#### **Lancashire County Council**

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Friday, 14th September, 2018 at 10.30 am in Committee Room 'C' (The Duke of Lancaster Room) - County Hall, Preston

#### Agenda

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

#### No. Item

#### 1. Apologies

### 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are asked to consider any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests they may have to disclose to the meeting in relation to matters under consideration on the Agenda.

| 3. | Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th July 2018  | (Pages 1 - 4)     |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 4. | Lancashire County Pension Fund - External Audit Findings Report                             | (Pages 5 - 28)    |
| 5. | Lancashire County Pension Fund - Update on 2017/18<br>Annual Report                         | (Pages 29 - 32)   |
| 6. | Lancashire County Pension Fund - Budget monitoring for period 1 April to 30 June 2018       | (Pages 33 - 38)   |
| 7. | Responsible Investment  | (Pages 39 - 52)   |
| 8. | Local Pensions Partnership Annual Report 2017/18  | (Pages 53 - 126)  |
| 9. | Feedback from members of the Committee on pension related training, conferences and events. | (Pages 127 - 128) |

#### 10. Urgent Business

An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Chief Executive should be given advance warning of any Member's intention to raise a matter under this heading.



#### 11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30am (preceded by a 30 Minutes briefing) on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room at County Hall, Preston

#### 12. Exclusion of Press and Public

The Committee is asked to consider whether, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, it considers that the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as indicated against the heading to the item.

#### Part II (Not open to Press and Public)

| 13. | Pension Administration Update                | (Pages 129 - 152) |
|-----|--|-------------------|
| 14. | Local Pensions Partnership Q1 2018/19 report | (Pages 153 - 164) |
| 15. | LCPF Performance Overview June 2018          | (Pages 165 - 180) |
| 16. | Investment Panel Report                      | (Pages 181 - 196) |

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County Hall Preston

### Agenda Item 3

#### **Lancashire County Council**

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 5th July, 2018 at 10.00 am in Committee Room 'C' (The Duke of Lancaster Room) - County Hall, Preston

#### Present:

County Councillor Eddie Pope (Chair)

#### **County Councillors**

J Burrows P Rigby
S Clarke K Snape
T Martin A Snowden
J Mein A Schofield

#### **Co-opted members**

P Crewe, (Trade Union Representative)
Councillor R Whittle, (Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council Representative)
Councillor D Borrow, (Borough and City Councils Representative)
J Eastham, Further Education/Higher Education Institutions

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies were presented on behalf of Councillor M Smith and Councillor I Moran and received from County Councillor G Dowding.

#### 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

No declarations of interest were made in relation to items on the agenda.

#### 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th June 2018

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018 are confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the chair.

#### 4. LCPF Pension Administration Strategy Statement

The Head of Fund reported that in accordance with the decision of the Committee in March 2018 employers within the Fund had been consulted on the revised Pension Administration Strategy Statement (PASS) which extended the number of employer and fund performance standards to be measured and introduced charges to be levied on any scheme employer whose performance fell short of the employer performance standards.

The Committee was informed that comments received during the consultation had been addressed and a copy of the latest version of the draft was presented at Appendix 'A'. However, due to issues with the new operating model for the pension administration business introduced by the Local Pension Partnership the revised PASS would not be implemented until later in the year. It was reported that whilst the issues had resulted in a backlog of cases remedial action had

been taken and priority cases cleared by the end of June and it was anticipated that the remaining cases would be cleared by the end of July.

**Resolved:** That the revised Pension Administration Strategy Statement, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report presented, is approved for publication later this year.

#### 5. LCPF Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2018

The Committee considered a report on the draft Lancashire County Pension Fund Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2018 (which included the Fund accounts for the same period) and made the following observations:

- The most significant element of investment management costs was fees based upon the value of the Fund and this was expected to increase year on year as the value of the Fund increased. With regard to performance fees the Head of Fund confirmed that the Fund did not pay the Local Pension Partnership any such fees.
- Transition costs had reduced by £1.7m from the previous year as the majority
  of costs associated with the transition of the Infrastructure, Private Equity and
  Credit portfolios had been incurred. The Head of Fund reported that further
  details would be included in a report to the Committee in September 2018.
- Any reference to a 4.0% return on assets throughout the Annual Report would be updated to reflect the fact that the return had improved to 4.6% since the document was produced.
- In the Infrastructure section of the accounts the reference to 'Trad energy' would be amended to 'Renewable energy'
- The figures for current and long term liabilities in the 'Net Asset Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018' would be amended following advice from the Auditor that the reduced contribution rates for some employers were not a liability due to the returns on cash. The Head of Fund confirmed that an explanatory note on this point would be included in the final document and an update given to the Committee in September 2018.
- Clarification was requested regarding figures in a table in section 1.2 on Membership which showed that whilst 1 employer had left the Fund the total membership of the Fund had increased by over 5,000. It was reported that an explanation for the increase would be included in a further report to the Committee in September 2018.
- It was acknowledged that whilst the Lancashire County Pension Fund was
  well run and continued to perform well this was not specified in the Annual
  Report and it was suggested that the final version of the Annual Report should
  include a comparison of performance against other Funds.

The importance of Committee members having sufficient knowledge and skills to perform their duties and responsibilities effectively was also discussed and it was noted that the Training Record for 2017/18 (which covered internal/external training attended by members of the Committee) had been presented to the last meeting. It was suggested that the respective political groups be requested to nominate a pool of alternate members who could attend future internal training to increase their knowledge of the subject and attend meetings in the event that a member of the Committee was unavailable.

#### Resolved:

- 1. That the comments of the Committee regarding the Lancashire County Pension Fund Accounts, as set out above, are taken into consideration when finalising Accounts for referral to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 for approval.
- 2. That, subject to any further minor amendments in relation to 1 above, the draft Lancashire County Pension Fund Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report presented, is approved.
- 3. That a final version of the Lancashire County Pension Fund Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 be presented to the full county council on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 for approval.
- 4. That an update on transition costs, current/long term liabilities and the membership figures referred to in the Annual Report be presented to the next meeting.

#### 6. Urgent Business

No items of business were raised under this item.

#### 7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting will be held at 10.30am (preceded by a 30 minute briefing) on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in Committee Room 'C' – The Duke of Lancaster Room, at County Hall, Preston.

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Director of Corporate Services

County Hall Preston

### Agenda Item 4

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Meeting to be held on Friday, 14 September 2018

Electoral Division affected: None:

External Audit - Lancashire County Pension Fund Audit Findings Report 2017/18 Appendix 'A' refers.

Contact for further information: Mike Thomas, 0161 214 6368, Director, Grant Thornton UK LLP, mike.thomas@uk.gt.com

#### **Executive Summary**

The Audit Findings Report at Appendix 'A', sets out the findings of the external auditor following their audit of the Pension Fund Accounts for 2017/18. This report was presented to the Council's Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on 30 July 2018. The external auditor provided an unqualified audit opinion on the pension fund accounts on 31 July 2018.

#### Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the External Audit report following their audit of the Lancashire County Pension Fund Accounts for 2017/18.

#### **Background and Advice**

Attached at Appendix 'A' is the external auditor's Audit Findings Report following their audit of the accounts for Lancashire County Pension Fund for 2017/18. This includes reporting the outcome of their work against the main audit risks highlighted in the Audit Plan as presented to the Pension Fund Committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.

The Audit Findings Report is as presented to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and the Committee should note that the outstanding items highlighted on page 3 of the Audit Findings Report have now been finalised and the final unqualified audit opinion has been issued.

Richard McGahon, Senior Manager from Grant Thornton will be in attendance to present the report and address any questions from the Committee.

#### **Consultations**

The report has been agreed with the Head of Fund, Lancashire County Pension Fund and the County Council's Section 151 Officer.



| Implications: |
|---------------|
|---------------|

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

#### Risk management

No significant risks have been identified.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers** 

Paper Date Contact/Tel

N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

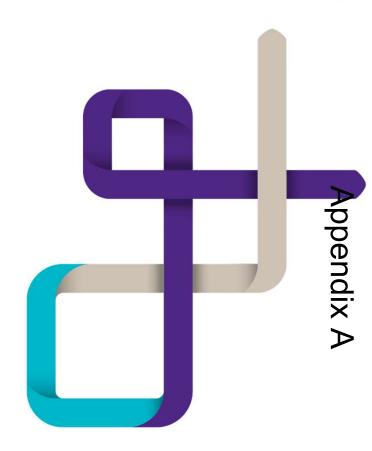


# **Audit Findings**

Year ending 31 March 2018

Lancashire County Pension Fund





### Contents



#### **Your key Grant Thornton** team members are:

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#### **Appendices**

A. Audit adjustments

3. Independence and ethics

- B. Fees
- **Audit Opinion**
- D. Audit Opinion on the Annual Report

The contents of this report relate only to those matters which came to our attention during the conduct of our normal audit procedures which are designed for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. Our audit is not designed to test all internal controls or identify all areas of control weakness. However, where, as part of our testing, we identify control weaknesses, we will report these to you. In consequence, our work cannot be relied upon to disclose all defalcations or other irregularities, or to include all possible improvements in internal control that a more extensive special examination might identify. This report has been prepared solely for your benefit and should not be quoted in whole or in part without our prior written consent. We do not accept any responsibility for any loss occasioned to any third party acting, or refraining from acting on the basis of the content of this report, as this report was not prepared for, nor intended for, any other purpose.

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### **Headlines**

#### Introduction

This table summarises the key issues arising from the statutory audit of Lancashire County Pension Fund ('the Pension Fund') and the preparation of the Pension Fund's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 for those charged with governance.

#### **Financial Statements**

Code'), we are required to report whether, in our opinion:

the Pension Fund's financial statements give a true and fair and expenditure for the year, and have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting;

Under the National Audit Office (NAO) Code of Audit Practice ('the Our audit work was completed on site during June and July. Our findings are summarised on pages 14 to 17. We have identified one material adjustments to the financial statements that have resulted in a £137 million adjustment to the Fund's view of the financial position of the Pension Fund and its income reported financial position. The Pension Fund has also made some disclosure adjustments to management expenses and providing more detail in respect of the amounts managed by LPPI. Audit adjustments are detailed in Appendix A.

> We have substantially completed our audit of your financial statements and subject to outstanding queries being resolved, we anticipate issuing an unqualified audit opinion following the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 30 July 2018. These outstanding items include:

- reviewing responses in respect of the queries raised on Level 2 investments, completing our work on the membership data and our final sample testing of journals;
- review of the final set of financial statements;
- review of the final version of the annual report;
- completion of our internal review procedures;
- obtaining and reviewing the management representation letter; and
- updating our post balance sheet events review to the date of signing the opinion.

#### **Acknowledgements**

We would like to take this opportunity to record our appreciation for the assistance provided by the finance team and other staff during our audit.

### **Summary**

#### Overview of the scope of our audit

This Audit Findings report presents the observations arising from the audit that are significant to the responsibility of those charged with governance to oversee the financial reporting process, as required by International Standard on Auditing (UK) 260 and the Code of Audit Practice ('the Code'). Its contents have been discussed with management and presented to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee.

As auditor we are responsible for performing the audit, in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK), which is directed towards forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities for the preparation of the financial statements.

#### **Audit approach**

Out audit approach was based on a thorough understanding of the Pension Fund's business and is risk based, and in particular included:

- Controls testing of the benefits payable and contributions systems; and
- Substantive testing on significant transactions and material account balances, including the procedures outlined in this report in relation to the key audit risks

#### Conclusion

We have substantially completed our audit of your financial statements and subject to outstanding queries being resolved, we anticipate issuing an unqualified audit opinion following the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting on 30 July 2018, as detailed in Appendix C. These outstanding items include:

- reviewing responses in respect of the queries raised on Level 2 investments, completing our work on the membership data and our final sample testing of journals;
- review of the final set of financial statements:
- review of the final version of the annual report;
- completion of our internal review procedures;
- obtaining and reviewing the management representation letter; and
- updating our post balance sheet events review to the date of signing the opinion.

#### Our approach to materiality

The concept of materiality is fundamental to the preparation of the financial statements and the audit process and applies not only to the monetary misstatements but also to disclosure requirements and adherence to acceptable accounting practice and applicable law.

Materiality calculations remains the same as reported in our audit plan. We detail in the table below our assessment of materiality for the Pension Fund.. We have set a separate materiality for disclosure of senior officers remuneration.

#### Pension Fund Amount (£)

| Materiality for the financial statements | £72,093,000 (1% of net assets)         |
|--|--|
| Performance materiality                  | £54,070,000 (75% of materiality)       |
| Trivial matters                          | £3,604,000 (5% of overall materiality) |

### Significant audit risks

#### Risks identified in our Audit Plan

#### Commentary

#### 0

#### Improper revenue recognition

Under ISA (UK) 240 there is a presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to the improper recognition of revenue.

This presumption can be rebutted if the auditor concludes that there is no risk of material misstatement due to fraud relating to revenue recognition.

Having considered the risk factors set out in ISA (UK) 240 and the nature of the revenue streams at the Fund, we have determined that the risk of fraud arising from revenue recognition can be rebutted, because:

- · there is little incentive to manipulate revenue recognition;
- opportunities to manipulate revenue recognition are very limited;
- the culture and ethical frameworks of local authorities, including Lancashire County Council as the Administering Authority of Lancashire County Pension Fund, mean that all forms of fraud are seen as unacceptable.

Therefore we do not consider this to be a significant risk for Lancashire County Pension Fund.



#### **Management override of controls**

Under ISA (UK) 240 there is a non-rebuttable presumed risk that the risk of management over-ride of controls is present in all entities.

We identified management override of controls as a risk requiring special audit consideration.

#### We have:

- gained an understanding of the accounting estimates, judgements applied and decisions made by management and considered their reasonableness;
- obtained a full listing of journal entries, identified and tested unusual journal entries for appropriateness;
- · evaluated the rationale for any changes in accounting policies or significant unusual transactions.

Our work has not identified any evidence of management override of controls. Our sample testing of journals is ongoing but has not identified any issues to date.

### Significant audit risks

#### Risks identified in our Audit Plan

#### Commentary

# The valuation of Level 3 investments is incorrect Under ISA (UK) 315 significant risks often relate to significant non-routine transactions and judgemental matters. Level 3 investments by their very nature require a significant degree of judgement to reach an appropriate valuation at year end.

#### We have:

- gained an understanding of the Fund's process for valuing level 3 investments and evaluated the design of the associated controls;
- reviewed the nature and basis of estimated values and considered what assurance management has over the year end valuations provided for these types of investments;
- considered the competence, expertise and objectivity of any management experts used;
- reviewed the qualifications of the custodian as an expert to value Level 3 investments at year end.

Our audit work has not identified any issues in respect of the risks relating to the valuation of Level 3 investments at year end. In our audit plan we outlined that we would test a sample of Level 3 investments, however, all Level 3 investments are valued by LPPI Global Equities Fund and their value has been confirmed by the Custodian. We have therefore relied upon our consideration and assessment of the Custodian as an expert to value Level 3 investments.

### Reasonably possible audit risks

### bassinably possible additions



#### **Contributions**

Risks identified in our Audit Plan

Contributions from employers and employees represents a significant percentage (67%) of the Fund's revenue.



#### We have:

- evaluated the Fund's accounting policy for recognition of contributions for appropriateness;
- gained an understanding of the Fund's system for accounting for contribution income and evaluated the design of the associated controls;
- tested a sample of contributions to source data to gain assurance over their accuracy and occurrence;
- rationalised contributions received with reference to changes in member body payrolls and the number of contributing pensioners to ensure that any unusual trends are satisfactorily explained.

Our work has not identified any significant issues in relation to the risk identified.



#### **Pension Benefits Payable**

Pension benefits payable represents a significant percentage (80%) of the Fund's expenditure.

#### We have:

- evaluated the Fund's accounting policy for recognition of pension benefits expenditure for appropriateness;
- gained an understanding of the Fund's system for accounting for pension benefits expenditure and evaluated the design of the associated controls;
- tested a sample of individual pensions in payment by reference to member files;
- rationalised pensions paid with reference to changes in pensioner numbers and increases applied in year to ensure that any unusual trends are satisfactorily explained.

Our work has not identified any significant issues in relation to the risk identified.

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### Reasonably possible audit risks

#### Risks identified in our Audit Plan

#### Commentary

#### 6

#### The valuation of Level 2 investments is incorrect

While level 2 investments do not carry the same level of inherent risks associated with level 3 investments, there is still an element of judgement involved in their valuation as their very nature is such that they cannot be valued directly.

#### We have:

- gained an understanding of the Fund's process for valuing Level 2 investments and evaluated the design of the associated controls;
- reviewed the nature and basis of estimated values and considered what assurance management has over the year end valuations provided for these types of investments;
- reviewed the reconciliation of information provided by the fund managers, the custodian and the Pension Fund's own records and sought explanations for variances;
- for direct property investments agreed values in total to valuer's report and undertook steps to gain reliance on the valuer as an expert.

We are currently finalising our work on Level 2 investments. We raised a small number of queries where the amounts in the Pension Fund accounts, based upon the valuation by the Custodian were significantly different to the valuation provided by the fund manager or valuer. The Pension Fund team has provided us with responses and we are currently reviewing them.

### **Going concern**

#### Our responsibility

As auditors, we are required to "obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern assumption in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and to conclude whether there is a material uncertainty about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern" (ISA (UK) 570).

| Going concern commentary  | Auditor commentary   |
|---|--|
| Management's assessment process   |  |
| The Pension Fund has reviewed their going concern position and has concluded  | <ul> <li>The Pension Fund's use of the going the concern basis of accounting is appropriate;</li> </ul>  |
| Management's assessment process  The Pension Fund has reviewed their going concern position and has concluded that it is appropriate to produce their accounts on a going concern basis and no material uncertainties exists. They have considered the Funds funding position and any communications with the relevant Department and Secretary of State.  Pork performed  Reviewed management's assessment of going concern and the assumptions and  | <ul> <li>The Pension Fund's assessment of going concern was communicated to us in the Chair<br/>of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee's letter to us dated 30 April 2018;</li> </ul> |
|   | <ul> <li>Sufficient assets to meet liabilities as they fall due. The last triennial valuation, as at 31<br/>March 2016 reports a funding level of 90%.</li> </ul>                          |
| Work performed  |  |
| Reviewed management's assessment of going concern and the assumptions and   | No material uncertainty identified;  |
| Management's assessment process  The Pension Fund has reviewed their going concern position and has concluded that it is appropriate to produce their accounts on a going concern basis and no material uncertainties exists. They have considered the Funds funding position are any communications with the relevant Department and Secretary of State.  Work performed  Reviewed management's assessment of going concern and the assumptions and supporting information.  Concluding comments | <ul> <li>Sufficient assets to meet liabilities as they fall due. The last triennial valuation, as at 31<br/>March 2016 reports a funding level of 90%;</li> </ul>                          |
|   | <ul> <li>The Pension Fund continues to operate as usual with contributions and investment<br/>income being received and benefits being paid.</li> </ul>                                    |
| Concluding comments   |  |
| The Pension Fund's use of going concern basis of accounting is appropriate.   | Our opinion is unmodified in respect of the going concern conclusion.  |
|   |  |

### Significant matters discussed with management

This section provides commentary on the significant matters we discussed with management during the course of the audit.

| Significant matter  | Commentary   |
|---|--|
| Significant events or transactions that occurred during the year  | In April 2017 the Pension Fund received £137.0 million in upfront payments from employers for deficit funding contributions and service rate contributions for 2018/19 and 2019/20. The Fund was accounting for these as receipts in advance and showed a current and long term liability. Our view is that for the Pension Fund accounts it is revenue recognition that is the important consideration. These payments would meet the definition of income for the Pension Fund as there is no prospect of this cash being paid back These amounts are due to the Pension Fund in 2017/18 and are an asset of the Pension Fund in 2017/18, which the Pension Fund has invested in 2017/18 to generate income in the Pension Fund accounts. Therefore these should be accounted for as income in the Pension Fund accounts in 2017/18. |
|   | The accounts have been amended.  |
| Business conditions affecting the Pension Fund, and business plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement  | No issues to report.   |
| Concerns about management's consultations with other accountants on accounting or auditing matters  | No issues to report.   |
| Discussions or correspondence with management in connection with the initial or recurring appointment of the auditor regarding accounting practices, the application of auditing standards, or fees for audit or other services                                 | We were re-appointed as auditors of Lancashire County Pension Fund for five years from 2018/19. We issued our fee letter for 2018/19 on the 20 April 2018 and this will be presented to the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on 30 July 2018.  |
| Significant matters on which there was disagreement with management, except for initial differences of opinion because of incomplete facts or preliminary information that are later resolved by the auditor obtaining additional relevant facts or information | No issues to report.   |
| Other matters that are significant to the oversight of the financial reporting process  | No issues to report.   |

### Accounting policies, judgements and estimates

| Accounting area             | Summary of policy   | Comments   | Assessment |
|-----------------------------|---|--|------------|
| Revenue recognition Page 17 | <ul> <li>Note 3 – Accounting policies for recognition of income as follows:</li> <li>Contribution income – recognised on an accruals basis, receipts in advance are accounted for as accrued income</li> <li>Transfers to and from other schemes – recognised on a cash basis with the exception of bulk transfers, which are accounted for on an accruals basis.</li> <li>Investment income:         <ul> <li>interest income – recognised on accruals basis</li> <li>dividend income – recognised when shares are quoted</li> <li>distribution from pooled funds – recognised at date of issue</li> </ul> </li> <li>property related income - rental income recognised on straight line basis lease period</li> <li>movement in net market value of investments – recognise realised and unrealised profits over financial year.</li> </ul> | Our review confirmed that your accounting policies in respect of revenue recognition were in line with our expectations except for the upfront payment of contributions for deficit funding and service rate contributions. You were accounting for these as receipts in advance and showed a current and long term liability. Our view is that for the Pension Fund accounts it is revenue recognition that is the important consideration. These payments would meet the definition of income for the Pension Fund as there is no prospect of this cash being paid back These amounts are due to the Pension Fund in 2017/18 and are an asset of the Pension Fund in 2017/18, which the Pension Fund has invested in 2017/18 to generate income in the Pension Fund accounts. Therefore these should be accounted for as income in the Pension Fund accounts in 2017/18.  Accounting policy has been updated and accounts amended. | RED        |
| Judgements and estimates    | Key estimates and judgements include:  - valuation of level 3 investments (unquoted private equity and infrastructure investments)  - pension fund liability  - actual present value retirement benefits  | Our review of your key judgements disclosed in the draft financial statements has confirmed they are complete in accordance with our understanding of the Fund.  Our testing has confirmed the accounting policies in relation to these areas are in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice and have been correctly and consistently applied.  | GREEN      |
| Other critical policies     | We have reviewed the Pension Fund's policies against the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice. The accounting policies are appropriate and consistent with previous years.  | Our review of accounting policies for the Pension Fund has not highlighted any issues which we wish to bring to your attention.  | GREEN      |



<sup>•</sup> Marginal accounting policy which could potentially be open to challenge by regulators

Accounting policy appropriate but scope for improved disclosure

Accounting policy appropriate and disclosures sufficient

### Other communication requirements

We set out below details of other matters which we, as auditors, are required by auditing standards and the Code to communicate to those charged with governance.

|          | Issue                                       | Commentary  |
|----------|---|---|
|          | Matters in relation to fraud                | We have previously discussed the risk of fraud with the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee. We have not been made aware of any incidents in the period and no other issues have been identified during the course of our audit.   |
| 9        | Matters in relation to related parties      | We are not aware of any related parties or related party transactions which have not been disclosed.  |
| 3        | Matters in relation to laws and regulations | You have not made us aware of any significant incidences of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations and we have not identified any incidences from our audit work.  |
| Page     | Written representations                     | A standard letter of representation has been requested from the Pension Fund, which is included within the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee.  |
| <b>b</b> | Confirmation requests from third parties    | We requested from management permission to send confirmation requests to Fund Managers, the Custodian, valuers and your bank for your cash balances (outside of the cash held by your fund managers). We are still awaiting responses to some of our requests.                              |
|          | Disclosures                                 | We did not identify any material omissions in the financial statements.   |
|          | Significant difficulties                    | We did not identify any issues with accounts closedown, production of draft accounts or quality of the working papers.  |
| 3        | Matters on which we report by exception     | We are required to give a separate opinion for the Pension Fund Annual Report on whether the financial statements included therein are consistent with the audited financial statements. We propose to issue our 'consistency' opinion on the Pension Funds Annual Report (see Appendix D). |

### Independence and ethics

#### **Independence and ethics**

· We confirm that there are no significant facts or matters that impact on our independence as auditors that we are required or wish to draw to your attention. We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and confirm that we, as a firm, and each covered person, are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements

We confirm that we have implemented policies and procedures to meet the requirements of the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we as a firm, and each covered person, confirm that we are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

Further, we have complied with the requirements of the National Audit Office's Auditor Guidance Note 01 issued in December 2017 which sets out supplementary guidance on ethical requirements for auditors of local public bodies.

