

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND LOCAL PENSION BOARD
11 November 2021

INVESTMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT

Purpose of the Report

1. This report explains the process in place to update the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) for consideration and approval. It is a minor update to the version approved by the Committee in March 2021.

Background

2. The formulation, publication and maintenance of an Administering Authority's Investment Strategy Statement is required by Regulation 7 of The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.
3. Under Regulation 7(6) and (7), the statements must be published by 1st April 2017 and then kept under review and revised from time to time and at least every three years. The ISS was last comprehensively revised in July 2020, and the current review is intended to incorporate some minor changes.
4. At the meeting on 30 September 2021, the Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee approved a Responsible Investment Policy (RI Policy). This was the first RI Policy to be developed for the Wiltshire Pension Fund, and was a key action set out in the Responsible Investment Policy 2021/22. The content for the RI Policy was sourced from existing material in the ISS and Responsible Investment Plan 2021/22, as well as newly agreed interim targets for decarbonisation, and some other new content to ensure that the document was in line with the current situation. The RI Policy is an integral part of the ISS, and can be found here: <https://wiltshirepensionfund.org.uk/Policies-and-strategies-investments>.
5. In order to tidy up the main ISS, the material which is replicated in the RI Policy has been removed, and references to the RI Policy have been added. There have been a few other minor amendments to bring information up to date (for example updating the information on securities lending, as this is now operational through the Brunel pool), and finally the two tables on the Strategic Asset Allocation have been combined to keep the information more concise.

Main Considerations for the Board

6. The draft ISS is attached as Appendix 1.
7. The March 2021 version has been updated for the changes detailed above, and will be presented to the full Pension Fund Committee at the meeting on 25 November 2021 for approval.
8. The Local Pension Board are asked to consider the process that has been followed, and to confirm that this is in line with best practice and expectations.

Financial Considerations

9. The Financial considerations are considered within the draft ISS.

Safeguarding Considerations/Public Health Implications/Equalities Impact

10. There are no known implications at this time.

Reasons for Proposals

11. To keep the Investment Strategy Statement up to date.

Environmental Impact of the Proposals

12. Environmental considerations are dealt with within the draft ISS.

Proposal

13. The Board is asked to:

- (a) approve the process for updating the ISS
- (b) recommend to the Pension Fund Committee that the updated ISS be approved.

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

Appendices

Appendix 1 – draft amended ISS