

West Northamptonshire Council

Pension Fund Committee

5 December 2023

Mark Whitby - Head of Pensions

Report Title	Northamptonshire Pension Fund Business Plan and Medium-Term
	Strategy Business Plan Update report
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 Good governance requires that updates to the pre-agreed Annual Business Plan and Medium-Term Strategy are provided to the Committee and Board on a regular basis. This update highlights the progress made on the key activities for the period.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Northamptonshire Pension Fund have for many years considered it good governance to have in place a Business Plan and Medium-Term Strategy that is agreed annually and regularly monitored by the Committee and Board.
- 2.2 The report summarises the progress made on each activity for the period under review.
- 2.3 Section 6 of this report provides a progress update for each business plan activity. The table below provides an overview of the RAG status of each activity.

Paragraph	Activity	RAG status
6.1	Re-tender for benefits and governance consultancy	Green
	services.	
6.2	Re-tender for actuarial consultancy services.	Green
6.3	Re-tender for legal services provider.	Green
6.4	Re-tender for pensions administration and pensioner	Green
	payroll platform.	
6.5	Address and mortality screening Services.	Green
6.6	Review and implement changes required from the	Green
	Pension Regulator's new Code of Practice.	
6.7	Continue to review cyber resilience.	Green
6.8	Implement the best practice recommendations of	Green
	the good governance review.	
6.9	Review the administrative performance of the	Green
	Fund's additional voluntary contribution providers.	
6.10	Complete the Guaranteed Minimum Pension	Amber
	Rectification.	
6.11	Application of the McCloud age discrimination	Amber
	remedy.	
6.12	Prepare for the implementation of Pension	Green
	Dashboards.	
6.13	Processing of undecided leaver records.	Amber
6.14	Continue development of the ACCESS asset pool.	Green
6.15	Continue activities within the Fund's Climate Action	Green
	Plan.	
6.16	Implement the revised Investment Strategy.	Green
6.17	Implement recommendations from the review of the	Green
	website and digital communications.	
6.18	Implement equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)	Green
	best practices.	
6.19	Review of investment consultancy contract.	Green

- 2.4 The tables in appendix A provide an update of the Fund account, investment and administration income and expenditure against the cash flow projection outlined in the Annual Business Plan as agreed by the Pension Committee in March 2023. There are no material variances identified.
- 2.5 The link to the full Business Plan approved by the Committee in March 2023 is provided in section 7 for full context and reference.

3. Recommendation

3.1 The Committee is asked to note the Business Plan Update.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- To ensure adequate oversight of the key activities of the Northamptonshire Pension Fund.
- To ensure good governance and compliance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and other relevant legislation and guidance.

5. Report Background

5.1 The Pension Committee approved the Business Plan and Medium-Term Strategy 2023/24 on 29 March 2023.

6. Progress against business plan activities

Procurement of Services

- 6.1 Re-tender for benefits and governance consultancy services
- 6.1.1 Activity: To re-tender for the supplier of benefits and governance consultancy services currently with Aon due to expire 31 March 2024.
- 6.1.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Register to access national LGPS Frameworks.	May 2023.	Completed.
	luna lulu 2022	Commisted
Draft specification of services required an associated documentation.	June – July 2023.	Completed.
Issue invitation to tender to suppliers on the Framework.	September 2023.	Completed.
Evaluate tender responses.	October - November 2023.	On target.
Award contract.	January 2024.	On target.

- 6.1.3 Update: The invitation to tender documentation was published at the end of August with prospective bidders invited to submit responses by midday on 27 October 2023. The evaluation of responses was concluded in November and the contract will be awarded in January 2024.
- 6.2 Re-tender for actuarial consultancy services
- 6.2.1 Activity: To re-tender for the supplier of actuarial services currently with Hymans Robertson due to expire 31 March 2024.

6.2.2 Key milestones:

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Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Register to access national LGPS	May 2023.	Completed.
Frameworks.		
Draft specification of services required	June – July 2023.	Completed.
and associated documentation.		

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Issue invitation to tender to suppliers on the Framework.	October 2023.	Completed.
Evaluate Tender responses.	December 2023.	On target for rescheduled date.
Clarification interview/presentation	January 2024	On target
Award Contract.	February 2024.	On target.

