Public Document Pack

PENSIONS COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

12 January 2021

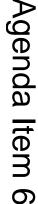
The following report is attached for consideration and is submitted with the agreement of the Chairman as an urgent matter pursuant to Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972

6 PENSION FUND RISK REGISTER - UPDATED (Pages 1 - 22)

Final and correct appendix attached

Andrew Beesley Head of Democratic Services







Pension Fund Risk Register

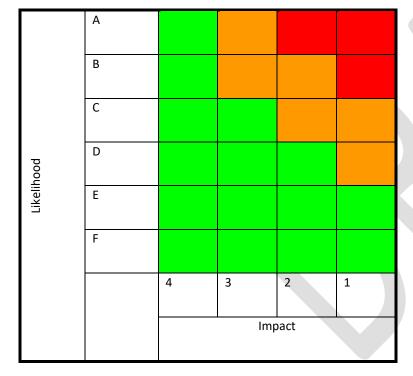
Havering

October 2020

Generic Pension Fund Risk Register

The pension fund uses a 4 x 6 matrix to plot risk likelihood and impact and has set its risk appetite. The green shaded area on the matrix shows the risks where there is good control and the Council is comfortable with the risk. Risks in the amber and red zones are those over which closer control is needed.

Page 2



Risk Likelihood

F = Very Unlikely

E = Unlikely

D = Possible

C = Likely

B = Very likely

A = Certainty

Risk Impact

4 = Negligible

3 = Moderate

2 = Serious

1 = Major

Risk No.	Risk Owner	Risk Title (Objectives)	Consequences of not achieving the objective (Effect)	Controls/Mitigations	Likelihood/ Impact	Actions/Recommendations	Review of Actions taken to date and further actions identified
1	S151 Officer/ Director of Exchequer and Transactional Services Lower Level:	Risk of Inaccurate three yearly actuarial valuation Cause:			D/3	None identified at this point	
Pa	PM/CMO PFM/CMO	 Inappropriate assumptions used by actuary in calculations for valuation Poor quality data 	 Deficit is not reduced Employers pay/ continue to pay inappropriate contribution 	 Valuation completed by a qualified professional actuary Robust, open procurement 			
Page 3	СМО	provided from LB of Havering Personal data not maintained to a high standard	percentages Increase in employer contributions Potential for	process in place for appointment of actuary Assumptions for valuation are in			
	PFM/CMO	(gaps/incorrect) Actuary's own assumptions are not robust or reflective	Council Tax increases More investment risk may be taken to bridge a gap that doesn't actually exist Potential for a more risk adverse Investment Strategy when more risk is	compliance with regulation Actuarial assumptions are open to challenge by officers and GAD Valuation results are checked for consistency across LGPS funds by GAD via the S13 report			

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Page 4				benchmarking/com parisons of assumptions Annual review of actuary performance undertaken by Pensions Committee Controls in place to ensure accuracy and completeness of data. Monitoring of contributions due and received			
2	S151 Officer/ Lower Level as	Risk of Incorrect / Inappropriate			D/2		
	follows:	Investment Strategy Cause:					
	PFM	 Lack or poor professional investment advice given 	Pension deficit not reducedPotential for financial loss	 Investment Advisor appointed to advice the Fund and is instrumental in 			
	PFM	 Poor governance 	Growth	setting Investment			
	PFM	Investment advice is not taken	opportunities are not maximised	Strategy Independent			
	PFM	Lack of understanding and awareness	 Could generate inefficiencies and 	advisor was appointed for a one			

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Page 5	PFM PFM	 (Pension Committee) Lack of clear risk appetite Based upon inaccurate actuarial valuation Concentration risk by asset, region and sector 	unintended risks if not fully understood. More investment risk may be taken to bridge a gap that doesn't actually exist Potential for a more risk adverse Investment Strategy when more risk is required. Potential for Council Tax increases Loss of investment opportunities and adverse performance	off exercise following adoption of investment strategy in January 17 to undertake a health check and add robustness on the investment strategy. Robust, open procurement process in place for appointment of Investment Advisor Investment Advisor performance is annually reviewed by the Pensions Committee and conforms to Competitive Markets Order. Close working relationship is encouraged between actuaries and investment advisor in the development of the			

