



## Report of the Section 151 Officer

Pension Fund Committee – 11 July 2019

### Admission Body Application – The Wallich

<b>Purpose:</b>	To approve the admission body application for The Wallich.
<b>Reason for Decision:</b>	To ensure compliance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended).
<b>Consultation:</b>	Legal, Finance and Access to Services.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	It is recommended that:  1.The Pension Fund Committee approves the Admission Body Application of The Wallich, subject to completion of a satisfactory Admission Agreement (which recognises the start date of the contract)  2. The Deputy Chief Finance Officer is given delegated authority to finalise the Admission Agreement with appointed legal advisors as outlined in this report.
<b>Report Author:</b>	J Dong
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	J Dong
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	S Williams
<b>Access to Services Officer:</b>	R Millar

## 1 Background

- 1.1 The Local Government Pension Regulations 2013 permit an Administering Authority to make an admission agreement with :

*“a body which provides a public service in the United Kingdom which operates otherwise than for the purposes of gain and has sufficient links with a Scheme employer for the body and the Scheme employer to be regarded as having a community of interest”*

- 1.2 The City & County of Swansea Pension Fund already has a number of such employers admitted into the scheme e.g Celtic Community Leisure and Rathbone Training, Freedom Leisure.

## **2 The Wallich**

- 2.1 Following a service review exercise by scheduled employer, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPT CBC) undertaken previously, Tai Tarian (previously called Neath Port Talbot Homes) were appointed to run housing services on behalf of NPTCBC. An element of that service supporting those affected by homelessness has subsequently been re-tendered and The Wallich have been appointed for a 3 year term.

- 2.2 The Wallich are a genuine not for profit organisation with HMRC approved exempt charity status. They have been providing accommodation and support services for homeless people since 1978, starting with a 20-bed hostel in Cardiff and expanding to a multi-project agency working in mostly all Local Authorities in Wales. They specialise in providing services for people with multiple, complex needs; people who, because of their high support needs, are often excluded from other services and have difficulty in accessing accommodation. The range of services The Wallich offers is as diverse as the client group they work with and the underlying aim is to ensure all people have access to support appropriate to their needs. Long term solutions, rather than short term fixes, are developed in partnership with the client. Over 30 years' experience of working with vulnerable people have resulted in working practices which have evolved into a unique and effective way of working with their clients.

- 2.3 The contract for services commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 to run for 3 years.

## **3 Admission Agreement**

- 3.1 Under the contract conditions, the current eligible workforce are transferred under TUPE arrangements from the current employer, Tai Tarian to The Wallich. In order to preserve the pension rights of the transferred staff, it is proposed that The Wallich are granted Admitted Body status to the City & County of Swansea Pension Fund. It is proposed that the admission agreement is granted on a closed scheme basis, to include only the named staff in schedule 1 of the admission agreement.

- 3.2 The admission agreement shall require the requisite indemnity bond or sponsoring employer guarantee is secured from the sponsoring employer, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. The Administering Authority shall also undertake the appropriate risk assessment of the admitted body, The Wallich.

## **4 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 An Admission Agreement will need to be prepared as outlined in this report with the appropriate indemnity included.

## **5 Financial Implications**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **6 Equality and Engagement Implications**

6.1 There are no equality and engagement implications arising from this report

**Background Papers:** None.

**Appendices:** None.

