# London Borough of Croydon Pension Fund

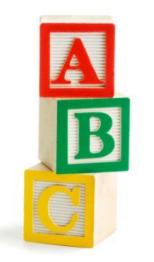
**2016 Initial Valuation Results** 

Bryan Chalmers Robbie McInroy 18 October 2016

Hymans Robertson LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority



# What are we going to cover?



Valuation basics



Initial valuation results

Employer contribution rate setting



Summary and next steps

HYMANS **#** ROBERTSON

# 2016 valuation timeline

<u>April 2016</u> Employer risk exercise – questionnaire issued

September 2016 Initial results discussed with Fund

October 2016 Initial results to Committee

November 2016 Individual employer results calculated

<u>February 2017</u> End of employer consultation Final employer results and FSS agreed



### <u>April 2016</u>

Timetable agreed and key assumptions discussed

<u>July – September 2016</u> Data submitted and whole fund calculations processed

December 2016 Employer results and funding strategies agreed in principle

December 2016 Employer forum and surgeries

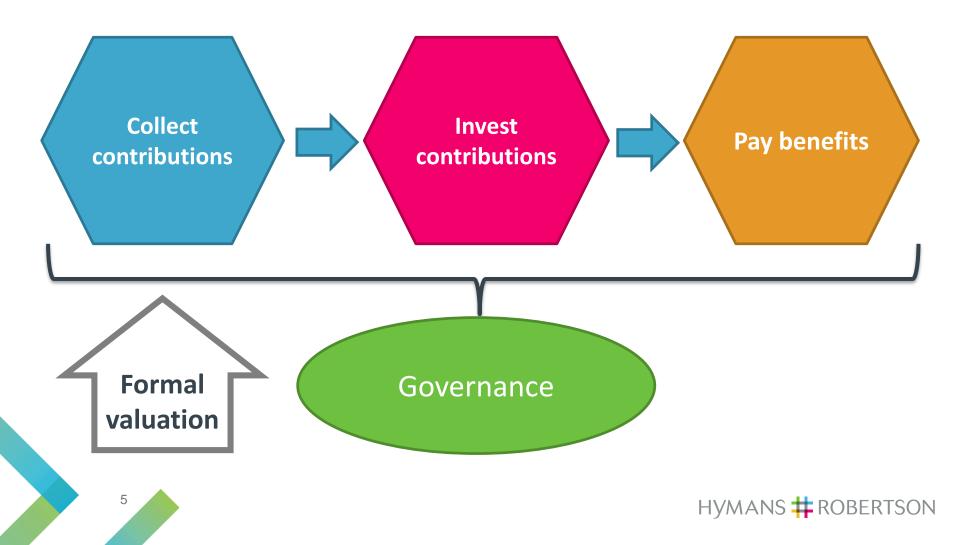
March 2017 Final valuation report signed off by 31 March 2017 HYMANS # ROBERTSON

## Valuation basics



## How the Fund works







# Why do we do a valuation?

- Compliance with legislation
- Recommend contribution rates
- Determine money needed to meet accrued liabilities
- Calculate solvency (or "funding level")
- Monitor experience vs. assumptions
- Manage risks to Fund and employers

## Review the Funding Strategy Statement (FSS)

HYMANS 井 ROBERTSON

# Roles in the valuation



- Actuary
  - Carry out the calculations and modelling
  - Recommend funding strategy e.g. contribution rates
- Administering Authority
  - Provide the data
  - Facilitate consultations (e.g. FSS, employer forums, etc)
- Committee

- Agree funding strategy
- Oversee governance of valuation process
- Local Pension Board
  - Ensure Fund (Committee and officers) is meeting responsibilities

