#### WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND HEADLINES AND MONITORING REPORT

#### **Purpose of the Report**

- 1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with information in relation to various standard issues, to enable the Committee to fulfil its monitoring role.
  - a) Scheme, Regulatory, Legal and Fund Update
  - b) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021, including Employer Data Compliance
  - c) Fund Audits
    - 1) Audit review 2021/22
    - 2) Commissioning of the audit strategy 2022/23
  - d) Risk Register
  - e) Budget monitoring
- 2. This report is intended to highlight key issues and developments. Full detail is provided in the Appendices.

#### **Report from Head of Wiltshire Pension Fund**

- 3. This section summarises key events in the investments and accounting team over the last quarter.
  - a) Investment performance over the quarter to Sept-21 was +1.5% (compared to a composite benchmark of +2.0%). The funding level was 100.4%.
  - b) Following the Committee's approval of allocations of 5% each to renewable infrastructure and affordable housing, officers and advisers have been progressing plans for implementation of these portfolios.
  - c) The following transitions to the Brunel pool have now been completed: Multiasset credit and passive gilts.
  - d) The transition of the low carbon passive equities into the Paris-aligned portfolio has now been completed, as well as the transition of 50% of the Brunel global high alpha portfolio into sustainable equities.
  - e) There has been a successful publicity campaign around COP26, where a new climate webpage and one-page factsheet were circulated to members: <a href="https://wiltshirepensionfund.org.uk/Climate">https://wiltshirepensionfund.org.uk/Climate</a>
  - f) Committee members have attended training on the Paris-aligned benchmark, and impact investing, including SDG mapping.
  - g) Officers have made significant progress towards developing a cashflow model, and this work will translate into a new treasury management strategy in the new year.
  - h) Planning work has begun on the 2022 Actuarial Valuation timetable.
  - Following appointment to a new role as Head of Wiltshire Pension Fund in November 2021, these headlines will expand to include whole fund issues at the next Committee meeting.

#### **Report from the Pension Administration Lead**

4. This section summarises key events in the Administration and Relations team over the last quarter.

- a) The highest priority piece of work remains the payroll rectification work, which is also a pre-cursor to the, now postponed, pensioner payroll transition project, further information is outlined in a dedicated paper on this topic.
- b) Work continues to onboard more employers onto i-Connect. Unfortunately, after initially onboarding Swindon Borough Council and a large payroll provider, FS4S, officers have had to postpone further uploads from each of them and their associated employers due to each of them having difficulties with inadequate staffing and transitioning onto new payroll systems. Officers are continuing to work with both organisations to re-onboard them.
- c) There are currently three vacancies within the Member Services team as result of two previous vacancies being filled internally and through the addition of another part-time role, all of these are currently out for advert.
- d) Officers have now launched a new deferred pension into pay online function, which will allow deferred members to opt to take their pension through the member service portal. The team is now exploring expanding this provision to allow members with very small pensions to convert them into a single lump sum which extinguishes all liabilities (therefore saving on future administration) and to rollout a system to allow active members to retire online. All of these approaches have been developed in house, are innovative and are attracting interest from a number of other LGPS Funds who wish to implement similar systems.

#### **Fund Audits**

LPB Recommendation - Minute 62

- 5. Commisioning of the audit strategy 2022/23
  - The strategy seeks to cover both the Fund's internal & external audits, giving consideration to the Administetring Authority's core auditor appointments, namely, Deloitte, for the completion of the Annual Report & Account's (AR&A) & the South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) for the completion of internal audits such as the Fund's key financial controls. In addition, it seeks to enable a dynamic audit strategy by which the oversight of new practices and innovations can also be monitored.
  - For the Scheme Year 2022/23 the proposed plan of audits recommended are;

<b>Standard</b> Deloitte	d Annual Audits	s _ 2021/22
Deloitte		5 - ZUZ 1/ZZ
	31/07/2022	For sign off and publication by 1st December 2022
SWAP	31/07/2022	Reviews the Fund's internal controls
SWAP	31/07/2022	Covers the migration of Fund assets from IMs to BPP.
SWAP	31/07/2022	Considers the costs savings expected from the migration of assets
SWAP	31/07/2022	Independent audit of the Code has not occured since the 2018/19. The new single code is still delayed.
	SWAP	SWAP 31/07/2022

Audits targeting Fund innovations, progress improvements & new regulations, based on a risk identification approach

Payroll Reconciliation	Deloitte	31/07/2022	A review of progress in relation to the GMP Rectification exercise & guidance associated with the payroll migration
Investment governance	Specialist auditor	30/09/2022	Holistic review of investment governance arrangements including TCFD
Cyber security	Specialist auditor	30/09/2022	Specialist review to ensure the Fund's compliance with tPR guidance
Statutory returns	Specialist auditor	30/09/2022	A specialist external process review based on officers internal review
Administering Authority internal arrangements	Specialist auditor	31/03/2023	To cover services and conflicts in the context of the requirements of the contract management framework

- It is noteworthy that during the past two Scheme Years the Fund has experienced delays in the completion of its commissioned external & internal audits. The key factors contributing to these delays include the Fund's accounting relationship with its Administering Authority and the resourcing, appointment and approval arrangements that accompany that relationship. Consequently, a risk has been presented to the Fund whereby the existing auditing arrangements could potentially jeopardise the integrity of the Fund's own audit programme.
- Auditing proposal The Board reviewed the proposed range of audits at there
  meeting on 11 November 2021 and have recommended the table above to the
  Pensions Committee. In recommending this strategy the Board highlighted that;
  - a) Within the 2022/23 budget additional provision is made for the appointment of specialist auditors in relation to ad-hoc or on-going strategic audits; &
  - b) The Committee reaffirms the terms of reference it expects the Fund's appointed auditors to adhere to.

#### **Risk Register**

LPB Recommendation – Minute 67

- 6. The Local Pension Board reviewed the risks of the pension Fund at their meeting on 11 November 2021 and recommended the following alterations should be submitted to the Pension Fund Committee.
- 7. During the last quarter the following "new risks" were identified.
  - PEN060: Failure to manage potential conflicts of interest between the Fund and its Administering Authority: (Green) Wiltshire Council is the administering authority of the Fund, as well as its largest employer and the supplier of a number of services. Inevitably, these relationship can create a number of occasions where there can be conflicts of interests, in particular in relation to the s151 role, as recognised as part of the SAB's Good Governance Project. Examples where conflicts of interests need to be carefully managed are the setting of the corporate recharge from the Council to the Fund in relation to the payment by the Fund for the Council's service and the setting of the Council's employer contribution rate. The process for setting this rate should be clear, transparent and fair and subject to regular review to ensure one party is not subsidising the other. Furthermore, the exact scope of services being purchased,

- and service standards accompanying them, should also be clear as well as the ability of the Fund to review its use of services and use alternative providers if necessary.
- PEN061: Failure of auditors to conduct audits commissioned by the Committee in accordance with an agreed terms of reference: (Amber) Audits commissioned by the Pensions Committee are completed as part of its oversight function, with the aim of giving the Committee independent assurance that all the laws, regulations & practice by which the Fund operates are observed & are being appropriately adhered to. The Fund's Pensions Committee and Local Pension Board must therefore satisfy themselves that any audits they commission are being executed as originally prescribed in terms of scope, quality, and timeliness. In addition, both groups should satisfy themselves that all audits are being carried out on a best value basis, by auditors appropriately skilled to conduct those audits and that any signing off of audits are not being unduly delayed. Best practice would dictate that the process for setting and carrying out Fund audits should largely be independent of those of the Council (although regulations require some overlap).
- 8. The evidence-based review of the register identified the following risks had changed or need to be recategorized;
  - PEN030: Failure to procure & contract manage service providers appropriately: (From Green to Amber) The Fund's existing contract management framework manages external appointments only, however approximately one third of its key services are sourced from its own Administering Authority. A potential failure of oversight may exist, where the charges levied by the Authority, as one of the Fund's top five service providers is not being quantified appropriately by means of service level agreements, or equivalent measure of performance, aswell as the scope being unclear. Move from Dormant to Ongoing. In consideration of the Administering Authority services, this risk also relates to PEN060.
  - PEN041: The Fund's inability to implement a strategy to ensure Climate Change considerations are integral to its investment strategy: (From Red to Amber)
     Significant progress has been made concerning the Fund's policies, disclosures and strategy in relation to Climate change. Although work is ongoing the Board recommend's that this risk be reduced to Amber.
- 9. "Red", high risks are summarised in Appendix 1, and the full risk register in Appendix 1.1.

#### Administration KPIs (Appendix 3)

- 10. The Disclosure Regulations KPIs show some improvements since the last quarter in the lowest performing areas. However, further improvement has been limited due to some system reporting issues all these should now been resolved which will enable a sustained improvement in future quarters. The approaches to dealing with death benefits have also been reviewed within this quarter although in the short-time, clearance of some older cases has caused a dip in the relevant KPI measure.
- 11. Against the tPR measures, the Common and Conditional scores remain high and a large improvement against the Annual Benefit Statement figure can be seen. Based on recent years, the Fund would be top quartile on these metrics compared to other LGPS Fund; due to the high scores the potential for future improvement is now limited due to certain technical limitations and factors outside of the Fund's control.

