

Staff and Pensions Committee

11 September 2023

Employers Joining and Leaving Warwickshire Pension Fund

Recommendation

That the Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director for Resources to approve applications to the Pension Fund from the employers listed in Appendix 1, subject to the applications meeting the criteria set out in the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, and to facilitate those employers listed in Appendix 1 to exit the Pension Fund.

1. Executive Summary

New Entrants

- 1.1 The Pension Fund must accept applications from scheduled bodies where the requirements of the regulations are met.
- 1.2 An academy is automatically a Scheme Employer on the basis that it meets the criteria of paragraph 20 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 i.e., it is a 'scheduled body'.
- 1.3 When submitting an application for membership each academy will be required to confirm:
 - That it has internal authority to be admitted to the Pension Fund.
 - The number of members to join the Pension Fund.
 - That the academy will comply with the relevant LGPS Regulations.
- 1.4 The Pension Fund must accept an application from an applicant body made under paragraph 1(d) of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 where that body has undertaken to comply with the Regulations.
- 1.5 The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership is the letting authority for the contract with EasyClean Contract Cleaners.
- 1.6 The Holy Spirit MAT is the letting authority for CleanTEC Services LTD.
- 1.7 EasyClean Contract Cleaners and CleanTEC Services LTD have made an application on the basis that they meet the criteria of paragraph 1(d) of Part 3

of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 i.e., it is a 'transferee body'.

- 1.8 The Applicant Bodies have a contract with another Scheme Employer within the Pension Fund and have applied for admission into the Fund in respect of this contract.
- 1.9 The Applicant Bodies will be carrying out a function or service on behalf of the Scheme Employer under a contract.
- 1.10 The Applicant Bodies have confirmed that the Scheme Employer will be party to the admission agreement.
- 1.11 The Applicant Bodies have undertaken to comply with the relevant LGPS Regulations.

Cessations

- 1.12 When an employer leaves the Pension Fund, the Actuary makes an assessment to see if an exit debit or credit is due. This information is then shared with the Employer and arrangements are made to collect any debit. If a credit is calculated, it is at the Fund's discretion whether this should be paid to the Employer.
- 1.13 Orbit's last active member has now left the scheme as at 30 June 2023 and the Fund is making arrangement to facilitate Orbit's exit from the Fund.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 New entrants to the scheme will be required to cover their own costs and the actuarial process will ensure that employer contributions are appropriate to ensure this is the case.
- 2.2 The Pension Fund has the discretion to pay out exit credits on cessation of membership of the Fund. A separate report provides information to the committee on the cessation for Heart of England Housing and Care association (Orbit).

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 None.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 Warwickshire Pension Fund, Admissions and Terminations Policy 2023

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 At the moment the dates for the academies listed are provisional, next steps will be decided once the admission date is confirmed.
- 5.2 The Pension Fund must accept an application from an applicant body made under paragraph 1(d) of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 where that body has undertaken to comply with the Regulations.
- 5.3 Provided that the Committee is satisfied that the requirements of the regulations are met, the application should be granted.
- 5.4 In the event that the application is accepted, arrangements will be made for the Applicant Body to enter into an admission agreement with the Pension Fund. Should admission commence prior to any admission agreement being completed, the Applicant Body has agreed to be bound by the terms of the standard form admission agreement appended to the Pension Fund's Admissions and Termination Policy.

Appendix

Appendix 1 – Name Employers Proposed to Join and Leave the Fund

Background Papers

None

| | Name | Contact Information |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Councillor Yousef Dahmash and Councillor Bill Gifford

Name Employers Proposed to Join & Leave the Fund

New Employers, including Academies:

- EasyClean Contract Cleaners (Arthur Terry Learning Partnership), 3 October 2022
- CleanTEC Services LTD (Holy Spirit MAT), 1 September 2022
- The Griffin Primary School (New Academy), 1 September 2023
- Dunchurch Infant Foundation School joining Coventry Diocese MAT, 1 September 2023
- Provost Williams Primary School joining Coventry Diocese MAT, 1 September 2023
- Dunchurch Boughton CofE Junior School joining Coventry Diocese MAT on 1 September 2023
- Telford Junior School joining Elm Tree MAT on 1 September 2023

Existing employers exiting the Fund:

- Orbit – Heart of England Housing and Care Ltd