

WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND COMMITTEE
25 May 2006

WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND FORWARD PLAN 2006-08

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides Members with a draft Wiltshire Pension Fund Forward Plan 2006-08 for consideration and approval.

Background

2. There is no legal requirement for Local Government Pension Schemes (LGPS) to produce Business Plans, but it is certainly good practice and may become compulsory in the future. The Government (Myners) Investment Principle on "Effective Decision-Making" (No. 1) calls upon trustees to "draw-up a forward looking business plan".
3. In May 2004, the Committee approved a Forward Plan for the period 2004 to 2006 and this plan has largely been delivered, with the exception of the review of the actuarial and investment consultancy contracts, which appear again on the Forward Plan 2006-08.

Reasons for Proposals

4. It is good practice for the Wiltshire Pension Fund to prepare a Forward Plan for the next two years in order to ensure that we have goals for the continued effective management of the Fund.
5. The proposed Forward Plan 2006-08 is attached as the Appendix. It comprises a list of the strategic activities that the Fund needs to tackle over the next 2 years, with a timescale and short commentary given for each item. I will, of course, be more than happy to discuss individual items with Members at the meeting.

Environmental Impact of the Proposals / Risk Assessment

6. There are no known environmental impacts or risks associated with this proposal.

Proposal

7. The Committee is asked to approve the Wiltshire Pension Fund Forward Plan 2006-08.

MIKE PRINCE
County Treasurer

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Unpublished documents relied upon in the production of this report: None

8/2007/WPF/DB

WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND
FORWARD PLAN 2006-08

	Activity	Timescale	Comments
<u>GOVERNANCE MATTERS</u>			
1	Members' training	As required	Training on specific issues ahead of relevant decisions by the Committee
2	Governance Policy Statement & Communication Strategy Statement	May 2006	Get Member approval and formally publish
3	Members' Handbook	By December 2006	Refresh the Members' handbook
<u>FUNDING MATTERS</u>			
4	Cessation Valuations	April 2006 onwards	To negotiate and conclude cessations from the Fund with departing employers (three known about at present over the next 18 months)
5	Refresh Funding Strategy Statement	January – October 2007	Statutory document required to set-out longer-term view of how liabilities will be funded and the agreed level of compromise between stability and affordability of employer contributions – should be refreshed before Actuarial Valuation in theory but they do tend to be inter-dependant
6a	Full Actuarial Valuation (Hymans Robertson)	May - October 2007	Statutory triennial Actuarial Valuation
6b	Discuss & agree Actuarial Valuation results with Committee & employers	October - December 2007	Aim to have the Actuarial Valuation formally signed off by 31 December 2007 (three months ahead of statutory deadline)
7	Review/Re-tender Actuarial Contract	Sept 2005 – Dec 2005	Contract are over-due for review
<u>INVESTMENT MATTERS</u>			
8	Investment Strategy Review	March – December 2006	Research, decide upon and implement investment management changes
9	Custody Review / Possible Re-tendering	April – December 2006	To ensure that the Fund achieves best value for money in relation to its investment custody arrangements
10	Review/Re-tender Investment Consultancy contract	Sept 2005 – Dec 2005	Contracts are over-due for review
<u>ADMINISTRATION & PUBLICITY MATTERS</u>			
11	Implementation of Task Management	By April 2007	To provide consistent approach to work flow within the Pensions Section together with management information and performance indicators
12	Pension Fund Website	On-going	Continued development of the website
13	Introduction of Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) 2006 Regulations	April – October 2006	To introduce and publicise the benefit changes resulting from the 2006 regulations
14	2008 "New Scheme"	April 2006 onwards	To be involved in, seek to influence and consult of the proposals for fundamental changes to the LGPS from 1 April 2008 or 2009