

WIRRAL COUNCIL

PENSION COMMITTEE

16 NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT:	GOVERNANCE POLICY
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR TRANSFORMATION AND RESOURCES
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to inform Members of a number of amendments required to the Fund's Governance Policy reflecting changes to the national governance arrangements of the Local Government Pension Scheme. It also documents a change of the responsible officer from the Director of Finance to the Head of Pension Fund within the scheme of delegation pursuant to Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 1.2 Provision of the Pensions Administration service by the Council in its role as Administering Authority of the Merseyside Pension Fund under Regulation 2 and Schedule 3 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 is a statutory duty.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The recommendations made by Lord Hutton with regard to the governance and administration of Public Service Pension Schemes were accepted by the Government and were carried forward into the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 . The Act includes a requirement for DCLG as the responsible authority to make regulations requiring each LGPS administering authority to create a local pension board with effect from 1 April 2015.
- 2.2 Regulation 55 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 sets out the requirements for the publication of a Governance Policy Statement by the Fund.
- 2.3 The current version of the Governance Policy was agreed by Committee at its meeting on 27 June 2011 (Minute 18 refers).

- 2.4 The existing Governance statement needs to be updated to include the following:
- Details of the new Wirral Council Pension Board approved by Full Council on 16 March 2015 (Minute 138 refers)
 - The post titles of the officers to reflect changes to the Scheme of Delegation and to include the Strategic Director of Transformation and Resources within the various Working Parties and Fund Operating Group.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 None arising from this report

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not relevant for this report

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Consultation with relevant stakeholders is not necessary as the amendments are as a result of statutory changes to the LGPS Regulations which have been previously subject to national consultation

6.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

- 6.1 None associated with the subject matter.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 7.1 There are none arising from this report

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 8.1 None arising from this report

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are none arising from this report

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No, because Department of Communities and Local Government undertake equality impact assessments with regard to the statutory reform of the LGPS.

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are none arising from this report

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 There are none arising from this report

13.0 RECOMMENDATION

13.1 That members are recommended to approve the updated Governance Policy attached at Appendix 1

14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 There is a requirement for Members of the Pension Committee to be kept up to date with legislative developments as part of their decision making role.

**REPORT
AUTHOR**

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Appendix 1
Draft Updated Governance Policy 2015

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

Briefing Note	Date
Governance Policy Statement	6 April 2009
Governance Policy Statement	27 June 2011