

## AVON PENSION FUND COMMITTEE INVESTMENT PANEL

### Minutes of the Meeting held

Wednesday, 20th November, 2019, 2.00 pm

**Members:** Councillor Shaun Stephenson-McGall (Chair), Councillor Chris Dando, Councillor Bruce Shearn, Pauline Gordon and Shirley Marsh-Hughes

**Advisors:** Steve Turner (Mercer)

**Also in attendance:** Tony Bartlett (Head of Business, Finance and Pensions), Liz Woodyard (Investments Manager) and Nathan Rollinson (Assistant Investments Manager)

#### 12 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer advised the meeting of the procedure.

#### 13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

#### 14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received from John Finch.

#### 15 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

#### 16 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

There were none.

#### 17 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS

There were none.

#### 18 MINUTES: 2ND SEPTEMBER 2019

The public and exempt minutes of the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### 19 BRUNEL UPDATE

The Investment Manager presented the report. She asked Members to note:

- (i) Emerging Market Equities had transitioned to Brunel in October; a report on this transition would be made to the next meeting of the Panel;
- (ii) High Alpha Global Equities transition is in progress.

Before discussing the exempt appendices to this report the Panel, having been satisfied that the public interest would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, **RESOLVED** that the public should be excluded for the remainder of this item and that the reporting of this part of the meeting should be prevented, in accordance with the provisions of section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended.

After the discussion had been completed, the Panel **RESOLVED**:

1. to note the progress made on the pooling of assets;
2. to note the project plan for the transition of assets.

## **20 EQUITY RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Assistant Investments Manager introduced this item. He reminded Members that the Panel had already delegated authority for the implementation of an interim equity protection strategy after the expiry of the current strategy. Mercer had prepared an update paper, which was contained in Appendix 1 to the report. The paper set out three options with different cost-benefit profiles. The Panel was invited to agree one of these options and to delegate its implementation to Officers in consultation with Mercer.

Before considering the Mercer Equity Protection Evolution report in Appendix 1 the Panel, having been satisfied that the public interest would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, **RESOLVED** that the public should be excluded for the remainder of this item and that the reporting of this part of the meeting should be prevented, in accordance with the provisions of section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended.

After the discussion was concluded the Panel **RESOLVED**:

1. that it agreed that the Developed and Emerging Market Equities option on page 13 of Exempt Appendix 1 best achieved the Fund's objective;
2. to delegate the implementation of the equity risk strategy to Officers in consultation with the investment consultant.

## **21 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE**

The Assistant Investments Manager presented the report.

Mr Turner presented the Mercer Performance Monitoring Report

Before considering the Mercer Risk Framework Quarterly Monitoring Report the Panel having been satisfied that the public interest would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, **RESOLVED** that the public should be excluded for the remainder of this item and that the reporting of this part of the meeting should be

prevented, in accordance with the provisions of section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended.

Mr Page presented the Mercer Risk Management Framework Quarterly Monitoring Report.

The Panel returned to open session and **RESOLVED:**

1. to note information as set out in the reports;
2. that there were no issues to notify to the Committee.

## **22 WORKPLAN**

The Investment Manager presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to note the Panel work plan to be included in Committee papers.

The meeting ended at 3.53 pm

Chair(person) .....

Date Confirmed and Signed .....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**