## Increased scrutiny





## HM TREASURY

## The Pensions Regulator

Governance and administration of public service pension schemes

Local Pension Board

Scheme Advisory Board

Local Government Pensions

Communities and Local Government

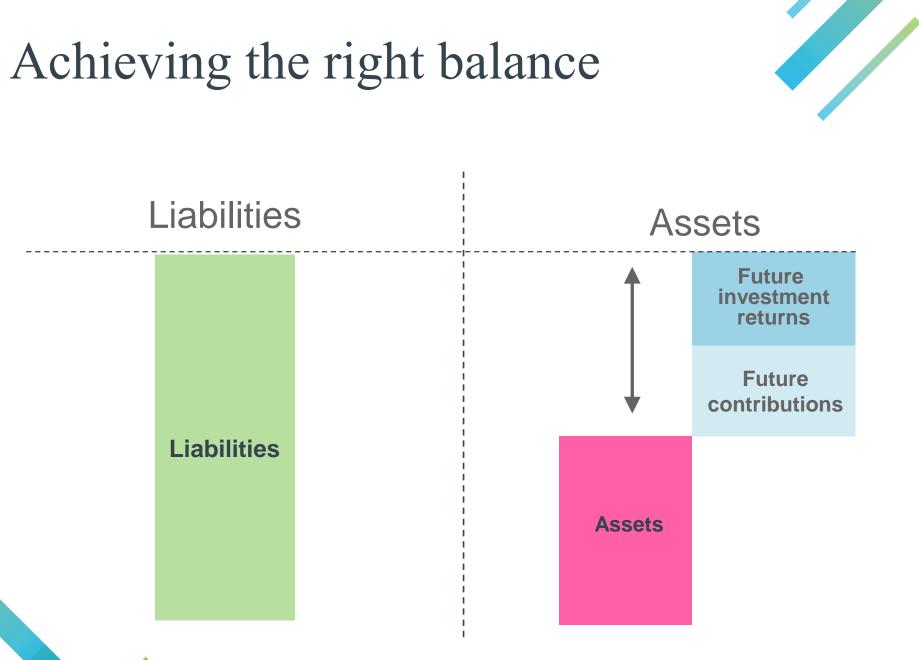
> \*NEW\* Pensions Act 2013 (section 13)