- 6.2.3 Update: The invitation to tender documentation was published in October with prospective bidders invited to submit responses by the end of November. The evaluation stage has been rescheduled for December and a stage has now been added to the process where bidders will be invited for an in-person clarification interview and presentation. The chair of the pension committee will be invited to join and will be able to ask questions to inform the evaluation process but will not be part of the evaluation panel.
- 6.3 <u>Re-tender for legal services provider</u>
- 6.3.1 Activity: To re-tender for the supplier of legal services currently with Squire Patten Boggs due to expire 31 March 2024.

6.3.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Register to access national LGPS	July 2023.	Completed.
Frameworks.		
Draft specification of services required	July – August 2023.	Completed.
an associated documentation.		
Issue invitation to tender to suppliers on	September 2023.	Completed.
the Framework.		
Evaluate tender responses.	October - November 2023.	On target.
Award contract.	December 2023.	On target.

- 6.3.3 Update: The invitation to tender documentation was published in October with prospective bidders invited to submit responses by the end of November. The evaluation of responses was concluded in November and the contract will be awarded in December.
- 6.4 Re-tender for pensions administration and pensioner payroll platform
- 6.4.1 Activity: To re-tender for pensions administration and pensioner payroll platform currently with Heywood that is due to cease in September 2024.

6.4.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
Invitation to Further Competition	April - June 2023.	Completed.
exercise using National LGPS		
Frameworks.		

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
Evaluation and award.	July - September 2023.	Completed.
Year 0 transitional period.	October 2023 - September	Not applicable
	2024.	
Go Live.	1 October 2024.	On target.

- 6.4.3 Update: Invitation to further competition was published 24 April 2023 with a closing date for responses of 19 June 2023. All suppliers on the framework submitted a bid and following the scoring and moderation process the contract was awarded to the incumbent supplier, Heywood Pension Technologies.
- 6.5 Review address and mortality screening services
- 6.5.1 Activity: The current contract for address tracing and mortality screening ceases in June 2023 with no ability to extend.

Following the 12 month extension of the contract a long term approach is now required from June 2024 onwards.

6.5.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Develop a contract to enable the continuation of services past June 2023 (with the assistance of legal services).	April - May 2023.	Completed.
Both parties to sign up to new contract on existing terms.	May 2023.	Completed.
Review new LGPS Framework offerings and internal Fraud Hub options.	Rescheduled to January 2024 (assuming Framework is released on schedule).	On target for rescheduled date
Develop approach for procurement of address and mortality screening services.	March 2024.	On target.

6.5.3 Update: A new contract has been entered into with Accurate Data Services on existing terms for a period of 12 months. In December 2023 the LGPS National Framework is due to be released and Officers will review alongside the Government Fraud Hub. The procurement approach will subsequently be developed by the end of March.

Core governance activities

- 6.6 Review and implement changes required from the Pension Regulator's new Code of Practice
- 6.6.1 Activity: In March 2021 the Pensions Regulator launched a consultation on its revised code of practice for the pensions industry. The responses to the consultation have taken the Pensions Regulator longer than expected to digest and as such the new code of practice was expected to come into force early 2023. Once the code of practice is in force, the Fund will have six months to achieve full compliance with its contents.

6.6.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Develop an action plan of changes required on launch of code of practice.	TBC.	Awaiting release of the Code.
Present action plan to the Pension Fund Committee and Pension Board.	TBC.	Awaiting release of the Code.
Present update on progress on action plan to the Pension Fund Committee and Pension Board.	TBC.	Awaiting release of the Code.

- 6.6.3 Update: The singular Code of Practice was due to be released by the Pensions Regulator in April 2023, but it did not materialise at this time. Once the Code is released funds will have 6 months to become fully compliant and an action plan will be developed to ensure this is achieved.
- 6.7 <u>Continue to review cyber resilience</u>
- 6.7.1 Activity: Cyber-crime will continue to evolve and become increasingly sophisticated and as such this area will be regularly reviewed and monitored. The cyber action plan will be updated as and when necessary.

6.7.2 Key milestones

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Ongoing monitoring and development of the cyber strategy and action plan via the Business Plan Updates at each	April 2023 – March 2024.	On target.
meeting of the Pension Committee and Pension Board.		

