



**Havering**  
LONDON BOROUGH

## PENSIONS COMMITTEE

**21 March 2023**

**Subject Heading:**

**REVIEW OF VOTING AND  
ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY JUNE 2022**

**CLT Lead:**

**Dave McNamara**

**Report Author and contact details:**

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**Policy context:**

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To meet objectives set out in the  
Investment Strategy Statement

**Financial summary:**

No direct financial implications

**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 attached report as Appendix A, produced by the Fund's Investment Advisor (Hymans), presents a summary of the Fund's investment managers' Voting and Engagement activities over the 12-month period to **30 June 2022**.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the committee:

1. Note Hymans review of Fund Manager Voting and Engagement activity attached as **Appendix A**.
2. Note the summary and recommendations as set out in **Appendix A (page 14)**.

## **REPORT DETAIL**

### **1. Background**

1. The attached report at **Appendix A**, produced by the Fund's Investment Advisor (Hymans), summarises the Fund's investment managers' Voting and Engagement activities' over the 12-month period to **30 June 2022**. This is in support of the Committee's ongoing annual monitoring requirement as set out in the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) as follows:
  - a. Monitor the voting decisions made by all its investment managers and receive reports from their advisers to support this on an annual basis.
  - b. Request its investment manager provide details of any change in policy on an annual basis. The Committee will review these changes and, where necessary, will challenge managers to explain the reasoning for any change
  - c. Reviews voting activity by its investment manager and may also periodically review managers' voting patterns. The Committee will challenge its managers to explain voting decisions on certain issues, particularly with regard to climate risk disclosure.
2. Hymans report attached as **Appendix A** addresses the above for the Committee's consideration
3. The Fund does not have its own voting policy and in line with the Fund's current ISS, engagement and voting activity is delegated to the Fund's

Investment managers with the Fund reviewing their approach on an annual basis. This review having been undertaken by the Fund's Investment Advisor.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial implications and risks:**

No direct financial implications but the Committee has set an objective of seeking to ensure that voting policies and engagement are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure that changing practices and regulation can continue to be reflected where necessary.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

There are no apparent legal implications in noting the content of the Report and making the requested decisions.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

None arise from this report.

### **Equalities 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/identity.

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

An EqEIA is not considered necessary regarding this matter as the protected groups are not directly or indirectly affected

None arise from this report as this report is required to be published in order to comply with Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>
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Background Papers List

None