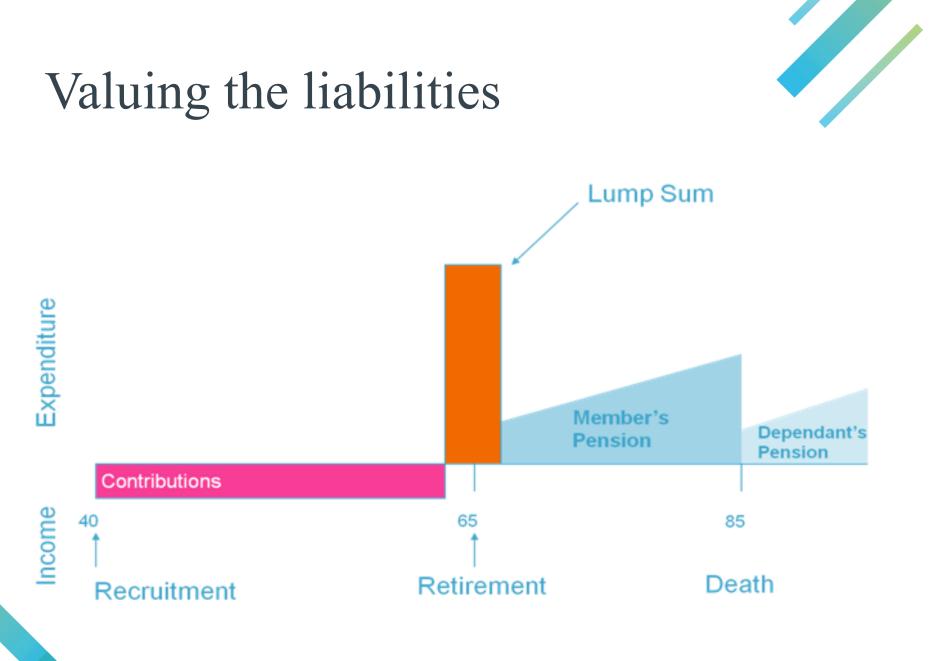


# Liabilities and Key Assumptions



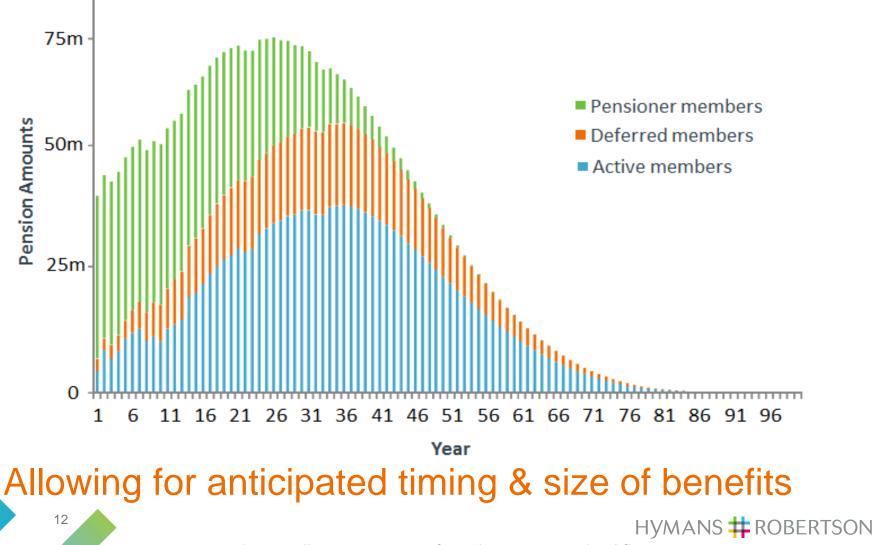


10



11

# Valuing all future benefit payments



Source: Hymans Robertson, illustrative 2016 LB of Croydon Pension Fund cashflows



# Liability valuation - assumptions

### **Financial Assumptions**

- Investment return
- Inflation
- Pay increases
- Pension increases

Consider:

- Economic outlook
- Actual Scheme assets
- Historical pay growth

### **Demographic Assumptions**

- Life expectancy
- Retirement age and cause
- Early leavers

### Consider:

- Population trends
- Members' social status
- Past Scheme experience

HYMANS 井 ROBERTSON

## Valuation results



# 2016 key assumptions



	2013 valuation	2016 valuation
Future investment returns	5.0%	4.4%
Long term <u>inflationary</u> pay growth	3.3%	2.6%*
Pension increases (CPI)	2.5%	2.1%
50:50 take up	10%	5%
Longevity	Bespoke fund analysis	Bespoke fund analysis

\* Blended rate allowing for 1% pa to 2020 and RPI thereafter, and excluding promotional increases

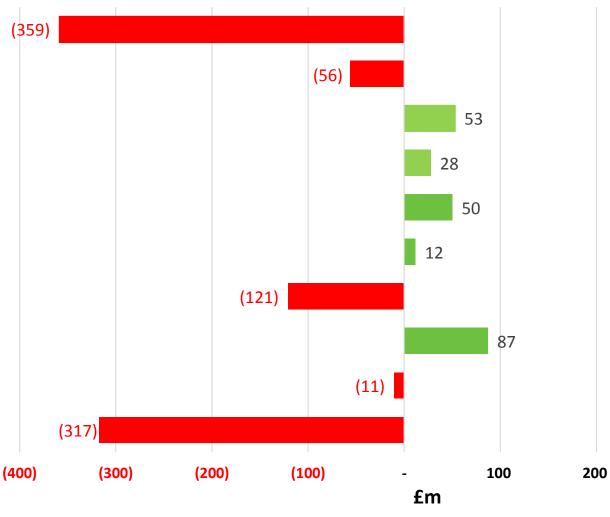
HYMANS # ROBERTSON

# Initial Whole fund valuation results

	31 March 2013 £	31 March 2016 £
Active	327m	339m
Deferred	233m	263m
Pensioner	504m	592m
Total liabilities	1,064m	1,193m
Assets	705m	876m
Deficit	(359m)	(317m)
Funding level	66%	73%

16

# Why has the funding position changed?



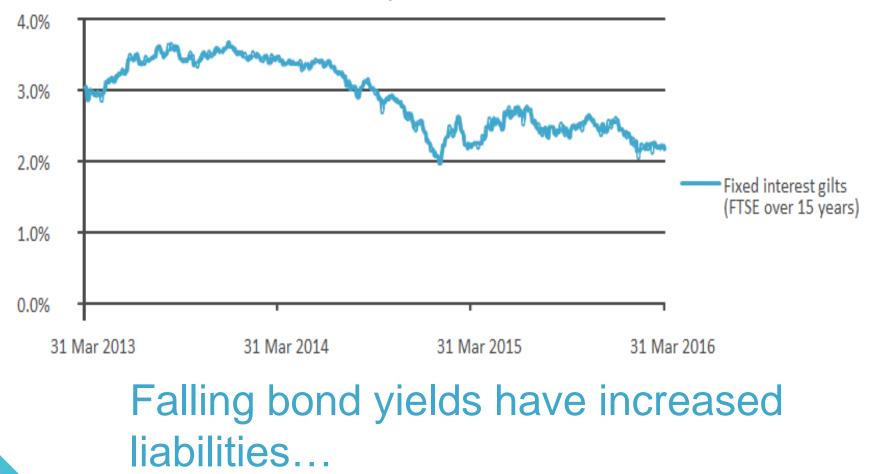
Surplus / (deficit) at last valuation (359) Interest on surplus / (deficit) Investment returns greater than expected Contributions greater than cost of accrual Membership experience over the period Change in demographic assumptions Change in market conditions **Change in financial assumptions** Other experience items Surplus / (deficit) at this valuation

