

Report for: Pensions Committee and Board – 12 September 2022

Title: Haringey Pension Fund Risk Register

Report authorised by: Toyin Bamidele, Assistant Director of Finance (Deputy Section 151 Officer)

Lead Officer: Tim Mpofu, Head of Pensions and Treasury,
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Ward(s) affected: Not applicable

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Not applicable

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1. This paper has been prepared to update the Pensions Committee and Board on the Pension Fund's risk register and provide an opportunity for the Pension Committee and Board to further review the risk score allocation.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

2.1. Not applicable

3. Recommendations

The Pensions Committee and Board is recommended:

3.1. To note and provide any comments on the Pension Fund's risk register. The area of focus for review at the meeting is Governance.

4. Reason for Decision

4.1. Not applicable.

5. Other options considered

5.1. Not applicable.

6. Background information

6.1. The Pensions Regulator requires that the Pension Committee and Board (PCB) establish and operate internal controls for the Pension Fund. These must be adequate for the purpose of securing that the scheme is administered and managed in accordance with the scheme rules and in accordance with the requirements of the law.

- 6.2. The PCB previously approved a full version of the risk register on 20 September 2016 and from each meeting after this date, different areas of the register have been reviewed and agreed so that the risk register remains current.
- 6.3. The Pension Fund’s risk register covers administration, governance, investment, accounting, funding, and legislation risks. Appendix 1 to this paper includes an assessment of the governance risks which have been reviewed and updated for the PCB to provide feedback on at the meeting. The other risk areas will be presented to the PCB for an in-depth review in forthcoming meetings.

Risk Scoring

- 6.4. The Pension Fund’s risk scoring assesses the impact and likelihood of an identified risk occurring. This is assessed based on a score of 1 (low impact, unlikely to occur) – 5 (high impact, likely to occur). The overall score for each risk is grouped using the RAG (Red-Amber-Green) rating system below.

RAG Rating	Scoring Range
	25 - 16
	15 - 10
	Less than 10

Key identified risks

- 6.5. The Pension Fund has identified a few key risks of particular concern over the short to medium term. These have been summarised in the table below.

Key identified risk	RAG Rating	Update on Risk	Actions taken to manage and mitigate risks
INV13 – High inflation		Consumer Prices Index (CPI) inflation in July 2022 came in at 10.1%, which was higher than consensus expectations. This has increased concerns that high inflation may be proving to more persistent than initially thought.	The Pension Fund has several investment mandates in inflation linked strategies such as property and renewable infrastructure which should provide some level of inflation protection.
INV14 – Increasing risk of a market downturn		The Bank of England’s Monetary Policy Committee has stated that it will take the necessary actions to return inflation to the 2% target. It is widely anticipated that in its bid to manage inflation, the Bank of England will raise rates aggressively with has	Officers will continue to monitor the situation as it develops, consulting with investment managers where necessary, and making the appropriate recommendations to the Pensions Committee and Board.

Key identified risk	RAG Rating	Update on Risk	Actions taken to manage and mitigate risks
		increased the risk of a market downturn.	
ACC1 – Delay of publication of Statement of Accounts		<p>The Council has given notice that it has not yet published the draft Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 and as a result, the period for exercise of public inspection has been delayed.</p> <p>This has increased the risk of the Pension Fund being unable to produce the Annual Report for 2021/22 by the statutory deadline.</p>	Officers are actively engaging with the external auditors to complete this activity soon as possible.

6.6. Officers will continue to keep the Pension Fund’s risk register under constant review.

7. Contribution to Strategic Outcomes

7.1. Not applicable

8. Statutory Officer Comments (Director of Finance (including procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

Finance and Procurement

8.1. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

8.2. The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted on the content of this report. Members should refer to the matters referred to in paragraph 6.5 of this report and the risks that these poses to the Pension Fund. Actions taken must not only manage but also mitigate the risk.

Equalities

8.3. Not applicable.

9. Use of Appendices

9.1. Appendix 1: Haringey Pension Fund Risk Register Review – Governance Risks

9.2. Appendix 2: Haringey Pension Fund Summary Risk Register

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1. Not applicable.