

Local Pension Board Budget

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present a proposed Local Pension Board Budget for 2022/23 for the Board to consider and recommend to the Pension Fund Committee for its inclusion alongside the full Wiltshire Pension Fund Budget 2022/23.
2. The Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee will consider the Fund's budget at its meeting on 31 March 2022.

Background

3. The Scheme regulations state that the operational cost of the Local Pension Board must be borne as an expense to the administering Fund's budget. However, for monitoring purposes officers will now present the Local Pension Board budget separately to the other budgets of the Fund in order to better reflect the lines of responsibility for each budget.
4. Therefore, the Local Pension Board's budget is approved by the Pension Fund Committee when setting its budget for the year. Should any further expenditure be required beyond this, then approval must be obtained from the Wiltshire Council Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive.

Main Considerations for the Board

5. The main financial headings for the Local Pension Board Budget and key financial totals are presented in the table below.

Local Pension Board Budget (£'s)	2021/22			2022/23 Budget
	Forecast	Budget	Variance	
Independent Chair Remuneration	10,339	10,609	270	10,672
Consultancy Services	4,000	4,000	-	2,000
Training	-	3,400	3,400	2,000
Committee Services	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
Travel & Subsistence Costs	106	1,000	894	1,000
Catering	-	400	400	400
Insurance	1,521	2,800	1,279	3,760
Total	18,965	25,209	6,244	22,832

6. 2021/22 forecast expenditure is £19k for the year which is £6k under the budget, the main variance to plan has been an underspend on training, travel and catering. The requirement to hold online meetings has limited spend on these items.
7. Insurance costs for 2021/22 are underspent as costs for only 5 months to the end of March 2022 have been incurred in this financial year, costs for the first 7 months of the year had been paid from the prior year budget.
8. The total budget proposed for 2022/23 is £23k, a reduction on the prior year budget by £2k. The two items leading to the change are lower proposed costs for consultancy and training, offset by an increase in the cost of trustee insurance.

Environmental Impact of the Proposals

9. There are none.

Legal Implications

10. There are no known implications at this time.

Financial Considerations & Risk Assessment

11. In line with good governance practice, officers bring budget monitoring reports back to the Pension Fund Committee quarterly. In the interim, variations against budget will be monitored and if they become very significant, the Wiltshire Council Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive will approve variations to the budget and report these to Committee retrospectively for ratification.

Safeguarding Considerations/Public Health Implications/Equalities Impact

12. There are no known implications at this time.

Reason for Proposal

13. It is considered best practice for the Local Pension Board to recommend that its budget is approved with Pension Committee.

Proposal

14. The Board is asked to agree the draft Local Pension Budget and recommend to the Pension Fund Committee that this is included in the Fund's Administration budget for 2022/23.
15. It is proposed that the Local Pension Board monitor their budget on a quarterly basis. Local Pension Board budget monitoring will form part of the quarterly budget report which is reviewed by the Pension Fund Committee.

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Unpublished documents relied upon in the production of this report: *None*