9 -14.9
*Over/(Under) Performance vs. Benchmark	-7.7	-1.1	-0.9	-1.5	0.0	0.0
TARGET	-13.0	7.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
* Over/(Under) Performance vs. Target	-8.1	-1.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: WM Company, Fund Managers and Hymans

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE (LAST 12 MONTHS)

ANNUAL	Standard Life	Royal London	UBS	Ruffer	SSgA A/C 1	SSgA A/C 2
Return (performance)	-12.2	8.0	8.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
Benchmark	-4.4	8.0	7.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
*Over/(Under) Performance vs. Benchmark	-8.2	0.0	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
TARGET	-2.4	8.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
* Over/(Under) Performance vs. Target	-10.0	-0.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: WM Company, Fund Managers and Hymans

- Totals may not sum due to geometric basis of calculation and rounding.
- Ruffer and SSGa Inception from 8 Sept 2010

^{*} Totals may not sum due to geometric basis of calculation and rounding.

4. Fund Manager Reports

4.1. UK Equities (Standard Life)

- a) In accordance with agreed procedures officers met with representatives from Standard Life on the 17 November 2011 at which a review of their Quarter 3 performance was discussed.
- b) The value of the fund decreased by 25% on the previous guarter.
- c) Standard Life underperformed the benchmark in the quarter by -7.7% and underperformed the target in the quarter by -8.1%. Since inception they are below benchmark by -1.7% and -3.7% against the target. As at the date of the meeting performance was up against the benchmark.
- d) Standard Life reported that the third quarter saw global equity markets fall sharply with a lack of resolution to the European debt crisis, US credit rating downgrade and other countries in the Euro-zone dominating he news, all weighed heavily on the markets.
- e) Standard Life's view on the economy are as follows:
 - They think that a double dip recession is unlikely but markets have set prices on this basis.
 - They anticipate that there will be modest global growth in 2012 and eventual solution to the euro-zone will allow global recovery to continue.
 - Defensive companies are now on a relative basis very expensive and given their growth prospects they remain unattractive. There are some interesting buying opportunities where companies' prospects remain attractive and balance sheets strong and Standard Life will seek to take advantage of where the market has excessively discounted economic weakness.
- f) Standard Life's underperformance was largely down to its overweight position to resource stocks. Rio Tinto, Xstrata, and Vedanta Resources led the decline. Overweight positions in the Banking and Travel and Leisure sub sectors also suffered significantly.
- g) Positive attribution in stock selection came from Glaxosmithkline as shares outperformed mainly on defensive merits. Easyjet – helped by lower oil price. Howden Joinery - strong trading as peers exit the market. Persimmon - Housing trends improving.
- Negative attribution in stock selection came from Vedanta, Rio Tinto,
 Xstrata concerns over global growth. Barclays, Lloyds, RBS shares fell heavily on EU Sovereign issues. Cookson Group, GKN Shares fell heavily on global growth concerns.
- i) The portfolio activity during Quarter 3 were as follows:
 - Purchased BT continues to take market share in broadband, cost cutting and global services recovery.

- Purchased Wolseley new management delivering self help (selling French business).
- Increased holding in Shell as it became evident that its heavy capital expenditure was delivering cash flows in the Middle East.
- Reduced holdings in Glaxosmithkline, Pearson and Next –due to strong relative performance
- Reduced holding in Vodafone due to strong relative performance on back of Verizon wireless dividend and defensive characteristics.
- j) Standard Life highlighted that the dividend yields are higher than 10 Year Bond yields and that the FTSE 100 is the same as it was 13 years ago.
- k) Standard Life was asked if they have made any changes to the portfolio if the 'worst case' scenario happens and the euro-zone breaks down. They have been reducing risk and trimming back those stocks that have links to Europe. They have been investing in stocks that have growth and will use the market conditions to seek advantages in buying cheap cyclical stocks.
- Standard Life believes that European solution is the key to markets recovering and this together with low equity valuations will drive a significant market rally. Standard Life has the view that current concerns over a eurozone collapse will be resolved before the end of 2011 as they believe that the European Central Bank will launch Quantitative Easing.
- m) Standard Life were informed of the updated Investment Strategy positions and were informed that the Committee have decided to reduce their exposure to UK Equities and a reduction will be made to their portfolio to fund the mandate with the Global Equity manager, who will be appointed at the end of December.
- n) No governance or whistle blowing issues were reported.

