

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PENSION COMMITTEE 2020-21**

**Council**  
**MEETING DATE (2021/22)**  
**26 January 2022**

**CLASSIFICATION:**  
**OPEN**

**WARD(S) AFFECTED**  
N/A

**GROUP DIRECTOR**  
Ian Williams, Group Director- Finance & Corporate Resources

**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to detail the role of the Pensions Committee and summarise the key activities and achievements in 2020/21 that demonstrate how the Committee has fulfilled its role as the Scheme Manager for the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund. This report will be presented to full Council at its January 2022 meeting as a summary of the Committee's activities

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 Council is recommended to note the report.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Delegated powers under the Council Constitution have been given to the Pensions Committee to oversee the management of the Pension Fund as the Scheme Manager and are set out in the Terms of Reference for the Committee.
- 3.2 The Pensions Committee is a committee of the Council and reports annually on the work undertaken at Committee. The attached report covers the 2020/21 Financial Year, during which the Committee has met 4 times to cover a broad spectrum of pension related business. The full programme of work and training undertaken by the Committee is set out in the Appendix to this report.
- 3.3 Members continued with an extensive training programme during the year which reflected the key requirements laid down in the CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework.

- 3.4 The Annual Report of the Committee evidences the work that the Committee has undertaken and demonstrates that it has discharged its responsibilities effectively both in terms of its legal responsibilities under the LGPS Regulations and the Committee's Terms of Reference.
- 3.5 The coming year will continue to provide the Committee with an extensive work programme which includes work on the continued implementation of its investment strategy following its refresh during 2020/21 and its ambitions to reduce its exposure to fossil fuel reserves and focus on other areas of responsible investment. The Committee will consider its progress towards meeting its current carbon exposure target and the development of a new target for the future. The Committee will also continue to closely monitor the quality of membership data submitted to the Fund, with ongoing work for officers on process improvements within the Council. A number of policy reviews will also be undertaken to update current arrangements. Ongoing training for the Committee in relation to both the Knowledge and Skills Framework and pertinent investment and governance issues will continue to be a regular feature as will monitoring of funding levels and investment performance

#### **4. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES**

- 4.1 The Pensions Committee acts as Scheme Manager for the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund and is responsible for the management of approximately £1.86 billion worth of assets and for ensuring the effective and efficient running of the Pension Fund.
- 4.2 The decisions taken by the Committee impact directly on the financial standing of the Fund and can therefore affect its funding level and its ability to meet its liabilities. These decisions could therefore also impact on the contribution rates payable by employers participating in the Fund, including the Council itself.
- 4.3 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

#### **5. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE SERVICES**

- 5.1 The Council's Constitution gives the Pensions Committee responsibility for a wide range of functions relating to management of the Council's Pension fund. In carrying out those functions the Committee must have regard to the various legislative obligations imposed on the Council as the Fund's Administering Authority, particularly by the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Regulations 2013.

5.2 The annual report of the Pensions Committee's activities demonstrates how it has undertaken and fulfilled its statutory and constitutional responsibilities during 2020/21.

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Annual Report of the Pensions Committee 2020-21

### BACKGROUND PAPERS (as defined by Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

None

<b>Report Author</b>	Michael Honeysett Hackney Pensions Team <a href="mailto:michael.honeysett@hackney.gov.uk">michael.honeysett@hackney.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8356 3332
<b>Comments for the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources</b>	Jackie Moylan Director, Financial Management <a href="mailto:jackie.moylan@hackney.gov.uk">jackie.moylan@hackney.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8356 3032
<b>Comments for the Director of Legal and Governance Services</b>	Dawn Carter-McDonald Director, Legal & Governance <a href="mailto:dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk">dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8356 6234