

Fund updates

Area	Description	Business Plan reference/Risk Register (if applicable)
COVID-19 update	<p>(Unchanged) It is still largely business as usual from an operational point of view as Fund officers are able to all work from home without major issues. However, in terms of impacts and risks faced by the Fund:</p> <p>i). <u>Funding level</u> –The whole-fund funding level dropped as low as 86% in March (from 99% shortly before) although it has been more stable since then and partially recovered to around 95% at early July.</p> <p>ii). <u>Employer risk</u>: There is still a risk of employers failing to pay contributions or provide data as a result of the situation. However, so far there has been no increase in late payments and the Fund already has guarantees in place for most higher risk employers.</p> <p>Annual data returns came in later than expected from some employers which has put some additional pressure on the end of year process and annual benefit statements (see below)</p> <p>Officers are keeping both areas under review.</p> <p>iii). <u>Service provider risk</u>: Early on in the crisis, officers contacted all major service providers and all confirmed they were able to remain operational largely as normal; officers have only seen some minor/short-term impact service availability which has shown good resistance to this issue.</p>	N/A on Business Plan Risk PEN052
Annual Benefit Statements (End of year)	See separate paper on this item.	Business Plan actions 7, 13 & 33 (No 13 set the 99% target)
Alternative employer investment strategy	After some material delays, we have now put in place the alternative employer investment strategy with effect from 1 August 2020. Initially this just applies to two employers but it is also a useful option for employers which wish to de-risk pre-cessation, so we will encouraging its use with employers in those circumstances as well as any others which we think it will be appropriate.	Business Plan action 6

Terms of reference	<p>The revised Terms of Reference for the Local Pension Board and Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee have now passed through all internal approval stages and have been approved by Full Council.</p> <p>We are now looking at the terms of reference for the Investment Sub-Committee (which will follow a simpler process) and to update the Governance Compliance statement accordingly.</p>	N/A
Pensioner payroll reconciliation	<p>With additional resource now available again, officers have focused again on this area but unfortunately a number of software limitations have made this even more difficult than expected to progress as hoped. Officers hoped to bring a summary paper and proposal to the December Committee meeting.</p>	Business Plan action 34
Employer ill-health insurance review	<p>The current provision put in place in 2017 is highly expensive and has caused a number of administrative difficulties. Officers are currently working with the actuary to put a replacement approach in place; the proposal will be taken to Committee for approval once ready.</p>	N/A