



# Annual Pension Fund Report and Accounts For the year ended 31 March 2017

# **Contents**

Introduction	3
Management and Financial Performance Report	5
Governance Arrangements	6
Service Delivery	8
Pension Fund Advisers	9
Management Report for 2016/17	11
Membership	12
Investment Policy and Performance Report	16
Investment Strategy	17
Responsible Investment	19
Fund Managers	20
Investment Performance	23
Market Developments 2016/17	24
Scheme Administration Report	27
Local Government Pension Scheme	28
Administration Service Delivery	28
Communications Policy	30
Pensions Administration Strategy	31
Actuarial Funding Report	32
Funding Position	33
Funding Strategy Statement	35
Statement of Fund Actuary	36
Financial Report	38
Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities	39
Statement of the Chief Financial Officer	39
Appendices	40

# Introduction

Haringey Council presents its Annual Report and Accounts of the Haringey Local Government Pension Fund for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is a defined benefit Pension Scheme and was established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1965. The Scheme is a Registered Pension Scheme under Chapter 2 of Part IV of the Finance Act 2004 and is contracted-out of the State Second Pension (S2P). It is a national scheme run locally by councils nominated as "Administering Authorities".

Haringey Council is the Administering Authority in the Haringey area and runs the Scheme to provide retirement benefits to all eligible employees of Haringey Council and other eligible organisations in the Haringey area. More detail about these organisations can be found in the Membership section on page 12. The Management report on page 11 provides information about how the scheme is run. The Scheme's registration number is 00329316RX.

## Scheme Rules

The benefits payable in respect of service from 1st April 2014 are based on career average revalued earnings and the number of years of eligible service. Pensions are increased each year in line with the Consumer Price Index. For service prior to April 2014 benefits are based on final salary and years of service. Other than in accordance with legislative requirements, there were no increases to benefits in payment in the year. The Administration report on page 28 provides details about the administration of the Scheme.

#### **Membership**

There were 6,167 active members (2016: 6,229), 8,769 (2016: 8,519) deferred members, and 7,508 (2016: 7,304) pensioners and dependents receiving benefits. More details can be found in the Membership section on page 12.

#### Financial position

The financial statements and notes in Appendix 1 show that the value of the Fund's assets increased by £261m to £1,307m as at 31 March 2017. The most significant factor in the increase in the value of the fund was due to the strong equity market performance over the year and the relative gain on holdings denominated in foreign currencies following the decline in the value of Sterling after the vote to exit the European Union in the summer of 2016.

# <u>Investments</u>

During the year the rate of return on the Fund's investments was 25.46%. This was 0.67% above the Fund's target of 24.79% for the year. The Fund participates in a benchmarking group maintained by the Pensions and Investment Research Consultants (PIRC): around two thirds of all LGPS Funds take part in this benchmarking group. Over the course of 2016/17, Haringey's investment performance was the second highest out of all the fund's which took part in this benchmarking. Haringey's performance was also the second highest over the rolling three year period which ended on 31 March 2017. More details of the investment strategy and the performance can be found on page 17.

## Funding position

The last formal valuation of the funding position took place as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, when the funding level was 79%. Details can be found in the Funding report on page 33. The next formal valuation will be carried out as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

# Management and Financial Performance Report

- Governance Arrangements
- Service Delivery
- Pension Fund Advisers
- Management report for 2016/17
- Membership

# **Governance Arrangements**

Haringey Council in its role as Administering Authority delegated responsibility for administering the Pension Scheme to the Pensions Committee and Board during the year. Details of the individuals who served on the Pensions Committee and Board during 2016/17 are shown below.

The terms of reference for Pensions Committee and Board are set out in the Council's constitution. The committee fulfils the duties required by regulations for the Council to operate a Pensions Board. The Committee and Board consists of elected Councillors, with full voting rights and employer and employee representatives. Councillors are selected by their respective political Groups and their appointment was confirmed at a meeting of the full Council. They were not appointed for a fixed term but the membership is reviewed regularly by the political groups. The other representatives were appointed by their peer groups. The membership of the Committee during the 2016/17 year was:

Councillor Clare Bull Chair

Councillor John Bevan Vice Chair

Councillor Mark Blake

Councillor Gideon Bull

Councillor Viv Ross

Councillor Noah Tucker

Randy Plowright Employee Representative

Keith Brown Employer Representative

#### Contact Details for Pensions Committee and Board

Pensions Committee and Board

London Borough of Haringey

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, River Park House,

London, N22 8HQ.

# Governance Compliance Statement

The Pension Fund has published a Governance Compliance Statement in accordance with the LGPS Regulations and this is set out in Appendix 2. The objective of the statement is to make the administration and stewardship of the Pension Fund transparent and accountable to all stakeholders.

# Service Delivery

Haringey Council Pension Service is composed of two streams of work: investments and accounting and pension administration. These two functions now both operate out of Corporate Finance, previously pensions administration was part of the Human Resources department.

Corporate Finance is responsible for investments and accounting work. Key tasks include:

- Support to the Committee and Board to set investment strategy and monitor investment performance;
- Managing the contracts with the Pension Fund's advisers;
- Producing the annual Pension Fund workplan and Annual report and accounts;
   and
- Maintaining the key governance statements the Pension Fund is required to publish (the current versions can be found in the Appendices to this report).

The Scheme Administration report on page 28 sets out the key tasks of the Pensions Administration service.

The Pension Fund's internal auditors are Mazars Public Sector Internal Audit Limited. Regular audits are carried out on both Pension Fund investments and Pensions administration.

#### **Key Officer Contacts**

Deputy Chief Executive (S151 Officer)

Tracie Evans

Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer Bernie Ryan

Head of Pensions Thomas Skeen

Pensions Manager Janet Richards

# **Pension Fund Advisers**

The Pension Fund retains a number of advisers to provide specialist advice and services. The contracts with these advisers are reviewed on a regular basis. A list of all advisers is provided below:

Secretary to the Committee	Head of Local Democracy and Member Services
Scheme Administrator	Chief Operating Officer
Actuary	Hymans Robertson LLP
Investment Managers	Legal & General Investment Management (LGIM) CBRE Global Investors Pantheon CQS Allianz Global Investors
Custodian	Northern Trust
Investment Consultants	Mercer UK Limited
Independent Adviser	John Raisin Financial Services Limited
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc
Legaladvisers	Head of Legal Services, London Borough of Haringey
Additional Voluntary Contribution providers	Clerical and Medical Equitable Life Assurance Society Prudential Assurance
Internal Auditors	Mazars Public Sector Internal Audit Limited
External Auditors	BDO LLP

#### Pensions Committee and Board Attendance 2016/17

Attendee	Voting Right	20 Sep 2016	22 Nov 2016	9 Feb 2017	27 Mar 2017
Councillor Clare Bull	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Councillor John Bevan	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Councillor Noah Tucker*	$\sqrt{}$				$\sqrt{}$
Councillor Gideon Bull	$\sqrt{}$				
Councillor Mark Blake	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$			$\sqrt{}$
Councillor Viv Ross	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\checkmark$	$\sqrt{}$	
Keith Brown	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
Randy Plowright	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$

<sup>\*</sup>Councillor Tucker joined the Pensions Committee and Board in February 2017.

Training was provided to committee members on a wide range of topics. Training sessions are generally held prior to meetings of the committee, although committee members were also able to receive training from external providers throughout 2016/17. Training was provided in line with CIPFA's knowledge and skills framework to ensure that the committee members received appropriate training.

# Some of the topics covered include:

- Actuarial Valuations
- Managing Risk
- Infrastructure Debt Investment Strategies
- Trustee Knowledge and Skills Workshop
- LGPS Investment Strategies
- Stewardship Accountability
- Multi Asset Investment Strategies

# Management Report for 2016/17

#### Financial Performance

The investment performance during the year was positive at 25.46% relative to benchmark of 24.79% - so the Fund underperformed its target by 0.67%. All of the five fund managers achieved positive returns in the financial year. The largest contributor to the overall performance was the strong equity performance, coupled with the devalution in Sterling after the Brexit vote: this meant that the Fund's holdings overseas gained due to the change in exchange rate.

In the medium to long term, the Fund has underperformed target slightly with returns of 13.66% against target of 13.79% over 3 years and returns of 12.09% against 12.32% over five years. All fund managers have delivered positive returns over the medium to long term.

The Fund has performed strongly compared to its peer group of other LGPS funds. The Fund participates in a benchmarking group maintained by the Pensions and Investment Research Consultants (PIRC): around two thirds of all LGPS Funds take part in this benchmarking group. Over the course of 2016/17, Haringey's investment performance was the second highest performer out of all the fund's which took part in this benchmarking. Haringey's performance was also the second highest over the rolling three year period which ended on 31 March 2017.

## Administrative Management Performance

The Fund's maintains a Pension Administration Strategy Statement, which was updated in early 2017. Details of the monitoring of the strategy are set out in the Scheme Administration report. During the financial year 2016/17 no formal action has been taken against any employers. The only breaches of the performance standards have been minor and have been dealt with informally. The timeliness of contribution payments from employers in the Fund has been monitored by the Pensions Committee and Board at each meeting and issues have been followed up by the Fund's officers. Membership of the Fund has increased by 392 in the financial year (from 22,052 in 2015/16 to 22,444 in 2016/17).

#### Risk Management

Investment risk is a key risk which the Fund is exposed to due to the range of different types of assets the Fund has chosen to invest in. All investments are undertaken in line with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management & Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 and in consideration of advice from the Fund's investment adviser and from the Independent Adviser.

The Committee and Board has set an investment strategy which involves a wide range of asset classes and geographical areas. This provides diversification which reduces the risk of low and volatile returns. Following the decision to invest the majority of the Fund on a passive basis, the risk of underperforming the benchmark has been significantly reduced.

The majority of the Pension Fund's assets are managed by external fund managers and they are required to provide audited internal controls reports regularly to the Council, which set out how they ensure the Fund's assets are safeguarded against loss and misstatement.

The Committee and Board consider reports on investment performance, responsible investment activities and other pertinent matters relating to investments and fund managers at each committee meeting.

# Membership

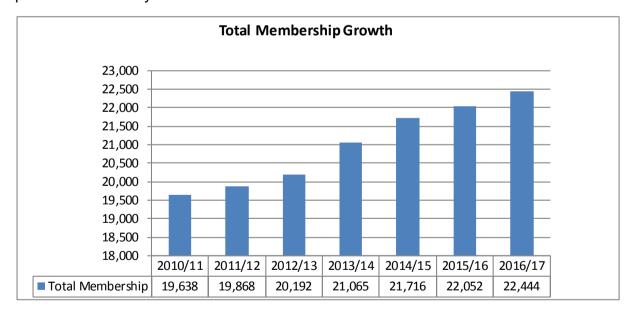
Haringey Council is the Administering Authority for the Haringey Pension Fund and eligible staff are members of the scheme. In addition the Pension Fund has a number of other organisations (scheduled and admission bodies) participating in the Fund.

A scheduled body is a public body which is required by law to participate in the LGPS. Each scheduled employer is listed in the LGPS regulations.

A transferee admission body is an employer permitted to participate in the LGPS. This might be a non profit making body carrying out work that is similar in nature to a public service like local government or it might be a private company to which a service or assets have been outsourced.

A community admission body is an organisation providing a public service in the UK otherwise than for gain. The organisation is expected to have sufficient links with the Council such that it is regarded as having a community interest.

The membership of the Pension Fund at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 compared with the previous financial year is shown in the table below.

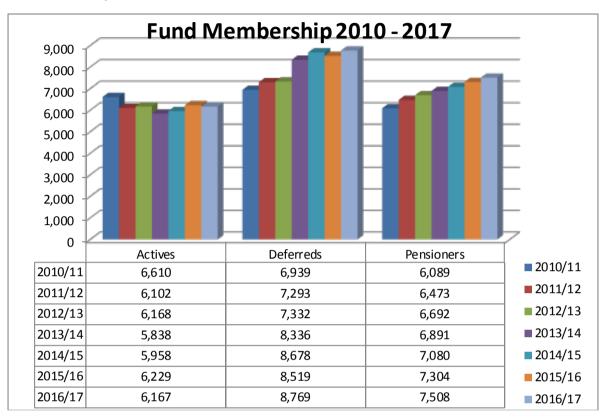


The table above shows an overall increase in membership of 1.8% over the past year due to staff increases at academy employers and auto enrolment of new joiners. The number of active members has decreased slightly in the 2016/17 financial year. Deferred and pensioner members are on an upward trend as expected.

Overall membership number has consistently risen over the last seven years as expected and projected to continue to grow into the future as new employers are

admitted into the Fund and as more staff move into the deferred and pensioner groups.

The table below shows the breakdown of membership between active members, deferred and pensions.



A schedule of the membership from each of the employers is shown below:

	Active Member	Deferred	Pensioners and Dependant	Employee Contribution s	Employer Contribution s
	s	Beneficiaries	S	£	£
Scheduled Bodies					
Haringey Council	4460	7823	6827	6,735,454	26,764,737
Haringey Magistrates	0	18	20	0	0
College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London	175	261	145	268,997	1,290,672
Greig City Academy	57	30	5	75,342	237,016
Homes for Haringey	526	240	225	1,192,324	4,714,189
John Loughborough School	0	11	8	0	0
Fortismere School	46	31	8	84,952	273,028
Alexandra Park School	74	20	8	88,849	357,588
Woodside School	70	6	3	96,178	324,563
Eden School	15	4	0	14,985	48,461
Harris Academy Coleraine	38	11	1	28,589	111,158.73
Harris Academy Philip Lane	34	10	3	20,652	83,458
AET Trinity Primary	29	6	2	24,244	104,508

AET Noel Park	51	6	2	48,098	187,350
Haringey 6th Form Centre	51	18	2	59,991	201,416
St Pauls & All Hallows Infants Academy	23	3	1	17,430	66,673
St Pauls & All Hallows Junior Academy	13	3	0	6,735	26,758
St Michaels N22 Academy	18	7	2	8,500	33,153
St Ann CE Academy	14	6	4	9,523	41,928
Holy Trinity CE Academy	10	4	0	9,653	35,618
Brook House Primary (formally Hartsbrook)	32	5	0	21,371	53,813
St Thomas More School	36	6	5	48,583	204,720
Heartlands High School	80	22	0	99,066	380,853
Milbrook Park Primary School	13	0	0	11,654	45,959
Harris Academy Tottenham	6	0	0	10,765	47,431
The Octagon	15	0	0	25,684	88,437
Scheduled Bodies Sub Total	5,886	8,551	7,271	9,007,620	35,723,487
Admitted Bodies					
Haringey Age UK	0	2	18	0	604,269
CSS (Haringey ) Ltd	0	25	55	0	0
Haringey Citizen					00.040
Advice Bureau	3	0	9	6,380	89,040
Jarvis Workspace Ltd Alexandra Palace	0	20	21	0	0
Trading Co. Urban Futures London	2	7	13	5,579	110,311
Ltd	2	7	2	11,830	52,000
Enterprise (formerly Accord) Ltd	0	38	44	0	0
Capita Business Services	0	0	0	0	0
Mittie (formerly Trident ) Securities Ltd	0	0	2	0	0
Initial Catering Ltd	0	1	1	0	0
OCS Group Ltd	0	1	1	0	0
Harrisons Catering	0	1	2	0	0
R M Education PLC	0	3	0	0	0
TLC At Cooperscroft (formerly Rokeley Dene)	7	11	7	8,407	37,027
Ontime Parking					
Solution	0	3	1	0	0
Europa	0	0	1	0	0
Veolia	83	37	26	148,179	605,526
Churchills	1	1	2	732	3,049
Fusion Lifestyle Cofely Workplace Limited(formally Balfour Beatty	25	35	5	18,661	72,336
Workforce)	5	19	19	12,342	54,936

Grand Total	6,167	8,769	7,508	9,341,396	37,908,363
Total	201	210	231	333,110	۵,10 <del>4</del> ,070
Admitted Bodies Total	281	218	237	333,776	2,184,876
Hillcrest Cleaning Chestnuts	2	0	0	1,098	4,970
Chains	1	0	0	715	3,444
Primary Pabulum St Peter in	3	0	0	1,356	6,864
Pabulum Tetherdown Pabulum Alexandra		0	U	2,153	11,967
School Pabulum Tetherdown	3	0	0	1,359	6,647
Pabulum Belmont					
Pabulum Earlham School	2	0	2	1,267	11,217
Harringay	4	0	1	2,863	13,917
Porres Pabulum South	2	0	0	1,697	8,906
Vianney Pabulum St Martin de	2	1	0	1,765	7,082
Primary Pabulum St John	3	0	0	2,277	10,586
Pabulum Lea Valley					
K M Cleaning	5	0	0	3,121	17,820
Amey Community Ltd	66	1	3	53,388	235,543
Lunchtime Earlsmead	3	0	0	1,694	10,413
Lunchtime Welbourne	4	0	0	2,666	11,099
Lunchtime Seven Sisters	2	1	0	3,641	13,611
Technical College	9	0	0	9,363	34,465
All Hallows School Totteham University	5	0	0	2,728	12,068
School Caterlink St Pauls and	3	0	0	2,055	9,027
Caterlink St Michaels					
Caterlink Holy Trinity School	1	1	0	1,254	5,224
Rokesly School	3	0	0	2,533	8,468
School Absolutely Catering	2	0	0	47	273
ISS Crowland School Superclean Willow	1	0	0	0	1,340
School	2	1	0	0	(
Caterlink Bruce Grove					
ABM Muswell Hill	1	1	0	1,300	6,313
ABM Weston Park School	2	0	0	1,849	7,698
Green School	4	0	0	2,981	13,743
School Lunchtime Bounds	3	0	0	2,716	14,361
RC School Lunchtime Ferry Lane	2	0	1	2,293	10,319
Lunchtime St Pauls					
Lunchtime St Marys School	3	1	1	6,942	39,903
Lunchtime St Francis De Sales School	5	0	0	3,129	12,965
School	2	0	0	1,416	6,134

# **Investment Policy and Performance Report**

Investment Strategy

Responsible Investment

**Fund Managers** 

**Investment Performance** 

Market Developments 2016/17

# **Investment Strategy**

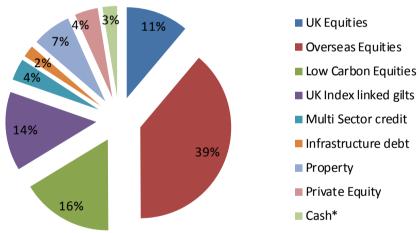
The Pension Fund's investment strategy is formulated within the parameters of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

The Pensions Committee and Board is responsible for setting the investment strategy with the aid of independent advice from the Pension Fund's advisers. Day to day investment decisions are delegated to fund managers.

The strategy is set out in detail in the Investment Strategy Statement, which is shown in Appendix 3 to this report. All investments were externally managed, with the exception of a small allocation of cash used to meet benefit payments, which was held in-house.

The current strategic asset allocation includes allocations to passively managed equity, index linked gilts, multi sector credit, private equity, infrastructure debt, and UK property. Further allocations to UK long lease property and renewable energy funds were agreed in 2016/17, however the investments had not been funded as at 31st March 2017. The actual asset allocation as at 31st March 2017 is illustrated by the below chart.

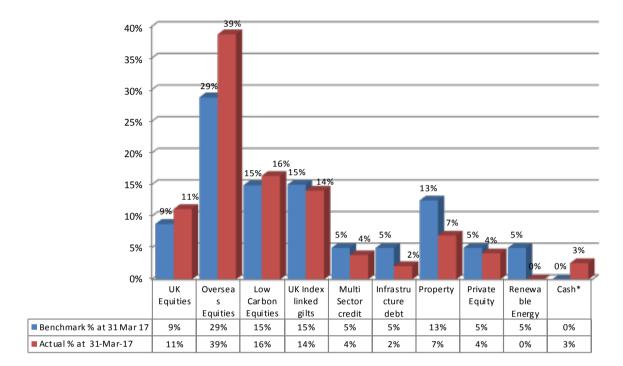
# Asset Allocation at 31 Mar 17



\*Excludes cash held by Haringey Council

The Fund's benchmark showing target asset allocation during 2016/17 is shown below, alongside the actual allocation of the Fund's investments at 31st March 2017.

The financial statements show that the Fund is invested in pooled funds and the breakdown in the table below shows the allocation of the underlying holdings.



Asset Class - Benchmark vs Actual

#### **Custodial Arrangements**

The Council employs Northern Trust to act as independent custodian of the Pension Fund's investments. As professional custodians, they employ a rigorous system of controls to ensure the safekeeping of assets entrusted to them. The custodian is responsible for the settlement of all day-to-day investment transactions, collection of investment income and the safe custody of the Pension Fund's investments.

<sup>\*</sup>Excludes cash held by Haringey Council

# Responsible Investment

The Pension Fund believes that the adoption by companies of positive Environmental, Social and Governance principles can enhance their long term performance and increase their financial returns. These issues are of concern to the Fund because it is considered that companies who do not have regard for the social and environmental impact of their business, or who conduct their business in a way which is not sustainable over the longer term are in danger of adversely affecting the future prospects of the company, and potentially the company's long term share price.

Due to the need to prioritise fiduciary duty, the Fund does not participate in stock screening or exclusionary approaches. Instead the Fund seeks to influence the behaviour of companies through engagement. This engagement is undertaken through the following parties:

- The Fund's investment managers
- Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF)
- National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF)

The Fund maintains membership of the LAPFF and the NAPF in order that engagement can be undertaken on its behalf.

In addition to this, all but one of the Fund's managers are signatories to the 'United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment' initiative.

At each committee meeting the Pensions Committee and Board receive reports on the engagement activity undertaken on behalf of the Fund, by the fund managers in relation to voting alerts from LAPFF, covering environmental issues, governance and remuneration and all other responsible investment issues.

# **Fund Managers**

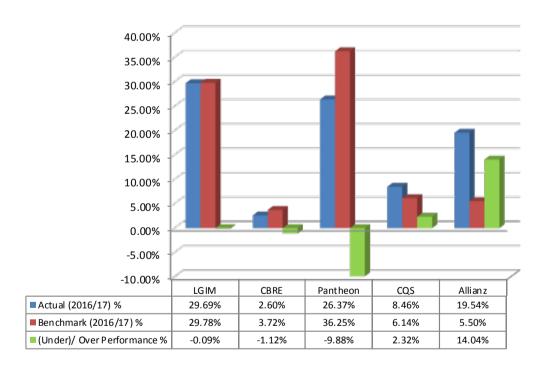
The Pension Fund has appointed external fund managers to undertake day to day management of the Fund's investments. Each fund manager is appointed with a mandate covering a defined asset class or classes with a target set that relates to a benchmark covering the asset class or classes they are managing. The fund managers in place during the 2016/17, the asset classes they cover, their percentage of the Fund's investments at 31st March 2017 and targets are shown in the table below (the remaining 3% was invested cash):

Investment Manager	Mandate	Asset Class	Passiv e /Active	Benchmark	Target (3 Yr Rolling Period)	Strategic Allocatio n	Allocation at 31 Mar 2017
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	UK Equities	Passive	FTSE All Share	Benchmark	8.8%	11.1%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	North American Equities	Passive	FT World Developed North America GBP Unhedged	Benchmark	12.7%	17.4%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	European Equities	Passive	FT World Developed Europe ex UK GBP Unhedged	Benchmark	4.3%	5.7%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	Japanese Equities	Passive	FT World Developed Japan GBP Unhedged	Benchmark	2.0%	2.5%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	Pacific ex Japan Equities	Passive	FT World Developed ex Japan GBP Unhedged	Benchmark	2.0%	2.6%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	Emerging Markets Equities	Passive	FT World Global Emerging Markets GBP Unhedged	Benchmark	7.8%	10.6%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	Global Low Carbon Equities	Passive	MSCI World Low Carbon Target Index	Benchmark	14.9%	16.4%
LGIM	Passive Global Equities & Bonds	Index Linked Gilts	Passive	FTA Index Linked Over 5 Years Index	Benchmark	15.0%	14.0%
CBRE	Property	Property	Active	HSBC/APUT Balance Funds Index	+1% (Gross) of Fees p.a	7.5%	6.9%
Pantheon	Private Equity	Private Equity	Active	MSCI World Index plus 3.5%	Benchmark	5.0%	4.1%
CQS	Multi Sector Credit	Multi Sector Credit	Active	LIBOR plus 5%	Benchmark	7.0%	3.9%

Allianz	Infrastructure Debt	Infrastructure Debt	Active	5.50%	Benchmark	3.0%	2.1%
Aviva*	Long lease UK Property	Long lease UK Property	Active	50% FTSE Actuaries 5- 15 Year Gilt Index, 50% FTSE 15 year + GiltIndex plus 1.5%	Benchmark	5.0%	0.0%
Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners*	Renewable Energy	Renewable Energy	Active	10.00%	Benchmark	2.5%	0.0%
Blackrock*	Renewable Energy	Renewable Energy	Active	10.00%	Benchmark	2.5%	0.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Investment had not yet begun with these fund managers as at 31 March 2017

All of the five fund managers who had active investments in the year achieved positive returns, with three of the managers achieving returns of around 20% or higher. The largest contributor to performance was the strong equity performance within the LGIM portfolio coupled with the exchange rate movements following the Brexit vote.



