



PENSIONS COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY
STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 2018-
2021

SLT Lead:

Jane West

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Policy context:

Local Government Pension Scheme
Regulations 2013.

Financial summary:

To achieve savings where possible
through effective and efficient
communications.

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

Communities making Havering	[x]
Places making Havering	[x]
Opportunities making Havering	[x]
Connections making Havering	[x]

SUMMARY

The report advises Members of the current Communication Strategy of the London Borough of Havering Pension Fund, in relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members consider and approve the Pension Fund Communications Strategy for the three year period to November 2021, attached as appendix A.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Regulation 61 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 requires the Administration Authority to prepare and publish a written statement covering communications with members and scheme employers.
2. The statement must set out the following:
 - Communications with members, representatives of members, prospective members and scheme employers
 - The provision of information and publicity about the scheme to the above
 - Format, frequency and distribution method of the information or publicity
 - The promotion of the scheme to prospective members
3. The Communication Strategy aims are to communicate in the most appropriate medium for the audience and to better educate the various stakeholders of the benefits of the Local Government Pension Scheme.
4. It also aims to utilise modern media that is cost effective and efficient , placing a greater emphasis on the use of the pension website www.yourpension.org.uk/handr, including the self service facility, and the Local Pensions Partnerships secure portal for employers YourFund.
5. Appendix A to this report is the Havering Pension Fund Communication Strategy 2018-2021

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There is a risk of breaching the Fund's statutory obligations if communications with its scheme members, member representatives, prospective members and scheme employers is not met.

Budgetary provisions are available and any communication costs are met by the Pension Fund either as a direct charge to the fund or via contract costs from the third party administrative provider or as recharge from the council.

Legal implications and risks:

The relevant legal duties are set out in the body of the Report and there are no other apparent legal implications.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There appear to be no HR implications or risks arising directly as a result of this report.

Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and Risks

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants. We will ensure that disabled people with sensory impairments are able to access the strategy.