

Pension Fund Committee

Meeting to be held on Friday, 29 March 2019

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);
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Lancashire County Pension Fund Discretions Policy Statement

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations require the Administering Authority to prepare and keep under review its statements of policy concerning the discretionary areas of the Local Government Pension Scheme regulations.

Recommendation

The Pension Fund Committee is asked to note and approve an updated version of the Fund's Policy Statement, as set out at Appendix A, which has been prepared in accordance with the regulations and has been updated to reflect current practices and regulatory updates.

Background and Advice

The Fund's Policy Statement was last reviewed and approved by the Pension Fund Committee in January 2016. Since that time legislation amending the principal Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations has introduced some new discretionary areas for the Fund to determine.

The Fund's Policy Statement has now been reviewed and a draft is set out at Appendix A for the Committee's consideration and approval.

The amendments in the draft cover the following areas:

1. Policy statements on new regulatory discretions

(Highlighted in the appendix)

2. Amendments and corrections to the regulatory references shown in the second column of the table in the policy statement

The published agreed version will not include this column, but are retained and maintained in a working copy for the officers and Committee members as a reference to the relevant legislation.

3. Amendments to listed delegated powers

Since the last review the Local Pensions Partnership have, from 01 April 2016, administered the Local Government Pension Scheme on behalf of the Lancashire County Pension Fund. For administrative processing purposes there are a couple of minor discretionary decisions that are delegated to the Local Pensions Partnership. Specifically the policy has been amended to show the delegated power transferring to the Deputy Director for Member Operations, previously this was delegated to the Head of Your Pension Service. (Highlighted in the appendix)

4. Added clarity to the wording in some of the existing policy statements

(Highlighted in the appendix)

In terms of the major or mandatory discretionary policy areas, no changes are proposed at this point. However, the Head of Fund will review the Funding Strategy Statement as part of the 2019 valuation process. This review will consider including a more detailed response on how the Fund would deal with any bulk transfer payments. Any proposed changes to the Funding Strategy Statement will be subject to full consultation with the Scheme's employers at that time.

Consultations

N/A

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
Appendix A of the Lancashire County pension Fund Discretions Policy statement	09/03/2019	Colin Smith 01772 534826

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