

**London Borough of Hackney
Pension Fund**

**Conflicts of Interest
Policy**



Conflicts of Interest Policy

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Introduction

Conflicts of interest have always existed for those with LGPS administering authority responsibilities as well as for advisers to LGPS funds. This simply reflects the fact that many of those managing or advising LGPS funds will have a variety of other roles and responsibilities, for example as a member of the scheme, as an Elected Member of an employer participating in the LGPS or as an adviser to more than one LGPS administering authority. Further **to this** any of those persons may have an individual personal, business or other interest which might conflict, or be perceived to conflict, with their role managing or advising LGPS funds.

It is generally accepted that LGPS administering authorities have both fiduciary and public law duties to act in the best interests of both the scheme beneficiaries and participating employers. This, however, does not preclude those involved in the management of the fund from having other roles or responsibilities which may result in an actual or potential conflict of interest. Accordingly, it is good practice to document within a policy, such as this, how any such conflicts or potential conflicts are to be managed.

This is the Conflicts of Interest Policy of the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund, which is managed by the London Borough of Hackney Council. The Policy details how actual and potential conflicts of interest are identified and managed by those involved in the management and governance of the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund whether directly or in an advisory capacity.

This Conflicts of Interest Policy is established to guide the Pensions Committee members, local Pension Board members, officers and advisers. Along with other constitutional documents, including the various Codes of Conduct, it aims to ensure that they do not act improperly or create a perception that they may have acted improperly. It is an aid to good governance, encouraging transparency and minimising the risk of any matter prejudicing decision making or management of the Fund otherwise.

Aims and Objectives

In relation to the governance of the Fund, the Administering Authority's objectives are to ensure that:

- ~~● all staff and Pensions Committee Members charged with the financial administration and decision making with regard to the Fund are fully equipped with the knowledge and skills to discharge the duties and responsibilities allocated to them~~
- ~~● the Fund is open in all its dealings and readily provides information to interested parties~~
- ~~● all relevant legislation is understood and complied with~~
- ~~● the Fund is at the forefront of best practice for LGPS funds~~
- all Conflicts of Interest are managed appropriately
- aim to act in the best interest of the Fund's members and employers
- have robust governance arrangements in place, to facilitate informed decision making in a transparent manner, supported by people who have the requisite knowledge and skills
- act with integrity and be accountable to our stakeholders for our decisions, ensuring they are robust and well based
- understand and monitor risk

- strive to ensure compliance with the appropriate legislation and statutory guidance, and to act in the spirit of other relevant guidelines and best practice guidance
- clearly articulate our objectives and how we intend to achieve those objectives through business planning, and we will continually measure and monitor success
- ensure the confidentiality, integrity and accessibility of the Fund's data, systems and services are protected and preserved

The identification and management of potential and actual conflicts of interest is therefore integral to the Administering Authority achieving its governance objectives.

To whom this Policy applies

This Conflicts of Interest Policy applies to all members of the Pensions Committee and the Pension Board, including scheme member and employer representatives, whether voting members or not. It applies to all members of the Hackney Council Pension Fund Management Team and the Group Director, Finance and Corporate Resources (Section 151 Officer).

The implementation of this policy and the management of conflicts of interest in general will have regard to each individual's role, whether this is a management, advisory or assisting role and includes responsibilities representing the Fund on other boards, committees, groups and bodies.

~~This Policy and the issue of conflicts of interest in general must be considered in light of each individual's role, whether this is a management, advisory or assisting role.~~

The Head of Pensions Fund Investment will monitor potential conflicts for less senior officers involved in the daily management of the Pension Fund and highlight this Policy to them as he or she considers appropriate.

This Policy also applies to all advisers and suppliers to the Fund, whether advising the Pension Board, Pensions Committee or Fund officers. ~~in relation to their role in advising or supplying the Fund and including responsibilities representing the Fund on other committees, groups and bodies.~~ In this Policy, reference to advisers includes advisers, suppliers and other parties providing advice and services to the Administering Authority in relation to pension fund matters. This includes but is not limited to: ~~actuaries, investment consultants, independent advisers, benefits consultants, third party administrators, fund managers, lawyers, custodians and AVC providers.~~

- Actuaries
- Investment Consultants
- Independent Advisers
- Benefits and Governance Consultants
- Third Party Administrators
- Fund Managers
- Lawyers
- Custodians
- AVC providers

Where an advisory appointment is with a firm rather than an individual, reference to "advisers" is to the lead adviser(s) responsible for the delivery of advice and services to the Administering Authority rather than the firm as a whole.

