



Haverling

L O N D O N B O R O U G H

LOCAL PENSION BOARD AGENDA

2.00 pm	Tuesday 12 July 2016	CF17, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford
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Members4: Quorum 3

Justin Barrett, Employer Representative (Chair)
Mark Holder, Scheme Member Representative
David Holmes, Employer Representative.
Marsha Jane Thompson, Scheme Member Representative

For information about the meeting please contact:
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AGENDA ITEMS

1 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair 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

(if any) – receive.

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Members are invited to disclose any interest in any items on the agenda at this point of the meeting.

Members may still disclose any interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve as correct the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2016 (attached) and the Annual Meeting held on 6 June 2016 (attached) and authorise the Chair to sign them.

5 REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE (Pages 9 - 18)

To review the Terms of Reference in the light of the first years' experience and considering other Pension Boards Terms of Reference.

6 FAIR DEAL AND TUPE

To receive an oral report from the Council's Pensions Project Manager.

7 THE WAY FORWARD

To consider the way forward for 2016/17 and the next 3 years.

8 PENSIONS COMMITTEE 14 JUNE 2016 (Pages 19 - 22)

To review the items considered by the Pensions Committee on 14 June 2016 and decide whether we wish to receive any further reports.

9 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Andrew Beesley
Committee Administration Manager

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LOCAL PENSION BOARD
Committee Room 1-Town Hall - Town Hall
14 April 2016 (11.00 am - 12.00 pm)**

Present:

Justin Barrett (Employer Representative) (Chair) and David Holmes (Employer Representative)

Mark Holder (Scheme Member Representative) and Marsha Jane Thompson (Scheme Member Representative)

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

25 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced details of arrangements in the case of fire or other event that would require the evacuation of the meeting room.

26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

27 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

28 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

29 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

In response to a question from the Chair, MJ informed the Board that the TUPE Manual was not yet completed as resources had been diverted to assist the London Borough of Newham. MJ gave an assurance that it would be completed before September.

The Chair referred to the list of documents which Hymans Robertson had indicated should be in place. MJ agreed to supply copies of the Admission Agreement, Bond Agreement and Admission Policy. DF confirmed that the

Funding Strategy Statement covered the issue of Bulk Transfer (inc. Cessation) Policy.

MJ had indicated that she had spoken to colleagues at Newham who had confirmed that as new Regulations were introduced existing agreements were automatically subject to those Regulations.

The Board had asked whether any steps had been put into place to deal with potential bulk transfers once Multiple Academy Trusts (MATs) started to appear. DF advised that there was no specific provision for MATS but officers would be looking at the possible implications.

The Board advised that a couple of Primary Schools were part of a MAT, as was Abbs Cross School.

JB informed the Board that he had received a response from the Head of Legal and Governance. MJ would follow up with Legal Services.

The Scheme Manager would approach the head of Legal and Governance regarding the latest advice from the LGPS Scheme Advisory Board which had provided an update on the legal position of local pension boards which might necessitate an amendment of the Terms of Reference.

31 PENSION TRAINING NEEDS

DF had informed the Board that she was still awaiting information from members of the Pensions Committee. A training plan would be submitted to a future meeting.

Two members of the Board had indicated that they would be attending a seminar on the role of Local Pension Board members later this year. The other two members asked the Clerk to recirculate the information on the seminars.

MJ advised that it was proving difficult to provide access to a shared drive for all members of the Board. DF indicated that she would supply a template to all members to enable them to record their training. JB indicated that he would establish a shared area on Google and would circulate details to all members of the Board.

32 TENDERING PROCESS FOR FUND MANAGERS

DF had informed the Board that the Pension Fund would no longer be tendering for Fund Managers. Following the Government's directive for Pension Fund's to adopt the Pooled Investment approach the Board would be kept informed of progress with the CIV.