17



# Change in market conditions

UK bond yields since 31 Mar 2013



18

Source: Hymans Robertson statistics based on index returns



## Investment return vs expected



...but asset returns have been stronger than expected

19

# Membership experience



## Pay growth

- Lower than expected
- Does vary across employers
- **Pension increases** (pension increase orders)
  - Expected 2.5% p.a.
  - Actual 2.7%, 1.2%, 0.0%

### Movements

- Fewer ill health retirements than expected
- Fewer early leavers than expected
- Fewer pensioner deaths than expected

## • 50:50 take-up

Lower than expected

## Details, not the headlines

HYMANS 🗰 ROBERTSON



# Whole fund valuation results – SAB basis

	31 March 2016 (HMT basis)
Total liabilities	£1,079m
Assets	£876m
Deficit	(£203m)
Funding level	81%

Reminder - Funding basis required to be prudent by Regs

....GAD have noted HMT basis isn't suitable for funding purposes

HYMANS # ROBERTSON

## Contribution rates



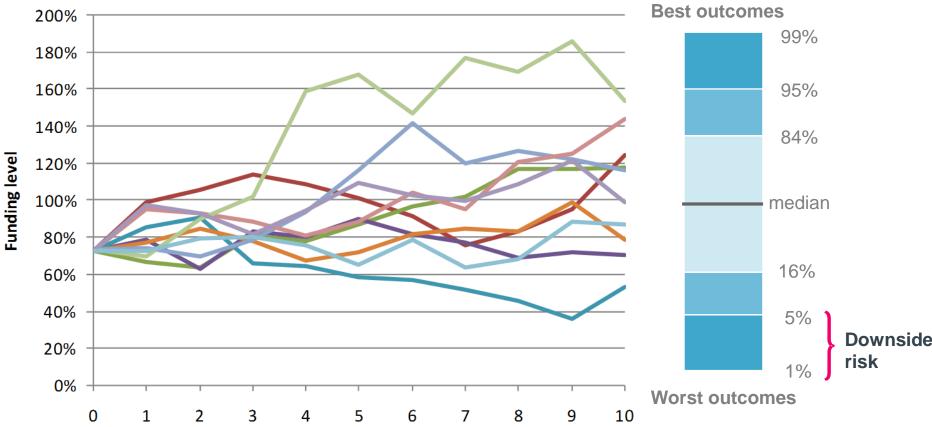


# Not all employers are the same

Councils, Academies	Long term Statutory guarantee Tax-raising
Other statutory (e.g. Colleges)	Medium term? No statutory guarantee No tax-raising powers
Admitted Bodies (e.g. contractors, housing associations, charities)	Short term to cessation? No guarantor or statutory status? Financial strength? (variable over time) Heading for (prudent basis) cessation?