Details of fees charged are detailed in Appendix B.

Audit and Non-audit services

The purposes of our audit we have made enquiries of all Grant Thornton UK LLP teams providing services to the Pension Fund. The following non-audit services were identified.

#### **Service**

| Audit related £                       |       | Description and Impact   |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| IAS 19 Assurance to<br>other auditors | 1,737 | The IAS 19 Assurances fees relate to our responsibilities in providing written assurance (on controls over information provided by the Pension Fund to the actuary) to PSAA appointed auditors of admitted bodies. |  |  |
|                                       |       | The provision of these assurances does not impact on our assessment that that we are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.   |  |  |

The amounts detailed are fees agreed to-date for audit related and non-audit services to be undertaken by Grant Thornton UK LLP in the current financial year. These services are consistent with the Pension Fund / Administering Authority's policy on the allotment of non-audit work to your auditors. None of the services provided are subject to contingent fees.

### **Audit Adjustments**

We are required to report all non trivial misstatements to those charged with governance, whether or not the accounts have been adjusted by management.

#### Impact of adjusted misstatements

All adjusted misstatements are set out in detail below along with the impact on the key statements and the reported net expenditure for the year.

| Detail   | Fund Account £'000 | Net Asset Statement £' 000 | Impact on total net assets £'000 |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| In the draft accounts of the Pension Fund it had accounted for the upfront payments from employers for deficit funding contributions and service rate contributions as a receipt in advance. In doing so it showed a current liability and long term liability of £68.5 million each. The Pension Fund's basis for accounting this way was on a matching principle and to be consistent with the accounting used by Lancashire County Council, the administering authority.  Our view is that the income received upfront by the Pension Fund, whether it is to fund the pension deficit or normal contributions, should be treated the same. In both circumstances the employer organisation is making these payments in advance to obtain a discount, but can only do so, as the actuary's schedule of rates and adjustments certificate allows it by certifying it due. Our view is that for the Pension Fund accounts it is revenue recognition that is the important consideration. These payments would meet the definition of income for the Pension Fund as there is no prospect of this cash being paid back These amounts are due to the Pension Fund in 2017/18, which the Pension Fund has invested in 2017/18 to generate income in the Pension Fund accounts. Therefore the £137 million should be accounted for as income in the Pension Fund accounts in 2017/18. The required amendments are: |                    |                            |                                  |
| Pension Fund Account – Contributions  Net Asset Statement – Current Liabilities  Net Asset Statement – Long Term Liabilities   | 137,000            | (68,500)<br>(68,500)       | 137,000                          |
| Overall impact   | £137,000           | £137,000                   | £137,000                         |

### **Audit Adjustments (continued)**

#### Misclassification and disclosure changes

The table below provides details of misclassification and disclosure changes identified during the audit which have been made in the final set of financial statements.

| Disclosure omission  | Detail   | Adjusted? |
|--|--|-----------|
| Notes to the Financial<br>Statements – 1. Pension Fund<br>operation and membership | The narrative has been amended to provide details of the employers upfront contributions paid in April 2017 but in respect of 2018/19 and 2019/20.   | ✓         |
| Accounting Policies – 3.1 – Fund Account – Revenue Recognition U                   | The accounting policy has been updated to reflect the fact that upfront payment of employer deficit funding is should not be accounted for as accrued income.  | ✓         |
| Note 10 – Management<br>expenses   | Investment management expenses have been amended for 2017/18, and re-stated for 2016/17, so that additional fees are no longer netted off investment values. This re-statement has a corresponding impact on the change in market value of investments but with no overall impact on the net assets of the scheme. The amounts involved are: | ✓         |
|  | <ul> <li>Investment management expenses 2016/17 – amended from £42.7 million to 63.5 million</li> </ul>  |           |
|  | <ul> <li>Investment management expenses 2017/18 – amended from £52.3 million to 54.1 million</li> </ul>  |           |
|  | Investment management expenses are broken down in note 10.1 with the main changes being:   |           |
|  | <ul> <li>Fund value based management fees for 2016/17 re-stated from £31.8 million to £42.7 million. The similar figure for 2017/18 amended from £45.3 million to £41.8 million</li> </ul>   |           |
|  | <ul> <li>Performance related fees for 2016/17 re-stated from £7.1 million to 17.5 million. The similar figure for 2017/18 amended<br/>from £6.3 million to £11.5 million.</li> </ul>   |           |

### **Audit Adjustments (continued)**

| Disclosure omission   | Detail  | Adjusted? |  |
|---|---|-----------|--|
| Note 13 – Reconciliation of movement in investments and derivatives | In the draft accounts the amounts for investments managed by LPPI were previous shown as one figure split across the different types of investments including:  |           |  |
|   | Private equity - £531.0 million   |           |  |
|   | Long term credit investments - £1,071.1 million   |           |  |
|   | Liquid credit (cash and bonds) - £183.8 million   |           |  |
|   | Global Equity Fund - £3,214.4 million   |           |  |
|   | Infrastructure - £727.4 million   |           |  |
|   | In the amended accounts the amounts in each type of investment managed by LPPI have been broken down into the individual named companies to comply with CIPFA guidance.   |           |  |
| Note 20 – Current and long teen liabilities                         | Current and long term liabilities have been amended to reflect the fact that £137.0 million of employers payment upfront normal and deficit funding contributions, shown as due in 2018/19 and 2019/20, should have been accounted for as income to the Pension Fund in 2017/18. The amendments were: | <b>√</b>  |  |
|   | <ul> <li>Current Liabilities – contributions received in advance – amended from £68.5 million to nil;</li> </ul>  |           |  |
|   | <ul> <li>Current Liabilities – Analysis of creditors – Other local authorities – amended from £70.4 million to £1.9 million;</li> </ul>   |           |  |
|   | <ul> <li>Long term Liabilities – Analysis of creditors – Other local authorities – amended from £68.5 million to nil.</li> </ul>  |           |  |

### **Audit Adjustments (continued)**

#### Impact of unadjusted misstatements

There are no such unadjusted items as a result of our audit

#### Impact of prior year unadjusted misstatements

There were no unadjusted misstatements in the 2016/17 financial statements.

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### Fees

We confirm below our final fees charged for the audit and the provision of non audit services.

#### **Audit Fees**

|                                  | Proposed fee | Final fee |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Pension Fund Audit               | £34,169      | £34,169   |
| Total audit fees (excluding VAT) | £34,169      | £34,169   |

The proposed fees for the year were in line with the scale fee set by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA).

⊃age 24

#### **Non Audit Fees**

| Fees for other services                                     | Fees     |  |
|---|----------|--|
| Audit related services:  IAS 19 Assurance to other auditors | £1,737 * |  |
|   | £1,737   |  |

<sup>\*</sup> The IAS19 fee is for our responsibilities in providing written assurances (on controls over information provided by the Pension Fund to the actuary) to PSAA appointed auditors of admitted bodies has yet to be approved by PSAA for 2017/18.

### **Audit opinion**

#### We anticipate we will provide the Pension Fund with an unmodified audit report

### Independent auditor's report to the members of Lancashire County Council on the pension fund financial statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the pension fund financial statements of Lancashire County Council (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and notes to the pension fund financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

In our opinion the pension fund financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2018 and of the amount and disposition at that date of the fund's assets and liabilities;
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the pension fund of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the pension fund financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Who we are reporting to

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Authority's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Director of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the pension fund financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Director of Finance has not disclosed in the pension fund financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Authority's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the pension fund financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The Director of Finance is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, the Narrative Report, the Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Report, other than the pension fund financial statements, our auditor's report thereon and our auditor's report on the Authority's financial statements. Our opinion on the pension fund financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the pension fund financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the pension fund financial statements or our knowledge of the pension fund of the Authority obtained in the course of our work or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the pension fund financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Opinion on other matter required by the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice)

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the pension fund financial statements the other information published together with the pension fund financial statements in the Statement of Accounts, the Narrative Report, the Annual Governance stement and the Annual Report for the financial year for which the pension fund financial statements are prepared is consistent with the pension fund financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice we are required to report to you if:

- we have reported a matter in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we have made a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we have exercised any other special powers of the auditor under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

### Responsibilities of the Authority, the Director of Finance and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Authority is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the Director of Finance. The Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the pension fund financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Director of Finance determines is necessary to enable the preparation of pension fund financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the pension fund financial statements, the Director of Finance is responsible for assessing the pension fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the pension fund lacks funding for its continued existence or when policy decisions have been made that affect the services provided by the pension fund.

The Audit, Risks and Governance Committee is Those Charged with Governance.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the pension fund financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these pension fund financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the pension fund financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

To be signed

Michael Thomas for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Appointed Auditor

Royal Liver Building Liverpool L3 1PS

To be dated

### **Audit opinion**

#### We anticipate we will provide the Pension Fund with an unmodified audit report on the Annual Report

Independent auditor's report to the members of Lancashire County Council on the consistency of the pension fund financial statements included in the Pension Fund Annual Report

#### **Opinion**

The pension fund financial statements of Lancashire County Council (the "Authority") for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the Fund Account, the Net assets statement and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, of Lancashire County Pension Fund are derived from the audited pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 included in the Authority's Statement of Accounts (the "Statement of Accounts").

In our opinion, the accompanying pension fund financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements in accordance with proper practices as defined in the FA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 applicable law.

#### Pension Fund Annual Report - Pension fund financial statements

The Pension Fund Annual Report and the pension fund financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the Statement of Accounts. Reading the pension fund financial statements and the auditor's report thereon is not a substitute for reading the audited Statement of Accounts and the auditor's report thereon.

#### Who we are reporting to

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 paragraph 20(5) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Authority those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### The audited financial statements and our Report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the pension fund financial statements in the Statement of Accounts in our report dated XX XXXXX.

### Director of Finance responsibilities for the pension fund financial statements in the Pension Fund Annual Report

Under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 the Chief Financial Officer of the Authority is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund financial statements, which must include the Fund Account, the Net Asset Statement and supporting notes and disclosures prepared in accordance with proper practices. Proper practices for the pension fund financial statements in both the Statement of Accounts and the Pension Fund Annual Report are set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

#### Auditor's responsibility

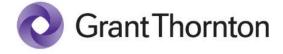
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the pension fund financial statements in the Pension Fund Annual Report are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited pension fund financial statements in the Statement of Accounts based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing 810 (Revised), Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

To be signed

Michael Thomas for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Appointed Auditor

Royal Liver Building Liverpool L3 1PS

To be dated



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### Agenda Item 5

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Meeting to be held on Friday, 14 September 2018

Electoral Division affected: None;

#### Lancashire County Pension Fund - Update on 2017/18 Annual Report

Contact for further information: Abigail Leech, Head of Fund, Lancashire County Pension Fund, Abigail.leech@lancashire.gov.uk

#### **Executive Summary**

The draft Lancashire County Pension Fund Annual Report was approved by the Pension Fund Committee at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

This report sets out the changes between the draft reviewed by the Committee on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and the final accounts.

#### Recommendations

- 1. The Committee is asked to note the amendments to the accounts between draft and final versions.
- 2. The Committee is asked to note the responses to queries raised at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

#### **Background and Advice**

The Annual Report of the Fund includes the accounts of the Fund for the year to 31st March 2018.

The draft Annual Report was presented to the Pension Fund Committee at its meeting on 5 July 2018 in order that the Committee could review and note the accounts and subsequently recommend them for approval at the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee on the 30th July 2018.

The Committee was also asked to review the remainder of the Annual Report and, subject to any changes being minor, approve it for submission to full Council on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

It was resolved at the meeting that an update on transition costs, current and long term liabilities and membership figures referred to in the Annual Report would be presented to the Committee in September.

#### **Transition Costs**



Transition costs for the year ended 31 March 2018 amounted to £0.3m, compared to £2.0m in the previous financial year. This reduction was in line with expectations as the transition of the Fund's equity investments into the LPPI Global Equities Pool in October 2017 was forecast to be the most expensive of all the planned investment transitions due to the number of transactions required together with exchange and market movements.

The transition of infrastructure, private equity and credit portfolios was at a significantly lower cost.

#### **Current and long term liabilities**

An adjustment of £137.0m was made to the final accounts. The details of this adjustment are set out below and were highlighted to the Committee by the Head of Fund at the meeting in July.

Following the 2016 actuarial valuation, some authorities paid future service costs and deficit contributions in advance, in return for a discount. In the draft accounts these up-front payments were treated as liabilities and the contributions were recognised in the period in which they fell due. In the majority of cases this meant that the up-front payments would be recognised as income over a period of three years.

This was considered by the Fund to be the true substance of the contributions received in advance, consistent with the accounting by each employer and in line with generally accepted accounting principles.

The view of Grant Thornton was that these up-front payments should be recognised as income on receipt, rather than over the period to which they related. Grant Thornton asserted that the likelihood of repayment of these cash amounts was minimal and that the Fund was already benefitting, through investment, from the early inflow of cash.

On this basis the external auditors required an adjustment to be made to remove the liability of £137.0m and instead recognise as income in full. Not making this adjustment would have significantly increased the risk of the auditors issuing a qualified opinion on the pension fund accounts.

This treatment results in a higher net asset position and an increase in the value of the Fund as at 31 March 2018 of £137.0m.

Narrative has been included in the final accounts of the Fund to explain the income recognition and to highlight the reason for the apparent increase in contributions when compared with the previous year. Reference is also made in the notes to the accounts that without the up-front receipt, the net cash flow of the Fund, before investment income, is negative.

#### **Membership figures**

Note 1.2 to the Fund accounts includes a table which details the membership of the Fund as at 31 March 2018 and 31 March 2017.

The movements between the two years were queried at the previous meeting of the Pension Fund Committee and LPP has provided the following explanation.

The number of active members reported in the table for both 16/17 and 17/18 includes 'pending leavers'. These are members who are due to be processed as leavers but have not yet been reclassified as 'deferred pensioners' or 'pensioners'.

The 2017/18 figures include 5,530 pending leavers within 'active members' (2016/17: 4,592). After adjusting for pending leavers, there is a minimal increase in active members of 23.

If the pending members are reclassified from active to deferred (assuming all pending leavers are deferrals rather than direct to pensioners) then the movement between the years and membership categories appears more in line with our expectations.

An explanatory sentence has been included in Section D ('Administration of the Fund') of the Annual Report.

#### **Consultations**

The amendments referred to above were made after consultation with the Fund's external auditors Grant Thornton.

#### Implications:

N/A

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

#### Risk management

The Accounts of the Fund have been signed and received an unqualified external audit opinion dated 31 July 2018, in line with the statutory deadline. A separate external audit opinion will be issued in respect of the Annual Report and this is expected to be unadjusted.

The statutory deadline for publication of the Annual Report is 1 December 2018.

#### Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

| Paper                | Date                          | Contact/Te |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| N/A                  |                               |            |
|                      |                               |            |
| Reason for inclusion | on in Part II, if appropriate |            |

### Agenda Item 6

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Meeting to be held on Friday, 14 September 2018

Electoral Division affected: None:

### Lancashire County Pension Fund - Budget monitoring for period 1 April to 30 June 2018

Appendix 'A' refers.

Contact for further information: Abigail Leech, Head of Fund, Lancashire County Pension Fund Abigail.leech@lancashire.gov.uk

#### **Executive Summary**

This reports sets out the financial results of the Fund for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and compares those results to the agreed budget for the same period.

A forecast for the whole year is included, which will be updated on a quarterly basis.

#### Recommendation

The Committee is asked to consider and the note the variances between actual and budgeted results for the quarter and also the forecast financial results for the year ending 31st March 2019.

#### **Background and Advice**

The budget for the year ending 31st March 2019 was approved by the Committee on the 8th June 2018.

It is difficult to accurately estimate income due to the Fund and any costs associated with investment activities but it is considered essential to have an agreed budget each year to form the foundation for financial monitoring and in particular, the review of planned savings through investment pooling.

The budget takes into account the investment strategy of the Fund, historic trends and results of the year ended 31 March 2018.

Variances for the quarter against the key budget headings are outlined as follows.

#### INCOME

Contributions - Q1 budget variance £26.6m under-recovery
 The budgeted income for the year has been evenly phased throughout the year.
 Actuals have been accounted for in the month of receipt. The Q1 variance is



primarily due to expected timing differences in contribution collections which will be eliminated by the year end. In error, some employers paid contributions late, further contributing to the variance for the quarter.

Of the remaining under-recovery of contribution income for the quarter, £1.3m can be attributed to employer pension strain income which is budgeted to be earned evenly through the year and at an increase of 20% on the prior year. The timing and value of such income is inherently difficult to budget.

No full year variance against budget has been incorporated into the current forecast for the year.

- Transfers in Q1 budget variance £1.1m under-recovery
   The budget for transfers into the Fund is based upon the prior year. No regularity to this income can be identified from historic trends and it is again considered too early to conclude that the year-end position will be different from budget.
- Investment income Q1 budget variance £1.7m additional income
   The favourable variance for the first three months of the year is not significant relative to the value of the Fund and the forecast has been held to budget for the full year.

#### **EXPENDITURE**

Transactions with members – Q1 budget variance £9.7m saving
 Payment of pensions and refunds are broadly in line with budget for the quarter, yielding a net £0.3m saving for the period.

The payment of transfers and lump sum benefits is £10.0m behind budget. This isn't recognised as a saving for the full year as it may likely be a timing issue given that it is difficult to estimate the timing and value of such payments in any given year.

- Administrative expenses Q1 budget variance £0.3m saving Due to timing of invoices received from LPP in the prior year, the Fund accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 included an over accrual of £0.3m in respect of administrative expenses billed by LPP. This offsets current year actual costs in the ledger. There is no indication at present of a variance against the budget for current year expenditure which is based on a cost per member. For this reason, the saving created by the over-accrual is assumed to carry through the year resulting in an overall forecast saving of £0.3m against this budget heading.
- Investment management expenses Q1 budget variance £2.8m underspend
  As has been reported in previous quarters, investment management expenses
  are reported by underlying asset managers on an arrears basis, usually quarterly.
  For this reason it is necessary to estimate fees on a quarterly basis and adjust in
  subsequent months when data becomes available.

The budget includes an expectation that fees will increase as a result of the transparency agenda. Total costs previously absorbed within asset value have not yet been separately identified and will continue to be quantified over the year. This process may not be completed by the end of the year as all Funds move towards greater transparency of cost and investment reporting.

No full year variance from budgeted investment management expenses has been recognised at the end of the first quarter.

• Oversight and governance expenditure – Q1 budget variance £0.4m saving The most significant variances within this budget heading are for advisory fees which are underspend by £0.8m and property expenses which are overspent by £0.4m. Neither of these areas of expenditure have a regular pattern over the year end hence it is possible that these variances are timing related.

The budget for advisory fees is unchanged from the previous year but is dependent on activity across the Fund. We have no current expectation of a significant budget variance in property expenditure and for this reason have forecast that expenditure on oversight and governance will be in line with the budget for the full year.

#### **NET POSITION**

The first quarter has returned an adverse variance of £12.7m against budget. This is, however, considered to be due to phasing of income and expenditure with by far the most significant element being the under-recovery of contribution income which is due to timing and specific issues which have been corrected in the second quarter.

A full year saving of £0.3m has been recognised for the full year due to the over accrual of LPP administrative costs for the year ended 31 March 2018. Actual and budget results for the period to 30 September 2018 will be analysed and a revised full year forecast will be presented to the Committee at the November meeting.

#### **Consultations**

Local Pensions Partnership consulted in respect of investment management fees.

#### Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

#### Risk management

Regular monitoring against the budget of the fund will provide an explanation of key variances and will inform future budget setting and forecasting. The inclusion of a full year forecast should assist in providing an 'early warning' of potential overspends and the may enable mitigating action to be taken in year.

# **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

| Paper                | Date                         | Contact/Tel |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| N/A                  |                              |             |
| Reason for inclusion | n in Part II, if appropriate |             |
| N/A                  |                              |             |

|   | Actual year ended<br>31 March 2018 | Budget year ended<br>31 March 2019 | Budget for 3 months to<br>30 June 2018 | Actual for 3 months to 30 June 2018 | Variance for 3 months to 30 June 2018 | Forecast year ended<br>31 March 2019 | Forecast full year budget variance |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| INCOME  | £'000                              | £'000                              | £'000                                  | £'000                               | £'000                                 | £'000                                | £'000                              |
| Contributions Receivable From Employers   | (181,374)                          | (193,100)                          | (48,275)                               | (26,638)                            | 21,637                                | (193,100)                            | 0                                  |
| From Employees  | (56,522)                           | (59,382)                           | (14,846)                               | (9,920)                             | 4,926                                 | (59,382)                             | 0                                  |
| Total contributions receivable  | (237,896)                          | (252,483)                          | (63,121)                               | (36,557)                            | 26,563                                | (252,483)                            | 0                                  |
| Transfers in  | (11,518)                           | (11,370)                           | (2,842)                                | (1,767)                             | 1,075                                 | (11,370)                             | 0                                  |
| Total Investment Income   | (142,008)                          | (144,397)                          | (36,099)                               | (37,829)                            | (1,730)                               | (144,397)                            | 0                                  |
| TOTAL INCOME  | (391,422)                          | (408,250)                          | (102,062)                              | (76,154)                            | 25,908                                | (408,250)                            | 0                                  |
| EXPENDITURE Benefits Payable  |                                    |                                    |  |                                     |                                       |                                      |                                    |
| Pensions  | 213,656                            | 220,065                            | 55,016                                 | 55,439                              | 423                                   | 220,065                              | 0                                  |
| Lump Sum Benefits Total benefits payable  | 41,188<br>254,844                  | 42,424<br>262,489                  | 10,606<br>65,622                       | 4,419<br>59,859                     | (6,187)<br>(5,764)                    | 42,424<br>262,489                    | 0                                  |
| Total beliefits payable   | 254,044                            | 202,403                            | 05,022                                 | 33,633                              | (3,704)                               | 202,403                              | Ĭ                                  |
| Transfers out   | 17,354                             | 17,875                             | 4,469                                  | 606                                 | (3,862)                               | 17,875                               | 0                                  |
| Refund of Contributions   | 594                                | 611                                | 153                                    | 98                                  | (55)                                  | 611                                  | 0                                  |
| Contributions Equivalent Premium  | (27)                               | (28)                               | (7)                                    | (1)                                 | 6                                     | (28)                                 | 0                                  |
| Fund administrative expenses  |                                    |                                    |  |                                     |                                       |                                      |                                    |
| Administrative and processing expenses:  LPP administrative expenses  | 3,712                              | 3,300                              | 825                                    | 553                                 | (272)                                 | 3,028                                | (272)                              |
| Other administrative expenses   | 103                                | 103                                | 26                                     | (5)                                 | (30)                                  | 103                                  | 0                                  |
| Write off of bad debts  | 19                                 | 10                                 | 3                                      | 1                                   | (2)                                   | 10                                   | 0                                  |
| Total administrative expenses   | 3,834                              | 3,413                              | 853                                    | 549                                 | (304)                                 | 3,141                                | (272)                              |
| Investment management expenses Investment management fees: LPP directly invoiced investment management fees | 3,078                              | 1,800                              | 166                                    | 424                                 | 259                                   | 1,800                                | 0                                  |
| DIRECTLY INVOICED non LPP investment management fees - direct holdings                                      | 1,462                              | 1,462                              | 366                                    | 251                                 | (115)                                 | 1,462                                | 0                                  |
| Investment management fees on pooled investments  | 45,922                             | 52,092                             | 13,307                                 | 10,227                              | (3,081)                               | 52,092                               | 0                                  |
| Transition costs  | 303<br>99                          | 200<br>50                          | 100<br>13                              | ( <mark>22)</mark><br>13            | (122)                                 | 200                                  | 0                                  |
| Custody fees Commission, agents charges and withholding tax   | 1,421                              | 1,421                              | 355                                    | 596                                 | 241                                   | 1,421                                | 0                                  |
| Total investment management expenses  | 52,286                             | 57,026                             | 14,306                                 | 11,489                              | (2,818)                               | 57,026                               | 0                                  |
| Oversight and Governance expenses   |                                    |                                    |  |                                     |                                       |                                      |                                    |
| Performance measurement fees (including Panel) IAS19 advisory fees  | 54<br>70                           | 75<br>70                           | 19<br>17                               | (8)<br>21                           | (27)                                  | 75<br>70                             | 0                                  |
| Other advisory fees (including abortive fees)   | 3,808                              | 3,800                              | 950                                    | 200                                 | (750)                                 | 3,800                                | 0                                  |
| Actuarial fees  | 39                                 | 50                                 | 13                                     | 15                                  | 3                                     | 50                                   | 0                                  |
| Audit fees<br>Legal & professional fees   | 27<br>188                          | 52<br>188                          | 13<br>47                               | 12                                  | (1)<br>(40)                           | 52<br>188                            | 0                                  |
| LCC recharges   | 395                                | 395                                | 0                                      | 0                                   | (40)                                  | 395                                  | 0                                  |
| Bank charges  | 6                                  | 6                                  | 2                                      |                                     | (2)                                   | 6                                    | 0                                  |
| Property expenses   | 3,342                              | 3,442                              | 861                                    | 1,278                               | 418                                   | 3,442                                | 0                                  |
| Total oversight and governance expenses   | 7,930                              | 8,079                              | 1,921                                  | 1,525                               | (396)                                 | 8,079                                | 0                                  |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE   | 336,814                            | 349,464                            | 87,317                                 | 74,125                              | (13,193)                              | 349,192                              | (272)                              |
| MONEY AVAILABLE FOR INVESTMENT BEFORE REALISED AND UNREALISED PROFITS AND LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS             | (54,608)                           | (58,785)                           | (14,745)                               | (2,029)                             | 12,716                                | (59,058)                             | (272)                              |

## Agenda Item 7

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Meeting to be held on Friday, 14 September 2018

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);

#### **Responsible Investment**

(Appendix A refers)

Contact for further information: Mukhtar Master, (01772) 5 32018, Governance & Risk Officer, Mukhtar.Master@lancashire.gov.uk

#### **Executive Summary**

Responsible Investment encompasses a range of stewardship activities associated with Lancashire County Pension Fund fulfilling its fiduciary duty to act in the best long-term interests of fund beneficiaries.