33 POOLED INVESTMENTS

The Board had been advised that currently 30% of the Pension Fund investments had been transferred to the CIV. The next transfer would involve the Fund's investments with Ruffer.

According to the Regulations Fund's needed to have started the process of Pooled Investments by March 2018, therefore Havering was ahead of the process. Provision had been made to tackle the issue of illiquid funds, i.e. the Funds investment in the USB Triton Fund.

DF informed the Board that the two investments managed by Baillie Gifford had been transferred. There had been problems with one of the fund's which had been based in Ireland where tax had had to be paid, which meant the financial benefits of the pooling would not be realised for 2/3 years. The CIV was still pursuing the matter with HMRC.

34 MATTERS CONSIDERED BY THE PENSIONS COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING HELD ON 15 MARCH 2016

The Board noted the matters considered by the Pensions Committee at its meeting held on 15 March 2016.

35 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

DF reminded the Board that they had been operating for a year and it was appropriate for an Annual meeting to be arranged.

That meeting would need to determine whether they wished to change the Chair as envisaged in the Terms of Reference and to approve the Board's Annual Report.

JB agreed to draft the Annual Report for consideration by other members of the Board. DF would circulate the Code of Practice and MT would work on the content of the Annual Report.

The Clerk had been asked to suggest some dates for the Annual Meeting and to circulate dates for the meetings in 2016/17.

Chairman

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LOCAL PENSION BOARD
Committee Room 1-Town Hall - Town Hall
6 June 2016 (10.00 - 10.40 am)**

Present:

Justin Barrett (Employer Representative) (Chair) and David Holmes (Employer Representative)

Mark Holder (Scheme Member Representative) and Marsha Jane Thompson (Scheme Member Representative)

1 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced details of the arrangements in case of fire or other event that would require the evacuation of the meeting room.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence, all members of the Board being present.

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2016 were noted.

5 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Board were advised that in accordance with the Terms of Reference a Chair was to be appointed by the employer and scheme members from amongst their own number, on a rotating basis with the term of office being shared between an employer and a scheme member representative on an equal basis.

After discussion it was felt that this first year had been a learning experience and therefore it was **agreed** that Justin Barrett be reappointed Chair for a second term and that next year a scheme member be appointed to the position of Chair.

6 ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

The Board gave consideration to the format and content of the Annual report. They have agreed that it should include reference to this being the inaugural year and a learning experience for all involved.

The report should also look back at the reports they have considered and the actions taken. This would include reference to Fair Deal and TUPE, the issue of indemnities and bonds, early redundancy gap and other matters covered.

An opportunity should be taken to reconsider what the Boards role was and how it's interaction with officers should develop.

We have asked the Clerk to draft the Annual Report for our consideration.

7 REVIEW OF WORK PLAN

The work plan agreed for 2015/16 had been a first step to try to identify key matters which needed to be considered. With a number of meetings held we were now in a better place to consider a work plan for 2016/17.

A key area to consider in 2016/17 is Pensions Administration. We were aware that the oneSource finance team were being reorganised and we need to ascertain from the Pension Committee whether or not they were confident that the proposed structure was adequate to meet all the demands on it.

We would also like to know from the Pensions Committee whether they were happy with the Pension Administration performance in achieving or not achieving its KPI's and whether those measures were the ones which they should be focussing on.

We wish to finalise our review of Fair Deal and TUPE and have a report on how the current changes, i.e. introduction of Multi Academy Trusts and College reorganisation would impact on the Pension Scheme. DH advised that under the current proposals colleges could merge, not necessarily on geographic location and staff could be transferred from one scheme to another.

With regard to risk assessment we would be seeking an assurance that the risk strategy had been updated to meet the current needs with specific reference to the possible threats to Havering.

The work Plan would be a live document and subject to change as necessary.

8 FUTURE MEETINGS

We have discussed whether it is necessary for officers to attend every meeting and agreed that the agenda should be structured to allow officers to attend just to deal with just items which require their attention.