Risk No.	Risk Owner	Risk Title (Objectives)	Consequences of not achieving the objective (Effect)	Controls/Mitigations	Likelihood/ Impact	Actions/Recommendations	Review of Actions taken to date and further actions identified
Page 6				 investment strategy continually assessed as part of the quarterly monitoring process by the Pensions Committee Liabilities analysed during intervaluation period Knowledge and skills training of LPB and Committee Inductions carried out for new LPB and Pension Fund Committee member. 		 Pensions Committee - Training / Awareness - working towards full compliance with CIPFA Knowledge and Skills framework. 	 Knowledge and Skills Training is on-going for Pension Committee and Local Pension Board members.
3	S151 Officer/ Lower Level as follows:	Risk of failure of investments to perform in-line with growth expectations			D/3		
	PFM	Cause Poor Fund Manager	Deficit reduction	Robust, Fund		Pensions Committee	CIPFA Knowledge

Risk No.	Risk Owner	Risk Title (Objectives)	Consequences of not achieving the objective (Effect)	Controls/Mitigations	Likelihood/ Impact	Actions/Recommendations	Review of Actions taken to date and further actions identified
	PFM PFM	 selection Underperformance by fund manager Poor investment advice provided to 	 targets are not met Potential for losses to be incurred Increased employer contributions 	Manager selection process Diverse portfolio to reduce negative effects from market		Training/Awareness – working towards full compliance with CIPFA Knowledge and Skills framework	and Skills Training is on- going.
	PFM	the Fund or not takenNegative financial market impacts	Reputational risk from poor investments	volatilityFund performance and asset class split			
P ₂	PFM	 External factors / increased market volatility (i.e. 2008), uncertainty of Brexit, 	 The fund's assets are not sufficient to meet its long term liabilities 	is reviewed quarterly by investment advisor/Pensions			
Page 7	PFM	COID-19 Pandemic. Delays in the implementation of the strategy will reduce the effectiveness of the	 Economy downturn could result in general fall in investment values 	Committee and officers. Fund Managers (including LCIV) attend Pension Committee to			
	PFM	strategy and may impact growth Delays in compliance with capital calls on new illiquid mandates could result in penalty payments		present quarterly performance reports and challenge by the Committee and Fund Advisor. Process in place to fund new illiquid			
	PFM	 Underperformance of fund manager (LCIV 	MTFS prediction may fail to reach the	mandates. Development costs		 To continue the monitoring of the LCIV 	Regular reviews of the LCIV

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Page 8	PFM	 new pooled holding) in achieving Asset Under Management Target Fund Managers –non- compliance to the Code of Transparency. 	target – consequence being that annual development charges may not decrease in line with MTFS expectations Havering not able to disclose full management fees in the Pension Fund Annual Report and accounts, in line with CIPFA guidance.	are reported by the LCIV at the General Shareholder meetings attended by shareholder reps i.e. Councillors from each borough. Monitoring meetings are held with Officers from Havering and LCIV client relations team quarterly. Fund Managers complete the Code of Transparency compliance template annually.		 To ensure LCIV development costs are notified to shareholder representative for informed voting decisions. Ensure annual compliance with receipt of completed templates. 	performance continues and this includes monitoring of the LCIV development costs Further Action taken Ongoing action taken as templates are submitted year on year. 2019/20 templates now all completed.
4	S151 Officer /Director of Exchequer and Transactional Services.	Risk of failure to comply with legislative requirements Cause:			E/3	None identified at this point.	

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Page 9	Lower Level as follows: PFM/CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO	 Lack of appropriate skills/knowledge of tPR, MHCLG and CIPFA Guidance, Financial Regulations and accounting standards Unaware of legislative changes key person dependency Poor/inaccurate interpretation of the regulations Failure/inability to administer the pension scheme appropriately 	 Reputational damage Potential for financial penalties from the tPR Potential for costly legal challenges Impact on employer contributions, delayed due to noncompliance. Adverse external audit report 	 Financial requirements are subject to external and internal audit with no qualifications. Experienced personnel in place Continual personal development for all Committee/LPB members and Officers Induction carried out for new Pension Fund Committee and Local Pension Board members Legislative changes are reported to the Pensions Committee where required Local Pension Board in place to oversee adherence to the 			

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Page 10				regulations Active participation in Legislative Consultations where appropriate External and in house training provided where required Member of the CIPFA Pensions Network Participate in the CIPFA Pensions Network/Peer forums to share knowledge & awareness Statutory policy documents reviewed annually to ensure compliance with legislation Access to specialist pension media sources.			