- 12. Good improvement has continued to occur on the two retirement targets albeit there has been a decrease in relation to death benefits (a process which is under review) and was partly due to an exercise to clear a number of older cases where the Fund had been unable to establish contact with a next of kin.
- 13. There has been some improvements in the level of backlogs although progress has been limited due to resources been diverted to the payroll recitification project until that work is completed.

#### Scheme, Regulatory and Legal Update (Appendix 4)

14. Officers are not aware of any material changes in this area to highlight but the existing summary is included in the Appendix as a reminder of the current position of each.

#### **Budget Monitoring (Appendix 5)**

- 15. This section of the paper presents a projected outturn on the Fund's financial activities against the 2021/22 budget, as at 30 September 2021.
- 16. As at the end of quarter 2 forecast expenditure is expected to be slightly favourable (£27k 1%) to budget at year end. This underspend is primarily within administration costs where systems fees, staffing and mailing costs are expected to be below plan.
- 17. The forecast includes £85k of additional costs approved by Committee in November to carry out a manager selection process for allocations to affordable housing (£35k) and renewable infrastructure (£50k). These costs were not included in the original budget and show as an overspend against the original plan.
- 18. A detailed budget forecast report is included in Appendix 3.

#### **Training**

- 19. This section of the report is intended to update members on upcoming internal training events, and to invite members to share feedback on any other training events they have attended, which could be conferences, webinars, online training tools, or even useful articles.
- 20. Members are also invited to discuss training requirements, and to suggest topics on which training would be welcomed.

#### **Financial Implications**

21. No direct implications.

#### **Legal Implications**

22. There are no known implications from the proposals.

#### **Environmental Impacts of the Proposals**

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

#### Safeguarding Considerations/Public Health Implications/Equalities Impact

24. There are no known implications currently.

#### **Proposals**

- 25. The Committee is asked to:
  - a) use the information in the report as a basis for monitoring the Fund's core activities
  - use the report as a basis to discuss training requirements, discuss whether any additional training needs to be arranged, and share feedback from any recent training events attended
  - c) to approve the changes to the Risk Register and accept the recommendations for changes/actions made submitted by the Board

#### JENNIFER DEVINE

Head of Wiltshire Pension Fund

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

#### Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Risk register - background and "red" risks

Appendix 1.1 – Full risk register

Appendix 3 – Administration KPIs

Appendix 4 – Scheme, Legal, Regulatory and Fund updates

Appendix 5 – Budget detail as at 30 September 2021

#### Risk Register - Appendix I

#### **Red Risks**

Risks remaining "red", high risk:

- PEN022: Rectification of records with GMP issues Time-consuming, costly & may causes reputational damage: (From Red) Potentially incorrect liabilities being paid by the Fund as a result of GMP and other pension component values missing, incorrectly recorded or incorrectly valued. Consequently, progress with the Pensioner Payroll Database reconciliation project may impact on the Fund's liabilities and its reputation.
- PEN042: Significant retrospective legislation changes related to the
  McCloud case: (Red) Following the release of the Government's consultation
  document in July 2020 analysis of the Scheme's members who may be affected
  was undertaken. Indications suggest that potentially c27k members may be
  affected, as well as increasing the work on several supplementary administrative
  tasks. The impact actuarially speaking is likely to be minimal. Members requested
  that it be kept as a red risk until the administrative impact is completely clear.
- PEN048: The transition of the pooling of LGPS assets with BPP fails to deliver the projected savings: (Red) Progress and updates should continue to be regularly reported to Committee. An independent audit has been conducted in 2021 and will be presented to the Board & Committee for consideration.

Ref.	Risk	Cause	Impact	Primary Risk Category (CIPFA)	Secondary Risk Category (Operational)	Risk Owner	Level of risk (Inherent)	Impact	Likelihood	Inherent risk score	Controls in place to manage the risk	Impact	Likelihood	Residual risk score	Further Actions necessary to manage the risk	Level of risk (Residual)	Direction of Travel	Risk Action Owner	Date for completion of action
Hor	zon Risks																		
PEN061	Failure of auditors to conduct audits commissioned by the Committee in accordance with an agreed terms of reference	The Committee & Board must ensure that audits they commission are being executed as originally prescribed in terms of their scope, quality and timeliness. Both groups need to satisfy themselves that all audits are being carried out on a best value basis, by auditors appropriately skilled to conduct those audits and that any signing off of audits are not being unduly delayed	driven can carry significant risk to the integrity of the Fund. New processes require robust review by suitably skills auditors and 3rd party delays whether arising from the audit partnerships themselves, or secondary approvals can create a consequential impact on the operational effectiveness of the Fund. Both the Committee & the Board require robust independent assurance to ensure that their oversight can remain comprehensive	ACCOUNTING & AUDITING	SERVICE FUNCTION	Jennifer Devine	Medium	2	3	6	Commissioned audit plans by the Fund should not just cover the scope and content of the audit, but require auditors to submit a clear process and timescale to the Committee and the Board who can reassure themselves that audits are being carried out to the standards believe.	1	1	1		Low	1	Jennifer Devine	On-going (
PEN060		Wiltshire Council is experiencing a period of immense strain on its services, exacerbated by limited central government funding and the pandemic. In response to this strain it has undertaken a review of its services and formulated a strategy of restructure	Areas of potential conflict include 1) Senior AA officers not recognising that they may be conflicted when taking a decision 2) Not ensuring the AA has in place protocols to manage a conflict of interest with its Pension Fund 3) Not ring fencing the services paid for by the Fund from when wider AA policy changes occur, such as staff re- deployments 4) Not introducing SLAs to enable performance measurements of the AA services procured 5) Not enabling the Fund greater freedom relating to best value procurement and employment 6) Not respecting or negotiating with the Pension Fund as an equal partner concerning it own requirements & 7) Not embracing changes to improve Fund governance published by outside bodies such as SAB	GOVERNANCE	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Brown	Low	1	1	1	The Committee & the Board should seek to identify and address potential conflicts of interest with the Committee being willing to actively manage situations with the AA where it considers that the membership of the Fund, or the Fund itself is not being appropriately served	1	1	1		Low	t	Andy Brown	On-going
PEN059	Service disruption is created during the implementation of the Council's Evolve Programme - Pension Payroll software	Wiltshire Council intends to introduce a replacement for SAP. The intended procurement process is due to be completed by September 2021 & the implementation by December 2022.	SAPs replacement could have a significant impact on the Fund's ability to pay its pensioners, particularly where the project management of the de-implementation and implementation are not synchronised	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6)	Andy Brown	Medium	3	2	6	As part of the Fund's oversight of its Payroll, it is recommended that the Committee request periodic strategic updates during the course of 2021 & 22 from the Fund's s151 Officer to be able to assess the level of risk & whether any mitigations need to be identified. Consideration by the Fund concerning the migration of its payroll to it own separate payroll software service is being undertaken, however this may be at odds with the Council's priorities	1	1	1	The current payroll system is to be phased out and a new integrated system with the Pensions Administration database is approved & is set to be introduced. However, the Council requires the Fund to use the new payroll system which isn't necessary designed for the purpose. Auditors to be involved to oversee the reconciliations and controls to be put in place. The project plan should be discussed with the Auditor. Project management completion timelines are increasing the risk of success of this migration.	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Brown	Dec-22
PEN058	Service disruption is created during the implementation of the Council's Evolve Programme - Non Pension Payroll software	Wiltshire Council intends to introduce a replacement for SAP. The intended procurement process is due to be completed by September 2021 & the implementation by December 2022	SAPs replacement will impact on multiple services areas provided by the Council to the Fund. For the Fund's non-pension payroll functions this will most notably include HR, AP & IT services. However, it could effect all service relationships the Fund has with the Council.	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6)	Andy Brown	Low	3	1	3	As part of the Fund's oversight of its IT services, it is recommended that the Committee request periodic strategic updates during the course of 2022 from the Fund's s151 Officer to be able to assess the level of risk & whether any mitigations need to be identified.	1	1	1	Auditors to be involved to oversee the controls being put in place concerning non-pension payroll transfers of software, notably Accounts Payable & general accounting practices. The project plan should be discussed with the Auditor. Evolve risks remain for the Fund in all aspects of the Evolve Programme.	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Brown	Dec-22
PEN056	UK case in relation to	Following a male to female trans- sexual post operative procedure the claimant stated that her human rights had been infringed when she was still treated as a man for National Insurance contributions purposes, as she continued to make payments after the age at which a woman would have ceased payments, thus causing harassment. A second similar claimant stated she was unable to obtain work as she was unable to provide her birth certificate revealing her gender history.	although some auditors are pressing for an allowance to be included in 2020 IAS19/FRS102 reports. Whilst the funding costs are expected to be	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 31)	Andy Cunningham	Low	1	1	1	The implementation of risk controls will be introduced on communication of remedies.	1	1	1		Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
PEN050	Failure to comply with tPR's anticipated new Single Code o Practice Statement	The new requirements for pension scheme governance came into force on 13 January 2019 as part of the transcription of the IORP II Directive into UK law. The new EU Directive covers the activities and supervision of instit	'clearer, quicker, tougher' campaign and in response to new requirements for scheme	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6,31)	Richard Bullen	Low	2	2	4	It is anticipated that early focus will be on the codes that are most affected by the new regulations, starting with internal controls & effective governance. Trustees will need to be able to demonstrate that they have an effective system of governance within 12 months of its publication	3	1	3	None, until the Single Code of Practice Statement is released which not anticipated until 2021.	Low	†	Richard Bullen	N/A
PEN044	Change to valuation cycle	The Government is consulting on changing the fund valuation cycle. The next valuation will be in 2022 but it is unclear when the next one will follow.		GOVERNANCE	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	1	3	3	Officers will respond to the consultation stating they are not in favour of such a change	1	3	3		Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
PEN043	Administration disruption and employer cost pressures cause by the Cost Cap review	The cost cap floor has been breached meaning the Scheme rules need to be adjusted.	Administration: Some impact on administration processes and communications - unknown at the moment as the details have not been finalised.  Cost: Higher costs for employers	ADMINISTRATION	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Medium	2	4	8	None until further information is available. Note: this is unlikely to happen until the McCloud case changes are finalised, as McCloud will already increase costs in itself.	2	4	8	None	Medium	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A