- 6.7.3 Update: Activities are continuing to be undertaken against the Cyber Resilience Action Plan and three additional activities have also been added. The plan can be located in appendix B of the report (exempt).
- 6.8 Implement the best practice recommendations of the good governance review
- 6.8.1 Activity: Following consultation with LGPS stakeholders, in February 2021, a number of recommendations for improvement were identified. Some would require the input of DLUHC to amend scheme regulations and publish statutory guidance, others by SAB and others for Funds to implement as best practice. The standards are due to be issued in 2023.

6.8.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
Develop an action plan to implement	TBC.	Awaiting release
the best practice activities.		of the standards.

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
Present update on progress on action	TBC.	Awaiting release of
plan to the Pension Fund Committee and		the standards.
Pension Board.		
Implementation of activities requiring	TBC.	Awaiting release of
SAB and DLUHC guidance.		the standards.

- 6.8.3 Update: The good governance review standards are now due to be released early 2024.
- 6.9 Review the administrative performance of the Fund's additional voluntary contribution providers
- 6.9.1 Activity: The administrative performance of Prudential began to deteriorate in mid-2020 and in February 2022, Prudential's performance had still not improved. Aon was commissioned to undertake a further review of both Standard Life and Prudential's administrative performance in October 2022.

 The decision was to review again in a further 12 months and to include investment

6.9.2 Key milestones:

performance.

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Present to the Pension Committee the findings of the independent review alongside any recommendations for action (the timing of this will depend on the co-operation of the AVC providers in providing the necessary information for analysis by Aon.	October 2023.	Completed.

6.9.3 Update: The findings of the AVC review was presented to the Pension Committee in October and the Local Pension Board in November. Actions have been identified as part of the review which are already underway.

Scheme member and data projects

- 6.10 Complete the Guaranteed Minimum Pension Rectification
- 6.10.1 Activity: To complete the rectification stage for scheme members, making adjustments to pensions in payment where necessary.

6.10.2 Key milestones:

•	ne y milestones.		
	Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
	Manual rectification of outstanding	April 2023 – March 2024.	To be re-
	records.		evaluated in
			January 2024.

6.10.3 Update: As at 30 September, 31% of cases have been completed. As the project was running several weeks ahead of schedule, resources have been temporarily diverted to processing of undecided leavers activity (6.13) until 1 January 2024 when resources will be returned to this activity. The project is estimated to conclude by 30 June 2024 should it recommence as planned.

6.11 Application of the McCloud age discrimination remedy

6.11.1 Activity: The pension records of scheme members within scope of the McCloud ruling will be rectified following the implementation of the age discrimination remedy, expected via amendment to legislation on 1st October 2023.

6.11.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Respond to DLUHC consultation on draft regulations (delayed from 2022 and still pending release).	June 2023.	Completed.
Devise communication plan for members and scheme employers.	September 2023 (rescheduled from May 2023).	Completed.
Undertake scheme member record preparations to identify members in scope of remedy in readiness for the application of the underpin.	April 2023 – September 2023.	Completed.
Application of the revised underpin following release of amended LGPS Regulations.	October 2023 onwards.	Ongoing.

6.11.3 Update: DLUHC launched a further consultation on supplementary McCloud issues and draft regulations in May 2023 and a response was submitted on behalf of the Cambridgeshire Pension Fund. DLUHC subsequently announced the outcome of the consultation on 8 September, and laid The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2023, which took effect from 1 October 2023.

Officers received training from Aon on 12 September 2023 in preparation of the changes. The Northamptonshire Pension Fund has 13,897 members (15,119 employment records) in scope of the remedy for which further guidance is awaited from DLUHC to apply the remedy and calculate any retrospective adjustments. Additional cases may come to light when other LGPS and Public Sector Service is identified putting current non eligible members into scope.

The Fund's administration system is largely applying the underpin as expected. There will be some continued development in this area where issues are identified. In the meantime, there will be elements of manual intervention to ensure there is no detriment to members or backlogs accruing.

McCloud web pages have been created for members and employers, which link through to centrally produced McCloud resources and wording provided by the LGA has been inserted into existing letters for cases from 1 October 2023 where the underpin applies. The next

step is to review LGA template letters received that satisfy the disclosure requirements and communicate these in the most effective manner. Communications have also been developed and uploaded to Member Self Service accounts to meet disclosure regulations, in addition supplementary signposting via email, newsletters and the website has been provided. For members who have opted out of electronic communications and deferred members where we do not hold an email address letters have been sent.

