

# LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING LOCAL PENSION BOARD

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20



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#### Opening remarks.

It is our pleasure, to introduce the Board's 2019/20 Annual Report. The Board's task is to assist the council by making sure it is administering the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) effectively and efficiently and is compliant with the law.

The Board have two year work plan to tackle the areas deemed as most important to the administration of the fund and has worked hard during the year to deliver the objectives of the work plan. More detail on the work plan and the work completed can be found in the body of this report.

The Board met formally four times from April 2019 to March 2020 to discharge its duties. Board members completed online training and attended training and pension workshops during this period to enhance their knowledge in preparation for specific topics and spent time reviewing documents in preparation for board meetings. Details of the completed training are provided in Appendix 1.

We would like to thank officers for their hard work and support in researching and preparing information for the discussions at pension board meetings and the ongoing support and guidance for the board.

The pension environment is continually changing and the Board endeavours to keep abreast of these changes and is working hard to support and assist the council's pension administration in maintaining the high standards in the administration of the Fund.

The Board continues to develop its knowledge and skills and is actively working through the items on the work plan.

In March 2020 and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Havering Council and the Local Pensions Partnership successfully initiated their Business Continuity Plans to ensure that services to LGPS members and employers remained excellent and Scheme governance was maintained. Where possible officers are homeworking and Board meetings are currently held virtually.

Members of the Local Pensions Board

#### Introduction

- 1. Local Pension Boards are constituted entirely under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and are not local authority committees.
- 2. The role of each Board is to help ensure each scheme complies with governance and administration requirements. They may have additional duties, if scheme or other regulations so specify.
- 3. Pension Boards need to have an equal number of employer and member representatives. They may also have other members, such as independent experts. All Pension Board members have a duty to act in accordance with scheme regulations and other governing documents.
- 4. Scheme regulations (or scheme-specific guidance) may provide further detail on the scope of the Pension Board and how it should operate, for example how many Pension Board members need to attend a meeting to be quorate and how often it should meet.
- 5. This Annual Report has been established to ensure Pensions Committee are aware of work undertaken during the year and the future work plans.

#### Role of the Local Pension Board

- 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. The Pension Board will ensure it effectively and efficiently complies with the code of practice of the governance and administration of public service pension schemes issued by the Pension Regulator;
- 3. The Pension Board will also help ensure that the London Borough of Havering pension Fund is managed and administered effectively and complies with the

- code of practice on governance and administration of public service pensions schemes issued by the Pension Regulator;
- 4. The Pension Board shall meet sufficiently regularly to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively;
- 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;
- 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.

#### **Membership of the Board**

The Board consists of 4 voting members, two representing employers and two representing scheme members.

Board members were appointed for a fixed term of 4 years, which could be extended for further periods subject to re-nomination.

Substitute members are not permitted.

Each Board member should endeavour to attend all Board meetings during the year and are required to attend at least 4 meetings each year, one of which must be the Annual Meeting.

In the event a Board member failed to attend three consecutive meetings, that individual would automatically be disqualified, unless failure was due to some reason approved by the Board before the date of the third consecutive meeting.

Denise Broom and Andrew Frater are appointed as Employer representatives and Mark Holder and Anne Giles as Scheme Member representatives.

#### **Board Meetings**

The Board met on five occasions up to the end of the financial year.

Meetings took place on 2 April 2019, 5 June 2019, 20 August 2019, 1 October 2019 and (informally) 7 January 2020.

#### Matters discussed by the Board

The following matters have been discussed by the Board:

- Review of work plan
- Support for the Board
- Details of the Board's budget
- Pensions Committee meeting updates
- The Pensions Regulator compliance checklist
- The Pensions Regulator's review of the Havering Fund
- Performance of the Pensions Administration Service
- Communications Campaign
- The Risk Register
- Terms of Reference
- Audit of the Pensions Administration provider
- Data scores
- Code of Transparency

There have been no conflicts of interest involving any of the work undertaken by the board or during any agenda items. Minutes of the meetings can be found at <a href="https://www.havering.gov.uk">www.havering.gov.uk</a> and by following Council and Democracy \ Councillors, senior staff and decision making \ Committees \ Committee details

#### **Training**

The board members are committed to the legal requirement to acquire the appropriate knowledge and skills and to demonstrate and evidence these legal requirements. To do this the Committee and the Board jointly adopted the CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework (KSF) in 2015, it has adopted a register that shows that the training and development being undertaken during the year. The register can be found in Appendix 1.

