

Staff and Pensions Committee

Scheme Advisory Board Final Good Governance Report

14 June 2021

Recommendation(s)

1. The Staff and Pensions Committee note and comment on the report.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In February 2021 the Scheme Advisory Board published its final Good Governance Phase 3 Report which was produced by the Hymans Robertson project team.
- 1.2 The report provides further details on the recommendations that will be submitted to the Local Government minister for consideration.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 No direct costs occur immediately, but the recommendations would have resourcing implications, both in terms of how resources are organised and the total cost.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 None.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 The phase 3 report (Appendix 1) provides detailed recommendations. The key recommendations are summarised below:
 - **LGPS senior officer;** a single named officer who is responsible for the delivery of the LGPS activity for a fund. Details of the core functions of the role and competencies needed to fulfil the role and how it can be incorporated into different organisational structures.
 - **Conflicts of Interest;** all administering authorities should publish a conflicts of interest policy.

- **Representation:** each administering authority must publish a policy on how scheme members and non-administering authority employers are represented on pension committees.
- **Skills and Training;** key individuals, such as pension committee members and section 151 officer have the appropriate knowledge to carry out their duties efficiently. The administering authority must publish a training strategy.
- **Service delivery:** regulation change for it to be compulsory for an administering authority to publish an administration strategy.
- **Key Performance Indicators:** ensuring that the administering authority has defined service standards and the governance in place to monitor these.
- **Business planning process:** senior officers and committee must be satisfied with the resource and budget allocated to administer the LGPS each year. This must be based on the business plan and not the previous years' budget increased by inflation.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 The Scheme Advisory Board has produced an Action Plan for the Recommendations which is reproduced at Appendix 2.
- 5.2 Officers will keep the Staff and Pensions Committee updated with developments.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1 Good Governance Phase 3 report.
2. Appendix 2 Good Governance Action Plan

Background Papers

1. None

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): None
 Other members: n/a