A draft version of the 'McCloud prioritisation policy' was circulated by LGA on behalf of DLUHC on 12 October with the intention to release the final version early 2024. Officers will review the draft policy ahead of the release date and start preparations where possible. The administrator guidance is currently in development.

6.12 Prepare for the implementation of Pension Dashboards

6.12.1 Activity: In the 2016 Budget, the Government made a commitment that Pension Dashboards would be created by the pensions industry, enabling pension savers to view details of all their pensions together.

The activity will be updated following the DWP announcement to reset the Pension Dashboard Programme and the delay to connection deadlines.

6.12.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Continue to work with the pensions administration software supplier to connect to a Pensions Dashboard by revised deadline which is TBC.	TBC following project reset.	TBC once DLUHC issue staging guidance.
Undertake project plan activities to enable connection to the Dashboard including data cleansing activities.	TBC.	TBC once DLUHC issue staging guidance.
Connect to the Dashboard.	31 October 2026.	On target.
Pension Dashboard Go Live.	TBC.	TBC.

6.12.3 Update: A staging timetable will be set out in connection guidance and is due to be released late 2023. The staging timetable will indicate when schemes are scheduled to connect, based on their size and type. The table will be updated when the guidance is published to ensure the Fund is compliant with the new requirements. In the meantime, PASA has published value data guidance which provides schemes with good practice approaches to providing data to the dashboards.

6.13 Processing of undecided leaver records

6.13.1 Activity: To reduce the backlog by 2,500 cases per year for the next 2.5 years from a baseline of approximately 8,300 at March 2023.

6.13.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
Reduce aged cases by 2,500.	April 2023 – March 2024.	On target.
Reduce aged cases by 2,500.	April 2024 – March 2025.	On target.
Reduce aged cases to BAU baseline	April 2025 – September	On target.
(<2,000).	2025.	

6.13.3 Update: The baseline at April 2023 was just under 8,500 cases. As at 31 October 2023 the aged cases outstanding are down to 7,196, a drop of 1,277 cases (15%) from the revised April 2023 baseline and 1,713 cases (19.2%) down from the high point in November 2022. Progress during October was restricted due to the team's resources being directed towards the implementation of the McCloud remedy. Due to the resourcing risks associated with McCloud this activity has been moved to a RAG status of Amber.

Investment related activities

6.14 Continue development of the ACCESS asset pool

6.14.1 Activity: The ACCESS asset pool Authorised Contractual Scheme (ACS) sub-fund structure is now at a mature stage with ongoing developments prioritising completing the sub-fund pipeline and putting in place supplementary sub-funds as and when required. Other developments within the ACCESS pool include the non-listed work programme, Operator re-procurement, and the Phase II ESG/RI procurement.

6.14.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Development of ACS sub-fund pipeline.	April 2023 – October 2024.	On target.
Non-listed (property, infrastructure, private equity, private debt) programme development.	April 2023 – December 2024.	On target.
ESG/RI Phase II procurement and reporting developments.	April 2023 – March 2025.	Revised timeline being set December 2023
Operator re-procurement.	April 2023 – March 2025.	On target.

6.14.3 Update: UK Core Real Estate Mandate has been awarded to CBRE. For the UK Alternative Building Blocks, Apex/ACCESS focus will be on impact investing, affordable housing and long lease investments. PIRC has been appointed to provide external advice and support in respect of the implementation of the RI Guidelines and, in particular, delivery of the reporting requirements. This activity has been moved back to a RAG status of Green following the re-commencement of non-listed activity.

6.15 Continue activities within the Fund's Climate Action Plan

6.15.1 Activity: During 2023-24 the Fund will continue to focus on the milestone dates within the plan which are key to ensure the Fund is on the correct path to achieve "net-zero" carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest.

6.15.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
To complete the activities against the	April 2023 to March 2024	On target.
Climate Action Plan		

6.15.3 Update: Implementation of the Climate Aware Passive equities has been completed and this has been reported to the Sept ISC (UBS Climate Aware and Osmosis). In May 2023 the Investment Sub Committee reviewed the progress against decarbonisation targets, adopted a new primary metric for monitoring progress against the existing decarbonisation targets and agreed to include Scope 3 emissions in the Fund's target setting once reporting improves. In November 2023 the ISC received a positive progress update, with carbon intensity in connection with the Fund's equity portfolio assessed as having reduced by circa 53.5% as at 30 June 2023 against a 2030 target of a 59% reduction.