Fund Manager Performance Against Benchmark

ALLIANZ (Infrastructure Debt) – The manager outperformed benchmark in the year by 14%. As at March 2017, 52% of allocation had been invested in a total of four assets, which included a road, a port and two university halls of residence. The manager has a pipeline of assets that are being explored and has completed on an acquisition for a further road project in May 2017 with more to come.

CBRE – The manager achieved positive returns of 2.6% in the year which was less than the target of 3.72%. The CBRE portfolio was reduced slightly to 7% of the

overall portfolio so holdings were sold in the year to make funds available to fund the infrastructure debt, private equity and renewable energy portfolios.

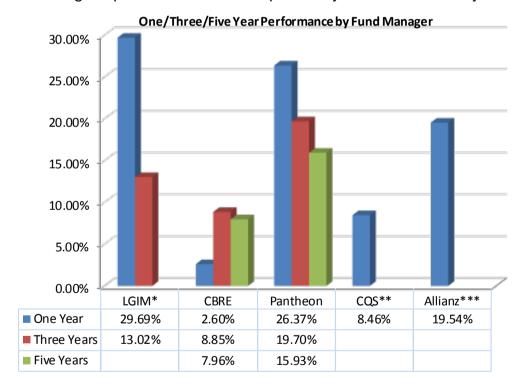
CQS – The multi sector credit portfolio performed well outperforming benchmark by 2.32%, this made up for performance that lagged behind benchmark in the previous financial year. CQS has a defensive style of investment which should help to reduce the volatility in the value of the fund's assets.

**LGIM** (Passive Equity) – The manager performed broadly in line with target as expected as the portfolio is invested passively. Equity markets delivered strong returns in 2016/17, and the holdings in non-Sterling denominated currencies which are around 80% of all equities gained in value relative to Sterling following the Brexit vote in June 2016.

**LGIM** (Indexed Linked Bonds) - The manager performed in line with target as expected.

**PANTHEON** – the private equity manager delivered a significant positive return of 26.37% in the year, this was below the manager's benchmark of 36.25%. The manager has also underperformed benchmark in the medium term, however has consistently delivered double digit returns which have benefited the fund.

Fund managers' performance over the past five years is illustrated by the below chart.

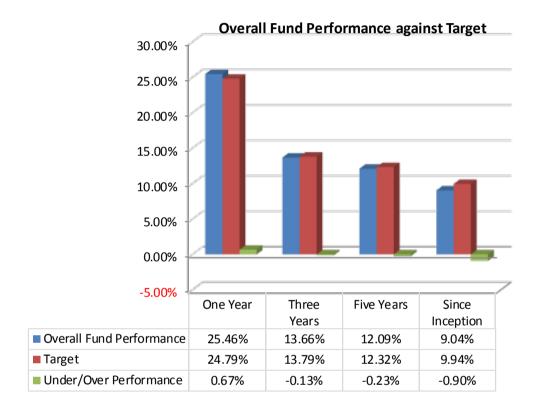


 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  Commenced May 2012;  $^{\star\star}$  Commenced Dec 2014;  $^{\star\star\star}$  Commenced Aug 2014

#### Investment Performance

The investment performance of the Pension Fund and the fund managers is regularly reviewed by Committee members. Performance reports to compare actual performance against the targets set for the fund managers are provided to and discussed by the Committee quarterly.

The overall Pension Fund performance is summarised in the table below. All figures shown are annualised performance figures over the various periods to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.



# Market Developments 2016/17

# JOHN RAISIN FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

#### **Independent Advisors Report**

#### Market Background 2016-17

In contrast to recent years it was political events which dominated market related headlines rather than the actions of the Central Banks, although these still remained to the fore. At the end of June 2016 markets were shocked by the 52% to 48% vote to leave in the United Kingdom referendum vote on membership of the European Union. Markets were again shocked in November 2016 by the election of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States. Notwithstanding these events 2016-17 did not see a large scaling back of the ultraloose monetary policy and interventionistapproach of the major Central Banks. Overall, during the 2016-17 financial year neither the UK referendum vote or Donald Trump's election caused significant adverse effects on markets while the actions of the Central Banks continued to support equities. Indeed, overall and in contrast to the previous financial year 2016-17 saw significant gains in Listed Equity Markets across the world.

On 24 June 2016 markets were taken by complete surprise by the UK vote to leave the European Union. Sterling immediately fell from \$1.49 on 23 June to \$1.37 on 24 June and to \$1.29 by 6 July. October 2016 saw further declines with a rate of \$1.22 by mid October. On 31 March 2017 the rate was \$1.25 a fall of 15% since the referendum.

Immediately following the referendum result the FTSE 100 index of large blue chip companies lost more than 8% in the first few minutes of trading. Prospects of increased overseas earnings as a result of a weaker £ however quickly benefitted the FTSE 100 with the initial losses quickly reversed and the index ending more than 5% up over the month of June. By 31 March 2017 the FTSE 100 Index was up over 15% from its closing figure on 23 June 2016 and 19% from 31 March 2016.

The more domestically focused FTSE 250 initially suffered greatly following the Brexit vote and was 6% down at 30 June 2016 compared to 23 June. However, the FTSE 250 rapidly recovered and by early August was above its pre Brexit level. By 31 March 2017 the FTSE 250 was up over 9% from its closing figure on 23 June 2016 and 12% from 31 March 2016. The FTSE All Share index increased by 18% over the financial year and by 15% between the EU Referendum and the financial year end.

The recovery in UK Listed Equities was aided by the decision, on 4 August 2016, by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee which, having concluded that Brexit would likely both increase inflation and weaken the economy, further loosened monetary policy by cutting the Base Rate from 0.5% to 0.25% and expanded Quantitative Easing through a new asset purchase programme. Inflation increased significantly during the year rising from 0.3% in April 2016 to 2.3% by March 2017 as a result of both increased oil prices and the weakness of the

£ following the EU referendum vote. Unemployment during 2016-17 fell however from 5.1% to 4.6%. Gross Domestic Product increased 2.0% over the financial year.

The United States experienced another year of generally positive economic activity. Unemployment fell from 5% in March 2016 to 4.5% by March 2017 its lowest level since June 2007. Average hourly earnings for all employees rose by 2.75% over the 12 months ending in March 2017 compared to 2.25% over the 12 months to March 2016. Personal consumption data/consumer spending was positive throughout 2016-17. Consumer sentiment (as measured by the authoritative University of Michigan Surveys of Consumers) began the year very positive and became even more positive. Investment by business was in the words of the US Federal Reserve "soft" for much of 2016-17 but "firmed" particularly in the period January-March 2017. Taking account of developments in the US economy and in particular "realized and expected labor market conditions and inflation" the US Federal Reserve's interest rate setting Committee, the Federal Open Markets Committee, raised interest rates by 0.25% at both its December 2016 and March 2017 meetings. This did not however signal a major scaling back of loose monetary policy by the US Federal Reserve as it continued the policy of maintaining the bond holdings from the huge Quantitative Easing programme of 2009 to 2014 and continued to reinvest principal payments from these investments.

During the first half of 2016-17 the S&P 500 index continued to move generally upwards and by 30 September 2016 was over 5% higher than at 31 March 2016. On 8 November 2016, the United States went to the polls to elect a new President. As with the Brexit vote of June 2016 markets were taken by surprise by the victory of Donald Trump. However, market perception of President- Elect Trump's stance as pro-business and reflationary as a result of his proposals for deregulation, lower corporate taxes and increased infrastructure spending resulted in a rally in US equities. By 25 November 2016 the S&P 500 had reached a record high of 2,213. On 1 March 2017, the S&P reached a new closing high of 2,396. During March 2017 however market sentiment was dampened by the failure of President Trump to persuade Congress to replace the Affordable Healthcare Act passed under President Barack Obama. Notwithstanding this however, the index closed on 31 March 2017 at 2,363 an increase of almost 15% over the financial year.

The Eurozone continued, in 2016-17, to experience a strengthening, but limited, economic recovery aided by the continuation of the European Central Bank's huge stimulus programme. In the Eurozone as a whole the unemployment rate fell to 9.5% in March 2017 compared to 10.2% in March 2016 thereby reaching its lowest level since April 2009. The Eurozone Composite Purchasing Manager's Index survey of private sector activity, which is a leading indicator for economic growth, reached a six year high in March 2017. Seasonally adjusted Gross Domestic Product increased across the Eurozone by 1.9% during 2016-17 almost matching the United States which achieved 2.0%. Although headline inflation in the Eurozone was 1.5% compared to 0% a year earlier core inflation (which excludes energy and food) was little changed from a year previously. European Listed Equities enjoyed a clearly positive year during 2016-17.

In 2016-17, the huge monetary stimulus and attempts at reform undertaken in Japan since 2013 following the introduction of "Abenomics" seemed potentially justified with Japan recording its longest run of sustained growth in more than a decade. Growth for January to March 2017 was an annualized 2.2%, making five quarters of continuous expansion in Gross Domestic Product. A further positive sign came from an increase in consumer spending of

approaching 1%. Headline inflation remained stubbornly lowhowever at 0.2%. The Nikkei 225 index increased by over 15% over the financial year

A continuing environment of limited GDP growth, generally continued lowinflation, geopolitical uncertainty and continued loose monetary policy by the major central banks maintained Benchmark Government Bonds at generally very low yields. Although both the Japanese and German 10 year benchmarks increased slightly during the year they closed at 31 March 2017 at the extremely low yields of 0.07% and 0.33% respectively. The benchmark 10 year UK Gilt reduced from 1.54% to 1.14% during the financial year with the UK decision to leave the European Union and the subsequent loosening of monetary policy by the Bank of England both supporting Gilts. In contrast the 10 year US Treasury yield increased from 1.77% to 2.39% over the financial year with President Trump's plans for large scale fiscal expansion a key influence.

John Raisin Financial Services Limited
Independent Advisor
10 July 2017

John Raisin Financial Services Limited

Company Number 7049666 registered in England and Wales.

Registered Office 130 Goldington Road, Bedford, MK40 3EA

VAT Registration Number 990 8211 06

"Strategic and Operational Support for Pension Funds and their Stakeholders" www.jrfspensions.com

# Scheme Administration Report

- Local Government Pension Scheme
- Administration Service Delivery
- Communications Policy
- Pensions Administration Strategy

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The Haringey Pension Fund is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which is a statutory scheme with defined benefits based on membership and final pay and guaranteed by law. The benefits are set out in the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2013 and Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional, Provision Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014. Haringey Pension Fund cannot make changes to the scheme, and may only exercise such discretions as are prescribed by the LGPS regulations.

Membership is open to the non-teaching employees of the Administering Authority, all scheduled bodies and certain admitted bodies until the day before age 75. From April 2014, the benefit structure changed from a final salary scheme to career average revalued earnings based scheme, with changes to the accrual rate and to align the normal retirement date with the age at which the state pension commences.

# **Administration Service Delivery**

The Haringey Council Pension Service is composed of two streams of work: investments and accounting and pension administration.

The Pension Administration service calculates and pays pension benefits, maintains a database of members and is responsible for the interpretation and implementation of the Local Government Pension Scheme regulations and related legislation.

The service operates in accordance with their professional standards and within the regulations laid down by the Local Government Pension Scheme.

#### Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure

Members of pension schemes have statutory rights to ensure that complaints, queries and problems concerning pension rights are properly resolved.

To facilitate this process, an Internal Disputes Resolution Procedure has been established. In the first instance, members are expected to take up matters with the Pensions Manager, Janet Richards at the following address:

Level 9 Alexandra House 10 Station Road Wood Green London N22 7LR

Alternatively email janet.richards@haringey.gov.uk. If the matter remains unresolved, a stage 1 appeal may be made to the Head of Human Resources and thereafter, if necessary a further appeal may be made to Bernie Ryan, Assistant Director, Corporate Governance at

Level 5 River Park House 225 High Road

Wood Green London N22 8HQ

If the problem remains unresolved, members then have the facility to refer the matter to The Pensions Advisory Service (TPAS) which has a network of pension advisers who will try to resolve problems before they are referred on to the Pensions Ombudsman. However, the TPAS service may be invoked at any stage of the appeal process. Both TPAS and the Pensions Ombudsman can be contacted at:

11 Belgrave Road London SW1V 1RB

The statutory body responsible for the regulation of pension schemes in the United Kingdom is The Pensions Regulator and can be contacted at the following address:

The Pensions Regulator Napier House Trafalgar Place Brighton BN1 4DW

A central tracing agency exists to help individuals keep track of deferred pension entitlements from previous employers' pension schemes. An application for a search can be submitted to:

Pension Tracing Service The Pension Service Whitley Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE98 1BA

The Haringey Pension Fund's details are registered with the tracing agency.

#### <u>Further information</u>

For information about the Scheme generally, further information about resolving disputes, or an individual's entitlement to benefit, please refer to the Employees guide, which can be found on the council's website (details below) or contact the Pensions Team. at

Level 9 Alexandra House 10 Station Road Wood Green London N22 7LR

telephone 020 8489 5916 or refer to the Council's website: www.haringey.gov.uk/pensionfund

# Communications Policy

Effective communication between the Administering Authority, the scheme members, and the employers within the Fund is essential to the proper management of the Local Government Pension Scheme on a transparent and accountable basis.

The current policy, which has been prepared in accordance with the LGPS regulatory requirement is attached in Appendix 4, and sets out the policy framework within which the Pension Fund communicates with:

- Members of the scheme;
- Representatives of scheme members;
- Employing bodies; and,
- Prospective scheme members.

It identifies the format, frequency and method of distributing information and publicity. It also outlines the processes for promoting the scheme to prospective members and employing bodies.

The Communications Policy includes the provision of a pension's page on the Haringey website <a href="www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk">www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk</a>. This facility enables staff to access information about the Local Government Pension Scheme in their own home with families and partners who may also have an interest in the benefits of the scheme.

# Pensions Administration Strategy

The Fund implemented a Pensions Administration Strategy Statement on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011, following consultation with the employers participating in the Fund and approval by Committee.

This statement sets out the performance standards expected of the Council in its role of Administering Authority for the Fund and those expected of employers participating in the scheme. It seeks to promote good working relationships, improve efficiency and ensure quality of service and data. It sets out details of how performance will be monitored and what action might be taken in the event of persistent failure.

During the financial year 2016/17 no formal action has been taken against any employers. The only breaches of the performance standards have been minor and have been dealt with informally.

The Pensions Administration Strategy Statement can be found on the Haringey Pension Fund website <a href="https://www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk">www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk</a>

# **Actuarial Funding Report**

- Funding Position
- Funding Strategy Statement
- Statement of the Fund Actuary

# **Funding Position**

The Pension Fund is independently valued every three years by a firm of actuaries to assess the adequacy of the Fund's assets to meet its long term obligations.

The most recent triennial actuarial valuation of the Fund was carried out as at 31 March 2016 in a report dated 29 March 2017.

The 2016 valuation was carried out in accordance with the Fund's Funding Strategy Statement and Guidelines GN9: Funding Defined Benefits – Presentation of Actuarial Advice published by the Board for Actuarial Standards. The resulting contribution rates reflected the cost of providing year by year accrual of benefits for the active members and the level of funding for each employer's past service liabilities.

The market value of the Fund at the time of the last triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016 was £1,046m. Against this sum liabilities were identified of £1,323m equivalent to a funding deficit of £277m. The movement in the actuarial deficit between 2013 and the last valuation in 2016 is analysed below:

Reason for change	£m
Interest on deficit	(53)
Contributions greater than cost of accrual	13
Investment returns higher than expected	67
Change in demographic assumptions	6
Change in base mortality assumptions	17
Actual membership higher than expected	57
Experience items	1
Change in financial assumptions	(17)
Total	91

The level of funding on an ongoing funding basis increased to 79% from 70% between the triennial actuarial valuations as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 and as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. The main reason for the improved position was improved investment returns and membership experiences that were better than projected.

The funding objective of the Fund is to be fully funded. As this objective had not been achieved at the last valuation date it was agreed with the actuary that the past service deficit would be recovered over a period not exceeding 20 years. Further information about the principles for achieving full funding is set out in the Funding Strategy Statement in Appendix 5.

Following the valuation as at 31 March 2016, the actuary agreed that the Council's contribution rate should increase by approximately 1.5% over a three year period from April 2017, from 24.9% in 2016/17 (made up of 17.1% of pensionable salaries in 2016/17 plus a cash amount of £8.6m to cover past service deficit), to 26.4% in 2019/20 (17.1% plus a cash amount of £10.2m in 2019/20).

The main assumptions used in the 2016 valuation were:

Investments

Annual nominal rate of return

%

Discount rate

4.0

Annual change %

Pay increases 2.8 Price Increases (pension increases) 2.1

# **Funding Strategy Statement**

The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations require Local Government Pension Funds to prepare, publish and maintain a Funding Strategy Statement in accordance with guidance issued by CIPFA.

The purposes of a Funding Strategy Statement are:

- to establish a clear and transparent fund-specific strategy which will identify how employers' pension liabilities are best met going forward;
- to support the regulatory framework to maintain as nearly constant employer contribution rates as possible; and,
- to take a prudent longer-term view of funding those liabilities.

The Funding Strategy Statement is reviewed in detail every three years alongside the triennial valuation. It is reviewed in collaboration with the Pension Fund's actuary, and after consultation with the Pension Fund's employers and investment advisers. The current statement was reviewed and agreed in March 2017.

The objectives of the Funding policy set out in the Statement are:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of the Fund (and of the share of the Fund notionally allocated to individual employers);
- to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet all benefits as they fall due for payment;
- not to restrain unnecessarily the investment strategy of the Fund so that the Administering Authority can seek to maximise investment returns (and hence minimise the cost of the benefits) for an appropriate level of risk;
- to help employers recognise and manage pension liabilities as they accrue:
- to minimise the degree of short-term change in the level of each employer's contributions where the Administering Authority considers it reasonable to do so;
- to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the Council Tax payer from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations;
- to address the different characteristics of the disparate employers or groups of employers to the extent that this is practical and costeffective; and
- to maintain the affordability of the Fund to employers as far as is reasonable over the longer term.

The policy is shown in full in Appendix 5.

# Statement of Fund Actuary

#### Introduction

CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2016/17 requires Administering Authorities of LGPS funds that prepare pension fund accounts to disclose what IAS26 refers to as the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. I have been instructed by the Administering Authority to provide the necessary information for the London Borough of Haringey Pension Fund ("the Fund").

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is to be calculated similarly to the Defined Benefit Obligation under IAS19. There are three options for its disclosure in the pension fund accounts:

- showing the figure in the Net Assets Statement, in which case it requires the statement to disclose the resulting surplus or deficit;
- as a note to the accounts; or
- by reference to this information in an accompanying actuarial report.

If an actuarial valuation has not been prepared at the date of the financial statements, IAS26 requires the most recent valuation to be used as a base and the date of the valuation disclosed. The valuation should be carried out using assumptions in line with IAS19 and not the Fund's funding assumptions.

#### Present value of promised retirement benefits

Year ended	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
Active members (£m)	666	719
Deferred members (£m)	515	371
Pensioners (£m)	668	501
Total (£m)	1,849	1,590

The promised retirement benefits have been projected using a roll forward approximation from the latest formal funding valuation as at 31 March 2016. The approximation involved in the roll forward model means that the split of benefits between the three classes of member may not be reliable. However, I am satisfied that the total figure is a reasonable estimate of the actuarial present value of benefit promises.

The above figures include both vested and non-vested benefits, although the latter is assumed to have a negligible value. Further, I have not made any allowance for unfunded benefits.

It should be noted the above figures are appropriate for the Administering Authority only for preparation of the pension fund accounts. They should not be used for any other purpose (i.e. comparing against liability measures on a funding basis or a cessation basis).

#### Assumptions

The assumptions used are those adopted for the Administering Authority's IAS19 report and are different as at 31 March 2017 and 31 March 2016. I estimate that the impact of the change in financial assumptions to 31 March 2017 is to increase the actuarial present value by £265m. I estimate that the impact of the change in demographic and longevity assumptions is to decrease the actuarial present value by £34m.

Financial assumptions

Year ended (% p.a.)	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
Pension Increase Rate	2.4%	2.2%
Salary Increase Rate	3.0%	4.2%
Discount Rate	2.6%	3.5%

#### Longevity assumptions

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2013 model, assuming the current rate of improvements has reached a peak and will converge to long term rate of 1.25% p.a. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current pensioners	21.8 years	24.1 years
Future pensioners (assumed to be aged 45 at the latest formal valuation)	23.8 years	26.0 years

Please note that the longevity assumptions have changed since the previous IAS26 disclosure for the Fund.

#### Commutation assumptions

An allowance is included for future retirements to elect to take 50% of the maximum additional tax-free cash up to HMRC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 75% of the maximum tax-free cash for post-April 2008 service.

#### Sensitivity Analysis

CIPFA guidance requires the disclosure of the sensitivity of the results to the methods and assumptions used. The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the liabilities are set out below:

Sensitivity to the assumptions for the year ended 31 March 2017	Approximate % increase to liabilities	Approximate monetary amount (£m)
0.5% p.a. increase in the Pension Increase Rate	8%	145
0.5% p.a. increase in the Salary Increase Rate	2%	32
0.5% p.a. decrease in the Real Discount Rate	10%	180

The principal demographic assumption is the longevity assumption. For sensitivity purposes, I estimate that a 1 year increase in life expectancy would approximately increase the liabilities by around 3-5%.

#### Professional notes

This paper accompanies my covering report titled 'Actuarial Valuation as at 31 March 2017 for accounting purposes'. The covering report identifies the appropriate reliances and limitations for the use of the figures in this paper, together with further details regarding the professional requirements and assumptions.

Douglas Green FFA

27 April 2017

For and on behalf of Hymans Robertson LLP

Dough a

# Financial Report

- Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities
- Appendix 1 Pension Fund Accounts and Auditor's Report

### Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

The financial statements are the responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer. Pension scheme regulations require that audited financial statements for each Scheme year are made available to Scheme members, beneficiaries and certain other parties, which:

"show a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Scheme during the Scheme year and of the amount and disposition at the end of that year of the assets and liabilities, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the Scheme year, in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom".

The Chief Financial Officer has supervised the preparation of the financial statements and has, agreed suitable accounting policies, to be applied consistently, making any estimates and judgments on a prudent and reasonable basis.

The Chief Financial Officer is also responsible for making available certain other information about the Scheme in the form of an Annual Report.

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for ensuring that records are kept in respect of contributions received in respect of any active member of the Scheme and for monitoring whether contributions are made to the Scheme by the Administering Authority and other participating bodies by the due dates.

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information of the Scheme included on the Authority's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Chief Financial Officer also has a general responsibility for ensuring that adequate accounting records are kept and for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Scheme and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities, including the maintenance of an appropriate system of internal control.

#### Statement of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that the financial statements set out in Appendix 1 have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out below and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Pension Fund at the reporting date and of its expenditure and income for the year ended 31st March 2017.

Clive Heaphy, FCPFA CFO and S151 Officer

25 September 2017

# **Appendices**

### Current approved versions of key policy statements

- 1. Pension Fund Accounts 2016/17 and Auditors Report
- 2. Governance Compliance Statement
- 3. Investment Strategy Statement
- 4. Communications Policy
- 5. Funding Strategy Statement

# **Appendices**

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY

We have examined the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2017, which comprise the pension fund account, the net assets statement and the related notes.

This report is made solely to the members of the Council of London Borough of Haringey in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies within Chapter 2 of the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office in April 2015. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's statement and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Council and the Council's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Respective responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer and the auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund's 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, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the pension fund financial statements within the pension fund annual report with the pension fund financial statements in the statement of accounts of the London Borough of Haringey, and its compliance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

We also read the other information contained in the pension fund annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the pension fund financial statements. The other information consists only of the introduction, management and financial performance report, investment policy and performance report, scheme administration report, actuarial funding report, financial report and appendices.

