



**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 via Zoom on 14 July and 6 October 2021.

**Information and Advice**

2. The Local Authority Pension Fund Forum was formed in 1990 to provide an opportunity for the UK's local authority pension funds to discuss investment and shareholder engagement issues. In 2018 membership was also extended to cover pension fund pools. LAPFF membership currently stands at 84 funds and 7 pools (shown at Appendix A) with combined assets of over £300 billion. 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 business meetings were attended on behalf of Nottinghamshire Pension Fund by both a member and officer representatives.
5. The agenda of the July meeting included, among other things, a discussion on LAPFF's policy regarding various zero-carbon initiatives such as the Net Zero Asset Owners' Alliance, the Paris Aligned Investment Initiative, and the Investor Agenda. As a collective, LAPFF liaises closely with such initiatives, as they all aim variously to help investors navigate the growing number of climate commitments, initiatives, and actions. In the discussion, in order to maximise the beneficial effects of company engagements the LAPFF leadership proposed that members participate in these initiatives alongside LAPFF as part of their own net-zero activities and commitments. Engagement still remains LAPFF's central strategy in relation to climate change.

6. An update on LAPFF's engagement work in the quarter to June 2021 was presented at the July meeting. The headline engagement story related to Shell's net-zero plans and the conclusion of a Dutch court that these were inadequate (confirming a view that LAPFF had maintained in the face of an opposing view from the Church of England), but the report also covered the continuing promotion of the 'Say on Climate' resolution being promoted at various AGMs, permitting shareholders to vote on the company's climate change-related targets and action plan.
7. The agenda of the October meeting also incorporated the AGM, in which the chair in his presentation chose to focus on climate change and mining/human rights. The business meeting proper also focussed on the issue of mining companies and human rights. Large multinationals like Anglo American, BHP, Glencore, Rio Tinto, and Vale still have a very poor record on human rights and little progress has been made in engaging them on this matter. Professor Robert McCorquodale (International Law, University of Nottingham) was present as a guest at this meeting and applauded LAPFF for the work it is doing in this area.
8. An update on LAPFF's engagement work in the quarter to September 2021 was presented at this meeting, which further extended the engagement work with mining companies as well as others. The headline engagement story covered the Chair's visit to a tailings dam, part of a tungsten mine's operations in Devon. It was also positively noted, in the discussion following all the meeting reports, that a number of companies are now taking their low-carbon transition plans to AGMs.
9. Copies of the available latest engagement reports are available 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**

10. 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 members consider whether there are any actions they require in relation to the issues contained within the report.

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

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

**Constitutional Comments (KK 07/10/2021)**

11. 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 06/10/2021)**

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

### **Background Papers**

- LAPFF constitution
- [LAPFF Quarterly Engagement Report April to June 2021](#)
- [LAPFF Quarterly Engagement Report July to September 2021](#)

## **Membership of LAPFF as at October 2021**

### **Funds**

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

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

## **Pools**

1. Border to Coast Pension Partnership
2. Brunel Pension Partnership
3. LGPS Central
4. Local Pensions Partnership
5. London CIV
6. Northern LGPS
7. Wales Pensions Partnership