

Report To: **GMPF MANAGEMENT/ADVISORY PANEL**

Date: 15 July 2022

Reporting Officer: Sandra Stewart - Director of Pensions

Subject : **WORKING GROUP APPOINTMENTS, SCHEME GOVERNANCE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Report Summary: To note the appointments to the Working Groups, Scheme Governance and Terms of Reference, as detailed in the attached report.

Recommendation(s): That the appointments to the Working Groups, scheme governance and Terms of Reference be noted.

Financial Implications:
(Authorised by the Section 151 Officer) There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the Solicitor to the Fund) There are no direct legal issues arising from this report.

Risk Management: Allows for transparent and democratic decision making.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION:


NON-CONFIDENTIAL

This report does not contain information that warrants its consideration in the absence of the Press or members of the public.

Background Papers:

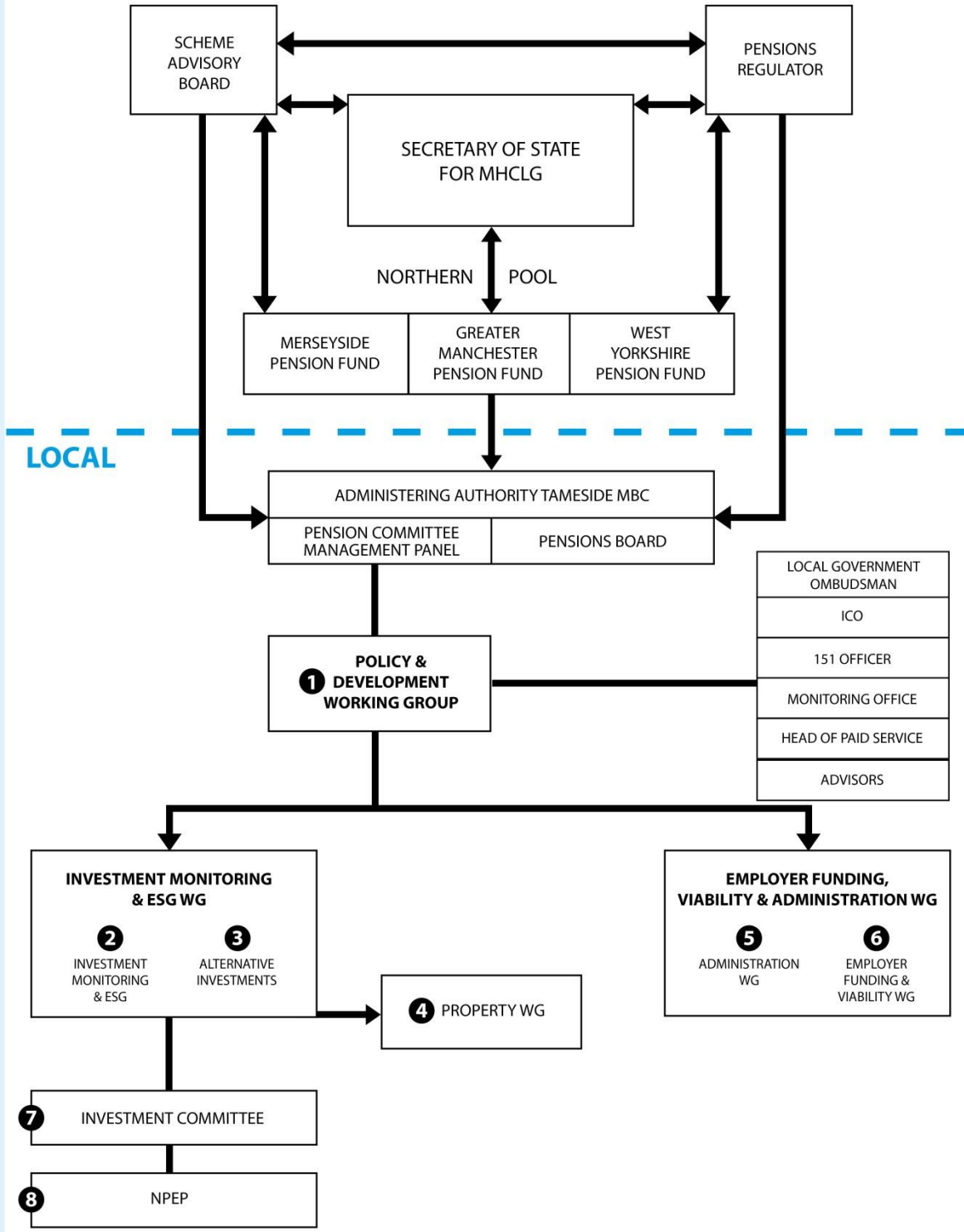
Appendix A:	Scheme Governance Roles
Appendix B:	TORs for working groups
Appendix C:	Working Group Membership