6.16 Implement the revised Investment Strategy

6.16.1 Activity: A review of the Fund's investment strategy was undertaken in March 2023 resulting in changes to its strategic asset allocation (SAA). Work will be undertaken throughout 2023-24 to implement these changes.

6.16.2 Key milestones:

KCy milestories.		
Key Milestones	Dates	On target for completion?
Listed (UK) equity sales to fund increase in index-linked Gilts allocation.	June 2023.	Completed.
Consideration of preferred characteristics of new commitments for Infrastructure.	May 2023.	Completed.
Investment into M&G MAC fund following equity sales.	June 2023.	Completed.
Republish Investment Strategy.	December 2023.	Complete.
Investment into long-lease property via ACCESS.	Q4 2024	On target.
Investment into timberland via ACCESS	2024	On target.

6.16.3 Update: Work has been processed to switch the segregated Index Linked Gilts to UBS pooled funds, expected to complete January 2024.

In August 2023, sales of UK Equity were used to fund a +2.5% increase in allocation to M&G Multi-Asset Credit, a further +2.5% due to be allocated to BlueBay MAC once the ESG MAC launched by the ACCESS. In November 2023, due to ongoing delays with the ESG MAC product launch within ACCESS (now January 2024), a decision was made in consultation with the S151 Officer to increase the BlueBay MAC allocation outside of ACCESS to match the Strategic Asset Allocation agreed by the Committee.

Following the ISC's decision to implement a 1% allocation to timberland, APEX are now scoping out a pooled offering, with a chosen supplier expected to be available by the end of 2024. In November 2023, the ISC approved a 3% allocation into the Aviva Lime Property Fund through ACCESS.

Communications

- 6.17 Implement recommendations from the review of the website and digital communications
- 6.17.1 Activity: A review of the Fund's websites was carried out in 2022/23, the review assessed whether the website was still fit for purpose in meeting the needs of stakeholders and explored alternative options including moving the hosting of the member related information pages away from our software supplier Heywood and hosting both member and employer pages internally on a single website.

Approval from the Pension Committee was grated to implement the recommendation from the review.

6.17.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
Funding for the website development approved.	March 2023.	Completed.
Resources in place eg recruitment.	May 2023.	Completed.
High fidelity designs created.	August 2023.	Completed.
New website built.	March 2024.	Completed.

- 6.17.3 Update: High fidelity designs partly based on the .gov.uk approach to web design have been created and user testing of the different options has begun. The project is currently and expected to remain within the agreed budget of £30,000.
- 6.18 <u>Implement equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) best practices</u>
- 6.18.1 Activity: The Pensions Regulator has published guidance to help improve pension schemes' equality, diversity and inclusion. Pension schemes have legal duties to scheme members, and good decision making is key to ensuring those duties are met. EDI supports robust discussion and effective decision making and is an important consideration for schemes. The Northamptonshire Pension Fund will be aiming to improve its equality, diversity and inclusion via these best practices.

6.18.2 Key milestones:

Key Milestones.	Dates.	On target for completion?
Fully review TPR guidance and produce an action plan, including delivery of relevant training.	October 2023– March 2024.	On target.

6.18.3 Update: The Pensions Regulator issued a survey to Board members in July 2023 with the intention to collect views on equality, diversity and inclusion. The responses were anonymised and used to improve EDI for pension scheme governing bodies. The next stage is to produce an action plan of the activities the Fund needs to undertake to improve EDI outcomes.

6.19 Review of investment consultancy contract

6.19.1 Activity: To consider an extension to the contract with the Fund's Investment Consultant from the expiry date of September 2024.

6.19.2 Key Milestones:

Key Milestones	Dates	On target for
		completion?
For the Committee to consider an	December 2023.	On target.
extension to the current contract by		
up to 3 years.		

6.19.3 Update: The Pension Committee will be asked to formally consider an extension at the December Committee meeting. The maximum available extension is 3 years.

7 Implications (including financial implications)

7.1 Resources and Financial

- 7.1.1 The financial estimates and associated budgets included with the Business Plan and Medium-Term Strategy were approved by the Pension Committee on 29 March 2023.
- 7.1.1 Performance against the financial estimates in the Business Plan will be presented to the Pension Committee and Board each meeting. The Business Plan sets out the cost of each activity where known and where costs become known during the course of the year the Pension Committee and Board will be updated accordingly.