The report set out at Appendix 'A' provides the Pension Fund Committee with an update from LPP Investments Ltd on Responsible Investment matters relating to the second quarter of 2018.

#### Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the report on Responsible Investment activity at Appendix 'A'.

#### **Background and Advice**

The report attached at Appendix 'A' has been prepared by the Responsible Investment Manager at LPP Investments Ltd and provides information on how the Fund is being supported to fulfil its commitment to long term responsible asset ownership in line with the approach set out within its Investment Strategy Statement and Responsible Investment Policy.

For the purposes of reporting on voting, engagement and litigation monitoring activities, the information provided relates to the second quarter of 2018 and focusses on the period from 1st April to 30 June 2018. For the purposes of reporting on wider matters, more recent developments are also reflected as part of bringing current and emerging issues to the Committee's attention.

#### **Principles of Responsible Investment**

As agreed at the Committee in June the Local Pension Partnership has become a signatory to the Principles of Responsible Investment, replacing the Fund and London Pension Fund Authority. LPP will now report publicly against the Principles for the first time in February/March 2019.



#### **Local Authority Pension Fund Forum**

At the recent Local Authority Pension Fund Forum Annual General Meeting held on the 19th July 2018, the results of the LAPFF Executive elections were announced. Lancashire County Pension Fund now has two representatives on the LAPFF Executive:

Cllr Eddie Pope – Councillor Member; Abigail Leech – Officer Member.

This is a clear indication of the importance of Responsible Investment to the Lancashire County Pension Fund.

#### **Responsible Investment Working Group**

The Working Group was tasked with further developing a comprehensive Climate Change Policy at the Committee in March 2018. The Working Group have met once and have requested further information on its current investments before its next meeting on 11 October 2018. The Group will report back its recommendations at the Committee in November 2018.

#### **Consultations**

N/A

#### Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

#### Risk management

It is an important component of good governance that the Fund is an engaged and responsible investor committed to actions which are in the best long term interests of fund members and beneficiaries.

As a Local Government Pension Fund, the Lancashire County Pension Fund is required to be a signatory to the UK Stewardship Code and to uphold the principles espoused by the code.

The monitoring of investee companies and the promotion of good corporate governance practices can help to reduce the risk of unexpected losses arising as a result of poor over-sight and lack of independence.

Responsible investment practices underpin the fulfilment of the Fund's fiduciary responsibilities to Fund beneficiaries and are implemented in practice through the advisory and investment management services provided by LPP I.

Quarterly RI Reports provide information to the Pension Fund Committee on the stewardship of the Fund's assets by LPP I and enable the Committee to monitor the activities undertaken.

Involvement in a non-US type of "class action" may result in the recovery of losses incurred by the Fund but, should the claim be lost, the Fund may incur related costs which may not be known with certainty at the time of filing.

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

Paper Date Contact/Tel N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

## Appendix A



# LOCAL PENSIONS PARTNERSHIP INVESTMENTS LIMITED

#### **Lancashire County Pension Fund**

## **Pension Fund Committee Responsible Investment Report**

14 September 2018 Appendix A

| Title of Paper | Quarterly Report on Responsible Investment (2018 Q2)  |
|----------------|---|
| Lead Officer:  | Frances Deakin Responsible Investment Manager Local Pensions Partnership Investments Ltd frances.deakin@localpensionspartnership.org.uk |
| Appendices     | None  |

#### 1. Executive Summary

This report provides members of the Pension Fund Committee of Lancashire County Pension Fund (LCPF) with a quarterly update on Responsible Investment (RI) matters.

#### 2. Introduction

The Fund's approach to RI is articulated within an Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) which confirms that the objective of RI is to decrease investor risk, improve risk-adjusted returns and assist the Fund's adherence to the UK Stewardship Code. LCPF's ISS is supplemented by a Responsible Investment Policy adopted in June 2018 which explains that the Fund's preferred approach to RI encompasses four main areas of activity:

- Voting Globally
- Engagement through Partnerships
- Shareholder Litigation
- Active Investing

Responsibility for the practical implementation of the Fund's approach to RI is devolved to Local Pensions Partnership Investments Ltd (LPP I) as LCPF's provider of investment management services. The report which follows provides the Committee with an update on RI activity during the period 1st April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 plus insight on current and emerging issues.

#### 3. Voting Globally

Through its investment in the LPP I Global Equities Fund (GEF) LCPF owns units in a pooled fund which invests in listed companies globally. Investors in the GEF delegate the control and exercise of shareholder voting to LPP I. This reflects that clients owning units

in the GEF are beneficial owners in common but do not directly own shares in underlying companies.

LPP I exercise shareholder voting rights for the GEF centrally rather than delegating voting to individual asset managers and take account of voting recommendations received from an external provider of proxy voting and governance research (ISS) in accordance a Sustainability Voting Policy designed to ensure the consideration of ESG factors within analysis. LPP I review voting recommendations and take the final decision on all voting.

In the second quarter of 2018 (the height of "voting season") shareholder voting headlines for the GEF were as follows:

#### LPP Global Equities Fund (GEF)

| Total company meetings taking place                      | 297  |
|--|------|
| Total resolutions (management and shareholder proposals) | 4252 |
| Total company proposals in the period                    | 4102 |
| Total shareholder proposals in the period                | 150  |

#### Company Proposals

|   | 3631 |     |
|---|------|-----|
| Voting was against Management recommendations | 471  | 11% |

#### Shareholder Proposals

| Shareholder proposals supported by LPP I | 102 | 68% |
|--|-----|-----|
| Votes against shareholder proposals      | 48  | 32% |

The table below summarises resolutions by type and indicates

- where opposition voting was concentrated in Q2
- the broad subject matter of shareholder resolutions

#### Summary of Q2 Voting

|                         |          |          |       |         |         |          | "Say on | Pay" fre | equency |        |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|--------|
|                         | Meetings | Proposal | Votes | Votes   | Votes   | Votes    | One     | Two      | Three   | Do Not |
|                         |          | S        | For   | Against | Abstain | Withhold | Year    | Years    | Years   | Vote   |
| Antitakeover Related    | 28       | 32       | 27    | 3       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 2      |
| Capitalization          | 99       | 284      | 215   | 62      | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 7      |
| Director Related        | 279      | 2581     | 2340  | 135     | 6       | 30       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 70     |
| Non-Salary Compensation | 202      | 371      | 292   | 65      | 2       | 0        | 1       | 0        | 0       | 11     |
| Reorg. and Mergers      | 20       | 32       | 25    | 7       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0      |
| Routine/Business        | 287      | 789      | 726   | 20      | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 43     |
| SH-Compensation         | 10       | 13       | 9     | 4       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0      |
| SH-Corp Governance      | 2        | 4        | 3     | 1       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0      |
| SH-Director Related     | 45       | 69       | 46    | 18      | 1       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 4      |
| SH-Health/Environment   | 15       | 17       | 12    | 3       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 2      |
| SH-Other/Miscellaneous  | 20       | 25       | 19    | 6       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0      |
| SH-Routine/Business     | 18       | 28       | 12    | 14      | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 2      |
| SH-Soc./Human Rights    | 3        | 3        | 3     | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0      |
| Social Proposal         | 3        | 4        | 3     | 1       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0      |
| Totals for the report : | 297      | 4252     | 3732  | 339     | 9       | 30       | 1       | 0        | 0       | 141    |

LPP voted against management resolutions in 471 instances. This figure includes 133 resolutions from 5 meetings where LPP I did not vote (in accordance with the LPP I Shareholder Voting Policy) due to the presence of share blocking arrangements which limit flexibility to buy and sell shares in the lead-up to company meetings.

LPP opposed management nominations in the election / re-election of 135 directors. Voting reflected individual Board members (and their degree of personal independence) as well as the composition and independence of company boards considered as a whole.

Management proposals on compensation arrangements prompted 65 opposition votes. 35 of these were advisory votes seeking shareholder ratification for the compensation of named Executive Officers but 11 were on Remuneration Policies presented for Shareholder agreement. Examples include:

Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton (French multinational luxury goods conglomerate) LPP voted against the Remuneration Policy for Executive Corporate Officers because;

- The cap on Long Term Incentive Plans (LTIP) was significantly increased, without any rationale being disclosed;
- The remuneration policy did not specify a cap on exceptional remuneration;
- There was insufficient information on long-term compensation arrangements in the event of an executive's departure.
  - 15.8% of shareholders opposed the resolution which passed at the meeting.

Unilever (British-Dutch consumer goods company)

LPP voted against a policy proposing to move to a consolidated "fixed pay" structure which would bring increases to both fixed pay and annual bonus calculations. 26.9% of shareholders voted against the updated policy.

Vinci (French construction and engineering firm)

LPP opposed a Remuneration Policy for the Chairman and CEO which would allow the company to apply a 20 percent salary increase and expand the LTIP cap by 100% without having disclosed a compelling rationale for doing so. 45.8% of shareholders voted against the proposed policy.

Capitalisation (share issuance) proposals attracted 62 opposition votes in Q2. 17 were at the AGM of a single company - Haitong Securities Co - and related to planning for the non-public issuance of A class shares without pre-emptive rights. Pre-emptive rights allow existing shareholders the right to purchase additional shares in a company prior to shares being made available for purchase by the general public.

In this case, LPP voting reflected that, at 20%, the proposal would allow management to issue twice the aggregate share issuance limit recommended by our governance advisor for ensuring an appropriate balance between allowing a company flexibility and maintaining reasonable protection for existing shareholder interests. All 17 resolutions passed at the meeting after receiving 93% support.

LPP supported 102 shareholder proposals across 60 company meetings in Q2. Familiar themes from prior proxy seasons arose again in 2018 through resolutions which called for:

- improved shareholder rights (one share one vote, reduced thresholds for calling meetings and submitting shareholder resolutions, proxy access /the right to nominate candidates);
- greater transparency (reporting on political lobbying, pay differentials, human rights within supply chains, climate change management); 2018 additionally saw resolutions on gender pay gap reporting at Facebook and Alphabet (Google).
- corporate governance best practice (Separation of Chair and CEO roles, independent chairman, performance-linked remuneration, nomination practices to address board diversity and sustainability).

In addition to these established themes, there were shareholder resolutions on more individual issues at some company meetings. Examples of those likely to be of greatest interest to the Committee are shown below (with the results). All were supported by LPP.

| Company             | Sector                    | Detail of Shareholder Requirement  |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| The Middleby Corp   | Industrial<br>Machinery   | Issue a report describing the company's environmental, social, and governance (ESG) policies, quantitative performance metrics, and improvement targets, including a discussion of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions management strategies and metrics. (57% support) |
| Kraft Heinz         | Packaged Foods<br>& Meats | Assess environmental impact of non-recyclable packaging, reputational, operational and financial risks of continuing to use non-recyclable packaging and evidence of substantive actions taken to make materials recyclable (13.5% support)                        |
| Old Republic        | Property and              | Report on Steps Taken to Improve Board   |
| International Corp  | Casualty<br>Insurance     | Oversight of Climate Change Risk (49% support)   |
| McDonalds           | Restaurants               | Report on the business risks associated with the continued use of plastic straws, and the company s efforts to develop and implement substitutes for plastic straws in its restaurants. (10% support)  |
| Imperial Oil        | Integrated Oil &<br>Gas   | Respond to the CDP Water questionnaire in 2018 or issue a standalone report to shareholders detailing the company's assessment of its water related-risks and its mitigation plan related to those risks   |
| Illinois Tool Works | Industrial<br>Machinery   | Adopt quantitative science-based GHG reduction goals and report to shareholders on plan for achieving these goals (25% support)  |

| Flowserve Corp                | Industrial<br>Machinery    | Establish quantitative science-based greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals, and publish a report outlining its plan for achieving such goals and progress to-date.  (25% support)   |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Entergy Corp                  | Electric Utilities         | Report on how the Company could adapt its enterprise-wide business model to significantly increase deployment of distributed-scale noncarbon-emitting electricity resources as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global warming to no more than 2 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels.  (38% support) |
| C.H Robinson<br>Worldwide Inc | Air Freight &<br>Logistics | Adopt quantitative GHG reduction goals and report to shareholders on its plan for achieving these goals. (38% support)   |
| Ameren Corp                   | Multi-Utilities            | Prepare a report on the company s efforts, above and beyond current compliance, to identify and reduce environmental and health hazards associated with past, present and future handling of coal combustion residuals, and how those efforts may reduce legal, reputational and financial risks to the company (54% support)                    |
| Berkshire Hathaway Inc        | Multi-Sector<br>Holdings   | Report on the management of methane emissions, including reduction targets (10% support) Encourage more Berkshire subsidiary companies to issue annual sustainability reports (13% support)  |

Members can view details of voting for all meetings via the LPP website where quarterly reports for the GEF are made publicly available.

https://www.localpensionspartnership.org.uk/what-we-do/investment-management

#### 4. Engagement through Partnerships

LPP I regularly participates in collaborations which aim to make progress on commonly held issues by co-ordinating the efforts of multiple investors. Key partners include the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA) the Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI) the Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) the LGPS Cross Pool RI Group, and the UK Pension Fund RI Roundtable.

#### **LAPFF**

LAPFF has long been LCPF's preferred engagement partner.

The Forum's AGM and most recent quarterly Business Meeting took place on 19 July 2018.

The AGM confirmed the outcome of the LAPFF Executive nominations process which saw both the Head of the Lancashire Fund and the Chair of the Lancashire Pension Fund Committee elected to seats on the Forum's Executive.

The Business Meeting received a range of papers including:

- a report on research into Asset Managers and ESG which reflected outcomes and observations from a survey of member fund experiences of current asset management practices;
- a scoping paper for future work on the risks posed by plastics which will inform the forum's future engagement plans

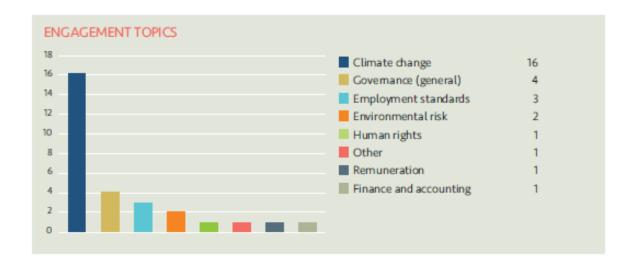
#### LAPFF Q2 Engagement Report

The LAPFF engagement programme reflects the Forum's assessment of key priorities from across the collective equity holdings of LAPFF members. LPP has recently responded to the Forum's annual request for up to date data on LCPF's listed equity holdings. The data submitted reflected the companies currently held within the Global Equities Fund.

On a quarterly basis LAPFF provides Forum members with a summary of the engagement activities undertaken on their behalf which is available from the LAPFF website.

http://www.lapfforum.org/publications/qrtly-engagement-reports/

Quantified across thematic topics, engagement activity by LAPFF in Q2 was as follows:



The companies engaged with and the topics raised by LAPFF in Q2 were as follows:

| Q12018 ENGAGEMENT D               | ATA                         |                                     |                        |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Company                           | Activity                    | Topic                               | Outcome                |
| Anadarko Petroleum<br>Corporation | Alert Issued                | Climate Change                      | Substantial Improvemen |
| Anglo American plc                | AGM                         | Climate Change                      | Moderate Improvement   |
| Banco Santander SA                | Meeting                     | Employment Standards                | Dialogue               |
| Bayerische Motoren Werke AG       | Meeting                     | Environmental Risk                  | Change in Process      |
| Centrica plc                      | Meeting                     | Governance                          | Dialogue               |
| Chevron Corporation               | Alert Issued                | Climate Change                      | Dialogue               |
| Exxon Mobil Corporation           | Letter                      | Climate Change                      | Dialogue               |
| Ford Motor Company                | Letter/Meeting              | Climate Change                      | Dialogue               |
| G4S plc                           | Meeting                     | Human Rights                        | Moderate Improvement   |
| General Motors Company            | Letter/Meeting/Alert Issued | Climate Change                      | Dialogue               |
| Lloyds Banking Group plc          | Meeting                     | Finance and Accounting              | Moderate Improvement   |
| National Grid plc                 | Meeting                     | Climate Change                      | Moderate Improvement   |
| Rio Tinto Group (AUS)             | Alert Issued                | Climate Change                      | Dialogue               |
| Rolls-Royce Holdings plc          | Meeting                     | Climate Change                      | Satisfactory Response  |
| Royal Dutch Shell plc             | Alert Issued                | Climate Change                      | Dialogue               |
| Southern Company                  | Letter                      | Climate Change                      | Substantial Improveme  |
| Tesla Inc.                        | Alert Issued/Meeting        | Governance/<br>Employment Standards | Dialogue               |
| Unileverplc                       | AGM                         | Environmental Risk                  | Satisfactory Response  |
| WPP plc                           | Alert Issued                | Remuneration                        | Dialogue               |

Quarterly statistics show that Climate Change continues to be the issue attracting greatest attention from LAPFF on behalf of member funds.

#### **Principles of Responsible Investment**

At its meeting on 8th June the committee approved a proposal that LPP should become a signatory to the PRI, replacing LCPF and LPFA. An application for membership was submitted and has been successful. LPP is now listed as a signatory on the PRI website and LCPF and LPFA have been delisted. The PRI Annual Report 2018 will contain details of this change and record that delisting was due to a transfer of signatory status. LPP will report publicly against the Principles for the first time in Feb/March 2019.

Since it became a PRI signatory in June, LPP has become member of the PRI Climate Action 100+ Global Working Group which is newly formed and will be one of the network level initiatives through which investors can engage with CA100+ companies. A first call has taken place explaining how the working group will operate and how it will link with the other investor networks around the world which are co-ordinating to deliver the initiative's goal of securing commitments from company management to the following:

- 1. Governance: Implement a strong governance framework which clearly articulates the board's accountability and oversight of climate change risk.
- 2. Disclosure: Provide enhanced corporate disclosure in line with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations and sector-specific Global Investor Coalition Investor Expectations on Climate Change guidance.
- 3. Action: Take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across their value chain, consistent with the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting global average temperature increase to well below 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels.

#### **Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI)**

LPP has been a supporter of the TPI since its inception, recognising that the initiative is working in an important space focussed on providing investors with reliable information from which they can assess the relative position of investee companies based on how they are planning for and managing the risks faced from the transition to a lower carbon economy.

As a supporter and user of the TPI toolkit, LPP was invited to attend a TPI investor summit at the London Stock Exchange in July where the CEO and RI Manager shared experience on the usefulness of the toolkit and insights on the ways in which it is being used.

LPP I is currently reflecting on appropriate measures for use as part of ongoing monitoring and evaluation of climate change risk management by individual companies and is considering setting soft targets for the Global Equities Fund based on TPI scores. The TPI toolkit rates companies on a scale from 0 (Unaware) to 4 (Integrating into strategic planning) based on the information they are releasing publicly on the management of climate change and transition risk. Targets would communicate minimum expectations for fossil fuel companies and provide a basis for dialogue with external managers on their assessment of how individual fossil fuel companies are planning for transition where this differs from the TPI assessment.

#### **Shareholder Litigation**

LPP I employ Institutional Protection Services (IPS) as an external provider of litigation monitoring services to ensure shareholder litigation cases affecting securities owned by the GEF are known about, claims are filed in a timely way and progress is monitored and followed up with Claims Administrators. In addition, IPS monitor cases relating to shares held by LCPF in the period before the Fund pooled its listed equity investments from November 2016. Litigation can arise quite some time after shares have been sold and monitoring new cases and referring back to historic holdings records to establish rights of ownership is an ongoing task.

IPS provide LPP I with monitoring information on a quarterly basis detailing the number of cases investigated. The monitoring report for Q2 2018 confirms that of 13 potential cases identified where the Fund might have an entitlement to join a class action, further analysis had discounted 10. There is 1 case where eligibility is still being assessed and 2 where eligibility has been identified and a claim will be filed.

#### 5. Active Investing

The LCPF Responsible Investment Policy (approved by the Committee in March 2018) describes active investing as the search for sustainable investments which meet LCPF's requirements for strong returns combined with best practice in ESG and corporate governance. The Fund has not set allocations for investments within specific sectors but favours investments with positive social characteristics and expects LPP to use the ownership rights attached to assets in ownership to influence in favour of sustainable business practices which reflect the needs of shareholders, customers, employees, and wider stakeholders.

Going forward, this section of the report will offer insights into active investing which will incorporate quantitative and qualitative information on assets owned by the Fund.

This is dependent on assembling new types of information and represents a significant task for the portfolio as a whole. During Q2, first steps have been taken with the commencement of work to identify companies within the Global Equity Fund (Listed Equities) which are contributing positive social outcomes through the products and services they provide. The outcomes of ongoing analysis will be presented to the committee in forthcoming reports and as part of the development of a dashboard style of presentation which is currently under development.

Analysis is at an early stage, but initial insights include that the fund has interests in global infrastructure assets which include renewable electricity (£3.4m) and water utilities (£9.1m) through the shares LPP holds in listed companies via the GEF.

## Agenda Item 8

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Meeting to be held on Friday, 14 September 2018

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);

## Local Pensions Partnership Annual Report 2017/18 (Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information: Abigail Leech, Head of Fund, Abigail.leech@lancashire.gov.uk

#### **Executive Summary**

This report sets out the Annual report and accounts for the Local Pensions Partnership (LPP) for the period ended 31 March 2018.

The Annual report and accounts were approved by LPP's board on the 31 July 2018.

#### Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note LPP's annual report as attached at Appendix 'A'.

#### **Background and Advice**

The Pension Fund Committee are charged with overall governance of the Fund and overseeing the investment and administration functions operated within the Local Pensions Partnership (LPP). The shareholders agreement with LPP and the governance policy documents for the fund state that Pension Fund Committee should receive the annual accounts for LPP. The Annual Report for LPP attached at Appendix 'A' includes the accounts.

LPP started operation in April 2016 and this is the second Annual Report and accounts. The report covers some of the key achievements in the year, future aspirations and the financial statements.

Some of the achievements outlined in the report are:

- Assets under management have increased from £12.5bn to £13.1bn
- Increased the number of pooled funds offered to clients from 2 to 6
- An increase in pension administration clients from 14 to 16
- A 6% increase in pension members under administration



#### Future Plans identified

- To take on Berkshire Pension Fund as a client for its investments
- Embed new process for administration services
- Grow client base
- Launch the total return and real estate funds to complete the asset transition to pooled funds
- To collaborate with partners to further develop GLIL Infrastructure platform.

#### **Financial**

The auditors provided an audit opinion that the accounts give a true and fair view on 31 July 2018. The statements show that LPP Group made a loss of £2.110m in the year compared to a profit in 2017 of £3.443m.