Further information can be obtained by contacting Carolyn Eaton, Principal Democratic Services Officer, on:

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME GOVERNANCE ROLES



APPENDIX B

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REVISED WORKING GROUPS

A.	TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE LOCAL BOARD
A1	The purpose of the Board is to assist Tameside MBC in its role as the administering authority of the Fund. Such assistance is to:
A2	(a) secure compliance with the LGPS Regulations, any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme and requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme and;
A3	(b) to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Fund.

B.	TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP
B1.	To consider and make recommendations to the Management Panel on major strategic issues, including; a) Proposed structural or governance changes in LGPS b) Proposals for joint working with other funds/institutions
B2.	To consider in detail the ongoing appropriateness of the Fund's investment strategy and investment management arrangements and make recommendations to Panel.
B3.	To consider any types of investment, which do not fall under the remit of any other working group and whether to broaden the scope of other working groups as required.
B4.	To monitor and evaluate the progress of new investment programmes and determine whether and when responsibility for monitoring and evaluation should pass to Alternative Investment or Property Working Groups.
B5.	To consider the resource implications of investment programmes and make recommendations to Panel.
B6.	To consider in detail opportunities for local investment that may satisfy the twin aims of commercial returns and supporting the area, and make recommendations on the allocations to these categories of investment to the Management Panel
B7.	To consider in detail the recommendations of the Funds' advisors and plan for their implementation.
B8.	To provide guidance to the Director of Pensions in exercising her delegated powers.

C.	TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INVESTMENT MONITORING & ESG
C1.	Review and develop the strategy together with monitoring the implementation and performance of the strategy for the Fund's investments in: a) Private Equity b) Infrastructure, c) Property d) Special Opportunities, and e) other Alternative Investments
C2.	Receive reports from 'managers' of underlying investment vehicles or investments, as appropriate
C3.	Receive and consider reports from Fund officers and external advisers on other matters relating to the Fund's Private Equity, Infrastructure and Special Opportunities portfolios and other Alternative Investments
C4.	Consider any other matters relating to the wider investment opportunities commonly referred to as Alternative Investments.
C5.	Make recommendations to the Fund's Advisory and Management Panel in relation to matters falling within the scope of the Working Group.
C6.	Oversee and periodically review the Fund's approach to Environmental, Social and Governance issues including proxy voting.
C7.	Consider reports from the Fund's active and passive Fund Managers regarding their approach to corporate governance, including their proxy voting records
C8.	Consider reports from the Fund's active Fund Managers regarding their Investment Management Association (IMA) disclosures of transaction costs.
C9.	Consider reports from the Fund's third party, specialist corporate governance advisor (PIRC) on the 'Local Authority Pension Fund Forum' (LAPFF) and other matters.
C10.	Receive and consider reports on Property Investment related matters, e.g. debt collection

