

REPORT OF THE
Pension Fund Panel & Board
PART I

268. PENSION FUND POOLING – INTER AUTHORITY AGREEMENT

Executive Summary

1. Hampshire County Council is the Administering Authority for the Hampshire Pension Fund. This includes the management of over £6bn of funds that are invested to pay the current and future pensions of over 154,000 members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) in Hampshire. It also involves managing the scheme on behalf of all LGPS employers in Hampshire. As the administering authority the County Council has fiduciary and public law duties to manage the fund in the best interests of scheme members and scheme employers.

2. In the summer 2015 budget the Chancellor announced the Government's intention to invite Administering Authorities to make proposals for pooling LGPS investments. Following the Autumn Statement on 25 November 2015 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published its criteria for pooling investments focusing on 4 elements:

1. Scale – it is the Government's desire that pools of assets are created with at least £25bn of assets per pool.
2. Strong Governance – authorities are charged with defining the mechanisms by which they can hold the pool to account.
3. Reduced costs – including estimated savings over the next 15 years.
4. Improved capacity to invest in infrastructure through pooling.

3. Subsequently the Government published revised LGPS Management and Investment of Funds Regulations that came into force on 1 November 2016. The Regulations include the power for the Secretary of State to direct a fund to change its investment strategy or direct that a fund's investment function is undertaken by another organisation if the Secretary of State determines that a fund is failing to act in accordance with guidance issued, including the guidance to pool investments according to the criteria above.

4. The Pension Fund Panel and Board has previously agreed that Hampshire County Council join the ACCESS pool, which made a submission to the Government for pooling in July 2016, and which was reported to the Panel and Board. Hampshire County Council has already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the 10 other authorities in the pool to underpin the initial work of establishing the group and developing detailed proposals for investment pooling. ACCESS contains the following other funds:

Cambridgeshire	Kent
East Sussex	Norfolk
Essex	Northamptonshire
Hertfordshire	Suffolk
Isle of Wight	West Sussex

5. ACCESS's July 2016 submission to Government was based on pooling investments via a Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) that would be administered and maintained by a third party Operator, which it was believed at that time to be the Government's preferred means of investment pooling. Following an initial letter from the Chairman of the Panel and Board to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in September 2016 all of the ACCESS funds agreed that the Government's pooling criteria could be met without the cost and complexity of a CIV Operator, through Collaborative Joint Procurement. In this way, greater savings could be achieved. ACCESS therefore put forward an amendment to its July 2016 submission in December 2016 to base the pool on Collaborative Joint Procurement instead of a CIV Operator.

6. The Minister has by letter dated 27 January 2017 indicated that ACCESS should form its pool based on a CIV Operator rather than through Collaborative Joint Procurement. However, the rationale for this, given the additional costs associated with the CIV Operator approach is unclear. It is also not clear whether the Minister's letter constitutes a direction under the 2016 Investment Management Regulations. The ACCESS funds are conscious that they have fiduciary and public law duties to manage their funds in the best interests of scheme members and employees. The ACCESS group is therefore seeking further clarification from the Minister before deciding on the appropriate approach to implement pooling, taking into account the Minister's views and also the fiduciary and public law duties.

7. Regardless of which version of investment pooling ACCESS pursues, a legally binding Inter-Authority Agreement will be required in order to define the governance and cost sharing arrangements for the future operation of the pool.

8. This paper seeks approval on appropriate decisions, which have been discussed and are recommended to the County Council by the Hampshire Pension Fund Panel and Board, to enable Hampshire County Council to continue to participate in the ACCESS Pool.

Summary of pooling proposals

9. Investment pooling is intended to create the scale that will enable access to lower Investment Manager fees and deliver cost savings to LGPS funds. In the pooled investment structure individual funds, like Hampshire, will still be responsible for their own investment strategy and asset allocation decisions.