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|----|-------|-------|-------|
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N/A

#### Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

#### Risk management

The shareholders agreement with LPP and the governance policy documents for the fund state that the Pension Fund Committee should receive the annual accounts for LPP.

#### Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

| Paper | Date | Contact/Tel |
|-------|------|-------------|
| N/A   |      |             |
|       |      |             |

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A



# A Leading Pension Services Business

Annual Report 2017–18

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LPP's vision is to be 'a leading pension services business'. With a 'not-for-profit' ethos at its heart, LPP can help clients achieve greater stability in employer contributions and effective management of pension assets and liabilities.



## About us

Local Pensions Partnership Ltd (LPP) started operating in April 2016 following the collaboration of two local government pension scheme (LGPS) funds – Lancashire County Pension Fund (LCPF) and London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA).

Our business model is a new proposition for the management of pension funds – a pension services business operating with a "not-for-profit" philosophy and sharing the benefits of success with clients. We offer a full range of pension fund management services (asset and liability risk management, pension administration and

investment management and advisory) which can be delivered either as a "full service" or as a range of specific solutions.

We help our clients improve pension scheme performance, maintain stable contributions and funding levels through improved investment outcomes and reduced costs. Our employees operate across four sites in London, Preston, Hertfordshire and Havering. We provide a full range of pension fund management services to LPP's two founding clients, and a range of specific solutions and services to a broad base of clients across the UK. Further details of the services can be found on the LPP website.

## Principles that drive our success

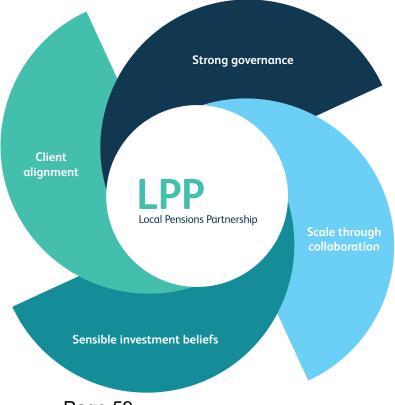
Whether it is asset and liability risk management, pension administration or investment management, we believe there are four guiding principles that drive our success

**Client alignment:** everything we do is motivated by delivering success for our clients, not profits for our balance sheet. Any profits not reinvested in the business are returned to clients in the form of lower fees.

**Strong governance:** repeatable processes and clear measurement of everything we do.

**Scale through collaboration:** enables us to keep costs low and gain access to investments which smaller investors cannot.

**Sensible investment beliefs:** our approach to asset and liability management can help clients achieve sustainable pensions in the long term.



## Key facts

Assets under management

£13.1<sup>bn</sup>

**Group employees** 

284

This includes a number of employees who left the business on 31 March 2018 (see note 7).

of which are investment, investment risk and actuarial professionals

25

Number of pension administration clients

8

8

Police and Firefighter schemes

Number of employers in pension schemes under administration

1,004

Number of members in pension schemes under administration

547,882

Number of investment funds established

6

Number of employer risk service clients

6

# 6

## Chairman's welcome



I have long believed in consolidation in the pensions industry, so the privilege of being able to assist LPP in this journey is a particular pleasure. The original business case for LPP set out a two-year programme to establish the business and to demonstrate to clients the benefits of pooling and collaboration. I am pleased to report that we are very much on track.

The primary driver of this success has been the establishment of our investment funds which have enabled us to pool client assets at a greater scale and at a lower cost than was previously the case. In parallel, we have developed our investment advisory capability and provided strategic asset allocation advice to our clients that is now in the process of being implemented. Another key achievement is the implementation of

our approach and processes to asset and liability risk management; helping our clients to manage their scheme liabilities. We also administer pension services for 547,882 scheme members, having welcomed several additional clients this year. Of most importance to pension fund members, perhaps, we continue to ensure that pension payments are made as they are due. Looking to the future of these payments, we are pleased to see the funding levels of our current investment clients are close to, or more than, fully funded on a triennial valuation basis.

LPP continues to work with other LGPS pools and local authorities to develop opportunities that can contribute to improving the running of LGPS schemes for the benefit of the sector – and ultimately the members. GLIL Infrastructure, the £1.3 billion infrastructure joint venture (JV) partnership between five LGPS funds, has received approval from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) to operate as a regulated Alternative Investment Fund with Local Pensions Partnership Investments Ltd appointed the Alternative Investment Fund Manager. The fund is now open to other LGPS investors who may be looking to gain access to direct UK infrastructure investments.

All our work is reported to HM Treasury and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) with our progress against the Government's pooling criteria well received to date. In the future I fully anticipate there will be further developments occurring in the LGPS sector as the process of pooling evolves. We will continue our engagement with Government departments to ensure LPP remains a positive advocate of this evolution.

On the governance side, we commissioned three externally-assessed independent governance reviews. More information is included later in this Report. The outcomes of the reviews confirmed that the governance and organisational structures at LPP are appropriate. A Board Effectiveness Review in February 2018 confirmed that the Board is operating effectively and made helpful suggestions for changes that we are currently implementing, including the addition of further non-executive directors to add to both our resilience and our diversity of thought and experience.

Our second year of operation has continued to be one of significant effort and change. My personal thanks go to my Board colleagues and our employees for their continued support and hard work, without which we wouldn't be in the position we are today. As we enter our third year, and with Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (Berkshire Pension Fund) joining us as an investment client, LPP's strategy is to build on our financial sustainability, enabling us to invest further in the business and deepen our operational resilience. The success of LPP is predicated on our ability to support our clients and deliver the benefits of pooling and collaboration. That will continue to be our focus.

Rukoel Olligei,

Michael O'Higgins Chairman

# Strategic report and business review



## Chief Executive's statement



It has been a year of good progress in building our business. We're now moving from the set-up of LPP to the next chapter in our development. This will be a period of consolidation and building resilience so we can continue to deliver on our strategic objectives. We will be focused on integrating technology and processes to enhance efficiencies and to add value to our clients. Additionally, we will be embedding our values and culture across our business as it matures.

## Business performance and service delivery to clients

LPP Group's assets under management (AUM) increased from £12.5 billion to £13.1 billion during 2017–18. The increase in AUM has had a positive impact on income, which has also increased from £23 million to £26 million. Whilst LPP operates with a 'not- for- profit' philosophy, it must firstly meet its financial obligations as a business, particularly in respect of repaying loans and meeting regulatory capital obligations through building its capital reserves.

Whilst we have managed all our clients' assets from the start, this year we have expanded our pooled funds offering from two to six. The suite of investment funds not only serves as the investment pooling vehicles for our two full service clients, but they are also open to other pension funds who are supportive of our approach. We are delighted that the Berkshire Pension Fund will be pooling its assets with LPP during 2018–19. This will take LPP Group's AUM to around £16 billion, inclusive of the assets from Berkshire Pension Fund and GLIL Infrastructure.

The number of pension scheme members under our administration has exceeded 547.000 and we are confident that our new operating model will deliver a more efficient and professional service. The introduction of our contact centre in Preston allows for 96% of member calls to be resolved at the first point of contact. We now also provide an employer risk management service to an increased number of clients, who are seeing the benefits of having comprehensive employer covenant analysis. I am delighted to report that the quality of our member and employer service delivery has again been recognised with the Customer Service Excellence® accreditation.

#### Governance and resilience

Following such a significant change programme, it is important to me that we have robust governance arrangements and resilient processes in place. The additional standards of governance introduced by MiFID II are a further indication of the complex environment in which LPP operates. I am in no doubt that this degree of complexity will increase with the introduction of the Senior Managers Certification Regime (SMCR) in 2019 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in 2018. We have implemented an effective regulatory change programme and our preparatory work has indicated that we are in a strong position to comply with GDPR, a reflection of the standards we already have in place through our Information Management Accreditation Pare 63

Planned activities in 2018-19 include:

- Completing the asset pooling programme;
- Embedding the new operating model for pension administration;
- Developing new client relationships;
- Improving the infrastructure of our business operation, such as the introduction of additional systems to support investment operations;
- Assessing how broader system innovation can support LPP's future development; and
- Seeking wider partnership opportunities.

#### People and culture

We are continuing to invest in our teams in alignment with our strategy. Over the year we have added significant expertise to our Executive Committee. Allister Jeffrey, our Chief Financial Officer, joined the Board on 6 December 2017. He had been with LPP for six months prior to that and has created a robust and fit-for-purpose finance function.

The development of LPP's values (detailed on page 8) in collaboration with employees has been a significant step in our journey to create a culture as a single, unified business. Over the coming year we will be taking further steps to embed these into the way we work, including our performance and recognition programmes. Our values go beyond our employees; they embody the way we do business and will act as a measure for who we do business with.

m

**Susan Martin**Chief Executive

## Strategic report and business review

### LPP business model

LPP is a leading pension services business. We are all working together to develop a sustainable business which shares the benefits with its clients.

LPP's principal activity is the provision of a full pension service covering asset and liability risk management, pension administration and investment management. LPP manages £13.1 billion of assets on behalf of two full service clients LCPF and LPFA via our FCA authorised subsidiary, Local Pensions

Partnership Investments Ltd (LPPI). We provide pension administration services to 1,004 employers with 547,882 members across 16 LGPS, Police and Firefighters pension schemes. In addition, we support a number of pension funds with our technical pension consultancy and support services in areas such as data cleansing. LPP delivers benefits to clients through its focus on asset and liability risk management, as well as seeking strong investment performance. Clients are able to select either the full pension

services offering (asset and liability risk management, pension administration, and investment management and advisory) or an individual service line product such as participation in a particular investment fund or pension administration services.

LPP operates through a partnership approach. Clients retain their strategic responsibilities, but they delegate fully the implementation of pension administration and investment management activities.

#### LPP business model



## **Strategy**

In LPP's first two years, it has focused on:

- Delivering the benefits to clients that were set out in the original business plan for the partnership;
- Establishing a single business and completing the transformation programme;
- Creating pooled funds and transitioning client assets into them; and
- Assessing business growth opportunities and taking those which are in line with our interests and those of our clients.

LPP's transformation programme has been successful in guiding the business through the integration period, including the establishment of target operating models and asset pooling vehicles. We anticipate that we will deliver savings to our two full service clients over a five year period from the launch of our first pooled fund

to November 2021. LPP has begun to embed common standards across the business, such as employee terms and conditions, customer care standards, ISOs, and values and culture. The result of this is a cohesive stakeholder-focused business, which marries professionalism, scale and resilience.

The transformation programme is coming to an end now that LPP is operating as an aligned and integrated business. Further reviews of the new systems and processes will take place in the coming months to ensure they have been embedded within the business.

Moving forward, LPP will continue to operate as a pension services business, ensuring that on-going 'business as usual' resilience is implemented. As well as operational resilience, LPP will focus on technology in a graph of the parties of the services o

partnership opportunities which support LPP's financial targets.

LPP's existing full service clients come from the LGPS community, however, extensive client relationships and co-investment opportunities exist across the wider pension fund sector.

The key benefits of LPP's approach for clients are:

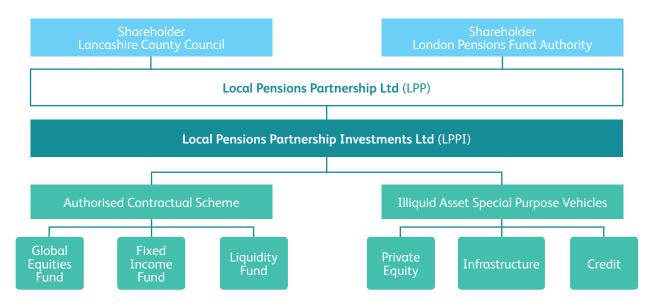
- Stable and sustainable investment returns with lower investment management costs;
- A governance model with full delegation from clients;
- Scale to access a wider choice of investment opportunities;
- Improved data quality, flow and control through a robust pension administration operating model; and

 Long term, stable and improved funding ratios, achieved through strong risk management with an aim to improve outcomes for members. The establishment of our fund vehicles, spanning global equities, private equity, infrastructure, credit, fixed income and liquidity, is strengthening our position as a scalable low cost, high performing investment house.

The business continues to grow. During 2018–19 LPP will commence providing services to the Berkshire Pension Fund and the GLIL Infrastructure Platform.

## Corporate structure

The LPP Group (LPP) comprises a holding company, Local Pensions Partnership Ltd (LPP Ltd), an investment management subsidiary LPPI which is authorised and regulated by the FCA, and other indirect subsidiaries as set out in the chart below. The Executive Committee drives the delivery of the asset and liability risk management, pension administration, and investment management and advisory services. During 2016–17, operations originally carried out by Local Pensions Partnership Administration Ltd were transferred to LPP Ltd, and the company is becoming dormant. 22 investment professionals are directly employed by LPPI, whereas all other resources are employed by LPP Ltd.



The Executive Committee drives the business of both LPP and LPPI. It is responsible for the day to day management of the Group and comprises seven executives.

The LPP Executive Committee



## Strategic report and business review

## People and culture

During the course of the year, LPP has built capability and resilience across all business areas and our increasing workforce reflects this. A high level transformation programme has enabled us to change the way we operate; relocating administration processing and some supporting corporate service functions away from the high accommodation costs associated with central London to more economic outer London and North West locations. This approach has allowed us to build an organisation with a continued focus on developing an efficient, consistent and effective service for our clients, with new ways of working. We anticipate this growth continuing in 2018–19 as we seek to achieve greater operational robustness and maturity.

LPP is a business with a difference. It incorporates asset and liability risk management, pension administration, and investment management and advisory activities. We operate within the private sector with a not-for-profit philosophy whilst remaining accountable to our public sector shareholders. Our partnership approach to all areas of business enables us to fully understand our clients and their respective challenges, whilst delivering within a regulated financial services market. Our aim is to continue to recruit and retain talented expertise, with a shared sense of purpose, which will enable us to benefit from workforce stability and continuity of client knowledge.

The continued development of LPP's vision, mission and values has been a significant step on our journey to creating a single integrated business. LPP's mission statement 'Developing a sustainable pension services business and sharing the benefits with our clients' sets out our purpose. Our values define how we work towards achieving that purpose through the delivery of our strategy and our interactions with each other, our clients, shareholders, peers and the wider world.

#### LPP values are:

- Doing the right thing
- Working together
- Committed to excellence
- Forward thinking

The values form a key aspect of the way we work throughout the organisation. We will continue to embed our values across the business including our processes and procedures as part of our resilience focus in 2018–19. During the year, we also consulted widely with our staff colleagues and representative bodies on a range of matters including the introduction of a consistent set of terms and conditions of employment to reflect our 'one LPP' philosophy.

We are a learning organisation; encouraging and supporting continued personal and professional development at all levels in addition to improving working practices. This is facilitated through our values and behaviours framework and a range of development and recognition initiatives designed to nurture our talent and deliver our ambitious strategic objectives. We value diversity of thought and appoint staff, directors and non-executive directors who contribute to a healthy environment of challenging the status quo.

This year LPP published its annual Equalities Statement along with the first Gender Pay Statement which are both available on LPP's website.

In summary, the gender pay statistics show:

- The median gender pay gap is 13.11%; and this is an area of continuous focus for us
- In general, the proportion of males and females receiving a bonus payment during the course of the year shows a slight trend towards female staff.
- The proportion of males and females in each quartile pay band shows a trend moving progressively towards closer gender proportions particularly in the upper middle and upper quartiles.

LPP continues to review and evolve its staff remuneration policy and, through this, it will seek to reduce the gender pay gap over time. This includes auditing and reviewing staff bonus schemes annually, reviewing recruitment and succession planning processes and ensuring development opportunities are open to all employees within the business.

## Asset and liability risk management

One of LPP's differentiating factors is the focus on liability management in conjunction with asset management. Liability management is the monitoring, reporting and advising on the balance sheet risks of pension schemes, also known as asset and liability risk management (ALM).

LPP has the skills, tools and processes to enable effective asset and liability risk management on behalf of our clients. The benefit of such an approach provides greater stability of contributions for employers and greater certainty of pension payments for members. The risk management function is independent of the investment team, which allows for effective oversight and constructive challenge of the investment process — leading to greater assurance for clients.

2017–18 saw increased levels of strategic hedging advice provided to clients. In addition, the liability management function worked with the investment team to develop a Strategic Asset Allocation Framework which was provided to our two full service clients.

The approach we have developed includes implementing state of the art analytical tools. We have implemented a market leading asset and liability management tool to enable us to monitor our clients' assets and liabilities through realistic scenario analysis. The tool is an integral part of our evolving Risk Management Framework which aims to deliver the following:

- Projections considering the balance of assets, liabilities and range of possible future funding levels over various time horizons;
- Identification, monitoring and reporting of key risk drivers;
- Development of risk mitigation strategies;
- Analysis of the impact of policy alternatives;
- Analysis of the impact of hedging strategies;
- Stress testing to help understand possible future risks; and
- Scenario analysis to improve understanding of balance sheet dynamics.

#### Employer risk management

The employer risk team works with employers of pension fund clients in order to manage data flow, accuracy and employer risk. This includes assessing the solvency of each employer and implementing additional security to protect taxpayers from inheriting pension fund liabilities. The team also monitors compliance with employer responsibilities under The Pensions Regulator's Code of Practice 14.

LPP has increased the number of employer risk clients to six from four during the year.

#### Looking forward to 2018–19

- Further promote our asset and liability risk management and employer risk management services to existing and potential clients; and
- Onboard Berkshire Pension Fund as a client.

## Strategic report and business review

## Pension administration

LPP provides pension administration services to a wide range of clients including LGPS, Police and Firefighters pension schemes, representing 1,004 employers and 547,882 members.

Our services include:

- Full pension administration functions for London Boroughs, County Councils, Police and Firefighters authorities;
- Special projects such as data cleansing and health checks; and
- Employer and member engagement activities.

We deliver our services in line with The Pensions Regulator's Code of Practice 14, which relates to the administration and management of public sector schemes.

The pension administration business was created from the services transferred from Lancashire Country Council (LCC) and LPFA, both of which had a record of success. During 2017–18, a significant transformation programme enabled our move away from geographical centres to a 'common delivery' operating model. This went live on 1 April 2018 and created three main service hubs: member services, engagement and business development. Our dedicated contact centre is now typically the first point of contact, with the majority of calls and email traffic being managed directly by this team. We are also committed to greater online engagement with members and employers.

LPP's new operating model will provide greater resilience and flexibility, reduce costs, and enable a more efficient management of data flow and customer queries, ultimately giving clients and members an improved service and experience.

Our operating model is sustainable and offers 'value-for-money' services to clients in a number of areas:

- We are a centre of excellence and expertise for LGPS, Police and Firefighters pension scheme administration. Our employees are specialists with in-depth knowledge and experience in all aspects of LGPS and other public sector pension scheme administration;
- We apply best-in-class practices, processes and systems;
- We achieve economies of scale through servicing a much larger client base; and
- We have the scale to make greater investment in technology to achieve greater efficiencies..

These are the foundations for us to build strong relationships with clients and to continue to provide a high standard of service.

#### **Performance**

Despite the significant challenges in transforming the pension administration business, LPP has met or exceeded the majority of performance targets for clients.

#### Growth

We have seen significant growth in the number of pension fund members under management during 2017–18. Fund members grew from 517,000 to 547,882 by 31 March 2018, and projected growth during 2018–19 will take the total number of fund members to 570, 000.

#### Looking forward to 2018–19

- Embed the new processes and systems introduced by the transformation programme;
- Scope and move to a consolidated employer data flow system;
- Onboard one new client successfully;
- Grow our existing LGPS, Police and Firefighters client base and develop new business opportunities in other public sector pension schemes; and
- Expand our special projects, employer and member engagement services.

## Investment management

LPP's investment philosophy has two key aims: (i) to help clients achieve a faster reduction in pension deficits by maximising risk-adjusted investment returns and lowering costs; and (ii) to deliver stable and sustainable investment outcomes to meet clients' long-term pension funding requirements. At all times, we operate within each client's independent and sovereign strategic asset allocation objectives.

Our model is built upon three pillars:

- Scale enables us to access a broader range of investment opportunities
- Governance delegated, independent decision making and governance structures enables effective investment management
- In-house investment and risk management – a deep and broad inhouse investment and risk management expertise across major asset classes, in both public and private markets, enables us to better understand clients' liabilities and funding requirements – and to develop appropriate investment strategies to meet these requirements

During 2017–18, we made significant progress on both the strategic development of the business and capabilities alongside the core investment and risk management objectives. AUM have also grown by a further £0.6 billion to £13.1billion.

LPP's unique model goes beyond providing the benefits of scale. We have delivered  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ higher-than-expected reduction in ongoing investment management fees.

#### Key investment highlights Summary

Significant progress has been made over the year, for both LPP and our clients. We now have six investment funds with a further two (Total Return and Real Estate) due to be launched in 2018–19. The build out of infrastructure and people has continued, and investment performance has remained strong. Funding ratios of both clients have improved significantly, underpinned primarily by the performance of the portfolios. In the coming year, our priorities are to further industrialise our operational processes, broaden our product offering, overcome barriers to increasing third-party sales and bolster internal resources.

#### Product range

LPP's suite of investment funds includes:

- Global Equities £5.5 billion with £2.2 billion internally managed
- Private Equity £1.1 billion
- Infrastructure £1.0 billion
- Credit £1.3 billion
- Fixed Income £320m
- Liquidity established but not launched

The remaining investments managed by LPP on behalf of its clients have yet to be pooled.

Data as at 31 March 2018

#### Investment performance update

- The economic and market backdrop for the year was favourable with robust performance across almost all risk assets. This fed through to strong performance across the range of our pooled funds and at the portfolio level for the clients
- The investment pipeline has remained strong with a combination of high conviction, direct and indirect new investments completed across the portfolios

#### Infrastructure and people

We have:

- Continued to make significant investment in our people, systems and processes to ensure we have a broad and resilient infrastructure:
- Grown our teams in investment, investment operations and risk, and established robust and efficient governance structures;
- Continued to develop our asset allocation methodology and delivered detailed Strategic Asset Allocation advice to both clients;
- Implemented the requirements of Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID II) on time and on budget:
- Provided the regulatory umbrella to enable LPPI to act as Alternative Investment Fund Manager (AIFM) to the GLIL Infrastructure fund (since 1 April 2018); and
- Operated with full oversight from our internal compliance function.

#### Looking forward to 2018-19

- Launch the Total Return and Real Estate funds to complete the asset transition into pooled investments;
- Continue to improve the operational resilience of our systems and processes by investing in enhanced analytical and reporting tools and technology;
- Continue to develop the successful track record of our funds;
- Continue to enhance our internal operational resilience by recruiting suitably skilled employees as appropriate; and
- Collaborate with our partners to further develop the GLIL Infrastructure platform.

## Strategic report and business review

## Responsible investment and stewardship

LPP is committed to an approach to stewardship which embraces responsible investment principles and practice. In our second year of operations we have continued our efforts to build positively on the firm foundations already in place for achieving sustainable and accountable stewardship on behalf of client funds.

Under the oversight of our Stewardship Committee, we have focused on developing policies and procedures which translate the beliefs and standards set out in our Responsible Investment Policy into operational practice.

During the year LPP developed and published a Shareholder Voting Policy in which we explain our approach and arrangements in more detail. The policy confirms our belief that well-governed companies are best equipped to manage business risks and opportunities, and encouraging high standards and sustainable business practices contributes to achieving optimum risk-adjusted returns over the long term.

Shareholder voting is a key route for engaging with investee companies and the voting rights for the listed equities we manage are exercised centrally by LPPI, rather than being delegated to third party external managers. Our Shareholder Voting Policy clearly articulates our objectives which are:

- Voting rights are exercised;
- Our voting process is consistent, efficient and auditable;
- Voting decisions are congruent with our investment beliefs and reflect the long term financial interests of our clients;
- Voting activity reflects our commitment to responsible investment.

Voting information for the LPP's global equities fund is published quarterly on the LPP's website.

Our provision of dedicated stewardship support has continued to involve helping clients fulfil their commitments as signatories to the Principles of Responsible Investment and the UK Stewardship Code. Our Responsible Investment Manager has advised on a range of stewardship priorities, supported a Responsible Investment Working Group convened by LCPF and provided substantial support to LPFA on the development of a policy approach to climate change which is now under implementation by LPPI.

Throughout the year we have continued to collaborate with other investors via a network of groups and initiatives, including the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum, the Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change, the Responsible Investment Sub-Group to the LGPS Cross Pool Collaboration Group, the Pension and Lifetime Savings Association and the UK Pension Fund Responsible Investment Roundtable. LPP has become an investor signatory to the Workforce Disclosure Initiative – a pilot scheme to encourage comparable workforce reporting by publicly listed companies. LPP has also committed to participation in Climate Action 100+ – a five-year initiative led by investors to engage with the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters to improve governance on climate change, curb emissions and strengthen climate-related financial disclosures.