7.2 Legal

7.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals. All procurement undertaken has been in line with procurement legislation and procedures.

7.3 **Risk**

7.3.1 The mitigated risks associated with this report has been captured in the Fund's risk register as detailed below –

Risk	Residual risk rating
Those charged with the governance of the Fund and	Green
scheme are unable to fulfil their responsibilities effectively	
Pension Fund objectives are not defined and agreed.	Green
Failure to provide relevant information to the Pension	Green
Committee/Pension Board to enable informed decision	
making.	

7.3.2 Please see the Northamptonshire Pension Fund Risk Register Executive Summary.

7.4 Relevant Pension Fund Objectives

- 7.4.1 The following objectives as per the Business Plan have been considered in this report -
 - To have robust governance arrangements in place, to facilitate informed decision making, supported by appropriate advice, policies and strategies, whilst ensuring compliance with appropriate legislation and statutory guidance.
 - To continually monitor and measure clearly articulated objectives through business planning.
 - To continually monitor and manage risk, ensuring the relevant stakeholders are able to mitigate risk where appropriate.

7.5 Consultation

7.5.1 Not applicable. The Business Plan is best practice to ensure the Fund is managed appropriately and transparently.

8. Background Papers

8.1 Agenda for Pensions Fund Committee on Wednesday 29th March 2023, 4.00 pm - West Northamptonshire Council (moderngov.co.uk)

Appendix A – Variances against the forecast of investments and administration expenses based on original setting of assumptions

Fund Account	2023/24	2023/24	Variance	Comments
	Budget £000	Forecast £000	£000	-
Contributions	(117,000)	(119,000)	(2,000)	Contributions in line with current membership numbers.
Transfers in from other pension funds	(10,500)	(18,000)	(7,500)	Demand led.
Total income	(127,500)	(137,000)	(9,500)	
Benefits payable	118,000	115,000	(3,000)	Benefits in line with current membership numbers.
Payments to and on account of leavers	10,000	10,300	300	Demand led.
Total Payments	128,000	125,300	(2,700)	
Net (additions)/withdrawals from dealings with members	500	(11,700)	(12,200)	
Management Expenses (Invoiced)	4,078	4,157	79	See below
Management Expenses (Non-Invoiced)	13,100	12,200	(900)	Fees from prior year plus actuarial growth assumption on AUM at June 23 to March 24.
Total Management Expenses	17,178	16,357	(821)	
Total income less expenditure	17,678	4,657	(13,021)	
Investment income	(31,000)	(24,600)	6,400	Actual income received to Q1
Taxes on income	-	-	-	plus three estimated quarters.
(profit) and losses on disposal of investments and changes in the market value of investments	(138,000)	(158,000)	(20,000)	Actual Q1 return followed by actuarial long term growth assumption
Net return on investments	(169,000)	(182,600)	(13,600)	

Net (increase)/decrease	(151,322)	(177,943)	(26,621)
in the net assets			
available for benefits			
during the year			

Management	2023-24	2023-24	Variance	Comments
Expenses	Budget	Forecast		
	£000	£000	£000	
Total Administration Expenses	2,784	2,791	7	See below.
Total Governance Expenses	814	884	70	Payroll for final IHLI termination account from 2021 - not included in 23/24 budget. ¹
Total Investment Invoiced Expenses	480	482	2	
Total Management Expenses	4,078	4,157	79	

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¹ Settlement of ill health insurance with Legal and General. Delays in payments are due to allowing for an extended period after the policy end date to ensure no further claims will arise and updates to the data provided that required several iterations before accurately calculating the final settlement figure.

Administration	2023-24	2023-24	Variance	Comments
Expenses Analysis	Budget	Forecast		
	£000	£000	£000	
Staff Related	1,819	1,845	26	Budget based on estimated 23/24 pay rates, higher than expected pay awards received.
Altair administration and payroll system	397	377	(20)	
Data assurance	21	26	5	A more proactive approach to address tracing has been undertaken in preparation for Dashboards.
Communications	51	50	(1)	
Other Non-Pay and Income	29	26	(3)	
County Council Overhead Recovery	467	467	-	
Total Administration Expenses	2,784	2,791	7	