PEN042	Significant retrospective legislation changes related to the McCloud case	An age discrimination case taken to Court by a group of firefighters and Judiciary employees	Increased contribution rates for employers and high levels of administration time and complication.	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 31)	Andy Cunningham	High	3	4	12	None - Whilst it now appears almost certain that a change will take place, it is still unclear exactly what the change will be, its magnitude and how the Fund can mitigate it. It is noted that the Valuation results have made no allowance for the consequences of the McCloud case, primarily due to the prudence applied to the investment return expectations of 75%, but also due to the implementation of actuarial guidance.	2	4	8	a) On actuarial guidance it is anticipated that whilst a review will be required the financial impact may be minimal as in most cases the underpin check for a member's benefits will not bite. b) Following the release of the Government's consultation document in July analysis of the Scheme's members who may be affected has been undertaken. Early indications suggest that c27k members from all status types will need to be reviewed, however cases where the underpin bites continues to be considerably less. Supplementary impacts such as the Annual Allowance, transfers & dependent benefits will also need to be considered, as well as changes to the Fund's internal controls to ensure that cases are reviewed as the liability falls due & that those which have been reviewed are marked accordingly.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
PEN039	The Fund's inability to implement the reforms associated with the Good Governance Project	SAB has requested a review of governance structures for the LGPS using a criteria of four possible governance models which might help funds to deliver good governance for their employers and members. A final consultation report is due in July 2019	Poor governance has a reputational risk impact, leading to poor service for Fund stakeholders, a lack of clarity of roles & responsibilities and potential conflicts of interest emerging	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6,29,30,31)	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	Officers have contributed feedback to the consultation exercise in May 2019 and taken part in various discussions. This has helped officers gain an understanding of the likely direction of travel and help ensure the Fund is aligned and prepared (for example by making certain adjustments to the terms of reference).	2	2	4	Officer to introduce a statement of Fund principles, beliefs & precedents.	Low	<b>→</b>	Richard Bullen	N/A
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Dyna	mic Risks		Government Digital Service (GDS)		1														
PEN057	Failure to implement the Accessibility Regulations	For the Fund to comply with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018, the Equality Act 2010 & subject to understanding the Web Content Accessibility WCAG 2.1 guidelines which came into full force from September 2020.	Government Uigna Service (UCS) monitors public sector bodies' compliance on behalf of the Minister for the Cabinet Office. If GDS decides that a public sector body has failed to publish an accessibility statement, or that the accessibility statement, or that the accessibility statement is incorrect, it will publish the name of that body & a copy of the decision. In addition organisations in breach of the Equality Act 2010 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 may be liable to investigations, unlawful act notices and court action leading to reputational damage.	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 1,23,24)	Andy Cunningham	Low	1	1	1	Although not strictly a Pension Fund responsibility, the Administering Authority determined that as the Pension Fund operated a separate URL in respect of the Pension Fund's website it would view it as a separate entity & therefore required the Fund to makes its own compliance arrangements. Fund officers have therefore initiated a project team to implement website compliance which will include an independent audit of its website compliance. The Fund's initial accessibility meeting took place on 5th November to scope its strategy.	1	1	1	The key actions agreed on 5th November are;	Low	<b>→</b>	Krystie Waterhouse	N/A
PEN053	Failure to implement Fund's Data Retention Strategy	Poorly implemented strategies agreed by the Board & Committee to ensure that the retention of data is properly executed in respect of both the Fund & Scheme Employers may occur.	A failure to adhere to the strategy could potentially breach GDPR compliance & create service issue in the event of data being inadvertently minimised or deleted.	ADMINISTRATION	SERVICE FUNCTION	Mark Anderson	Low	1	2	2	Heywood (Altair Database manager) to introduce a tool to minimise & delete records. Includes an export function to identify records managed via this process which can be reported on. This can be cross referenced against the membership statistics if required.	1	2	2		Low	<b>→</b>	Mark Anderson	N/A
PEN047	There is uncertainty around the ability of Brunel to resource its property portfolio offering	It is intended that property assets will transfer to Brunel in late 2020.	If Brunel are not adequately resourced, this could result in the portfolio not being effectively managed, and/or costs being higher than expected.	INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE & RISK	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 26)	Jennifer Devine	Low	4	1	4	Officers are working with Brunel to ensure that the transition plan is appropriate before proceeding with this transition.  Define reporting metrics for the Committee to make a decision.	4	1	4	BPP to build resilience in their private markets team by outsourcing more, so that there is less key person risk and the portfolios are scalable. BPP want to add several members of staff to their team and do more in house as well. I The best way forward might be to commission an independent review of the best model to deliver private markets via pooling, to best serve our client requirements.	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	Jun-20
PEN045	GMP legislative changes	The Government has been planning to make a number of changes to way that GMPs work which brings about certain risks. In particular, changes to the indexation approach (which have been repeatedly delayed) and equalisation between males and females.	scheme costs and cause material	ADMINISTRATION	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	HMRC undertook a consultation in the last quarter of 2020 requesting responses by 30 December 2020. The WPF along with many other organisations responded to that consultation and on publication of the results the Fund will seek guidance from its professional advisers in respect of both its equalisation & indexation responsibilities on the next steps it should take. Results expected by April 2021.	2	2	4	None	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
PEN041	The Fund's inability to implement a strategy to ensure Climate Change considerations are integral to its investment strategy	Climate change is a key environmental risk which could have a material if infancial impact on the Fund's returns, and as such needs to be considered, managed and monitored as part of the Committee's fiduciary duty, and to protect the investment returns of the Fund.	Failure to embed climate change considerations in the investment strategy could cause a negative impact on investment returns over the long term.	FINANCIAL MARKETS & PRODUCTS	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 12,20,30)	Jennifer Devine	High	3	4	12	The Committee is engaged in ongoing work to help determine the most appropriate direction of travel, with expert consultancy support. Significant progress has been made so far, but current considerations around amending the investment strategy and implementing changes are still a work in progress. Work is also being done within the Brunel pool to address this risk.	2	4	8	Work on developing the Fund's policies, disclosures and strategy needs to continue. Additional resource will be required, likely by the way of specialist consultancy support	Medium	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN038	The Fund's inability to implement the DWP's Dashboard within a notified timescale.	Late communication by the DWP to specify their requirements for the Fund to comply with this new nationwide Dashboard. Potential for unexpected implementation costs and/or the Fund being unable to meet the reporting requirements.	Non-compliance would lead to a reputational risk for the Fund. A statutory requirement to contribute may also be created.	ADMINISTRATION	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	1	2	2	Senior officers to keep themselves appraised of developments and seek more detailed information as the project develops.	1	2	2	None	Low	<b>→</b>	Mark Anderson	N/A
PEN037	Failure to implement a strategy to address the administration backlogs	Failure to effectively administration the scheme could result in incorrect payments, inefficiencies in the process, failure to meet disclosure timeframes, complaints and inadequate oversight over the fund.	incorrect payments and can lead to reputational risk issues. The mitigation of this risk is contingent on the mitigation of other risks such	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 9,22,23,27)	Andy Cunningham	Medium	3	3	9	The implementation of PEN034 & PEN036 along with addressing the internal auditors comments in their 2018/19 Key Controls report should mitigate this risk. As part of the 2020/2021 budget, approval for more resource is available to help mitigate this risk although this could take time to use given the impact of COVID-19 on office based working.	2	2	6	Employer training to be enhanced to assist the provision of information to officers & efficient management of backlogs. Improving peer review policy to enhance they way work is checked.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Jennie Green	On-going
PEN034	Failure to implement Lean process review	Low KPI performance has been identified, particularly in relation to the disclosure requirements, as a result of inefficient processes and insufficient training and support.	and realising efficiencies. Semi-	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6,9,11,13,16,23,27)	Andy Cunningham	Medium	3	2	6	The Fund's Project team has started a programme of work over a 2 year timeframe to review repetitive processes within the dept.  As at April 2020, revised processes are in place for starters, leavers/refunds, aggregation and child pension reviews. Other processes will be looked at based on priorities with the intention of completing the reviews during 2020/2021.	3	1	3	Officer training to be enhanced to assist with the efficient processing practices. Officers have introduced a 2nd line of review strategy, where experienced officers conduct internal audits at a technical level, not just at a process level.	Low	<b>→</b>	Samantha Wooster	On-going