In accepting any role covered by this Policy, those individuals agree that they must:

- acknowledge any **actual or** potential conflict of interest they may have;
- be open with the Administering Authority and any other body on which they represent the Administering Authority, on any actual or potential conflicts of interest they may have;
- adopt practical solutions to managing those conflicts; and
- plan ahead and agree with the Administering Authority how they will manage any conflicts of interest which arise in future.

The procedures outlined later in this Policy provide a framework for each individual to meet these requirements.

Legislative and related context

There are a number of overriding requirements relating to the management of potential or actual conflicts of interest for those involved in LGPS funds which are included in legislation or guidance. These are considered further below.

The Public Service Pensions Act 2013

Section 5 of this Act requires that the scheme manager (in the case of the LGPS, this is the Administering Authority) must be satisfied that a Local Pension Board member does not have a conflict of interest at the point of appointment and from time to time thereafter. It also requires Local Pension Board members (or nominated members) to provide reasonable information to the scheme manager for this purpose.

The Act defines a conflict of interest as “a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice the person’s exercise of functions as a member of the board (but does not include a financial or other interest arising merely by virtue of membership of the scheme or any connected scheme).”

Further, the Act requires that scheme managers must have regard to any such guidance that the national Scheme Advisory Board issues (see below).

The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013

Regulation 108 of these Regulations applies the requirements of the Public Service Pensions Act (as outlined above) to the LGPS, placing a duty on each administering authority to satisfy itself that Local Pension Board members do not have conflicts of interest on appointment or whilst they are members of the Board. It also requires those Pension Board members to provide reasonable information to the Administering Authority in this regard.

Regulation 109 states that each Administering Authority must have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State in relation to Local Pension Boards. Further, regulation 110 provides that the national Scheme Advisory Board has a function of providing advice to administering authorities and local pension boards. The LGPS national Scheme Advisory Board has issued guidance relating to the creation of local pension boards including a section on conflicts of interest. This Conflicts of Interest Policy has been developed having regard to that guidance.

The Pensions Act 2004

The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 also adds a number of provisions to the Pensions Act 2004 related to the governance of public service pension schemes and, in particular, conflicts of interest.

Section 90A of the Pensions Act 2004 requires the Pensions Regulator to issue a code of practice relating to conflicts of interest for Pension Board members. The Pensions Regulator has issued such a code and this Conflicts of Interest Policy has been developed having regard to that code.¹

Further, under section 13, the Pensions Regulator can issue an improvement notice (i.e. a notice requiring steps to be taken to rectify a situation) where it is considered that the requirements relating to conflicts of interest for Pension Board members are not being adhered to.

CIPFA Investment Pooling Governance Principles for LGPS Administering Authorities Guidance

The CIPFA governance principles guidance states "the establishment of investment pooling arrangements creates a range of additional roles that committee members, representatives, officers and advisors might have." It includes some examples of how conflicts of interest could arise in these new roles. It highlights the need for Administering Authorities to:

- update their conflicts policies to have regard to asset pooling;
- remind all those involved with the management of the fund of the policy requirements and the potential for conflicts to arise in respect of asset pooling responsibilities;
- ensure declarations are updated appropriately.

This Conflicts of Interest Policy has been updated to take account of the possibility of conflicts arising in relation to asset pooling in accordance with the CIPFA governance principles guidance.

The Localism Act 2011

Chapter 7 of this Act requires councillors to comply with the code of conduct of their local authority and that code of conduct must be consistent with the Seven Principles of Public Life (considered further below). In addition the Act requires that the code of conduct must include provisions requiring the disclosure and registration of pecuniary interests and interests other than pecuniary interests.

