

Agenda Item No. 4 (f)

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
PENSIONS AND INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE**

4 November 2020

Report of the Director of Finance & ICT

DERBYSHIRE PENSION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

1 Purpose of the Report

To seek approval for the Director of Finance & ICT, in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee, to approve the publication of the Pension Fund's Annual Report for 2019-20.

2 Information and Analysis

In accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the Administering Authority must prepare and publish an Annual Report for the Pension Fund (the Fund) on or before 1 December following the year end.

It is the Fund's standard practice to present a copy of the Annual Report to Committee prior to 1 December each year and seek approval to publish the Annual Report on the Fund's website. However, this is not possible this year because of the timing of Committee meetings and the external audit in respect of both the County Council's (the Council) and Fund's 2019-20 Statement of Accounts which have yet to be completed due to delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. This is not unique to either the Council or the Fund, and many other UK county councils and LGPS pension schemes have reported similar audit delays.

Due to the delays, the Council's audited accounts, which include the Fund's Statement of Accounts, have yet to be considered and approved by the Council's Audit Committee, albeit it should be noted that no issues are expected at this stage and the committee has had the opportunity to question and comment on the unaudited accounts. As a result, approval is sought for the Director of Finance & ICT, in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee, to approve the publication of the Fund's 2019-20 Annual Report before 1 December 2020 as required by the Regulations. A copy of the Fund's 2019-20 Annual Report will be reported to Committee in December 2020.

The Fund's Annual Report is typically in excess of 200 pages, and is split into a number of sections covering: an Introduction; Key Statistics; Fund Governance (including a copy of the 2019-20 Annual Report of Derbyshire Pension Board); Financial Performance; Investment; Funding; Scheme Administration; and the Fund's Statement of Accounts. There are also several appendices comprised of previously published (and approved), including copies of the Fund's: Governance Policy & Compliance Statement; Communication Policy Statement; Investment Strategy Statement; Funding Strategy Statement; Actuarial Valuation Report; and a Schedule of Employees' and Employers' Contributions.

This year, the Investment section of the Annual Report will be updated to include details of the Fund's carbon risk metrics. These metrics were presented to Committee in March 2020 and are disclosed in the Fund's Climate-Related Disclosures Report, a copy of which is available on the Fund's website.

3 Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal and human rights, human resources, equality and diversity, health, environmental, transport, property and prevention of crime and disorder.

4 Background Papers

Working papers are held by the Pension Fund Team.

5 Officer's Recommendation

Approval is sought for the Director of Finance & ICT, in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee, to approve the publication of the Pension Fund's Annual Report for 2019-20.

PETER HANDFORD

Director of Finance & ICT