

PENSION COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Pension Committee held at CC2, County Hall, Lewes on 12 January 2016.

PRESENT Councillors Richard Stogdon (Chair), Frank Carstairs,
Godfrey Daniel and Bob Standley

ALSO PRESENT Marion Kelly, Chief Finance Officer
Ola Owolabi, Head of Accounts and Pensions
John Shepherd, Finance Manager (Pension Fund)
William Bourne, Independent Pension Adviser
William Marshal, Hymans Robertson
Paul Potter, Hymans Robertson
Harvey Winder, Democratic Services Officer

36 MINUTES

36.1 The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2015.

37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

37.1 Cllr David Tutt sent his apologies but gave his opinion on items 9a and 9b (minutes 44a and 44b) via a teleconference call at the commencement of the meeting.

38 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

38.1 Councillor Godfrey Daniel declared a personal interest as a scheme member of three East Sussex Pension Funds.

38.2 Councillor Richard Stogdon declared a personal interest as a Trustee of certain private trust funds managed by Ruffer.

38.3 William Bourne, Independent Pensions Advisor, declared a personal interest in items 9a and 9b (minutes 44a and 44b) as the Joint Independent Local Pension Board Chair of Lancashire County Pension Fund and the London Pensions Fund Authority.

39 APPOINTMENT OF THE INVESTMENT CONSULTANCY, ACTUARIAL AND BENEFIT CONSULTANCY SERVICES PROVIDERS

39.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer outlining the outcomes of a procurement exercise carried out by the Appointments Panel – under delegated authority from the Pension Committee – with a view to appoint service provider(s) regarding Investment Consultancy Services, and Actuarial and Benefit Consultancy Services.

39.2 The Committee RESOLVED to:

1. note the award of contract for Investment Consultancy, Actuarial and Benefit Consultancy Services to Hymans Robertson until 1 February 2020 subject to one year extension; and
2. authorise the Chief Finance Officer to finalise terms and conditions of the appointment and the Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to complete the necessary agreement.

40 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

40.1 The Committee agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the remaining agenda item on the grounds that if the public and press were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as specified in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

41 APPOINTMENT OF THE INVESTMENT CONSULTANCY, ACTUARIAL AND BENEFIT CONSULTANCY SERVICES PROVIDERS

41.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer outlining the outcomes of a procurement exercise carried out by the Appointments Panel – under delegated authority from the Pension Committee – with a view to appoint service provider(s) regarding Investment Consultancy Services, and Actuarial and Benefit Consultancy Services.

41.2 The Committee RESOLVED to note the bidder's scores for the Investment, Actuarial and Benefit Consultancy Services contract.

42a LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME - FUTURE INVESTMENT POOLING COLLABORATION

42a.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer 1) informing it of the Department of Community and Local Government (DCLG) criteria regarding the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Investment Pooling and the Department's Consultation on the Investment Regulations; and 2) seeking the Committee's approval regarding a pooling option proposal.

42a.2 The Committee resolved to:

1. note the DCLG Criteria regarding the LGPS Investment Pooling Proposals and Consultation on the Investment Regulations;
2. approve option 3 (work with other authorities to create a new FCA registered Joint Vehicle to cover all asset classes) as the option for pooling the East Sussex Pension Fund assets, and approve this option as the basis on which to submit the consultation response. Officers will consequently cease to explore pooling with Borders to Coast, Lancashire/LPFA, and London CIV, and will instead concentrate on negotiating with ACCESS as the preferred option, in addition to exploring the Northern (Manchester) option.
3. Authorise the Chief Finance Officer to consult with agreed like-minded funds to draft the consultation response for review and approval by the Pension Committee on 8 February 2016.

42b ANALYSIS OF INVESTMENT POOLING OPTIONS - HYMANS ROBERTSON

42b.1 The Committee discussed a report and presentation by Hymans Robertson providing an analysis of the LGPS asset pooling options.

The meeting ended at 4.34 pm.

Councillor Richard Stogdon
Chair