The Seven Principles of Public Life

Otherwise known as the 'Nolan Principles', the seven principles of public life apply to anyone who holds public office, works as a public office holder. This includes people who are elected or appointed to public office, nationally and locally, and all people appointed to work in:

- the civil service
- local government
- the police
- the courts and probation services
- non-departmental public bodies
- health, education, social and care services

The principles also apply to all those in other sectors that deliver public services.

Many of the principles are integral to the successful implementation of this Policy. The principles are as follows:

¹ The Regulator's new Single Code of Practice is expected to be in force in late 2022/early 2023. 10 of TPR's 15 existing codes are to be transformed into one new online code.

- selflessness
- integrity
- objectivity
- accountability
- openness
- honesty
- leadership.

Advisers' Professional Standards

Many advisers will be required to meet professional standards relating to the management of conflicts of interest, for example, the Fund Actuary will be bound by the requirements of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries. Any Protocol or other document entered into between an adviser and the Administering Authority in relation to conflicts of interest, whether as a requirement of a professional body or otherwise, should be read in conjunction with this Policy.

Other Administering Authority Requirements

Individuals to whom this policy applies may also be required to adhere to other requirements in relation to conflicts of interest. These include:

Pension Fund Committee Members

In addition to the requirements of this Policy, Pensions Committee members and co-opted members (including non-voting co-opted members) are required to adhere to the Hackney Council Members' Code of Conduct which, in Part 2, includes requirements in relation to the disclosure and management of pecuniary and other interests.

Local Pension Board Members

In addition to the requirements of this Policy, Local Pension Board members are required to adhere to Part 7 of the Terms of Reference of the Local Pension Board. This includes the following requirements:

"Part 2 of Hackney Council's Code of Conduct for Members and Co-optees shall apply in relation to the management of conflicts of interest on the Pension Board with the exception of the registration of pecuniary interests and how interests are to be disclosed which are detailed below.

*Each member of the Pension Board, or a person proposed to be appointed to the Board, (as well as attendees participating in the meeting) must provide the **Director of Financial Management and the Director of Legal and Governance** ~~Assistant Director, Financial Management and the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic Services~~ with such information as he or she reasonably requires for the purposes of demonstrating that there is no conflict of interest.*

***The Director of Financial Management and Director of Legal and Governance** ~~The Assistant Director, Financial Management and Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic Services~~ will jointly adopt the role of ensuring that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Pension Board does not have a conflict of interest. Further they must be satisfied that the Chair is carrying out his or her responsibilities under this part appropriately."*

Employees

In addition to the requirements of this Policy, officers of Hackney Council are required to adhere to the Hackney Council Code of Conduct for Employees which includes requirements in relation to aiming to avoid conflicts of interests and declaring them in writing should they occur.

Advisers

The Administering Authority appoints its own advisers. There may be circumstances where these advisers are asked to give advice to Hackney Council or other scheme employers, or even to scheme members or member representatives such as the Trades Unions, in relation to pension matters. Similarly, an adviser may also be appointed to another administering authority which is involved in a transaction involving the ~~Hackney Council Pension Fund~~ and on which advice is required or to a supplier or organisation providing services to the ~~Hackney Council Pension Fund~~. An adviser can only continue to advise the Administering Authority and another party where there is no conflict of interest in doing so.

An adviser appointed to advise the Pension Committee, Local Pension Board or Fund officers ~~Where the Pension Board decides to appoint an adviser, this can be the same person as is appointed to advise the Pensions Committee or Fund officers~~ as long as there is no conflict of interest between the **multiple responsibilities** of the ~~two~~ roles.

The key advisers are all expected to have their own policies or protocols on how conflicts of interest will be managed in their relationships with their clients, and these should ~~have been~~ **be** shared with Hackney Council **on request**.

The London Collective Investment Vehicle ('London CIV') Conflict of Interest requirements

One of the potential areas of conflict covered by this Policy is investment pooling. A proportion of the Hackney Pension Fund's assets are invested through the London CIV asset pool. Hackney Council, together with other London local authorities, is a shareholder as well as a client of the London CIV. The Chair of Hackney's Pensions Committee and the Group Director, Finance and Corporate Resources currently sit on the London CIV Shareholder Committee and must comply with any requirements relating to the management of actual or potential conflicts of interest for the governance of the London CIV.