#### To summarise:

Members have attended a variety of externally provided courses and seminars.

Individuals have completed on-line learning from the Pensions Regulator as well as other self-directed learning which includes reading and e-learning.

All members have undertaken a training needs analysis.

Further training events will be organised once the training requirements of the pension committee have been assessed.

#### **Financial Position**

Local Government Pension Scheme Governance Regulations 2015 section 106(9) states that the expenses of a Local Pension Board (LPB) are to be regarded as part of the costs of administration of the fund held by the administering authority.

Guidance issued in January 2015 suggested that it is appropriate for the LPB to be given adequate resources to fulfil its task.

Terms of reference adopted by Governance Committee on the 11 March 2015 and then the Council meeting on the 25 March 2015 also states that the LPB is to be provided with adequate resources to fulfil its role.

The estimated budget agreed by the Administering Authority's Statutory Section 151 officer and costs incurred for 2019/20 are shown in the following table:

Description	2018/19 Actual £	2019/20 Estimate £	2019/20 Actual £	2020/21 Estimate £	2021/22 Estimate £	2022/23 Estimate £
Members Allowance & Travelling	1,673	3,000	946	3,000	3,000	3,000
Support Services – Internal Recharge	1,075	1,000	640	1,000	1,000	1,000
Printing, Stationary & Office Expenses	0	3,400	0	3,400	3,400	3,400
Communication & Computing	0	500	0	500	500	500
Professional Advice	0	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
*Training & Development	1,430	10,000	295	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	4,178	27,900	1,881	27,900	27,900	27,900

<sup>\*</sup>Training costs of £10,000 is to be shared with the Pensions Committee to keep officer time and training costs to a minimum. The amounts shown above represent the LPB share of the costs.

Budgets have been set to cover a four year period from 2019/20 to 2022/23 to reflect the period of term that the LPB appointees will serve. 2019/2020 is the fifth operational year of the LPB.

1) The LPB is accountable to the Administering Authority and prior approval was sought from the Section 151 officer to amend budgets. It was agreed by the board that the 4 year budget be reduced by £7,000 from £34,900 to £27,900 as a reduction in support service recharges had resulted in low costs year on year.

The cost for the LPB is met from the Havering Pension Fund and approved by the Administering Authority's Statutory Section 151 Officer.

#### The Future

A new 18/24 month work plan for 2020/21 and 2021/22 is currently being discussed.

The list below is the draft areas being considered:

- 1. To ensure that the Pensions Regulator compliance checklist has been completed and is reviewed regularly.
- 2. To ensure that a process is in place to make any items that have been identified as being non-compliant or partially compliant from the Pension Regulator compliance checklist are made fully compliant within agreed and acceptable timescales. Any items that cannot be made fully compliant are added to the risk register with a clear explanation as to the reasons why.
- 3. To request that the scheme manager provide evidence that the Administering Authority is meeting the pension regulators requirements in any areas that we require further assurance.
- 4. To regularly review the key performance indicators and statistical information relating to the administration of the scheme and ensure an action plan is in place for indicators that are not meeting the agreed target.
- 5. To ensure that investment managers disclose all their fees and charges and are progressing towards the local government pension scheme cost transparency code.
- 6. To monitor pensions administration provided by Local Pensions Partnership (LPP) and ensure that any changes are well planned and documented.
- 7. To ensure that the scheme manager fully plans for any new legislation and we are compliant with all aspects of any new legislation.
- 8. Report regularly to the pensions committee on the work of the pension board and ensure that there is good communication between the two boards.

The Work Plan will be a live document and subject to change as necessary with a formal review at least every two years

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
29 June 2015	Hymans – Fund Actuary delivered training:  Why we are here  Roles & Responsibilities  Knowledge & Skills  Brief overview of LGPS	Hyman's Office – One London Wall	KSF 1	£3,500 (shared equally between LBH and Redbridge)	Justin Barrett – Employer rep  Mark Holder - Member rep  Marshajane Thompson – Member rep  David Holmes – Employer Rep
12 Aug 2015	Officers - Local Pension Board Induction covered:  Brief overview of the havering Pension fund How the scheme is funded Governance Structure Key parties in the Fund Investment Monitoring Strategy documents Valuation LPB reporting requirements	Town Hall – Prior to Local Pension Board meeting	KSF 1,2,4,5 & 6	Officer Time	Mark Holder - Member rep  Justin Barrett – Employer rep (chair)