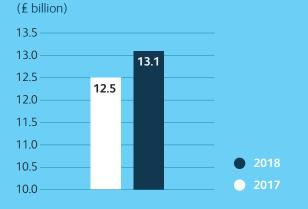
# Key performance indicators

#### **Group employees**



\*This includes a number of employees who left the business on 31 March 2018 (see note 7).

#### Assets under management



## Pension members under administration (in '000)



#### **Employer risk service clients**

An increase from 4 in 2017 to 6 in 2018



#### Number of investments funds



#### Pension administration clients

An increase from 14 in 2017 to 16 in 2018



## Strategic report and business review

## Risk management

LPP has a strong risk management culture which has undergone significant enhancement during 2017–18. Effective risk management is a core competence. We actively monitor the potential likelihood and impact of current and future risks.

#### Managing risk

The LPP Board is ultimately responsible for risk and oversight of the business's approach to managing risk. The Board is supported by the Audit Committee (non-executive), which oversees Group-wide risks and controls. LPPI Risk Committee provides executive and non-executive oversight of risks relating to the regulatory responsibilities of LPPI.

Further details on the role and scope of work undertaken by the LPP Audit Committee and the LPPI Risk Committee can be found on pages 25 and 28.

Our approach to risk management recognises that it is the responsibility of all employees to manage risks in their respective areas of business. LPP's Executive Committee is responsible for the monitoring and reporting of risks and controls, and regularly reviews the key risks facing the business.

Executive oversight of risk is delegated to the Chief Risk Officer who is responsible for the design and implementation of the risk and control framework and reporting of risk.

#### Risk framework

LPP's Risk Management Framework can be described as a process which helps us prevent an unacceptable level of uncertainty in business objectives. The framework sets out what the business will undertake in order to:

- Establish and operate an effective risk management and internal control environment, including risk identification, assessment, reporting, monitoring and the development of actions arising;
- Establish, operate and report a regular programme of Group-wide risk, analysis, reporting, stress testing, scenario development, thematic review and reverse stress testing; and
- Integrate risk management into the culture of the business.

Best practice methods are adopted in the identification, evaluation and control of risks to ensure that they are treated to an acceptable level. The framework is used universally across the business and delivers both a 'bottom up' and 'top down' approach.

#### Key risk categories

Financial risk: We recognise that poor investment performance could result in a reduction in AUM. Our investment management business charges income as a percentage of AUM. A fall in AUM could result in a fall in income. We closely monitor the risk and performance of the assets we manage and maintain sufficient financial resources to meet regulatory requirements and to cover a sustained fall in income.

Business risk: Pension administration service contracts with clients may not be renewed or may be terminated, or the costs of our service increases to such an extent that contracts become unprofitable. We provide services to a broad range of clients to reduce the concentration risk. Service level performance is closely monitored and discussed with clients to assess the quality of service. Costs are controlled as part of the financial budgeting process.

**Strategic risk:** The Board has approved a strategic business plan which sets out LPP's key objectives. Failure to meet the objectives of the plan may undermine the success of the business, resulting in increased uncertainty over future revenues and costs.

The business environment in which we operate is highly exposed to changes in regulation and government policy, and volatility in the global financial markets. These changes can be unexpected and create additional business uncertainty.

**Credit and Concentration risk:** LPP has no significant concentration of credit risk. We do have a risk of client concentration, as a significant portion of our income comes from two large clients. This is likely to reduce following the onboarding of Berkshire Pension fund as an investment client.

Operational risk: Operational risks may arise as a result of failures in our internal controls or operational processes. Such failures may lead to financial and reputational losses which can have a permanent and negative impact on clients' trust and confidence in LPP. We have implemented a three-year internal audit plan to review our business operation. The results of the reviews are reported to the Audit Committee.

#### Lines of defence

LPP's individual business areas are the first line of defence in the management of risk. Business heads continuously identify potential risks, assess their impact and implement appropriate controls. The second line of defence consists of the control functions including: Compliance, Finance, Governance, Legal, Human Resources and Risk. Internal Audit is the third line of defence providing independent assurance over the effectiveness of the risk and control environment.

#### Going concern

In assessing the basis of preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018, the Board has considered the principles of the Financial Reporting Council's 'Guidance on Risk Management, Internal Control and Related Financial and Business Reporting, 2014'; namely assessing the applicability of the going concern basis, the review period and disclosures.

The Board has undertaken a rigorous assessment of going concern and liquidity, taking into account financial forecasts for the period to 31 March 2019. This reviewed the strength of LPP's balance sheet, the recoverability of assets and availability of funding through LPP's existing facilities. Based on the assessment, the Board is satisfied and confident with LPP's financial positions, and believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going-concern basis.

#### Strategic report and business review

## Risk management continued

#### Key risks to achieving LPP's strategy

#### Description

#### How we manage risk

#### **Business risks**

1. Investment performance Poor investment performance could result in a reduction of AUM which subsequently results in a fall in income.

Close monitoring of performance of assets managed. Maintain financial resources at an amount sufficient to meet regulatory requirements and to cover a sustained fall in income.

2. Client concentration A risk of investment client concentration as a significant portion of income comes from two large clients. Similarly, our pensions administration business makes use of LCC's Local Government shared service powers, which creates a risk should LCC decide it no longer wishes to support this approach.

To increase investment client base such as the onboarding of Berkshire Pension Fund and launch of new products i.e. GLIL infrastructure.

A review of legal options associated with future growth.

#### Financial risks 3. Insufficient

capital

Failure to generate sufficient capital to sustain business investments, regulatory capital and loan repayment requirements which will enable LPP and LPPI to become financially independent.

LPPI sets and maintains a prudent level of capital, that includes a buffer over the minimum regulatory capital requirements.

LPPI performs an assessment of the adequacy of its capital through the internal capital adequacy assessment process (ICAAP).

#### Operational risks

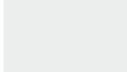
4. Conduct and regulation



Conduct and regulatory risks include:

- The risks of client detriment arising from inappropriate conduct, conflicts management, practice, behaviour or failing to meet client requirements.
- The risks of money laundering, bribery, market abuse or negligence.
- The risk of fines, penalties or other sanctions from failure to identify or meet regulatory requirements.
- The risk that new regulations or changes to existing interpretations have a material effect on the Group's operations, risk profile or cost base.

Second line of defence, including operational risk and compliance supports management in meeting our regulatory obligations. Compliance with relevant regulatory requirements is monitored in accordance with the compliance monitoring programme and risk and control self-assessments.



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| Key risks to achie<br>LPP's strategy | ving   | Description  | How we manage risk  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Operational risks                    | 5. Operational process and system resilience     | Operational process and system resilience, including business continuity and disaster recovery. Failures in internal controls, systems or operational processes may lead to financial and reputational losses, which can have a permanent and negative impact on clients' trust and confidence in LPP. | Annual review and update of both the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans. Both plans are tested at least annually.  |
|                                      | 6. Cyber and information security                | Cyber and Information Security relates to the risk that our technology systems and support are inadequate or fail to adapt to changing requirements, that our systems are penetrated by third parties and that data is held insecurely.  | Maintenance of the ISO27001<br>Information Security Standard.<br>Development of a Cyber Security Policy.  |
| 7. Key person                        |  | Recruitment and retention of key employees. Retention risk is compounded by potential change fatigue because of the constant, concurrent and often competing priorities.   | Continual review of Remuneration Policy to ensure that it remains competitive in the market to attract the right people.  Seek to build strength and depth through sustainable succession and development plan.   |
| Transformation risks                 | 8. Pension Administration Target Operating Model | The transition to the Pension Administration Target Operating Model is poorly managed which results in failure to deliver anticipated benefits and increases the likelihood of poor member, employer and client experience.  | Transformation Programme Board reviews holistical progress, key risks and issues, deliverables and milestones, benefits and benefits realisation and resourcing. The Board focuses on supporting programmes to deliver the benefits whilst assuring that overall, |
|                                      | 9. Asset<br>transition                           | The establishment of pooled funds and the transfer of assets is poorly managed leading to an increased likelihood of error which, if materialised, could result in both reputational damage and financial penalties.   | LPP remains on target to deliver the strategic objectives.  |
| Shareholder risks                    | 10. Break clause<br>2022                         | LPP's current shareholders could potentially trigger a break clause in 2022 because of substandard performance by LPP.   | Ongoing shareholder engagement, communications and forum. Periodic review and update of Service Level Agreements.   |
| 111                                  |  | Page 75  |   |

# Corporate governance



## Corporate governance statement

LPP Ltd was incorporated on 19 October 2015 as a Limited Company registered in England and Wales with the registered number 9830002 and a registered office situated at County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ. It began trading on 8 April 2016 and has two main subsidiaries: LPPI, which is authorised and regulated by the FCA and manages the investments on behalf of its clients; and Local Pensions Partnership Administration Ltd (LPPA), together the 'Group'. During 2017–18, LPPA's activities were transferred to and carried out by LPP Ltd. LPPA is being made dormant.

The LPP Board is accountable to its shareholders and is committed to maintaining a strong corporate governance framework which supports and enables the Board to achieve its goals. It operates in accordance with the Company's Articles of Association and the written terms of reference (Schedule of Matters Reserved for the Board), obligations under the Companies Acts, FCA regulations and other relevant public law obligations.

The day to day implementation of the strategic direction of the business is carried out by the Executive Committee. Investment decisions are taken by individuals who are authorised by the FCA to carry out investment activities.

The LPP website contains a section on Governance which outlines the responsibility of each of the Boards and Committees in the Group governance framework.

#### **Governance Reviews**

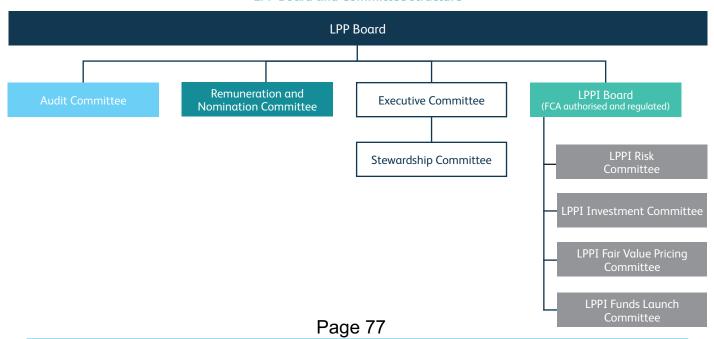
To ensure the appropriate governance structures were in place, LPP commissioned three externally-led independent governance reviews during the year. The reviews considered the Group's decision-making processes within the context of a regulated environment, existing governance processes against good practice and a Group structural review.

The review of the Group decision-making processes identified a need for greater clarity between the duties of the LPP Audit Committee and the LPPI Risk Committee, in line with best practice and the requirements of the EU's revised Markets in Financial

Instruments Directive (MiFID II). Following discussions between the committees, in particular over the need to separate investment specific risks from general Group risks, the terms of reference of both committees were revised and the Boards of both LPP and LPPI approved these revisions.

The review into existing governance processes recommended a number of improvements in the way that the Group presented key governance documents such as terms of reference. These changes are still being implemented. In addition, and as part of a requirement of the Shareholder Agreement, a Group structural review was carried out by KPMG. The outcome confirmed that a structure which sought to ring-fence the Group's regulatory activities within LPPI remained appropriate. The review also suggested the appointment of additional non-Executive Directors to increase resilience and independence, and these appointments will be made during 2018–19. When making these appointments the Board will be mindful of the importance of Board diversity.

#### **LPP Board and Committee structure**



#### Corporate governance

### **Board of directors**

#### Composition

The Board comprises an independent Chair, three Executive members, three independent Non-Executive Directors and two shareholder non-Executive Directors. Each of LPP's shareholders appoints a shareholder non-Executive Director to the LPP Board.

All directors are subject to an annual re-appointment by the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting. During the year, David Borrow, who had been a shareholder non-Executive Director from the inception of the business, resigned and was replaced by Alan Schofield. George Graham, an Executive Director who joined us on inception, also resigned, following which Allister Jeffrey, our Chief Financial Officer was appointed to the Board

Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) are appointed for an initial term of between three to four years. All directors undergo a tailored induction programme on appointment.

#### **Conflicts of Interest** and Independence

The Board may seek independent professional advice from an external provider for which LPP must pay. During the year no such advice was sought.

The process by which directors' conflicts might be authorised is set out in detail in LPP's Articles of Association. LPP and LPPI also have Board-approved conflicts of interest policies in place, ensuring a proper process for the identification, consideration of authorisation and appropriate recording of any conflicts of interest.

At all times during the year the independent directors met the criteria for independence.

LPP has arranged for appropriate insurance cover in respect of legislation against directors of LPP and its subsidiaries.

#### **Board Effectiveness Review**

A Board Effectiveness Review was carried out in February 2018 by an external provider. The review found that overall the Board was performing well. The review made some recommendations for building on the good work to date, these recommendations included reviewing the structure of the Board packs, increasing the number of independent NEDs, and building further on the risk discussions. A plan to deliver these recommendations will be delivered during 2018-19.



Michael O'Higgins Chair of LPP Board



Term of Office: 19 October 2015 to 18 October 2018

Michael O'Higgins is also Chairman of Calculus VCT, the Channel Islands Competition & Regulatory Authorities, and is a Non-Executive Director of Network Rail and of the pensions company Hedgehog.

**Previous experience:** Chairman of The Pensions Regulator from 2011 to 2014, Chairman of the Audit Commission from 2006 until 2012 and Chairman of the NHS Confederation from 2012 until 2015. Non-Executive Director of HM Treasury and Chair of the Treasury Group Audit Committee from 2008 to 2014. Michael was also the Chair of the youth homelessness charity, Centrepoint from 2004 to 2011.

Previously, Michael was a Managing Partner with PA Consulting, leading its Government and IT Consulting Groups, latterly as a Director on its International Board. Prior to that he was a Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers, worked at the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development in Paris and held academic posts at the University of Bath, the London School of Economics, Harvard University and the Australian National University.

#### Committee and subsidiary membership:

Member of LPP Remuneration and Nomination Committee. Non-Executive Director on LPPI Board.

- LPP Board
- LPP Audit Committee
- LPP Remuneration and Nomination Committee
- LPPI Board
- LPPI Risk Committee



**Sally Bridgeland** Non-Executive Director

**Term of Office:** 1 July 2016 to 13 December 2018

Sally is well known in the UK pensions industry, for her thought-provoking views on risk, investment strategy and governance.

She combines investment governance consultancy for Avida International with a number of complementary roles, including Non-Executive Director and Investment Committee Chairman at mutual Insurance company Royal London and Trustee at both NEST Corporation and the Lloyds Bank pension schemes.

Sally also serves on the Trust Investment Committee of the innovation foundation, Nesta and she became a Trustee of the Nuclear Liabilities Fund in 2017.

Sally was previously the CEO of BP Pension Trustees Limited. Before joining BP, Sally spent twenty years with Aon Hewitt as a pensions actuary and in the investment practice, where she led a number of research initiatives. She was Master of the Worshipful Company of Actuaries 2016–17.

**Committee and subsidiary membership:** Chair of LPPI Board



Allister Jeffrey
Executive Director –
LPP Chief Financial Officer

**Term of Office:** Appointed as Executive Director on 6 December 2017

Allister joined LPP in March 2017 as Chief Financial Officer. Allister has more than 25 years of experience as a chartered accountant with global financial services firms including RBS, JPMorgan, Ernst & Young and Deloitte. As Chief Financial Officer, his responsibilities have covered Finance and financial controls, Treasury, Strategy, Risk and Operations.

Allister graduated from the University of South Africa with a bachelor of accounting sciences and holds a postgraduate diploma in accounting from the University of Kwazulu Natal. He is a Chartered Accountant and a member of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Allister also carries out a CF28 function for LPPI.

Committee and subsidiary membership: none



**Susan Martin**Executive Director –
LPP Chief Executive

**Term of Office:** Appointed as Executive Director on 11 November 2015

Susan Martin is LPP's Chief Executive. Previously she held the role of LPFA Chief Executive from December 2013. Prior to this, she was Deputy Chief Executive (2011) and Acting Chief Executive (August 2013) having joined the LPFA in April 2007 as Director of Organisational Development. She has over 30 years' experience across all sectors in pensions, partnerships, mergers, acquisitions, organisational change and business development.

Susan sits on the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association DB Council, the LGPS Forum and the Investors Committee of the 30% Club, which aims to increase Board diversity. She is a regular speaker, writer and contributor to discussions on pensions, partnership working, leadership and business change in the UK and internationally. Susan has been recognised for her innovative work on asset and liability management and for her successful partnerships with other administering authorities and pension funds by her industry peers, securing the Industry Achievement Award at the Portfolio Institutional Awards 2015 as well as being cited in the top most influential people in pensions and/or women in financial services.

**Committee and subsidiary membership:** Executive Director on LPPI Board



## Corporate governance

# **Board of directors** continued



Dermot 'Skip' McMullan
Shareholder Non-Executive Director (LPFA)

**Term of Office:** 9 October 2015 to 18 October 2018

Dermot 'Skip' McMullan was a Managing Director at Bank of America in a career spanning 28 years prior to becoming an Independent Chair of Trustees. During his career at Bank of America, he was involved with a number of major industries in the UK and globally, including construction, mining, real estate, shipping, and the oil and gas industries. Most recently he was responsible for all the relationships that the Bank had in Europe with other financial and non-financial institutions.

His earlier career included the creation of the first PFI company, structuring the financial package and concession for the Dartford Bridge, followed by the larger concession for the Second Severn Bridge and the smaller concession for the Skye Bridge. The latter also involved the buyout of the concession by the Scottish Executive.

Pension experience: Currently, he chairs the trustee boards of the Bank of America UK Pension Plan and the SSVC Pension Plan. He is a Director of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch UK Pension Plan and joined the LPFA board in April 2013. He became Deputy Chair of the LPFA Board in 2017. He is also a Trustee of a number of charities.

**Committee and subsidiary membership:** Chair of LPP Remuneration and Nomination Committee



**Tom Richardson**Executive Director –
LPP Chief Risk Officer

**Term of Office:** Appointed as Executive Director on 11 July 2016

Tom joined LPP in July 2016 from the Maple Financial Group where he spent almost 20 years building his skills in different parts of the business. From 2008, he was the Chief Risk Officer (Market Risk), Global, a role that saw him drive the management and communication of Maple's business line policies within an economic capital framework totalling £400 million.

Tom's areas of responsibility included the measurement and reporting of financial risk where he led the design and implementation of risk methodologies, policies and procedures to meet both internal and regulatory objectives, including Value at Risk, Credit Capital at Risk, scenario analysis and stress testing.

Tom graduated from Loughborough University with a BSc in Economics and Politics. He also holds a Certificate in Securities from the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment.

At LPP, Tom is also responsible for ICT, facilities and operational and employer risk.

**Committee and subsidiary membership:** Executive Director on LPPI Board, Member of LPPI Risk Committee



**Sir Peter Rogers**Non-Executive Director

**Term of Office:** 2 November 2015 to 1 November 2018

Sir Peter has more than 19 years' knowledge and experience of working within the public sector. Sir Peter is currently Chairman of New West End Company and was previously an advisor to Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, on regeneration, growth and enterprise at the Greater London Authority.

He is a former chief executive officer of Westminster City Council, a former Non-Executive Director to Liberata and also former Chief Executive Officer of the London Development Agency. Prior to that, Sir Peter worked in the private sector as a Senior Executive in one of the leading national transport operators.

**Committee and subsidiary membership:** Chair of LPP Audit Committee, Member of LPPI Risk Committee

- LPP Board
- LPP Audit Committee
- LPP Remuneration and Nomination Committee
- LPPI Board
- LPPI Risk Committee



Alan Schofield

Shareholder Non-Executive Director (LCC)

**Term of Office:** Non-Executive Director 25 May 2017 – 24 May 2021

Councillor Schofield was elected to Lancashire County Council in May 2013 and re-elected in 2017. Prior to becoming a County Councillor, Alan held senior financial management posts in the Water Services industry at several locations, before moving to a local government career in 1992. He served in a metropolitan borough in Greater Manchester and then progressed upward at three local authorities in Cumbria and Lancashire, retiring in 2011. Alan is a life member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

At Lancashire, he is a member of the Pension Fund Committee (now Deputy Chair); and participated from the outset in the high level working party deliberating on, and overseeing, the preparations and approval stages toward achieving the April 2016 establishment of LPP. Also at Lancashire County Council, Alan chairs the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee. Outside the county council, Alan is a Trustee Director of a Citizens Advice Bureau and a Parish Councillor.

#### **Committee and subsidiary membership:** Member of LPP Remuneration and Nomination Committee



Robert Vandersluis Non-Executive Director

**Term of Office:** 2 November 2015 to 1 November 2018

Robert Vandersluis is the Director of Global Pension Investments at GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), where he manages £18 billion of investments and a substantial derivative portfolio. At GSK, Robert sits on a number of pension boards, and he provides strategic advice to GSK's pension fund trustees in Europe, the United States, and Japan. Robert established GSK's London-based pension investment department, where he developed and implemented GSK's interest rate and inflation hedging strategies.

Robert's previous roles include senior treasury and corporate finance positions at Affinity Sutton Group and FCE Bank plc. He also served on the board of the Pensions Trust, where he was Deputy Chair of the Investment Committee.

#### Committee and subsidiary membership: Non-Executive Director on LPPI Board, Chair of LPPI Risk Committee

#### Corporate governance

## **Board and Committee reports**

#### LPP Board

The Board is responsible for the overall direction, supervision and management of LPP. It sets the company's values and standards and has oversight of operations. It operates under the powers delegated to it by the Shareholder Agreement, under which some matters remain reserved to shareholders. From formation, it operated under the guidelines of the Initial Strategic Plan, as agreed with the shareholders, for an initial period to transform two Local Authority pension schemes into a stand-alone business. From early 2017 and during 2017–18, the Board has established a new strategic plan and budget with its shareholders, driven by the experience of transformation and its understanding of the LGPS market. The Board continues to engage with its shareholders through regular shareholder meetings to discuss progress against goals and hosts an annual Shareholder event. This event seeks to update a wider shareholder audience with LPP's progress. In addition, the business runs an Investor Forum each year in order to discuss its investment strategies with shareholder investment panels.

On formation of LPP, the shareholders agreed to carry out a structural review of the operation of the business by March 2018. Accordingly, KPMG was engaged to carry out an organisational and governance review of the business to determine whether its structures were appropriate and fit for purpose, flexible and had capacity to scale the business, and were operating efficiently. KPMG reported to the Board in December 2017 that these goals were being met but that the complexity and expansion of the business meant the business would benefit from the appointment of further NEDs, in particular to assist the operation of the Audit and Risk Committees. In addition, at least one NED should be added to the LPP Group Board and one to the LPPI Board. The Board approved this recommendation and following the agreement of the shareholders, commenced the process of recruiting additional NEDs.

The Group's governance arrangements for the investment management business were further reviewed during the year by Travers Smith LLP and also Deloitte LLP as part of their internal audit programme. While the business was considered to be operating within the regulatory requirements, a number of improvements were identified and these changes are still being implemented. As a result, the committees had their terms of reference updated and both LPP and LPPI Boards committed to redraft their terms of reference to give greater clarity to their differing responsibilities.

Both the LPP and LPPI Boards have put in place delegations to a number of committees:

- i. LPP Audit Committee;
- ii. LPP and LPPI Remuneration and Nomination Committee;
- iii. LPPI Risk Committee; and
- iv. LPP Executive Committee.

The first two committees listed are non-executive, with LPPI Risk Committee comprising both executive and non-executive directors. As a result of the governance reviews, these committees reconsidered and updated their terms of reference.

The Board works to an annual Forward Agenda which sets the framework for meetings so that it covers an appropriate range of topics in order to meet its objectives as set out in the 'Shareholder Matters reserved by the Board' and its agreed strategy.

The Board held five meetings during the year. A two-day strategy awayday was also held. The table below shows the Board attendance for the year.