We conducted our work in accordance with Auditor Guidance Note 07 Auditor Reporting issued by the National Audit Office. Our report on the administering authority's full annual statement of accounts describes the basis of our opinions on those financial statements.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the pension fund financial statements are consistent with the full annual statement of accounts of the London Borough of Haringey for the year ended 31 March 2017 and comply with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

Leigh Lloyd-Thomas

BDO LLP

For and on behalf of BDO LLP, Appointed Auditor

London, UK

30 September 2017

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127)

2016/17	Pension Fund Account	Note	2015/16
£000			£000
	Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the fund		
47,249	Contributions	7	43,851
2,839	Transfers in from other pension funds	8	1,741
50,088			45,592
(47,223)	Benefits	9	(44,321)
(3,662)	Payments to and on account of leavers	10	(3,790)
(50,885)			(48,111)
(797)	Net withdrawals from dealings with members		(2,519)
(4,646)	Management expenses	11	(4,415)
(5,443)	Net withdrawals including fund management expenses		(6,934)
	Returns on Investments:		
4,146	Investment Income	12	4,675
(4)	Taxes on income	13	(25)
262,508	Profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in market value of investments	14a	3,206
266,650	Net return on investments		7,856
261,207	Net increase in the net assets available for benefits during the year		922
1,046,277	Opening net assets of the scheme		1,045,355
1,307,484	Closing net assets of the scheme		1,046,277

	31/03/17	Net Asset Statement	Note	31/03/16 restated
	£000			£000
		Long Term Investments		
	150	London CIV	_	150
	150			150
		Current Investments		
	1,275,186	Investment assets	14a	1,024,883
	33,907	Cash deposits	14b	20,694
	1,309,093			1,045,577
	1,488	Current assets	21	2,140
	(3,247)	Current liabilities	22	(1,590)
•	1,307,484	Net assets of the fund available to fund benefits at the period end	•	1,046,277

The Fund's financial statements do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the year end. The actuarial present value of promised benefits is disclosed at note 20.

# Notes to the Haringey Pension Fund Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2017

# 1. Description of the fund and effect of any changes during the period

#### Introduction

Haringey Local Government Pension Fund is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme and is administered by Haringey Council. The Council is the reporting entity for this pension fund. However, the Fund is separately managed by the Council acting in its role as Administering Authority and its accounts are separate from the Council's accounts. The following description of the fund is for summary only. For more detail, reference should be made to Haringey Council Annual Pension Fund Report and Accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 (as amended) and Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and with the guidelines set out in the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2016/17, which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards as amended for the UK public sector. The fund is administered in accordance with the following secondary legislation:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016

The Net Asset Statement sets out the assets and liabilities for the Fund as at 31st March 2017.

#### **Investments and Statement of Investment Principles**

The Pension Fund's investment strategy is formulated within the parameters of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

The Pensions Committee and Board is responsible for setting investment strategy with the aid of independent advice from the Pension Fund's advisers. Day to day investment decisions are delegated to fund managers.

The strategy is set out in detail in the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS), (previously the Statement of Investment Principles), which is published in the Pension Fund Annual Report. The ISS is regularly updated to reflect any changes made to investment management arrangements and reports the extent of compliance with the Myners principles of investment. All investments are externally managed, with the exception of a small allocation of cash required for the payment of benefits, which is managed internally. The Fundawarded two new mandates in 2016/17, one to a long lease property fund to Aviva, and a renewable energy mandate to Blackrock and Copenhagen Investment Partners. Neither of these mandates were funded as at 31st March 2017.

#### Fund administration and membership

At 31st March 2017, there were 6,167 (2016: 6,229) active fund memberships with employees contributing to the Fund and 7,508 (2016: 7,304) pensioner and dependent memberships with individuals receiving benefits. There were also 8,769 (2016: 8,519) deferred pensioner memberships. Some individuals have multiple memberships due to having had multiple contracts of employment with fund employers.

Appendix 1 - Pension Fund Accounts 2016/17 and Auditors Report

Employees in the following organisations, in addition to Council staff contribute to and accordingly benefit from the fund.

#### <u>Transferee Admission Bodies:</u>

- Cofely Workplace Limited
- Churchill Contract Services
- Fusion Lifestyle
- Urban Futures London Limited
- Veolia Environmental Services (UK) PLC
- Lunchtime UK Limited (nine school contracts)
- ABM (two school contracts)
- Caterlink (four school contracts)
- Absolutely Catering
- Cooperscroft Care Home
- Superclean Services
- ISS Catering
- K M Cleaning
- Tottenham UTC
- Amey Community Limited
- Pabulum (nine school contracts)
- Hillcrest Cleaning

#### **Community Admission Bodies:**

- Alexandra Palace Trading Co Limited
- Haringey Citizens Advice Bureau

#### **Scheduled Bodies:**

- Homes for Haringey
- College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London
- Greig City Academy
- Fortismere School
- Alexandra Park Academy
- Woodside Academy
- Eden Free School

- Harris Academy Coleraine
- Harris Academy Philip Lane
- AET Trinity Primary
- AET Noel Park
- Haringey 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre
- St Paul's & All Hallows Infant Academy
- St Paul's & All Hallows Junior Academy
- St Michael's Academy
- St Ann CE Academy
- Holy Trinity CE Academy
- Heartlands High School
- St Thomas More RC Academy
- Brook House Primary
- Millbrook Primary School
- Harris Academy Tottenham
- The Octagon

Scheduled bodies are public bodies required by law to participate in the LGPS. Admitted bodies are in the LGPS either because services have been outsourced or because they have sufficient links with the Council to be regarded as having a community interest.

#### **Description of the Fund**

The Fund is a defined benefit scheme and was established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1965 to provide retirement pensions and lump sum allowances, survivor dependants' and death benefits to all eligible employees of Haringey Council. Certain other organisations also participate in the Fund and details of these are set out above. The Fund's income is derived from employees, contributions from employing organisations and income from investments.

Haringey Council in its role as Administering Authority has delegated responsibility for administering the Pension Scheme to the Pensions

Committee and Board. Details of the individuals who served on the Pensions Committee and Board during 2016/17 are shown below.

The terms of reference for Pensions Committee and Board are set out in the Council's constitution. The Committee and Board consists of six elected Councillors and four employer and employee representatives, (two of which were vacant in 2016/17). Councillors are selected by their respective political groups and their appointment is confirmed at a meeting of the full Council. Councillors are not appointed for a fixed term but the membership is reviewed regularly, normally annually, by the political groups. The membership of the Committee and Board during the 2016/17 year was:

Cllr Clare Bull - Chair
Cllr John Bevan - Vice Chair
Cllr Mark Blake - Member
Cllr Gideon Bull - Member
Cllr Viv Ross - Member
Cllr Noah Tucker - Member

Randy Plowright - Employee representative Keith Brown - Employer representative

### **Restatement of Long Term Investments**

The 2015/16 accounts included the Fund's £150k equity investment in the London Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) in the current assets section of the accounts. The 2015/16 net assets statement and relevant notes to the accounts have therefore been restated, to show this as a long term investment, not a current asset.

#### 2. Basis of Preparation

The statement of accounts summarises the fund's transactions for the 2016/17 financial year and its position at year-end as at

31 March 2017. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17, which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector.

The accounts summarise the transactions of the fund and report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits. The accounts do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year.

#### 3. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies of the Fund are set out below.

#### **Contributions**

Employer and employee contributions are included on an accruals basis relating to wages and salaries payable for the financial year. Employers' capital cost payments are also accounted for on an accruals basis relating to the period in which the liability arises.

#### Transfers in and out

Transfers in and out are accounted for on a cash basis whenever the transfer value is paid or received.

#### Investment income

Interest on cash and short term deposits is accounted for on an accruals basis. Distributions from equity and bond pooled funds are recognised on the date of payment. Distributions from property unit trusts are shown on an accruals basis by reference to the ex-dividend date. Income retained within pooled funds is accounted for as part of the change in the market value of investments posted to the fund account. Interest is recognised on an effective interest rate basis.

Appendix 1 - Pension Fund Accounts 2016/17 and Auditors Report

#### **Benefits**

Benefits are shown on an accruals basis relating to the date on which they become payable.

#### **Taxation**

The Fund is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin, unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as an expense as it arises.

#### Management expenses

Administrative, governance and oversight expenses are shown on an accruals basis. A proportion of relevant Council officers' time, including related on-costs, has been charged to the Fund on the basis of actual time spent on scheme administration and investment related matters. Charges paid to HMRC in respect of scheme members breaching the Pensions Lifetime allowance are disclosed under administrative expenses.

Fund managers' fees are based on the market values of the portfolios under management. Where managers invest in in-house investment vehicles, e.g. unit trusts where management fees are covered in the price of the units, the market value of such holdings are deducted from the portfolio value before calculating chargeable fees. All the investment management expenses are shown on an accruals basis.

#### Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are included in the net assets statement on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. A financial asset or liability is recognised in the net assets statement on the date the fund became party to the contractual acquisition of the asset or party to the liability. From this date any gains or losses from changes in the fair value of the asset or liability are recognised by the Fund.

See note 16 for further detail including the valuation methodology for different investments.

The value of these holdings is based on the Fund's share of the net assets in the private equity fund or limited partnership using the latest financial statements published by the respective fund managers adjusted for draw-downs paid and distributions received in the period from the date of the private equity financial statements to 31st March 2017. Infrastructure holdings are valued by third parties appointed by the fund manager using mark to market modelling.

The valuation of securities denominated in overseas currencies is calculated by using the overseas bid or mid price current at the year-end date and the exchange rate for the appropriate currency at the year-end to express the value as a sterling equivalent.

#### Foreign currency transaction

Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies have been accounted for at the spot market rates at the date of transaction. End-of-year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, market values of overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

Cash equivalents are investments that mature in no more than a three month period from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the scheme actuary and a roll forward approximation is applied in the intervening years. This is done in accordance with the requirements of IAS 19 and relevant actuarial standards.

As permitted under IAS 26 and CIPFA guidance, the Fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits as an annex to the financial statements, however a brief summary of this is also included as note 20 in these accounts.

#### Additional Voluntary Contributions ("AVCs")

Members of the Fund are able to make AVCs in addition to their normal contributions. The related assets are invested separately from the main fund, and in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016, are not accounted for within the financial statements. If on retirement members opt to enhance their Scheme benefits using their AVC funds, the amounts returned to the Scheme by the AVC providers are disclosed within transfers-in.

Further details about the AVC arrangements are disclosed in note 23 to the financial statements.

#### 4. Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

There are two areas in the accounts where critical judgements are applied which are materially significant to the accounts:

Private Equity valuations – the value of the Fund's private equity holdings is calculated by the General Partners of the fund using valuations provided by the underlying partnerships. The variety of valuation bases adopted and quality of management data of the

underlying investments in the partnership means that there are inherent difficulties in determining the value of these investments. Given the long term nature of these investments, amounts realised on the sale of these investments may differ from the values reflected in these financial statements and the difference may be material. Further detail is given in note 16.

Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits – the liability to pay pensions is based on a significant number of assumptions including the discount rate, mortality rates and expected returns on fund assets. The liability is calculated by the Fund's qualified Actuary on a three yearly basis with annual updates in the intervening years. The three yearly triennial valuation provides the basis for setting employer contributions for the following three year period. The Actuary has advised that this has provided a reasonable estimate of the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. Further detail is given in Annex 1 to these accounts.

# 5. Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty

Items	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Actuarial Present Value of promised retirement benefits	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgments 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. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the fund with expert advice about assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance: - 0.5% increase in the discount rate would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £180m (10%) - 0.5% increase in assumed earnings would increase the value of the liabilities by approximately £32m (2%) - 0.5% increase in assumed pension earnings inflation would increase the value of liabilities by approximately £145m (8%)
Private	Private Equity	The total private equity

Private Equity
investments are valued at
fair value in accordance
with international Private
Equity and Venture
Capital Guidelines. These
assets are not publicly
listed, and as such there
is a degree of estimation.

The total private equity
investments in the financial
statements are £54m. There is a
risk that this may be over or
understated: however, the private
equity investments only represent
4% of overall assets. Further
detail is shown in Note 16
regarding the sensitivity of this
valuation.

There were no significant events which occurred after the reporting date.

#### 7. Contributions receivable

2016/17		2015/16
£000	By category	£000
9,341	Employee contributions	9,122
	Employer contributions	
25,469	- Normal contributions	24,224
10,494	- Deficit recovery contributions	9,014
1,945	- Augmentation contributions	1,491
37,908	Total employers' contributions	34,729
47,249	Total	43,851

2016/17		2015/16
£000	By authority	£000
33,500	<ul> <li>Administering authority</li> </ul>	32,249
11,231	<ul> <li>Scheduled bodies</li> </ul>	9,705
2,517	Admitted bodies	1,897
47,249	Total	43,851

#### 8. Transfers in from other pension funds

There were transfers in to the Pension Fund during 2016/17 of £2.839 million (£1.741 million in 2015/16) and these all related to individuals.

#### 6. Events after the reporting date

**Equity** 

#### 9. Benefits payable

2016/17		2015/16
£000	By category	£000
37,194	- Pensions	36,387
8,040	- Commutation and lump sum retirement benefits	7,107
1,989	- Lump sum death benefits	827
47,223	Total	44,321

2016/17		2015/16
£000	By authority	£000
42,192	<ul> <li>Administering authority</li> </ul>	39,585
3,904	- Scheduled bodies	3,480
1,127	- Admitted bodies	1,256
47,223	Total	44,321

#### 10. Payments to and on account of leavers

2016/17		2015/16
£000		£000
87	Refunds to members leaving service	73
3,575	Individual transfers	3,717
3,662	Total	3,790

#### 11. Management expenses

2016/17		2015/16
£000		£000
865	Administrative costs	722
3,493	Investment management expenses	3,325
288	Oversight and governance costs	368
4,646	Total	4,415

This analysis of the costs of managing the Haringey Pension Fund during the period has been prepared in accordance with CIPFA

guidance. The oversight and governance costs category includes £21k for external audit fees in 2016/17 (£21k in 2015/16).

2016/17		2015/16
£000		£000
3,237	Management Fees	2,927
0	Performance Related Fees	0
57	Custody fees	78
199	Transaction Fees	320
3,493	Total	3,325

#### 12. Investment income

2016/17		2015/16
£000		£000
4,113	Pooled investments - unit trusts and other managed funds	4,654
33	Interest on cash deposits	21
4,146	Total	4,675

#### 12a. Property income

Property income from the Fund's pooled property funds is included in the above figures and totals £3.768 million in 2016/17 (£4.252 million in 2015/16). The Fund does not directly own property, and no contingent rents were recognised as income during the period.

#### 13. Taxes on income

The income tax shown on the face of the Pension Fund Account relates to withholding tax (pooled).

#### 14. Investments

# 14a. Reconciliation of movements in investment assets and liabilities

The changes in market value during the year comprise all increases and decreases in the market value of investments held at any time during the year, including profits and losses realised on sales of investments during the year.

2016/17	Value at 1st April 2016	Purchases at cost	Sales proceeds	Changes in market value	Value at 31st March 2017
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled investment vehicles	1,022,300	13,310	(22,832)	262,371	1,275,149
Cash deposits	20,694	63,364	(50,292)	141	33,907
Other investment assets	2,583	5	(2,547)	(4)	37
Total	1,045,577	76,679	(75,671)	262,508	1,309,093

2015/16	Value at 1st April 2015	Purchases at cost	Sales proceeds	Changes in market value	Value at 31st March 2016
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled investment vehicles	1,032,723	57,541	(69,269)	1,305	1,022,300
Cash deposits	13,150	14,786	(9,145)	1,903	20,694
Other investment assets	68	3,872	(1,355)	(2)	2,583
Total	1,045,941	76,199	(79,769)	3,206	1,045,577

#### 14b. Analysis of investments

31/03/2017	By category	31/03/2016
£000		£000
	Pooled Investment Vehicles	
90,876	Unit Trusts - Property - UK	103,149
329,747	Unitised Insurance Policies - UK	310,647
721,999	Unitised Insurance Policies - Overseas	499,971
0	Other managed funds - Property - Overseas	420
27,819	Other managed funds - Other - UK	21,611
50,467	Other managed funds - Other - Overseas	46,531
54,278	Private Equity	42,554
1,275,186		1,024,883
	Cash Deposits	
29,771	Sterling	19,393
4,136	Foreign Currency	1,301
33,907		20,694
1,309,093	Total Investments	1,045,577

#### 14c. Analysis by Fund Managers

31/03/2017		By fund manager	31/03/2	016
£000	%		£000	%
5	0.00	Capital International	9	0.0
1,051,745	80.3	Legal and General	810,619	77.5
113,023	8.6	CBRE Global Investors	111,024	10.6
27,814	2.1	Allianz Global Investors	21,621	2.1
50,467	3.9	CQS	46,529	4.5
58,424	4.5	Pantheon	44,110	4.2
7,615	0.6	In house cash deposits	11,665	1.1
1,309,093	100.0	Total	1,045,577	100.0

The managed funds in which the Scheme has invested are all operated or managed by companies registered in the United Kingdom.

The following investments represent more than 5% of the net assets of the scheme.

31/03/2	2017	Name of holding	31/03/2	016
£000	%		£000	%
138,965	10.6%	Legal & General World Emerging Equity Index	102,915	9.8
151,526	11.6%	Legal & General UK Equities Index	160,204	15.3
222,584	17.0%	Legal & General North American Equities	240,793	23.0
74,404	5.7%	Legal & General European (ex UK) Equities	79,217	7.6
183,837	14.0%	Legal & General Index Linked Gilts	150,733	14.4
214,432	16.4%	Legal & General Low Carbon Index	0	0.0

#### 15. Analysis of derivatives

The Fund does not hold any derivatives at 31st March 2017.

#### 16. Fair Value Hierarchy

The basis of the valuation of each class of investment asset is set out below. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year. All assets have been valued using fair value techniques which represent the highest and best price available at the reporting date.

Description of asset		Basis of Valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Pooled equity and index linked gilts (unitised insurance policies)	Level 2	Published bid market price at end of the accounting period	NAV per share	Not Required
Pooled multi asset credit fund (other managed funds)	Level 2	Published bid market price at end of the accounting period	NAV per share	Not Required
Infrastructure Debt (other managed funds)	Level 2	Most recent valuation	NAV published, cashflow transations, i.e. distributions or capital calls	Not Required

Description of asset		Basis of Valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Pooled UK property unit trusts	Level 3	Most recent published NAV updated for cashflow transactions to the end of the accounting period	transations, i.e.	Valuations could be affected by material events between the date of the financial statements fund's own reporting date, and by differences between audited and unaudited accounts. Valuations of underlying property assets.

Description	Valuation	Basis of	Observable	Key
of asset	Hierarchy	Valuation	and	sensitivities
			unobservable	affecting the
			inputs	valuations
				provided
Private Equity	Level 3	Most recent valuations updated for cashflow transactions and foreign exchange movements to the end of the accounting period. The Market approach may be used in some circumstance s for the valuation of underlying assets by the fund manager.	Cashflow transations, i.e. distributions or capital calls, foreign exchange movements. Audited financial statements for underlying assets, which may include market approach valuations: taking into account actual observed transations for the underlying assets or similar assets to help value the assets of each partnership.	Valuations could be affected by material events between the date of the financial statements provided and the pension fund's own reporting date, and by differences between audited and unaudited accounts

#### Sensitivity of assets valued at level 3

Having analysed historical data, current market trends and information received regarding the valuation techniques of the fund managers, the fund has determined that the valuation methods described above are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges, and has set out below the consequent potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March 2017.

Asset	Assessed Valuation Range +/-	Valuation as at 31/03/2017	Value on Increase	Value on Decrease
		£000	£000	£000
Pooled UK property				
unit trusts	2%	90,845	92,662	89,028
Private Equity	5%	54,278	56,992	51,564
		145,123	149,654	140,592

#### 16a. Fair Value Hierarchy

Asset and liability valuations have been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values. Transfers between levels are recognised in the year in which they occur. Criteria utilised in the instrument classifications are detailed below.

#### Level 1

Financial instruments at Level 1 are those where the fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Products classified as level 1 comprise quoted equities, quoted fixed securities, quoted index linked securities and unit trusts.

Listed investments are shown at bid prices. The bid value of the investment is based on the bid market quotation of the relevant stock exchange. Cash and short term investment debtors and creditors are classified as level 1.

#### Level 2

Financial instruments at level 2 are those where quoted market prices are not available; for example, where an investment is traded in a market that is not considered to be active, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value and where these techniques use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data.

#### Level 3

Financial instruments at Level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data. Such instruments would include unquoted equity investments (private equity), and hedge fund of funds, which are valued using various valuation techniques that require significant judgement in determining appropriate assumptions.

The following table provides an analysis of the financial assets and liabilities of the pension fund grouped into levels 1 to 3, based on the level at which the fair value is observable. The figures below do not include the cash holdings of the fund.

Values as at 31/03/17	Quoted market price Level 1	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs Level 3	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	37	1,130,026	145,123	1,275,186
Total	37	1,130,026	145,123	1,275,186

Values as at 31/03/16	Quoted market price Level 1	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets at	2000	2000	2000	£000
fair value through profit and loss	2,581	878,760	143,542	1,024,883
Total	2,581	878,760	143,542	1,024,883

The figures for level 2 and level 3 investments have been restated from 2015/16 to show £29.286m of pooled property fund investments as level 3 investments rather than level 2 investments.

#### 16b. Transfers between Levels 1 and 2

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2 during the year.

#### 16c. Reconciliation of fair value measurements within level 3

2016/17	Value at 1st April 2016	Purchases in the year	Sales in the year	Unrealised gains (losses)	Realised gains (losses)	Value at 31st March 2017
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled UK property unit trusts	100,988	2,000	(9,791)	(2,275)	(77)	90,845
Private Equity						
_	42,554	9,106	(8,959)	10,404	1,173	54,278
Total	143,542	11,106	(18,750)	8,129	1,096	145,123

The value of pooled UK property unit trusts as at 1st April 2016 has been restated from the previous year, as £29.286m of pooled UK property trust holdings were disclosed as level 2 investments as at 31st March 2016. The fund has taken the view that all of the pooled property holdings should be recognised as a Level 3 investments.

#### 17. Financial Instruments

#### 17a. Classification of financial instruments

The majority of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities are classified as "fair value through profit and loss". This means that the assets can be exchanged between parties at a market price. The Accounting Policies describe how fair value is measured. Assets which have fixed payments and are not quoted in an active market are classified as "Loans and Receivables". The only financial assets in this class held by the Fund are cash deposits and debtors. Creditors to the Fund are classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost because they are not held for trading. No assets or liabilities

have been reclassified.

31/03/2017 Fair Value	Name of holding	31/03/2016 Fair Value
£000	-	£000
	Long Term Investments	
150	- London CIV	150
150		150
	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	
1,275,149	- Pooled investment vehicles	1,022,302
37	- Other investment balances	2,581
1,275,186		1,024,883
	Loans and receivables	
33,907	- Cash deposits	20,694
1,488	- Debtors	2,140
35,395		22,984
	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	
(2,736)	- Creditors	(1,467)
(511)	- Cash overdrawn	(123)
(3,247)		(1,590)
1,307,484	Net Assets	1,046,277

The fair values shown above are the same as the carrying value for each line.

#### 17b. Net gains and losses on financial instruments

2016/17		2015/16
£000		£000
	Financial Assets	
262,512	Fair value through profit or loss	1,305
(4)	Loans and receivables	1,901
262,508		3,206

The Fund has not entered into any financial guarantees that are required to be accounted for as financial instruments.

#### 18. Nature and extent of risks arising from Financial Instruments

The Pension Fund's investment objective is to achieve a return on Fund assets, which is sufficient, over the long term, to fully meet the cost of benefits and to ensure stability of employer's contribution rates. Achieving the investment objectives requires a high allocation to growth assets in order to improve the funding level, although this leads to a potential higher volatility of future funding levels and therefore contribution rates.

#### a) Management of risk

The Pension Fund is invested in a range of different types of asset – equities, bonds, property, private equity and cash. This is done in line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Management and Investment of Funds Regulations 2016, which require pension funds to invest any monies not immediately required to pay benefits. These regulations require the formulation of an Investment Strategy Statement which sets out the Fund's approach to investment including the management of risk. The latest version is attached to the Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts.

The majority of the Pension Fund's assets are managed by external fund managers and they are required to provide an audited internal controls report regularly to the Council which sets out how they

ensure the Fund's assets are safeguarded against loss and misstatement.

The listed equity and index linked portfolios held within pooled investment vehicles, representing 67.5% of the fund's investment strategy (this mandate is currently overweight in actual terms as newer investment mandates are funded from the passive portfolios), are managed on a passive basis to minimise the volatility of returns compared with market indices and to reduce the fees and governance requirements.

#### b) Market price risk

The key risk for the Pension Fund is market risk, which is the risk that the values of the investments fluctuate due to changes in market prices. The majority of the Fund is invested in pooled funds with underlying assets which can fluctuate on a daily basis as market prices change e.g. equities and bonds. To demonstrate the impact of this volatility, the table below shows the impact of potential price changes based on the observed historical volatility of asset class returns. The potential volatilities are consistent with a one standard deviation movement in the change in value of the assets over the last three years.

