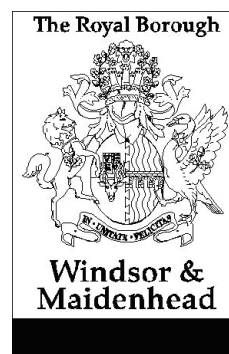


Report for ACTION
Item Number: 3



<b>Contains Confidential or Exempt Information</b>	NO - Part I
<b>Title</b>	Appointment of Independent Chairman
<b>Responsible Officer(s)</b>	Kevin Taylor
<b>Contact officer, job title and phone number</b>	Kevin Taylor Deputy Pension Fund Manager 01628 796715
<b>Member reporting</b>	n/a
<b>For Consideration By</b>	Berkshire Pension Fund Board
<b>Date to be Considered</b>	3 August 2015
<b>Implementation Date if Not Called In</b>	n/a
<b>Affected Wards</b>	None
<b>Keywords/Index</b>	Pension Board

### Report Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the process for the appointment of the Independent Chairman of the Berkshire Pension Board who needs to be formally elected at this meeting.

### If recommendations are adopted, how will residents, fund members and other stakeholders benefit?

Benefits to residents, fund members and other stakeholders and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which they can expect to notice a difference
1. Better governance and administration of the Pension Fund	Ongoing

### 1. Details of Recommendations

To enable the appointment of a Chairman to the Berkshire Pension Board.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Berkshire Pension Board is asked to approve the appointment of Howard Pearce as independent Chairman of the Berkshire Pension Board.

## **2. Reason for Recommendation(s) and Options Considered**

To improve the effectiveness of the Berkshire Pension Board, The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead as the administering authority to the Royal County of Berkshire Fund chose to have a non-voting Independent Chairman of the Pension Board. This position will use their expert advice to lead and assist the Board.

## **3. Key Implications**

The duties of the Independent Chairman are set out in the Terms of Reference. The key aspects of the role are to provide an effective strategic leadership of the Board, to formulate a strategy for the Board in discharging its statutory duties, to encourage high standards of propriety and to promote the efficient and effective use of resources.

The effectiveness of this role and ultimately the Board will be enhanced by the Chairman having the relevant pension expertise with a thorough understanding of the issues faced by a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

In February 2015 a contract notice was published on the South East Business Portal and 4 applications were received. All applicants were reviewed against the published criteria of relevant experience and capacity to undertake the role. A shortlist was drawn up and interviews were undertaken by Members of the Berkshire Pension Fund Panel and Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel on 24 March 2015.

Following the process, a preferred candidate, Howard Pearce was identified and recommended to the Pension Fund Panel. This candidate was formally appointed at the meeting of 24 March 2015.

The appointment is subject to the passing of a motion confirming the appointment of Howard Pearce to the position of Independent Chairman.

## **4. Financial Details**

The role of Independent Chairman is remunerated for the provision of their services and this cost is included in the budgets of the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund.

## **5. Legal Implications**

None.

## **6. Value For Money**

Not relevant.

## **7. Sustainability Impact Appraisal**

There are no known implications.

## **8. Risk Management**

None.

## **9. Links to Strategic Objectives**

Linked to strategic objectives of the Pension Fund in accordance with overriding pension scheme regulations.

## **10. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion**

There are no known implications.

## **11. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications:**

None.

## **12. Property and Assets**

None.

## **13. Any other implications:**

None.

## **14. Consultation**

Not applicable.

## **15. Timetable for Implementation**

Pension Board established by 1 April 2015. First meeting to be held within 4 months.

## **16. Appendices**

None.

## **17. Background Information**

Public Service Pensions Act 2013, Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended), The Pensions Regulator's Code of Practice, Shadow Scheme Advisory Board guidance.

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