E.	TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ADMINISTRATION, EMPLOYER FUNDING & VIABILITY WORKING GROUP
E1.	<p>To monitor, and advise the Panel and Advisory Panel as necessary regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Ensuring the solvency of each of the notional sub-funds allocated to individual employers, whilst at the same time; aiming to maintain the stability and affordability of employer contributions (b) Using reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the Council Tax payer from an employer ceasing participation or defaulting on its pension obligations. (c) To address the different characteristics of employers or groups of employers to the extent that this is practical and cost effective.
E2.	<p>This will be achieved by considering the interaction, at the individual employer level of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Funding strategy – i.e. assumptions and contribution rates (b) Investment strategy – ensuring appropriate given liability profile and risk tolerance (c) Employer covenant strength – making allowance for any risk reduction measures such as guarantees, bonds and pooling arrangements
E3.	<p>In connection with the above, the working group will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Consider policy for admitting new employers to the Fund and any conditions of joining which should be applied (b) Oversee the triennial actuarial valuation process (c) Receive and consider reports from Fund officers on developments in the LGPS and wider defined benefit pensions environment which may have an impact on funding
E4.	<p>To monitor, and advise the Panel and Advisory Panel as necessary regarding:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The effective administration of the LGPS, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the performance of the Pensions Office and employing authorities regarding the standards set out in the pensions administration strategy; • Pensions Office policies and procedures; • pension administration benchmarking; • proposed responses to national consultations relating to or affecting the LGPS • the Pensions Office’s response to wider pension issues and national developments affecting pension administration • the implementation of changes affecting the LGPS and / or the administration of pensions (b) training and support of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members of the Pension Fund, Advisory Panel • employing authority colleagues including approved doctors (c) effective communication with Fund members and employing authorities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pensions Office Helpline • written communications, and also e-comms including the website, e-mail alerts and GMPF on-line (d) the effective use and maintenance of Pensions Office systems and other physical resources (e) the provision of Scheme additional voluntary contributions (f) business continuity plans and procedures (g) any other matter that materially relates to pension administration
E5.	<p>Consider reports from TMBC’s “Internal Audit and Risk Management” service regarding approving the Annual Internal Audit Plan and considering quarterly progress updates</p>
E6.	<p>Consider reports from external auditors regarding the Fund’s external audit arrangements and the Annual External Audit Plan.</p>
E7.	<p>Consider reports setting the Fund’s administration expenses budget and thereafter monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Fund’s administration expenditure against budget; b) the value of the Fund’s aged debt

APPENDIX C

WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP – 2022/2023

POLICY & DEVELOPMENT			ADMINISTRATION, EMPLOYER FUNDING & VIABILITY WORKING GROUP		
1.	Cllr Cooney (Chair)	Tameside		Cllr North (Chair)	Tameside
2.	Cllr Ryan	Tameside		Cllr Ricci	Tameside
3.	Cllr North	Tameside		Cllr Patrick	Tameside
4.	Mr Thompson	UNITE		Cllr Drennan	Tameside
5.	Ms Herbert	MoJ		Cllr Quinn	Tameside
8.	Mr Pantall	Observer		Cllr Taylor	Tameside
INVESTMENTS & ESG					
1.	Cllr Ryan (Chair)	Tameside		Cllr Ryan	Tameside
2.	Cllr Ward	Tameside		Cllr Cowen	Bolton
3.	Cllr Ricci	Tameside		Cllr Andrews	Manchester
4.	Cllr Lane	Tameside		Cllr Jabbar	Oldham
5.	Cllr Quinn	Tameside		Cllr Massey	Rochdale
6.	Cllr Drennan	Tameside		TBC	Trafford
7.	Cllr North	Tameside		Cllr Smart	Stockport
8.	Cllr Cowen	Bolton		Cllr Barnes	Salford
9.	Cllr Andrews	Manchester		Mr Drury	UNITE
10.	Cllr Jabbar	Oldham		Mr Caplan	UNISON
11.	Cllr Massey	Rochdale		Mr Llewellyn	UNITE
12.	TBC	Trafford		Mr Flatley	GMB
13.	Cllr Smart	Stockport		John Pantall	Observer
14.	Cllr Barnes	Salford			
15.	Mr Drury	UNITE			
16.	Mr Caplan	UNISON			
17.	Mr Llewellyn	UNITE			
18.	Mr Flatley	GMB			
19.	John Pantall	Observer			