As at 31/03/2017	Value	%	Value on	Value on	
A3 at 31/03/2011	Value	change	increase	decrease	
	£000	%	£000	£000	
UK equities	145,910	2.9	150,108	141,712	
Overseas equities	721,999	25.5	905,950	538,047	
UK bonds	234,304	9.4	256,267	212,341	
Cash	33,907	0.0	33,907	33,907	
Property	90,876	24.0	112,719	69,033	
Alternatives	27,819	26.2	35,104	20,534	
Total Assets	1,254,815		1,494,054	1,015,574	

As at 31/03/2016	Value	%	Value on	Value on
As at 31/03/2010	value	change	increase	decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
UK equities	159,980	10.3	176,458	143,502
Overseas equities	499,971	9.3	546,468	453,474
UK bonds	197,196	9.1	215,141	179,251
Cash	20,496	0.0	20,496	20,496
Property	100,989	2.7	103,716	98,262
Alternatives	66,945	6.5	71,296	62,594
Total Assets	1,045,577		1,133,575	957,579

A number of controls have been put in place to minimise this risk. A key method to reduce risk is to diversify the Pension Fund's investments. This is achieved through the setting of a benchmark, which incorporates a wide range of asset classes and geographical areas. Eight (2015/16: five) investment managers have been appointed to further diversify the Pension Fund's investments and lower risk. No funds had been invested with the three new fund managers appointed in 2016/17 as at 31st March 2017. In addition to diversification, parameters have been set for the investment managers to work within to ensure that the risk of volatility and deviation from the benchmark are within controlled levels.

Investment values and performance of the fund managers is measured on a quarterly basis through reporting to Pensions Committee.

### c) Exchange rate risk

The Pension Fund holds assets in currencies other than sterling, which made up 61% of the Fund value on 31st March 2017, equivalent to £793 million (2015/16: £509 million). These arise from passive pooled equities, private equity, property and cash. Foreign currency exposures were not hedged in 2016/17.

The main non-sterling currency exposures at 31st March 2017 was the US dollar. Other major exposures were the Euro, and Asian and

emerging market countries.

There is a risk that due to exchange rate movements the sterling equivalent value of the investments falls. The Fund acknowledges that adverse foreign currency movements relative to Sterling can reduce the value of the fund's investment portfolio. The table below demonstrates the potential value of the fund's investments based on positive or adverse currency movements by 10%.

As at 31/03/2017	Value	% change	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Overseas equities	721,999	10.0	794,198	649,799
Multi-sector credit	50,467	10.0	55,514	45,420
Private equity	16,116	10.0	17,727	14,504
Cash	4,136	10.0	4,550	3,723
Total Assets	792,718	10.0	871,989	713,446

As at 31/03/2016	Value	% change	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Overseas equities	499,971	10.0	549,969	449,975
Overseas property	420	10.0	462	378
Private equity	6,904	10.0	7,594	6,214
Cash	1,301	10.0	1,431	1,171
Total Assets	508,596	10.0	559,456	457,736

The cash balances managed internally are only permitted to be in sterling.

#### d) Interest Rate risk

Movements in interest rates affect the income earned by the Fund and can have an impact on the value of net assets. To demonstrate this risk, the table below shows the impact on income earned of a 1% increase and decrease in interest rates.

Appendix 1	- Pension	Fund	Accounts	2016/17	and Auditors	Report

	Interest earned 2016/17	Interest rate if 1% higher	
	£000	£000	£000
Cash deposits	33	127	(61)
Total	33	127	(61)

	Interest earned 2015/16	Interest rate if 1% higher		
	£000	£000	£000	
Cash deposits	68	160	0	
Total	68	160	0	

#### e) Credit risk and counterparty risk

Credit risk is the risk a counterparty fails to fulfil a transaction it has committed to entering into. This risk is particularly relevant to the Council's non-sovereign bonds (including those held in pooled funds) and cash investments.

The Investment Management Agreements the Council has signed with the external fund managers set out limits on the types of bonds the fund managers can purchase for the Fund in order to limit the possibility of default. The table below shows the split of the bond investments by credit rating at 31st March 2017 and 31st March 2016. The majority of bonds (2017: £184 million, 2016 £197m) are UK Government index linked, with the balance being corporate bonds. The UK Government has an AA+ credit rating.

	Market value 31/03/2017	AA	Α	BBB	Below BBB
	£000	%	%	%	%
Bond exposure in pooled investment vehicles	234,304	79	0	1	20
Total / Weighted Average	234,304	79	0	1	20

	Market value 31/03/2016	AA	Α	BBB	Below BBB
	£000	%	%	%	%
Bond exposure in pooled investment vehicles	197,196	76	3	1	20
Total / Weighted Average	197,196	76	3	1	20

The cash that the Council manages internally on behalf of the Pension Fund is invested in line with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, which sets out very strict limits on the counterparties which can be used and the amounts that can be invested with them. The amount of cash held by fund managers is kept to a minimum and when held for a period of time is invested in the custodian bank's AAAm rated money market fund. The table below details the credit ratings of the institutions the cash was held with.

31/03/2	2017	17 31/03/2016		2016
Exposure	Credit rating		Exposure	Credit rating
£000			£000	
26,292	AA-	Northern Trust	9,029	AA-
7,615	AAAm	Money Market Funds	11,665	AAAm
33,907			20,694	

The limits for cash is kept under constant review to be able to respond quickly to changes in the creditworthiness of counterparties which may increase risk.

#### f) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that monies are not available to meet the Pension Fund's obligation to pay pension benefits on time. Maintaining a level of internally managed cash balances enables the Pension Fund to ensure liquidity is not an issue. All of the internally managed cash held on 31st March 2017 was in money market funds and bank accounts with the main bank or custodian, ensuring cash is available as required. Monitoring of the cashflow position daily assists with maintaining this position.

The majority of the Council's non cash investments are in pooled funds whose underlying holdings are listed equities or bonds. These funds have regular (at least monthly) trade dates, which ensure it is possible to realise the investments easily if necessary.

#### 19. Funding Arrangements

In line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the fund's actuary undertakes a funding valuation every three years for the purpose of setting employer contribution rates for the forthcoming triennial period. The last such valuation took place as at 31st March 2016. The next valuation will take place as at 31st March 2019.

The key elements of the funding policy are:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of the fund, i.e. that sufficient funds are available to meet all pension liabilities as they fall due for payment
- to ensure that employer contribution rates are as stable

Appendix 1 - Pension Fund Accounts 2016/17 and Auditors Report

- as possible
- to minimise the long-term cost of the scheme by recognising the link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy that balances risk and return
- to reflect the different characteristics of employing bodies in determining contribution rates where the administering body considers it reasonable to do so
- to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the tax payer from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations.

The market value of the Fund at the time of the last triennial valuation as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 was £1,046 million. Against this sum liabilities were identified of £1,323 million equivalent to a funding deficit of £277 million. The movement in the actuarial deficit between 2013 and the last valuation in 2016 is analysed below:

Reason for change	£m
Interest on deficit	(53)
Contributions greater than cost of accrual	13
Investment returns higher than expected	67
Change in demographic assumptions	6
Change in base mortality assumptions	17
Actual membership higher than expected	57
Experience items	1
Change in financial assumptions	(17)
Total	91

The aim is to achieve 100% solvency over a period of 20 years and to provide stability in employer contribution rates by spreading any increases in rates over a period of time. Solvency is achieved when the funds held, plus future expected investments returns and future contributions, are sufficient to meet expected future pension benefits payable. When an employer's funding is less than 100% of the

funding target, then a deficit recovery plan will be put in place requiring additional contributions from the employer to meet the shortfall.

At the 2016 actuarial valuation, the fund was assessed as 79% funded (70% at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 valuation). This corresponds to a deficit of £277m (2013 valuation: £369m) at that time.

Contribution increases were phased in over the three-year period ending 31 March 2017 for both scheme employers and admitted bodies. The actuary agreed that the Council's contribution rate could increase by 1.5% over a three year period from April 2017, from 24.9% of pensionable salaries to 26.4% in March 2019. The actuary specified a minimum level of contributions in monetary terms to cover the past service deficit.

Individual employer's rates will vary depending on the demographic and actuarial factors particular to each employer in the Fund. Full details of contribution rates payable can be found in the 2016 actuarial valuation report.

The valuation of the fund has been undertaken using the projected unit method under which the salary increase for each member is assumed to increase until they leave active service by death, retirement or withdrawal from service. The principal assumptions were as follows.

Future assumed rates as at 31st March 2016	%
Discount rate (annual nominal return rate)	4.0
Pay increase (annual change)	2.8
Pay increase - Pension (annual change)	2.1
Retail Price Index (RPI)	3.3

<sup>\*</sup>An allow ance is also made for promotional pay increases.

#### 20. Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

In addition to the triennial funding valuation, the fund's actuary also undertakes a valuation of the pension fund liabilities, on an IAS 19 basis, every year using the same base data as the funding valuation rolled forward to the current financial year, taking account of changes in membership numbers and updating assumptions to the current year. This valuation is not carried out on the same basis as that used for setting fund contribution rates and the fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future. In order to assess the value of the benefits on this basis, the actuary has updated the actuarial assumptions from those used for funding purposes. The actuary has also used valued ill health and death benefits in line with IAS 19.

31/03/17		31/03/16
£m		£m
(1,849)	Present Value of promised retirement benefits	(1,591)
1,307	Fair Value of scheme assets	1,046
(542)	Net Liability	(545)

As noted above, the liabilities above are calculated on an IAS 19 basis and therefore will differ from the results of the 2016 triennial valuation because IAS 19 stipulates a discount rate rather than a rate which reflects market rates. Please see Annex 1 to these accounts for more information.

#### 21. Current assets

The current assets figures have been restated for 31/03/16 to take account of the £150k long term investment in the London CIV: this had been included as a sundry debtor and public corporation or trading fund in the below notes.

31/03/17		31/03/16
£000		£000
	Debtors	
89	- Contributions due - employees	105
1,351	- Contributions due - employers	1,830
48	- Sundry debtors	205
1,488	Total	2,140

The below is an analysis of debtors.

31/03/17		31/03/16
£000		£000
48	Central government bodies	32
165	Public corporations and trading funds	83
1,275	Other entities and individuals	2,025
1,488	Total	2,140

#### 22. Current liabilities

31/03/17		31/03/16
£000		0003
(1,260)	Sundry creditors	(1,313)
(1,476)	Benefits payable	(154)
(511)	Bank overdraft	(123)
(3,247)	Total	(1,590)

The below is an analysis of creditors.

31/03/17		31/03/16
£000		£000
(92)	Other local authorities	(154)
(745)	Public corporations and trading funds	(731)
(2,410)	Other entities and individuals	(705)
(3,247)	Total	(1,590)

#### 23. Additional Voluntary Contributions ("AVCs")

Separately invested AVCs are held with the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Prudential Assurance, and Clerical Medical in a combination of With Profits, Unit Linked and Building Society accounts, securing additional benefits on a money purchase basis for those members electing to pay additional voluntary contributions.

Movements by provider are summarised below:

31/03/2017	Equitable Life Assurance Society	31/03/2016
£000		£000
257	Value as at 6 April	344
0	Contributions received	2
(30)	Retirement benefits and changes	(89)
19	Changes in market value	0
246	Value as at 5 April	257
121	Equitable with profits	138
0	Equitable with deposit account fund	46
126	Equitable unit linked	73
246	Total	257
2	Number of active members	2
32	Number of members with preserved benefits	35

31/03/2017	Prudential Assurance	31/03/2016
£000		£000
754	Value as at 1 April	846
213	Contributions received	136
(281)	Retirement benefits and changes	(273)
35	Changes in market value	45
721	Value as at 31 March	754
483	Prudential with profits cash accumulation	466
85	Prudential deposit fund	87
153	Prudential unit linked	201
721	Total	754
73	Number of active members	77
23	Number of members with preserved benefits	26
31/03/2017	Clerical and Medical	31/03/2016
31/03/2017 £000	Clerical and Medical	<b>31/03/2016</b> £000
	Clerical and Medical  Value as at 1 April	
£000		£000
£000 42	Value as at 1 April	£000 41
£000 42 2	Value as at 1 April Contributions received	£000 41 2
£000 42 2 5	Value as at 1 April Contributions received Changes in market value	£000 41 2 (1)
£000 42 2 5 49	Value as at 1 April Contributions received Changes in market value Value as at 31 March	£000 41 2 (1) 42
£000 42 2 5 49	Value as at 1 April Contributions received Changes in market value Value as at 31 March Clerical Medical with profits	£000 41 2 (1) 42
£000 42 2 5 <b>49</b> 6 43	Value as at 1 April Contributions received Changes in market value Value as at 31 March  Clerical Medical with profits Clerical Medical unit linked	£000 41 2 (1) 42 6 36

#### 24. Agency Services

There were no agency services provided by the fund in the year.

#### 25. Related party transactions

#### **Haringey Council**

In 2016/17 the Pension Fund paid £0.571 million to the Council for administration and legal services (£0.571 million in 2015/16). As at 31st March 2017 an amount of £0.858 million was due from the Council to the Fund (£1.446 million in 2015/16).

#### Governance

During 2016/17 no Council members who served on the Pensions Committee and Board were also members of the Pension Fund. One of the employer and employee representatives for the Committee and Board was a fund member. Committee and Board members are required to declare their interests at the beginning of each Committee meeting and as necessary during the discussion of individual items of business at Committee meetings if it becomes clear that a conflict of interest has arisen.

#### Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel for the fund is the Section 151 Officer for Haringey Council. The Council does not recharge the pension fund for this officer's costs. More details regarding the remuneration for this post can be found in the Council's statement of accounts.

#### 26. Contingent liabilities and contractual commitments

The Fund had outstanding commitments to invest of £122.7 million (£50.4 million with Pantheon – Private Equity, £21.8 million with Allianz – Infrastructure debt, £0.5 million with CBRE Property and £50m with Aviva Property at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 (2016: £81.5 million). The commitments relate to outstanding call payments due in relation to the private equity and property and infrastructure debt portfolios.

#### 27. Contingent assets

Seven admitted body employers in the Haringey Pension Fund hold insurance bonds to guard against the possibility of being unable to meet their pension obligations. These bonds are drawn in favour of the Fund and payment will only be triggered in the event of employer default.

#### Annex 1 to the Financial Statements

#### **Pension Fund Accounts Reporting Requirement**

#### Introduction

CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2016/17 requires Administering Authorities of LGPS funds that prepare pension fund accounts to disclose what IAS26 refers to as the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. I have been instructed by the Administering Authority to provide the necessary information for the London Borough of Haringey Pension Fund ("the Fund").

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is to be calculated similarly to the Defined Benefit Obligation under IAS19. There are three options for its disclosure in the pension fund accounts:

- showing the figure in the Net Assets Statement, in which case it requires the statement to disclose the resulting surplus or deficit;
- as a note to the accounts; or
- by reference to this information in an accompanying actuarial report.

If an actuarial valuation has not been prepared at the date of the financial statements, IAS26 requires the most recent valuation to be used as a base and the date of the valuation disclosed. The valuation should be carried out using assumptions in line with IAS19 and not the Fund's funding assumptions.

#### Present value of promised retirement benefits

Present value of Promised Retirement Benefits	Year ended 31/03/2017	Year ended 31/03/2016
Active members	666	719
Deferred pensioners	515	371
Pensioners	668	501
Total	1,849	1,591

The promised retirement benefits have been projected using a roll forward approximation from the latest formal funding valuation as at 31 March 2016. The approximation involved in the roll forward model means that the split of benefits between the three classes of member may not be reliable. However, I am satisfied that the total figure is a reasonable estimate of the actuarial present value of benefit promises.

The above figures include both vested and non-vested benefits, although the latter is assumed to have a negligible value. Further, I have not made any allowance for unfunded benefits.

It should be noted the above figures are appropriate for the Administering Authority only for preparation of the pension fund accounts. They should not be used for any other purpose (i.e. comparing against liability measures on a funding basis or a cessation basis).

#### Assumptions

The assumptions used are those adopted for the Administering Authority's IAS19 report and are different as at 31 March 2017 and 31 March 2016. I estimate that the impact of the change in financial assumptions to 31 March 2017 is to increase the actuarial present value by £265m. I estimate that the impact of the change in demographic and longevity assumptions is to decrease the actuarial present value by £34m.

#### Financial assumptions

Year ended	31 Mar 2017 % p.a.	31 Mar 2016 % p.a.
Inflation/Pensions Increase Rate	2.4	2.2
Salary Increase Rate	3.0	4.2
Discount Rate	2.6	3.5

#### Longevity assumptions

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2013 model, assuming the current rate of improvements has reached a peak and will converge to long term rate of 1.25% p.a. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current Pensioners	21.8 years	24.1 years
Future Pensioners*	23.8 years	26.0 years

Please note that the longevity assumptions have changed since the previous IAS26 disclosure for the Fund.

#### Commutation assumptions

An allowance is included for future retirements to elect to take 50% **Error! Reference source not found.** of the maximum additional tax-free cash up to HMRC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 75% of the maximum tax-free cash for post-April 2008 service.

### Sensitivity Analysis

CIPFA guidance requires the disclosure of the sensitivity of the results to the methods and assumptions used. The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the liabilities are set out below:

Change in assumptions for the year ended 31 March 2016	Approximate % increase to liabilities	Approximate monetary amount (£m)
0.5% decrease in discount rate	10	180
0.5% increase in salary increase rate	2	32
0.5% increase in pensions increase rate	8	145

The principal demographic assumption is the longevity assumption. For sensitivity purposes, I estimate that a 1 year increase in life expectancy would approximately increase the liabilities by around 3-5%.

#### Professional notes

This paper accompanies my covering report titled 'Actuarial Valuation as at 31 March 2017 for accounting purposes'. The covering report identifies the appropriate reliances and limitations for the use of the figures in this paper, together with further details regarding the professional requirements and assumptions.

Douglas Green FFA

27 April 2017

For and on behalf of Hymans Robertson LLP

This page is intentionally blank

#### Governance Compliance Statement

#### 1 Introduction

This Governance Compliance Statement document sets out how governance of the Pension Fund operates in Haringey. It is prepared in accordance with paragraph 55 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and the associated statutory guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The objective of the Governance Compliance Statement is to make the administration and stewardship of the scheme more transparent and accountable to the stakeholders.

### 2 Council delegation

Haringey Council, in its role as Administering Authority, has delegated responsibility for administering the Local Government Pension Scheme to the Pensions Committee and Board. The terms of reference for the committee were adopted by the Council in 2017, are included in the Council's constitution and are set out in the section below:

#### 3 Terms of reference

The responsibilities for Pensions Committee and Board are set out below from the terms of reference for the committee:

- a. all the functions which are stated not to be the responsibility of The Executive in Regulation 2 and Schedule 1 paragraph H of The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) and in any Statute or subordinate legislation further amending these Regulations relating to those matters concerning the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- b. Exercising all the Council's functions as "Administering Authority" and being responsible for the management and monitoring of the Council's Pension Fund and the approval of all relevant policies and statements. This includes:
  - i. Selection, appointment and performance monitoring of investment managers, AVC scheme providers, custodians and other specialist external advisers:
  - ii. Formulation of investment, socially responsible investment and governance policies and maintaining a statement of investment principles and funding strategy statement:

- iii. Determining the allocation of investments between each asset class;
- iv. Reviewing specialist external advisers performance;
- v. Publicising statements and policy documents as required by legislation, government directives and best practice.
- c. Monitoring and as appropriate to decide upon Pensions Administration issues.
- d. Monitoring the Pension Fund Budget including Fund expenditure and actuarial valuations; and to receive the Pension Fund Budget annually.
- e. Agreeing to the admission of bodies into the Council's Pension scheme.
- f. Receiving actuarial valuations.
- g. Ensuring that members receive appropriate training to undertake their responsibilities.
- h. Approving the Annual Accounts of the Local Government Pension Scheme and consider recommendations from the Auditor.
- i. To secure, and to assist in securing compliance with:
  - i. the Regulations,
  - ii. and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme,
  - iii. any requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme and any connected scheme, and
- j. To ensure, and to assist in securing the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme.

#### 4 Membership of Committee

The Committee's membership is made up of six elected members of Haringey Council and two employee and two employer representatives.

#### 5 Compliance with statutory guidance

The Council is fully compliant with the statutory guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government in 2008. Annex 1 details this compliance in each area of the guidance.

#### 6 Local Pension Board

The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (paragraph 53 (4)) requires the Council to establish a Local Pension Board to assist the Pensions Committee. The Council applied under paragraph 106(2) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015 to operate a combined Board and Committee, this request was approved, and the joint Pensions Committee and Board is now fully operational.

#### Annex 1: Compliance with Statutory Guidance

#### A. Structure

- a) The management of the administration of benefits and strategic management of fund assets clearly rests with the main committee established by the appointing council.
- b) That representatives of participating LGPS employers, admitted bodies and scheme members (including pensioner and deferred members) are members of either the main or secondary committee established to underpin the work of the main committee.
- c) That where a secondary committee or panel has been established, the structure ensures effective communication across both levels.
- d) That where a secondary committee or panel has been established, at least one seat on the main committee is allocated for a member from the secondary committee or panel.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

The terms of reference for Pensions Committee and Board are clear that administration of benefits and strategic management of fund assets are part of the remit. In addition to elected members, there are members on the Committee representing Scheduled & Admitted Bodies, Active members and Pensioners. There is no secondary committee dealing with pension issues.

#### B. Representation

- a) That all key stakeholders are afforded the opportunity to be represented within the main or secondary committee structure. These include:
  - i) employing authorities (including non-scheme employers, e.g. admitted bodies);
  - ii) scheme members (including deferred and pensioner scheme members);
  - iii) independent professional observers, and
  - iv) expert advisers (on an ad-hoc basis).
- b) That where lay members sit on a main or secondary committee, they are treated equally in terms of access to papers and meetings, training and are given full opportunity to contribute to the decision making process, with or without voting rights.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

In addition to elected members, there are four employer and employee positions on the committee representing Scheduled & Admitted Bodies, Active members and Pensioners. Independent and expert advisers attend as required by the Committee. All members of the committee have equal voting rights and access to all of the same papers, meetings and training.

#### C. Selection and role of lay members

That committee or panel members are made fully aware of the status, role and function they are required to perform on either a main or secondary committee.

#### Haringev position

Fully compliant.

The terms of reference for the Pensions Committee and Board sets out the role and function of the Committee in relation to Pensions. This is supplemented by induction training offered to all new members of the Committee. Training is reported on at every meeting, members of the committee are actively encouraged to complete wider training sessions, as well as those organised for committee members prior to committee meetings.

#### D. Voting

The policy of individual administering authorities on voting rights is clear and transparent, including the justification for not extending voting rights to each body or group represented on main LGPS committees.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

The policy regarding voting rights is clearly set out and all members of the Pensions Committee and Board have equal voting rights. The nature of the decision making by the committee is such that almost all decision making is done by a reached consensus among the group of committee members, rather than by voting.

#### E. Training, Facility time, Expenses

- a) That in relation to the way in which statutory and related decisions are taken by the administering authority, there is a clear policy on training, facility time and reimbursement of expenses in respect of members involved in the decision-making process.
- b) That where such a policy exists, it applies equally to all members of committees, subcommittees, advisory panels or any other form of secondary forum.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

There is a clear policy on reimbursement of expenses for elected members of the Pensions Committee and Board. All members of the committee, have equal access to training.

#### F. Meetings (frequency/quorum)

- a) That an administering authority's main committee or committees meet at least quarterly.
- b) That an administering authority's secondary committee or panel meet at least twice a year and is synchronised with the dates when the main committee sits.
- c) That administering authorities who do not include lay members in their formal governance arrangements, provide a forum outside of those arrangements by which the interests of key stakeholders can be represented.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

The committee meets at least four times a year (recently this has been five times per annum). Additional formal or informal e.g. training meetings or manager selection days are held when necessary.

#### G. Access

That subject to any rules in the Council's constitution, all members of main and secondary committees or panels have equal access to committee papers, documents and advice that falls to be considered at meetings of the main committee.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

All members of the committee have equal access to all papers, documents and advice.

#### H. Scope

That administering authorities have taken steps to bring wider scheme issues within the scope of their governance arrangements.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

The Pensions Committee and Board's terms of reference include the wide range of pension's issues – investment, funding, administration, admission and budgeting.

#### I. Publicity

That administering authorities have published details of their governance arrangements in such a way that stakeholders with an interest in the way in which the scheme is governed can express an interest in wanting to be part of those arrangements.

#### Haringey position

Fully compliant.

The Governance Compliance Statement is circulated to all employers in the Pension Fund and published on the Council's website.

### LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY PENSION FUND

### INVESTMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT

### 1. Introduction

Haringey Council is the Administering Authority for the Local Government Pension Scheme in the London Borough of Haringey area and as such is responsible for the investment of the Pension Fund's ("the Fund") assets. The Council has delegated this responsibility to the Pensions Committee and Board (henceforth referred to as "the Committee").

The Committee is responsible for setting the investment strategy for the Fund, appointing fund managers to implement it and monitoring the performance of the strategy. The Committee retains an independent adviser and the services of an investment Consulting firm, in addition to the advice it receives from the Chief Financial Officer and other Officers.

Stock level decisions are taken by the investment managers appointed by the Fund to implement the agreed investment strategy. These decisions are taken within the parameters set out for each manager—more details are provided in Appendix B.

The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 requires administering authorities to formulate and to publish a statement of its investment strategy, in accordance with guidance issued from time to time by the Secretary of State.

