

Croydon Council

REPORT TO:	Pension Committee 5 June 2018
SUBJECT:	Forward Plan
LEAD OFFICER:	Nigel Cook Head of Pensions and Treasury
CABINET MEMBER	Councillor Simon Hall Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:	
Sound Financial Management: Ensuring that the pension fund is being given appropriate guidance and direction through the governance of the Pension Committee.	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY:	
There are no direct financial consequences to this report. However the implications of decisions taken by this Committee can be significant for the Revenue Account of the Council.	
FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.: N/A	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee note the business plan for the coming year.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 It is recommended best practice for the Pension Committee (the Committee) to regularly review the forward plan. This report proposes a revised 2018/2019 forward plan which forms a business plan for the Committee.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The forward plan below sets out an agenda for each quarterly meeting to be held in the remainder of 2018/2019; however, further items may be added as required by senior officers in consultation with the Chair. There may be a need to add items in response to changing circumstances, such as any issues thrown up by the government's decision to require funds to pool assets, changes to the investment regulations or if there are further global market events requiring actions from the Committee.

- 3.2 As a separate matter, the Committee has decided to visit each of the portfolio's fund managers over a twelve to fifteen month cycle. During the period 2017/2018 members of the Committee visited: Legal & General; Standard Life (now Aberdeen Standard Life), Wellington, Schroders, Pantheon, and Knightsbridge. In June 2017 the Committee set aside a day to meet the roster of new managers, including Temporis, Access, Green Investment Bank, North Sea Capital, M&G and Markham Rae. A potential list of managers to visit during 2018 and into 2019 might include: Access Capital Partners; Temporis; Macquarie (for the Green Investment Bank); I-Squared; North Sea Capital; and M&G. Progress moving assets into the London CIV pooling arrangements will impact upon this schedule.
- 3.3 The Committee has committed to a programme of training and in part, this can be delivered by sessions following on from or preceding the business part of the meeting. The content of training will be informed by the direction of future legislation; and the choice of investment vehicles. A review against the CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework would be invaluable in informing this programme.
- 3.4 With the introduction of the Local Pensions Board, some issues that previously were considered by the Committee are also being addressed by that body. This includes:
- Review of strategy and policy documents such as the Funding Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy Statement;
 - Key Performance Indicators;
 - Engagement with stakeholders;
 - ESG (Ethical, Social and Governance) and voting matters;
 - Assessment of the performance of professional advisors;
 - Consideration of Myners principles;
 - Matters relating to fees; and
 - Other matters of topical interest.
- 3.5 Matters relating to admission agreements, schools converting to academies and other scheme employers will be reported to the Committee on an ad hoc basis.

3.7 The Pension Committee 2018 – 2019 Business Plan

3.7.1 18 September 2018

- Progress report quarter ending June 2018 performance
- KPIs
- Draft Annual Report
- External Auditors Report
- Local Pension Board Annual Report
- Report back from Pensions Board
- Investment Strategy Statement, consider revisions, including
 - Review London CIV against Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) guidance (regulation (7) (2) d)
 - Review of ESG investment principles for inclusion in ISS
- GAD review of funding levels
- Review and adopt:

- Discretion's policy for the Council;
- Training policy for the Committee, Board and officers;
- Cessation Policy;
- Communications Policy; and
- Terms of Reference for the Committee.

3.7.2 4 December 2018

- Progress report quarter ending September 2018 performance
- Risk Register review
- Forward Plan review
- Options for asset transfer into the Fund.
- Adopt revised Investment Strategy Statement
- Review and adopt:
 - Policy for Employers leaving the Fund;
 - Internal Disputes Resolution Policy;
 - Breaches of the Law policy;
 - Administration Strategy;
 - Conflicts of Interest Policy (for the Pensions Board); and
 - Local Pension Board Annual Review.

3.7.3 12 March 2019

- Progress report quarter ending December 2018 performance
- Report back from Pensions Board
- KPIs

3.7.4 May /June 2019

- Progress report quarter ending March 2019 performance
- Governance annual review
- Report back from Pensions Board
- Risk Register review
- Forward Plan review

3.8 This forward plan forms the business plan for the Committee. The Committee are asked to consider any changes necessary to the forward plan and subject to these, agree its adoption.

4 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

5. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 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

6. COMMENTS OF THE SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL

- 6.1 The Solicitor to the Council comments that there are no legal implications arising from the recommendations to the report.

Approved by: Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate Law, for and on behalf of Jacqueline Harris-Baker, Director of Law and Monitoring Officer

CONTACT OFFICER: Nigel Cook, Head of Pensions Investment and Treasury, Resources department, ext. 62552.

APPENDICES: None

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None