#### Looking Ahead

The Board will work with the shareholders in delivering the new strategic plan. Of immediate necessity is a period of resilience following a significant change programme. The Board will also seek to implement the changes recommended by

| Director               | Date of appointment  | Number of meetings* | Meetings<br>attended |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| LPP Board              |  |                     |                      |
| Michael O'Higgins      | 19 October 2015  | 5                   | 5                    |
| Sally Bridgeland       | 1 July 2016  | 5                   | 5                    |
| Allister Jeffrey       | Appointed on 6 December 2017                               | 2                   | 2                    |
| Susan Martin           | 11 November 2015   | 5                   | 5                    |
| Dermot 'Skip' McMullan | 19 October 2015  | 5                   | 5                    |
| Tom Richardson         | 11 July 2016   | 5                   | 5                    |
| Sir Peter Rogers       | 2 November 2015  | 5                   | 5                    |
| Alan Schofield         | Appointed on 25 May 2017                                   | 5                   | 5                    |
| Robert Vandersluis     | 2 November 2015  | 5                   | 5                    |
| George Graham          | Appointed on 11 November 2015<br>Resigned on 13 April 2017 | 0                   | 0                    |
| David Borrow           | 19 October 2015<br>Resigned on 8 May 2017                  | 0                   | 0                    |

\*Four meetings were held in person, one meeting was held by conference call Page~82

# **Board and Committee reports** continued

the Board Effectiveness Review including welcoming new NEDs to the Group.

## Committee membership and meetings

The LPP and LPPI Boards have established an appropriate committee structure to consider those matters which the Boards have delegated.

#### **LPP Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee is responsible for ensuring the financial integrity of the Group. The work carried out by the Committee plays a key role in LPP's governance framework.

Sir Peter Rogers is the Chair of the Audit Committee, supported by an independent advisor, Bharat Shah, who has a wealth of financial, business and pensions experience. The appointment of at least one new NED to the Committee is planned during 2018–19.

The Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Executive are invited to all meetings, as well as representatives from LPP's external and internal auditors. During the year the Committee met three times with full attendance.

#### The table below sets out the work of the Audit Committee during 2017–18:

| Financial reporting Full year accounts  | / |              |   |
|---|---|--------------|---|
| •   | 1 |              |   |
|   | ✓ |              |   |
| Going concern   | ✓ |              |   |
| Quarterly Financial Management Reporting  |   | ✓            | 1 |
| Budget processes  |   | ✓            | ✓ |
| External audit  |   |              |   |
| External audit plan   | ✓ |              | ✓ |
| Management Representation Letter  |   |              | ✓ |
| Closed session without management   | 1 |              |   |
| Reviewing external audit findings   |   | $\checkmark$ |   |
| Appointment 2017–18   | 1 |              |   |
| Internal Audit  |   |              |   |
| Internal audit plan   |   |              | ✓ |
| Review of reports and controls  | ✓ | $\checkmark$ |   |
| Closed session without the presence of management   |   |              | 1 |
| Risk  |   |              |   |
| Risk Management Framework   |   |              | ✓ |
| Minutes from the LPPI Risk Committee  | ✓ | $\checkmark$ | ✓ |
| Other   |   |              |   |
| Review of the whistleblowing policy and procedure   |   | ✓            |   |
| Forward agenda planner and Committee work plan for 2017–18  | ✓ | ✓            | 1 |
| Review the terms of reference to re-define the roles of the LPP Audit Committee and LPPI Risk Committee in relation to the decision of risk responsibilities across the LPP Group   |   | ✓            |   |
| Breaches of non-financial breaches, along with corporate responsibilities such as Freedom of Information Requests (FOI) and compliance with policies and Codes of Practice of the LPP Group such as Gifts and Hospitality |   | ✓            | 1 |
| Regulatory updates on MiFID II and GDPR 2018  |   | ✓            |   |

## Corporate governance

# **Board and Committee reports** continued

#### Responsibilities

Audit Committee members are appointed by the Board. Its Terms of Reference are reviewed annually and the current revised Terms of Reference were approved by the Board in December 2017. These revisions resulted in the Committee confirming its responsibility for Group risk management, while the LPPI Risk Committee focuses on risks associated with LPPI's role as an AIFM. A joint meeting was held between the two Committees to finalise the respective Terms of Reference and to ensure clarity around the division of responsibilities. This will be kept under review during 2018–19.

The key responsibilities of the Audit Committee are to:

- Monitor the operation and integrity of the Group's financial reporting obligations and any announcements relating to the Group financial performance;
- Maintain oversight of the Group risk management systems, appetite and tolerance, financial and operational internal controls, and monitor top risks for the whole business. The Committee does not directly manage risk and related exposure of LPPI which has its own Risk Committee. However, through regular reporting, the Committee is made aware of the risks facing the investment management business;
- Monitor and review the effectiveness of the external and internal audit functions;
- Review and monitor LPP's governance and compliance arrangements with the Group-wide policies and codes of practice; and
- Be alive to information management and significant ICT activity such as cyber security.

#### Looking ahead

In 2018–19, the Committee will focus on working closely with LPPI's Risk Committee to ensure the division of risk management and responsibilities is carried out in line with their Terms of Reference. Embedding LPP's major transformation programme will continue to be a focus. The programme is a key initiative for the development of the business and will ensure LPP is delivering the benefits it outlined in the original strategic business case. The Committee also oversees the work of the internal and external auditors and will lead on the tender exercise for an external audit provider.

## LPP and LPPI Remuneration and Nomination Committee

The Remuneration and Nomination Committee is a Group-wide committee responsible for remuneration, nomination and succession planning for the Group. The establishment of this Committee is a key development of LPP's governance framework. Remuneration above a certain level and the approval of the LPP's Remuneration Policy, is a shareholder reserved matter. As a Group-wide committee, it reports to the LPP Board where required, in line with that Board's responsibility for the reward structure of its own employees. A formal delegation from the LPPI Board to the Committee is also in place.

Dermot 'Skip' McMullan is Chair of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee. Other members include Michael O'Higgins and Alan Schofield (appointed to the Committee upon joining the Board in May 2017). David Borrow, who was appointed to the Committee upon its formation, stepped down on 8 May 2017 on his departure from the Board. The Committee held three scheduled meetings during the year with full attendance.

In 2017–18 the Committee continued to work on the harmonisation of employee terms and conditions across the Group and updated the Remuneration Policy to include associated pay bands, allowing the business more flexibility to recruit and retain employees within predetermined reward ranges without the need for frequent referral to the shareholders. This was approved by the Board for shareholder consideration.

All directors are subject to annual re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee is responsible for the annual review of the suitability of the Chair and other NEDs to continue in office. Under the annual review, the two shareholder NEDs will consider the work of the Chair during the year, and the Chair will conduct individual appraisals with each NED. The outcome of those reviews is communicated to the Board who will consider the same when proposing any re-appointment of directors to the shareholders.

The Committee has also driven succession planning for senior management to support resilience across the Group, considered individual Executive Director pay and objectives, and approved the Group's Gender, Pay and Inclusion reporting.

Upon the shareholder approval of the KPMG structural review, which identified the need to recruit further NEDs, the Committee reviewed the existing skills and experience of the Board members to identify the requirements for future hires. A review panel was then established to interview prospective candidates and the executive search firm, Odgers Berndtson was retained to assist in this process. Odgers Berndtson does not provide any other services to LPP or its subsidiaries.

# **Board and Committee reports** continued

#### Directors' emoluments

| Paid by LPP (unless stated)           |   | Basic salary (₤) | Bonuses (£) | Pensions (£) | Total (£) |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| Sally Bridgeland                      |   | 35,000           | _           | _            | 35,000    |
| Allister Jeffrey                      |   | 138,000          | 32,000      | 20,400       | 190,400   |
| Susan Martin                          |   | 205,000          | 53,300      | 30,996       | 289,296   |
| Dermot 'Skip' McMullan                |   | 35,000           | _           | _            | 35,000    |
| Michael O'Higgins                     |   | 70,000           | _           | _            | 70,000    |
| Tom Richardson                        |   | 177,281          | 36,000      | 24,770       | 238,051   |
| Sir Peter Rogers                      |   | 35,000           | _           | _            | 35,000    |
| Chris Rule                            | 1 | 246,000          | 123,000     | 44,280       | 413,280   |
| Alan Schofield                        |   | 25,577           |             | _            | 25,577    |
| Jacqui Self                           |   | 102,500          | 20,500      | 14,760       | 137,760   |
| Greg Smith                            |   | 130,000          | 26,000      | 18,720       | 174,720   |
| Robert Vandersluis                    |   | 35,000           | _           | _            | 35,000    |
|                                       |   | 1,234,358        | 290,800     | 153,926      | 1,679,084 |
| Former directors who left in the year |   | 292,451          | -           | 19,859       | 312,310   |
| Employers NI                          |   |                  |             |              | 229,431   |
|                                       |   |                  |             |              | 2,220,825 |

<sup>1</sup> Paid by LPPI and highest paid director

#### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is chaired by the Chief Executive with the other members being: the Director of Human Resources and Pensions Administration; the Chief Investment Officer and Managing Director (Investments); the Chief Risk Officer; the Chief Financial Officer; the Director of Client Relations, Business Development and Communications; and the Group Company Secretary and Director of Strategic Programmes.

The purpose of the Committee is to assist the Chief Executive in the leadership and management of the business across the LPP Group. To this end it acts to:

- Develop and implement strategy, operational plans, policies, procedures and budgets;
- Monitor operating and financial performance;

- Assess and control risk; and
- Prioritise and allocate resources.

The Committee has regular monthly meetings and conference calls and determines the matters that should be put forward to the Board of Directors for further consideration as set forth in its Terms of Reference and the Shareholder Agreement.

#### LPP Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is chaired by the Managing Director (Investments) & Chief Investment Officer of LPPI, supported by the Chief Executive of LPP and the Responsible Investment Manager of LPPI. Representatives of the Investment Management, Governance and Communications teams are also invited to the meetings.

The Stewardship Committee reports to the Executive Committee and is responsible for developing and co-ordinating LPP's approach to stewardship, responsible investment, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and collaborative engagement across the Group's portfolio of both internally and externally managed investment funds.

#### Local Pensions Partnership Investments Board (LPPI Board)

LPPI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of LPP and is authorised and regulated by the FCA. It is responsible for the implementation of clients' strategic asset allocations as set out in the Advisory and Asset Management Agreement between LPPI and its clients. LPPI operates in accordance with its Articles of Association, as well as the relevant rules and regulations in the market in which it operates.

## Corporate governance

# **Board and Committee reports** continued

Sally Bridgeland is the Chair of the LPPI Board. Other members are Michael O'Higgins, Robert Vandersluis, the Chief Investment Officer & Managing Director (Investment Business), the Chief Risk Officer and the Group Chief Executive. LPP's Head of Compliance, Group Company Secretary and Chief Financial Officer attend all Board meetings.

LPPI Board oversees the investment activities undertaken by LPPI.
The business regularly reviews its performance against budgets and benchmarks. The business also regularly assesses its operating model to ensure a robust system of internal controls is in place, with strong emphasis on risk management.

During the year, the LPPI Board approved the process and implementation of the provision of investment advice to clients, as well as the launch of the global infrastructure, credit and fixed income investment arrangements.

#### **LPPI Risk Committee**

Robert Vandersluis is the Chair of the Risk Committee. Other members include Sir Peter Rogers and Chief Risk Officer. The Chief Executive and Head of Compliance are also invited to attend each quarterly meeting along with members of the Risk team. The Committee held four meetings during the year which all members attended.

The recent governance review provided greater clarity over the separation of roles and responsibilities between the LPPI Risk Committee and the LPP Audit Committee. During the year, the Risk Committee considered matters such as:

- Risks surrounding the investment processes;
- Constitutive and offering documents of LPPI's investment funds;
- Material investment breaches;

- Effectiveness of the framework in relation to risk limits and compliance issues; and
- Internal controls, investment risks and compliance monitoring.

The effective understanding, acceptance and management of risk is fundamental to LPPI's long-term success as an investment management business. In this regard, the Committee will consider the implementation of a risk management system in 2018–19 to ensure that effective procedures are in place to understand, assess, monitor and manage investment risks. This will include, but not exclusively, those arising in accordance with requirements of the Alternative Investment Fund Manager Directive and the Commission Delegated Regulation.

#### **LPPI Investment Committee**

The LPPI Board has delegated its day-to-day investment decisions to the Investment Committee which is chaired by the Managing Director (Investments) & Chief Investment Officer. The two other permanent members are the Chief Risk Officer and the Head of Investment Strategy. Other members are CF30 approved Investment Directors and the Head of Compliance. The Committee considers investment decisions and discusses the Investment Performance Reports which measure performance against targets. Whilst monitoring is carried out on an ongoing basis, the reports along with the Investment Decision Index are reported to the LPPI Board on a quarterly basis.

#### LPPI Fair Value Pricing Committee

The Fair Value Pricing Committee was established in May 2017 and is chaired by the Head of Investment Operations. Other members are: Head of Financial Control, Market Risk Specialist and in-house Actuary. The Head of Compliance is invited to attend, along with an observer from the Depositary. The Committee meets on a quarterly basis.

The Committee's core objectives are to:

- Monitor LPPI's compliance with the Valuation Policy;
- Approve the valuation of pooled assets: and
- Regulate and monitor the use of independent external valuers and valuation models together with any internal valuation models in use.

#### **LPPI Funds Launch Committee**

The Funds Launch Committee comprises three Executives: Chief Risk Officer, Managing Director (Investments) & Chief Investment Officer and Head of Investment Strategy, together with the Group Company Secretary who attends as required.

The Committee considers and approves any document or action required that is pertinent to the launch or winding-up of in-house funds or the like. It will do so taking into consideration product governance requirements.

## Directors' report

The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018.

#### Incorporation

The Company was incorporated on 19 October 2015 under the name of Lancashire and London Pensions Partnership Ltd and began trading on 8 April 2016. On 12 February 2016 a special resolution was passed to change the company name to Local Pensions Partnership Ltd.

#### **Directors**

The directors in office during the period and at the date of signing this report were as follows:

David Borrow (resigned 8 May 2017)

Sally Bridgeland

George Graham (resigned 13 April 2017)

Allister Jeffrey (appointed 6 December 2017)

Susan Martin

Dermot 'Skip' McMullan

Michael O'Higgins

Tom Richardson

Sir Peter Rogers

Alan Schofield (appointed 25 May 2017)

Robert Vandersluis

## Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the strategic report, the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom applicable law and Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under Company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and of the profit and loss of the Group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the Group keeps adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group's transactions; disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group; enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the

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prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### Results and dividends

The Group's result for the year ended 31 March 2018 is a loss after tax of £2,110,000 (2017 – profit of £3,443,000). LPP itself made a loss after tax of £3,795,000 (2017 – profit of £1,388,000).

No dividends were paid during the year (2017 – nil) and no recommendation is made to pay a final dividend.

#### **Expected Future Developments**

Expected future developments are set out in the strategic report.

#### Political or Charitable Donations

During 2017–18 the Company did not make any political or charitable donations.

#### Research and Development

There was no research and development expenditure during the year.

#### **Financial Instrument Risk**

The Group does not use hedging or financial risk management instruments and all cash is held within bank accounts with highly rated financial institutions.

#### **Employee representation**

LPP has in place a Staff Committee which meets the CEO and other Executive Directors on a quarterly basis. This is one of the mechanisms by which organisational wide changes are communicated to the employees and major strategic projects are discussed with employees. During 2017–18 the Staff Committee were heavily involved in the project to harmonise employee terms and conditions throughout the business.

#### **Disabled Employees**

LPP is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity and access in both our employment and service arrangements. We aim to promote diversity within our

## Corporate governance

## **Directors' report** continued

workforce and ensure that our services meet the different needs of our staff, and clients at all times. LPP has published an Equality Policy on its website. 18% of LPP's employees have reported some form of disability.

As a Group, we aim to ensure fairness and equality towards all applicants through objective based recruitment practices and family friendly policies to support staff during changing circumstances. This includes flexible working arrangements to support participation in religious and/or cultural events, to care for dependents or where reasonable adjustments are required to roles/working patterns to support declared disabilities.

Training methods and environments are tailored to support staff with declared disabilities including delivering the training with the support of sign language.

#### Post Balance Sheet Events

None.

## Disclosure of information to Auditors

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of the approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Group's auditor is unaware, and
- 2. The Directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Group's auditor is aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 22 August 2017 Grant Thornton UK LLP was reappointed as auditor of the Company, in accordance with s487 of the Companies Act 2006. Following the finalisation of the 2017–18 external audit, LPP will begin a formal tender exercise for an external audit provider.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board:

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Susan Martin

Director 31 July 2018

## Independent auditor's report

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Local Pensions Partnership Ltd (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the consolidated income statement, the consolidated parent and company statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated and parent company company statement of financial position, the consolidated statement of cash flows, the consolidated and parent company statement of changes in equity and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

## In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 March 2018 and of the Group's loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group and the parent company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Who we are reporting to

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## Corporate governance

## **Independent auditor's report** continued

## Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Group's or the parent company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements: and
- the strategic report and the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## Matter on which we are required to report under the Companies Act 2006

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and the parent company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report.

## Independent auditor's report continued

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities set out on page 29, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's and the parent company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

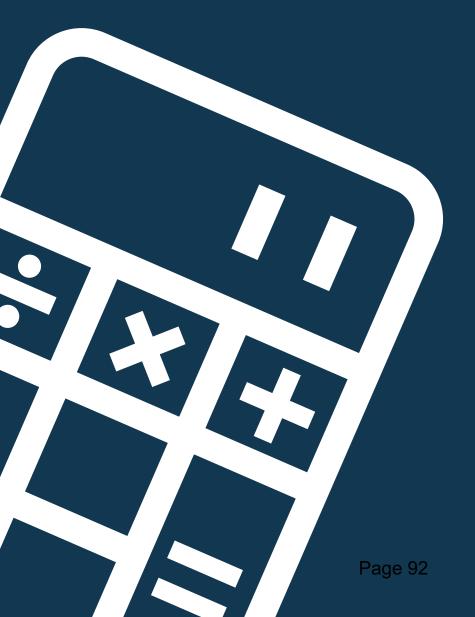
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditors responsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### **Paul Flatley**

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor

31 July 2018



## Consolidated income statement

For the year ended 31 March 2018

|   | Notes | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|--|
| Turnover                                    | 5     | 26,140                          | 23,306   |
| Administrative expenses                     |       | (27,906)                        | (18,243)                                       |
| Operating (loss)/profit                     | 6     | (1,766)                         | 5,063  |
| Interest receivable and similar income      |       | 16                              | 25   |
| Interest payable and similar charges        |       | (742)                           | (729)  |
| (Loss)/profit before tax                    |       | (2,492)                         | 4,359  |
| Tax credit/(charge) for the year/period     | 8     | 382                             | (916)  |
| (Loss)/profit for the financial year/period |       | (2,110)                         | 3,443  |

# Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 March 2018

|   | Notes | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|--|
| (Loss)/profit for the financial year/period                     |       | (2,110)                         | 3,443  |
| Net actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit schemes            | 16    | 5,062                           | (5,570)  |
| Deferred tax on actuarial gain/(loss)                           |       | (861)                           | 947  |
| Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial year/period |       | 2,091                           | (1,180)  |

# Company statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 March 2018

|  | Notes | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | to 31 Mar 2017 |
|--|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| (Loss)/profit for the financial year/period            |       | (3,795)                         | ) 1,388        |
| Net actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit schemes   | 16    | 4,468                           | (4,386)        |
| Deferred tax on actuarial gain/(loss)                  |       | (760)                           | 746            |
| Total comprehensive loss for the financial year/period |       | (87)                            | (2,252)        |

## Consolidated statement of financial position

As at 31 March 2018

|  | Notes | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|-------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Fixed assets                                   |       |                      |                      |
| Intangible fixed assets                        | 9     | 865                  | 55                   |
| Tangible fixed assets                          | 10    | 765                  | 80                   |
|  |       | 1,630                | 135                  |
| Current assets                                 |       |                      |                      |
| Debtors  | 12    | 10,557               | 9,853                |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       | 13    | 18,064               | 17,561               |
|  |       | 28,621               | 27,414               |
| Current liabilities                            |       |                      |                      |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 14    | (6,655)              | (4,247)              |
| Net current assets                             |       | 21,966               | 23,167               |
| Total assets less current liabilities          |       | 23,596               | 23,302               |
| Creditors: amounts falling due after one year  | 15    | (17,500)             | (17,500)             |
| Post employment benefits                       | 16    | (13,242)             | (15,039)             |
| Net liabilities                                |       | (7,146)              | (9,237)              |
| Capital and Reserves                           |       |                      |                      |
| Called up share capital                        | 17    | _                    | _                    |
| Retirement benefit obligations reserve         |       | (8,057)              | (8,057)              |
| Profit and loss account                        |       | 911                  | (1,180)              |
| Total Shareholders' Funds                      |       | (7,146)              | (9,237)              |

The financial statements on pages 35 to 64 were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 31 July 2018 and were signed on their behalf by:

**Allister Jeffrey** 

Director

Company Registration Number: 09830002

## Company statement of financial position

As at 31 March 2018

|  | Notes | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|-------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Fixed assets                                   |       |                      |                      |
| Intangible fixed assets                        | 9     | 392                  | 55                   |
| Tangible fixed assets                          | 10    | 765                  | 80                   |
| Investments                                    | 11    | 10,000               | 10,000               |
|  |       | 11,157               | 10,135               |
| Current assets                                 |       |                      |                      |
| Debtors  | 12    | 10,615               | 8,196                |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       | 13    | 1,013                | 5,925                |
|  |       | 11,628               | 14,121               |
| Current liabilities                            |       |                      |                      |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 14    | (3,622)              | (3,294)              |
| Net current assets                             |       | 8,006                | 10,827               |
| Total assets less current liabilities          |       | 19,163               | 20,962               |
| Creditors: amounts falling due after one year  | 15    | (17,500)             | (17,500)             |
| Post employment benefits                       |       | (11,498)             | (13,210)             |
| Net liabilities                                |       | (9,835)              | (9,748)              |
| Capital and Reserves                           |       |                      |                      |
| Called up share capital                        | 17    | _                    | _                    |
| Retirement benefit obligations reserve         |       | (7,496)              | (7,496)              |
| Profit and loss account                        |       | (2,339)              | (2,252)              |
| Total Shareholders' Funds                      |       | (9,835)              | (9,748)              |

The financial statements on pages 35 to 64 approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 31 July 2018 and were signed on their behalf by:

**Allister Jeffrey** 

Director

Company Registration Number: 09830002

## Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2018

|   | Notes | Yeαr to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|--|
| Cash flows from operating activities                          |       |                                 |  |
| Consolidated operating (loss)/profit for the financial year   |       | (2,110)                         | 3,443  |
| Adjustments for:  |       |                                 |  |
| Depreciation of tangible assets                               | 10    | 115                             | 7  |
| Amortisation of intangible assets                             | 9     | 58                              | 4  |
| Decrease/(increase) in trade & other debtors                  | 12    | (978)                           | (9,853)  |
| (Decrease)/increase in trade creditors                        | 14    | 3,309                           | 4,247  |
| Pension movements in the year/period                          |       | 2,404                           | 2,359  |
| Cash from operations  |       | 2,798                           | 207  |
| Net cash from operating activities                            |       |                                 |  |
| Taxation paid   |       | (627)                           | _  |
| Net cash from operating activities                            |       | (627)                           | _  |
| Cash flows from investing activities                          |       |                                 |  |
| Purchase of tangible assets                                   | 10    | (1,273)                         | (87)   |
| Purchase of intangible assets                                 | 9     | (395)                           | (59)   |
| Net cash from investing activities                            |       | (1,668)                         | (146)  |
| Cash flows from financing activities                          |       |                                 |  |
| Subordinated loan   | 15    | _                               | 17,500   |
| Net cash used in financing activities                         |       | -                               | 17,500   |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents                     |       | 503                             | 17,561   |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year/period |       | 17,561                          | -  |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year/period       | 13    | 18,064                          | 17,561   |

## Consolidated statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 March 2018

|   | Called-up share<br>capital<br>£'000 | Retirement<br>benefit<br>obligations<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Profit and loss<br>account<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| At 19 October 2015                                    | _                                   | _  | _                                   | _              |
| Profit and total comprehensive income for the period  | _                                   | _  | (1,180)                             | (1,180)        |
| Pension deficit for the period                        | _                                   | (9,469)  | _                                   | (9,469)        |
| Deferred tax on retirement benefit obligation deficit | _                                   | 1,412  | _                                   | 1,412          |
| At 31 March 2017                                      | _                                   | (8,057)  | (1,180)                             | (9,237)        |
| At 1 April 2017                                       | _                                   | (8,057)  | (1,180)                             | (9,237)        |
| Profit and total comprehensive income for the year    | _                                   | _  | 2,091                               | 2,091          |
| At 31 March 2018                                      | _                                   | (8,057)  | 911                                 | (7,146)        |

## Company statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 March 2018

|   | Called-up share<br>capital<br>£'000 | Retirement<br>benefit<br>obligations<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Profit and loss<br>account<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| At 19 October 2015                                    | _                                   | _  | _                                   | -              |
| Profit and total comprehensive income for the period  | _                                   | _  | (2,252)                             | (2,252)        |
| Pension deficit for the period                        | _                                   | (8,824)  | _                                   | (8,824)        |
| Deferred tax on retirement benefit obligation deficit | _                                   | 1,328  | _                                   | 1,328          |
| At 31 March 2017                                      | _                                   | (7,496)  | (2,252)                             | (9,748)        |
| At 1 April 2017                                       | _                                   | (7,496)  | (2,252)                             | (9,748)        |
| Profit and total comprehensive income for the year    | _                                   | _  | (87)                                | (87)           |
| At 31 March 2018                                      | _                                   | (7,496)  | (2,339)                             | (9,835)        |

### Notes to the financial statements

#### For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 1. Company information

Local Pensions Partnership Ltd ('LPP' or 'the Company') is a private company limited by shares and incorporated in England. Its registered office is County Hall, Fishergate, Preston, United Kingdom, PR1 8XJ.