The following were the items we wish to discuss at the next meeting on 28 June 2016:

1. Review of Terms of Reference (JG to provide samples of over Terms of Reference)
2. Review of Code of Conduct (JG to undertake research)
3. Update on where we are on Fair Deal and TUPE
4. Brainstorming on the way forward
5. Feedback from Pensions Committee on 14 June 2016.
6. Position re officer support i.e. access to legal support.

DH would circulate the latest consultation from the Department of Communities and Local Government with particular emphasis on any implications for governance.

Chairman

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Terms of reference for the Local Pension Board of the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund

Terms of Reference and Delegated Authorities

1) Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to set out the terms of reference for the Local Pension Board of the London Borough of Havering pension fund.

2) Role of the Local Pension Board

- 2.1 The role of the Local Pension Board as defined by sections 5 (1) and (2) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, is to –
- Assist the London Borough of Havering Administering Authority as Scheme Manager; –
 - to secure compliance with the LGPS regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS
 - to secure compliance with requirements imposed in relation to the LGPS by the Pensions Regulator
 - in such other matters as the LGPS regulations may specify
 - Secure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the LGPS for the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund
 - Provide the Scheme Manager with such information as it requires ensuring that any member of the Pension Board or person to be appointed to the Pension Board does not have a conflict of interest.
- 2.2 The Pension Board will ensure it effectively and efficiently complies with the code of practice on the governance and administration of public service pension schemes issued by the Pension Regulator.
- 2.3 The Pension Board will also help ensure that the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund is managed and administered effectively and efficiently and complies with the code of practice on the governance and administration of public service pension schemes issued by the Pension Regulator.
- 2.4 The Pension Board shall meet sufficiently regularly to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.
- 2.5 In support of its core functions the Board may make a request for information to the Pensions Committee with regard to any aspect of the Administering Authority's function. Any such request should be reasonably complied with in both scope and timing.
- 2.6 In support of its core functions the Board may make recommendations to the Pensions Committee which should be considered and a response made to the Board on the outcome within a reasonable period of time.

3) Members of the Pension Board

3.1 The Pension Board shall consist of **4 voting** members and be constituted as follows:

- i) **2** employer representatives;
- ii) **2** scheme member representatives;

3.2 There shall be an equal number of Scheme Member and Employer Representatives.

3.3 Scheme Member representatives

3.3.1 Scheme member representatives shall either be scheme members or have capacity to represent scheme members of the Fund.

3.3.2 Scheme member representatives should be able to demonstrate their capacity to attend and complete the necessary preparation for meetings and participate in training as required.

3.3.3 Substitutes shall not be appointed.

3.3.4 A total of 2 scheme member representatives shall be appointed from the following source:

3.3.5 Scheme member representatives shall be appointed following a transparent recruitment process which should be open to all Fund members and be approved by the Administering Authority.

3.4 Employer representatives

3.4.1 Employer representatives shall be office holders or senior employees of employers of the Fund or have experience of representing scheme employers in a similar capacity. No officer or elected member of the Administering Authority who is responsible for the discharge of any function of the Administering Authority under the Regulations may serve as a member of the Board.

3.4.2 Employer representatives should be able to demonstrate their capacity to attend and complete the necessary preparation for meetings and participate in training as required.

3.4.3 Substitutes shall not be appointed.

3.4.4 2 employer representatives shall be appointed to the Board following a transparent recruitment process which should be open to all employers in the Fund and be approved by the Administering Authority.

3.5 Each employer representative and scheme member representative so appointed shall serve for a fixed **4** year period which can be extended for further period(s) subject to re-nomination.

3.6 Each Board member should endeavour to attend all Board meetings during the year and is required to attend at least **4** meetings each year, 1 of which must be the Annual Meeting. Board members are not allowed to send a substitute in their absence. In the event that a Board member fails to attend **3** consecutive meetings, that individual will automatically be disqualified, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the Board before the date of the 3rd consecutive meeting.