4.2. UK Investment Grade Bonds (Bonds Gilts, UK Corporates, UK Index Linked, UK Other) – (Royal London Asset Management)

- a) In accordance with agreed procedures officers met with representatives from Royal London on the 17 November 2011 at which a review of their Quarter 3 performance was discussed.
- b) The value of the fund as at 30 September 2011 saw an increase of 6.3% on the previous quarter.
- c) Royal London experienced its first quarter of underperformance in over two years. Royal London underperformed the benchmark for the quarter by 1.2% and -1.3% against the target. Since inception they outperformed benchmark by 0.3% but below target by -0.5%.

- d) Asset allocation of the fund during the quarter was 56.6% Sterling Credit (corporate) Bonds, 29.4% Index Linked, 13.5% Government Bonds, 0.5% cash.
- e) Royal London was overweight in UK corporate bonds, UK index Linked bonds and overseas fixed interest bonds and underweight in Government bonds.
- f) Royal London's overweight position in corporate bonds contributed to underperformance. Stock selection within the corporate bond portfolio also detracted from performance. Royal London benefitted from its long dated holdings in the index linked portfolio, helping to offset some of the underperformance.
- g) The <u>duration</u> position (the sensitivity of a bond's price to shifts in interest rates) of the fund on average was shorter than the benchmark during the quarter but this position was increased towards the end of the quarter. This marginally detracted from performance.
- h) In respect of <u>asset allocation</u> Royal London's activity during the quarter was as follows:
 - Maintained an overweight position in corporate bonds Corporate bonds underperformed UK government bonds in the period. This was a negative contributor.
 - Maintained an overweight position in index linked bonds these underperformed as inflation expectations were revised down on slower growth prospects. Detracted from performance.
 - In respect of <u>stock selection</u> the activity during the quarter was as follows:
 - Maintained the minimal exposure to supranational bonds over the quarter – this was a negative factor for performance
 - Ran an overweight position in subordinated financial bonds- this was detrimental to performance.
 - Maintained the overweight position in asset backed securities
 – this was a benefit in the quarter
 - Added to the covered bond weighting by purchasing Nationwide, Abbey and Lloyds. This was negative to performance but believe that the relative valuations of these bonds will lead to outperformance in the medium term.
 - Underweight positions were held in auction stocks positive effect on portfolio performance.
- Royal London was asked how their bias towards security bonds fared in the quarter. They explained that they performed well relative to other areas, and although they underperformed against government bonds they did better than the financial bonds.
- j) Royal London central case assumes a resolution to the Euro crisis. Royal London thinks that the risk of the Euro break down is about 20% but said

that they were happy with their positions in the fund. They believe that their positioning is right for the economic crisis and are positioned with the right amount of risk.

- k) Royal London was asked whether they have any exposure to overseas bonds and how they deal with the corresponding currency exposure. Royal London during the quarter had holdings in Dutch and French Government Bonds but they hedge the currency exposure to eliminate the risk of loss from movements in exchange rates.
- I) No governance or whistle blowing issues were reported.

4.3. Property (UBS)

- a) Representatives from UBS are to make a presentation at this committee, therefore a brief overview of their Quarter 3 performance follows:
- b) The value of the fund as at 30 September 2011 saw a decrease of .38% since the previous quarter.
- c) UBS under performed the benchmark in the quarter by -.86% and is ahead of the benchmark in the year by 1.47%.
- d) Two industrial assets were purchased in the South East England, representing the funds first purchases in nearly four years. Three assets were sold where asset management improvements had been completed
- e) UBS held their UK EGM meeting on the 17 November 2011 where a number of changes in relation to the UBS Triton Property Fund were proposed which required investor approval. Following consultation with the Fund's investment advisor, Havering Pension Fund as an investor voted in favour of the proposals via proxy.
- f) Key Fee changes as follows:
 - Change the fund's benchmark from median to a weighted average. Currently there are 28 funds included in the benchmark, some of which have significant different portfolios to UBS Triton due to their size or strategy. The median measure treats each fund equally whereas the weighted average measure will provide a more consistent and comparable measure.
 - Increase the measurement period for performance fee calculation from 1 to 3 years.
 - More appropriate than one year to test performance and encourages manager to take a longer term view in making investment decisions.
 - Introduce tiered annual management fee which will decrease as the fund grows.
 - As the fund grows, the average annual management fee will reduce reflecting the economies of scale in managing the fund and also reducing

the business pressure to grow the fund which may potentially compromise performance.