The Company's principal activities and nature of operations is included in the Strategic report on page 6.

#### 2. Basis of preparation

The LPP and its subsidiaries (together 'the Group') financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 – 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland' ('FRS 102'), and with the Companies Act 2006. The Group financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The Group financial statements are presented in Sterling ( $\pounds$ ).

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Local Pensions Partnership Ltd and all its subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31 March each year.

LPP has taken advantage of section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not included its own Income Statement in these financial statements.

The individual financial statements of LPP have also adopted the following disclosure exemptions, as they are included in the Group financial statements:

- the requirement to present a statement of cash flows and related notes (s7 FRS 102)
- financial instrument disclosures (s11 & s12 FRS 102), including:
  - o categories of financial instruments;
  - items of income, expenses, gains or losses relating to financial instruments; and
  - exposure to and management of financial risks.
- the exemption has been claimed not to disclose related party transactions (s33 FRS 102).

There are no other FRS102 interpretations that are not yet effective that would be expected to have a material impact on the Group or Company.

#### Going concern

After reviewing the Group's forecasts and projections, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Group therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its consolidated financial statements.

#### 3. Significant judgements and estimates

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 4, management has made the following judgments that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. As described below, many of these areas of judgement also involve a high level of estimation uncertainty.

#### **Deferred taxation**

The financial statements include judgements and estimates that have been made regarding deferred taxation, as described in note 4.9.

#### Pensions liability

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. Firms of consulting actuaries are engaged to provide the Group with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. However, because these judgements cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 4. Principal accounting policies

#### 4.1 Investment in subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities (including special purpose entities) controlled by the Group (its subsidiaries). Control is achieved where the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the period are included in total comprehensive income from the effective date of acquisition and up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate using accounting policies consistent with those of the parent. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated in full on consolidation.

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost less impairment in the individual financial statements.

#### 4.2 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is charged so as to allocate the cost of intangibles less their residual values over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. The intangible assets are amortised over the following useful economic lives:

• Software costs, over the life of the licence

#### 4.3 Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost less estimated residual value of all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, over their expected useful lives, using the straight-line method. The rates applicable are:

- Computer equipment 3 to 5 years
- Office equipment 3 to 5 years
- Improvements to leasehold over the length of the lease

#### 4.4 Impairment of assets

At each reporting date fixed assets are reviewed to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. If estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount, and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

If an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carry amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but not in excess of the amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

#### 4.5 Debtors

Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs.

#### 4.6 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand also includes deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts, when applicable, are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 4.7 Creditors

Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs.

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 4. Principal accounting policies (continued)

#### 4.8 Provisions for liabilities

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the group will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

#### 4.9 Taxation

Current tax is recognised for the amount of income tax payable in respect of the taxable profit for the current or past reporting periods using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences at the reporting date, except as otherwise indicated.

Deferred tax assets are only recognised to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

If and when all conditions for retaining tax allowances for the cost of a fixed asset have been met, the deferred tax is reversed.

Deferred tax is recognised when income or expenses from a subsidiary or associate have been recognised, and will be assessed for tax in a future period, except where:

- the Group is able to control the reversal of the timing difference; and
- it is probable that the timing difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax is calculated using the tax rates and laws that that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

With the exception of changes arising on the initial recognition of a business combination, the tax expense (income) is presented either in profit or loss, other comprehensive income or equity depending on the transaction that resulted in the tax expense (income).

Deferred tax liabilities are presented within provisions for liabilities and deferred tax assets within debtors. Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset only if:

- the Group has a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities; and
- the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities which intend either to settle current tax liabilities and assets on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

#### 4.10 Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of discounts and value added taxes. Turnover includes revenue earned from the rendering of administration, investment and risk management services.

#### 4.11 Employee and pension costs

Participation by Group employees in four administered defined benefit scheme funds began on 8 April 2016. Contributions from the employer were payable to the schemes and are charged to the profit and loss account in the period to which they relate.

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 5. Turnover

| 5. Turnover  | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Pension administration   | 10,543                          | 9,608  |
| Investment management fees   | 14,065                          | 12,184   |
| Risk management services   | 1,532                           | 1,514  |
|  | 26,140                          | 23,306   |
| 6. Operating (loss)/profit   | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£¹000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Operating profit is stated after charging:                         |                                 |  |
| Staff costs (note 7)   | 14,690                          | 10,720   |
| Fee payable to external auditor:                                   |                                 |  |
| – Auditor's remuneration for audit of group and company            | 90                              | 52   |
| – Fees payable to auditor for other services: regulatory assurance | 8                               | 8  |
| Internal audit   | 124                             | _  |
| Operating lease rentals:   |                                 |  |
| - Land and buildings   | 1,373                           | 1,019  |
| 7. Directors and employees   | Year to                         |  |
|  | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000            | to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000                        |
| Wages and salaries   | 12,114                          | 8,764  |
| Social security costs  | 1,259                           | 961  |
| Other pension costs  | 1,317                           | 995  |
|  | 14,690                          | 10,720   |

The companies in the Group are members of four defined benefit pension schemes for the benefit of the employees and directors. The assets of the scheme are administered in house. Employer contributions recognised as an expense during the year amount to £1,317,000 (March 2017 – £995,000). Not included above are IAS19 pension cost adjustments made at the 2018 year end of £3,265,000 (2017 – nil).

The average monthly number of employees for the Group, during the year to 31 March 2018 was 255 (period to 31 March 2017 - 226), of which 8 (period to 31 March 2017 - 9) were directors and 247 (period to 31 March 2017 - 217) were staff.

At 31 March 2018, the Group head count was 284, which includes 19 people who left the Group on this date.

Remuneration in respect of directors was as follows:

|  | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Emoluments                                       | 1,818                           | 1,366  |
| Social security costs                            | 229                             | 175  |
| Pension contributions to defined benefit schemes | 174                             | 141  |
|  | 2,221                           | 1,682  |

Not included in Emoluments above are LTIP payments of £9  $\bigcirc$  3,303) made to directors by a shareholder.

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 7. Directors and employees (continued)

| The amounts set out above include remuneration in respect of the highest paid director and are as follows: | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|-------|-------|
| Emoluments   | 369   | 355   |
| Social security costs  | 50    | 48    |
| Pension contributions to defined benefit schemes   | 44    | 43    |
|  | 463   | 446   |

|  | ď |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  |   |  |  |

|   | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From<br>19 Oct 2015<br>to 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| The tax charge is based on the profit for the year/period and represents:                                 |                                 |  |
| UK Corporation Tax  | 189                             | 1,091  |
| Prior year tax adjustment   | 16                              | _  |
|   | 205                             | 1,091  |
| Deferred tax:   |                                 |  |
| Current year/period   | (587)                           | (206)  |
| Effect of changes in tax rates  | _                               | 31   |
| Tax (credit)/charge for the year/period   | (382)                           | 916  |
| The tax charge for the year can be reconciled to the profit per the income statement as follows:          |                                 |  |
| (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before tax   | (2,492)                         | 4,359  |
| Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the United Kingdom of 19% |                                 |  |
| (PY: 20%)   | (473)                           | 872  |
| Expenses not deductible for tax purposes  | 66                              | 13   |
| Prior year tax adjustment   | 16                              | _  |
| Tax rate changes  | 9                               | 31   |
| Tax charge for the year/period  | (382)                           | 916  |
| Deferred taxation   |                                 |  |
| Deferred tax credit to income statement for the year/period   | (587)                           | (175)  |
| Deferred tax charge/(credit) in equity for the year/period  | _                               | (1,412)  |
| Deferred tax charge/(credit) in OCI for the year/period   | 861                             | (947)  |
|   | 274                             | (2,534)  |

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

| 9. Intangible fixed assets |                                    |           | Company<br>software<br>£'000 | Group<br>software<br>£'000 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cost                       |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 1 April 2017            |                                    |           | 59                           | 59                         |
| Additions                  |                                    |           | 395                          | 868                        |
| At 31 March 2018           |                                    |           | 454                          | 927                        |
| Amortisation               |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 1 April 2017            |                                    |           | 4                            | 4                          |
| Charge for the year        |                                    |           | 58                           | 58                         |
| At 31 March 2018           |                                    |           | 62                           | 62                         |
| Net book value             |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 31 March 2018           |                                    |           | 392                          | 865                        |
| At 31 March 2017           |                                    |           | 55                           | 55                         |
| 10. Tangible fixed assets  | Leasehola<br>improvements          |           | IT equipment                 | Total                      |
| The Group                  | £'000                              |           | £'000                        | £'000                      |
| Cost                       |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 1 April 2017            | -                                  | _         | 87                           | 87                         |
| Additions                  | 191                                | 106       | 503                          | 800                        |
| At 31 March 2018           | 191                                | 106       | 590                          | 887                        |
| Depreciation               |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 1 April 2017            | -                                  | -         | 7                            | 7                          |
| Charge for the year        | 32                                 | 8         | 75                           | 115                        |
| At 31 March 2018           | 32                                 | 8         | 82                           | 122                        |
| Net book value             |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 31 March 2018           | 159                                | 98        | 508                          | 765                        |
| At 31 March 2017           | <u> </u>                           | <u> </u>  | 80                           | 80                         |
| The Company                | Leasehold<br>improvements<br>£'000 | equipment | IT equipment<br>£'000        | Total<br>£'000             |
| Cost                       |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 1 April 2017            | -                                  | -         | 87                           | 87                         |
| Additions                  | 191                                | 106       | 503                          | 800                        |
| At 31 March 2018           | 191                                | 106       | 590                          | 887                        |
| Depreciation               |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 1 April 2017            | -                                  | -         | 7                            | 7                          |
| Charge for the year        | 32                                 | 8         | 75                           | 115                        |
| At 31 March 2018           | 32                                 | 8         | 82                           | 122                        |
| Net book value             |                                    |           |                              |                            |
| At 31 March 2018           | 159                                | 98        | 508                          | 765                        |
| At 31 March 2017           | Page 104 -                         | _         | 80                           | 80                         |

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 11. Investments

|      | _          |       |   |
|------|------------|-------|---|
| Tha  | $c_{\sim}$ | npany |   |
| 1116 | COII       | IDUII | v |

|   |                      |                     | Investme                 | nt in subsidiaries<br>£'000 |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cost  |                      |                     |                          |                             |
| At 31 March 2017 & 2018                       |                      |                     |                          | 10,000                      |
| Subsidiaries – direct                         |                      |                     |                          |                             |
|   | Type of shares held  | Proportion held     | Country of incorporation | Nature of business          |
| Local Pensions Partnership Administration Ltd | Ordinary             | 100%                | UK                       | Non-trading                 |
| Local Pensions Partnership Investments Ltd    | Ordinary             | 100%                | UK                       | Investment                  |
| Subsidiaries – indirect                       |                      |                     |                          |                             |
|   | Type of shares held  | Proportion held     | Country of incorporation | Nature of business          |
| LPPI Scotland (No.1) Ltd                      | Ordinary             | 100%                | UK                       | Investment                  |
| LPPI Scotland (No.2) Ltd                      | Ordinary             | 100 %               | UK                       | Investment                  |
| Daventry GP Limited                           | Ordinary             | 100%                | UK                       | General partner             |
| LPPI PE GP (No 1) LLP                         | LLP                  | 100%                | UK                       | General partner             |
| LPPI PE GP (No 2) LLP                         | LLP                  | 100 %               | UK                       | General partner             |
| LPPI Infrastructure GP LLP                    | LLP                  | 100%                | UK                       | General partner             |
| LPPI Credit GP Limited                        | Ordinary             | 100%                | UK                       | General partner             |
| 12. Debtors                                   |                      |                     | <b>T</b> I 6             |                             |
|   | The G<br>31 Mar 2018 | roup<br>31 Mar 2017 | 31 Mar 2018              | mpany<br>31 Mar 2017        |
|   | £'000                | £'000               | £'000                    | £'000                       |
| Amounts falling due within one year:          |                      |                     |                          |                             |
| Trade debtors                                 | 7,682                | 4,981               | 4,893                    | 1,427                       |
| Amounts owed by group undertakings            | -                    | _                   | 2,870                    | 2,500                       |
| Corporation tax                               | _                    | _                   | 329                      | _                           |
| Deferred tax                                  | 2,260                | 2,534               | 1,953                    | 2,223                       |
| Prepayments and accrued income                | 615                  | 2,338               | 570                      | 2,046                       |
|   | 10,557               | 9,853               | 10,615                   | 8,196                       |

Included in the company "Amounts owed by group undertakings" is a loan made to LPPI Ltd by LPP Ltd as the same basis as the loan facility disclosed in note 15.

#### 13. Cash at bank and in hand

|              | The G                | The Group            |                      | npany                |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|              | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Cash at bank | 18,064               | 17,561               | 1,013                | 5,925                |
|              | 18,064               | 17,561               | 1,013                | 5,925                |

## Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 14. Creditors: amounts falling due within a year

| ,                                  | The Group            |                      | The Company          |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                                    | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mαr 2017<br>£'000 |
| Trade creditors                    | 1,216                | 236                  | 1,057                | 725                  |
| Taxation and social security costs | 949                  | 836                  | 832                  | 538                  |
| Corporation tax                    | 189                  | 1,090                | _                    | 528                  |
| Other creditors                    | 172                  | 186                  | 133                  | 129                  |
| Accruals                           | 4,129                | 1,899                | 1,600                | 1,374                |
|                                    | 6,655                | 4,247                | 3,622                | 3,294                |

| 15. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year | The Group            |                      | The Company          |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Loans   | 17,500               | 17,500               | 17,500               | 17,500               |
| Loans are repayable as follows:                   |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|   | £'000                | £'000                | £'000                | £'000                |
| More than five years                              | 17,500               | 17,500               | 17,500               | 17,500               |

On 8 April 2016, the Company entered into a term loan facility agreement with Lancashire County Council, one of its shareholders. The term is for ten years with no schedule of fixed repayments. The loan facility bears interest at 4.25% per annum. No repayments have been made as at 31 March 2018.

The Company also has a loan facility with its other shareholder, LPFA, but is not drawn down as at 31 March 2018. The facility is for £17.5m, to be repaid within ten years of the withdrawal date, at a rate initially of 1.3% before draw down and at 4.25% thereafter.

#### 16. Pension schemes

#### Defined benefit pension schemes

On 8 April 2016 current employees of the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA) and Lancashire County Council (LCC) who were members of the Lancashire County Pension Fund (LCPF), were TUPE transferred to the Local Pensions Partnership Ltd (LPP) and Local Pensions Partnership Investments Ltd (LPPI). A subsequent transfer of employees into LPP from LPFA took place during the period.

The transferring employees are all members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). LPP and LPPI were allocated notional shares of the LPFA and LCPF Fund assets equal to 100% of the value of the transferring pension liabilities. The liabilities were calculated on the ongoing basis appropriate for funding, either the LPFA or LCPF 2016 Triennial valuation assumptions depending on the Fund from which employees' liabilities were transferred. As such LPP and LPPI 's pension liabilities were 100% funded on the relevant ongoing basis at the dates of transfer.

Notwithstanding differences between the LPFA and LCPF ongoing 2016 Triennial valuation basis, when the pension liabilities are valued for the purposes of IAS19 disclosures, the discount rate is prescribed by the IAS19 standards to be set with reference to corporate bond yields. The assessment of pension liabilities on this accounting basis at the date of transfer results in pension liabilities greater than those assessed on the LPFA and LCPF ongoing valuation basis. Therefore at the date of transfer LPP and LPPI's pension liabilities on the IAS19 accounting basis were not fully funded.

The LGPS is a tax approved, defined benefit occupational pension scheme set up under the Superannuation Act 1972. The benefits under the scheme are based on the length of membership and the average salary. Each member contributes a proportion of their salary, within a 5.5% to 12.5% range depending on their rate of pay. LPP and LPPI, as the employing bodies, also contributes in to the scheme on the employee's behalf at 12.0% of the employee's salary.

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

LGPS is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme. The liabilities of the LGPS attributable to the Group are included in the balance sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc, and projections of projected earnings for current employees.

In accounting for the defined benefit schemes, the Group has applied the following principles:

• No pension assets are invested in the Group's own financial instruments or property.

The schemes in the UK typically expose the Group to actuarial risks such as: investment risk, interest rate risk, longevity risk and salary risk, as follows:

- Investment risk the present value of the defined benefit schemes' liability is calculated using a discount rate determined by reference to high quality corporate bond yields. If the return on plan assets is below this rate, a deficit will be created;
- Interest risk a decrease in the bond interest rate will increase the scheme liability but this will be partially offset by an increase in the return of the plan's debt investments;
- Longevity risk the present value of the defined benefit plan liability is calculated by reference to the best estimate of the mortality of plan participants both during and after their employment. An increase in the life expectancy of the plan participants will increase the plan's liability; and
- Salary risk the present value of the defined benefit scheme liability is calculated by reference to the future salaries of plan participants, as such, an increase in the salary of the plan participants will increase the plan's liability.

In summary, the four defined benefit pension schemes can be summarised, by entity, as follows:

| Post employment benefits summary               | Year to      | Year to 31 March 2018 |                |  |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|--|
|  | LPP<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>£'000         | Total<br>£'000 |  |
| Net assets                                     | 20,257       | 2,846                 | 23,103         |  |
| Net liabilities                                | (31,755)     | (4,590)               | (36,345)       |  |
|  | (11,498)     | (1,744)               | (13,242)       |  |
| Consolidated statement of comprehensive income | 4,468        | 594                   | 5,062          |  |
| Pension costs expensed for the year            | 3,676        | 846                   | 4,522          |  |

|  | From 19 Oct 2015 to 31 Mar 2017 |               |                |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
|  | LPP<br>£'000                    | LPPI<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
| Net assets                                     | 18,008                          | 2,127         | 20,135         |
| Net liabilities                                | (31,218)                        | (3,956)       | (35,174)       |
|  | (13,210)                        | (1,829)       | (15,039)       |
| Consolidated statement of comprehensive income | 4,386                           | 1,184         | 5,570          |
| Person costs expensed for the year             | 1,638                           | 361           | 1,999          |

#### **London Pensions Fund Authority**

#### LPP pension information

The normal contributions expected to be paid during the financial year ending 31 March 2019 are £743,000 (2018: £589,000) for LPP.

## Notes to the financial statements continued

A summary of the defined benefit pension schemes on the group balance sheet is as follows:

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

| LPP         | LPP         |  |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| 31 Mar 2017 | 31 Mar 2018 |  |
| £'000       | €'000       |  |
|             |             |  |

| Net retirement benefit deficit | (7,910)  | (9,150)  |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Retirement benefit obligations | (18,912) | (18,671) |
| Retirement benefit assets      | 11,002   | 9,521    |

|   | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year/period | 9,521                       | 5,131                       |
| Interest income on scheme assets – employer           | 280                         | 232                         |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income          | 276                         | 1,230                       |
| Administrative expenses and taxes                     | (12)                        | (7)                         |
| Employer contributions                                | 614                         | 342                         |
| Contributions by employees                            | 429                         | 276                         |
| Benefits paid   | (106)                       | (36)                        |
| Plan settlements                                      | _                           | 2,353                       |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year/period       | 11,002                      | 9,521                       |

|                      |             | _                |               |                |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Analysis of assets - | - The maior | categories of sc | heme assets a | re as follows: |

|                         | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Equity instruments      | 6,727                | 5,642                |
| Target return portfolio | 2,466                | 2,012                |
| Infrastructure          | 481                  | 501                  |
| Property                | 792                  | 485                  |
| Cash and other          | 536                  | 881                  |
| At 31 March             | 11,002               | 9,521                |

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The pension scheme has not invested in any of the Group's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the Group. Virtually all equity and debt instruments have quoted prices in an active market.

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

| <b>Scheme liabilities</b> – Changes in the fair value of scheme liabilities are as follows: | LPP                  | LPP                  |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year/period  | 18,671               | 8,392                |
| Current service cost – employer   | 2,269                | 980                  |
| Effect of changes in financial assumptions  | (2,123)              | 3,271                |
| Effect of demographic assumptions   | (1,042)              | _                    |
| Interest cost – employer  | 527                  | 385                  |
| Past service costs  | 287                  | _                    |
| Benefits paid   | (106)                | (36)                 |
| Contributions by scheme participants  | 429                  | 276                  |
| Plan settlements  | _                    | 5,403                |
| Benefit obligation at end of year/period  | 18,912               | 18,671               |
| Amounts recognised in the income statement  |                      |                      |
| 7   |                      | LPP                  |
|   | LPP                  | From 19 Oct 2015 to  |
|   | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Amounts recognised in operating profit  |                      |                      |
| Current service cost  | 2,556                | 4,030                |
| Settlement gain   | _                    | (3,050)              |
| Administrative expenses and taxes   | 12                   | 7                    |
| Recognised in arriving at operating profit  | 2,568                | 987                  |
| Amounts recognised in interest receivable and similar income                                |                      |                      |
| Interest cost on scheme liabilities – employer  | 247                  | 153                  |
| Recognised in interest receivable and similar income  | 247                  | 153                  |
| Total recognised in the profit and loss account   | 2,815                | 1,140                |
| Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income                                 |                      |                      |
|   |                      | LPP<br>From 19 Oct   |
|   | LPP                  | 2015 to              |
|   | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Remeasurements recognised in the statement of comprehensive income                          |                      |                      |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income  | 276                  | 1,230                |
| Effect of changes in financial assumptions  | 2,123                | (3,271)              |
| Effect of changes in demographic assumptions  | 1,042                | _                    |
|   | 3,441                | (2,041)              |
|   | 2111                 | (0.0.4)              |

Total pension cost recognised in the statement of comprehensive income

3,441

(2,041)

## Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Principal actuarial assumptions

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date are as follows:

|  | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>% | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>% |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Discount rate                                    | 2.6                     | 2.8                     |
| Future salary increases                          | 3.6                     | 4.2                     |
| Future pension increases (CPI)                   | 2.1                     | 2.7                     |
| Future pension increases (RPI)                   | 3.1                     | 3.6                     |
| Inflation assumption (CPI)                       | 2.1                     | 2.7                     |
| Inflation assumption (RPI)                       | 3.1                     | 3.6                     |
| Post retirement mortality assumptions            | LPP                     | LPP                     |
|  | 31 Mar 2018<br>Years    | 31 Mar 2017<br>Years    |
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – male   | 21.1                    | 21.7                    |
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – female | 23.9                    | 24.5                    |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – male    | 22.6                    | 24.0                    |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – female  | 25.4                    | 26.7                    |

Management considers the significant actuarial assumptions with regards to the determination of the defined benefit obligation to be the discount rate, inflation, the rate of salary increases and mortality.

Sensitivity analysis is provided below, based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period, assuming all other assumptions are held constant.

The sensitivities have been derived in the same manner as the defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 where the defined benefit obligation is estimated using the Projected Unit Credit method. Under this method each participant's benefits are attributed to years of service, taking into consideration future salary increases and the scheme's benefit allocation formula. Thus, the estimated total pension to which each participant is expected to become entitled at retirement is broken down into units, each associated with a year of past or future credited service.

The defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2018 is calculated on the actuarial assumptions agreed as at that date. The sensitivities are calculated by changing each assumption in turn following the methodology above with all other things held constant. The change in the defined benefit obligation from updating the single assumption represents the impact of that assumption on the calculation of the defined benefit obligation.