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
6 January 2016	Hymans – Fund's Actuary delivered TUPE Transfer Training, covered:  • What is TUPE • Pension Protection & Regulations • Admission bodies documents & securities • Cessations	Town Hall – prior to Local Pension Board meeting	KSF 6	£3,500	Mark Holder - Member rep  Justin Barrett – Employer rep (chair)
25 April 2016	Pensions & Lifetime Savings Academy (PLSA) covered:  Governance Structure of LGPS TPR approach to governance & Admin Purpose & Responsibilities of National & Local Pensions Boards	PLSA Offices, London	KSF 1	£450.00 + VAT	Mark Holder – Member Rep
15 June 2016	Pensions & Lifetime Savings Academy (PLSA) covered:  Governance Structure of LGPS TPR approach to governance & Admin Purpose & Responsibilities of National & Local Pensions Boards	PLSA Offices, London	KSF 1	£900.00 + VAT	Marshajane Thompson – Member Rep Justin Barrett – Employer Rep (chair)

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
7 October 2016	Eversheds – LGPS: New Challenges, covered:  Update on LGPS Pooling New Fair Deal update 2016 Valuations Legal, Investment & Brexit update	Eversheds, one Wood Street, London	KSF 1 & 6	£100?	David Holmes – Employer Rep
28 November 2016	Pensions & Lifetime Savings Academy (PLSA) covered:  Governance Structure of LGPS TPR approach to governance & Admin Purpose & Responsibilities of National & Local Pensions Boards	PLSA Offices, London	KSF 1	£450.00 + VAT	David Holmes – Employer Rep
13 December 2016	Hymans - Joint training with Pensions Board  - Valuation 2016 Results covered:  • 2016 Valuation framework  • Valuing liabilities  • Actuarial assumptions  • 2016 results  • What changed since 2013	Havering Town Hall	KSF 6	£2,000	Mark Holder – Member rep  David Holmes – Employer Rep

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
23 January 2017	Hymans - Joint Training with Pensions Board  - Investment Strategy Training covered;  • New investment Regulation 2016 • Overview of ISS/DCLG Guidance • What changed between SIP/ISS • Asset allocation rebalancing • Investment strategy evolution • Investment objectives • Overview of UK Stewardship code • Credit Strategies	Havering Town Hall	KSF 5	£2,100	Justin Barrett – Employer Rep (chair)  Mark Holder – Member Rep  David Holmes – Employer Rep  Anne Giles – Member Rep
1 February 2017  1 March 2017	London CIV Stewardship Seminar  LCIV Annual conference including fund	Guildhall, City of London	KSF1 KSF4/5	Free Free	Mark Holder – Member Rep  Mark Holder – Member Rep
1 19101 (11 2017	manager sessions		1.51 7/5	1100	Walk Holder Welliber Nep
28 June 2017	CIPFA & Barnett Waddingham – Local Pension Boards Two years on	Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V		£175	David Holmes - Employer Rep  Mark Holder – Member Rep  Anne Giles – Member Rep

DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
3 November 2017	Association of Colleges	Webinar		FREE	David Holmes – Employer Rep
6 November 2017	CIPFA & Barnett Waddingham –  LPB Autumn Seminar covers:  Latest LGPS updates  Reporting Breaches of Law  Investment Regulations & related key policies	Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V		£125	Ann Giles – Member Rep Virpi Raivio- Employer Rep
21 November 2017	Hymans – Actuary- Admissions and TUPE policies	Havering Town Hall	KSF 6	Part of Actuarial contract	Mark Holder – Member Rep  Anne Giles – Member Rep Virpi Raivio – Employer Rep
12 December 2017	Officers - Local Pension Board Induction covered:  o Brief overview of the havering Pension fund o How the scheme is funded o Governance Structure o Key parties in the Fund	Central Library	KSF 1,2,4,5 & 6	Officer Time	Ann Giles (TBC) Virpi Raivio (TBC)

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
	<ul> <li>Investment Monitoring</li> <li>Strategy documents</li> <li>Valuation</li> <li>LPB reporting requirements</li> </ul>				
26 February 2018	CIPFA and Barnett Waddingham LGPS Local Pension Board Members Spring Seminar	Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BW	KSF 1,2a	£125	Mark Holder – Member Rep and Chair Anne Giles – Member Rep Virpi Raivio – Employer Rep
27 June 2018	CIPFA and Barnett Waddingham – Local Pension Boards three years on	Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BW		£175 x3	Mark Holder – Member Rep and Chair Anne Giles – Member Rep Virpi Raivio – Employer Rep
10 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	LGPS Governance Training Fundamentals - Day 1	Park Plaza Hotel, 239 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EQ.		£260	Mark Holder