3.7 Board membership may be terminated prior to the end of the term of office due to:

- (a) A scheme member representative appointed on the basis of their membership of the scheme no longer being a scheme member in the Fund.
- (b) A scheme member representative no longer being a scheme member or a representative of the body on which their appointment relied.
- (c) An employer representative no longer holding the office or employment or being a member of the body on which their appointment relied.
- (d) A Board member no longer being able to demonstrate to the London Borough of Havering their capacity to attend and prepare for meetings or to participate in required training.
- (e) A Board member has a conflict of interest which cannot be managed in accordance with the Board's conflict policy.
- (f) A Board member who is an elected member becomes a member of the Pensions Committee.
- (g) A Board member who is an officer of the Administering Authority becomes responsible for the discharge of any function of the Administering Authority under the Regulations.

3.8 The Board may, with the approval of the Scheme Manager, co-opt persons who are not members of the Board to serve on sub committees, particularly where this would add skills and experience.

4) Appointment of Board Members Process

The process for selecting members of the Pension Board is set out below.

- Communications via different media will be sent to all scheme members (active, deferred and pensioners) and Employers of the fund, informing them of the creation of the board, where to find more information and how to apply for a position.
- An advert will be published on the Havering pension fund website www.yourpension.org.uk/handr inviting scheme members and employers to apply informing them of the creation of the Board, and how to be considered for appointment as a Board Member
- A short list will be prepared of those applications meeting the set out criteria
- Interviews of the short list candidates, interviews to be conducted by an interview Panel established by the scheme manager.
- Appointment of successful candidates
- The administering authority shall publish the names of the local pension board members on the Havering Pension website www.yourpension.org.uk/handr

5) Appointment of Chair

5.1 A Chair is to be appointed by the employer and scheme member representatives of the Board from amongst their own number on a rotating basis with the term of office shared between an employer and a scheme member representative on an equal basis.

5.2 The Chair of the Board:

- (a) Shall ensure the Board delivers its purpose as set out in these Terms of Reference,
- (b) Shall ensure that meetings are productive and effective and that opportunity is provided for the views of all members to be expressed and considered, and
- (c) Shall seek to reach consensus and ensure that decisions are properly put to a vote when it cannot be reached. Instances of a failure to reach a consensus position will be recorded and published.

6) Quorum

6.1 The Board shall have a formal quorum of **3**. In the absence of the Chair, at any meeting, the members attending can appoint a Deputy Chair for that meeting.

6.2 Advisers and officers do not count towards the quorum

7) Conflicts of Interest

7.1 All members of the Board must declare to the Administering Authority on appointment and at any such time as their circumstances change, any potential conflict of interest arising as a result of their position on the Board.

7.2 A conflict of interest is defined as a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice a person's exercise of functions as a member of the Board. It does not include a financial or other interest arising merely by virtue of that person being a member of the Scheme.

7.3 On appointment to the Board and following any subsequent declaration of potential conflict by a Board member, the Administering Authority shall ensure that any potential conflict is effectively managed in line with both the internal procedures of the Board's 'Conflicts of Interest' policy and the requirements of the Code.

8) Standards of Conduct

8.1 The role of Pension Board members requires the highest standards of conduct and therefore the "seven principles of public life" will be applied to all Pension Board members and embodied in their code of conduct.

These are –

- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Honesty
- Leadership

9) Board Review Process

- 9.1 The Board will undertake each year a formal review process to assess how well it and its committees, and the members are performing with a view to seeking continuous improvement in the Board's performance.