The Investment Strategy Statement will be an important governance tool for the Fund, as well providing transparency in relation to how the Fund's investments are managed. It will be kept under review and revised from time to time in order to reflect any changes in policy.

The Committee complies with the requirements of the Myners Review of Institutional Investment, which can be found in Appendix A, alongside a review of the Fund's compliance with the principles.

### **Key Investment Beliefs**

The key investment beliefs held by the Committee form the foundation of discussions, and assist decisions, regarding the structure of the Fund's investment policy

The Fund's key investment beliefs are set out below:

### (i) Investment Governance

The Fund has the necessary skills, expertise and resources to take decisions on asset allocations, rebalancing and fund manager appointments.

Day to day investment decisions are delegated to regulated external fund managers that have appropriate skills and experience.

Investment Consultants, Independent Advisors and Officers are a source of expertise and research to inform Committee decisions.

The Committee's primary goal is the security of assets, and it will only take decisions when it is convinced that it is right to do so. In that regard, training in advance of decision making is considered a priority.

### (ii) Long Term Approach

The strength of the largest employers' covenant (London Borough of Haringey) allows a longer term deficit recovery period and for the Fund to take a long term view of investment strategy.

The most important aspect of risk is not the volatility of returns but the risk of absolute loss and of not meeting the objective of facilitating low, stable contribution rates for employers.

Illiquidity and volatility are risks which offer potential sources of additional compensation to the long term investor. Moreover, it is important to avoid being a forced seller in short term markets.

Participation in economic growth is a major source of long term equity returns.

Over the long term, equities are expected to outperform other liquid assets, particularly government bonds.

Well governed companies that manage their businesses in a responsible manner will likely produce higher returns over the long term.

### (iii) Appropriate Investments

Allocations to asset classes other than equities and government bonds (e.g. multi-sector credit, private equity, infrastructure and property) offer the Fund access to other forms of risk premia and provide diversification.

Diversification across asset classes and asset types is expected to reduce the volatility of the

overall Fund return.

### (iv) Management Strategies

Passive management provides low cost exposure to asset class returns and is especially attractive in efficient markets, where there is limited evidence that active management can consistently generate returns (after additional costs) that exceed index benchmarks. The Committee takes the view that most equity markets are sufficiently efficient to prefer passive equity investment.

Active management will be considered in markets in which passive approaches are either impossible or where there is strong evidence that active management can add value over the long-term (for example Property and alternative investments such as Private Equity) and which are therefore suited to active management.

Active management is more expensive than passive management, and fees should be aligned to the value created in excess of the performance of the market.

Active management performance should be monitored over multi-year rolling cycles and assessed to confirm that the original investment process on appointment is being delivered and that continued appointment is appropriate.

Implementation of strategies should be consistent with the governance capabilities of the Committee.

### **Objectives**

The primary objective of the Fund is:

• To provide for members' pension and lump sum benefits on their retirement or for their dependants benefits on death before or after retirement on a defined benefits basis.

The investment objective of the Fund is:

To achieve a return on Fund assets that is sufficient, over the long term, to meet its funding objectives.

The Committee recognises that the investment performance of the Fund is critical as it impacts directly on the level of employer contributions that the employers are required to pay.

This statement will be reviewed by the Committee at least triennially, or more frequently should any significant change occur.

### 2. Investment strategy and the process for ensuring suitability of investments

The Fund's benchmark investment strategy, along with an overview of the role each asset is expected to perform is set out in the following table:

Asset class	Allocation (%)	Allowable ranges (%)	Role(s) within the strategy
Listed Equities	52.5		Aim to generate returns in excess of inflation, through exposure to the shares of domestic and overseas companies.
UK Equities	8.8	+/- 3.0	
Overseas Market Capitalisation Equities	28.8	+/-5.0	
Global Low Carbon Equities	14.9	+/- 3.0	
Private Equity	5.0	_*	Aim to generate returns in excess of inflation, through exposure to companies that are not publicly traded, whilst providing some diversification away from listed equities and bonds.
Property	12.5	_*	Aim to generate returns in excess of inflation through exposure to UK and overseas property markets, through both income and capital appreciation, whilst providing some diversification away from equities and bonds.
Conventional Property	7.5	+/- 2.5	Traditional "core" property.
Long Lease Property	5.0	+/- 2.5	Long Lease Property is a lower risk approach compared to conventional property and focuses on delivering returns by harvesting long-term, secure contractual income that will increase over time through a combination of fixed and inflation related increases.
Infrastructure Debt	5.0	_*	A low risk asset producing returns by investing in senior debt secured on infrastructure assets
Renewable Energy Infrastructure	5.0	_*	Aims to generate returns in excess of inflation, through exposure to a diversified mix of renewable energy infrastructure sectors whilst providing some diversification away from listed equities and bonds.

Multi-Sector Credit	5.0	+/- 1.0	Provides diversified exposure to global credit markets to capture both income and capital appreciation of underlying markets and securities.
UK Index-Linked Gilts	15.0	+/-3%	Expected to produce an income stream with an explicit linkage to inflation, and interest rate sensitivity, which is expected to mitigate the impact to some extent of changes in interest rates and inflation expectation on the Fund's funding position.
Total	100.0		

<sup>\*</sup> Given the illiquid nature of these asset classes, there is no formal tolerance range in place. However, the Committee will closely monitor the position of the Fund over time, including these asset classes.

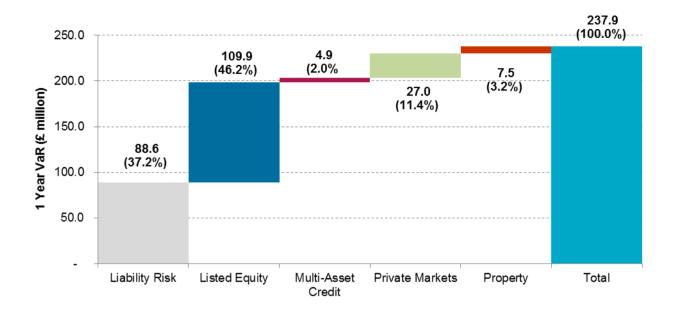
**Note:** Full details of the asset allocation of the Fund, including the investment managers and their respective performance benchmarks, are included in Appendix B.

### 3. Risk measurement and management

There are a number of risks to which any investment is exposed. The Fund's investment strategy has an inherent degree of risk which has to be taken in order to achieve the rate of return required to meet its funding objectives. The Fund has put in place a number of controls in order to manage the level of risk taken.

The benchmark the Committee has set involves a wide range of asset classes and geographical areas. This diversification aims to reduce the risk of low or negative returns to an acceptable level. As noted above, the Committee believes that active management of investments is appropriate in some asset classes, but not all. Active management introduces the risk of relative underperformance of an investment compared to its benchmark or wider market returns for that asset class. As the majority of the Fund's assets (all equities and index-linked gilts) are invested on a passive basis, the risk of underperforming the benchmark has been significantly reduced.

The following graph provides an indication of the main sources of investment risk (estimated by Mercer) relative to how the Fund's liabilities are currently valued (this is an estimate as at March 2016 and will change over time). The graph shows risk, as measured by a one year "value at risk" measure at the 5% level - in other words, if we consider a downside scenario which has a 1 in 20 chance of occurring, this would be the impact on the deficit relative to our "best estimate" of what the deficit would be in one years' time.



The following risks are recognised and considered by the Committee:

**Valuation risk:** the Actuarial Valuation assumes that the Fund generates an expected return equal to or in excess of the Fund's discount rate. An important risk to which the Fund is exposed is that the return is not achieved, either due to unexpected increases in the value placed on the liabilities, or if the assets do not perform as expected. This risk is reduced by the diversified investment strategy the Fund employs, through the alignment of the investment strategy with funding requirements through regular reviews, and through regular monitoring.

**Longevity risk:** this is the risk that the members of the Fund live longer than expected under the Actuarial Valuation assumptions. This risk is captured within the Actuarial Valuation report which is conducted at least triennially and monitored by the Committee, but any increase in longevity will only be realised over the long term.

**Sponsor Covenant risk:** the financial capacity and willingness of the sponsoring employers to support the Fund is a key consideration of the Committee and is reviewed on a regular basis.

**Diversification risk:** the Committee recognises the risks that may arise from the lack of diversification of investments. Subject to managing the risk from a mismatch of assets and liabilities, the Committee aims to ensure that the asset allocation policy results in an adequately diversified portfolio.

**Liquidity risk:** the Committee recognises that there is liquidity risk in holding assets that are not readily marketable and realisable. Given the Fund's long term investment horizon, the Committee believes that a degree of liquidity risk is acceptable, given the potential return. The majority of the Fund's assets are realisable at short notice.

**Manager risk:** the Fund's assets are invested with a number of managers to provide appropriate diversification.

**Regulatory and political risk:** across all of the Fund's investments, there is the potential for adverse regulatory or political change. Regulatory risk arises from investing in a market environment where the

regulatory regime may change. This may be compounded by political risk in those environments subject to unstable regimes. The Committee will attempt to invest in a manner which considers the impact of any such regulatory or political change should such a change occur.

**Exchange rate risk:** this risk arises from unhedged currency exposure on investments overseas. The Committee has agreed to hedge 50% of the overseas equity exposure (excluding Emerging Markets) to protect the sterling value of these investments and to reduce the volatility that arises from movements in exchange rates. Currency hedging on other assets is considered on a case of case, as appropriate.

**Cashflow risk:** the Fund's cashflow position is carefully monitored on a regular basis. As appropriate, positive and negative cashflows are used to help rebalance the investment policy closer into line with the target. Over time, it is expected that the size of pensioner cashflows will increase as the Fund matures and greater consideration will need to be given to raising assets to meet outgoings. The Committee recognises that this can present additional risks, particularly if there is a requirement to sell assets at inopportune times.

**Governance:** members of the Committee participate in regular training sessions. The Committee is aware that poor governance and, in, particular, high turnover of members may prove detrimental to the investment strategy, fund administration, liability management and corporate governance, and seek to minimise turnover where possible.

**Environmental, Social and Governance:** the Committee wishes to have an active influence on issues of environmental, social or governance (ESG) concern with companies in which the Fund is a shareholder. It will seek to codify its approach with Fund Managers and will use the services of specialist agencies as necessary to identify issues of concern. The Committee requires the Fund Managers to take into account the implications of substantial "extra-financial" considerations, e.g., ESG or reputational issues that could bring a particular investment decision into the public arena.

The full ESG policy of the Fund is outlined in Section 5.

### 4. Approach to asset pooling

The Fund has formally agreed to join the London Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) as part of the Government's pooling agenda. The London CIV has been operational for some time and is in the process of opening a range of sub-funds covering liquid asset classes, with less liquid asset classes to follow.

The Fund will consider transitioning liquid assets (as appropriate) into the London CIV when there are suitable investment strategies that meet the asset allocation and investment strategy available on the London CIV platform.

The Fund's illiquid assets (e.g. Property, Private Equity and Infrastructure related) are expected to remain outside of the London CIV pool. The cost of exiting these strategies would have a negative financial impact on the Fund. These will be held as legacy assets until such time as they mature and proceeds re-invest through the pool assuming it has appropriate strategies available or until the Fund changes asset allocation and makes a decision not to reinvest. The Committee will regularly review the assets that it has determined should be held outside the London CIV, at least every three years, to ensure that this decision continues to demonstrate value for money.

### 5. Social, environmental and corporate governance policy

The Fund believes the adoption by companies of positive Environmental, Social and Governance principles can enhance their long term performance and increase their financial returns. The Fund has demonstrated this by adopting the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment and by being a member of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum, which undertakes engagement activity with companies on behalf of its members.

In addition, the Fund has demonstrated this by allocating one-third of its equity portfolio (excluding Emerging Markets) to a passive fund that tracks the MSCI World Low Carbon Target Index. This index aims to reduce exposure to companies with the highest carbon footprints, relative to a market capitalisation benchmark. Further, the Fund has made commitments expected to be equivalent to c. 5% of assets to two Renewable Energy mandates. These mandates will invest in infrastructure assets that are linked to the production of different forms of Renewable Energy (e.g. Wind, Solar, Tidal power). This further demonstrates the commitment of the Fund to Environmental principles. The Fund believes that further reduction in exposure to fossil fuel industries will reduce risk and secure stronger returns for the fund over the long term.

Investment managers are expected to consider responsible investment issues when voting on behalf of the Fund. However in instances where shareholder value and responsible investment conflict, the investment managers are instructed to vote for shareholder value and report these instances to the Committee. All investment managers are expected to vote in respect of all pooled funds.

The Committee has member and other stakeholder representatives who actively engage with stakeholders to ensure the Fund is aware and can respond effectively to stakeholder concerns.

Investments that deliver social impact as well as a financial return are often described as "social investments". So cial investment includes a wide spectrum of investment opportunities. The Fund is consistent in the application of risk and return requirements when evaluating all investment opportunities including those that address societal challenges but generate competitive financial returns with an acceptable risk / return profile in line with the investment strategy.

The Fund does not exclude investments in order to pursue boycotts, divestment and sanctions against foreign nations and UK defence industries, other than where formal legal sanctions, embargoes and restrictions have been put in place by the Government.

### 6. Policy of the exercise of rights (including voting rights) attaching to investments

The Fund believes that active Stewardship can promote the long term success of companies for the benefit of stakeholders including investors.

### Stewardship Code Statement

The Fund has committed to becoming a Signatory to the UK Stewardship Code and will prepare a formal statement of compliance. An interim statement in relation to the Seven Principles of the UK Stewardship Code is provided below:

<u>Principle 1: Institutional investors should publicly disclose their policy on how they will discharge their stewardship responsibilities.</u>

The Fund takes its responsibilities as a shareholder seriously and has made a commitment to the informed exercise of its ownership rights.

<u>Principle 2: Institutional investors should have a robust policy on managing conflicts of interest in relation</u> to stewardship and this policy should be publicly disclosed.

The Fund expects its investment managers to have effective policies addressing potential conflicts of interest. In respect of conflicts of interest within the Fund, Committee members are required to make declarations of interest prior to committee meetings.

### Principle 3: Institutional investors should monitor their investee companies.

Day-to-day responsibility for managing the Fund's equity holdings is delegated to our appointed investment managers and the Fund expects them to monitor companies, intervene where necessary, and report back regularly on activity undertaken.

<u>Principle 4: Institutional investors should establish clear guidelines on when and how they will escalate</u> their activities as a method of protecting and enhancing shareholder value.

Responsibility for day-to-day interaction with companies is delegated to the Fund's investment managers, including the escalation of engagement when necessary. On occasion, the Fund may itself choose to escalate activity; this will typically be through our membership of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF). When this occurs, the Committee will typically take a minuted vote on the decision whether to participate in the proposed activity.

<u>Principle 5: Institutional investors should be willing to act collectively with other investors where appropriate.</u>

The Fund seeks to work collaboratively with other institutional shareholders in order to maximise the influence that it can have on individual companies. This is achieved through our LAPFF membership, together with initiatives proposed by our investment managers or other advisors.

Principle 6: Institutional investors should have a clear policy on voting and disclosure of voting activity.

The Fund invests via pooled funds and is therefore subject to the underlying investment managers' policies. The Fund expects its investment managers to exercise all votes associated with the Fund's equity holdings where practicable. The Fund encourages its investment managers to publicly disclose their voting records. The Fund also looks to fulfil its responsibilities regarding shareholder voting through it's membership of LAPFF.

Generally, the Fund expects its investment managers to support resolutions that are consistent with the UK Corporate Governance Code and represent best practice. In overseas markets, the Committee expects the managers to take account of local best practice principles.

Where resolutions or issues fall short of the expected standards, the Committee expects managers will either abstain or vote against, depending on the individual circumstances of the company and the issues presented. The Committee expects the investment managers to report on their voting activities on a regular basis and the Fund's Officers consider whether each manager's actions and engagement activities have been appropriate and in keeping with the Fund's policy.

The policy is reviewed at least annually in order to take account of regulatory developments and timely or controversial issues may be discussed at Committee meetings.

Principle 7: Institutional investors should report periodically on their stewardship and voting activities.

The Fund expects its underlying investment managers to report regularly to both the Officers and the Committee with respect to voting and engagement activities, including examples of company engagement, progress on engagement over time and collaborative activities. The Fund encourages its investment managers to publicly report on their stewardship activities. The Fund will report on its stewardship activity to the Committee on an annual basis.

### **Advice Taken**

In constructing this statement, the Committee has taken advice from a representative of the Fund's professional investment advisor (Mercer Limited), an independent advisor (John Raisin Financial Services Limited), and the Borough's Chief Financial Officer (and other Officers).

### Appendix A - Myners Investment Principles - Compliance Statement

### **Principle 1: Effective Decision-making**

Administering authorities should ensure that:

- decisions are taken by persons or organisations with the skills, knowledge, advice and resources necessary to make them effectively and monitor their implementation; and
- those persons or organisations have sufficient expertise to be able to evaluate and challenge the advice they receive, and manage conflicts of interest.

### **Haringey Position**

Haringey offers regular training to all members of the Committee to ensure they have the necessary knowledge to make decisions and challenge the advice they receive.

### **Principle 2: Clear Objectives**

An overall investment objective should be set out for the fund that takes account of the scheme's liabilities, the potential impact on local taxpayers, the strength of the covenant for non-local authority employers, and the attitude to risk of both the administering authority and scheme employers, and these should be clearly communicated to advisors and investment managers.

### **Haringey Position**

The Fund sets out an investment objective in this statement, which reflects the financial requirements of the agreed funding policy and the desire to return to full funding over the long-term, in combination with an acceptable level of contributions.

### Principle 3: Risk and liabilities

In setting and reviewing their investment strategy, administering authorities should take account of the form and structure of liabilities. These include the implications for the local taxpayers, the strength of the covenant for participating employers, the risk of their default and longevity risk.

### **Haringey Position**

The Fund's investment strategy was set following the results of the last formal Actuarial Valuation, which incorporated these issues. The investment strategy has since been revised to seek to further improve risk adjusted returns.

### Principle 4: Performance assessment

Arrangements should be in place for the formal measurement of performance of the investments, investment managers and advisors.

Administering authorities should also periodically make a formal assessment of their own effectiveness as a decision-making body and report on this to scheme members.

### **Haringey Position**

The Committee reviews the performance of Fund investments on a quarterly basis and meets with investment managers (via Officers) at least once a year. Contracts with advisers are reviewed regularly. The Committee undertakes an assessment of its own effectiveness on a regular basis.

### Principle 5: Responsible ownership

Administering authorities should:

- Adopt, or ensure their investment managers adopt, the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) UK
   Stewardship Code on the responsibilities of shareholders and agents
- Include a statement of their policy on responsible ownership in the statement of investment principles.
- Report periodically to scheme members on the discharge of such responsibilities.

### **Haringey Position**

The Fund's investment managers have adopted or are committed to the UK Stewardship Code.

The Fund includes a statement of its policy on responsible ownership in this statement. This is reported to members at least annually through the annual report.

### Principle 6: Transparency and reporting

Administering authorities should:

- Act in a transparent manner, communicating with stakeholders on issues relating to their management of investments, its governance and risks, including performance against stated objectives
- Provide regular communication to scheme members in the form they consider most appropriate

### **Haringey Position**

The Fund communicates with its stakeholders through the publication of policy statements and an Annual Report on its website. The Fund communicates regularly with its members and the communication policy statement provides information about how this is done.

### <u>Appendix B – Investment Manager Performance Targets and Benchmarks</u>

Manager	Portfolio		Benchmark	Performance Target
LGIM	Global Equities	67.5	See Appendix C	Index (passively managed)
	and Index-Linked Gilts			
Pantheon	Private Equity	5.0	MSCI World Index	+ 3.5% p.a.
Private				
Equity				
CBRE Global	Conventional Property	7.5	IPD UK Pooled	+1% p.a. gross of fees over a rolling 5
Investors			Property Funds All	year period
			Balanced Index	
Aviva Investors	Long Lease Property	5.0	50% FTSE Actuaries	+1.50% p.a. over the medium to long
			5-15 Year Gilt Index	term
			50% FTSE 15 Years	
			+ Gilt Index*	
Allianz	Infrastructure Debt	5.0	5.5% p.a.	Benchmark
BlackRock	Renewable Energy	2.5	n/a	8.0% p.a. Hurdle Rate/Preferred Return
	Infrastructure			
Copenhagen	Renewable Energy	2.5	n/a	6.5% p.a. Hurdle Rate/Preferred Return
Infrastructure	Infrastructure			
Partners (CIP)				
CQS	Multi Sector	5.0	3 month GBP LIBOR	+ 4.5% p.a.
	Credit			

<sup>\*</sup> The Fund invests in the Aviva Lime Property Fund, which invests in a diversified portfolio of UK Real Estate assets with long leases and strong covenants. The official performance objective is to outperform the composite benchmark in the table above by 1.5% over the medium to long term. In practice, the shorter term performance of the benchmark has the scope to perform very differently to the underlying property assets. Over shorter periods (less than 5 years), the Officers will assess the performance of this part of the portfolio on a total return basis, whereby around 60% to 80% of this is expected to be derived from rental income (with capital appreciation being the balance).

### Appendix C - Global Equity and Bond Benchmarks

The table below outlines details on the Fund's passive managed investments, held with LGIM. This allocation comprises all of the Fund's listed equity and index linked gilt exposure. The aim of these passively managed funds is to track the performance of the respective indices within a lower level of tracking deviation (gross of fees) over rolling 3-year periods.

Asset Class	Benchmark	Allocation (% total Fund assets)
UK Equities	FTSE All Share	8.8%
Overseas Market Capitalisation Equities		28.8%
North America	FT World Developed North America Index (Unhedged)	12.7%
Europe ex UK	FT World Developed Europe ex-UK Index (Unhedged)	4.3%
Pacific ex Japan	FTSE Developed Asia Pacific (ex- Japan) Index	2.0%
Japan	FTSE Japan Index (Unhedged)	2.0%
Emerging Markets	FTSE Emerging Markets Index (Unhedged)	7.8%
Global Low Carbon Equities	MSCI World Low Carbon Target Index	14.9%
Index Linked Gilts	FTA Index Linked Over 5 Years Index	15.0%
Total		67.50%

### Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 Regulation 61

### Policy Statement on Communications with Scheme Members and Employers

Effective communication between Haringey Council, the scheme members, and the employers within the fund is essential to the proper management of the LGPS on a transparent and accountable basis.

This document sets out a policy framework within which the Council will communicate with:-

- Members of the scheme and their family units.
- Representatives of members
- Employing bodies and
- Prospective members

It identifies the format, frequency and method of distributing information and publicity. It also outlines the processes for promoting the scheme to prospective members and employing bodies.

### Members of the scheme:

### A. Points of Contacts:

- i. Pension Team for day-to-day contact and visits.
- ii. Ad hoc briefings and workshops
- iii. Harinet
- iv. Pensions Web Page

A pensions page is maintained on Harinet and on the Haringey Web Site which provides:-

- Guides to the LGPS including Pension Sharing on Divorce, Increasing Pension Benefits and the Appeals Process
- Forms which allow members to :-
  - Join or leave the scheme or opt to join the 50/50 scheme.
  - Indicate to the Council how any death grant should be disbursed.
- Policy Statements on the use of the Council's Discretionary Powers, Investment Principles. The Financial Strategy Statement and the Communications Strategy
- Annual Reports and Pensions Bulletins
- Notice of events

- Contact details for the Pensions Team
- Links to other useful sites including the scheme regulations and on-line to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The information held on the Harinet and Pensions Web Pages is reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Although the web page mirrors the information held on Harinet, it extends to a wider audience and allows the family unit to access pensions information relevant to them.

### **B**. Levels of Communication:

- i. General day to day administration of the scheme
- ii. Annual payslips and annual newsletter to Pensioner Members
- iii. Statutory notices and statements e.g: individual notices regarding entry to the scheme or hours changes and Annual Benefits Statements.
- iv. Formal notice of significant proposals to change the scheme
- v. Life certificates to Pensioners living abroad.

### C. Medium of communication

- i. Telephone and e-mail
- ii. Hard copy dispatches
- iii. Workshops/ Employee Briefings
- iv. Face to face meetings

### **D.** Timing

- i. General policy is to issues statutory notifications and statements within the prescribed limits and to respond to written enquiries within 10 working days.
- ii. An Annual Report on the Fund is published annually.
- iii. Pension Bulletins on items of significance are issued as the need arises.
- vi. The Pensions Newsletter is published in April of each year to coincide with pensions increase awards.
- v. The Deferred Members Newsletter is published each year and coincides with the distribution of the Deferred Members Annual Benefits Statements

### Representatives of members

### A. Points of Contact

- i. The Corporate Industrial Relations Group
- ii. Council and Staff Joint Consultative Committee
- iii. Pensions Committee and General Purposes Committee
- iv. Face to face meetings or issues raised in correspondence or by telephone.
- v. Ad hoc presentations to Trade Union Officers and work place representatives.