4.4. Multi Asset Manger (Ruffer)

- a) In accordance with agreed procedures officers will only meet with representatives from Ruffer once in the year with the other meeting to be held with members. Ruffer attended their first meeting with members at the 24 March 11 Pensions Committee meeting. Officers were not due to meet with officers but a brief review of their Quarter 3 performance follows:
- b) The value of the fund as at 30 September 2011 saw a decrease of 1.33% since the previous quarter.
- c) Ruffer underperformed in the quarter by -1.50%.
- d) Main contributor to performance came from Index linked bonds as a flight to safety' drove government bond yields sharply lower, and with currency trades being sold the US dollar appreciated sharply against the Australian and Canadian currency.
- e) Economically sensitive equities drove share prices lower. Notable losses in Ericsson, Deutsche Post, BP and Invensys. Falling bond yields drove the net asset value of T& D lower causing a fall in the share price.

4.5. Passive Equities Manager (SSgA)

- a) In accordance with agreed procedures officers will only meet with representatives from SSgA once in the year with the other meeting to be held with members. Representatives from SSgA are to make a presentation at this committee, therefore a brief overview of their Quarter 3 performance follows:
- b) The value of the fund (Account 1) as at 30 September 11 decreased by -17.06% since the last quarter. SSgA outperformed the benchmark in the quarter by 0.05%. Since inception Account 1 has out performed the benchmark by 0.07%.
- c) On termination with the funds Global Asset Manager (Alliance Bernstein) a second wave of assets was transferred to SSgA on the 23 February 2011 to be managed passively (Account 2). The value of Account 2 has decreased by -17.57% since the last quarter. SSgA outperformed the benchmark in the quarter by 0.04%. Since inception Account 2 has out performed the benchmark by 0.04%.
- d) The second account is being kept separate, as the current intention is that this is a temporary measure until the investment strategy have progressed and a new Global Equity Manager has been appointed.

e) Officers will have discussions with the Fund's advisor regarding consideration of switching to currency hedging within the portfolio.

5. Corporate Governance Issues

The Committee, previously, agreed that it would:

- 1. Receive quarterly information from each relevant Investment Manager, detailing the voting history of the Investment Managers on contentious issues. This information is included in the Managers' Quarterly Reports, which is available for scrutiny in the Members Lounge.
- 2. Consider a sample of all votes cast to ensure they are in accordance with the policy and determine any Corporate Governance issues arising.
- 3. Receive quarterly information from the Investment Managers, detailing new Investments made.
 - Points 1 and 3 are contained in the Managers' reports.
 - With regard to point 2, Members should select a sample of the votes cast from the voting list supplied by the managers placed in the Member's room which is included within the quarterly report and question the Fund Managers regarding how Corporate Governance issues were considered in arriving at these decisions.

This report is being presented in order that:

- The general position of the Fund is considered plus other matters including any general issues as advised by Hymans.
- Hymans will discuss the managers' performance after which the particular manager will be invited to join the meeting and make their presentation. The managers attending the meeting will be from:

UBS and State Street Global Assets (SSgA)

• Hymans and Officers will discuss with Members any issues arising from the monitoring of the other managers.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial Implications and risks:

Pension Fund Managers' performances are regularly monitored in order to ensure that the investment objectives are being met and consequently minimise any cost to the General Fund.

Legal Implications and risks:

None arising directly

Human Resources Implications and risks:

There are no immediate HR implications. However longer term, shortfalls may need to be addressed depending upon performance of the fund.

Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and risks:

None arising directly

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Standard Life Quarterly report to 30 Sept 2011
Royal London Quarterly report to 30 Sept 2011
UBS Quarterly report to 30 Sept 2011
The WM Company Performance Review Report to 30 Sept 2011
Hyman's Monitoring Report to 30 Sept 2011

Agenda Item 8

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Agenda Item 9

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Agenda Item 10

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