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
30 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	LGPS Governance Training Fundamentals - Day 2	Park Plaza Hotel, 239 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EQ.		£260	Mark Holder
4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	LGPS Governance Training Fundamentals - Day 3	Park Plaza Hotel, 239 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EQ.		£260	Mark Holder
10 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Local Pension Board Induction Training	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Romford Library		0	Denise Broom
26 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	CIPFA and Barnet Waddington LGPS Local Pension Board Annual Event	2nd Floor 2 London Wall Place 123 London Wall London EC2Y 5AU		£185 plus VAT	Anne Giles – booked in April 19
11 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Currency Management Training	Town Hall		Hymans	No attendance Slides distributed to all 23 July 2019

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
25 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	Introduction to the LGPS – Circulated email to Pensions by Committee and LPB Members 230419	Northern Trust Offices, Canary Wharf		£345 plus VAT	Denise Broom – booked in March 19
18 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	Ruffer – Conference 2019	The Grand Hotel, Trafalgar Square, London		None	Mark Holder Anne Giles
October 19	Pensions Regulator Toolkit – All Modules	Home Office		None	Denise Broom
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	A Guide to the LPGS – sent via email	LBH	All	None	Mark Holder  Anne Giles  Denise Broom
13 November 2019	CIPFA Pensions Network Conference	The London Stock Exchange		None	Anne Giles

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
10 December 2019	Hymans Valuation 2019 Training	LBH Offices		TBC	None
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2020	LPB Induction	LBH Offices		None	Andrew Frater
20 February 2020	LGPS LPB Members and Officers	Barnett Waddington Offices		£135 plus VAT	Andrew Frater
24 June 2020	LPB Members	Barnett Waddington Seminar - Webinar		£195 plus VAT	Anne Giles
29 July 2020 30 October 2020 26 January 2021 26 April 2021	Provides an overview of the Local Government Pension Scheme. They will cover the structure of the scheme and its key stakeholders, and will provide a summary of its benefits, costs and how it is governed. They will also provide online networking opportunities.	Webinar		£175 plus vat per delegate	Offered to Anne Giles Mark Holder Denise Broom Andrew Frater

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
Module Completion Date  AG – 18/05/20  DB – 25/10/19  AF – 14/05/20  MH – 09/05/18	Pensions Regulator Public Service Toolkit:  • Conflicts of interest	online	KSF 1		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18 Anne Giles - Member Rep 18/05/20
	Managing Risks and internal controls	online	KSF1		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18 Ann Giles – Member Rep - 18/05/20
	Maintaining accurate member data	online	KSF1		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18 Ann Giles – Member Rep – 18/05/20
	Maintaining member contributions	online	KSF2		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18 Ann Giles – Member Rep – 18/05/20

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
	Providing information to members and others	online	KSF2		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18
	Resolving internal disputes	online	KSF2		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18
	Reporting Breaches of Law	online	KSF1		Mark Holder – Member Rep - 09/05/18 Anne Giles – Member Rep -18/05/20
	Pensions regulator Trustee Toolkit     Introducing Pension Schemes	online	KSF1		Andrew Frater – Employer Rep – 14/05/20 Denise Broom – Employer Rep – 25/10/19
	The Trustees Role	online	KSF1		Andrew Frater – Employer Rep - 14/05/20 Denise Broom – Employer Rep – 25/10/19

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
	Running a Scheme	online			Andrew Frater – Employer Rep – 14/05/20 Denise Broom – Employer Rep – 25/10/19
	Pensions Law	online			Andrew Frater – Employer Rep - 14/05/20 Denise Broom – Employer Rep - 25/10/19
	An Introduction to Investment	online			Denise Broom – Employer Rep - 25/10/19
	How a Defined Benefit Scheme     Work	online			Denise Broom – Employer Rep - 25/10/19
	Funding your Defined Benefit     Scheme	online			Denise Broom – Employer Rep- 25/10/19
	Investment in a Defined Benefit     Scheme	online			Denise Broom – Employer Rep - 25/10/19

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	KSF	COST	ATTENDED BY
	Defined Benefit recovery plans, contributions and funding principles	Online			Denise Broom – Employer Rep – 25/10/19