

	<p>Local Pension Board</p> <p>2 September 2020</p>
Title	<p>Pensions Administration Transition (PAT) Project update</p>
Report of	Director of Finance
Wards	N/A
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix 1 – Highlight Report
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Summary	
<p>Further to the decision taken by the Council on 3 March 2020 to transfer the administration of the Barnet Pension Fund from Capita to the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF). This paper updates the Board on progress against the transition plan.</p>	
Recommendations	
<p>The Local Pension Board is asked to note progress against the plan.</p>	

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 Further to the decision by the Council on 3 March 2020 to transfer the administration of the Barnet Pension Fund from Capita to the West Yorkshire Pension fund (under a Section 101 delegation to Bradford City Council (CBMDC)). This report updates the Board on progress with the transition.

1.2 The Project Board last met on 24 July, and the highlight report presented to the board is attached at Appendix 1.

1.3 As the highlight report notes, good progress is being made across all workstreams. At the meeting, the Board agreed the rescheduling of the second data from July to August, to allow WYPF to complete their member record build. This change does not impact on the overall project timetable. No new risks were reported.

1.4 Project managers from the Council, WYPF and Capita will continue to meet weekly with the Project Director to ensure that the tasks identified across the five project workstreams are actioned in a timely manner, with a view to successful service transition on 1 November 2020.

1.5 A representative from the WYPF will attend the Board meeting on 2 September to give a short presentation about the WYPF and take questions from the Board.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Officers will continue to monitor the progress of the transition and report back to the Board.

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 The costs of transition will be met by the Barnet Pension Fund. These are limited to a small contribution to costs incurred by WYPF – all other costs are being met from existing resources by the relevant parties. The Pension Fund has also agreed to meet any redundancy costs that might arise from the TUPE of staff from Capita to WYPF.

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 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 The scope of the role of the Pensions Board is set out in full in the Board's Terms of Reference. In summary the role is to assist:

- o securing compliance with LGPS Government regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS
- o securing compliance with the requirements imposed in relation to the PGPS by the Pensions Regulator.
- o such other matters as the LGPS regulations may specify
- ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the LGPS for the LBB Pension Fund.
- ensure the Pension Fund's strategy and policy documents are in place and have been maintained in accordance with the LGPS Regulations. These documents are: the communications policy statement; funding strategy statement; governance compliance statement; statement of investment principles; and the Pension Fund annual report and accounts.
- ensure the Pension Fund's internal Risk Register is in place and reviewed at least annually.
- review the Pension Fund's performance in complying with the requirements of the LGPS Regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS.
- review the Pension Fund's performance in complying with the requirements of the Pension Regulator.
- annually submit a proposed work plan for the forthcoming financial year to the Pension Fund Committee.
- carry out any other activities relating to the efficient governance and

administration of the Pension Fund.

- submit an annual budget to the Barnet Pension Fund Committee for approval.

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. This project forms part of that good governance.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010, the Council is under an obligation to have due regard to 1) eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; 2) advancing equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant 'protected characteristic' and those who do not share it; and 3) 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. The Council also has regard to the additional protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership even though this does not apply to parts 2) and 3) (above) of the public-sector equality duty.

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.

5.9 Insight

5.9.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1` NONE
