

Croydon Council

REPORT TO:	PENSION COMMITTEE 20 June 2017
AGENDA ITEM:	6
SUBJECT:	Review of the Croydon Council Local Government Pension Scheme Communication Policy Statement
LEAD OFFICER:	Executive Director of Resources and (Section 151 Officer)
CABINET MEMBER	Councillor Simon Hall Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: Sound Financial Management: The Pensions Committee is reviewing 'Communication Policy Statement' as part of an annual review of the Fund's policy documents.	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY: There are no financial considerations arising from this report.	
FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.: N/A	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS
1.1 The Committee is asked to approve the Communication Policy Statement.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The regulations governing the Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS) state that the administering authority has to publish and keep under review a Communication Policy. This policy describes how the administering authority communicates with all of its stakeholders.

DETAIL

- 3.1 The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations requires each administering authority to prepare, formulate and publish a statement setting out its policy on communications to its stakeholders. The aim of this communication policy is to make sure that all stakeholders are kept informed of developments within the Pension Fund. Publication of such a policy document should go

towards ensuring greater transparency for all stakeholder groups, including Scheme members, employers and tax payers. Effective communications will help to ensure the efficient running of the Scheme.

3.2 Due to a number of factors, such as relative stability in the regulation of the Scheme, there are no immediate plans to hold an open day. Consequently reference to this channel of communications has been removed from this version of the policy. Other changes are cosmetic.

3.3 The revised Communication Policy document is attached to this report at Appendix A. It describes the way that the Council, as administering authority for the LGPS, intends to communicate with stakeholders. The Council aims to use the most appropriate communication method for the audiences receiving the information. This may involve using more than one medium of communication. Reviewing the policy has provided an opportunity for minor amendments to the text but the substantive policy remains the same as previously adopted by this Committee, with the exception of the reference to open days mentioned above..

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The recommendation is that the Pension Committee approve the revised Communication Policy Statement, subject to any comments.

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 Solicitor to the Council comments that there are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

7.2 (Approved for and on behalf of Jacqueline Harris-Baker, Director of Law, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer)

CONTACT OFFICER:

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

Appendices

Appendix A: Communication Policy Statement