

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	AVON PENSION FUND COMMITTEE	
MEETING DATE:	27 MARCH 2015	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	INVESTMENT PANEL ACTIVITY	
WARD:	ALL	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Minutes from Investment Panel meeting held 4 March 2015 EXEMPT Appendix 2 – Summaries of Investment Panel meetings with Investment Managers EXEMPT Appendix 3 – Diversified Growth Selection Decision		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Investment Panel is responsible for addressing investment issues including the investment management arrangements and the performance of the investment managers. The Panel has delegated responsibilities from the Committee and may also make recommendations to Committee. This report informs Committee of decisions made by the Panel and any recommendations.
- 1.2 The Panel has held one formal Investment Panel meeting since the December 2014 committee meeting, on 4 March 2015. The draft minutes of the Investment Panel meeting provides a record of the Panel's debate before reaching any decisions or recommendations. These draft minutes can be found in Appendix 1. The Panel also held a Meet the Managers Workshop on 4 March 2015. In addition, the Panel held a Clarification meeting on the Diversified Growth mandate tender on 5 December 2014. The recommendations and decisions arising from these meetings are set out in paragraph 4.1.

2 RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee notes:

2.1 the draft minutes of the Investment Panel meetings held on 4 March 2015

2.2 the recommendations and decisions made by the Panel since the last quarterly activity report, as set out in 4.1

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 In general the financial impact of decisions made by the Panel will have been provided for in the budget or separately approved by the Committee when authorising the Panel to make the decision.
- 3.2 There are transactional costs involved in appointing and terminating managers. Where these arise from a strategic review allowance will be made in the budget. Unplanned changes in the investment manager structure may give rise to transition costs which will not be allowed for in the budget.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

4.1 The following decisions and recommendations were made by the Panel since the last quarterly activity report:

(1) Diversified Growth Tender - Clarification meeting 5 December 2014:

- a) The Panel appointed Standard Life GARS fund for the Diversified Growth mandate. Exempt Appendix 3 provides a brief summary of the decision.

(2) Investment Panel Meeting, 4 March 2015:

- a) No recommendations.

(3) Meet the Manager Workshop, 4 March 2015:

- a) The Panel met with Schroder (Global Equity Mandate) and Partners Group (Global Property Mandate). The Panel requested the officers continue to monitor Schroder Global Equity portfolio closely and report any areas of concern to the Panel as a matter of priority.

A summary of the meetings is provided at Exempt Appendix 2.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 The Avon Pension Fund Committee is the formal decision-making body for the Fund. As such it has responsibility to ensure adequate risk management processes are in place. An Investment Panel has been established to consider in greater detail investment performance and related matters, and to carry out responsibilities delegated by the Committee.

5.2 A key risk to the Fund is that the investments fail to generate the returns required to meet the Fund's future liabilities. This risk is managed via the Asset Liability Study which determines the appropriate risk adjusted return profile (or strategic benchmark) for the Fund.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 An equalities impact assessment is not necessary as the report is primarily for information only.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 This report is primarily for information and therefore consultation is not necessary.

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 The issues to consider are contained in the report.

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal & Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director – Business Support) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	