10) Advisers to the Board

- 10.1 The Board may be supported in its role and responsibilities through the appointment of advisers and shall, subject to any applicable regulation and legislation from time to time in force, consult with such advisers to the Board and on such terms as it shall see fit to help better perform its duties including:

- A Governance Adviser
- The Fund's Actuary;
- The Fund's Administrator;
- The Fund's Legal Adviser;
- The Fund's Investment Manager(s);
- The Fund's Investment Adviser(s);
- The Fund's Employer Covenant Adviser;
- The Scheme Manager.
- Other advisers, so approved by the Scheme Manager.
- The Pensions Regulator

- 10.2 The Board shall ensure that the performances of the advisers so appointed are reviewed on a regular basis.

11) Knowledge and Skills

- 11.1 Knowledge and understanding must be considered in light of the role of the Board to assist the Administering Authority in line with the requirements outlined in paragraph 2 above.

- 11.2 A member of the Pension Board must be conversant with –

- 1 The legislation and associated guidance of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).
- 2 Any document recording policy about the administration of the LGPS which is for the time being adopted by the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund.

- 11.3 A member of the Pension Board must have knowledge and understanding of –

- The law relating to pensions, and
- Any other matters which are prescribed in regulations.

- 11.4 It is for individual Pension Board members to be satisfied that they have the appropriate degree of knowledge and understanding to enable them to properly exercise their functions as a member of the Pension Board.

- 11.5 In line with this requirement Pension Board members are required to be able to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding and to refresh and keep their knowledge up to date. Pension Board members are therefore required to maintain a written record of relevant training and development.

- 11.6 Pension Board members will undertake a personal training needs analysis and regularly review their skills, competencies and knowledge to identify gaps or weaknesses.
- 11.7 Pension Board members will comply with the Scheme Manager's training policy.

12) Board Meetings – Notice and Minutes

- 12.1 The Scheme Manager shall give notice to all Pension Board members of every meeting of the Pension Board. The Scheme Manager shall ensure that a formal record of Pension Board proceedings is maintained. Following the approval of the minutes by the Chair of the Board, they shall be circulated to all members.
- 12.2 There will be **5** Pension Board meetings held per year, approximately 2 weeks after the Pensions Committee meeting, with 1 Annual meeting being held at the beginning of the committee cycle. The meetings are expected to be held during the day, normally commencing at 4pm in a Town Hall Committee room.
- 12.3 The Chair of the Board with the consent of the board members may call additional meetings but not less than 5 clear working days of that meeting.

13) Decision making

- 13.1 Each member of the Pension Board will have one vote but it is expected the Pension Board will as far as possible reach a consensus.

14) Publication of Pension Board information

- 14.1 Scheme members and other interested parties will want to know that the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund is being efficiently and effectively managed. They will also want to be confident that the Pension Board is properly constituted, trained and competent in order to comply with scheme regulations, the governance and administration of the scheme and requirements of the Pension Regulator.
- 14.2 Up to date information will be posted on the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund website showing:
- The names and contact details of the Pension Board members
 - The representation of scheme members and employers of the local Pension Board
 - The role and responsibilities of the Pension Board
 - The full terms of reference and policies of the Pension Board and how they operate
 - The Pension Board appointment process
 -
- 14.3 The Board meetings will be open to the general public (unless there is an exemption under relevant legislation which would preclude part (or all) of the meeting from being open to the general public).
- 14.4 Pension Board papers, agendas and minutes of meetings will be published on the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund website, www.yourpension.org.uk/handr. These may at the discretion of the Scheme Manager be edited to exclude items on the grounds that they would either involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act and/or they represent data covered by the Data Protection Act 1998.

- 14.5 The Scheme Manager will also consider requests for additional information to be published or made available to individual scheme members to encourage scheme member engagement and promote a culture of openness and transparency.

15) Accountability

- 15.1 The Pension Board will be collectively and individually accountable to the Scheme Manager.

16) Expense Reimbursement

- 16.1 The remuneration for board members will be as follows;

- Board members will receive an allowance £117 (co-opted members amount for other committees) per scheduled meeting attended. No payment will be made for non-attendance.
- Reasonable travelling expenses for training will be reimbursed.