10. Investment pooling will deliver savings in Investment Manager fees. The Pension Fund's current estimate of annual expenditure on investment manager fees is £21.4m (or 0.35% of its total investments of £6.05bn) which is already low for a fund of this size. The estimated annual savings below are based on Hampshire's current

investment management fees and the estimated pool fees that were part of the July 2016 submission compiled by ACCESS with the assistance of the consultants Hymans Robertson. In either of the pooling options (a CIV Operator or Collaborative Joint Procurement) there will be initial setup costs for the project to create the pool, agree the relevant legal documents and appoint the necessary suppliers. It was agreed as part of the MoU that the cost of establishing the pool would be shared equally between the 11 ACCESS funds. The figures below show that the savings in investment managers fees will be over £0.5m per year less if the pool is based on a CIV Operator, due to the cost of having the Operator in place. This is the basis of ACCESS' case to the Government that Collaborative Joint Procurement will better meet the pooling criteria.

	One-off costs	On-going annual Investment Manager fee savings
CIV Operator	£160,000	£5,500,000
Collaborative Joint Procurement	£110,000	£6,030,000

Inter-Authority Agreement

11. The ACCESS funds have jointly commissioned the external legal firm Eversheds to provide assistance in drafting a legally binding Inter Authority Agreement ("IAA") for the pooling of investments. It is not intended that the ACCESS funds will sign an IAA until a decision is made by the ACCESS Authorities on the form of the pool (either a CIV Operator or Collaborative Joint Procurement) following the conclusion of discussions with the Government.

12. The IAA will be based on the governing principles that were agreed by the ACCESS pension funds at the outset of their collaboration in February 2016, including:

- working collaboratively,
- all Councils having an equitable voice in governance,
- avoiding unnecessary complexity, and
- running economically and applying value-for-money considerations.

13. The most significant principles that will be reflected in the IAA are as follows:

Governance

14. The ACCESS Pool will be governed by a Joint Committee constituted under s101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and made up of one elected councillor chosen by each authority from their pension committee. The Joint Committee (or "Joint Governance Committee" as it will be known) will be "hosted" by one of the ACCESS local authorities. The host authority will undertake the secretariat function for the Joint Governance Committee. It is proposed that Kent County Council will be the initial host authority. A Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Governance Committee will be appointed by the members of the Joint Governance Committee. Each elected member will have one vote in any decision requiring a vote, and decisions will be carried by a simple majority with the Chairman having a casting vote if necessary. The full draft constitution of the Joint Governance Committee is attached at Appendix 1.

15. The specific functions that would be delegated to the Joint Governance Committee will depend on the form that the pool takes which is currently being negotiated with the Government;

- If the Pool is based on a CIV Operator the functions delegated to the Joint Governance Committee are specified in Appendix 2.
- If the Pool is based on Collaborative Joint Procurement the functions delegated to the Joint Governance Committee are specified in Appendix 3.

Procurement

16. If the Pool is based on a CIV Operator, then the Joint Governance Committee will oversee the procurement of a CIV Operator. The procurement itself would be undertaken by a “Lead Authority” (one of the ACCESS authorities) on behalf of all of the group. Whilst the Joint Governance Committee will oversee the procurement process and make a recommendation on the preferred supplier, each of the 11 ACCESS local authorities will make their own decisions to enter into a contract with the Operator.

17. If the Pool is based on a Collaborative Joint Procurement Model, then the Joint Governance Committee will oversee the procurement and maintenance of a framework which each of the ACCESS local authorities will be able to use to call off investment managers as required.

Cost Sharing

18. It is the aim of the ACCESS Pool that costs are shared equitably between the member funds. Some costs will be shared equally between the member funds, or costs will be shared according to the value of investments by each fund as follows:

19. Costs to be shared equally between the member funds are:

- The pool establishment costs including strategic and technical advice, legal advice, project management costs and the costs associated with running either the procurement process to appoint a CIV Operator or to set up a collaboratively procured framework of investment managers.
- Under the CIV Operator pool model, any set-up costs charged by the Operator for the overall creation of the sub-fund structure.
- The ongoing costs of managing and governing the pool including the host authorities’ costs of hosting the Joint Governance Committee and providing the secretariat function, the cost of any external advice commissioned by the Joint Governance Committee and the periodic re-procurement processes for either the CIV Operator or investment manager framework.

20. Costs in relation to funds’ investments will be shared according to the value of each fund’s investments, either:

- As charged by the CIV Operator for the sub-funds that each fund is invested in; or
- Charged directly to the funds by Investment Managers they have invested with through Collaborative Joint Procurement.

