



Local Pension Board

09 April 2019

Title	Data Quality Update
Report of	Director of Finance
Wards	N/A
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A – Data Cleanse Summary (to follow)
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Summary

At the Local Pension Board of 11 February 2019, Hymans Robertson presented findings on the quality of membership data, which will be needed for the 2019 triennial valuation; the results highlighted a significant number of critical errors. The Council have been working with Capita to ensure that the number of critical errors are reduced, so that the data is fit for purpose for the upcoming triennial valuation.

Recommendations

The Board are asked to note the content of the Data Cleanse Summary (Appendix A).

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The quality of membership data is central to the triennial valuation process. Should the quality of data not be to the standard required by Hymans Robertson then there could be delays to the valuation process.
- 1.2 Following the results of the data quality report, the Council have requested that progress against the conditional data cleanse plan is independently checked by uploading data to the Hymans portal. This has allowed the Council to hold Capita to account through an independent objective benchmark.
- 1.3 Weekly “Checkpoint” meetings between the Council and Capita have been introduced to monitor progress. Capita have committed to an 80% reduction in critical errors by 31st March. Due to the timing of the publication of this report, the results were not available but the appendix will be published with the updated results of this data cleanse.
- 1.4 The Capita team will remain “stood up” beyond 31st March to continue to work on outstanding data quality items.
- 1.5 Appendix A provides a summary of the progress made between 6th December 2018 and 31st March 2019.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Membership data needs to be fit for purpose so that the triennial valuation can proceed. At present, the data held by Capita is not to the required standard meaning that the valuation process cannot commence.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 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 the delivery of the Council’s strategic objectives and priorities as expressed through the Corporate Plan, 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 Not applicable in the context of this report.

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 the London Borough of Barnet. The Local Government (Amendment) (Governance) Pension Scheme Regulations 2015 requires inserts regulation 106 into the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 which 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.

5.5 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 Corporate Parenting

5.7.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

5.8 Consultation and Engagement

5.8.1 Where relevant, consultation and engagement is discussed in the paper.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None