17) Budget

- 17.1 The Board is to be provided with adequate resources to fulfil its role. In doing so the budget for the Board will be met from the Havering Pension Fund and must be approved by the Section 151 Officer.

18) Reporting

- 18.1 The Board should in the first instance report its requests, recommendations or concerns to the Pensions Committee. In support of this any member of the Board may attend a Committee meeting as an observer.
- 18.2 Requests and recommendations to the Pensions Committee should be reported under the provisions of paras 2.5 and 2.6 above.
- 18.3 The Board should report any concerns over a decision made by the Committee to the Committee subject to the agreement of at least 50% of voting Board members.
- 18.4 On receipt of a report under paragraph 18.3 above the Committee should, within a reasonable period, consider and respond to the Board.
- 18.5 Where the Board is not satisfied with the response received, it may request that a notice of its concern be placed on the website and in the Fund's annual report.
- 18.6 Where the Board is satisfied that there has been a breach of regulation which has been reported to the Committee under paragraph 18.3 and has not been rectified within a reasonable period of time it is under an obligation to escalate the breach.
- 18.7 The appropriate internal route for escalation is to the Monitoring Officer and/or the Section 151 Officer (as appropriate).

18.8 The Board may report concerns to the LGPS Scheme Advisory Board for consideration subsequent to, but not instead of, using the appropriate internal route for escalation.

18.9 Board members are also subject to the requirements to report breaches of law under the Act and the Code [and the whistleblowing provisions set out in the Administering Authority's whistleblowing policy].

19) Review of Terms of Reference

19.1 These Terms of Reference shall be reviewed on each material change to those parts of the Regulations covering local pension boards and at least every year.

19.2 These Terms of Reference were adopted on 26 August 2015.

20) Definitions

20.1 The undernoted terms shall have the following meaning when used in this document:

<i>"Pension Board" or "Board"</i>	Means the local Pension Board for the London Borough of Havering administering authority for the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund as required under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013
<i>"Scheme Manager"</i>	Means the London Borough of Havering as administering authority of the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund.
<i>"Chair"</i>	Means the Chair of the Pension Board
<i>"LGPS"</i>	<p>The Local Government Pension Scheme as constituted by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 and The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009</p> <p>In Scotland;</p> <p>The Local Government Pension Scheme as constituted by the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, the Local Government Pension Scheme Administration) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 and the The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) (Scotland) Regulations 2010]</p>
<i>"Scheme"</i>	Means the Local Government Pension Scheme as

<i>"Pensions Regulator"</i>	defined under "LGPS"
<i>'the Committee'</i>	Means the UK regulator of work-based pension schemes.
<i>'the Fund'</i>	Means the committee which has delegated decision making powers for the Fund in accordance with Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972.
	Means the Fund managed and administered by the Administering Authority.

21) Interpretation

21.1 Any uncertainty or ambiguity or interpretation required relating to any matters contained in this document shall be determined by the Scheme Manager.

Terms of Reference signed as accepted by the Local Pensions Board members

Name: Justin Barrett
Position: Chair of the Board
Date: 9/10/15




L B Havering

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PENSIONS COMMITTEE
Town Hall, Main Road, Romford
14 June 2016 (7.00 - 8.40 pm)**

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group	John Crowder (Chairman), Jason Frost and Steven Kelly (In place of Melvin Wallace)
Residents' Group	Nic Dodin and Stephanie Nunn
East Havering Residents	Clarence Barrett
UKIP	David Johnson (Vice-Chair)
Admitted/Scheduled Bodies	Heather Foster-Byron
Trade Union Observers	John Giles (UNISON)

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillor Melvin Wallace and John Hampshire (GMB).

All decisions were taken with no votes against.

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

1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 PENSION FUND PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 2016

Officers advised the Committee that the net return on the Fund's investments for the quarter to 31 March 2016 was 1.4%. This represented an under performance of -0.8% against the combined tactical benchmark and an under performance of -6.9% against the strategic benchmark.

