

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	<b>AVON PENSION FUND COMMITTEE</b>	
MEETING DATE:	<b>23 SEPTEMBER 2016</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM NUMBER</b>
TITLE:	<b>INVESTMENT PANEL ACTIVITY</b>	
WARD:	<b>ALL</b>	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Minutes from Investment Panel meeting held 5 Sept 2016 EXEMPT Appendix 2 – Summaries of Investment Panel meetings with Managers		

### **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 meeting since the June 2016 committee meeting, on 5 September 2016. The draft minutes of this meeting provides a record of the Panel's debate before reaching any decisions or recommendations and can be found in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 The Panel also held a Meet the Managers Workshop on 5 September 2016, a summary of the meetings is at Exempt Appendix 2.
- 1.4 There were no decisions or recommendations arising from this meeting.

### **2 RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Committee:**

- 2.1 Notes the minutes of the Investment Panel meeting on 5 September at Appendix 1 and the summary of the Meet the Managers Workshop at Exempt Appendix 2.**

### **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 There were no recommendations or decisions for notification to the Committee from the Investment Panel meeting on 5 September 2016.
- 4.2 As recorded in the minutes, the Panel discussed the potential impact of BREXIT on the portfolio and how the arising risks may be addressed. Continuation of the current approach to currency hedging and the implementation of the risk management framework were highlighted as well as the importance of reviewing growth asset risk as part of the review of investment strategy in 2017.

### **5 INVESTMENT PANEL DELEGATION**

- 5.1 The activity was undertaken under in line with the delegation set out in the Fund's Terms of Reference approved in May 2015:

*The Investment Panel will:*

1. *Review strategic and emerging opportunities outside the strategic asset allocation and make recommendations to the Committee.*
2. *Review the Statement of Investment Principles and submit to Committee for approval.*
3. *Report regularly to Committee on the performance of investments and matters of strategic importance*

*and have delegated authority to:*

4. *Approve and monitor tactical positions within strategic allocation ranges.*
5. *Approve investments in emerging opportunities within strategic allocations.*
6. *Implement investment management arrangements in line with strategic policy, including the setting of mandate parameters and the appointment of managers.*
7. *Approve amendments to investment mandates within existing return and risk parameters.*
8. *Monitor investment managers' investment performance and make decision to terminate mandates on performance grounds.*
9. *Delegate specific decisions to Officers as appropriate.*

### **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 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.

6.2 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.

## **7 EQUALITIES**

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

## **8 CONSULTATION**

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

## **9 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION**

9.1 The issues to consider are contained in the report.

## **10 ADVICE SOUGHT**

10.1 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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<b>Background papers</b>	
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	