PEN022	The rectification of records with GMP issues is time-consuming, costly & causes reputational damage.	From 1 April 2016, State Second Pension ceases and HMRC no longer provides GMP data on members to Funds. The Fund is looking to complete the reconciliation during the 2020/2021 year.	If GMP records for members are inaccurate there is the potential for incorrect liabilities being paid by the Fund.	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 8)	Andy Cunningham	High	3	4	12	Large project is still ongoing and software from Heywood's is being used to process amendments to Altair on bulk. Progress has been delayed due to the Fund trying to engage with Government to agree on a nationwide approach and in order to undertake further analysis of the problems identified.	2	4	8	A common approach between south-west Funds has been reached with feedback from SAB. A paper was submitted to the Committee in December setting out the current situation and outlining a proposed strategy. A more detail approach will follow with additional supporting information & guidance as well as an update concerning member record reconciliation. An update will be provided to the Committee in March 2021.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Mark Anderson	u/k
PEN021	Ineffective implementation of the Public Sector Exit Cap	The Treasury is consulting on draft regulations to introduce a cap of £95,000 on exit payments in the public sector, in response to concerns about the number of exit payments that exceed or come close to £100,000 and the need to ensure they represent value for money. This will include changes to LGPS regulations. Introduction of exit cap will require an additional burden on the administration team as it is likely to effect all redundancy calculations. Funds are often given little time to implement changes which brings about this risk.	individuals and employers and systems	LEGISLATIVE	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	1	2	The consultation is due to be completed on 9th November. Key risk controls should include; 1) Fund officers should ensure that relevant HR officers understand the implications of the Cap. 2) Review the Compensatory Regulations after they've been re-written and LGPS Regulations too as a priority 3) Ensure Fund officers understand the new regulations & draft proforma to manually calculate options, prior to the delivery of automated calculation routines 4) Consider any TUPE transfer implications 5) Liaise with HR department concerning potential redundancy exercises in 2021 & 6) Undertake a review of Fund's documentation to include disclaimers	2	3	6	Legislation was introduced concerning the Exit Cap at the end of 2020, however this legislation is now in conflict with the LGPS regulations. Guidance is being sought to resolve these conflicts. A further review of resources may still be needed following a review of the final details & feedback from HR departments.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
PEN018	Failure to set in place appropriate Cyber Security measures	Over reliance by Fund is potentially being place on its Administering Authority's IT security arrangements & that of its key software database providers without proper scrutiny/reporting of their security arrangements	Impact is significant concerning the operational effectiveness of the Fund, notably in relation to the data held and the ability to calculate and process member benefits	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 23)	Andy Cunningham	Medium	4	2	8	Cyber security reports to be requested on an annual basis from both Wiltshire Council's IT department & the main database manager Heywood's. Further steps will be considered on the receipt of those reports	4	1	4	During 2020 Heywood's provided a suite of documents concerning their cyber security arrangements & ICT gave a verbal update to the Committee in December. Officers were tasked with actions by the Committee to build upon the 2020 progress in 2021.	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
Ongo	oing Risks																		
PEN055	Failure of the Brunel Pension Partnership to properly address shareholders concerns via the governance review	Governance arrangements set in place at the outset of Brunel are due for review and it is vitally important that Wiltshire and all shareholders are satisfied with the breadth and depth of the review, and the resulting changes.	With the Wiltshire Pension Fund & other stakeholders being required to invest significant sums of money with BPP, robust governance arrangements are vital to ensure that shareholders are able to take assurance over the running of the partnership	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 14)	Andy Brown	Medium	3	2	6	Brunel's governance review is ongoing. Wiltshire has actively engaged with Brunel, by sending a letter on behalf of Committee members, to make Wiltshire's expectations clear, and also via the Head of Pension Fund Investments' input at a client group level.	3	2	6	Officers will regularly monitor the progress of the governance review and engage at all possible opportunities. Committee members will be kept informed of all developments.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Andy Brown	N/A
PEN052	COVID-19	COVID-19 is an infectious global virus which WHO has classed as a pandemic. The UK could be taking similar actions to other countries bad affected by this virus such as China & Italy which will cause significant business continuity issues to the pension fund		GOVERNANCE	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham/ Jenny Devine	Medium	3	2	6	The Council's/Fund's Business Continuity Plan will need to be activated. Regular communication with key services & service providers should be maintained. Fund officers have already taken a series of steps to ensure ongoing service & are giving consideration to the daily government updates & Council policy in the taking of those decisions.	3	2	6	The series of steps have been specifically identified to manage this risk. In particular, maintaining the movement of money, communication with all stakeholders & essential operating practices: Consequently the following risks were focused upon; Movement of money PEN001, PEN002, PEN003, PEN015 & PEN033. Communication with stakeholders PEN013, PEN030 & PEN033 & Essential operating practices PEN004, PEN010 & PEN037. A survey was also sent to Employers requesting information about their circumstances & a close monitoring of actual employer behaviour has been adopted & will continue to be in relation to their service obligations.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Andy Brown/ Andy Cunningham/ Jenny Devine	N/A
PEN048	The transition to pooling of LGPS assets with BPP fails to deliver the projected savings	The Fund needs to pool its LGPS assets with other Funds using the Brunel Pensions Partnership.	Poor implementation could be costly in terms of unanticipated costs and/or savings less than projected.	INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE & RISK	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 3,4)	Jennifer Devine	High	4	3	12	The Fund is working with Brunel Pension Partnership on pooling arrangements. Progress and updates regularly reported to Committee. The Fund's passive portfolios have been pooled with significant fee savings, but a budget increase is also currently being proposed. The final position is still uncertain.	3	3	9	Significant amount of resource still required by officers to progress this project. On 13th February 2020 the Board recommended that a monitoring & reporting timetable being put in place concerning BPPs transition to help mitigate this fisk.	Medium	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN036	Failure to implement a Dashboard of KPIs for regular monitoring	Difficulties in extracting the required data from the workflow section of the administration system. Improve the range of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) produced for the Committee and Local Pension Board to help provide transparency and clearer oversight & management of administration performance.	Failure to implement a dashboard of comparable benchmarks, will be counter to the Pension Regulator's requirements on factors such as data quality measures	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6,13,16,18)	Andy Cunningham	Low	1	2	2	Officers have implemented a suite of KPIs to be utilised at different levels. Namely, at a Statutory level, for the Committee & the Board, for use between Employers & the Fund & at management level for use at an operational level within the Pension's dept. The introduction of a new PAS document will enhance the flow of KPI information to members. Further work is required to introduce a suite of customer service based KPIs.	1	2	2		Low	<b>→</b>	Mark Anderson	On-going
PEN033	Failure to manage AVC providers	The Fund is a Data Controller with four AVC providers under management who operate to a system of policies & endorsements rather than service provider contracts. Consequently, there is a risk due to the mismatch between Fund responsibility & control in relation to the assets under management.	Failure of a AVC provider can lead to issues of reputational risk to the Fund, as well as being exposed to adverse governance & financial	ACCOUNTING & AUDITING	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6)	Jennifer Devine	Low	2	2	4	A minimum of annual service review reviews have been implemented with all AVC providers, managed by the Investment & Accounting team. The review will cover customer service & investment performance.	2	1	2	None.	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN030	Failure to procure & contract manage service providers appropriately	Investment Managers to BPP & external service providers all form part of the existing Contract Management strategy. Many undertaken in conjunction with the AA's Procurement dept. In addition	measure performance against will create an inability to manage both internal & external service providers. In addition, it will limit the updating of service scopes so that the Fund's requirements remain consistent with new legislation &	PROCUREMENT & RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Medium	2	3	6	A contract management framework has been developed by officers to anticipate the review of Fund contracts as they fall due. Fund officers have also attended Contract Management training provided by the Council's Procurement Department.	3	1	3	To ensure that a comprehensive best value service is being provided to the Fund the contract management framework needs to be extended to cover regular reviews of internal service providers to the Fund. Such an extension will allow suitable measurement of performance against the corporate re-charge levied by the Fund's AA.	Low	t	Richard Bullen	On-going
PEN028	Failure to introduce new administration software effectively	Implementation of new software including I-connect, payment instruction automation and a new member website. All to be completed during 2021/2022.	Delay in the payment of member benefit, poorer data quality, substandard communication arrangements with members & employers & slower delivery times leading to a more costly service	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 10,21,23,32,33)	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	Individual project plan have been prepared for each implementation of software, including their GDPR implications, with individual project issue logs and risk registers. A bespoke Project team has also been established within the pension's dept. who initiate formal handovers to officers on completion of the new implementation. I-Connect, which will have the largest impact, is partially delivered with around a third of active members onboarded.	2	1	2	SQL capability to be developed within team to enhancing reporting & verify effective implementation. Nova Sail will also be introduced to leverage & optimise the software capability employed by the Fund.	Low	<b>→</b>	Samantha Wooster	On-going