The overall net return for the year to 31 March 2016 was -1.2%. This represented an under performance of -2.8% against the tactical combined benchmark and an under performance of -7.7% against the annual strategic benchmark.

At the close of business on 31 March 2016 the total combined value of the fund was £572.2 this represented an increase of £10.52 from the position at the close of business on 31 December 2015. Officers advised that as at the end of May the fund had seen a small drop to approximately £563m.

The Committee had received an update from Hymans Robertson and a presentation from GMO on the performance of their Global Real Return (UCITS) Fund.

Officers advised the Committee that the Pension Fund Actuaries would be undertaking the triennial valuation of the Fund based on the data as at 31 March 2016. It was expected that a draft report would be available by the end of October. Earlier indications were that the actuaries would look to retain the status quo for Havering.

The Committee **noted** the reports and presentation.

3 PENSION FUND AUDIT PLAN 2015/16

Officers submitted details of the audit plan for the 2015/16 Pension Fund Accounts. This year would be the first year when the accounts would be audited by Ernst & Young LLP.

In the planning stage Ernst & Young had identified one significant risk i.e. the risk of management override of controls. Their Approach to this would be as follows:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparation of the financial statements;
- Reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of management bias; and
- Evaluating the business rational for significant unusual transactions.

This approach was similar to that adopted by the previous auditors.

The indicative fee for the audit was £21,000, identical to last year's fee.

We have noted the report and timetable.

4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME: LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING EMPLOYER DISCRETIONS STATEMENT OF POLICY AND DISCRETION DECISIONS

In accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations (LGPS) 2013 and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions and Savings) Regulations 2014, Scheme employers participating in the LGPS in England and Wales were required to formulate, publish and

keep under review a Statement of Policy on certain discretions which they had the power to exercise in relation to members of the scheme.

On 24 June 2014 the Committee had delegated to the group Director of Resources, the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, and the Council's Monitoring Officer, acting jointly, the setting of the discretion decisions and Policy Statement. Following the setting of the discretion decisions and Policy Statement, the final discretions and Policy Statement had been brought back to Committee for information.

As a result of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2015/755 introduced in 2015, and changes to the Oracle Payroll system, certain Employer discretions had been reviewed, and the Policy Statement updated accordingly.

The Committee expressed concern with regard to the discretions under the Local Government (early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006, specifically number 6 (Award of lump sum compensation). The Regulations allow the award of lump sum compensation payments of up to 104 weeks pay within six months of the termination date and where no additional benefits had been awarded under the LGPS. The Discretion Application stated that 'The Council does not apply this discretion.'

The concern was that this decision fettered the Council's powers, and therefore was not legal. The Committee have asked officers to refer the matter back to legal services to review this discretion.

Subject to the above the Committee have noted the revised Employing Authority Discretions and Administration Authority Discretions – and the Statement of Policy.

5 BUSINESS PLAN/ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE PENSIONS COMMITTEE 2015/16

The Committee received the draft Business Plan/Annual Report on the work of the Pensions Committee 2015/16.

The Committee raised a couple of points regarding the report and officers had agreed to amend the report accordingly.

The Committee agreed to adopt the Business Plan/Annual Report 2015/16 and submit the report to Council.

6 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Officers advised the Committee that Pension Funds had to inform the Government of the Council's proposals and timetable for transitioning assets over to the pooled scheme. The Collective Investment Vehicle would be submitting a collective response on behalf of its members, but the

opportunity was there if individual funds wished to make their own submissions.

The draft template being used for the collective response was distributed to members of the Committee via email prior to the meeting.

A copy of the completed collective response would be provided to all members of the Committee.

The Committee have decided they do not wish to submit a separate response.

7 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The Committee resolved to excluded the public from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that if members of the public were present it was likely that, given the nature of the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 which could reveal information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and it was not in the public interest to publish this information.

Chairman