What is a Conflict or Potential Conflict and how will they be managed?

Section 5(5) of The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 defines a conflict of interest as a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice a person's exercise of functions².

Therefore, a conflict of interest may arise when an individual:

- has a responsibility or duty in relation to the management of, or provision of advice to, the LGPS fund administered by Hackney Council, and
- at the same time, **they have** ~~has~~:
 - a separate personal interest (financial or otherwise) or
 - another responsibility in relation to that matter,

giving rise to a possible conflict with their first responsibility. An interest could also arise due to a family member or close colleague having a specific responsibility or interest in a matter.

² The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 defines a conflict of interest in the context of a member of a local pension board however the definition is extracted here to apply to all stakeholders.

Some examples of potential conflicts are included in Appendix 1.

Hackney Council as Administering Authority will: encourage a culture of openness and transparency and encourages individuals to be vigilant; have a clear understanding of their role and the circumstances in which they may have a conflict of interest, and of how potential conflicts should be managed.

Hackney Council will evaluate the nature of any dual interests or responsibilities that are highlighted and assess the impact on Pension Fund operations and good governance were an actual conflict of interest to materialise.

- encourage a culture of openness and transparency
- encourage individuals to be vigilant; have a clear understanding of their role and the circumstances in which they may have a conflict of interest, and of how potential conflicts should be managed
- evaluate the nature of any dual interests or responsibilities that are highlighted and assess the impact on the Funds' operations and good governance were an actual conflict of interest to materialise

One of the key areas of potential conflict relates to the dual roles held by those employed by or representing Hackney Council as the Administering Authority to the Fund and a participating employer in the Fund.

Some examples of potential conflicts, including those relating to these dual roles, are included in Appendix 1.

Monitoring and recording potential conflicts of interest

All declarations should be collated and recorded on the Fund's Register of Conflicts of Interests (see Appendix 2 for details of the format of the register).

In order for the Administering Authority to fulfil its obligations to manage and monitor potential conflicts of interests the Pensions Committee and the Local Pension Board must include an item on conflicts of interest at each meeting. The Local Pension Board must also include an item on conflicts of interest in its Annual Report.

The Fund's Register of conflicts of interest may be viewed by any interested party at any point in time. It will be made available on request by the Head of Pensions. To identify whether the objectives of this Policy are being met the Administering Authority will review the Register of conflicts of interest on an annual basis and consider whether there have been any potential or actual conflicts of interest that were not declared at the earliest opportunity. Further detail is set out in table 1 below.

Managing and mitigating potential conflicts of interest

It is inevitable that conflicts of interest will arise, and it is important to recognise that there are various ways that conflict can be managed depending on the individual circumstances.

Ways in which conflicts of interest may be managed include. The three main ways to assist in resolving conflict include:

- the conflicted individual concerned abstaining from discussion, decision-making or providing advice relating to the relevant issue

- the **conflicted** individual being excluded from the **relevant** meeting(s) and any related correspondence or material in connection with the relevant issue (for example, a report for a Pensions Committee meeting), **or**
- a working group or sub-committee being established, **excluding which excludes** the **conflicted** individual concerned, to consider the matter outside of the formal meeting (where the terms of reference permit this to happen).

Provided that the Administering Authority (having taken any professional advice deemed to be required) is satisfied that the method of management is satisfactory, ~~Hackney Council~~ **the Administering Authority** shall endeavour to avoid the need ~~for~~ **to advise** an individual to resign due to a conflict of interest. However, where the conflict is considered to be so fundamental it cannot be effectively managed, or where a Pension Board member has an actual conflict of interest as defined in the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, the individual will be required to resign from the Committee, Board or appointment.

Responsibility

Hackney Council as The Administering Authority for the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund must be satisfied that conflicts of interest are appropriately managed. For this purpose, the Head of Pensions ~~Fund Investment~~ is the designated individual for ensuring the procedure outlined below is adhered to. For Pension Board members, the Director, Financial Management and the Director of Legal and Governance Services must be satisfied that no conflict of interest exists and, accordingly, all information relating to Pension Board members will be shared with the Head of Pensions ~~Fund Investment~~.