### B. Levels of communication

- i. Consultation on proposed scheme changes and significant policy issues on the use of employer discretions.
- ii. Joint meetings with staff affected by TUPE transfers
- iii. Response to employee complaints or queries via their representatives.
- iv. Semi-formal meetings to brief employee representatives on scheme changes or to explain existing scheme rules.

### C. Medium of communication

- i. Telephone and e-mail
- ii. Hard copy dispatches
- iii. Group meetings at Officer level
- iv. Committee meetings at Elected Member level
- v. Face to face meetings

### D. Timing

Formal meetings are dictated by pre determined dates. Informal meetings as an when required.

### **Employers**

### A. Points of contact:

Day to day contact falls into three categories:-

- i. Pensions Team for day to day administration
- ii. Pay Support (where the Council provides a payroll service)
- iii. Finance for FRS 17 disclosure and funding issues.

### B. Levels of Communication:

- i. General day to day administration of the scheme
- ii. Formal notification of discussion documents and consultation papers

- iii. Employer briefings on issues affecting the scheme including an Employers Guide to the LGPS
- iv. Pre and post fund valuation meetings.

### C. Medium of communication

- i. Telephone and e-mail
- ii. Site visits
- iii. Hard copy dispatches

### **D.** Timing

The general policy is to keep employers informed of issues as they arise or are expected to arise in good time for the appropriate action to be taken or comments considered.

We are proposing to improve the data quality from the employers through the implementation of iconnect which is a system to interface between employer payroll systems and the pension systems and should improve data quality at source.

### Prospective Members and promoting the LGPS

- i. All new starters are issued with a leaflet Important Pensions Information as part of their new starter packs. This gives a brief outline of the scheme benefits and the alternative choices available.
- ii. An Annual Benefits Statement are issued yearly. This ensures that members appreciate the value of being a scheme member which they can share with colleagues.
- iii. Promotions of the Additional Voluntary Contributions Scheme are held in conjunction with the Council's AVC providers. These events are open to all staff and act to attract non members to the LGPS.

# Haringey Pension Fund London Borough of

Funding Strategy Statement

**March 2017** 

## Contents

Fun	ding Strategy Statement	PAGE
1 2 3 4 5	Introduction Basic Funding issues Calculating contributions for individual Employers Funding strategy and links to investment strategy Statutory reporting and comparison to other LGPS Funds	1 4 8 19 21
Арр	endices	
App App App App	endix A – Regulatory framework endix B – Responsibilities of key parties endix C – Key risks and controls endix D – The calculation of Employer contributions endix E – Actuarial assumptions endix F – Glossary	23 25 27 31 34 37

### 1 Introduction

### 1.1 What is this document?

This is the Funding Strategy Statement (FSS) of the London Borough of Haringey Pension Fund ("the Fund"), which is administered by the London Borough of Haringey, ("the Administering Authority").

It has been prepared by the Administering Authority in collaboration with the Fund's actuary, Hymans Robertson LLP, and after consultation with the Fund's employers and investment adviser. It is effective from 1 April 2017.

### 1.2 What is the London Borough of Haringey Pension Fund?

The Fund is part of the national Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The LGPS was set up by the UK Government to provide retirement and death benefits for local government employees, and those employed in similar or related bodies, across the whole of the UK. The Administering Authority runs the London Borough of Haringey Fund, in effect the LGPS for the Haringey area, to make sure it:

- receives the proper amount of contributions from employees and employers, and any transfer payments;
- invests the contributions appropriately, with the aim that the Fund's assets grow over time with investment income and capital growth; and
- uses the assets to pay Fund benefits to the members (as and when they retire, for the rest of their lives), and to their dependants (as and when members die), as defined in the LGPS Regulations. Assets are also used to pay transfer values and administration costs.

The roles and responsibilities of the key parties involved in the management of the Fund are summarised in Appendix B.

### 1.3 Why does the Fund need a Funding Strategy Statement?

Employees' benefits are guaranteed by the LGPS Regulations, and do not change with market values or employer contributions. Investment returns will help pay for some of the benefits, but probably not all, and certainly with no guarantee. Employees' contributions are fixed in those Regulations also, at a level which covers only part of the cost of the benefits.

Therefore, employers need to pay the balance of the cost of delivering the benefits to members and their dependants.

The FSS focuses on how employer liabilities are measured, the pace at which these liabilities are funded, and how employers or pools of employers pay for their own liabilities. This statement sets out how the Administering Authority has balanced the conflicting aims of:

- · affordability of employer contributions,
- transparency of processes,
- · stability of employers' contributions, and
- prudence in the funding basis.

There are also regulatory requirements for an FSS, as given in <u>Appendix A</u>. This FSS has been prepared taking account of the revised guidance on preparing and maintaining a FSS issued by CIPFA in 2016.

The FSS is a summary of the Fund's approach to funding its liabilities, and this includes reference to the Fund's other policies; it is not an exhaustive statement of policy on all issues. The FSS forms part of a framework which includes:

- the LGPS Regulations;
- the Rates and Adjustments Certificate (confirming employer contribution rates for the next three years)
   which can be found in an appendix to the formal valuation report;
- actuarial factors for valuing individual transfers, early retirement costs and the costs of buying added service; and
- the Fund's Statement of Investment Principles / Investment Strategy Statement (see <u>Section 4</u>)

### 1.4 How does the Fund and this FSS affect me?

This depends who you are:

- a member of the Fund, i.e. a current or former employee, or a dependant: the Fund needs to be sure it is collecting and holding enough money so that your benefits are always paid in full;
- an employer in the Fund (or which is considering joining the Fund): you will want to know how your
  contributions are calculated from time to time, that these are fair by comparison to other employers in the
  Fund, and in what circumstances you might need to pay more. Note that the FSS applies to all employers
  participating in the Fund;
- an Elected Member whose council participates in the Fund: you will want to be sure that the council
  balances the need to hold prudent reserves for members' retirement and death benefits, with the other
  competing demands for council money;
- a Council Tax payer: your council seeks to strike the balance above, and also to minimise cross-subsidies between different generations of taxpayers.

### 1.5 What does the FSS aim to do?

The FSS sets out the objectives of the Fund's funding strategy, such as:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of the Fund, using a prudent long term view. This will ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet all members'/dependants' benefits as they fall due for payment;
- to ensure that employer contribution rates are reasonably stable where appropriate;
- to minimise the long-term cash contributions which employers need to pay to the Fund, by recognising the
  link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy which balances risk and return (NB
  this will also minimise the costs to be borne by Council Tax payers);
- to reflect the different characteristics of different employers in determining contribution rates. This involves
  the Fund having a clear and transparent funding strategy to demonstrate how each employer can best meet
  its own liabilities over future years; and
- to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the Council Tax payer from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations.

### 1.6 How do I find my way around this document?

In <u>Section 2</u> there is a brief introduction to some of the main principles behind funding, i.e. deciding how much an employer should contribute to the Fund from time to time.

In <u>Section 3</u> we outline how the Fund calculates the contributions payable by different employers in different situations.

In <u>Section 4</u> we show how the funding strategy is linked with the Fund's investment strategy.

In the **Appendices** we cover various issues in more detail if you are interested:

- A. the regulatory background, including how and when the FSS is reviewed,
- B. who is responsible for what,
- C. what issues the Fund needs to monitor, and how it manages its risks,
- D. some more details about the actuarial calculations required,
- E. the assumptions which the Fund actuary currently makes about the future,
- F. a glossary explaining the technical terms occasionally used here.

If you have any other queries please contact Thomas Skeen, Head of Pensions in the first instance at e-mail address thomas.skeen@haringey.gov.uk or on telephone number 020 8489 1341.

### 2 Basic Funding issues

(More detailed and extensive descriptions are given in Appendix D).

### 2.1 How does the actuary measure the required contribution rate?

In essence this is a three-step process:

- Calculate the ultimate funding target for that employer, i.e. the ideal amount of assets it should hold in order to be able to pay all its members' benefits. See <u>Appendix E</u> for more details of what assumptions we make to determine that funding target;
- 2. Determine the time horizon over which the employer should aim to achieve that funding target. See the table in 3.3 and Note (c) for more details;
- 3. Calculate the employer contribution rate such that it has at least a given probability of achieving that funding target over that time horizon, allowing for different likelihoods of various possible economic outcomes over that time horizon. See <u>2.3</u> below, and the table in <u>3.3 Note (e)</u> for more details.

### 2.2 What is each employer's contribution rate?

This is described in more detail in Appendix D. Employer contributions are normally made up of two elements:

- a) the estimated cost of benefits being built up each year, after deducting the members' own contributions and including administration expenses. This is referred to as the "*Primary rate*", and is expressed as a percentage of members' pensionable pay; plus
- b) an adjustment for the difference between the Primary rate above, and the actual contribution the employer needs to pay, referred to as the "Secondary rate". In broad terms, payment of the Secondary rate will aim to return the employer to full funding over an appropriate period (the "time horizon"). The Secondary rate may be expressed as a percentage of pay and/or a monetary amount in each year.

The rates for all employers are shown in the Fund's Rates and Adjustments Certificate, which forms part of the formal Actuarial Valuation Report. Employers' contributions are expressed as minima, with employers able to pay contributions at a higher rate. Account of any higher rate will be taken by the Fund actuary at subsequent valuations, i.e. will be reflected as a credit when next calculating the employer's contributions.

### 2.3 What different types of employer participate in the Fund?

Historically the LGPS was intended for local authority employees only. However over the years, with the diversification and changes to delivery of local services, many more types and numbers of employers now participate. There are currently more employers in the Fund than ever before, a significant part of this being due to new academies.

In essence, participation in the LGPS is open to public sector employers providing some form of service to the local community. Whilst the majority of members will be local authority employees (and ex-employees), the majority of participating employers are those providing services in place of (or alongside) local authority services: academy schools, contractors, housing associations, charities, etc.

The LGPS Regulations define various types of employer as follows:

**Scheduled bodies** - councils, and other specified employers such as academies and further education establishments. These must provide access to the LGPS in respect of their employees who are not eligible to join another public sector scheme (such as the Teachers Scheme). These employers are so-called because they are specified in a schedule to the LGPS Regulations.

It is now possible for Local Education Authority schools to convert to academy status, and for other forms of school (such as Free Schools) to be established under the academies legislation. All such **academies (or Multi Academy Trusts)**, as employers of non-teaching staff, become separate new employers in the Fund. As academies are defined in the LGPS Regulations as "Scheduled Bodies", the Administering Authority has no discretion over whether to admit them to the Fund, and the academy has no discretion whether to continue to allow its non-teaching staff to join the Fund. There has also been guidance issued by the DCLG regarding the terms of academies' membership in LGPS Funds.

**Designating employers** - employers such as town and parish councils are able to participate in the LGPS via resolution (and the Fund cannot refuse them entry where the resolution is passed). These employers can designate which of their employees are eligible to join the scheme.

Other employers are able to participate in the Fund via an admission agreement, and are referred to as 'admission bodies'. These employers are generally those with a "community of interest" with another scheme employer – **community admission bodies** ("CAB") or those providing a service on behalf of a scheme employer – **transferee admission bodies** ("TAB"). CABs will include housing associations and charities, TABs will generally be contractors. The Fund is able to set its criteria for participation by these employers and can refuse entry if the requirements as set out in the Fund's admissions policy are not met. (NB The terminology CAB and TAB has been dropped from recent LGPS Regulations, which instead combine both under the single term 'admission bodies'; however, we have retained the old terminology here as we consider it to be helpful in setting funding strategies for these different employers.

### 2.4 How does the measured contribution rate vary for different employers?

All three steps above are considered when setting contributions (more details are given in <u>Section 3</u> and <u>Appendix D</u>).

- 1. The **funding target** is based on a set of assumptions about the future, (e.g. investment returns, inflation, pensioners' life expectancies). However, if an employer is approaching the end of its participation in the Fund then its funding target may be set on a more prudent basis, so that its liabilities are less likely to be spread among other employers after its cessation;
- 2. The **time horizon** required is, in broad terms, the period over which any deficit is to be recovered. A shorter period will lead to higher contributions, and vice versa (all other things being equal). Employers may be given a lower time horizon if they have a less permanent anticipated membership, or do not have tax-raising powers to increase contributions if investment returns under-perform; and
- 3. The **probability of achieving** the funding target over that time horizon will be dependent on the Fund's view of the strength of employer covenant and its funding profile. Where an employer is considered to be weaker, or potentially ceasing from the Fund, then the required probability will be set higher, which in turn will increase the required contributions (and vice versa).

For some employers it may be agreed to pool contributions, see 3.4.

Any costs of non ill-health early retirements must be paid by the employer, see 3.6.

Costs of ill-health early retirements are covered in 3.7 and 3.8.

.

### 2.5 How is a deficit (or surplus) calculated?

An employer's "funding level" is defined as the ratio of:

- the market value of the employer's share of assets (see <u>Appendix D</u>, section <u>D5</u>, for further details of how this is calculated), to
- the value placed by the actuary on the benefits built up to date for the employer's employees and exemployees (the "liabilities"). The Fund actuary agrees with the Administering Authority the assumptions to be used in calculating this value.

If this is less than 100% then it means the employer has a shortfall, which is the employer's deficit; if it is more than 100% then the employer is said to be in surplus. The amount of deficit or shortfall is the difference between the asset value and the liabilities value.

It is important to note that the deficit/surplus and funding level are only measurements at a particular point in time, on a particular set of assumptions about the future. Whilst we recognise that various parties will take an interest in these measures, for most employers the key issue is how likely it is that their contributions will be sufficient to pay for their members' benefits (when added to their existing asset share and anticipated investment returns).

In short, deficits and funding levels are short term measures, whereas contribution-setting is a longer term issue.

### 2.6 How does the Fund recognise that contribution levels can affect council and employer service provision, and council tax?

The Administering Authority and the Fund actuary are acutely aware that, all other things being equal, a higher contribution required to be paid to the Fund will mean less cash available for the employer to spend on the provision of services. For instance:

- Higher Pension Fund contributions may result in reduced council spending, which in turn could affect the resources available for council services, and/or greater pressure on council tax levels;
- Contributions which Academies pay to the Fund will therefore not be available to pay for providing education; and
- Other employers will provide various services to the local community, perhaps through housing
  associations, charitable work, or contracting council services. If they are required to pay more in pension
  contributions to the LGPS then this may affect their ability to provide the local services at a reasonable
  cost.

Whilst all this is true, it should also be borne in mind that:

- The Fund provides invaluable financial security to local families, whether to those who formerly worked in the service of the local community who have now retired, or to their families after their death;
- The Fund must have the assets available to meet these retirement and death benefits, which in turn
  means that the various employers must each pay their own way. Lower contributions today will mean
  higher contributions tomorrow: deferring payments does not alter the employer's ultimate obligation to the
  Fund in respect of its current and former employees;
- Each employer will generally only pay for its own employees and ex-employees (and their dependants),
   not for those of other employers in the Fund;

- The Fund strives to maintain reasonably stable employer contribution rates where appropriate and
  possible. However, a recent shift in regulatory focus means that solvency within each generation is
  considered by the Government to be a higher priority than stability of contribution rates;
- The Fund wishes to avoid the situation where an employer falls so far behind in managing its funding shortfall that its deficit becomes unmanageable in practice: such a situation may lead to employer insolvency and the resulting deficit falling on the other Fund employers. In that situation, those employers' services would in turn suffer as a result:
- Council contributions to the Fund should be at a suitable level, to protect the interests of different
  generations of council tax payers. For instance, underpayment of contributions for some years will need
  to be balanced by overpayment in other years; the council will wish to minimise the extent to which
  council tax payers in one period are in effect benefitting at the expense of those paying in a different
  period.

Overall, therefore, there is clearly a balance to be struck between the Fund's need for maintaining prudent funding levels, and the employers' need to allocate their resources appropriately. The Fund achieves this through various techniques which affect contribution increases to various degrees (see <u>3.1</u>). In deciding which of these techniques to apply to any given employer, the Administering Authority takes a view on the financial standing of the employer, i.e. its ability to meet its funding commitments and the relevant time horizon.

For instance, where the Administering Authority has reasonable confidence that an employer will be able to meet its funding commitments, then the Fund will permit options such as stabilisation (see 3.3 Note (b)), a longer time horizon relative to other employers, and/or a lower probability of achieving their funding target. Such options will temporarily produce lower contribution levels than would otherwise have applied. This is permitted in the expectation that the employer will still be able to meet its obligations for many years to come.

On the other hand, where there is doubt that an employer will be able to meet its funding commitments or withstand a significant change in its commitments, then a higher funding target, and/or a shorter deficit recovery period relative to other employers, and/or a higher probability of achieving the target may be required.

The Fund actively seeks employer input, including to its funding arrangements, through various means: see Appendix A.

### 3 Calculating contributions for individual Employers

### 3.1 General comments

A key challenge for the Administering Authority is to balance the need for stable, affordable employer contributions with the requirement to take a prudent, longer-term view of funding and ensure the solvency of the Fund. With this in mind, the Fund's three-step process identifies the key issues:

- 1. What is a suitably (but not overly) prudent funding target?
- 2. How long should the employer be permitted to reach that target? This should be realistic but not so long that the funding target is in danger of never actually being achieved.
- 3. What probability is required to reach that funding target? This will always be less than 100% as we cannot be certain of future market movements. Higher probability "bars" can be used for employers where the Fund wishes to reduce the risk that the employer ceases leaving a deficit to be picked up by other employers.

These and associated issues are covered in this Section.

The Administering Authority recognises that there may occasionally be particular circumstances affecting individual employers that are not easily managed within the rules and policies set out in the Funding Strategy Statement. Therefore the Administering Authority may, at its sole discretion, direct the actuary to adopt alternative funding approaches on a case by case basis for specific employers.

### 3.2 The effect of paying lower contributions

In limited circumstances the Administering Authority may permit employers to pay contributions at a lower level than is assessed for the employer using the three step process above. At their absolute discretion the Administering Authority may:

- extend the time horizon for targeting full funding;
- adjust the required probability of meeting the funding target;
- permit an employer to participate in the Fund's stabilisation mechanisms;
- permit extended phasing in of contribution rises or reductions;
- pool contributions amongst employers with similar characteristics; and/or
- accept some form of security or guarantee in lieu of a higher contribution rate than would otherwise be the case.

Employers which are permitted to use one or more of the above methods will often be paying, for a time, contributions less than required to meet their funding target, over the appropriate time horizon with the required likelihood of success. Such employers should appreciate that:

- their true long term liability (i.e. the actual eventual cost of benefits payable to their employees and exemployees) is not affected by the pace of paying contributions;
- lower contributions in the short term will be assumed to incur a greater loss of investment returns on the deficit. Thus, deferring a certain amount of contribution may lead to higher contributions in the long-term; and
- it may take longer to reach their funding target, all other things being equal.

Overleaf (3.3) is a summary of how the main funding policies differ for different types of employer, followed by more detailed notes where necessary.

Section 3.4 onwards deals with various other funding issues which apply to all employers.

# 3.3 The different approaches used for different employers

Type of employer		Scheduled Bodies	es	Community Adr Designatii	Community Admission Bodies and Designating Employers	Transferee Admission Bodies
Sub-type	Local Authority	Academies	Colleges	Open to new entrants	Closed to new entrants	(all)
Funding Target Basis used	Ongoing, as:	Ongoing, assumes long-term Fund participation (see Appendix E)	und participation :)	Ongoing, but may see	Ongoing, but may move to "gilts basis" - see Note (a)	Ongoing, assumes fixed contract term in the Fund (see Appendix E)
Primary rate approach				(see <u>Appendix D – D.2)</u>	<u>D-D.2</u> )	
Stabilised	Yes-see	Yes - see	No	No	N <sub>O</sub>	ON
contribution rate?	Note (b)	Note (b)				
Maximum time horizon – Note (c)	20 years	20 years	20 years	20 years	Future working lifetime	Outstanding contract term
Secondary rate –	Monetary	Percentage of	Monetary	Monetary	Monetary amount	Percentage of pay
in alon	alliouiit	pay	allioniil	alliouiit		
Treatment of surplus	Covered by stabilisation arrangement	Covered by stabilisation arrangement	Preferred appro However, reductio	Preferred approach: contributions kept at Primary rate. wever, reductions may be permitted by the Administer. Authority	Preferred approach: contributions kept at Primary rate. However, reductions may be permitted by the Administering Authority	Reduce contributions by spreading the surplus over the remaining contract term, unless time horizon passes next valuation in which case limit to Primary rate
Probability of achieving target – Note (e)	%02	%02	75%	75%	80%	50%
Phasing of contribution changes	Covered by stabilisation	Covered by stabilisation	3 years	3 years	3 years	None
	arrangement	arrangement				
Review of rates – Note (f)	Administerir	ig Authority reserve level of security pr	s the right to review rovided, at requiar in	Administering Authority reserves the right to review contribution rates and amounts, and the level of security provided, at regular intervals between valuations	nd amounts, and the lations	Particularly reviewed in last 3 years of contract
New employer	n/a	n/a	Note (q)	N	Note (h)	Notes (h) & (i)
Cessation of participation: cessation debt payable	Cessation is a as Schedu as Schedu participate cessation or changes for ex appli	Cessation is assumed not to be generally possibl as Scheduled Bodies are legally obliged to participate in the LGPS. In the rare event of cessation occurring (machinery of Government changes for example), the cessation debt principle applied would be as per Note (i).	generally possible, ally obliged to be rare event of of Government ion debt principles Note (i).	Can be ceased admission agreer will be calculated to the circumstant	Can be ceased subject to terms of admission agreement. Cessation debt will be calculated on a basis appropriate to the circumstances of cessation – see Note (i).	Participation is assumed to expire at the end of the contract. Cessation debt (if any) calculated on ongoing basis. Awarding Authority will be liable for future deficits and contributions arising.

### Note (a) (Basis for CABs and Designating Employers closed to new entrants)

In the circumstances where:

- the employer is a Designating Employer, or an Admission Body but not a Transferee Admission Body, and
- the employer has no guarantor, and
- the admission agreement is likely to terminate, or the employer is likely to lose its last active member, within a timeframe considered appropriate by the Administering Authority to prompt a change in funding,

the Administering Authority may set a higher funding target (e.g. using a discount rate set equal to gilt yields) by the time the agreement terminates or the last active member leaves, in order to protect other employers in the Fund. This policy will increase regular contributions and reduce, but not entirely eliminate, the possibility of a final deficit payment being required from the employer when a cessation valuation is carried out.

The Administering Authority also reserves the right to adopt the above approach in respect of those Designating Employers and Admission Bodies with no guarantor, where the strength of covenant is considered to be weak but there is no immediate expectation that the admission agreement will cease or the Designating Employer alters its designation.

### Note (b) (Stabilisation)

Stabilisation is a mechanism where employer contribution rate variations from year to year are kept within a predetermined range, thus allowing those employers' rates to be relatively stable. In the interests of stability and affordability of employer contributions, the Administering Authority, on the advice of the Fund Actuary, believes that stabilising contributions can still be viewed as a prudent longer-term approach. However, employers whose contribution rates have been "stabilised" (and may therefore be paying less than their theoretical contribution rate) should be aware of the risks of this approach and should consider making additional payments to the Fund if possible.

This stabilisation mechanism allows short term investment market volatility to be managed so as not to cause volatility in employer contribution rates, on the basis that a long term view can be taken on net cash inflow, investment returns and strength of employer covenant.

The current stabilisation mechanism applies if:

- the employer satisfies the eligibility criteria set by the Administering Authority (see below) and;
- there are no material events which cause the employer to become ineligible, e.g. significant reductions in active membership (due to outsourcing or redundancies), or changes in the nature of the employer (perhaps due to Government restructuring), or changes in the security of the employer.

On the basis of extensive modelling carried out for the 2016 valuation exercise (see <u>Section 4</u>), the stabilised details are as follows:

Type of employer	Council	Academies
Starting rate	24.9% (2016/17 rate)	28.9% (2016/2017 rate)
Max contribution increase from one year to the next	+1% of pay*	+2% of pay
Max contribution decrease from one year to the next	-1% of pay	-2% of pay**

\*In practice the Council contribution rate will be held at the current level for 2 years, followed by a 1.5% increase in 2019-20.

\*\*Reductions in contribution rate will be limited such that the Academy is paying at least the Primary rate.

The stabilisation criteria and limits will be reviewed at the 31 March 2019 valuation, to take effect from 1 April 2020. However the Administering Authority reserves the right to review the stabilisation criteria and limits at any time before then, on the basis of membership and/or employer changes as described above.

### Note (c) (Maximum time horizon)

The maximum time horizon starts at the commencement of the revised contribution rate (1 April 2017 for the 2016 valuation). The Administering Authority would normally expect a reducing time horizon (i.e. the same target date) to be used at successive triennial valuations, but would reserve the right to propose alternative time horizons, for example where there were no new entrants.

Where stabilisation applies, the resulting employer contribution rate would be amended to comply with the stabilisation mechanism.