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PEN026	A lack of effectiveness of Committee meeting due to the impact of MiFID II Regulations	Jan 2018 will classify LGPS Funds as	If Willshire Pension Fund is unable to maintain "professional" status it will limit the range of investments available and may lead to the forced sale of assets.	INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE & RISK	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 28)	Jennifer Devine	Medium	3	2	6	Wiltshire Fund is now being treated as a Professional Client, having followed due process. Maintenance of the Fund's Professional Client status will require on-going compliance with the requirements including competence	2	2	4	Guidance received from officers & the Independent Adviser to the Fund has mitigated the impact of MiFID II. Officers implemented a self-assessment return completed by members concerning their competence to maintain "professional client status". A member training strategy for 2020/21 includes MiFID II related training	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN025	Further academisation of Schools, the possibility of MAT breakups and cross fund movements.	Potential for further schools to convert to academy status, MATs to breakdown	Additional governance and administration risk. If all schools were to convert then the number of employers in the Fund could jump from 180 to between 400 and 500.	GOVERNANCE	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	Regular communications with schools to understand their intentions. Revised cessation policy aims to address some of the risks relating to MAT breakups.	2	2	4	The Fund is monitoring the SAB review of academies roles in the LGPS and will take actions (e.g. respond to consultations) as necessary to try to mitigate this risk further.	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	N/A
PEN017a	A lack of knowledge and expertise on the Pension Fund Committee	Lack of structured training and continuous self assessment of skills gap to ensure knowledge levels are adequate to carry out roles to the best of their ability	Bad decisions made may be made in relation to any of the areas on this register, but particularly in relation to investments. There is also a requirement for Funds to Comply or Explain' within their Annual Report on the skills knowledge of members of the Committee	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 17,25)	Andy Cunningham	Medium	2	3	6	Members are given Induction Training when they join the Committee, as well as subsequent opportunities to attend courses/seminars and specialist training at Committee ahead of key decisions. There is a Members' Training Plan and Governance Policy. Further training and advice can be called on from our consultants, independent advisors and investment managers too.	2	1	2	The results of the knowledge assessment was presented to 12 Dec 2018 Committee and 24 January 2019 Local Pension Board. Overall, their level of knowledge was deemed good but there were areas of improvement identified that Officers will consider when looking at future training plans. Pensions is a complex subject, so the training needs of the Committee will need to be continued reviewed. Generally both Committee & Board members are taking a more active approach to training and requesting structured training in key areas	Low	<b>→</b>	Richard Bullen	On-going
PEN017b	A lack of Committee Member compliance with all regulations	Lack of Member willingness or awareness to be compliant with new or existing regulations leading to breaches of legislation and reportable offences	Over reliance on officers & advisers to ensure compliance leading to a lack of oversight challenge	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 25,31)	Andy Cunningham	Medium	2	3	6	Member attendance at conferences & seminars enables independent information sources. Update the Look forward plan to include the introduction of an annual audit plan to ensure the fund's compliance requirements are implemented & the results of the audit reported to Committee	2	1	2	None	Low	t	Richard Bullen	On-going
PEN016	A lack of effectiveness in respect of the Fund's Treasury Management Services	The Fund's treasury function is now segregated from Wiltshire Council. This includes the investment of surplus cash in money markets.	Exposure to counterparty risk with cash held with external deposit holders could impact of Funding level of the Fund	INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE & RISK	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6,13)	Jennifer Devine	Low	3	1	3	The Pension Fund will review an updated Treasury Management Strategy annually which follows the same criteria adopted by Witshire Council but limits individual investments with a single counterparty to £6m. The Fund will also review in Treasury Management Agreement with the Council in 2019.	2	1	2	The Council uses Sector's credit worthiness service using ratings from three rating agencies to provide a score. Surplus cash is transferred to the Custodian at month end ensuring cash balances are minimal. A minimum of annual updates by the Council need to be presented to the ISC	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	N/A
PEN015	Failure to collect payments from ceasing employers	When an employer no longer has any active members a cessation valuation is triggered and a payment is required if a funding deficit exists to meet future liabilities.  The impact of COVID-19 on financial markets means the likelihood is currently increased.	Failure to collect cessation payments means the cost of funding future liabilities will fall against the Wiltshire Pension Fund	ACTURIAL METHOD	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	The Pension Fund Committee approved a revised cessation policy on 26 March 2020 to address regulatory changes made in March 2020 (backdated to May 2018). Furthermore, all new admitted bodies require a guarantor to join the Fund which means that a stable Scheme Employer is required to act as the ultimate guarantor.  Due to the current impact on COVID-19 situation on investment returns, we are currently encouraging employers to delay cessation crystallisation events where possible to avoid crystallise a large deficit.	2	1	2	A new employer cessation policy was approved in March 2020, however since then further guidance has been published nationally setting out Fund discretionary payment plans aiready introduced by Wiltshire. It should be noted that whatever determination the Fund makes there is a risk it will be open to challenge. In summary the Fund needs to amend our FSS & consider how this should work best and communicate out to employers accordingly. Furthermore, with regards to the spreading of exit payments & deferred debt agreements officers need to consider what changes to the existing cessation policy (sections 7 and 9) are needed for the Fund to be compliant	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	On-going .
PEN013	Failure to communicate properly with stakeholders	Lack of clear communications policy and action, particularly with employers and scheme members.	Scheme Members are not aware of the rights and privileges of being in the scheme and may make bad decisions as a result. Employers are not aware of the regulations, the procedures, etc, and so the data flow from them is poor.	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 24,29)	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	The Fund has a Communications Manager and Employer Relationship Manager posts dedicated to these areas full-time, including keeping the website up-to-date, which is a key communications resource. The Fund also has a Communications Policy.	2	1	2	None	Low	<b>→</b>	Denise Robinson/ Samantha Wooster	N/A
PEN010	Failure to keep pension records up-to-date and accurate	Poor or non-existent notification to us by employers and members of new starters, changes, leavers, etc. Early indications suggest the likelihood is increased due to the impacts of COVID-19 on employers and Fund officers.	Incorrect records held, leading to incorrect estimates being issues to members and incorrect pensions potentially being paid.	GOVERNANCE	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 6,7,8,9)	Andy Cunningham	Medium	3	3	9	Data & systems Team constantly working to improve data quality, data validation checks carried out through external partners (e.g. the Fund's actuaries and tracing agencies), proactive checks done through national fraud initiative and the Fund's Data Improvement Plan.	3	1	3	The Fund is currently addressing new data issues identified by a review of the tPR two key data standards and other data reviews while ensuring data is of high quality is an on-going responsibility.	Low	<b>→</b>	Mark Anderson	On-going
PEN009	Failure to comply with Data Protection Legislation (GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018)	Poor procedures for data transfer to partner organisations, poor security of system, poor data retention, disposal, backup and recovery policies and procedures.	Poor data, lost or compromised, fines from the Information Commissioner, reputational risk of failure to meet Data Protection legislation.	LEGISLATIVE	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	Compliance with Wiltshire Council's Data Protection & IT Policies. Annual Data Protection training given to the team. On-going cleansing of data undertaken by Systems Team. The Fund has produced a new suite of procedures and controls following the introduction of GDPR.	2	1	2	Further reviews and changes in relation to the GDPR. First internal audit (Key Controls - April 2019) identified a lack of clarity in relation to the Fund's Data Retention strategy, where no justification for retaining personal data can be made, notably Exit No-liability records. Data Cleaning must be carried out. Officers to agree with IG Data Cleaning approach. The 2nd internal audit identified the need for improvements to the Fund's DPIA arrangements.	Low	<b>→</b>	Mark Anderson	On-going
PEN008	Failure to comply with LGPS and other regulations	Lack of technical expertise / staff resources to research regulations, IT systems not kept up-to-date with legislation, etc	Wrong pension payments made or estimates given. Investment in disallowed investment vehicles or failure to comply with governance standards. Effect: Unhappy customers, tribunals, Ombudsman rulings, fines, adverse audit reports, etc	ADMINISTRATION	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13,24,31)	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	"Sufficient staffing, training and regulatory updates.  "Competent software provider and external consultants.  "Technical & Compliance post reviews process and procedures and maintains training programme for the team.  "KPIs against statutory standards  "Imbedding checks and controls into all processes.  "Audits & internal reviews to maintain best practice	2	2	4	Review of ABS requirements to ensure on-line delivery is compliant with disclosure requirements	Low	<b>→</b>	Luke Webster/ Jennie Green	N/A
PEN007b	Significant rises in employer contributions for non-secure employers due to poor/negative investment returns	Poor economic conditions, wrong investment strategy, poor selection of investment managers, poor consideration of all financial & non-financial risks including ESG issues.	Poor/negative investment returns, leading to increased employer contribution rates	FINANCIAL MARKETS & PRODUCTS	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 15)	Jennifer Devine	Low	2	2	4	Use of expert consultants in the selection of investment strategy and investment managers, regular monitoring of investment managers (1/4lly), regular reviews of investment strategy (annually). Monthly review of % of Fund held in each mandate. Also a flight path strategy implemented to take off risk as funding levels improve. Fund member of LAPFF & uses PIRC to proxy vote on shares in line with agreed policy for ESG issues. Compliance with Stewardship code.		2	4	A risk based framework is now in place to review employers long term financial stability. This informs the policy for stepping in contribution rates to assist in affordability issues where requested by an employer. It will be continuously reviewed, as part of the updating of the Investment Strategy Statement. Query over covenant reviews following expiry of PWC contract.	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN007a	Significant rises in employer contributions for secure employers due to poor/negative investment returns	Poor economic conditions, wrong investment strategy, poor selection of investment managers, poor consideration of all financial & non-financial risks including ESG issues.	Poor/negative investment returns, leading to increased employer contribution rates	INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE & RISK	SERVICE FUNCTION	Jennifer Devine	Low	2	1	2	Use of expert consultants in the selection of investment strategy and investment managers, regular monitoring of investment managers (1/4ly), regular reviews of investment strategy (annually). Monthly review of % of Fund held in each mandate. Also a flight path strategy implemented to take off risk as funding levels improve. Fund member of LAPFF & uses PIRC to proxy vote on shares in line with agreed policy for ESG issues. Compliance with Stewardship code.		1	2	The implementation of the Stabilisation Policy limits increases for secure employers.	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN006b	Significant rises in employer contributions for non-secure employers due to increases in liabilities	Scheme liabilities increase disproportionately as a result of increased longevity, falling bond yields, slack employer policies, etc. The current price of gilts lead to a worsening Funding Position.	Employer contribution rates become unacceptable, causing upward pressure on Council Tax and employers' costs.	ACTURIAL METHOD	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	As above	2	2	4	As above	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	On-going

