

# **Staff and Pensions Committee**

**11 December 2023**

## **Employers Joining and Leaving the Warwickshire Pension Fund**

### **Recommendations**

That the Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director for Resources:

1. 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
2. to facilitate those employers listed in Appendix 1 to exit the Pension Fund.

### **1. Executive Summary**

- 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 applying 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 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.
- 1.6 The Applicant Bodies will be carrying out a function or service on behalf of the Scheme Employer under a contract.

- 1.7 The Applicant Bodies have confirmed that the Scheme Employer will be party to the admission agreement.
- 1.8 The Applicant Bodies have undertaken to comply with the relevant LGPS Regulations.

### ***Cessations***

- 1.9 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.
- 1.10 Warwickshire Independent Schools have elected to leave the Warwickshire Pension Fund on 30 November 2023. The Fund are now working with the Actuary and School to complete the cessation.

## **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.

## **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 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.
- 5.2 Provided that the Committee is satisfied that the requirements of the regulations are met, the application should be granted.

- 5.3 If 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

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

Local Member(s): n/a

Other members: Cllrs Dahmash, Gifford

## Employers Proposed to Join & Leave the Fund

New Employers, including Academies proposed to join the fund:

### ***New Academies***

- Dunchurch Infant School (Coventry Diocese Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023
- Dunchurch Church of England Junior School (Coventry Diocese Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023
- Provost Williams Church of England Primary School (Coventry Diocese Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023
- Telford Junior School (Elm Tree Multi Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023
- Oakley School (Stowe Valley Multi Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023
- The Griffin Primary School (The Griffin Primary School Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

### ***New Contractors:***

- Caterlink Limited (Stowe Valley Multi Academy Trust) on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023

Existing employers exiting the Fund:

- Warwickshire Independent Schools – 30 November 2023