



PENSIONS COMMITTEE

Monday, 2 November 2020

REPORT TITLE:	PENSION BOARD REVIEW 2019-20 AND WORK PLAN 2020-21
REPORT OF:	INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF PENSION BOARD

REPORT SUMMARY

The report of the Independent Chair of the Wirral Local Pension Board provides an overview of the Board's activities during 2019-20 and work plan for 2020-21.

The Board's terms of reference have been revised to permit virtual meetings and define terms of attendance.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That members note the report of the Independent Chair of the Pension Board.

That members approve the amendments to the Board's Terms of Reference.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 It is important that Pensions Committee is aware of the Local Pension Board's activities in supporting the Administering Authority.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 No other options have been considered.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Local Pension Board was established in 2015 in accordance with section 5 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 to assist the Administering Authority in its role as a scheme manager of the Scheme.
- 3.2 Under Section 11.3 of its Terms of Reference the Board is required to produce, on an annual basis, a report for consideration by the Scheme Manager which is the Wirral MBC Pensions Committee. This review was prepared by the Independent Chair of the Board for consideration by the Board at its meeting on 14 September 2020 before its presentation to Committee.
- 3.3 During the current pandemic and national emergency measures it is essential that the Pension Board finds ways of exercising its statutory functions and it is clear that arranging virtual meetings satisfies the requirement of Regulation 106 (8) of the LGPS Regs 2013, which permit the board to undertake actions to facilitate the discharge of its functions.
- 3.4 In consideration of the Scheme Advisory Board's directive and the changing operating environment of statutory and regulatory committees, section two of the ToR have been expanded to include paragraphs 2.4 & 2.5 which permit virtual meetings using video and telephone conferencing technology and define the terms of attendance. A new section 5, **Virtual meetings**, has also been drafted which sets out the operational practicalities, etiquette, voting procedure and troubleshooting in the event of failure of the remote participation facility.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 There are none arising from this report.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The changes proposed were reported to and discussed at the Pension Board meeting on 14 September 2020.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 No equality issues arising from this report.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no carbon usage implications, nor any other relevant environmental issues arising from this report.

REPORT AUTHOR: **Peter Wallach**
(Peter Wallach, Director of Merseyside Pension Fund)
telephone:
email: peterwallach@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Pension Board Annual Review

Appendix 2 Pension Board Terms of Reference

BACKGROUND PAPERS

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date