PEN006a	Significant rises in employer contributions for secure employers due to increases in liabilities	Scheme liabilities increase disproportionately as a result of increased longevity, falling bond yields, slack employer policies, etc. The current price of gilts lead to a worsening Funding Position.	Employer contribution rates become unacceptable, causing upward pressure on Council Tax and employers' costs.	ACTURIAL METHOD	SERVICE FUNCTION	Andy Cunningham	Low	2	2	4	Longevity and bond yields are generally beyond the control of the Fund as are the values of the liabilities in general. However, the Fund has started the 2019 Triennial Valuation process and it is concurrently reviewing its investment strategy and implementing separate employer investment strategies. Furthermore, the Fund and each employer must have a Discretions Policy in place to help control discretionary costs (e.g. early retirements, augmented service, etc).	2	2	4	None	Low	<b>→</b>	Andy Cunningham	On-going
PEN005	Loss of funds through fraud or misappropriation	r Fraud or misappropriation of funds by an employer, agent or contractor	Financial loss to the Fund	ACCOUNTING & AUDITING	SERVICE FUNCTION	Jennifer Devine	Low	4	1	4	Internal and External Audit regularly test that appropriate controls are in place and working. Regulatory control reports from investment managers, custodian, etc, are also reviewed by audit. Due Diligence is carried out whenever a new manager is appointed. Reliance is also placed in Financial Services Authority registration.	4	1		Officers completed an Anti-Money Laundering questionnaire issued by Deloitte's & returned to the Accountancy firm in January 2020. The responses will form part of the Auditor's audit strategy.	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going
PEN002	Failure to collect and account for contributions from employers and employees on time	staff, error, omission, failure of employers' financial systems, failure to communicate with employers	Adverse audit opinion for failure to collect contributions by 19th of month, potential delays to employers' FRS17 year-end accounting reports and to the Fund's own year-end accounts.	ACCOUNTING & AUDITING	BUSINESS PLAN 2021/22 (Objective(s) 2,6,7)	Jennifer Devine	Medium	3	2	6	Robust maintenance and update of Altair and SAP systems, sufficient staff cover arrangements, sufficient staff training and QA checking of work. Officers regularly work with employers to ensure they understand their responsibilities to pay by 19th of the month. The Breaches framework now require the Fund to log material late payments.	2	2	4	The 2020 SWAP internal audit report highlighted a Priority 2 risk requesting officers ensure that a review of the member contribution processes raised in their report are undertaken promptly & to tuture-proof those processes to ensure appropriate efficiencies are made	Low	<b>→</b>	Jennifer Devine	On-going

# 1. Disclosure Requirements (CIPFA template) - Quasi-legal performance measures

#### **Benefit Administration Key Performance Indicators**

**Disclosure Regulations** 

Period 01/07/2021 to 30/09/2021

Process name		Disclosure Requirem ent	%	Change since last quarter	No. cases within Legal Timeframe
<b>Deaths</b> - initial letter acknowledging death		2 months	83.0%	-13.9%	102
<b>Deaths</b> - letter notifying amount of dependants pension		2 months	64.1%	-17.8%	69
Retirements - letter notifying	Active		n/a		n/a
estimate of retirement benefits	Deferred	2 months	n/a		n/a
	Total		97.9%	+4.2%	446
Retirements - letter notifying	Active		92.6%	-4.3%	150
actual retirement benefits + process and pay benefits on time	Deferred	2 months	99.6%	No change	255
	Total		96.1%	-2.3%	405
<b>Deferment</b> - calculate and notify deferred benefits		2 months	74.6%	+15.8%	418
<b>Refund -</b> process and pay a refund		2 months	99.2%	-0.1%	117
<b>Divorce quote</b> - letter detailing cash equivalent value and other benefits		3 months	100.0%	-3.6%	47
Joiners - notification of date of enrolment*		2 months	84.4%	+22.8%	585

#### **Explanatory notes**

The table above is based on a template produced and updated by CIPFA for insertion within LGPS Funds annual report. It is based on what are collectively known as the 'disclosure requirements' which broadly means that the Fund is required to supply certain information to members (or their next of kin).

**Deaths**: For both measures, the timeframes start on the date of notification. However, sometimes the notification is not from the next of kin (e.g. we are notified from a tracing agent) and it can take some time to establish who is the next of kin and if a dependent pension is due.

'Transfers out' quote and estimates: We have removed this measure from the table as members have instance access to quotes.

**Joiners**: This measures the time taken to confirm to a member that we have set them up in the Scheme. However, it is an employer responsibility to begin the deduction of contributions with effect from the member's start date and also to inform the member of their start date.

We have also removed very low volume task as percentages are not a good measure of performance.

#### Performance commentary for the quarter

The table shows high levels (>90%) in all areas except deferments, joiners and death notifications.

Some technical difficulties have persisted whilst updating processes which have led to joiners and deferments still being lower than hoped although good improvement has still been seen over the last quarter.

The ability to meet the death notifications timeframes are sometimes limited by not receiving timely information from, or being able to identify, the next of kin. Furthermore, officers undertook an exercise during the quarter to clear older death cases which are also reflected within these statistics.

## 2. tPR Data performance measures

Measure	Score	Change since last period
Common Data	98.7% (at 1 Nov 2021)	-0.5% since July 2021
Conditional (Scheme Specific) Data	95.0% (at 1 Nov 2021)	+0.1% since July 2021
Annual Benefit Statement production rate	99.5% (at 31/08/2021)	+2.6% from the previous year

#### **Explanatory**

The Pension Regulator (tPR) helps regulate each LGPS's Fund compliance with various legislation. It has various enforcement powers such as setting improvement plans and fining.

In respect of administrative performance, tPR focuses on two types of measures as explained separately below. The Fund is required to submit its scores against this measures each year as part of its Scheme Return.

tPR target's for all of these scores is 100% although there is an informal acceptance that scores are likely to often be slightly less.

#### a). Common and Conditional/Scheme Specific data scores

Common data scores test the Fund's data quality (existence and accuracy of data) against various data measures it expects all Pension Funds to hold (e.g. name, address etc). Conditional/Scheme Specific data scores are those data types which are needed for the administration of that specific scheme. For the LGPS, the Scheme Advisory Board (SAB) has determined the relevant data items.

Note: The Fund now has access to a new product from its Systems provider (Heywoods Insights) which allows it to produce this information quickly throughout the year at no additional cost.

