

	<h2>Local pension Board</h2> <h3>11 February 2019</h3>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Risk Register</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Director of Finance</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Urgent</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>Appendix A– Risk Register</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Officer Contact Details</b></p>	<p>Gareth Hopkins, Pensions Consultant  <a href="mailto:gareth.hopkins@barnet.gov.uk">gareth.hopkins@barnet.gov.uk</a> – 07446 148 537</p>

<h3>Summary</h3>
At the most recent Local Pension Board (21 November 2018) it was agreed to review the Risk Register as a standing agenda item.

<h3>Recommendations</h3>
The board are asked to note the most recent risk register – in particular, recently added risk PB0010.

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 This report sets out the current risk register for pensions administration.
- 1.2 Board members will note new risk PB0010 concerning the arrangement of admitted body status.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The role of the Board is to ensure that the Scheme Manager is exercising all due controls to ensure the effective governance of the Scheme. A key part of managing the control environment is the management of risk and this is outlined in the risk register.

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

Not applicable in the context of this report.

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1 The Local Pension Board supports delivery of Council's strategic objectives and priorities as expressed through the Corporate Plan 2015-2020 by assisting in maintaining the integrity of the Pension Fund by monitoring the administration and compliance of the Fund.

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

- 5.2.1 The effective management of risk is critical to ensuring scheme resources are used efficiently and that unnecessary costs are not passed on to employers through higher contribution rates

### **5.3 Social Value**

- 5.3.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

### **5.4 Legal and Constitutional References**

- 5.4.1 The LGPS Regulations 2013 place responsibility for the local administration of pensions and other benefits under these Regulations on the administering authority, which is LB Barnet. The Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015 inserts regulation 106 into the

Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 which requires the Council to establish a Pension Board, whose role is to assist the Council in securing compliance with legislation, regulation and best practice, including as set out in the Pension Regulator's Code of Practice to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme.

- 5.4.2 According to the Best Value Authorities Staff Transfers (Pensions) Direction 2007 where the council enters into a contract for services with a provider the provider is required to provide equivalent pension protection in respect of employees that have transferred to the provider under the TUPE Regulations. Such Pension Protection includes either the same rights and benefits as under the LGPS or broadly similar rights and benefits. Similar protection is provided in respect of employees of Academies under the Fair Deal Guidance 2013. A common way of securing this protection is via an admission agreement whereby the provider becomes an admitted body to the LGPS.

## **5.5 Risk Management**

- 5.5.1 Risk management is central to the LGPS. LGPS pension funds are in themselves risk management tools, managing the risk that future employer income streams will be able to meet future pensions liabilities by creating a reserve from which future liabilities will be met. Good governance is essential to managing the risks of the pension fund.

## **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 and sexual orientation.
- 5.6.2 The rules governing admission to and participation in the Pension Fund are in keeping with the public sector equality duty. The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public authorities in carrying out their functions, to have due regard to the need to achieve the objectives set out under s149 of the Equality Act 2010. Good governance arrangements will benefit everyone who contributes to the fund.

## **5.7 Consultation and Engagement**

- 5.7.1 Not applicable in the context of this paper

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 None