However, it is the responsibility of each individual covered by this Policy to identify any potential instances where their personal, financial, business or other interests might come into conflict with their pension fund duties **and to follow the requirements of the policy appropriately.**

Operational procedure for officers, Pensions Committee members and Pension Board members

What is required	How this will be done
<i>Step 1 - Initial identification of interests which do or could give rise to a conflict.</i>	<p>On appointment to their role or on the commencement of this Policy if later, all individuals will be provided with a copy of this Policy and be required to complete a Declaration of Interest the same or similar to that included in Appendix 2.</p> <p>The information contained in these declarations will be collated into the Pension Fund's Register of conflicts of interest in a format the same or similar to that included in Appendix 3.</p>
<i>Step 2 - Ongoing notification and management of potential or actual conflicts of interest</i>	<p>At the commencement of any Pensions Committee, Pension Board or other formal meeting where pension fund matters are to be discussed, the Chairman person will ask all those present who are covered by this Policy to declare any new potential conflicts. These will be recorded in the meeting minutes and the Fund's Register of conflicts of interest. In addition, the latest version of the register will be made available by the Head</p>

	<p>of Pensions Fund Investment to the Chairman person of every meeting prior to that meeting if and when required.</p> <p>Any individual who considers that they have, or another individual has a potential or actual conflict of interest as defined by this policy which relates to an item of business at a meeting, must advise the Chairman person and the Head of Pensions Fund Investment prior to the meeting, where possible, or state this clearly at the meeting at the earliest possible opportunity. The Chairman person, in consultation with the Head of Pensions Fund Investment, should then decide whether the conflicted or potentially conflicted individual needs to leave the meeting during the discussion on the relevant matter or to withdraw from voting on the matter.</p> <p>If such a conflict is identified outside of a meeting the notification must be made to the Head of Pensions Fund Investment and where it relates to the business of any meeting, also to the Chairman person of that meeting. The Head of Pensions Fund Investment, in consultation with the Chairman person where relevant, will consider any necessary action to manage address the potential or actual conflict.</p> <p>Where information relating to any potential or actual conflict has been provided, the Head of Pensions Fund Investment may seek such professional advice as he or she thinks fit (such as legal advice from the Monitoring Officer) on how to address any identified conflicts.</p> <p>Any such potential or actual conflicts of interest and the action taken must be recorded on the Fund's Register of conflicts of interest and in the minutes of the meeting if raised during a meeting.</p>
<p><i>Step 3 - Periodic review of potential and actual conflicts</i></p>	<p>At least once every 12 months, the Head of Pensions Fund Investment will provide to all individuals to whom this Policy applies a copy of their currently declared Fund conflicts of interest to be reviewed. existing declaration for them to advise of any changes All individuals will complete a new declaration of interest (see Appendix 3) confirming that their information contained in the Register is correct or highlighting any changes that need to be made to the declaration. If necessary, the declaration will be reviewed more frequently. must confirm that their information contained in the Register is correct or highlight any changes that need to be made.</p>

Conduct at Meetings

There may be occasions / circumstances when a representative of employers or members wishes to provide a specific point of view on behalf of an employer (or group of employers)

or member (or group of members). The Administering Authority requires that any individual wishing to speak ~~from an employer's or member's viewpoint~~ to advocate on behalf of a specific person or organisation or to represent views of a group of such persons must state this clearly ~~at the meeting e.g. at a Pension Board or Pensions Committee meeting~~ and that this will be recorded in the minutes.

Accepting gifts and hospitality

For the purposes of this Policy, gifts such as t-shirts, pens, trade show bags and other promotional items (subject to a notional maximum value of up to £25 from an individual source over a short period) obtained at events such as conferences, training events, seminars, and trade shows, that are offered equally to all members of the public attending the event do not need to be declared. Gifts and hospitality in excess of £25 must be disclosed on the register of interests form and declared at meetings. Hackney Council Officers are also required to comply with the Hackney Council's gifts and hospitality requirements in the Employees' Code of Conduct.

