

PENSIONS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, 20 June 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Pensions Committee held at Committee Room, 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Tuesday, 20 June 2023 at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Timothy Butcher (Chairman)
David Sales (Deputy Chairman)
Clare James
Alderman Ian David Luder
Deputy Andrien Meyers

In attendance (observing online)

Shahnan Bakth
Deputy Madush Gupta

Officers:

Caroline Al-Beyerty	- The Chamberlain
Kate Limna	- Chamberlain's Department
Graham Newman	- Chamberlain's Department
Sarah Port	- Chamberlain's Department
Amanda Luk	- Chamberlain's Department
Chris Rumbles, Clerk	- Town Clerk's Department

In attendance:

Lucy Tusa (Mercer)
Greg Hall (Mercer)

With Alderman Ian Luder in the Chair.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Henry Pollard.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

3. **ORDER OF THE COURT**

The Committee received an order of the Court of Common Council dated 27th April 2023 appointing the Committee and agreeing its terms of reference for the ensuing year.

RECEIVED

4. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Chair in accordance with Standing Order No. 29.

Timothy Butcher, being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

The Committee proceeded to elect a Deputy Chairman in accordance with Standing Order No 30.

David Sales, being the only Member expressing their willingness to serve, was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

VOTE OF THANKS

Andrien Meyers moved a vote of thanks to Alderman Ian Luder, the immediate past Chairman.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That, at the conclusion of his term of office as Chairman, the Members of Pensions Committee wish to express to:

Alderman Ian Luder

their sincere thanks and appreciation for the commitment, professionalism and leadership he has provided in overseeing all aspects of the work of the Committee, and for the exemplary manner in which he has presided over proceedings during his term as Chairman.

As Chairman of Pensions Committee since its creation in July 2022, Ian has provided a consistently high level of strategic leadership and direction in overseeing and guiding the work of the Committee through its initial phase. He has maintained a level of knowledge and understanding of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, its key policies and legal framework that has allowed him to steer the work of the Committee and its future direction.

Under Ian's Chairmanship, the Committee has continued to provide strategic oversight and direction of the Pension Fund, ensuring proper governance processes and procedures were being implemented and maintained, that key challenges and risks were regularly reviewed, identified and responded to, with communications strategies being developed and implemented in responding to emerging developments. Also, that the Pension Fund's aims and objectives were being met through regular review of the investment strategy, investment performance and through ensuring the asset allocation strategy responded to and aligned to the aims, objectives and commitments of the City Corporation's Responsible Business Strategy. Ian's leadership has been invaluable in guiding the Committee through these crucial areas of work along with the strategic direction he has provided.

Finally, the Committee wishes to place on record its recognition to Ian for his commitment to the work of the Committee, to convey their gratitude for the leadership he has provided and to offer him their best wishes for the future.

6. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the public minutes of the Pensions Committee meeting on Wednesday 8 February 2023 be approved as an accurate record.

The Chairman proposed that moving forwards Local Government Pensions Board minutes should come to Pensions Committee for Members' information, with Pensions Committee minutes going to Local Government Pensions Board for Board Members' information.

7. **PENSIONS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain detailing a forward-looking Pensions Committee work programme. The Chamberlain commented that as an aide memoire, a note would be added to the bottom of the work programme to indicate that the Administration Strategy would next be reviewed in February 2025.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Receive the report and note its content.

8. **PENSIONS SCHEME ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing a summary of general information around a range of topics in relation to the administration of the Scheme since the last Committee meeting.

A Member questioned whether a message relating to McCloud would be included on payslips, with Members noting that payslips were now circulated electronically and with there being a limit to the amount of information you can include on these. The Chamberlain suggested that information relating to McCloud could be added to the intranet or included within the Town Clerk's monthly email to all City Corporation staff, with these providing an effective way of highlighting the issue to all staff.

The Chairman sought clarity on how any remedy from McCloud would be paid, with Members noting that the position remained unclear at this stage as to how any payment was to be made. The Chamberlain responded stating that while it is yet to be confirmed, it is expected that if there are any arrears owed they would be paid to the scheme member as a lump sum as soon as practicable.

A Member referred to the McCloud judgement, ramifications on Teachers' pensions and questioned any impact this may present on the City of London Corporation's Pensions Scheme, with the Chamberlain confirming a response on this would need to be given during the non-public session.

RESOLVED: That Members: -

- Receive the report and note its content.

9. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no additional items of business.

11. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

12. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the non-public minutes of the Pensions Committee meeting on 8 February 2023 be approved as an accurate record.

13. **PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

a) Quarterly Report to 31 March 2023

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing a Pension Fund quarterly monitoring report for Quarter 1 2023.

b) Investment Performance Monitoring to 30 April 2023

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing an update on Investment Performance Monitoring to 30 April 2023.

14. **LONDON COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT VEHICLE (LCIV) UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain providing an update on the London CIV, the asset pool operator for London Local Government Pension Scheme Funds.

15. **PENSIONS FUND CASHFLOW FORECAST**

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain reporting details of cashflow for the City of London Pension Fund.

16. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Town Clerk detailing decisions taken by the Town Clerk under delegated or urgency powers, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

17. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

The following item of business was considered.

a) Investment Strategy/Strategic Asset Allocation Review

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain relating to an investment strategy and strategic asset allocation of the City of London Pension Fund.

The meeting ended at 3.42pm

Chairman

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