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

|                                | Change in       | Change of<br>+0.1% in<br>present value<br>of scheme | Change of<br>(0.1%) in<br>present value<br>of scheme |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| Assumption                     | assumption<br>% | liabilities<br>£'000                                | liabilities<br>£'000                                 |
|                                | Yea             | r to 31 March 2018                                  | 3  |
| LPP                            |                 |   |  |
| Discount rate: 2.6 %           | 0.1             | 18,402  | (19,437)   |
| Inflation: 2.1% CPI            | 0.1             | 19,341  | (18,495)   |
| Rate of salary increase: 3.6%  | 0.1             | 19,009  | (18,816)   |
|                                | From 19 (       | Oct 2015 to 31 Ma                                   | r 2017   |
| LPPI                           |                 |   |  |
| Discount rate: 2.8 %           | 0.1             | 18,169  | (19,188)   |
| Inflation: 2.1% CPI            | 0.1             | 19,044  | (18,310)   |
| Rate of salary increase: 4.2 % | 0.1             | 18,815  | (18,529)   |

If the mortality rate were increased by one year to the post retirement range of assumptions applied for male and female, current and future pensioners from 21.7 - 26.7 years, post retirement age, the change in present value of scheme liabilities would be an increase of 0.3%.

Management acknowledges that the method used of presuming that all other assumptions remaining constant has inherent limitation given that it is more likely for a combination of changes, but highlights the value of each individual risk and is therefore a suitable basis for providing this analysis.

#### LPPI pension information

The normal contributions expected to be paid during the financial year ending 31 March 2019 for LPPI are £187,000 (2018: £187,000).

A summary of the defined benefit pension schemes on the Group balance sheet is as follows:

|                                | 11 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 1 Mαr 2017<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Retirement benefit assets      | 833                  | 403                 |
| Retirement benefit obligations | (1,364)              | (974)               |
| Net retirement benefit deficit | (531)                | (571)               |

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

**Scheme assets** – Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

|   | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year/period | 403                          | 154                          |
| Interest income on scheme assets – employer           | 17                           | 9                            |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income          | 16                           | 41                           |
| Administrative expenses and taxes                     | (1)                          | _                            |
| Employer contributions                                | 210                          | 120                          |
| Contributions by employees                            | 130                          | 93                           |
| Benefits paid   | 58                           | (14)                         |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year/period       | 833                          | 403                          |

**Analysis of assets** – The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

| Analysis of assets – The major categories of scriente assets are as follows. | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Equity instruments   | 509                          | 239                          |
| Target return portfolio  | 187                          | 85                           |
| Infrastructure   | 36                           | 21                           |
| Property   | 60                           | 21                           |
| Cash and other   | 41                           | 37                           |
| At 31 March  | 833                          | 403                          |

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the Group's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the Group. Virtually all equity and debt instruments have quoted prices in an active market.

**Scheme liabilities** – Changes in the present value of scheme liabilities are as follows:

|  | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year/period | 974                          | 353                          |
| Current service cost – employer                | 497                          | 205                          |
| Effect of changes in financial assumptions     | (223)                        | 322                          |
| Effect of changes in demographic assumptions   | (102)                        | _                            |
| Interest cost – employer                       | 30                           | 15                           |
| Benefits paid                                  | 58                           | (14)                         |
| Contributions by scheme participants           | 130                          | 93                           |
| Benefit obligation at end of year/period       | 1,364                        | 974                          |

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

Future pension increases (CPI) Future pension increases (RPI)

Inflation assumption (CPI)

Inflation assumption (RPI)

Amounts recognised in the income statement

| Amounts recognised in the income statement  |   | LPPI   |
|---|---|--|
|   | LPPI<br>Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000     | From 19 Oct<br>2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000       |
| Amounts recognised in operating profit  |   |  |
| Current service cost  | 497   | 205  |
| Settlement gain   | _   | _  |
| Administrative expenses and taxes   | 1   | _  |
| Recognised in arriving at operating profit  | 498   | 205  |
| Amounts recognised in interest receivable and similar income  |   |  |
| Interest cost on scheme liabilities – employer  | 13  | 6  |
| Recognised in interest receivable and similar income  | 13  | 6  |
| Total recognised in the profit and loss account   | 511   | 211  |
|   | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000             | 2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000                      |
| Remeasurements recognised in the statement of comprehensive income  |   |  |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income  | 16  | 41   |
| Effect of changes in financial assumptions  | 223   | 41   |
| Effect of changes in demographic assumptions  |   |  |
| Effect of experience adjustments  | 102   |  |
|   | 102   | (322)  |
| Total pension cost recognised in the statement of comprehensive income  | 102<br>-<br>341                             |  |
|   |   | (322)<br>-<br>-<br>(281)                             |
| Principal actuarial assumptions The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date are as follows: | 341   | (322<br>-<br>-<br>(281                               |
| Principal actuarial assumptions   | 341   | (322)<br>-<br>-<br>(281)<br>(281)                    |
| Principal actuarial assumptions   | -<br>341<br><b>341</b>                      | (322<br>-<br>(281<br>(281)<br>LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017    |
| Principal actuarial assumptions   |   | (322)<br>-<br>(281)<br>(281)<br>(281)<br>31 Mar 2017 |
| Principal actuarial assumptions The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date are as follows: | -<br>341<br>341<br>LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>% | (322)<br>-<br>-<br>(281)<br>(281)                    |

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## Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Post retirement mortality assumptions

|  | 1PPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>% | 11 Mar 2017<br>% |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – male   | 21.1                     | 21.7             |
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – female | 23.9                     | 24.5             |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – male    | 22.6                     | 24.0             |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – female  | 25.4                     | 26.7             |

Management considers the significant actuarial assumptions with regards to the determination of the defined benefit obligation to be the discount rate, inflation, the rate of salary increases and mortality.

Sensitivity analysis is provided below, based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period, assuming all other assumptions are held constant.

The sensitivities have been derived in the same manner as the defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 where the defined benefit obligation is estimated using the Projected Unit Credit method. Under this method each participant's benefits are attributed to years of service, taking into consideration future salary increases and the scheme's benefit allocation formula. Thus, the estimated total pension to which each participant is expected to become entitled at retirement is broken down into units, each associated with a year of past or future credited service.

The defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 is calculated on the actuarial assumptions agreed as at that date. The sensitivities are calculated by changing each assumption in turn following the methodology above with all other things held constant. The change in the defined benefit obligation from updating the single assumption represents the impact of that assumption on the calculation of the defined benefit obligation.

| Assumption                     | Change of +0.1% in present value Change in of scheme assumption liabilities | (0.1%) in<br>present value<br>of scheme<br>liabilities |  |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                                |   | % <b>£</b> '000 <b>£</b> '000<br>Year to 31 March 2018 |  |  |
| LPPI                           |   |  |  |  |
| Discount rate: 2.6 %           | 0.1 1,318   | (1,411)  |  |  |
| Inflation: 2.1 % CPI           | 0.1 1,364   | (1,364)  |  |  |
| Rate of salary increase: 2.7 % | 0.1 1,412   | (1,318)  |  |  |
|                                | From 19 Oct 2015 to 31 Mo   | arch 2017  |  |  |
| LPPI                           |   |  |  |  |
| Discount rate: 2.8 %           | 0.1 1,008   | (1,008)  |  |  |
| Inflation: 2.1 % CPI           | 0.1 941   | (941)  |  |  |
| Rate of salary increase: 4.2 % | 0.1 974   | (974)  |  |  |

If the mortality rate were increased by one year to the post retirement range of assumptions applied for male and female, current and future pensioners from 21.7 - 26.7 years, post retirement age, the change in present value of scheme liabilities would be an increase of 0.3%

Management acknowledges that the method used of presuming that all other assumptions remaining constant has inherent limitation given that it is more likely for a combination of changes, but highlights the value of each individual risk and is therefore a suitable basis for providing this analysis.

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For the year ended 31 March 2018

### **16. Pension schemes (continued)**

**Lancashire County Pension Fund** 

The actuaries for LCPF are Mercer.

#### LPP pension information

The normal contributions expected to be paid during the financial year ending 31 March 2019 are £683,000 (2018: £279,000) for LPP.

A summary of the defined benefit pension schemes on the Group balance sheet is as follows:

|                                | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Retirement benefit assets      | 9,255                       | 8,487                       |
| Retirement benefit obligations | (12,843)                    | (12,547)                    |
| Net retirement benefit deficit | (3,588)                     | (4,060)                     |

**Scheme assets** – Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

|   | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year/period | 8,487                       | 6,743                       |
| Interest income on scheme assets – employer           | 227                         | 257                         |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income          | 86                          | 1,092                       |
| Administrative expenses and taxes                     | (12)                        | (11)                        |
| Employer contributions                                | 306                         | 283                         |
| Contributions by employees                            | 165                         | 148                         |
| Benefits paid   | (4)                         | (25)                        |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year/period       | 9,255                       | 8,487                       |

**Analysis of assets** – The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

|                    | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPP<br>31 Mαr 2017<br>£'000 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Equity instruments | 8,024                       | 7,341                       |
| Bonds              | 398                         | 306                         |
| Property           | 870                         | 747                         |
| Cash and other     | (37)                        | 93                          |
|                    | 9,255                       | 8,487                       |

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the Group's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the Group. Virtually all equity and debt instruments have quoted prices in an active market.

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

| <b>Scheme liabilities</b> – Changes in the fair value of scheme liabilities are as follows: |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|   | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000            | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000                           |
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year/period  | 12,547                                 | 8,243   |
| Current service cost – employer   | 747                                    | 437   |
| Effect of changes in financial assumptions  | (941)                                  | 3,437   |
| Effect of experience adjustments  |  | _   |
| Interest cost – employer  | 329                                    | 307   |
| Benefits paid   | (4)                                    | (25)  |
| Contributions by scheme participants  | 165                                    | 148   |
| Benefit obligation at end of year/period  | 12,843                                 | 12,547  |
| Amounts recognised in the income statement  |  |   |
|   | LPP<br>Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPP<br>From 19 Oct<br>2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Amounts recognised in operating profit  |  |   |
| Current service cost  | 747                                    | 437   |
| Administrative expenses and taxes   | 12                                     | 11  |
| Recognised in arriving at operating profit  | 759                                    | 448   |
| Amounts recognised in interest receivable and similar income                                |  |   |
| Interest cost on scheme liabilities – employer  | 102                                    | 307   |
| Interest cost on scheme assets – employer   | _                                      | (257)   |
| Recognised in interest receivable and similar income  | 102                                    | 50  |
| Total recognised in the profit and loss account   | 861                                    | 498   |
| Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income                                 |  |   |
|   | LPP<br>Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPP<br>From 19 Oct<br>2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Remeasurements recognised in the statement of comprehensive income                          |  |   |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income  | 86                                     | 1,092   |
| Changes in financial assumptions  | 941                                    | (3,437)   |
| Effect of experience adjustments  |  | _   |
|   | 1,027                                  | (2,345)   |
| Total pension cost recognised in the statement of comprehensive income                      | 1,027                                  | (2,345)   |

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Principal actuarial assumptions

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date are as follows:

|                                | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>% | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>% |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Discount rate                  | 2.7                     | 2.6                     |
| Future salary increases        | 3.6                     | 3.7                     |
| Future pension increases (CPI) | 2.2                     | 2.2                     |
| Inflation assumption (CPI)     | 2.1                     | 2.2                     |

#### Post retirement mortality assumptions

|  | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>% | LPP<br>31 Mar 2017<br>% |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – male   | 22.0                    | 22.6                    |
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – female | 24.4                    | 25.2                    |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – male    | 23.5                    | 24.9                    |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – female  | 26.3                    | 27.9                    |

Management considers the significant actuarial assumptions with regards to the determination of the defined benefit obligation to be the discount rate, inflation, the rate of salary increases and mortality.

Sensitivity analysis is provided below, based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period, assuming all other assumptions are held constant.

The sensitivities have been derived in the same manner as the defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 where the defined benefit obligation is estimated using the Projected Unit Credit method. Under this method each participant's benefits are attributed to years of service, taking into consideration future salary increases and the scheme's benefit allocation formula. Thus, the estimated total pension to which each participant is expected to become entitled at retirement is broken down into units, each associated with a year of past or future credited service.

The defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 is calculated on the actuarial assumptions agreed as at that date. The sensitivities are calculated by changing each assumption in turn following the methodology above with all other things held constant. The change in the defined benefit obligation from updating the single assumption represents the impact of that assumption on the calculation of the defined benefit obligation.

## Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

| Assumption                    | Change in assumption % | Change of<br>+0.1% in<br>present value<br>of scheme<br>liabilities<br>£'000 | Change of (0.1%) in present value of scheme liabilities £'000 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|
|                               | Yer                    | ar to 31 March 2018   | 3   |
| Discount rate: 2.7 %          | 0.1                    | 12,505  | (12,505)  |
| Inflation: 2.1% CPI           | 0.1                    | 13,190  | (13,190)  |
| Rate of salary increase: 3.6% | 0.1                    | 12,966  | (12,966)  |
|                               | From 19 (              | Oct 2015 to 31 Marc   | th 2017   |
| Discount rate: 2.6 %          | 0.1                    | 12,217  | (12,217)  |
| Inflation: 2.2% CPI           | 0.1                    | 12,887  | (12,887)  |
| Rate of salary increase: 3.7% | 0.1                    | 12,701  | (12,701)  |

If the mortality rate were increased by one year to the post retirement range of assumptions applied for male and female, current and future pensioners from 22.6 - 27.9, the change in present value of scheme liabilities would be an increase of 2%.

Management acknowledges that the method used of presuming that all other assumptions remaining constant has inherent limitation given that it is more likely for a combination of changes, but highlights the value of each individual risk and is therefore a suitable basis for providing this analysis.

#### LPPI pension information

The normal contributions expected to be paid during the financial year ending 31 March 2019 are for LPPI £88,000 (2018: £88,000).

A summary of the defined benefit pension schemes on the Group balance sheet is as follows:

|                                | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Retirement benefit assets      | 2,013                        | 1,724                        |
| Retirement benefit obligations | (3,226)                      | (2,982)                      |
| Net retirement benefit deficit | (1,213)                      | (1,258)                      |

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

**Scheme liabilities** – Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

|   | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year/period | 1,724                        | 1,305                        |
| Interest income on scheme assets – employer           | 48                           | 51                           |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income          | 17                           | 217                          |
| Administrative expenses and taxes                     | (5)                          | (4)                          |
| Employer contributions                                | 127                          | 89                           |
| Contributions by employees                            | 102                          | 66                           |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year/period       | 2,013                        | 1,724                        |

**Analysis of assets** – The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

|                    | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Equity instruments | 1,746                        | 1,491                        |
| Bonds              | 86                           | 62                           |
| Property           | 189                          | 152                          |
| Cash and other     | (8)                          | 19                           |
|                    | 2,013                        | 1,724                        |

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the Group's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the Group. Virtually all equity and debt instruments have quoted prices in an active market.

**Scheme liabilities** – Changes in the fair value of scheme liabilities are as follows:

|  | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year/period | 2,982                        | 1,599                        |
| Current service cost – employer                | 299                          | 137                          |
| Effect of changes in financial assumptions     | (236)                        | 706                          |
| Effect of experience adjustments               | _                            | 414                          |
| Interest cost – employer                       | 79                           | 60                           |
| Contributions by scheme participants           | 102                          | 66                           |
| Benefit obligation at end of year/period       | 3,226                        | 2,982                        |

# Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

| Amounts recognised in the income statement   |   | LDDI   |
|--|---|--|
|  | LPPI<br>Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | LPPI<br>From 19 Oct<br>2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
| Amounts recognised in operating profit   |   |  |
| Current service cost   | 299                                     | 137  |
| Administrative expenses and taxes  | 5                                       | 4  |
| Recognised in arriving at operating profit   | 304                                     | 141  |
| Amounts recognised in interest receivable and similar income   |   |  |
| Interest cost on scheme liabilities – employer   | 79                                      | 60   |
| Interest cost on scheme assets – employer  | (48)                                    | (51)   |
| Recognised in interest receivable and similar income   | 31                                      | 9  |
| Total recognised in the profit and loss account  | 335                                     | 150  |
|  | LPPI<br>Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | From 19 Oct<br>2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>£'000         |
| Remeasurements recognised in the statement of comprehensive income   |   |  |
| Return on scheme assets less interest income   | 17                                      | 217  |
| Changes in financial assumptions   | 236                                     | (706)  |
| Effect of experience adjustments   | _                                       | (414)  |
|  | 253                                     | (903)  |
| Total pension cost recognised in the statement of comprehensive income   | 253                                     | (903)  |
| Principal actuarial assumptions<br>The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date are as follows: |   |  |
|  | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2018<br>%                | LPPI<br>31 Mar 2017<br>%                               |
| Discount rate  | 2.7                                     | 2.6  |
| Future salary increases  | 3.6                                     | 3.7  |
| Future pension increases (CPI)   | 2.2                                     | 2.2  |
| Inflation account (CDI)  | 2.1                                     | 2.2  |

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Inflation assumption (CPI)

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 16. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Post retirement mortality assumptions

|  | LPP<br>31 Mar 2018<br>% | 31 Mar 2017<br>% |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – male   | 22.0                    | 22.6             |
| Current UK pensioners at retirement age – female | 24.4                    | 25.2             |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – male    | 23.5                    | 24.9             |
| Future UK pensioners at retirement age – female  | 26.3                    | 27.9             |

Management considers the significant actuarial assumptions with regards to the determination of the defined benefit obligation to be the discount rate, inflation, the rate of salary increases and mortality.

Sensitivity analysis is provided below, based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period, assuming all other assumptions are held constant.

The sensitivities have been derived in the same manner as the defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 where the defined benefit obligation is estimated using the Projected Unit Credit method. Under this method each participant's benefits are attributed to years of service, taking into consideration future salary increases and the scheme's benefit allocation formula. Thus, the estimated total pension to which each participant is expected to become entitled at retirement is broken down into units, each associated with a year of past or future credited service.

The defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2017 is calculated on the actuarial assumptions agreed as at that date. The sensitivities are calculated by changing each assumption in turn following the methodology above with all other things held constant. The change in the defined benefit obligation from updating the single assumption represents the impact of that assumption on the calculation of the defined benefit obligation.

| Assumption                     | +0.1% in (<br>present value prese<br>Change in of scheme of | 0.1%) in ent value scheme liabilities |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
|                                | Year to 31 March 2018                                       |                                       |
| Discount rate: 2.7 %           | 0.1 3,140   | (3,140)                               |
| Inflation: 2.1 % CPI           | 0.1 3,313   | (3,313)                               |
| Rate of salary increase: 3.6 % | 0.1 3,253   | (3,253)                               |
|                                | From 19 Oct 2015 to 31 March 2017                           |                                       |
| Discount rate: 3.8%            | 0.1 2,903   | (2,903)                               |
| Inflation: 2.1 % CPI           | 0.1 3,063   | (3,063)                               |
| Rate of salary increase: 2.6%  | 0.1 3,019   | (3,019)                               |
|                                |   |                                       |

If the mortality rate were increased by one year to the post retirement range of assumptions applied for male and female, current and future pensioners from 22.6 - 27.9, the change in present value of scheme liabilities would be an increase of 2%.

Management acknowledges that the method used of presuming that all other assumptions remaining constant has inherent limitation given that it is more likely for a combination of changes, but highlights the value of each individual risk and is therefore a suitable basis for providing this analysis.

Change of

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## Notes to the financial statements continued

For the year ended 31 March 2018

#### 17. Share Capital

|                                      | 31 Mar 2018<br>£'000 | 31 Mar 2017<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Authorised, allotted and fully paid: |                      |                      |
| 2 ordinary shares of £1 each         | 2                    | 2                    |
| Total                                | 2                    | 2                    |

The shares issued in the period have full rights in the Company with respect to voting, dividends and distributions.

#### 18. Leasing commitments

At the period end the Company was committed to make the following payments during the next year in respect of operating leases with expiry dates as follows:

| expiry duces as follows:   | Year to<br>31 Mar 2018<br>Land and<br>Buildings<br>£'000 | From 19 Oct<br>2015 to<br>31 Mar 2017<br>Land and<br>Buildings<br>£'000 |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Expiry date:               |  |   |
| Within one year            | 1,129  | 76  |
| Between one and five years | 220  | 1,787   |
| As at 31 March             | 1,349  | 1,863   |

#### 19. Contingent liabilities and capital commitments

The Group and the Company have no contingent liabilities at the year end.

The Group and the Company have no capital commitments at the year end.

#### 20. Related party transactions and ultimate controlling party

The Key Management Personnel emoluments paid by the Group total £1,615,373 (2017 − £796,204) for the year.

The directors of Local Pensions Partnership Ltd had no transactions with the Company or its subsidiaries during the period other than service contracts and directors' liability insurance. A summary of directors' remuneration is disclosed in the notes to the accounts and also in detail as part of the LPP Remuneration and Nomination Committee section of the Board and Committee reports.

The Company is exempt under the terms of FRS 102 from disclosing related party transactions with entities that are 100% owned by Local Pensions Partnership Ltd.

The Company is a joint venture and its ultimate parents and controlling parties are London Pensions Fund Authority and Lancashire County Council.

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### Offices and contact information

#### **Directors**

Sally Bridgeland
Allister Jeffrey
Susan Martin
Dermot 'Skip' McMullan
Michael O'Higgins
Tom Richardson
Sir Peter Rogers
Alan Schofield
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### Company Secretary

Greg Smith

### Company registration number

09830002

#### **Registered office**

County Hall Fishergate Preston United Kingdom PR1 8XJ

#### **Business Address**

2nd Floor 169 Union Street London SE1 OLL

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#### **Auditor**

### **Grant Thornton UK LLP**

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor 30 Finsbury Square London EC2P 2YU

#### Bankers

#### **National Westminster Bank**

PO Box 35 10 Southwark Street London SE1 1TJ

#### Handelsbanken

Winckley Chambers 30 Winkley Square Preston Lancashire PR1 3JJ

#### Contact us

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### Agenda Item 9

#### **Pension Fund Committee**

Meeting to be held 14 September 2018

Electoral Division affected: None:

Feedback from members of the Committee on pension related training, conferences and events.

Contact for further information: Mike Neville, Tel: (01772) 533431, Senior Democratic Services Officer, mike.neville@lancashire.gov.uk

#### **Executive Summary**

An update on pension related training, conferences and events attended by individual members of the Committee since the last meeting.

#### Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the report and any feedback given at the meeting.

### **Background and Advice**

At the meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 the Committee agreed a revised Training Policy which set out the Fund's approach to supporting the learning and development needs of individuals with responsibility for the strategic direction, governance and oversight of the LCPF through their membership of the Pension Fund Committee or the Lancashire Local Pension Board.

Since the last meeting the members of the Committee have attended the following pension related training.

**Workshop on LCPF Annual Report and accounts - 28 June 2018** at County Hall, Preston attended by County Councillors J Burrows, S Clarke, T Martin, J Mein, E Pope and A Schofield and co-opted members P Crewe, Councillor D Borrow and Councillor R Whittle.

**LAPFF Investment Seminar - 16<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> July 2018** at The Grove, Chandlers Cross, Hertfordshire, attended by Councillor D Borrow.

**LGC Investment Seminar – 6-7th September 2018** at the Celtic Manor Resort, Newport, South Wales, attended by County Councillors E Pope and A Schofield.

Individual members of the Committee are requested to provide feedback on their experiences at the meeting.



#### **Consultations**

N/A

#### Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

#### Risk management

Without the required knowledge and skills, those charged with governance and decision making may be ill-equipped to make informed decisions regarding the direction and operation of the Pension Fund.

The Training Policy seeks to apply best practice and to ensure compliance with guidance from CIPFA and the Pensions regulator. Failing to implement an adequate Training Policy and framework and to regularly review the effectiveness of training arrangements would place the County Council (as Administering Authority) at risk of non-compliance with the Pensions Regulator's Code of Practice No. 14 (Governance and administration of public service pension schemes) and the legislative requirements that this code interprets.

#### **Financial**

Decisions made by the Pension Fund Committee have direct financial implications for the Fund. The Fund's Training Policy forms part of its governance and risk management arrangements which seek to ensure Pension Fund Committee and Pension Board members are well-informed, confident, and knowledgeable participants who work effectively and consistently in the best interests of the Fund and its stakeholders.

The cost of attendance, together with travel and subsistence costs, were met by the Pension Fund.

### Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

| Paper  | Date                     | Contact/Tel                    |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Attendance at Conferences and Events approved by the Head of Fund under the Scheme of Delegation to Heads of Service | June – September<br>2018 | Mike Neville<br>(01772) 533431 |

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

Agenda Item 13 (NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix A

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix B

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix C

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Agenda Item 14 (NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix A

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix B

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Agenda Item 15 (NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix A

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Agenda Item 16 (NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix A

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Appendix B

(NOT FOR PUBLICATION: By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)