

Staff and Pensions Committee

4 March 2024

Employers Joining and Leaving the Warwickshire Pension Fund

Recommendation

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

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

1. Executive Summary

Applications

- 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 had internal authority to be admitted to the Pension Fund;
 - the number of members to join the Pension Fund; and
 - 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 and debit. If a credit is calculated, it is at the Fund's discretion whether this should be paid to the Employer.

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. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 4.1 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 had agreed to be bound by the terms of the standard form admission agreement appended to the Pensions Fund's Admissions and Termination Policy from the initial admission date.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Schedule of Employers Proposed to Join and Leave the Fund

Background Papers

Warwickshire Pension Fund Admissions and Terminations Policy 2023

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

Local Member(s): n/a

Other members: Cllrs Butlin, Dahmash, and Gifford

Employers Proposed to Join and Leave the Fund

New Employers, including Academies proposed to join the fund:

New Academies

- Arley Primary School (Inspire Education Trust) on 1st January 2024

New Contractors

- Genie Cleaning Services (Community Academy Trust) on 1st November 2023
- Miquil Catering (Henley Primary School) on 1st December 2023
- Atalian Servest Catering (Inspire Education Trust) on 1st January 2024
- Alliance In Partnership (Myton Academy) on 1st January 2024

Existing employers exiting the Fund:

- Warwick Independent School on 30th November 2023