# Pension Fund Investments

Simon Cunnington
Senior Accountant
Pensions & Treasury Management

### **Agenda**

- Governance, Statements and Strategies
- Key Objectives
- Pensions & TM Team
- Statement of Investment Principles
- Asset Allocation & Management Arrangements
- Fund returns
- Developments

#### Governance

Under the terms of the council's constitution, the functions of the council as administering authority of the pension fund are delegated to the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund Committee.

- It is responsible for Administering the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund and is supported by two Sub-Committees.
- The Pensions Sub-Committee makes recommendations to the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund Committee on matters relating to the administration and investment of the Pension Fund.
- The Pensions Investment Sub-Committee has responsibility for investment performance management of the Fund Managers.

# **Statements and Strategies**

The Pension Fund Committee separately approves:

- Funding Strategy Statement
  - responsibilities as regards funding the scheme (ie achieving and maintaining assets equal to 100% of projected liabilities)
- Statement of Investment Principles
  - including the overall investment strategy of the fund, the proposed asset allocation, restrictions on investment types, type of investment management used and performance monitoring.
- Risk Management Strategy
  - aims to reduce or eliminate risks which may jeopardise the achievement of the Fund's key objectives.

# **Key Objectives**

The purpose of the Fund is to:

- Pay pensions, lump sums and other benefits provided under the LGPS Regulations
- Meet the costs associated in administering the Fund
- Receive contributions, transfer values and investment income
- Invest any Fund money not needed immediately to make payments.

Pensions & TM team – main role is in last point BUT ensure accounting is correct for whole Fund

#### **Pensions & TM Team**

- Manage In-House equity portfolio (direct holdings in UK, North America, Europe; external funds in other markets)
- Implement investment strategy for Specialist portfolio
- Monitor and liaise with external managers & custodian
- Account for investment assets/liabilities and all pension fund transactions
- Prepare statement of accounts and annual report
- Procure relevant services
- Provide reports and advice to committees

### **Statement of Investment Principles**

#### The SIP must cover policy on:

- the types of investment to be held
- the balance between different types of investments
- the ways in which risks are to be measured and managed
- the expected return on investments
- the realisation of investments
- the extent (if at all) to which social, environmental or ethical considerations are taken into account in the selection, retention and realisation of investments
- the exercise of the rights (including voting) attaching to investments
- stock lending.

# **Statement of Investment Principles**

The following principles underpin the Fund's investment activity:

- The Fund will aim to be sufficient to meet all its obligations on a continuing basis.
- The Fund will be invested in a diversified range of assets.
- Proper advice on the suitability of types of investment will be obtained and considered at reasonable intervals.
- The Fund will aim to conduct its business and to use its influence in a long term responsible way.

#### **Asset Allocation**

It is widely recognised that asset allocation is the most important factor in driving long term investment returns.

Asset Class	Allocation Ranges	Strategic Benchmark	
Equities	55% to 75%	FTSE All World	65.0%
Property	5% to 25%	IPD annual universe	15.0%
Bonds	10% to 25%	FTSE UK Gilt All Stock	17.5%
Cash	0% to 10%	LIBID 7 Day	2.5%

#### **Actual Asset Allocation**

#### Asset allocation ranges:

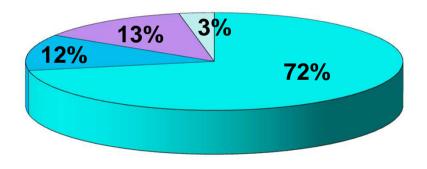
Equities 55% to 75%

Property 5% to 25%

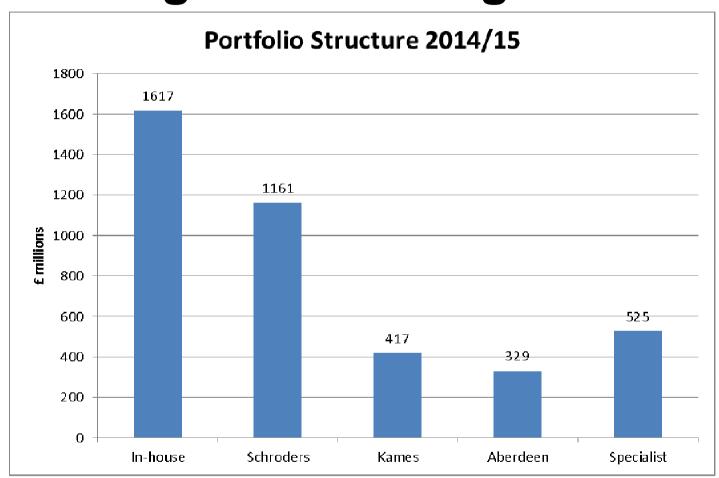
Bonds 10% to 25%

Cash 0% to 10%

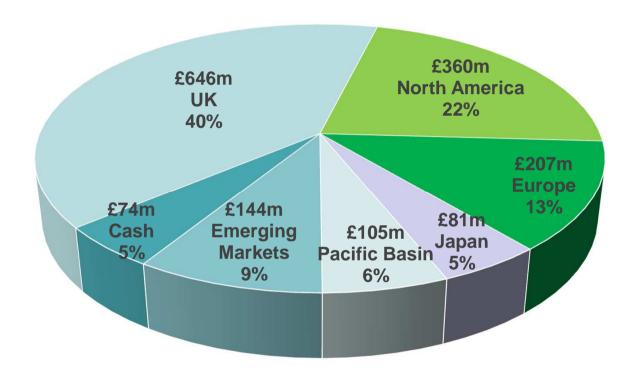
Actual Allocation 31 March 2015



# **Management Arrangements**



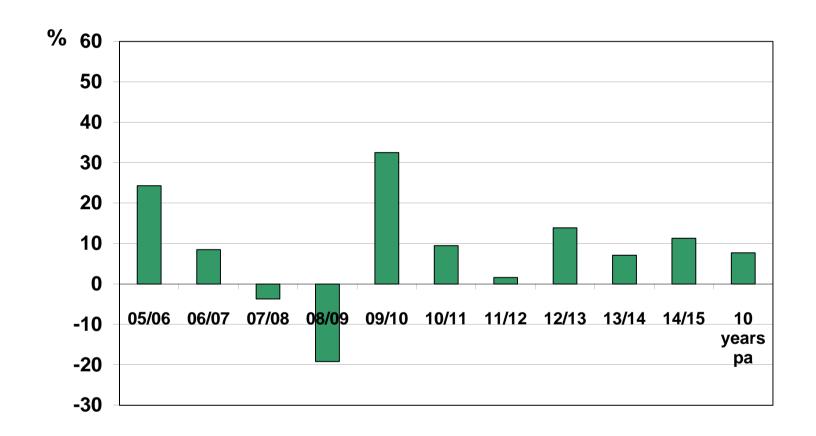
#### **In-House Portfolio**



In-House portfolio as at 31 March 2015



### **Fund 10 year returns**



# **Developments**

- Asset Pooling
  - Announced in July 2015 budget
  - Aiming to achieve the benefits of scale and drive efficiencies
  - Initial response Feb 2016, final submissions July 2016
  - Participating in LGPS Central
- Revised investment regulations
  - Removing existing schedule of limitations on investments
  - Moving to a prudential approach to investment
  - Introduction of Investment Strategy Statement
  - Power of intervention if the Secretary of State believes that an Administering Authority has not had regard to regulations and guidance