21. Other costs will not be shared and will be borne by the fund that they are incurred by, which include:

- Each fund's costs of participating in the pool, such as attendance at meetings.
- Any transition costs of moving assets to or within the pool.

Withdrawal and termination

22. Any fund can withdraw from the IAA and therefore the ACCESS Pool by giving 12 months notice. Following the signing of the IAA, any fund that wishes to withdraw from the pool will be liable for its share of the costs (not relating directly to investments) for the remainder of the contract period of the CIV Operator or in the case of Collaborative Joint Procurement a period to be agreed by the Joint Committee after the exit date that could extend to the period of commitment for any open frameworks.

Other Provisions

23. The IAA will cover a number of other standard areas including dispute resolution, information and confidentiality, data protection, freedom of information, equal opportunities, and change in identity of Administering Authorities.

Timescales

24. Government requires LGPS funds to begin transferring their investments into pools by no later than April 2018. In order for the ACCESS Pool to meet this deadline, the procurement processes for either a CIV Operator or Investment Manager Frameworks will need to commence in or around April 2017 and the ACCESS Pool has committed to move forward in a way that will enable either proposal to meet the Government's April 2018 deadline.

25. It is therefore necessary to seek decisions now to enable establishment of the Joint Governance Committee and commence the procurement processes for either proposal. To achieve this, it is necessary for all of the ACCESS Authorities to make decisions at Council meetings in February/March 2017.

26. In the circumstances, agreement is sought to continue to participate in the ACCESS Pool and to delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Chairman of the Pension Fund Panel and Board, to agree the final approach the County Council will take, based on further discussion with Government and the views of the local authorities that make up the ACCESS Pool, and to agree the final wording of the IAA with the other ACCESS local authorities accordingly.

27. Further, at this stage, a decision from the County Council to delegate the relevant functions to the Joint Committee for either approach is needed.

28. The Hampshire Pension Fund Panel and Board has fully considered this matter most recently at a special meeting of the Panel and Board on 31 January 2017. The Panel and Board resolved to make the recommendations below to the County Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That on a recommendation from the Hampshire Pension Fund Panel and Board, the County Council agrees:

- a) To delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Chairman of the Pension Fund Panel and Board to agree the approach to pooling that Hampshire County Council will take, based upon the Government's responses to the two options put forward by the ACCESS Pool and the views of the local authorities that make up the ACCESS Pool.
- b) If the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Chairman of the Pension Fund Panel and Board agrees to adopt pooling based on the use of a CIV Operator, then authority is delegated to the Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Chairman of the Pension Fund Panel and Board to finalise and agree the terms of the IAA in order to implement this model of Pooling, and the Council resolves to delegate the functions to the joint committee as specified in Appendix 2 with effect from the date of execution of the IAA.
- c) If the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Chairman of the Pension Fund Panel and Board agrees to adopt pooling based on Collaborative Joint Procurement, then authority is delegated to Director of Corporate Resources in Consultation with the Chairman of the Pension Fund Panel and Board to finalise and agree the terms of an IAA to implement this model and the Council resolves to delegate the functions to the joint committee as specified in Appendix 3 with effect from the date of execution of the IAA.
- d) That authority is delegated to the Head of Law and Governance to make consequential amendments to the County Council's Constitution to reflect the agreed approach to pooling and the creation of the Joint Governance Committee. Any amendments to the Constitution will be reported to a future meeting of the County Council.

Appendix 1

Draft Constitution of the Joint Committee

Part 1 Membership

1. The Joint Committee shall consist of one elected councillor appointed by each Council. The member so appointed must, at the time of the appointment, be an elected councillor serving as a member of the Committee of a Council which discharges the functions of that Council as pension administering authority.
2. Each Council may appoint a substitute. Any substitute must meet the eligibility requirements in paragraph 1. The substitute may attend any meeting of the Joint Committee or any of its sub-Committees in place of that authority's principal member if notice that the substitute will attend is given to the Secretary of the Joint Committee by the Council concerned
3. Where a substitution notice is in effect with respect to a particular member at a particular meeting, the substitute shall be a full member of the Joint Committee for the duration of the meeting in place of the principal member
4. Each Council may remove its appointed member and appoint a different member by giving written notice to the Secretary to the Joint Committee.
5. Each appointed member shall be entitled to remain on the Joint Committee for so long as the Council appointing them so wishes, but shall cease to be a member if he or she ceases to be a member of the appointing Council or if that Council removes the appointed member.
6. Any casual vacancies will be filled as soon as reasonably practicable by the Council from which such vacancy arises by giving written notice to the Secretary to the Joint Committee or his or her nominee.
7. The Joint Committee may co-opt any other person whom it thinks fit to be a non-voting member of the committee. The Joint Committee may from time to time make rules as to:
 - 7.1 Registration and declaration of interests by co-opted members.
 - 7.2 Standards of behaviour required to be observed by co-opted members when acting as such.
8. The Chairman of the Joint Committee will be appointed from time to time by the members of the Joint Committee. Subject to paragraph 5, the Chairman of the Joint Committee shall hold that office until their replacement is appointed which shall be at the first meeting to take place after the second anniversary of their appointment.