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Page 11	S151 Officer /Director of Exchequer and Transactional Services. Lower level as follows: PFM/CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO	Risk of inability to manage/govern the Pension Fund and associated services: Cause: Ineffective / lack of succession planning Loss of corporate knowledge/expertise Long term sickness absence Increase in staff turnover Lack of resource (Staffing/financial) No knowledge base to store experiences/informati on	 Negative impacts upon service provision Time delays Potential for breach of legislation Financial penalties/ other sanctions Reputational Damage Increased costs due to "buying in" external expertise 	 LPP appointed in Havering in November 17 to administer the Pension Fund Attendance at local forum meetings Continuous pension training for LPB, Pensions Committee members and staff Attendance at Annual Pension Managers conference Members of Local Authority Pensions Web Participates in the 	D/3	 Succession planning required for key personnel Review / update procedure manuals Option being assessed for joint administration with Newham to build resilience Development of Training Matrix Development of workflow/process management 	 Succession planning in progress CMO working to prepare procedure manuals. Training matrix in place, however cannot be fully applied until all CIPFA K&S questionnaires are completed by Local Pension Board and Pensions Committee members. LPP works with

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Page 12	PFM	 LCIV resourcing – LCIV staff turnover 	 Undermines investor confidence in the LCIV. Asset under management do not increase in line with expected target –leading to increase costs for the fund 	CIPFA Pensions Network/ Peer forums to share knowledge & awareness Guidance from external agencies (some will be at a cost) Asset under management target not met		Continued monitoring of LCIV	the CMO to develop/improve workflow processes
	PFM/CMO PFM/CMO	 ICT failure/Disaster Recovery Cyber Security Risk 	 Loss of infrastructure Failure of all ICT services Ransomware risk Data breaches 	 ICT/ Disaster Recovery in place Constant security upgrades to computer systems. Internal Audit for oneSource Cyber 		 Ensure GDPR practice undertaken Use protected portals to send personal information Internal Firewalls recommended 	Evidence that working from home to maintain service continuity successful after implementation of COVID-19

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Page 13	PFM/CMO	 Implementation of Oracle Cloud causes system issues 	Pension Fund Accounts system failures - operational issues and accounting reconciliations not able to be carried out.	Security carried out in Oct 2018.LPP have gained a certificate of Cyber Essentials from March 19 – March 20. Oracle expertise aware of Pension fund system requirements. Systems tested at each stage of implementation.		Pension Fund Staff to interact regarding the progress of the Oracle Cloud Implementation	working restrictions Further Actions: Fusion live in September 20 – Testing was undertaken by Pension Staff. System monitoring is ongoing.
	СМО	 Poor pension fund administration 		Formal agreement in place with		That LPP provide Havering with a copy of	LPP External
	СМО	including outsourced service by LPP Poor administration by the employers, payroll providers in	 Admission agreements not completed by the transfer date. 	in place with administrator, including SLA's • Service is subject to external auditor report of LPP		their external audit once this has been presented to their own audit committee and released	audit report was received by the CMO on 1st September 20.
	PFM/CMO	the fund Poor monitoring of employer financial status	 Pension costs and payments delayed or incorrect. Inaccurate data 	processesA statutory Local Pension Board is in		 CMO is in place and continues to review the 	LPB for further discussion at a future meeting
	PFM/CMO	Poor communications with stakeholders	provided by the pension fund	place to assist the administering		administration work of LPP and report to the LPB	

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Page 14	СМО	 Excessive charges by suppliers Employer goes into default, deficit on termination, change of status, financial risk. 	employers and payroll providers give rise to inaccurate data and financial reputational consequences such as actuary to set contribution rates with a high margin of error. Employer defaults Employer failure to pay scheme contributions on time Poor Communication with stakeholders giving rise to disaffection and actions against the Council	authority in effective and efficient governance of the Havering Pension Fund The Council has in place a complaints system to address complaints via the website CMO in post to review the administration work of LPP Employer covenants checks undertaken by LPP Bond or guarantee reviews in place and reviewed every three years as part of valuation process Monthly reconciliations to monitor cash flow carried out. Ee's and Er's contributions		Strengthen the process for Bond reviews.	Fund Managers performance is monitored quarterly.