# Employer risk profiling exercise is helping us better understand employers

# Setting contribution rates: Croydon Council

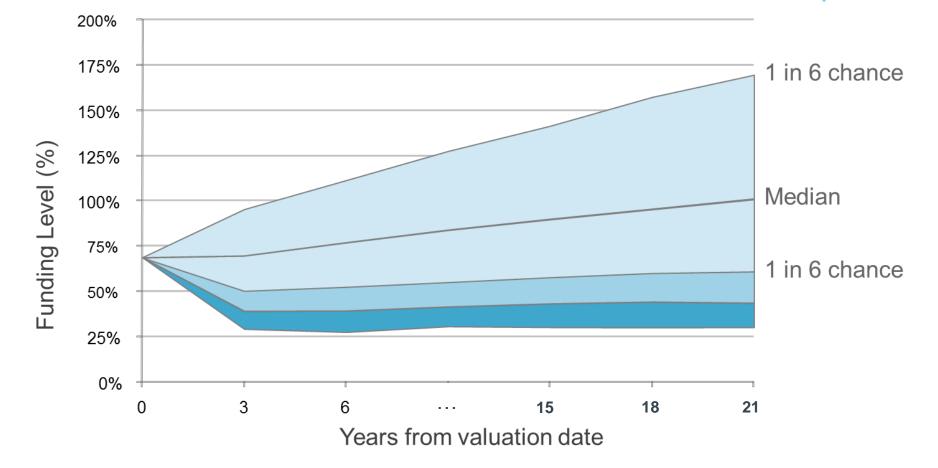


#### Years from now

Assess the likelihood of different outcomes

24

## 5,000 scenarios gives a distribution of outcomes



### Measure probability of meeting funding objective

25

HYMANS **#** ROBERTSON

Source: Hymans Robertson LLP, comPASS, sample fund



# Council contribution strategy

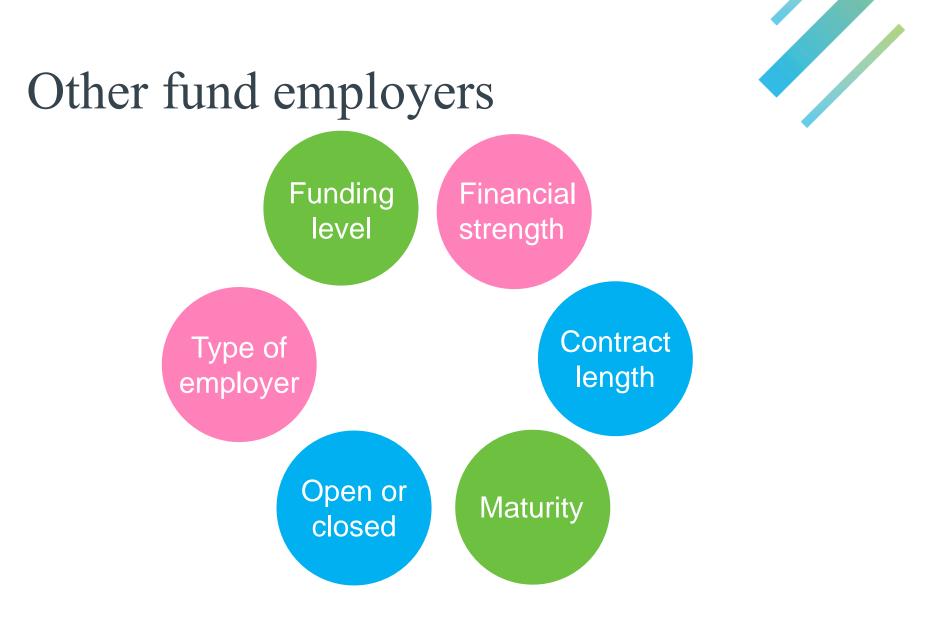
### **Recommended contribution strategy**

Current	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Thereafter
25.2%	25.2%	25.2%	26.2%	+1% / 0% p.a. (capped at 30%)

### **Results of testing contribution strategy**

Long term likelihood of meeting	Average of the worst 5% of			
funding target in 2037	funding levels in 2037			
73%	46%			

HYMANS **#** ROBERTSON



## Recognising all employers are different....

# Setting employer contribution rates

Understand each employer

What is their funding target?

How long to get to their target?

How much risk is acceptable?

### **Contribution rate changes depend on answers to above**

HVMANS # ROBERTSON

# Next steps and summary







HVMANS 🗰 ROBERTSON

- 6<sup>th</sup> December Committee draft Funding Strategy Statement (FSS) and employer results
- Employer forum/surgeries in December
- 7<sup>th</sup> March Committee Agree final employer results and FSS
- Finalise valuation report and contributions by 31 March 2017

# Summary



- Since 2013 valuation, whole fund funding level increased and deficit reduced
- Increased scrutiny on valuation results and decision making process at 2016 valuation
- Proposal that Council contributions are frozen for 2017/18 and 2018/19 then increased by 1% in 2019/20
- Risk based approach being implemented for other employer contribution rates
- Contribution rate changes for these employers will depend on individual circumstances

