

Report for: ACTION



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	<i>NO - Part I</i>
Title	Composition of the Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel
Responsible Officer(s)	Nick Greenwood, Pension Fund Manager
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Nick Greenwood Pension Fund Manager 016258 796701
Member reporting	Cllr J Lenton
For Consideration By	Berkshire Pension Fund and pension Fund Advisory Panels
Date to be Considered	11 April 2016
Implementation Date if Not Called In	N/A
Affected Wards	None

REPORT SUMMARY

1. This report notes that Thames Valley Probation Trust is no longer an employer within the Fund and hence can not have representation on the Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel.
2. It reviews the number of members within the largest non-local authority employers and recommend that the composition of the Advisory Panel is amended as set out in Section 2.

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

Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
1. Having an Advisory Panel membership that is representative of the Fund's membership shows good governance of the pension Fund.	Immediate

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: That Panel:

i. recommends to Council that the composition of the Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel be amended to that shown in Section 2.6 of this report.

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 RBWM's constitution states the Advisory Panel membership shall comprise of:

- The Pension Fund Panel (5 administering authority Members)
- 5 representatives from the unitary authorities (1 each)
- 2 employer representatives namely
 - University of West London
 - Thames Valley Probation Trust
- 2 employee representatives namely
 - UNISON
 - GMB
- A Pensioner Member and an Active Member representative

2.2 Thames Valley Probation Trust is no longer an employing body in the Fund (having transferred to Greater Manchester Pension Fund) and is consequently not eligible for representation on the Pension Fund Advisory Panel.

2.3 The table below shows (as at 31 December 2015) the number of members (Actives, Deferreds, Pensioners and Dependents) of the top 10 non-unitary authority employers:

EMPLOYER	Active	Deferred	Pensioner	Dependent		% of Total
Thames Valley University	28	334	315	30	707	1.15
Bracknell & Wokingham College	177	195	119	6	497	0.81
Newbury College	134	230	72	7	443	0.72
Berks College of Agriculture	152	208	61	5	426	0.69
Berkshire Fire & Rescue	169	92	75	4	340	0.55
Mary Hare Grammar School	179	104	45	5	333	0.54
Reading Buses	20	29	152	45	246	0.40
Optalis	107	68	32	0	207	0.34
Legacy Leisure	187	16	0	0	203	0.33
Maiden Erlegh School	134	55	6	0	195	0.32
Academies	3,337	1,179	299	16	4,831	7.87

Table 1 – Principal non-local authority employers within the Berkshire Pension Fund

- 2.4 There are over 240 non-unitary authority employers in the Fund but as can be seen from the table above the majority have fewer than 200 members (out of a total of over 63,000). On the other hand we now have 89 Academies as employers in the Fund as the table above shows they represent almost one eighth of the Fund's membership.
- 2.5 The Chairman and Pension Fund Manager recommend that an Advisory Panel seat is offered to one of the largest employers identified in Table 1 and to a representative from the Academies.
- 2.6 Officers recommend that the composition of the Pension Fund Advisory Panel is amended in RBWM's Constitution as follows:

The Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel membership shall comprise of:

- The Pension Fund Panel (5 administering authority Members)
- 5 representatives from the unitary authorities (1 each)
- 3 employer representatives namely
 - University of West London
 - An employer with a minimum of 200 members within the Fund
 - A representative from an Academy (to represent all academies within the Fund).
- 2 employee representatives namely
 - UNISON
 - GMB
- A Pensioner Member and an Active Member representative

Option	Comments
Agree the composition of the Pension Fund Advisory Panel as in 2.6 above	Recommended by the Chairman and Pension Fund Manager
Request RBWM to amend its Constitution to reflect the new composition of the Pension Fund Advisory Panel	Recommended by the Chairman and Pension Fund Manager
Do not agree the recommended changes in the composition of the Advisory Panel	Not recommended the composition does not reflect the membership of the Fund
Do not request RBWM to amend its Constitution to reflect the new composition of the Pension Fund Advisory Panel	Not recommended – the composition of the Pension Fund Advisory Panel must be in the Borough's Constitution.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The proposed changes will ensure that the major employers in the Fund will be represented at Advisory Panel meetings.

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS

Financial impact on the budget

4.1 None

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Borough's Constitution must state who is eligible for membership of the Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel

6. VALUE FOR MONEY

6.1 N/A

7. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT APPRAISAL

7.1 N/A

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 None

9. LINKS TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

9.1 None

10. EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION

10.1 None

11. STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None

12. PROPERTY AND ASSETS

12.1 None

13. ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

13.1 None

14. CONSULTATION

14.1 N/A

15. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

15.1 Immediate

16. APPENDICES

None

17. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

N/A