

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PENSIONS COMMITTEE AND BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 2017, 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

**Councillors: Clare Bull (Chair), John Bevan (Vice-Chair), Viv Ross,
Noah Tucker, Keith Brown and Ismael Owarish**

129. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to agenda Item 1 as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting, and Members noted the information contained therein.

130. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr McShane.

131. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business

132. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

133. RECORD OF TRAINING UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING

Cllr Bevan, Cllr Ross, Cllr Tucker, Keith Brown and Ishmael Owarish had attended a training session delivered by Bridges Fund Management entitled an 'Introduction to Sustainable and Impact Investing'.

Further notification of training received prior to the meeting had been submitted as follows:

Cllr Bevan:

- London CIV Low Carbon Workshop 19/09/17
- AON Flexible retirement from DB schemes 03/10/17
- The 15th Annual Local Government Pension Investment Forum 11/10/17
- Local Authority Pension Fund Forum 17/10/17
- Schroders Trustee Training 20/10/17
- IPE Pensions Real Assets 24/10/17
- RBC ESG Survey Results Launch 31/10/17

- MACQUARIE Are investors really rewarded for considering ESG issues 02/11/17
- P&LSA Local Authority Forum 07/11/17
- Schroders Trustee Training 10/11/17

Cllr Ross:

- The Pensions Regulator: Module 7 'Funding your DB scheme' 16/11/17
- London Fraud Forum: PENSION SCAMS: regulation and the customer journey 22/11/17
- Aon Hewitt: Trustee Effectiveness Webinar 21/11/17

134. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held 14 September 2017 be approved as a correct record.

135. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

The Committee received a report on administrative issues related to the Haringey Pension Scheme and discussed the details of this report. The Committee considered the amount of transfers in and out of the pension fund and the number of late payment of contributions there had been since April 2017. While discussing the amount of visits that the Haringey pension website had received over the last 6 months the Committee commented on the positive results and it was agreed that staff would be regularly reminded to visit the site.

Action: Pensions Manager

RESOLVED

That the Committee & Board note the contents of this report in respect of the administration of the pension fund.

136. PERFORMANCE REVIEW - ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PROVIDERS

The Head of Pensions explained that this report was being presented in response to the request of the Committee & Board to review the funds Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVC). The Committee considered the review report conducted by Mercer and the recommendations included. It was noted that officers of the fund could not give financial advice to members but could communicate the options available. It was suggested that this could be communicated to members via pop up on the e-payslips site.

Action: Head of Pensions

Cllr Ross declared an interest at this point of the meeting in relation to Equitable Life as he holds a pension with that fund.

RESOLVED

That the Committee and Board agree to:

- Open up further funds with Prudential that are not focussed on annuity purchase on retirement, i.e. funds that allow members to withdraw some or all of their AVC Fund as cash at retirement.
- Officers conducting a communication exercise with AVC members to remind them of the options available to them, in particular when they may have the option to transfer funds between providers or products, to options which may prove more beneficial to them.
- Officers encouraging the appointed AVC providers to conduct communication exercises with Haringey staff to inform them of the AVC options available to them, i.e. via information sessions for staff to attend.

137. RISK REGISTER REVIEW / UPDATE

The Committee and Board considered the report on the Fund's risk register, introduced by Thomas Skeen, Head of Pensions.

The Committee discussed risk 49 relating to the London CIV and its investment strategy. It was agreed that considering the ongoing changes and reviews taking place at the CIV it would be best to add this topic as an agenda item at the next meeting to allow for a wider discussion.

Action: Head of Pensions

The Chair addressed risk 2 and notified the Committee that all members who had not completed the Pensions Regulators Public Service Toolkit had received an email reminding them to do this.

RESOLVED

- That the Committee note the risk register.
- That the Committee note the area of focus for this review at the meeting is 'Administration' and 'Communication' risks.

138. WORK/FORWARD PLAN

The Committee and Board considered the quarterly report on the forward plan, as introduced by Thomas Skeen, Head of Pensions.

Cllr Bevan advised the Committee that he would be attending the LAPFF Annual Conference in Bournemouth.

RESOLVED

That the Committee note the update on member training attached at Appendix 3.

139. GOVERNANCE UPDATE REPORT

The Committee & Board considered the Governance report update and noted that the Fund had improved 3 points since the last meeting with a score of 48 out of 59 in terms of achievement of KPI's in the SAB model. The Head of Pensions gave an overview of the KPI's where the Fund scored zero and gave explanation for each of these.

RESOLVED

That the Committee and Board note progress since the last report to the Committee and Board on performance against SAB's key indicators.

140. QUARTERLY PENSION FUND PERFORMANCE & INVESTMENT UPDATE

The Committee and Board noted the quarterly Pension Fund update report, as introduced by Thomas Skeen, Head of Pensions. The indicative funding position as at 31/6/17 had remained stable at 85% from the position reported for the period up to 31 March 2017.

RESOLVED

That the Committee & Board note the information provided in respect of the activity in the three months to 30th June 2017.

141. QUARTERLY LAPFF ENGAGEMENT REPORT

The Committee and Board considered the quarterly LAPFF engagement report, as introduced by Thomas Skeen, Head of Pensions.

RESOLVED

The Committee note this report.

142. MULTI ASSET ABSOLUTE RETURN INVESTMENT UPDATE AND UPDATE TO INVESTMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT

The Head of Pensions presented the report as an update for information purposes following the Committee & Boards approval to decrease the funds investment strategy allocation to listed equity by 7.5%.

It was highlighted that the fund was a Tier 1 signatory to the Financial Reporting Council UK Stewardship Code and the Committee & Board considered the formal statement of compliance that had been prepared.

RESOLVED

That the Committee & Board:

- Note the contents of the report

- Note the selection of the Ruffer sub fund (via the London CIV) as the fund's multi asset absolute return manager
- Approve the updated Investment Strategy Statement attached as Appendix 1.

143. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of exempt urgent business.

CHAIR: Councillor Clare Bull

Signed by Chair

Date