
**PENSION FUND UNAUDITED ANNUAL REPORT AND
ACCOUNTS 2020/21**

Report by Executive Director Finance and Regulatory

AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

29 June 2021

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 **This report provided the Committee with an opportunity to scrutinize and approve the Draft unaudited Annual Report and Accounts for the Pension Fund for 2020/21 prior to their submission to the External Auditors.**
- 1.2 The Local Government Pension Scheme Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2010 specify the elements which must be contained in the Annual Report and Accounts, the list of these are contained in para 3.1. The draft Report and Accounts contained in Appendix 1 fully meets these requirements.
- 1.3 The draft unaudited Annual Report and Accounts were presented to the Joint Pension Fund Committee and the Pension Fund Board on 10 June 2021 for approval of submission to External Auditors and publication for Inspection by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2020.
- 1.4 The draft Report and Accounts are still subject to statutory Audit, which will commence early August 2021. Following the statutory Audit process the final Report and Accounts will be submitted to the Joint Pension Fund Committee and Pension Fund Board to review with a recommendation for approval.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Audit and Scrutiny Committee notes the Draft Unaudited Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts for 2020/21.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Local Government Pension Scheme Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2010 specifies that the Annual report must contain:
- a) report on the management and financial performance during the year,
 - b) statement on the investment policy for the Fund,
 - c) pensions administration arrangements during the year,
 - d) actuarial valuation statement,
 - e) governance compliance statement,
 - f) fund account and net asset statement,
 - g) annual report on pension administration strategy, and
 - h) details of where to access the current Funding Strategy Statement and Statement of Investment Principles.

4 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2020/21

- 4.1 The draft Annual Report and Accounts for 2020/21 (the Annual Report) is attached at **Appendix 1**. The Annual Report will also be submitted to Audit and Scrutiny Committee on the 29 June 2021 for review prior to submission to the external auditors, Audit Scotland, by 30 June 2021. .
- 4.2 The Annual Report will also be made available for public inspection for a 3-week period commencing 30 June 2021.
- 4.3 It should be noted that the Annual Report remains draft pending the statutory external audit process.
- 4.4 The Committee will receive a copy of the final report at the end of the statutory external audit process prior to its submission to Council and publication.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no financial implications relating to this proposal.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

This report is part of the governance framework to manage the operation of the Pension Fund and reflects the compliance with the best practice recommendations. Risk are managed in line with the Corporate Risk Management framework, with risks and controls monitored and reported on a quarterly basis.

5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

There is no impact or relevance to Equality Duty or the Fairer Scotland Duty for this report. This is routine good governance required under the Local Government Pension Scheme (Governance) (Scotland) Regulations 2014. Nevertheless, a light touch assessment has been conducted and this will be published on SBC's Equality and Diversity Pages of the website demonstrates that equality, diversity and socio –economic factors have duly been considered when preparing this report.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

There are no direct economic, social or environmental issues with this reports which would affect the Council's sustainability.

5.5 Climate Change

There are no direct climate change impacts as a result of this report.

5.6 Rural Proofing

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the contents of this report.

5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

No changes are required as a result of this report.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer), the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Service Director HR and the Clerk to the Council are being consulted and their comments have been included in the report.

6.2 The Joint Pension Fund Committee and Pension Fund Board will consider the Annual Report and Accounts on 10 June 2021. Any comments from this will be reported at the meeting.

Approved by

David Robertson
Executive Director Finance & Regulatory

Signature

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Kirsty Robb	Pension and Investment Manager, 01835 825249

Background Papers:

Previous Minute Reference:

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Pension & Investments Team can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at Pension & Investments Team, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 PSA
Tel: 01835 825249
email: t&cteam@scotborders .gov.uk