Other Pension Fund officers and thirds-party administrators

It is important to ensure that other officers of the Fund and the third-party administrator staff, not covered by this Policy, do not carry out work where there may be a potential or actual conflict.

It is important for the officers of the Fund and staff of the third-party administrator to be aware that they should not be involved on cases to which they have a connection to the scheme member, including any professional connection. Accordingly, the Head of Pensions will ensure that appropriate controls are in place to ensure that this policy requirement is met.

Operational procedure for advisers

Although this Policy applies to all of the key advisers, the operational procedures outlined in steps 1 and 3 ~~in the table~~ above relating to completing ongoing declarations are not expected to apply to advisers. Instead all advisers must:

- be provided with a copy of this Policy on appointment and whenever it is updated
- adhere to the principles of this Policy
- provide, on request, information to the Head of Pensions in relation to how they will manage and monitor actual or potential conflicts of interests relating to the provision of advice or services to Hackney Council as Administering Authority
- notify the Head of Pensions ~~Fund Investment~~ immediately should a potential or actual conflict of interest arise
- ~~highlight at all meetings should a potential or actual conflict of interest arise, preferably at the start of the meeting~~

All potential or actual conflicts notified by advisers will be recorded in the Fund's Register of conflicts of interest.

Monitoring and Reporting

~~The Fund's Register of conflicts of interest may be viewed by any interested party at any point in time. It will be made available on request to the Head of Pension Fund Investment.~~

~~In addition information relating to conflicts of interest will be published in the Fund's Annual Report and Accounts.~~

~~In order to identify whether the objectives of this Policy are being met the administering authority will review the Register of conflicts of interest on an annual basis and consider whether there has been any potential or actual conflicts of interest that were not declared at the earliest opportunity.~~

Key Risks

The key risks to the delivery of this Policy are outlined below all of which could result in an actual conflict of interest arising and not being properly managed. The Head of Financial Services **Pensions** will monitor these and other key risks and consider how to respond to them.

- Insufficient training or poor understanding in relation to individuals' roles on pension fund matters
- Insufficient training or failure to communicate the requirements of this Policy
- **Failure by an individual to follow the requirements of this Policy**
- Absence of the individual nominated to manage the operational aspects of this Policy and no one deputising or failure of that individual to carry out the operational aspects in accordance with this Policy
- Failure by a chairperson to take appropriate action when a conflict is highlighted at a meeting.

Costs

All costs related to the operation and implementation of this Policy will be met directly by London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund. However, no payments will be made to any individuals in relation to any time spent or expenses incurred in the disclosure or management of any potential or actual conflicts of interest under this Policy.

Approval, Review and Consultation

This Conflicts of Interest Policy was last updated and approved at the London Borough of Hackney Pensions Committee meeting on ~~XXX~~18th December 2019. It will be formally reviewed and updated at least every three years or sooner if the conflict management arrangements or other matters included within it merit reconsideration, including if there are any changes to the LGPS or other relevant Regulations or Guidance which need to be taken into account.

Further Information

If you require further information about anything in or related to this Conflicts of Interest Policy, please contact:

Rachel Cowburn – Head of Pensions

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Financial Services Department
4th Floor, Hackney Service Centre
1 Hillman Street

London
E8 1DY

Telephone: 020 8356 3322

Email: pensions@hackney.gov.uk — rachel.cowburn@hackney.gov.uk

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Appendix 1

Examples of Potential Conflicts of Interest

The examples provided below are for illustrative purposes only, please note that these are not designed to be an exhaustive list