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Page 15	PFM	 Inappropriate investment accounting – including reliance on third party providers. 	 Qualified opinion on the accounts by external auditor Higher employer contributions due to poor investment performance Insufficient assets to meet short term liabilities 	reconciled monthly —late payments chased • Fee Invoices checked prior to payment • Pension Fund accounts subject to external audit. • Attendance at accounting seminars/training • Pension Fund uses the service of an external custodian to verify asset values and performance • Attendance at accounting seminars/training • Monitor audited accounts of third party providers to ensure consistent asset valuation. • Monitor investment			

Risk No.	Risk Owner	Risk Title (Objectives)	Consequences of not achieving the objective (Effect)	Controls/Mitigations	Likelihood/ Impact	Actions/Recommendations	Review of Actions taken to date and further actions identified
				managers performance – Fund Managers present at Pension Fund Committee meetings Union Representative at the Committee			
Page 16	S151 Officer /Director of Exchequer and Transactional Services Lower Level as follows: PFM/CMO CMO PFM/CMO CMO CMO CMO CMO CMO CMO CMO	Risk of failure to on board or exit employers/members effectively Cause: Delays in internal processing of documentation Member data incomplete Poor communications with stakeholders Lack of understanding by employers with regard to their responsibilities Lack of signed admission	litigation • Employer	 Escalation to Heads of Service Script in place to deliver to new Academy employers, with feedback process in place (minuted) Database maintained on all contact details for LGPS communications. 	D/2	 Review of internal processes on boarding processes Template admission agreement awaiting legal clearance 	 Still in progress lead by the risk officer in LPP

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Page 17		agreements from Employers	 Incorrect records of new members External Audit Opinion on internal controls Employer's liabilities may fall back onto other employers and ultimately local taxpayers. 	 Monthly schedules maintained by the Pensions Administration Team Tracing agencies used to locate pension fund members Electronic file of required documents forwarded to new employers Actuarial assessment completed for all new admission requests to assess the level of risk. TUPE manual completed in November 2017 Admission policy and manual completed in November 2017 Bonds and suitable guarantees put into place to protect the 			

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Page 18				Fund in case of default. Funding level of each employer is assessed as part of the triennial valuation and contribution rates set accordingly. CMO works closely with LPP. Carries out spot to checks review the work on a regular basis LPP report their performance to the Local Pension Board at every meeting Pensions Accounts review and check all oracle entries relating to pensions against the LPP Altair report on a quarterly basis.		 Pensions Accounts refer any oracle queries to LPP for investigation. 	
7	S151 Officer Director of Exchequer and Transactional	Risk of Pension Fund Payment Fraud Cause:			E/1		

Risk No.	Risk Owner	Risk Title (Objectives)	Consequences of not achieving the objective (Effect)	Controls/Mitigations	Likelihood/ Impact	Actions/Recommendations	Review of Actions taken to date and further actions identified
Page 19	Services. Lower Level as follows: CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO PFM/CMO	 Pension overpayments arising as a result of non- notification in change of circumstances Internal staff fraud Staff acting outside of their levels of authorisation Conflict of interest 	 Financial loss Reputational damage of Pension Administration team and Council Litigation / investigation Internal disciplinary Reputational damage 	 Participate in the National Fraud Initiative (biannually) Process is in place to investigate return of payment by banks. All pension calculations are peer checked and signed off by senior officer Segregation of duties within the Pensions Administration Team Segregation of duties between Payroll and Pensions Administration Team Address checked for deferred pensions prior to payment 			

Risk No.	Risk Owner	Risk Title (Objectives)	Consequences of not achieving the objective (Effect)	Controls/Mitigations	Likelihood/ Impact	Actions/Recommendations	Review of Actions taken to date and further actions identified
Page				 Internal audit checks carried out Signed up for DWP database Tell us Once – DWP inform Havering of deaths relating to contributors to the LGPS fund Pension Fund bank account checked monthly 			Further Actions Taken • LPP to investigate the cost/use of ATMOS – a mortality screening application. September 20 – Mortality Screening
20				 Register of interests declarations covered at all board/Committee meetings 			outsourced to external supplier - Target

CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and					
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	Accountancy					
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions					
GAD	Government Actuary's Department					
ICT	Information and Communications Technology					
LCIV	London Collective Investment Vehicle					
LGPS	Local Government Pension Scheme					

Local Pension Board
Local Pensions Partnership
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local
Government
Pension Fund Manager – Finance – Debbie Ford
Contract Monitoring Officer - Caroline Berry



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