

Bath & North East Somerset Council			
MEETING:	LOCAL PENSION BOARD - AVON PENSION FUND		
MEETING DATE:	2 September 2025	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	11
TITLE:	Annual Governance Review		
WARD:	ALL		
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM			
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Annual review of Pension Board Governance Appendix 2 – Pension Board’s Terms of Reference Appendix 3 - Terms of Reference for APF Committee & Investment Panel Appendix 4 - Governance Compliance Statement Appendix 5 - Representation Policy Appendix 6 – Scheme of Delegation – Authorisations Appendix 7 – Scheme of Delegation – Schedule Appendix 8 – Decision Making Matrix Appendix 9 – Conflicts of Interest Policy			

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report sets out a summary of the annual review of the governance arrangements for the Pension Board.
- 1.2 It also provides an overview of the annual governance review undertaken by Committee in June.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Board notes the report

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial considerations as this report is for information only.

4 PENSION BOARD ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- 4.1 The annual review of governance arrangements for the Pension Board was undertaken and a summary of the findings is set out in appendix 1
- 4.2 The terms of reference for the Pension Board are attached as appendix 2. There have been no changes however the report has been put into an accessible template.

5 APF COMMITTEE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- 5.1 Annually in June the Avon Pension Fund Committee review its governance arrangements. The table below sets out a summary of the review with more detail set out below the table:

5.2

Appendix	Appendix Name	Detail of changes
3	Scheme of Delegation – Schedule	No material changes
4	Scheme of Delegation – Authorisations	No material changes
5	Terms of Reference for APF Committee & Investment Panel	No material changes
6	Governance Compliance Statement	No material changes
6a	Representation Policy	No material changes
7	Conflicts of Interest Policy	Change as per section 5.5
8	Decision Making Matrix	No material changes

5.3 Scheme of Delegation - minor changes to the schedule and authorisation lists have been made to clarify roles, responsibilities and processes.

5.4 Pension Committee's Terms of Reference – Job title changes only. The revised Terms of Reference was approved by Council in June.

5.5 Conflicts of Interest Policy - has been reviewed inline with TPR's general code of practice and a small change has been made to confirm that where considered necessary by officers independent legal advice will be sought to help decide the best approach to manage an actual or potential conflict

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. It discharges this responsibility by ensuring the Fund has an appropriate investment strategy and investment management structure in place that is regularly monitored. In addition, it monitors the benefits administration, the risk register and compliance with relevant investment, finance and administration regulations.

7 EQUALITIES STATEMENT

7.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out using corporate guidelines and no significant issues have been identified.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 The Fund is implementing a digital strategy across all its operations and communications with stakeholders to reduce its internal carbon footprint in line with the Council's Climate Strategy. The Fund acknowledges the financial risk to its assets from climate change and is addressing this through its strategic asset allocation to Paris Aligned Global Equities, Sustainable Equities and renewable energy opportunities. The strategy is monitored and reviewed by the Committee

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 The Report and its contents have been discussed with the Head of Pensions representing the Avon Pension Fund and the Director of Financial Services, Assurance & Pensions representing the administering authority.

Contact person	Carolyn Morgan, Governance & Risk Advisor, 01225 395240
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	