#### b). Active Annual Benefit Statement (ABS) production

The Fund is required under the LGPS Regulations to produce active ABSs by the 31 August of each year (related to the member's pension as at 31 March of that same year). The Fund currently uploads all ABSs to the MSS member portal (My Wiltshire Pension). It only sends out paper statements to members who have opted in to receiving paper statements.

Both sets of scores are reviewed annually

#### Performance commentary for the year

The **common and conditional scores** for this year have remained close to last year.

The Fund is already above average and some of the remaining gap to 100% is hard to fill due to factors outside of the Fund's control.

For example, for the Common Data metric, virtually all the remaining data issues relate to missing postal addresses, where the member has failed to keep us up to date when they have changed address. Furthermore, as the Fund's main form of communication is now electronic, the member's postal address is becoming less important and it is more difficult to identify if it is correct.

For the Scheme Specific measure, many of the errors are of a technical nature due to the way the metric is calculated but these require further review and in some cases there is no merit in assigning time to correcting historical data that is no longer of value to meet tPR's criteria.

The active Annual Benefit Statement score for this year has exceeded the business plan target of 99% and it follows a pattern of steady improvement since 2018 (2020: 96.9%, 2019: 95.0%, 2018: 93.9%). Due to improved systems (e.g. i-Connect) and processes, and despite additional checks being added, this has also being achieved using reduced levels of resources from previous years.

# 3. Internally set targets (Fund)

While the figures in appendix 1 outline the (quasi) legal requirements using a CIPFA template, and appendix 2 outlines the tPR's own metrics against which it may take action, appendix 3 outlines internally set, aspirational service level targets.

The Fund's administrative performance priority is its performance against the targets in appendices 1 and 2 but the following sets of information set's out internally set targets to help met the goals of the Fund's business plan.

#### a). Administration payment processing scores (higher priority administrative tasks)

The following table shows the Fund's process times against the timeframes set out in the administration strategy. It covers the high priority tasks, data on lower priority administrative tasks (such as deferrals and aggregations) will be shared at a later date. The tasks which are deemed as higher priority are the ones which relate to making a payment to the member (or a beneficiary). Members are now able to instantly access benefits estimates and therefore there is no longer a disclosed target related to this.

# Benefit Administration Key Performance Indicators

Period 01/07/2021 to 30/09/2021

					Complete	ed cases	time to c	omplete				
Type of case	Created cases in period	Open cases at period end	Percentage against membership	0 - 5 days	6 - 10 days	11 - 15 days	16 - 20 days	20 - 40 days	40 + days	Total	% on target (15 working days)	Change since last quarter
Active to Retirement	319	152	0.66%	85	29	12	10	7	19	162	78%	+14%
Deferred in to retirement	293	26	0.08%	169	64	16	3	3	1	256	97%	+3%
Processing of Death cases	73	66	0.08%	19	5	6	13	40	28	111	27%	-26%
Refund of contributions	124	17	0.07%	30	75	12	0	1	0	118	99%	0%
Grand Total	809	261		303	173	46	26	51	48	647		
Percentage				47%	27%	7%	4%	8%	7%		_	

#### b). i-Connect onboarding progress

The following table shows the progress in onboarding employers on to i-Connect. The target was to onboard all employers on to i-Connect by the end of 2021/2022 but this has proved challenging due to a lack of employer engagement.

Onboarded numbers has reduced due the complications with FS4S and Swindon Borough Council (which collectively accounts for more than 25% of all active members) and multiple employers, although this has been partially offset by other employers being onboarded.

Data for October 2021's submission:

	Number onboarded	Number left to onboard	Completion rate
Active members	12160	c11,000 (total = 23,099)	47.6%
Employers	63	107 (total = 170)	37.6%

The active member percentage is higher than the employer percentage because officers have focussed on onboarding the largest employers.

#### c). MSS (My Wiltshire Pension) take up

	RECORDS
ACTIVE	1 November 2021
Registered	7,939
Total	18,840
Percentage	42.1%
DEFERRED	
Registered	7,902
Total	23,691
Percentage	33.3%
TOTAL	
Registered	15,904
Total	42,531
Percentage	37.4%

The table to the left shows the number of registered members as at 1 November 2011.

**Note**: There are no comparative figures included for this quarter as the methodology has been updated to show figures based on persons rather records (although there is likely to be little difference).

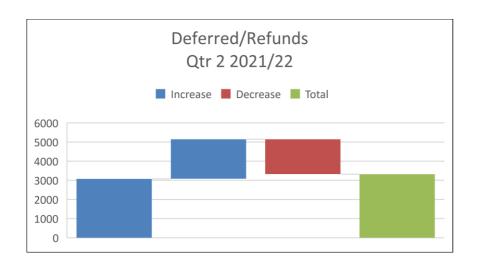
# d). Backlog monitoring

Prior to making a number of process improvements to the refunds, deferreds and aggregations processes, the Fund accumulated processing backlogs in certain areas. Officers define a backlog for a process where there are more than 300 outstanding cases. Where this is the case, officers plan to ring-fence this area of work and manage the backlog area of work separately although this is not in place as at the date of this report.

At present, there are two areas which meet this criteria and current situation in respect of these processes are outlined:

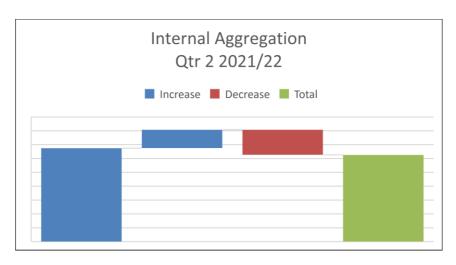
#### i). Deferred/Refunds

Cases where the member has left and we need to calculate their pension entitlement, but they are not old enough to be able to start receiving their benefits.



#### ii). Internal aggregation cases

These cases are where the member has more than one record at Wiltshire Pension Fund which should be combined together. Members are not financially disadvantaged by delays in completing this work.



#### Commentary:

#### a). Administration Strategy KPIs - Fund

Table 1 shows the Fund has made good improvement in most areas in the last quarter although further work is still required to reach the desired performance levels. The main exception to this is in relation to death cases which can mostly be explained as a 'blip' due to an exercise to clear older death cases. The Fund is gradually seeing the benefits of greater automation of tasks, which is freeing up officer time, and this programme of improvements will continue over the rest of this year and into the next year.

#### b). & c). i-Connect and My Wiltshire Pension (MSS) onboarding

i-Connect take up has been lower than hoped due to a mixture of a lack of employer engagement, key employers (Swindon Borough Council and FS4S) have reporting difficulties and changing payroll provider and staff having been focussed on other work priorities. However, more resource has now been assigned to onboarding employers to try to speed up this process.

MSS sign-ups are broadly in line with industry-norms after successful attempts to encourage more members to sign up and these figures are unlikely to change materially in future now, although some small improvements are still evident in the last few months.

#### d). Backlog monitoring

The number of outstanding aggregation cases has continued to decrease albeit at a relatively slow net rate. For deferreds/refunds, there was a large influx of cases linked to the end of the school year, leaving an overall net increase in outstanding cases.

#### a). i-Connect submission performance

<u>Note</u>: Newly onboarded employers are not included with the performance statistics as typically more support is needed in the initial months and therefore the normal deadlines do not apply.

#### i). Timeliness measure of submsissions

All employers onboarded on to i-Connect are required to submit their return by the 19th of the month following the month the data relates to.

Percentage/number returns received on time	July 2021	August 2021	Sept 2021
Large employers* (>250 actives)	5/5 (100%)	3/6 (50%)	6/6 (100%)
Medium employers* (50-249 actives)	14/14 (100%)	2/12 (17%)	13/13 (100%)
Small employers* (10-49 actives)	24/25 (96%)	14/26 (54%)	24/24 (100%)
Very small employers* (Under 10 actives)	9/10 (90%)	6/12 (50%)	14/14 (100%)
Total	52/54 (96%)	25/56 (45%)	57/57 (100%)

<sup>\*</sup>Employers numbers are just assessed once a year.

#### ii). Quality measures

**Data quality gradings:** The Fund categorises each employer into one of three quality measures depending on the quality of the returns being produced. The middle category of Silver is the starting category. Gold means good quality returns are consistently produced, Silver means that good quality returns are mostly produced by some issues and errors occur while Bronze means that there are a number of concerns with the quality of data produced which requires frequent intervention, more checks and escalation with the employer. These categories are regularly monitored internally but not reported here.

**Contributions vs data comparisons:** Additionally, as part of its control checks, officers undertake a cross comparison between the data and the contributions received. A failure of this check for an employer indicates that either the contribution payment or the membership data submitted was incorrect (or both are incorrect) and further investigation with the employer is required.

The current breakdown of employers against this measure is as follows:

Contributions received	July 2021	August 2021	Sept 2021
consistent with data			
Large employers (>250 actives)	2/5 (40%	2/6 (33%)	1/6 (17%)
Medium employers	14/14 (100%)	10/12 (83%)	8/13 (62%)
(50-249 actives)			
Small employers	20/25 (80%)	18/26 (69%)	16/24 (67%)
(10-49 actives)			
Very small employers (<10	8/10 (80%)	8/11 (73%)	8/13 (62%)
actives)			
Total	44/54 (81%)	38/55 (69%)	33/56 (59%)

### b). Timeliness of contributions payments

Below is a breakdown showing the timeliness of employer contribution payments (i-Connect employers only).

