

# Croydon Council

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>PENSION COMMITTEE</b> <b>7 June 2016</b>
<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Review of Croydon Council Local Government Pension Scheme Communication Policy Statement</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Richard Simpson, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Resources and Section 151 Officer)</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>	<b>Councillor Simon Hall</b> <b>Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:</b> Sound Financial Management: The Communications strategy is a key component of the suite of policies comprising the governance arrangements for the administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme.	
<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY:</b> There are no financial considerations arising from this report.	
<b>FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.: N/A</b>	

## 1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 This report recommends that the Pension Committee approve the draft Communication Policy Statement, after due considerations and offering any comments they feel appropriate.

## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 An essential part of the governance arrangements for the Local Government Pension Scheme is an effective communication policy. This draft statement sets out this policy for Members' comment and consideration.

### **3. DETAIL**

3.1 The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations require each administering authority to publish a statement setting out its policy on communications to its stakeholders. The aim of the communication policy is to make sure that all stakeholders are kept informed of developments within the Pension Fund and relating to the Scheme. These stakeholders can be grouped together as follows:

- Contributing Scheme Members;
- Prospective Scheme Members;
- Pensioner Scheme Members and dependents of deceased Members;
- Deferred Scheme Members;
- Admitted & Scheduled Scheme Employers participating in the Fund;
- Elected Members
- Other Bodies

3.2 The policy acknowledges that different types of communication can be more appropriate for different stakeholders. Effective communications should assist in ensuring transparency in the way that the Scheme is administered which in turn should increase the efficiency and effectiveness of that administration.

3.3 The draft policy statement is attached to this report as Appendix A. It sets out, by group of stakeholders, just how the administering authority intends to communicate critical messages. The authority aims to use the most appropriate communication method for each distinct audience. This may involve using more than one medium of communication.

3.4 This document has been drafted as part of the collaborative framework arrangement with other administering authorities, pooling resources and gaining the benefit of bulking up production costs.

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 This report recommends that the Pension Committee approve the draft Communication Policy Statement. Once approved the Statement will be published on the Croydon LGPS website.

### **5 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

5.1 There are no further financial considerations flowing from this report.

### **6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

6.1 Other than the considerations referred to above, there are no customer Focus, Equalities, Environment and Design, Crime and Disorder or Human Rights considerations arising from this report

**7. COMMENTS OF THE SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL**

7.1 The Council Solicitor comments that there are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

(Approved by: Gabriel MacGregor, Acting Council Solicitor & Acting Monitoring Officer)

**CONTACT OFFICER:**

Nigel Cook, Head of Pensions Investment and Treasury,  
Chief Executives department, ext. 62552.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** None

**APPENDIX A:** Communication Policy Statement