For employers with no (or very few) active members at this valuation, the deficit should be recovered by a fixed monetary amount over a prudent period to be agreed with the body or its successor.

For academies where written notice has been served terminating their funding agreement with the Department for Education, the period is reduced to the period of notice (with immediate effect).

For Community Admission Bodies without a guarantor, the period will generally be equal to the average future working lifetime of their active employee members.

### Note (d) (Secondary rate)

The Administering Authority reserves the right to amend the Secondary rate between valuations and/or to require these payments in monetary terms (if they are paid in percentage of pay terms), for instance where:

- the employer is relatively mature, i.e. has a large Secondary contribution rate (e.g. above 15% of payroll), or
- there has been a significant reduction in payroll due to outsourcing or redundancy exercises, or
- the employer has closed the Fund to new entrants.

### Note (e) (Probability of achieving funding target)

Each employer has its funding target calculated, and a relevant time horizon over which to reach that target. Contributions are set such that, combined with the employer's current asset share and anticipated market movements over the time horizon, the funding target is achieved with a given minimum probability. A higher required probability bar will give rise to higher required contributions, and vice versa.

The way in which contributions are set using these three steps, and relevant economic projections, is described in further detail in Appendix D.

Different probabilities are set for different employers depending on their nature and circumstances: in broad terms, a higher probability will apply due to one or more of the following:

- the Fund believes the employer poses a greater funding risk than other employers,
- the employer does not have tax-raising powers;

- the employer does not have a guarantor or other sufficient security backing its funding position; and/or
- the employer is likely to cease participation in the Fund in the short or medium term.

### Note (f) (Regular Reviews)

Such reviews may be triggered by significant events including but not limited to: significant reductions in payroll, altered employer circumstances, Government restructuring affecting the employer's business, or failure to pay contributions or arrange appropriate security as required by the Administering Authority.

The result of a review may be to require increased contributions (by strengthening the actuarial assumptions adopted and/or moving to monetary levels of deficit recovery contributions), and/or an increased level of security or guarantee.

### Note (g) (New Academy conversions)

At the time of writing, the Fund's policies on academies' funding issues are as follows:

- i. The new academy will be regarded as a separate employer in its own right and will not be pooled with other employers in the Fund. The only exception is where the academy is part of a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) in which case the academy's figures will be calculated as below but can be combined with those of the other academies in the MAT:
- ii. The new academy's past service liabilities on conversion will be calculated based on its active Fund members on the day before conversion. For the avoidance of doubt, these liabilities will include all past service of those members, but will exclude the liabilities relating to any ex-employees of the school who have deferred or pensioner status;
- iii. The new academy will be allocated an initial asset share from the ceding council's assets in the Fund. This asset share will be calculated using the estimated funding position of the ceding council at the date of academy conversion. The share will be based on the active members' funding level, having first allocated assets in the council's share to fully fund deferred and pensioner members. The asset allocation will be based on market conditions and the academy's active Fund membership on the day prior to conversion;
- iv. The new academy's initial contribution rate will be calculated using market conditions, the council funding position and, membership data, all as at the day prior to conversion;

The Fund's policies on academies are subject to change in the light of any amendments to DCLG guidance. Any changes will be notified to academies, and will be reflected in a subsequent version of this FSS. In particular, policy (iv) above will be reconsidered at each valuation.

### Note (h) (New Admission Bodies)

With effect from 1 October 2012, the LGPS 2012 Miscellaneous Regulations introduced mandatory new requirements for all Admission Bodies brought into the Fund from that date. Under these Regulations, all new Admission Bodies will be required to provide some form of security, such as a guarantee from the letting employer, an indemnity or a bond. The security is required to cover some or all of the following:

- the strain cost of any redundancy early retirements resulting from the premature termination of the contract;
- allowance for the risk of asset underperformance;
- allowance for the risk of a fall in gilt yields;
- allowance for the possible non-payment of employer and member contributions to the Fund; and/or
- the current deficit.

Transferee Admission Bodies: For all TABs, the security must be to the satisfaction of the Administering Authority as well as the letting employer, and will be reassessed on an annual basis. See also Note (i) below.

Community Admission Bodies: The Administering Authority will only consider requests from CABs (or other similar bodies, such as section 75 NHS partnerships) to join the Fund if they are sponsored by a Scheduled Body with tax raising powers, guaranteeing their liabilities and also providing a form of security as above.

The above approaches reduce the risk, to other employers in the Fund, of potentially having to pick up any shortfall in respect of Admission Bodies ceasing with an unpaid deficit.

At the Administering Authority's discretion, where the employer is not able to provide an appropriate bond or security, the Fund may accept the Admission Body on the basis that it pays a premium reflecting the added risk being borne by the Awarding Authority or Fund. This premium will typically be 5% of pensionable pay.

### Note (i) (New Transferee Admission Bodies)

A new TAB usually joins the Fund as a result of the letting/outsourcing of some services from an existing employer (normally a Scheduled Body such as a council or academy) to another organisation (a "contractor"). This involves the TUPE transfer of some staff from the letting employer to the contractor. Consequently, for the duration of the contract, the contractor is a new participating employer in the Fund so that the transferring employees maintain their eligibility for LGPS membership. At the end of the contract the employees revert to the letting employer or to a replacement contractor.

Ordinarily, the TAB would be set up in the Fund as a new employer with responsibility for all the accrued benefits of the transferring employees; in this case, the contractor would usually be assigned an initial asset allocation equal to the past service liability value of the employees' Fund benefits. The quid pro quo is that the contractor is then expected to ensure that its share of the Fund is also fully funded at the end of the contract: see Note (i).

Employers which "outsource" have flexibility in the way that they can deal with the pension risk potentially taken on by the contractor. In particular there are three different routes that such employers may wish to adopt. Clearly as the risk ultimately resides with the employer letting the contract, it is for them to agree the appropriate route with the contractor:

### i) <u>Pooling</u>

Under this option the contractor is pooled with the letting employer. In this case, the contractor pays the same rate as the letting employer, which may be under a stabilisation approach.

### ii) <u>Letting employer retains pre-contract risks</u>

Under this option the letting employer would retain responsibility for assets and liabilities in respect of service accrued prior to the contract commencement date. The contractor would be responsible for the future liabilities that accrue in respect of transferred staff. The contractor's contribution rate could vary from one valuation to the next. It would be liable for any deficit at the end of the contract term in respect of assets and liabilities attributable to service accrued during the contract term.

### iii) Fixed contribution rate agreed

Under this option the contractor pays a fixed contribution rate and does not pay any cessation deficit.

The Administering Authority is willing to administer any of the above options as long as the approach is documented in the Admission Agreement as well as the transfer agreement. The Admission Agreement should ensure that some element of risk transfers to the contractor where it relates to their decisions and it is unfair to burden the letting employer with that risk. For example the contractor should typically be responsible for pension costs that arise from:

- above average pay increases, including the effect in respect of service prior to contract commencement even if the letting employer takes on responsibility for the latter under (ii) above; and
- redundancy and early retirement decisions.

### Note (j) (Admission Bodies Ceasing)

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Admission Agreement, the Administering Authority may consider any of the following as triggers for the cessation of an admission agreement with any type of body:

- Last active member ceasing participation in the Fund (NB recent LGPS Regulation changes mean that the
  Administering Authority has the discretion to defer taking action for up to three years, so that if the employer
  acquires one or more active Fund members during that period then cessation is not triggered. The current
  Fund policy is that this is left as a discretion and may or may not be applied in any given case);
- The insolvency, winding up or liquidation of the Admission Body;
- Any breach by the Admission Body of any of its obligations under the Agreement that they have failed to remedy to the satisfaction of the Fund;
- A failure by the Admission Body to pay any sums due to the Fund within the period required by the Fund; or
- The failure by the Admission Body to renew or adjust the level of the bond or indemnity, or to confirm an appropriate alternative guarantor, as required by the Fund.

On cessation, the Administering Authority will instruct the Fund actuary to carry out a cessation valuation to determine whether there is any deficit or surplus. Where there is a deficit, payment of this amount in full would normally be sought from the Admission Body; where there is a surplus it should be noted that current legislation does not permit a refund payment to the Admission Body.

For non-Transferee Admission Bodies whose participation is voluntarily ended either by themselves or the Fund, or where a cessation event has been triggered, the Administering Authority must look to protect the interests of other ongoing employers. The actuary will therefore adopt an approach which, to the extent reasonably practicable, protects the other employers from the likelihood of any material loss emerging in future:

- (a) Where a guarantor does not exist then, in order to protect other employers in the Fund, the cessation liabilities and final deficit will normally be calculated using a "gilts cessation basis", which is more prudent than the ongoing basis. This has no allowance for potential future investment outperformance above gilt yields, and has added allowance for future improvements in life expectancy. This could give rise to significant cessation debts being required.
- (b) Where there is a guarantor for future deficits and contributions, the details of the guarantee will be considered prior to the cessation valuation being carried out. In some cases the guarantor is simply guarantor of last resort and therefore the cessation valuation will be carried out consistently with the approach taken had there been no guarantor in place. Alternatively, where the guarantor is not simply guarantor of last resort, the cessation may be calculated using the ongoing basis as described in Appendix E;
- (c) Again, depending on the nature of the guarantee, it may be possible to simply transfer the former Admission Body's liabilities and assets to the guarantor, without needing to crystallise any deficit. This approach may be adopted where the employer cannot pay the contributions due, and this is within the terms of the guarantee.

Under (a) and (c), any shortfall would usually be levied on the departing Admission Body as a single lump sum payment. If this is not possible then the Fund would spread they payment subject to there being some security in place for the employer such as a bond indemnity or guarantee.

In the event that the Fund is not able to recover the required payment in full, then the unpaid amounts fall to be shared amongst all of the other employers in the Fund. This may require an immediate revision to the Rates and Adjustments Certificate affecting other employers in the Fund, or instead be reflected in the contribution rates set at the next formal valuation following the cessation date.

As an alternative, where the ceasing Admission Body is continuing in business, the Fund at its absolute discretion reserves the right to enter into an agreement with the ceasing Admission Body. Under this agreement the Fund would accept an appropriate alternative security to be held against any deficit, and would carry out the cessation valuation on an ongoing basis: deficit recovery payments would be derived from this cessation debt. This approach would be monitored as part of each triennial valuation: the Fund reserves the right to revert to a "gilts cessation basis" and seek immediate payment of any funding shortfall identified. The Administering Authority may need to seek legal advice in such cases, as the Body would have no contributing members.

### 3.4 Pooled contributions

From time to time, with the advice of the Actuary, the Administering Authority may set up pools for employers with similar or complementary characteristics. This will always be in line with its broader funding strategy. The current pools in place within the Fund are as follows:

- Non-academy schools are generally pooled with Haringey Council, however there may be exceptions for specialist or independent schools.
- Haringey Council may be pooled with the legacy liabilities and assets of ceased employers.
- Smaller Transferee Admission Bodies may be pooled with the letting employer, provided all parties (particularly the letting employer) agree.

Those employers which have been pooled are identified in the Rates and Adjustments Certificate.

Employers who are permitted to enter (or remain in) a pool at the 2016 valuation will not normally be advised of their individual contribution rate unless agreed by the Administering Authority.

In general, the Administering Authority does not permit other pools, but will consider new proposals on a case by case basis.

#### 3.5 Additional flexibility in return for added security

The Administering Authority may permit greater flexibility to the employer's contributions if the employer provides added security to the satisfaction of the Administering Authority.

Such flexibility includes a reduced rate of contribution, an extended time horizon, or permission to join a pool with another body (e.g. the Local Authority).

Such security may include, but is not limited to, a suitable bond, a legally-binding guarantee from an appropriate third party, or security over an employer asset of sufficient value.

The degree of flexibility given may take into account factors such as:

- the extent of the employer's deficit;
- the amount and quality of the security offered;
- the employer's financial security and business plan; and
- whether the admission agreement is likely to be open or closed to new entrants.

## 3.6 Non ill health early retirement costs

It is assumed that members' benefits are payable from the earliest age that the employee could retire without incurring a reduction to their benefit (and without requiring their employer's consent to retire). (**NB** the relevant age may be different for different periods of service, following the benefit changes from April 2008 and April 2014). Employers are required to pay additional contributions ('strain') wherever an employee retires before attaining this age. The actuary's funding basis makes no allowance for premature retirement except on grounds of ill-health.

Normally the additional strain contribution is payable as an immediate single lump sum and is not spread.

#### 3.7 III health early retirement costs

In the event of a member's early retirement on the grounds of ill-health, a funding strain will usually arise, which can be very large. Such strains for all employers other than the Council will now be met via external insurance (see 3.8 below).

#### 3.8 External III health insurance

All employers other than the Council are covered by an external insurance policy covering ill health early retirement strains. In effect, the premiums are covered by the employer's contribution to the Fund each year.

## 3.9 Employers with no remaining active members

In general an employer ceasing in the Fund, due to the departure of the last active member, will pay a cessation debt on an appropriate basis (see <u>3.3</u>, <u>Note (j)</u>) and consequently have no further obligation to the Fund. Thereafter it is expected that one of two situations will eventually arise:

a) The employer's asset share runs out before all its ex-employees' benefits have been paid. In this situation the other Fund employers will be required to contribute to pay all remaining benefits: this will be done by the Fund actuary apportioning the remaining liabilities on a pro-rata basis at successive formal valuations;

b) The last ex-employee or dependant dies before the employer's asset share has been fully utilised. In this situation the remaining assets would be apportioned pro-rata by the Fund's actuary to the other Fund employers.

In exceptional circumstances the Fund may permit an employer with no remaining active members to continue contributing to the Fund. This would require the provision of a suitable security or guarantee, as well as a written ongoing commitment to fund the remainder of the employer's obligations over an appropriate period. The Fund would reserve the right to invoke the cessation requirements in the future, however. The Administering Authority may need to seek legal advice in such cases, as the employer would have no contributing members.

## 3.10 Policies on bulk transfers

Each case will be treated on its own merits, but in general:

- The Fund will not pay bulk transfers greater than the lesser of (a) the asset share of the transferring employer in the Fund, and (b) the value of the past service liabilities of the transferring members;
- The Fund will not grant added benefits to members bringing in entitlements from another Fund unless the asset transfer is sufficient to meet the added liabilities; and
- The Fund may permit shortfalls to arise on bulk transfers if the Fund employer has suitable strength of
  covenant and commits to meeting that shortfall in an appropriate period. This may require the employer's
  Fund contributions to increase between valuations.

## 4 Funding strategy and links to investment strategy

## 4.1 What is the Fund's investment strategy?

The Fund has built up assets over the years, and continues to receive contribution and other income. All of this must be invested in a suitable manner, which is the investment strategy.

Investment strategy is set by the administering authority, after consultation with the employers and after taking investment advice. The precise mix, manager make up and target returns are set out in the Statement of Investment Principles (being replaced by an Investment Strategy Statement under new LGPS Regulations), which is available to members and employers.

The investment strategy is set for the long-term, but is reviewed from time to time. Normally a full review is carried out as part of each actuarial valuation, and is kept under review annually between actuarial valuations to ensure that it remains appropriate to the Fund's liability profile.

The same investment strategy is currently followed for all employers.

## 4.2 What is the link between funding strategy and investment strategy?

The Fund must be able to meet all benefit payments as and when they fall due. These payments will be met by contributions (resulting from the funding strategy) or asset returns and income (resulting from the investment strategy). To the extent that investment returns or income fall short, then higher cash contributions are required from employers, and vice versa

Therefore, the funding and investment strategies are inextricably linked.

## 4.3 How does the funding strategy reflect the Fund's investment strategy?

In the opinion of the Fund actuary, the current funding policy is consistent with the current investment strategy of the Fund. The asset outperformance assumption contained in the discount rate (see Appendix E3) is within a range that would be considered acceptable for funding purposes; it is also considered to be consistent with the requirement to take a "prudent longer-term view" of the funding of liabilities as required by the UK Government (see Appendix A1).

However, in the short term – such as the three yearly assessments at formal valuations – there is the scope for considerable volatility and there is a material chance that in the short-term and even medium term, asset returns will fall short of this target. The stability measures described in <u>Section 3</u> will damp down, but not remove, the effect on employers' contributions.

The Fund does not hold a contingency reserve to protect it against the volatility of equity investments.

## 4.4 How does this differ for a large stable employer?

The Actuary has developed four key measures which capture the essence of the Fund's strategies, both funding and investment:

Prudence - the Fund should have a reasonable expectation of being fully funded in the long term;

Affordability – how much can employers afford;

Stewardship – the assumptions used should be sustainable in the long term, without having to resort to overly optimistic assumptions about the future to maintain an apparently healthy funding position; and

Stability – employers should not see significant moves in their contribution rates from one year to the next, to help provide a more stable budgeting environment.

The key problem is that the key objectives often conflict. For example, minimising the long term cost of the scheme (i.e. keeping employer rates affordable) is best achieved by investing in higher returning assets e.g. equities. However, equities are also very volatile (i.e. go up and down fairly frequently in fairly large moves), which conflicts with the objective to have stable contribution rates.

Therefore, a balance needs to be maintained between risk and reward, which has been considered by the use of Asset Liability Modelling: this is a set of calculation techniques applied by the Fund's actuary to model the range of potential future solvency levels and contribution rates.

The Actuary was able to model the impact of these four key areas, for the purpose of setting a stabilisation approach (see 3.3 Note (b)). The modelling demonstrated that retaining the present investment strategy, coupled with constraining employer contribution rate changes as described in 3.3 Note (b), struck an appropriate balance between the above objectives. In particular the stabilisation approach currently adopted meets the need for stability of contributions without jeopardising the Administering Authority's aims of prudent stewardship of the Fund.

Whilst the current stabilisation mechanism is to remain in place until 2020, it should be noted that this will need to be reviewed following the 2019 valuation.

## 4.5 Does the Fund monitor its overall funding position?

The Administering Authority monitors the relative funding position, i.e. changes in the relationship between asset values and the liabilities value, annually. It reports this to the regular Pensions Committee meetings.

## 5 Statutory reporting and comparison to other LGPS Funds

#### 5.1 Purpose

Under Section 13(4)(c) of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 ("Section 13"), the Government Actuary's Department must, following each triennial actuarial valuation, report to the Department of Communities & Local Government (DCLG) on each of the LGPS Funds in England & Wales. This report will cover whether, for each Fund, the rate of employer contributions are set at an appropriate level to ensure both the solvency and the long term cost efficiency of the Fund.

This additional DCLG oversight may have an impact on the strategy for setting contribution rates at future valuations.

#### 5.2 Solvency

For the purposes of Section 13, the rate of employer contributions shall be deemed to have been set at an appropriate level to ensure solvency if:

- (a) the rate of employer contributions is set to target a funding level for the Fund of 100%, over an appropriate time period and using appropriate actuarial assumptions (where appropriateness is considered in both absolute and relative terms in comparison with other funds); and either
- (b) employers collectively have the financial capacity to increase employer contributions, and/or the Fund is able to realise contingent assets should future circumstances require, in order to continue to target a funding level of 100%; or
- (c) there is an appropriate plan in place should there be, or if there is expected in future to be, a material reduction in the capacity of fund employers to increase contributions as might be needed.

## 5.3 Long Term Cost Efficiency

The rate of employer contributions shall be deemed to have been set at an appropriate level to ensure long term cost efficiency if:

- i. the rate of employer contributions is sufficient to make provision for the cost of current benefit accrual,
- with an appropriate adjustment to that rate for any surplus or deficit in the Fund.

In assessing whether the above condition is met, DCLG may have regard to various absolute and relative considerations. A relative consideration is primarily concerned with comparing LGPS pension funds with other LGPS pension funds. An absolute consideration is primarily concerned with comparing Funds with a given objective benchmark.

Relative considerations include:

- 1. the implied deficit recovery period; and
- 2. the investment return required to achieve full funding after 20 years.

#### Absolute considerations include:

- the extent to which the contributions payable are sufficient to cover the cost of current benefit accrual and the interest cost on any deficit;
- 2. how the required investment return under "relative considerations" above compares to the estimated future return being targeted by the Fund's current investment strategy;
- 3. the extent to which contributions actually paid have been in line with the expected contributions based on the extant rates and adjustment certificate; and
- 4. the extent to which any new deficit recovery plan can be directly reconciled with, and can be demonstrated to be a continuation of, any previous deficit recovery plan, after allowing for actual Fund experience.

DCLG may assess and compare these metrics on a suitable standardised market-related basis, for example where the local funds' actuarial bases do not make comparisons straightforward.

## Appendix A – Regulatory framework

## A1 Why does the Fund need an FSS?

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has stated that the purpose of the FSS is:

"to establish a **clear and transparent fund-specific strategy** which will identify how employers' pension liabilities are best met going forward;

to support the regulatory framework to maintain as nearly constant employer contribution rates as possible; and

to take a prudent longer-term view of funding those liabilities."

These objectives are desirable individually, but may be mutually conflicting. As a result of Section 13 of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, the FSS must have as the primary objective the setting of employer contributions at an appropriate level to ensure both the solvency and the long-term cost-efficiency of the Pension Fund.

The requirement to maintain and publish a FSS is contained in LGPS Regulations which are updated from time to time. In publishing the FSS the Administering Authority has to have regard to any guidance published by Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) (most recently in 2016) and to its Statement of Investment Principles / Investment Strategy Statement.

This is the framework within which the Fund's actuary carries out triennial valuations to set employers' contributions and provides recommendations to the Administering Authority when other funding decisions are required, such as when employers join or leave the Fund. The FSS applies to all employers participating in the Fund.

## A2 Does the Administering Authority consult anyone on the FSS?

Yes. This is required by LGPS Regulations. It is covered in more detail by the most recent CIPFA guidance, which states that the FSS must first be subject to "consultation with such persons as the authority considers appropriate", and should include "a meaningful dialogue at officer and elected member level with council tax raising authorities and with corresponding representatives of other participating employers".

In practice, for the Fund, the consultation process for this FSS was as follows:

- a) A draft version of the FSS was issued to all participating employers on 22 February 2017 for comment;
- b) Comments were requested within 14 days;
- c) There was an Employers Forum on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at which questions regarding the FSS could be raised and answered;
- d) Following the end of the consultation period the FSS was updated where required and then published by 1 April 2017.

#### A3 How is the FSS published?

The FSS is made available through the following routes:

Published on the website, at http://www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk;

A copy sent by post or e-mail to each participating employer in the Fund;

A full copy included in or linked from the annual report and accounts of the Fund;

Copies sent to investment managers and independent advisers;

Copies made available on request.

## A4 How often is the FSS reviewed?

The FSS is reviewed in detail at least every three years as part of the triennial valuation. This version is expected to remain unaltered until it is consulted upon as part of the formal process for the next valuation in 2019.

It is possible that (usually slight) amendments may be needed within the three year period. These would be needed to reflect any regulatory changes, or alterations to the way the Fund operates (e.g. to accommodate a new class of employer). Any such amendments would be consulted upon as appropriate:

- trivial amendments would be simply notified at the next round of employer communications,
- amendments affecting only one class of employer would be consulted with those employers,
- other more significant amendments would be subject to full consultation.

In any event, changes to the FSS would need agreement by the Pensions Committee and would be included in the relevant Committee Meeting minutes.

#### A5 How does the FSS fit into other Fund documents?

The FSS is a summary of the Fund's approach to funding liabilities. It is not an exhaustive statement of policy on all issues, for example there are a number of separate statements published by the Fund including the Statement of Investment Principles/Investment Strategy Statement, Governance Strategy and Communications Strategy. In addition, the Fund publishes an Annual Report and Accounts with up to date information on the Fund.

These documents can be found on the web at http://www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk.

## Appendix B - Responsibilities of key parties

The efficient and effective operation of the Fund needs various parties to each play their part.

## B1 The Administering Authority should:-

- 1. operate the Fund as per the LGPS Regulations;
- 2. effectively manage any potential conflicts of interest arising from its dual role as Administering Authority and a Fund employer;
- 3. collect employer and employee contributions, and investment income and other amounts due to the Fund;
- 4. ensure that cash is available to meet benefit payments as and when they fall due;
- 5. pay from the Fund the relevant benefits and entitlements that are due;
- invest surplus monies (i.e. contributions and other income which are not immediately needed to pay benefits) in accordance with the Fund's Statement of Investment Principles/Investment Strategy Statement (SIP/ISS) and LGPS Regulations;
- 7. communicate appropriately with employers so that they fully understand their obligations to the Fund;
- 8. take appropriate measures to safeguard the Fund against the consequences of employer default;
- 9. manage the valuation process in consultation with the Fund's actuary;
- provide data and information as required by the Government Actuary's Department to carry out their statutory obligations (see <u>Section 5</u>);
- 11. prepare and maintain a FSS and a SIP/ISS, after consultation;
- 12. notify the Fund's actuary of material changes which could affect funding (this is covered in a separate agreement with the actuary); and
- 13. monitor all aspects of the fund's performance and funding and amend the FSS and SIP/ISS as necessary and appropriate.

