

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND COMMITTEE
30 September 2021

DATA IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY AND PLAN

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an updated Data Improvement Strategy and Plan to the Committee for consideration and approval.

Background

2. The Pension Regulator recommends that all Funds should review their data quality at least annually and put a Data Improvement Plan in place should they identify any material data issues.
3. For many years, the Fund has recognised the importance of good quality data on nearly all aspects of the running the Fund efficiently and effectively. However, with increasing complexity and pressures on the administration function, officers recognise the need to clearly state its strategy, review its effectiveness and to put actions in place as required.
4. The original strategy was approved in March 2019 and the proposed revised strategy reflects various developments in the service since then.

Considerations for the Committee

5. The Strategy and Plan continues to breakdown down the issues between the categories 'obtaining good quality data' and 'maintaining good quality data'. The rationale for taking this approach is to make clear the need focus on taking a preventative approach to new data quality issues developing, in addition to resolving existing data issues.
6. Furthermore, it continues to state what are key indications for 'measuring success' and identifies ways to 'improve current data quality'.
7. Key changes to this strategy are as follows:
 - a). Updates to sections 4a and 5a to reflect the wider use of i-Connect.
 - b). The addition of section 5d, outlining the movement to an integrated pensioner payroll system.
 - c). Changes to the 'measuring success' section (now section 6), to specifically mention processing backlogs and data consistency between the Fund/employers and Fund/payroll as measurements of success.
 - d). A revision to appendix 1, to introduce a self-assessment against the newly stated measures of success and outline the actions being taken to improve data quality. This replaces the approach to having formalised, internal sub-plans.
8. The changes made to the strategy generally reflect certain Fund developments, the Fund's business plan actions and the information and actions report in KPI pack over the last couple of years which have all been regularly report to Committee, rather than seeking to introduce a new strategic approach or create additional actions.

Financial Implications

9. There are no direct implications of this plan.

Risk Assessment

10. No new risks are created in relation to this proposal.

Legal Implications

11. The proposals in this document will help strengthened the Fund compliance with legislation relating to data

Environmental Impacts of the Proposals

12. There is no known environmental impact of this report.

Safeguarding Considerations/Public Health Implications/Equalities Impact

13. There are no known implications at this time.

Proposals

14. The Committee is asked to consider the contents of this strategy, make any recommendations it has and **approve** Data Improvement Strategy and Plan, outlined in the appendix.

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