

Extract of Consultation Proposals and Questions

Annex A: List of consultation proposals

Chapter 2: LGPS pooling

Proposal 1: Requirement on AAs to fully delegate the implementation of their investment strategy to their pool.

Proposal 2: Requirement on AAs to take their principal investment advice from the pool.

Proposal 3: Requirement for pools to be established as investment management companies authorised and regulated by the FCA, with the expertise and capacity to implement investment strategies.

Proposal 4: Requirement for AAs to transfer legacy assets to the management of their pool.

Chapter 3: Local investment

Proposal 5: Requirement on AAs to set out their approach to local investment, including a target range for investment, in their Investment Strategy Statement, and to have regard to local growth plans and local economic priorities in setting their investment strategy.

Proposal 6: Requirement on AAs to work with CAs, MCAs, CCAs, and local authorities in other areas to identify suitable local investment opportunities,

Proposal 7: Requirement for the pools to develop the capability to carry out due diligence on local investment opportunities.

Proposal 8: Requirement on AAs to include in their annual report a report on the extent and impact of their local investments.

Chapter 4: Governance of funds and pools

Proposal 9: Requirement to prepare and publish a governance and training strategy (replacing the governance compliance statement), including a conflicts of interest policy.

Proposal 10: Requirement to appoint a senior LGPS officer with overall delegated responsibility for the management and administration of the Scheme.

Proposal 11: Requirement to prepare and publish an administration strategy.

Proposal 12: Changes to the way in which strategies on governance and training, funding, administration and investments are published

Proposal 13: Requirement for AAs to participate in a biennial independent governance review and, if applicable, produce an improvement plan to address any issues identified.

Proposal 14: Requirement for pension committee members, the senior officer, and officers to have the appropriate level of knowledge and understanding for their roles, with requirements for pension committee members and local pension board members aligned.

Proposal 15: Requirement for AAs to set out within their governance and training strategy how they will ensure that any committee, sub-committee, or officer will meet the new knowledge requirements within a reasonable period from appointment.

Proposal 16: Requirement for pension committees to include an independent person who is a pensions professional, whether as a voting member or as an adviser.

Proposal 17: Requirement for boards to include one or two representatives of shareholder AAs, such as the chair of the shareholder committee or equivalent.

Proposal 18: Requirement for pools to publish asset performance and transaction costs

Annex B: List of consultation questions

Chapter 2: LGPS pooling

Proposals

Question 1: Do you agree that all pools should be required to meet the minimum standards of pooling set out above?

Question 2: Do you agree that the investment strategy set by the administering authority should include high-level investment objectives, and optionally, a high-level strategic asset allocation, with all implementation activity delegated to the pool?

Question 3: Do you agree that an investment strategy on this basis would be sufficient to meet the administering authority's fiduciary duty?

Question 4: What are your views on the proposed template for strategic asset allocation in the investment strategy statement?

Question 5: Do you agree that the pool should provide investment advice on the investment strategies of its partner AAs? Do you see that further advice or input would be necessary to be able to consider advice provided by the pool – if so, what form do you envisage this taking?

Question 6: Do you agree that all pools should be established as investment management companies authorised by the FCA, and authorised to provide relevant advice?

Question 7: Do you agree that administering authorities should be required to transfer all listed assets into pooled vehicles managed by their pool company?

Question 8: Do you agree that administering authorities should be required to transfer legacy illiquid investments to the management of the pool?

Question 9: What capacity and expertise would the pools need to develop to take on management of legacy assets of the partner funds and when could this be delivered?
Implementation

Question 10: Do you have views on the indicative timeline for implementation, with pools adopting the proposed characteristics and pooling being complete by March 2026?

Other developments

Question 11: What scope is there to increase collaboration between pools, including the sharing of specialisms or specific local expertise? Are there any barriers to such collaboration?

Question 12: What potential is there for collaboration between partner funds in the same pool on issues such as administration and training? Are there other areas where greater collaboration could be beneficial?

Chapter 3: Local investment

Proposals

Question 13: What are your views on the appropriate definition of 'local investment' for reporting purposes ?

Question 14: Do you agree that administering authorities should work with their Combined Authority, Mayoral Combined Authority, Combined County Authority, Corporate Joint Committee or with local authorities in areas where these do not exist, to identify suitable local investment opportunities, and to have regard to local growth plans and local growth

priorities in setting their investment strategy? How would you envisage your pool would seek to achieve this?

Question 15: Do you agree that administering authorities should set out their objectives on local investment, including a target range in their investment strategy statement?

Question 16: Do you agree that pools should be required to develop the capability to carry out due diligence on local investment opportunities and to manage such investments?

Question 17: Do you agree that administering authorities should report on their local investments and their impact in their annual reports? What should be included in this reporting?

Chapter 4: Governance of funds and pools

Fund governance

Question 18: Do you agree with the overall approach to governance, which builds on the SAB's Good Governance recommendations?

Question 19: Do you agree that administering authorities should be required to prepare and publish a governance and training strategy, including a conflict of interest policy?

Question 20: Do you agree with the proposals regarding the appointment of a senior LGPS officer?

Question 21: Do you agree that administering authorities should be required to prepare and publish an administration strategy?

Question 22: Do you agree with the proposal to change the way in which strategies on governance and training, funding, administration and investments are published?

Question 23: Do you agree with the proposals regarding biennial independent governance reviews? What are your views on the format and assessment criteria?

Question 24: Do you agree with the proposal to require pension committee members to have appropriate knowledge and understanding?

Question 25: Do you agree with the proposal to require AAs to set out in their governance and training strategy how they will ensure that the new requirements on knowledge and understanding are met?

Question 26: What are your views on whether to require administering authorities to appoint an independent person as adviser or member of the pension committee, or other ways to achieve the aim?

Pool governance

Question 27: Do you agree that pool company boards should include one or two shareholder representatives?

Question 28: What are your views on the best way to ensure that members' views and interests are taken into account by the pools?

Question 29: Do you agree that pools should report consistently and with greater transparency including on performance and costs? What metrics do you think would be beneficial to include in this reporting?