- a) An elected member on the Pensions Committee **may be required** ~~is asked~~ to provide views on a funding strategy which could result in an increase in the employer contributions **payable by** ~~required from~~ the employer he or she represents.
- b) A member of the Pensions Committee is on the board of a supplier that the Committee is considering appointing.
- c) An officer of the Fund or member of the Pensions Committee accepts a dinner invitation from a supplier who has submitted a bid as part of a tender process, or might be in the process of preparing a bid for an open tender process**
- d) An employer representative on the Local Pension Board is employed by a company to which the administering authority has outsourced its pension administration services and the Local Pension Board is reviewing the standards of service provided by that company.
- e) The person appointed to consider internal disputes is asked to review a case relating to a close friend or relative.
- f) An officer of the Fund is asked to provide guidance to the Local Pension Board on the background to an item considered at the Pensions Committee. This could be a potential conflict as the officer could consciously or sub-consciously avoid providing full details, resulting in the Board not having full information and not being able to provide a complete view on the appropriateness or otherwise of that Pensions Committee item.
- g) The administering authority is considering buying its own payroll system for paying pensioners, rather than using the payroll system used for all employees of the Council. The Group Director, Finance & Corporate Resources, who has responsibility for the Council budget, is expected to approve the report to go to the Pensions Committee, which, if agreed, would result in a material reduction in the recharges to the Council from the Fund.
- h) Officers of the Fund are asked to provide a report to the Local Pension Board or Pensions Committee on whether the administration services should be outsourced which, if it were to happen, could result in a change of employer or job insecurity for the officers.
- i) The senior pension fund officer is asked to provide technical advice to a scheme employer about an outsourcing contract. This includes questions about the impact on that employer and their employer requirements relating to the outsourcing contract. That senior pension fund officer is also (or will be) involved in similar matters from a Pension Fund perspective relating to that outsourcing.**
- j) An employer representative employed by the administering authority and appointed to the Pension Board to represent employers generally could be conflicted if he or she only acts in the interests of the administering authority, rather than those of all

participating employers. Equally, a member representative, who is also a trade union representative, appointed to the pension board to represent the entire scheme membership could be conflicted if he or she only acts in the interests of their union and union membership, rather than all scheme members.

- k) A Fund adviser is party to the development of a strategy which could result in additional work for their firm, for example, delegated consulting of fund monies or providing assistance with monitoring the covenant of employers or where they are also advisers to the London CIV.
- l) An employer representative has access to information by virtue of his or her employment, which could influence or inform the considerations or decisions of the Pensions Committee or Local Pension Board. He or she has to consider whether to share this information in light of their duty of confidentiality to their employer. Their knowledge of this information will put them in a position of conflict if it is likely to prejudice their ability to carry out their functions as a member of the Pensions Committee or Local Pension Board.
- m) A Member of the Pensions Committee or officer of the Fund is on a London CIV Committee (e.g. Shareholders' Committee) and a matter is being considered that would benefit their originating Council or Pension Fund to a notably greater or lesser degree than other participating Councils or Funds
- n) An administrator in the Fund receives a case to calculate a benefit which relates to a family member, close friend or colleague.
- o) An elected member on the Pension Committee also has a role in driving carbon reduction in their local authority area, which also happens to be the Administering Authority for the Fund.

Appendix 2

Declaration of Interests relating to the management of the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund administered by Hackney Council

I, [insert full name], am:

Tick as appropriate

- an officer involved in the management
- a Pensions Fund Committee Member
- a Pension Board Member

of the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund and I set out below under the appropriate headings my interests, which I am required to declare under the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund Conflicts of Interest Policy. I have put “none” where I have no such interests under any heading.

Responsibilities or other interests that could result in a conflict of interest
(please list and continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

1. Relating to me

a. Responsibilities relating to an employer in the pension fund

b. Membership of the LGPS

c. Other (see examples)

2. *Relating to family members or close colleagues*

a. *Responsibilities relating to an employer in the pension fund*

b. *Membership of the LGPS*

c. *Other (see examples)*

Undertaking:

I declare that I understand my responsibilities under the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund Conflicts of Interest Policy. I undertake to notify the Head of Financial Services **Pensions** of any changes in the information set out above.

Signed _____

Date _____

Name (CAPITAL LETTERS) _____

Position _____

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Appendix 3

London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund - Register of Potential and Actual Conflicts of Interest

All reported conflicts of interest will be recorded in the minutes and a register of conflicts will be maintained and reviewed annually by Hackney Council, the Administering Authority.

Date identified	Name of Person	Role of Person	Details of conflict	Actual or potential conflict	How notified(1)	Action taken(2)	Follow up required	Date resolved

(1) E.g. verbal declaration at meeting, written conflicts declaration, etc

(2) E.g. withdrawing from a decision making process, left meeting