## B2 The Individual Employer should:-

- 1. deduct contributions from employees' pay correctly;
- 2. pay all contributions, including their own as determined by the actuary, promptly by the due date;
- 3. have a policy and exercise discretions within the regulatory framework;
- 4. make additional contributions in accordance with agreed arrangements in respect of, for example, augmentation of scheme benefits, early retirement strain; and
- 5. notify the Administering Authority promptly of all changes to its circumstances, prospects or membership, which could affect future funding.

## B3 The Fund Actuary should:-

- 1. prepare valuations, including the setting of employers' contribution rates. This will involve agreeing assumptions with the Administering Authority, having regard to the FSS and LGPS Regulations, and targeting each employer's solvency appropriately;
- provide data and information as required by the Government Actuary's Department to carry out their statutory obligations (see <u>Section 5</u>);

- 3. provide advice relating to new employers in the Fund, including the level and type of bonds or other forms of security (and the monitoring of these);
- 4. prepare advice and calculations in connection with bulk transfers and individual benefit-related matters;
- 5. assist the Administering Authority in considering possible changes to employer contributions between formal valuations, where circumstances suggest this may be necessary;
- 6. advise on the termination of employers' participation in the Fund; and
- 7. fully reflect actuarial professional guidance and requirements in the advice given to the Administering Authority.

## B4 Other parties:-

- investment advisers (either internal or external) should ensure the Fund's SIP/ISS remains appropriate, and consistent with this FSS;
- 2. investment managers, custodians and bankers should all play their part in the effective investment (and dis-investment) of Fund assets, in line with the SIP/ISS;
- 3. auditors should comply with their auditing standards, ensure Fund compliance with all requirements, monitor and advise on fraud detection, and sign off annual reports and financial statements as required;
- 4. governance advisers may be appointed to advise the Administering Authority on efficient processes and working methods in managing the Fund;
- 5. legal advisers (either internal or external) should ensure the Fund's operation and management remains fully compliant with all regulations and broader local government requirements, including the Administering Authority's own procedures;
- the Department for Communities and Local Government (assisted by the Government Actuary's Department) and the Scheme Advisory Board, should work with LGPS Funds to meet Section 13 requirements.

# Appendix C – Key risks and controls

## C1 Types of risk

The Administering Authority has an active risk management programme in place. The measures that it has in place to control key risks are summarised below under the following headings:

- financial;
- demographic;
- regulatory; and
- governance.

## C2 Financial risks

C2 Financial risks	
Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
Fund assets fail to deliver returns in line with the anticipated returns underpinning the valuation of liabilities over the long-term.	Only anticipate long-term returns on a relatively prudent basis to reduce risk of under-performing.
	Assets invested on the basis of specialist advice, in a suitably diversified manner across asset classes, geographies, managers, etc.
	Analyse progress at three yearly valuations for all employers.
	Inter-valuation roll-forward of liabilities between valuations at whole Fund level.
Inappropriate long-term investment strategy.	Overall investment strategy options considered as an integral part of the funding strategy. Used asset liability modelling to measure 4 key outcomes.
	Chosen option considered to provide the best balance.
Fall in risk-free returns on Government bonds, leading to rise in value placed on liabilities.	Stabilisation modelling at whole Fund level allows for the probability of this within a longer term context.
	Inter-valuation monitoring, as above.
	Some investment in bonds helps to mitigate this risk.
Active investment manager under-performance relative to benchmark.	Quarterly investment monitoring analyses market performance and active managers relative to their index benchmark.
Pay and price inflation significantly more than anticipated.	The focus of the actuarial valuation process is on real returns on assets, net of price and pay increases.
	Inter-valuation monitoring, as above, gives early warning.
	Some investment in bonds also helps to mitigate this

Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
	risk.  Employers pay for their own salary awards and should be mindful of the geared effect on pension liabilities of any bias in pensionable pay rises towards longer-serving employees.
Effect of possible increase in employer's contribution rate on service delivery and admission/scheduled bodies	An explicit stabilisation mechanism has been agreed as part of the funding strategy. Other measures are also in place to limit sudden increases in contributions.
Orphaned employers give rise to added costs for the Fund	The Fund seeks a cessation debt (or security/guarantor) to minimise the risk of this happening in the future.
	If it occurs, the Actuary calculates the added cost spread pro-rata among all employers – (see 3.9).

## C3 Demographic risks

Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
Pensioners living longer, thus increasing cost to Fund.	Set mortality assumptions with some allowance for future increases in life expectancy.
	The Fund Actuary has direct access to the experience of over 50 LGPS funds which allows early identification of changes in life expectancy that might in turn affect the assumptions underpinning the valuation.
Maturing Fund – i.e. proportion of actively contributing employees declines relative to retired employees.	Continue to monitor at each valuation, consider seeking monetary amounts rather than % of pay and consider alternative investment strategies.
Deteriorating patterns of early retirements	Employers are charged the extra cost of non ill-health retirements following each individual decision.
	Employer ill health retirement experience is monitored, and insurance is an option.
Reductions in payroll causing insufficient deficit recovery payments	In many cases this may not be sufficient cause for concern, and will in effect be caught at the next formal valuation. However, there are protections where there is concern, as follows:
	Employers in the stabilisation mechanism may be brought out of that mechanism to permit appropriate contribution increases (see <a href="Note">Note</a> (b) to <a href="3.3">3.3</a> ).

Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
	For other employers, review of contributions is permitted in general between valuations (see Note (f) to 3.3) and may require a move in deficit contributions from a percentage of payroll to fixed monetary amounts.

C4 Regulatory risks

Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
Changes to national pension requirements and/or HMRC rules e.g. changes arising from public sector pensions reform.	The Administering Authority considers all consultation papers issued by the Government and comments where appropriate.
	The results of the most recent reforms were built into the 2013 valuation. Any changes to member contribution rates or benefit levels will be carefully communicated with members to minimise possible optouts or adverse actions.
Time, cost and/or reputational risks associated with any DCLG intervention triggered by the Section 13 analysis (see Section 5).	Take advice from Fund Actuary on position of Fund as at prior valuation, and consideration of proposed valuation approach relative to anticipated Section 13 analysis.
Changes by Government to particular employer participation in LGPS Funds, leading to impacts on funding and/or investment strategies.	The Administering Authority considers all consultation papers issued by the Government and comments where appropriate.
	Take advice from Fund Actuary on impact of changes on the Fund and amend strategy as appropriate.

## C5 Governance risks

Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
Administering Authority unaware of structural changes in an employer's membership (e.g. large fall in employee members, large number of retirements) or not advised of an employer closing to new entrants.	The Administering Authority has a close relationship with employing bodies and communicates required standards e.g. for submission of data.  The Actuary may revise the rates and Adjustments certificate to increase an employer's contributions between triennial valuations  Deficit contributions may be expressed as monetary amounts.
Actuarial or investment advice is not sought, or	The Administering Authority maintains close contact

Risk	Summary of Control Mechanisms
is not heeded, or proves to be insufficient in some way	with its specialist advisers.  Advice is delivered via formal meetings involving Elected Members, and recorded appropriately.  Actuarial advice is subject to professional requirements such as peer review.
Administering Authority failing to commission the Fund Actuary to carry out a termination valuation for a departing Admission Body.	The Administering Authority requires employers with Best Value contractors to inform it of forthcoming changes.  Community Admission Bodies' memberships are monitored and, if active membership decreases, steps will be taken.
An employer ceasing to exist with insufficient funding or adequacy of a bond.	The Administering Authority believes that it would normally be too late to address the position if it was left to the time of departure.  The risk is mitigated by:  Seeking a funding guarantee from another scheme employer, or external body, where-ever possible (see Notes (h) and (j) to 3.3).  Alerting the prospective employer to its obligations and encouraging it to take independent actuarial advice.  Vetting prospective employers before admission.  Where permitted under the regulations requiring a bond to protect the Fund from various risks.  Requiring new Community Admission Bodies to have a guarantor.  Reviewing bond or guarantor arrangements at regular intervals (see Note (f) to 3.3).  Reviewing contributions well ahead of cessation if thought appropriate (see Note (a) to 3.3).

## Appendix D – The calculation of Employer contributions

In <u>Section 2</u> there was a broad description of the way in which contribution rates are calculated. This Appendix considers these calculations in much more detail.

All three steps above are considered when setting contributions (more details are given in <u>Section 3</u> and Appendix D:

- 1. The **funding target** is based on a set of assumptions about the future, eg investment returns, inflation, pensioners' life expectancies. However, if an employer is approaching the end of its participation in the Fund then it's funding target may be set on a more prudent basis, so that it's liabilities are less likely to be spread among other employers after it's cessation of participation;
- 2. The **time horizon** required is, in broad terms, the period over which any deficit is to be recovered. A shorter period will lead to higher contributions, and vice versa (all other things being equal). Employers may be given a lower time horizon if they have a less permanent anticipated membership, or do not have tax-raising powers to increase contributions if investment returns under-perform;
- 3. The required **probability of achieving** the funding target over that time horizon will be dependent on the Fund's view of the strength of employer covenant and its funding profile. Where an employer is considered to be weaker, or potentially ceasing from the Fund, then the required probability will be set higher, which in turn will increase the required contributions (and vice versa).

The calculations involve actuarial assumptions about future experience, and these are described in detail in Appendix E.

# D1 What is the difference between calculations across the whole Fund and calculations for an individual employer?

Employer contributions are normally made up of two elements:

- a) the estimated cost of ongoing benefits being accrued, referred to as the "Primary contribution rate" (see <u>D2</u> below); plus
- b) an adjustment for the difference between the Primary rate above, and the actual contribution the employer needs to pay, referred to as the "Secondary contribution rate" (see D3 below).

The contribution rate for each employer is measured as above, appropriate for each employer's funding position and membership. The whole Fund position, including that used in reporting to DCLG (see section 5), is calculated in effect as the sum of all the individual employer rates. DCLG currently only regulates at whole Fund level, without monitoring individual employer positions.

## D2 How is the Primary contribution rate calculated?

The Primary element of the employer contribution rate is calculated with the aim that these contributions will meet benefit payments in respect of members' **future** service in the Fund. This is based upon the cost (in excess of members' contributions) of the benefits which employee members earn from their service each year.

The Primary rate is calculated separately for all the employers, although employers within a pool will pay the contribution rate applicable to the pool as a whole. The Primary rate is calculated such that it is projected to:

- 1. meet the required funding target for all future years' accrual of benefits\*, excluding any accrued assets,
- 2. within the determined time horizon (see <u>note 3.3 Note (c)</u> for further details),

3. with a sufficiently high probability, as set by the Fund's strategy for the category of employer (see <u>3.3</u> Note (e) for further details).

The projections are carried out using an economic modeller developed by the Fund's actuary Hymans Robertson: this allows for a wide range of outcomes as regards key factors such as asset returns (based on the Fund's investment strategy), inflation, and bond yields. The measured contributions are calculated such that the proportion of outcomes meeting the employer's funding target (by the end of the time horizon) is equal to the required probability.

The approach includes expenses of administration to the extent that they are borne by the Fund, and includes allowances for benefits payable on death in service and on ill health retirement.

## D3 How is the Secondary contribution rate calculated?

The combined Primary and Secondary rates aim to achieve the employer's funding target, within the appropriate time horizon, with the relevant degree of probability.

For the funding target, the Fund actuary agrees the assumptions to be used with the Administering Authority – see <u>Appendix E</u>. These assumptions are used to calculate the present value of all benefit payments expected in the future, relating to that employer's current and former employees, based on pensionable service to the valuation date only (i.e. ignoring further benefits to be built up in the future).

The Fund operates the same target funding level for all employers of 100% of its accrued liabilities valued on the ongoing basis, unless otherwise determined (see <u>Section 3</u>).

The Secondary rate is calculated as the balance over and above the Primary rate, such that the total is projected to:

- 1. meet the required funding target relating to combined past and future service benefit accrual, including accrued asset share (see <u>D5</u> below)
- 2. within the determined time horizon (see 3.3 Note (c) for further details)
- 3. with a sufficiently high probability, as set by the Fund's strategy for the category of employer (see <u>3.3</u> Note (e) for further details).

The projections are carried out using an economic modeller developed by the Fund Actuary Hymans Robertson: this allows for a wide range of outcomes as regards key factors such as asset returns (based on the Fund's investment strategy), inflation, and bond yields. The measured contributions are calculated such that the proportion of outcomes with at least 100% solvency (by the end of the time horizon) is equal to the required probability.

## D4 What affects a given employer's valuation results?

The results of these calculations for a given individual employer will be affected by:

- 1. past contributions relative to the cost of accruals of benefits;
- 2. different liability profiles of employers (e.g. mix of members by age, gender, service vs. salary);
- 3. the effect of any differences in the funding target, i.e. the valuation basis used to value the employer's liabilities;
- 4. any different time horizons;

<sup>\*</sup> The projection is for the current active membership where the employer no longer admits new entrants, or additionally allows for new entrants where this is appropriate.

- 5. the difference between actual and assumed rises in pensionable pay;
- 6. the difference between actual and assumed increases to pensions in payment and deferred pensions;
- 7. the difference between actual and assumed retirements on grounds of ill-health from active status;
- 8. the difference between actual and assumed amounts of pension ceasing on death;
- 9. the additional costs of any non ill-health retirements relative to any extra payments made; and/or
- 10. differences in the required probability of achieving the funding target.

## D5 How is each employer's asset share calculated?

The Administering Authority does not account for each employer's assets separately. Instead, the Fund's actuary is required to apportion the assets of the whole Fund between the employers, at each triennial valuation.

This apportionment uses the income and expenditure figures provided for certain cash flows for each employer. This process adjusts for transfers of liabilities between employers participating in the Fund, but does make a number of simplifying assumptions. The split is calculated using an actuarial technique known as "analysis of surplus".

Actual investment returns achieved on the Fund between each valuation are applied proportionately across all employers, to the extent that employers in effect share the same investment strategy. Transfers of liabilities between employers within the Fund occur automatically within this process, with a sum broadly equivalent to the reserve required on the ongoing basis being exchanged between the two employers.

The Fund actuary does not allow for certain relatively minor events, including but not limited to:

- 1. the actual timing of employer contributions within any financial year;
- 2. the effect of the premature payment of any deferred pensions on grounds of incapacity.

These effects are swept up within a miscellaneous item in the analysis of surplus, which is split between employers in proportion to their liabilities.

The methodology adopted means that there will inevitably be some difference between the asset shares calculated for individual employers and those that would have resulted had they participated in their own ring-fenced section of the Fund.

The asset apportionment is capable of verification but not to audit standard. The Administering Authority recognises the limitations in the process, but it considers that the Fund actuary's approach addresses the risks of employer cross-subsidisation to an acceptable degree.

## Appendix E – Actuarial assumptions

## E1 What are the actuarial assumptions?

These are expectations of future experience used to place a value on future benefit payments ("the liabilities"). Assumptions are made about the amount of benefit payable to members (the financial assumptions) and the likelihood or timing of payments (the demographic assumptions). For example, financial assumptions include investment returns, salary growth and pension increases; demographic assumptions include life expectancy, probabilities of ill-health early retirement, and proportions of member deaths giving rise to dependants' benefits.

Changes in assumptions will affect the measured funding target. However, different assumptions will not of course affect the actual benefits payable by the Fund in future.

The combination of all assumptions is described as the "basis". A more optimistic basis might involve higher assumed investment returns (discount rate), or lower assumed salary growth, pension increases or life expectancy; a more optimistic basis will give lower funding targets and lower employer costs. A more prudent basis will give higher funding targets and higher employer costs.

## E2 What basis is used by the Fund?

The Fund's standard funding basis is described as the "ongoing basis", which applies to most employers in most circumstances. This is described in more detail below. It anticipates employers remaining in the Fund in the long term.

However, in certain circumstances, typically where the employer is not expected to remain in the Fund long term, a more prudent basis applies: see <u>Note (a)</u> to <u>3.3</u>.

#### E3 What assumptions are made in the ongoing basis?

## a) Investment return / discount rate

The key financial assumption is the anticipated return on the Fund's investments. This "discount rate" assumption makes allowance for an anticipated out-performance of Fund returns relative to long term yields on UK Government bonds ("gilts"). There is, however, no guarantee that Fund returns will out-perform gilts. The risk is greater when measured over short periods such as the three years between formal actuarial valuations, when the actual returns and assumed returns can deviate sharply.

Given the very long-term nature of the liabilities, a long term view of prospective asset returns is taken. The long term in this context would be 20 to 30 years or more.

For the purpose of the triennial funding valuation at 31 March 2016 and setting contribution rates effective from 1 April 2017, the Fund actuary has assumed that future investment returns earned by the Fund over the long term will be 1.8% per annum greater than gilt yields at the time of the valuation (this is higher than that used at the 2013 valuation -1.6% per annum - which gives a lower funding target, all other things being equal). In the opinion of the Fund actuary, based on the current investment strategy of the Fund, this asset out-performance assumption is within a range that would be considered acceptable for the purposes of the funding valuation.

## b) Salary growth

Pay for public sector employees is currently subject to restriction by the UK Government until 2020. Although this "pay freeze" does not officially apply to local government and associated employers, it has been suggested that they are likely to show similar restraint in respect of pay awards. Based on long term historical analysis of the membership in LGPS funds, and continued austerity measures, the salary increase assumption at the 2016 valuation has been set to be a blended rate combined of:

- 1. 1% p.a. until 31 March 2020, followed by
- 2. 1.0% above the retail prices index (RPI) per annum p.a. thereafter.

This gives a single blended rate of RPI less 0.4%, and is a change from the previous valuation, which assumed a flat assumption of RPI plus 1.0% per annum. The change has led to a reduction in the funding target (all other things being equal).

#### c) Pension increases

Since 2011 the consumer prices index (CPI), rather than RPI, has been the basis for increases to public sector pensions in deferment and in payment. Note that the basis of such increases is set by the Government, and is not under the control of the Fund or any employers.

As at the previous valuation, we derive our assumption for RPI from market data as the difference between the yield on long-dated fixed interest and index-linked government bonds. This is then reduced to arrive at the CPI assumption, to allow for the "formula effect" of the difference between RPI and CPI. At this valuation, we propose a reduction of 1.0% per annum. This is a larger reduction than at 2013, which will serve to reduce the funding target (all other things being equal). (Note that the reduction is applied in a geometric, not arithmetic, basis).

## d) Life expectancy

The demographic assumptions are intended to be best estimates of future experience in the Fund based on past experience of LGPS funds which participate in Club Vita, the longevity analytics service used by the Fund, and endorsed by the actuary.

The longevity assumptions that have been adopted at this valuation are a bespoke set of "VitaCurves", produced by the Club Vita's detailed analysis, which are specifically tailored to fit the membership profile of the Fund. These curves are based on the data provided by the Fund for the purposes of this valuation.

It is acknowledged that future life expectancy and, in particular, the allowance for future improvements in life expectancy, is uncertain. There is a consensus amongst actuaries, demographers and medical experts that life expectancy is likely to improve in the future. Allowance has been made in the ongoing valuation basis for future improvements in line with the 2013 version of the Continuous Mortality Investigation model published by the Actuarial Profession and a 1.25% per annum minimum underpin to future reductions in mortality rates. This is a similar allowance for future improvements than was made in 2013.

The combined effect of the above changes from the 2013 valuation approach, is a slight reduction to the average overall life expectancies in the Fund. The approach taken is considered reasonable in light of the long term nature of the Fund and the assumed level of security underpinning members' benefits.

## e) General

The same financial assumptions are adopted for most employers, in deriving the funding target underpinning the Primary and Secondary rates: as described in (3.3), these calculated figures are translated in different ways into employer contributions, depending on the employer's circumstances.

The demographic assumptions, in particular the life expectancy assumption, in effect vary by type of member and so reflect the different membership profiles of employers.

## Appendix F - Glossary

Actuarial assumptions/basis

The combined set of assumptions made by the actuary, regarding the future, to calculate the value of **the funding target**. The main assumptions will relate to the **discount rate**, salary growth, pension increases and longevity. More prudent assumptions will give a higher target value, whereas more optimistic assumptions will give a lower value.

Administering Authority

The council with statutory responsibility for running the Fund, in effect the Fund's "trustees".

**Admission Bodies** 

Employers where there is an Admission Agreement setting out the employer's obligations. These can be Community Admission Bodies or Transferee Admission Bodies. For more details (see <u>2.3</u>).

Covenant

The assessed financial strength of the employer. A strong covenant indicates a greater ability (and willingness) to pay for pension obligations in the long run. A weaker covenant means that it appears that the employer may have difficulties meeting its pension obligations in full over the longer term.

Designating Employer Employers such as town and parish councils that are able to participate in the LGPS via resolution. These employers can designate which of their employees are eligible to join the Fund.

**Discount rate** 

The annual rate at which future assumed cashflows (in and out of the Fund) are discounted to the present day. This is necessary to provide a **funding target** which is consistent with the present day value of the assets. A lower discount rate gives a higher target value, and vice versa. It is used in the calculation of the **Primary and Secondary rates**.

**Employer** 

An individual participating body in the Fund, which employs (or used to employ) **members** of the Fund. Normally the assets and **funding target** values for each employer are individually tracked, together with its **Primary rate** at each **valuation**.

**Funding target** 

The actuarially calculated present value of all pension entitlements of all **members** of the Fund, built up to date. This is compared with the present market value of Fund assets to derive the **deficit**. It is calculated on a chosen set of **actuarial assumptions**.

Gilt

A UK Government bond, ie a promise by the Government to pay interest and capital as per the terms of that particular gilt, in return for an initial payment of capital by the purchaser. Gilts can be "fixed interest", where the interest payments are level throughout the gilt's term, or "index-linked" where the interest payments vary each year in line with a specified index (usually RPI). Gilts can be bought as assets by the Fund, but their main use in funding is as an objective measure of solvency.

Guarantee / guarantor A formal promise by a third party (the guarantor) that it will meet any pension obligations not met by a specified employer. The presence of a guarantor will mean, for instance, that the Fund can consider the employer's **covenant** to be as strong as its guarantor's.

## Letting employer

An employer which outsources or transfers a part of its services and workforce to another employer (usually a contractor). The contractor will pay towards the LGPS benefits accrued by the transferring members, but ultimately the obligation to pay for these benefits will revert to the letting employer. A letting employer will usually be a local authority, but can sometimes be another type of employer such as an Academy.

#### **LGPS**

The Local Government Pension Scheme, a public sector pension arrangement put in place via Government Regulations, for workers in local government. These Regulations also dictate eligibility (particularly for Scheduled Bodies), members' contribution rates, benefit calculations and certain governance requirements. The LGPS is divided into 101 Funds which map the UK. Each LGPS Fund is autonomous to the extent not dictated by Regulations, e.g. regarding investment strategy, employer contributions and choice of advisers.

## **Maturity**

A general term to describe a Fund (or an employer's position within a Fund) where the members are closer to retirement (or more of them already retired) and the investment time horizon is shorter. This has implications for investment strategy and, consequently, funding strategy.

#### Members

The individuals who have built up (and may still be building up) entitlement in the Fund. They are divided into actives (current employee members), deferreds (exemployees who have not yet retired) and pensioners (exemployees who have now retired, and dependants of deceased exemployees).

# Primary contribution rate

The employer contribution rate required to pay for ongoing accrual of active members' benefits (including an allowance for administrative expenses). See Appendix D for further details.

#### **Profile**

The profile of an employer's membership or liability reflects various measurements of that employer's **members**, ie current and former employees. This includes: the proportions which are active, deferred or pensioner; the average ages of each category; the varying salary or pension levels; the lengths of service of active members vs their salary levels, etc. A membership (or liability) profile might be measured for its **maturity** also.

## Rates and Adjustments Certificate

A formal document required by the LGPS Regulations, which must be updated at least every three years at the conclusion of the formal **valuation**. This is completed by the actuary and confirms the contributions to be paid by each employer (or pool of employers) in the Fund for the three year period until the next valuation is completed.

#### **Scheduled Bodies**

Types of employer explicitly defined in the LGPS Regulations, whose employers must be offered membership of their local LGPS Fund. These include Councils, colleges, universities, academies, police and fire authorities etc, other than employees who have entitlement to a different public sector pension scheme (e.g. teachers, police and fire officers, university lecturers).

# Secondary contribution rate

The difference between the employer's actual and **Primary contribution rates**. In broad terms, this relates to the shortfall of its asset share to its **funding target**. See

## Appendix D for further details.

#### **Stabilisation**

Any method used to smooth out changes in employer contributions from one year to the next. This is very broadly required by the LGPS Regulations, but in practice is particularly employed for large stable employers in the Fund. Different methods may involve: probability-based modelling of future market movements; longer deficit recovery periods; higher discount rates; or some combination of these.

## **Valuation**

An actuarial investigation to calculate the liabilities, Primary and Secondary contribution rates for a Fund, and usually individual employers too. This is normally carried out in full every three years (last done as at 31 March 2016), but can be approximately updated at other times. The assets value is based on market values at the valuation date, and the liabilities value and contribution rates are based on long term bond market yields at that date also.