# Thank you



# **Reliances and Limitations**



- This presentation is addressed to the Pensions Committee of the London Borough of Croydon Pension Fund for its sole use as Administering Authority and not for the purposes of advice to any other party; Hymans Robertson LLP makes no representation or warranties to any third party as to the accuracy or completeness.
- This presentation discusses the current issues in the LGPS and was prepared purely for illustration to employers. Hymans Robertson LLP accepts no liability for any other purpose of this presentation.
- The following Technical Actuarial Standards\* are applicable in relation to this presentation and have been complied with where material:
  - TAS R Reporting;
  - TAS D Data;
  - TAS M Modelling; and
  - Pensions TAS.

\* Technical Actuarial Standards (TASs) are issued by the Financial Reporting Council and set standards for certain items of actuarial work, including the information and advice contained here.



# Appendix



# 2016 progress report

Event	Timescale	Progress
Pre-valuation meeting and agreeing timetable	Feb 2016	
Assumptions discussed with officers	May 2016	
Data received	Sep 2016	
Whole fund results issued to officers	6 Sep 2016	
Submission of results to Scheme Advisory Board	30 Sep 2016	
Contribution strategies tested using ALM	Sept 2016	
Initial Whole fund results to Pensions Committee	18 Oct 2016	0
Employer results discussed with officers	Nov 2016	0
Funding strategy agreed with Pensions Committee	Dec 2016	0
Employer result forum and surgeries	Dec 2016	0
Final employer results and Funding Strategy Statement agreed	Feb/Mar 2017	0
Sign off valuation report and R&A	31 Mar 2017	0

HYMANS **#** ROBERTSON

# Results are sensitive to assumptions about the future

### **Financial assumptions**

Benefit Increases					
		1.9%	2.1%	2.3%	
tes	4.6%	(251)	(284)	(318)	(Deficit)
Ra	4.0%	78%	76%	73%	Funding Level
4.4 Discount Kates	1 10/	(283)	(317)	(352)	(Deficit)
	4.4 /0	76%	73%	71%	Funding Level
	4.2%	(317)	(352)	(388)	(Deficit)
	4.270	73%	71%	69%	Funding Level

### Demographic assumptions

	Peaked improvements	Non-peaked improvements	
(Deficit)	(317)	(344)	
Funding Level	73%	72%	

HYMANS # ROBERTSON

# Key assumptions for funding target

	2013 valuation	2016 valuation	Derivation of assumption
Discount rate (assumed future investment return)	5.0%	4.4%	Change in approach: Gilts plus prudent asset out- performance assumption (AOA) At 2013: AOA = 2.0% p.a. At 2016: AOA = 2.2% p.a.
Long term pay growth	3.3%	2.6%	Change in approach: At 2013: RPI% At 2016: equivalent of RPI - 0.5%
Pension increases (CPI)	2.5%	2.1%	Change in approach: At 2013: CPI = RPI - 0.8% At 2016: CPI = RPI - 1.0%
50:50 take up	10%	5%	Lower than anticipated take up
Longevity	Bespoke fund analysis, peaked improvements, CMI 2010 model for future improvements	CMI 2013 for future improvements	2013 to remove volatility experienced in last two years

37



# Contribution strategies tested

Scenario	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Thereafter*
Fixed	25.2%	25.2%	25.2%	25.2%	25.2%
Status Quo (+/- 1% p.a)	25.2%	26.2%	27.2%	28.2%	+1% / -1% p.a.
Status Quo (with 1 year freeze)	25.2%	25.2%	26.2%	27.2%	+1% / -1% p.a.
Narrower parameters (+/- 0.5% p.a.)	25.2%	25.7%	26.2%	26.7%	+0.5% / -0.5% p.a.
Freeze for year 1 and 2, 1% increase in year 3, +1/-0% thereafter	25.2%	25.2%	25.2%	26.2%	+1% / -0% p.a.
Freeze in year 1 then 0.5% increase in years 2 & 3, +0.5/-0% thereafter	25.2%	25.2%	25.7%	26.2%	+0.5% / -0% p.a.
Freeze in year 1 then 0.5% increase in years 2 & 3, +1.0/-0% thereafter	25.2%	25.2%	25.7%	26.2%	+1% / -0% p.a.

(NB contribution figures include expenses of 1.1%)

38