



**REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE & IMPROVEMENT**

**LOCAL AUTHORITY PENSION FUND FORUM BUSINESS MEETING**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To report on the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) business meetings held in October 2023 and January 2024.

**Information and Advice**

2. LAPFF was formed in 1990 to provide an opportunity for the UK's local authority pension funds and pools to discuss investment and shareholder engagement issues. Membership currently stands at 87 funds and 6 pools. A list of members is shown at Appendix A. It is consequently able to exert significant influence over companies in which funds are invested.
3. LAPFF exists 'to assist Administering Authorities discharge their statutory responsibilities and promote the long-term investment interests of UK local authority pension funds. In particular, it seeks to maximise their influence as investors to promote corporate social responsibility and high standards of corporate governance amongst the companies in which they hold an interest, commensurate with statutory regulations'. It also:
  - a. provides a forum for information exchange and discussion about investment issues.
  - b. facilitates the commissioning of research and policy analysis of issues in a more effective manner than individual Forum members could achieve.
  - c. provides a forum for consultation on shareholder initiatives.
  - d. provides a forum to consider issues of common interest to all pension fund boards, committees and their supporting administrative staff, as well as to other interested parties from national, local and regional governments.
4. The October gathering (which also incorporated the AGM) included on its agenda, among other things, a report on the crisis in September 2022 which occurred when a base rate increase caused several defined-benefit pension funds to become forced sellers of bonds, which in turn threatened to crash the market. The Bank of England was then compelled to intervene.
5. The January meeting had an interesting discussion on the term 'Double Materiality', which is being used by the International Sustainability Standards Board to obfuscate the concept of materiality. This could result in companies being able to avoid disclosing certain ESG matters in their accounts.
6. The usual updates on LAPFF's engagement work from the two previous quarters were presented. The engagement stories in the report covering the quarter to September 2023 focused on the finance and insurance sector, and its impact on climate. The report to

December covered the LAPFF annual conference and further climate-related engagements.

7. Copies of the latest engagement reports are attached as background, but all LAPFF engagement reports can be found on the LAPFF website:  
<https://lapfforum.org/publications/category/quarterly-engagement-reports/>

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

1. That Nottinghamshire Pension Fund Committee notes the contents of the report.

**Nigel Stevenson**

**Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Ciaran Guilfoyle**

### **Constitutional Comments (KK 15/03/2024)**

9. This is an updating information report and Nottinghamshire Pension Fund Committee is the correct body for considering that information and any further action which members may wish to take in light of that information.

### **Financial Comments (TMR 19/03/2024)**

10. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **Background Papers**

- LAPFF constitution
- [LAPFF Quarterly Engagement Report July to September 2023](#)
- [LAPFF Quarterly Engagement Report October to December 2023](#)

## **Membership of LAPFF as at January 2024**

### **Funds**

- 1) Avon Pension Fund
- 2) Barking and Dagenham (London Borough of)
- 3) Barnet LB
- 4) Bedfordshire Pension Fund
- 5) Bexley (London Borough of)
- 6) Berkshire Pension Fund
- 7) Brent (London Borough of)
- 8) Camden (London Borough of)
- 9) Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund
- 10) Cambridgeshire Pension Fund
- 11) Cheshire Pension Fund
- 12) City and County of Swansea Pension Fund
- 13) City of London Corporation
- 14) Clwyd Pension Fund
- 15) Cornwall Pension Fund
- 16) Croydon LB
- 17) Cumbria Pension Scheme
- 18) Derbyshire County Council
- 19) Devon County Council
- 20) Dorset County Pension Fund
- 21) Durham Pension Fund
- 22) Dyfed Pension Fund
- 23) Ealing (London Borough of)
- 24) East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- 25) East Sussex Pension Fund
- 26) Enfield (London Borough of)
- 27) Environment Agency Pension Fund
- 28) Essex Pension Fund
- 29) Falkirk Council
- 30) Gloucestershire Pension Fund
- 31) Greater Gwent Fund
- 32) Greater Manchester Pension Fund
- 33) Greenwich Pension Fund
- 34) Gwynedd Pension Fund
- 35) Hackney (London Borough of)
- 36) Hammersmith and Fulham (London Borough of)
- 37) Haringey (London Borough of)
- 38) Harrow (London Borough of)
- 39) Havering LB
- 40) Hertfordshire
- 41) Hillingdon (London Borough of)
- 42) Hounslow (London Borough of)
- 43) Isle of Wight Pension Fund
- 44) Islington (London Borough of)
- 45) Kensington and Chelsea (Royal Borough of)
- 46) Kent Pension Fund
- 47) Kingston upon Thames Pension Fund
- 48) Lambeth (London Borough of)
- 49) Lancashire County Pension Fund

- 50) Leicestershire
- 51) Lewisham (London Borough of)
- 52) Lincolnshire County Council
- 53) London Pension Fund Authority
- 54) Lothian Pension Fund
- 55) Merseyside Pension Fund
- 56) Merton (London Borough of)
- 57) Newham (London Borough of)
- 58) Norfolk Pension Fund
- 59) North East Scotland Pension Fund
- 60) North Yorkshire County Council Pension Fund
- 61) Northamptonshire Pension Fund
- 62) Nottinghamshire County Council
- 63) Oxfordshire Pension Fund
- 64) Powys County Council Pension Fund
- 65) Redbridge (London Borough of)
- 66) Rhondda Cynon Taf
- 67) Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund
- 68) Shropshire Council
- 69) Somerset County Council
- 70) South Yorkshire Pensions Authority
- 71) Southwark (London Borough of)
- 72) Staffordshire Pension Fund
- 73) Strathclyde Pension Fund
- 74) Suffolk County Council Pension Fund
- 75) Surrey County Council
- 76) Sutton (London Borough of)
- 77) Teesside Pension Fund
- 78) Tower Hamlets (London Borough of)
- 79) Tyne and Wear Pension Fund
- 80) Waltham Forest (London Borough of)
- 81) Wandsworth (London Borough of)
- 82) Warwickshire Pension Fund
- 83) West Midlands Pension Fund
- 84) West Yorkshire Pension Fund
- 85) Westminster CC
- 86) Wiltshire Pension Fund
- 87) Worcestershire County Council

## **Pools**

- 1) Border to Coast Pension Partnership
- 2) LGPS Central
- 3) Local Pensions Partnership
- 4) London CIV
- 5) Northern LGPS
- 6) Wales Pension Partnership