

	<p style="text-align: center;">Pension Fund Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 October 2018</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Title</p>	<p>Training Needs Self-Assessment Questionnaire</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Report of</p>	<p>Director of Finance</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix A – questionnaire</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>George Bruce, Head of Treasury, 0208 359 7126</p>

Summary

Members of the Committee are requested to complete the attached self-assessment training questionnaire. Feedback on a collective basis will be provided to the Committee

Recommendations

That the Committee endorse completion of the questionnaire.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 In order to be effective, it is important that all those involved with the running of the Barnet Pension Fund have a good understanding of pension matters. There is no legal requirement for members of the Committee to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in pensions. However, CIPFA has issued a best practice Code of Practice. Training has been provided to Committee members on a collective basis and it is intended that training prior to Committee meetings will be used to introduce complex topics that require decisions at the Committee.
- 1.2 To plan future training, the attached questionnaire has been prepared based on the CIPFA Code of Practice. The Committee is asked to endorse its completion. The responses will be aggregated and reported back in summary form to the Committee together with a plan for collective Committee training. The individual responses will not be published. It is suggested that officers discuss with each member of the Committee if they wish to undertake additional training e.g. with officers, advisors or external events.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Providing Members with adequately trained opportunities is necessary to achieve good governance.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Responses to the questionnaire will be summarised and reported to the Committee together with a training plan.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 N/A

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 The cost of training will be provided from the assets of the Pension Fund. The Committee will be notified quarterly of training costs incurred and if the projected annual costs exceeds £10,000 in aggregate.

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 N/A.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 There are no legal requirements for members of the Pension Fund Committee to undergo training. The questionnaire is based on best practice as represented by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Public Sector Pensions Finance Knowledge and Skills.

5.4.2 The Council's Constitution (Article 7) – includes within the responsibilities of the Pension Fund Committee. This report is in line with this

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 Providing good training opportunities to Members of the Committee will improve decision making and mitigate the risks of poor decisions.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Pursuant to the Equalities Act 2010, the Council is under an obligation to have due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; advancing equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant 'protected characteristic' and those who do not share it; and fostering good relations between persons who share a relevant 'protected characteristic' and persons who do not share it. The 'protected characteristics' are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy, and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership. Ensuring the long term financial health of the Pension Fund will benefit everyone who contributes to it. Access to and participation in the Pension Fund is open to those with and those without protected characteristics, alike, provided that the criteria set out within the relevant Regulations are met.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 Not required.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 N/A