Percentage/number returns received on time	July 2021	August 2021	Sept 2021
Large employers (>250 actives)	5/5 (100%)	6/6 (100%)	6/6 (100%)
Medium employers (50-249 actives)	14/14 (100%)	12/12 (100%)	13/13 (100%)
Small employers (10-49 actives)	23/25 (92%)	25/26 (96%)	24/24 (100%)
Very small employers (<10 actives)	10/10 (100%)	10/11 (91%)	10/10 (100%)
Total	52/54 (96%)	53/55 (96%)	53/53 (100%)

# Scheme, legal, regulatory and Fund update

Organisation	Subject	Link	Status	Comments	Risk Ref
HM Treasury	Reforms to public sector exit payments.		No change since the last meeting	After revoking the Restrictions on Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations in early 2021 but promising replacement legislation, we are yet to hear what type of replacement regulations will be implemented or when this may apply.	PEN021
MHCLG	Fair Deal Consultation	https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-pension-scheme-fair-deal-strengthening-pension-protection	No change since the last meeting	No movement on this since 2019 although we understand that changes are still planned.  Officers have responded to the consultation but have yet to hear anything further from MHCLG. The next step is likely to be either another consultation or the introduction of legislation.  Due to the Parliamentary backlog, further progress may not be seen until 2022.	PEN040
	Changes to the Local Valuation Cycle and the Management of Employer risk Consultation	https://assets.publishin g.service.gov.uk/gover nment/uploads/system/ uploads/attachment_dat a/file/800321/LGPS_va luation_cycle_reform_c onsultation.pdf	No change since the last meeting	Scope: 1). Amendments to the local fund valuations from the current three-year (triennial) to a four-year (quadrennial) cycle. 2). A number of measures aimed at mitigating the risks of moving from triennial to quadrennial cycles. 3). Proposals for flexibility on exit payments. 4). Proposals for further policy changes to exit credits 5). Proposals for policy changes to employers required to offer LGPS Membership (allowing further education, sixth form colleges to close entry to new employees)  Reform progress: The Government has introduced legislation in relation to items 3 and 4. The changes resulting from item 4 are already embedded in the Fund's cessation policy and the changes from item 3 were covered in a paper revising the Fund's cessation policy in the December 2020 committee pack. We are unaware of any further developments on the other areas.	PEN044
	Consultation: Taking action on climate risk	https://www.gov.uk/g overnment/consultati ons/taking-action-on-	No change since the last meeting	MHCLG are shortly expected to release draft regulations and statutory guidance for consultation on how schemes will need to take action on climate risk. The DWP have already issued a consultation for	PEN041

Organisation	Subject	Link	Status	Comments	Risk Ref
		climate-risk- improving- governance-and- reporting-by- occupational- pension-schemes- response-and- consultation-on- regulations		occupational pension schemes – this is the link provided – and the MHCLG consultation will apply to the LGPS and is expected to be virtually identical.  The Fund is in a good place here as the Committee has already done significant work to address this risk, via modelling, education (both of Committee members and the wider scheme membership), transparent reporting and meaningful actions.	
The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)	Pension dashboard project	https://pensionsdash boardproject.uk/indus try/about-the- pensions-dashboard- project/	No change since the last meeting	The Fund's software provide, Aquila Heywood, is part of the national working party to help deliver the Pensions Dashboard. Implementation is likely to be in 2023 and it is still unclear what the impact may be for the Fund (as well as what level of take up for this initiative may exist from the general public).	PEN038
Financial Reporting Council	Proposed revision to the UK Stewardship Code	https://www.frc.org.u k/investors/uk- stewardship-code	No change since the last meeting	The Financial Reporting Council (FRC) published the revised Stewardship Code on <b>24</b> <sup>th</sup> <b>October 2019</b> which sets substantially higher expectations for investor stewardship policy and practice.  Officers will now review Fund compliance to the new code and begin drafting a new Statement of Compliance for review by the FRC, but 31 March 2021.	
Scheme Advisory Board (SAB)	Cost cap mechanism & McCloud case		No change since the last meeting	The McCloud consultation has now closed and officers still await to see the final outcome. The Fund's software provider is currently developing software solutions in anticipation of the final legislation being laid before parliament and passed as per expectations.  As part of i-Connect onboarding, officers continue to update part-time hours histories for active staff. For other categories, there is little work officers can do until the final remedy is released and the administration software is updated.	PEN042
	Goodwin Case		No change since the last meeting	With some similarities to McCloud, another discrimination case affecting public service schemes including the LGPS, this time on the grounds of sexual orientation whereby it has been shown that it is	PEN056

Organisation	Subject	Link	Status	Comments	Risk Ref
				discriminatory for female partners of members who are in a same sex or opposite sex marriage to receive different survivor benefits from one other.	
				Although the funding costs will be small, this will be a further administration and communication burden to address.	
				Little information has so far been provided of the impact on the LGPS, but the DfE has started a consultation in relation to the Teacher's Pension Scheme to start the process of altering the scheme rules. It is expect MHCLG will undertake a similar process for the LGPS in due course.	
	Good Governance Project (formerly known as the Separation Project)	http://www.lgpsboard.o rg/images/PDF/BoardF eb18/PaperBItem50218 .pdf	No change	Hymans-Robertson, on behalf of the SAB, has released its report on phase II which outlines a number of specific recommendations.  Hymans Robertson and SAB are now moving towards Phase III of the project and a proposal is going to MHCLG to implement the proposals.	PEN039
				The timeframes for implementation are still unclear.	
The Pension Regulator (tPR)	Single code of practice		No change	tPR have released a consultation concerning its intention to produce a single code of practice covering all pension schemes (rather than over 15 at the moment).	PEN050
				Whilst some of the exercise is merely one of administrative consolidation, tPR have also used this as an opportunity to make some changes.	

#### Appendix 5

#### WILTSHIRE PENSION FUND RUNNING COSTS BUDGET UPDATE Q2 2021-22

1. This report sets out the forecast expenditure compared to the Pension Fund budget for 2021-22. The forecast is based on quarter 2 actual figures and a forecast for the remaining months.

#### Key forecast variances against 2021-22 budget

- 2. As at the end of quarter 2 forecast expenditure is expected to be slightly favourable (£27k 1%) to budget at year end. This underspend is primarily within administration costs where systems fees, staffing and mailing costs are expected to be below plan.
- 3. The forecast includes £85k of additional costs approved by Committee in November to carry out a manager selection process for allocations to affordable housing (£35k) and renewable infrastructure (£50k). These costs were not included in the original budget and show as an overspend against the original plan.

Costs approved by Committee in addition to the 2021/22 budget	£000's
Mercer - Climate Modeling Training - September 21	2.5
Pensions For Purpose follow on training on Impact Investing	1.7
UN PRI - Membership	3.1
IIGCC (Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change)	2.5
Impact Affordable Housing Portfolio Construction	35.0
Renewable Infrastructure Portfolio Construction	50.0
Total	94.7

Wiltshire Pension Fund Budget 2021/22

	Prio	r Year	2021/22			
£000's	2019/20	2020/21	Forecast	Budget	Variance	% Variance
Investment administration staffing costs	119	114	210	210	(0)	0%
Investment administration travel/conferences/training costs	C	) 2	8		3 0	0%
Total investment administration costs	120	116	217	217	(0)	0%
Pension scheme administration staffing costs	996	1,036	1,143	1,208	65	5%
Staff training	19	22	23	23	0	0%
Corporate charges	311	311	311	311	. 0	0%
Pension administration systems and data cleansing	310	354	360	357	(2)	-1%
Other administration costs	107	51	68	89	21	24%
Total scheme administration costs	1,743	1,775	1,905	1,988	83	4%
Oversight & governance staffing costs	246	180	221	221	. 0	0%
Training and conferences	8	3 0	23	23	0	0%
Subscriptions, memberships and levies	34	32	49	42	(7)	-16%
Actuarial services	214	154	131	153	22	14%
Audit	10	37	27	27	' 0	0%
Legal fees	13	3 11	30	48	18	38%
Advisory fees	142	196	324	233	(90)	-39%
Corporate charges & other costs	149	165	146	146	0	0%
Total oversight & governance costs	815	775	951	895	(57)	-6%
Local Pension Board costs	14	14	25	25	. 0	0%
Total operational running costs	2,692	2,679	3,098	3,125	27	1%
Number of Members	80,824	82,454	82,454	82,454		
Total Running Cost per member	£ 33.31	£ 32.49	£ 37.58	£ 37.90	£ 0.33	1%

4. Forecast operational running costs per member (excluding investment manager fee's) are £37.52 this is favourable to plan but an increase on the prior year.

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Unpublished documents relied upon in the production of this report:

None