



**Report of: Corporate Director of Resources**

Meeting of:	Date	Agenda item	Ward(s)
Pension Board	10 September 2019		n/a

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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**SUBJECT: Draft 2018/19 Annual Pension Fund Report**

## 1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This report is for the local pension board to review the Fund's annual report and accounts as part of its work plan.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To review the draft pension fund annual report attached as Appendix 1 before it is signed off by our external auditors
- 2.2 To note 2018/19 pension fund statement of account, activities and performance.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 requires the establishment of local pension boards for each Local Government Pension Fund. Each administering authority must establish a pensions board no later than 1 April 2015.
- 3.2 Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Governance Regulations 2014 ( the Governance Regulations) provide that Pensions Board will have responsibility for assisting the 'scheme manager' (the Pensions Sub Committee in Islington's case) in relation to the following matters:

To ensure compliance with:

- the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulation (LGPS),
- other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS, and
- the requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the LGPS to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the scheme.

3.3 The Pensions Sub -committee is the decision making body of the Fund and the Pension board can only advise or make recommendations to the Pensions -Sub Committee

The Pension Board should therefore be mindful;

- Its work plan should take account of the Fund's own work programme and seek to add value
- Servicing the Pension board will consume Fund management resources and time
- Senior Fund officers servicing the pension Board may on some fund performance issues be personally compromised and conflicted
- Some work items required may need the use of specialist external consultancy resources rather than using the officers servicing the Fund.

### **The Draft 2018/19 Annual Pension Fund Report**

3.4 The draft annual report is legislated to be signed off by our external auditors Grant Thornton and includes the pension fund statement of account to March 2019. A final copy of this annual report will be presented to members at the Annual Pension meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

3.5 The pension fund statement of accounts were produced and handed to the auditors in May. The draft accounts were reviewed by the board at their last meeting in June and the auditing was completed and presented at Audit Committee before the statutory deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July.

3.6 The draft annual report covers the fund activities, performance, statement of accounts and statutory documents. Members are asked to comment on any matters in the draft Annual Report and amendments made by officers before presented to external auditors for sign off.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial implications**

Any cost associated with the governance of the fund will be treated as administration cost and charged to the Fund.

### **4.2 Legal Implications**

The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 requires the council to establish a local pension boards by 1 April 2015. The board must comply with the requirements of the relevant Legislation.

### **4.3 Environmental Implications**

None applicable to this report. Environmental implications will be included in each report to the board as necessary.

### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard

to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

- 4.4.1 In respect of this report, a Resident Impact Assessment is not being made because the contents of the report relate to processes that are strictly in accordance with the statutory Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations. The LGPS Regulations are made under the Superannuation Act 1972, and the Council has a statutory duty to comply with the LGPS Regulations.

## **5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendation**

- 5.1 Members are asked to review the draft annual report 2018/19 attached as Appendix 1 as per their agreed work plan

### **Background papers:**

Islington pension board's terms of reference

Final report clearance:

### **Signed by:**

Corporate Director of Resources

Date

### **Received by:**

Head of Democratic Services

Date

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