

Report of the Section 151 Officer

Pension Fund Committee – 12 August 2014

**LGPS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2014
DRAFT REGULATIONS ON SCHEME GOVERNANCE - CONSULTATION**

Purpose:	To participate in the Department for Communities and Local Government consultation exercise on Draft Regulations on Scheme Governance
Reason for Decision:	To approve the City & County of Swansea response to the aforementioned consultation exercise
Consultation:	Legal, Finance and Access to Services.
Recommendation:	It is recommended that the response on behalf of the City & County of Swansea to the DCLG consultation exercise on the Draft Regulations on Scheme Governance attached at Appendix 2 be approved
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Legal Officer:	Deb Smith
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Draft Regulations LGPS Governance

1 Background

- 1.1 The City & County of Swansea Pension Fund governance arrangements are in line with current guidance issued by DCLG which were on a comply or explain basis and were adopted by Council in Sep 2009.
- 1.2 Draft Regulations on scheme governance (attached at Appendix 1) were issued for consultation at the end of June 2014. The consultation exercise requested comments on certain elements of the regulations. The proposed response for the City & County of Swansea is attached at Appendix 2.

1.3 The draft regulations include proposals re:

- 1) Establishment of Local Pension Boards;
- 2) Clear guidance on the membership of Local Pension Boards;
- 3) Establishment of a national Pension Scheme Advisory Board;
- 4) Wider employer and scheme member representation on Local Pension Board;
- 5) Restricted elected member (in relation to other members) representation on Local Pension Board;
- 6) Formal scrutiny of decision making body ;
- 7) Minimum competence/knowledge /training requirements of Local Pension Board members;
- 8) How the Boards are to be funded;
- 9) How the Local Pension Board is to be established.

2 Local Arrangements

2.1 Appendix 1 contains the draft regulations, however it can be assumed that the final regulations will not be materially different when issued later in the year. It is also planned by DCLG to issue accompanying guidance re. the work of the Local Pension Boards.

2.2 Therefore a body of work has been identified to formulate proposals for the local arrangements for the City & County of Swansea Local Pension Board in consultation with all interested stakeholders to determine its terms of reference, membership and support and monitoring arrangements.

2.3 A further report outlining the final proposals will be taken to full Council and the Pension Fund Committee pending issuance of Final regulations and accompanying guidance in readiness for implementation by 1/4/15.

3 Legal Implications

3.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5 Equality and Engagement Implications

5.1 There are no equality and engagement implications arising from this report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - LGPS (Amendment) Regulations 2014 - Draft Regulations on Scheme Governance.

Appendix 2 - City & County of Swansea response to the consultation exercise.