

REPORT FOR: PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 26 June 2019

Subject: Appointment of Pension Fund Co-optee

Responsible Officer: Dawn Calvert, Director of Finance

Exempt: No

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

Pension Fund Committee is asked to consider the re-appointment of the non-voting co-optee to the Committee.

Recommendation

Pension Fund Committee is requested to note the report.

Section 2 - Report

- 1. In June 2006 the, then, Legal and General Purposes Committee agreed to the appointment of Mr Howard Bluston as a non-voting co-opted to the, then, Pension Fund Investment Panel. Pension Fund Committee reviewed the role of the non-voting co-opted in June 2017 and recommended that Council be asked to renew his appointment for the municipal year.
- 2. The re-appointment was made on condition that the role should be operated within that set out in the Council's Constitution with the postholder afforded the right to:
 - Receive all agenda papers including "Part II" of confidential papers
 - Be notified of all meetings
 - Attend all meetings
 - Contribute to the consideration of all items
- 3. There would be no "advisory" or "representative" duties attached to the role. Attendance at any meeting or function where the involvement with the Committee is a contributory factor in that attendance will be subject to officer approval and, if appropriate, an entry in the corporate hospitality register and any necessary declaration of interest.
- 4. The appointment of a co-optee to one of the Council's committees is generally subject to annual renewal by the Council. However, the terms of reference of the Pension Fund Committee include exercising on behalf of the Council "all the powers and duties of the Council in relation to its functions as Administering Authority of the LB Harrow Pension Fund save for those matters delegated to other Committees of the Council or to an Officer." Assessing the support it requires from non-Councillors is clearly within this remit.
- 5. On 16 May 2019 Annual Council agreed to the appointment of co-optees to various committees but, to avoid pre-judging the consideration by the Pension Fund Committee, no appointment to the Pension Fund Committee was agreed.
- 6. It is recommended that Pension Fund Committee note that Annual Council had not appointed a non-voting co-optee to the Committee for the Municipal Year 2019/20 and make the nomination for the non-voting co-optee to Council.

Legal Implications

- 7. As regards the exact role of a co-optee, Section 5H of the Council's Constitution includes:
 - 1.1 The Council may appoint non-voting co-opted members to its Committees:
 - 3.1 The basic rule is that co-opted members have such rights as agreed by the parent body making the appointment;

- 3.3 Unless otherwise determined by the parent bodyall co-opted members and advisers will be afforded the right to:
 - -Receive all agenda papers including "Part II" of confidential papers
 - Be notified of all meetings
 - Attend all meetings
 - Contribute to the consideration of all items
- 8. No further rights or duties are conferred on co-optees and their only stated obligations concern the non-disclosure of confidential information.

Financial Implications

9. Non-voting co-optees are paid an allowance of £445 pa plus payments in respect of out-borough travel and subsistence expenses for approved duties which must be approved by an appropriate officer in advance. All costs are charged to the Pension Fund.

Risk Management Implications

10. The risks arising from "Committee" performance are included in the Pension Fund risk register.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

11. Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No. There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

Council Priorities

12. Investment performance has a direct impact on the financial health of the Pension Fund which directly affects the level of employer contribution which then, in turn, affects the resources available for the Council's priorities

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Dawn Calvert	\checkmark	Chief Financial Officer
Date: 13 June 2019		
		on behalf of the
Name: David Hodge	\checkmark	Monitoring Officer
Date: 13 June 2019		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Iain Millar, Treasury and Pensions Manager

0208 424 1432

Background Papers: None