9. The Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee will be appointed from time to time by the members of the Joint Committee. Subject to paragraph 5, the Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee shall hold that office until their replacement is appointed which shall be at the first meeting to take place after the second anniversary of their appointment.
10. The Joint Committee may appoint sub-committees from among its membership as it thinks will help it to enable it to fulfil its remit. The Joint Committee may delegate its responsibilities to such sub-committees. Sub-Committees may co-opt non-voting members.
11. The Joint Committee may set up working groups to advise it on matters within its remit. Such working groups may be formed of members or officers of the constituent authorities or any other third party as the Joint Committee sees fit. Such working groups are advisory only and the Joint Committee may not delegate its responsibilities to such working groups.
12. Each member of the Joint Committee and any Sub-committee shall comply with any relevant code of conduct of their Council when acting as a member of the Joint Committee.
13. The Chairman may direct the Secretary to call a meeting and may require any item of business to be included in the summons.
14. Any 5 members of the Joint Committee may by notice in writing require the Chairman to call a meeting to consider a particular item of business and if the Chairman fails to do so within 20 working days of receipt of the notice then those 5 members may direct the Secretary to call a meeting to consider that business.
15. The Committee may, if the law permits, arrange for attendance at meetings via video conferencing. Any such attendance shall be in accordance with the law and any other requirements imposed by the Joint Committee from time to time.

Part 2 Proceedings

16. Time and Place of Meetings

The Joint Committee will meet at least four times each year. All meetings of the Joint Committee will take place at a suitable venue and at a time to be agreed by the Councils.

17. Notice of and Summons to Meetings

The Secretary to the Joint Committee will give notice to the public of the time and place of any meeting in accordance with Part VA of the Local Government Act 1972. At least five clear days before a meeting, the Secretary to the Joint Committee will send a summons by email and if a member so requests by post to every Member at their last known

address. The summons will give the date, time and place of each meeting and specify the business to be transacted, and will be accompanied by such reports as are available.

18. Chairing of Joint Committee

The Vice Chairman shall preside in the absence of the Chairman. If there is a quorum of members present but neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman is present at a meeting of the Joint Committee, the other members of the Joint Committee shall choose one of the members of the Joint Committee to preside at the meeting.

19. Quorum

19.1 The quorum of a meeting will be at least 8 members who are entitled to attend and vote.

19.2 If there is no quorum present at the start of the meeting the meeting may not commence. If after 1 hour from the time specified for the start of the meeting no quorum is present then the meeting shall stand adjourned to another time and date determined by the Secretary.

20. Voting

20.1 Majority

Each elected member shall have one vote. Co-opted members will not have a vote. Any matter will be decided by a simple majority of those members of the Councils represented in the room at the time the question is put. In the event of equality of votes the person presiding at the meeting will be entitled to a casting vote under paragraphs 39(1) and 44 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

20.2 By Substitutes

The member appointed as a substitute shall have the same voting rights as the member for whom he or she is substituting. Where notice of substitution has been given for a particular meeting the principal member may not vote unless the notice of substitution is withdrawn before the start of the meeting.

20.3 Show of hands

The Chairman will take the vote by show of hands, or if there is no dissent, by the affirmation of the meeting.

20.4 Recording of individual votes

The minutes of the meeting shall record how a member of the Committee voted on a particular question if, at the time that the vote is taken or

immediately thereafter, that member asks the Secretary or his or her representative at the meeting to record his vote.

21. Minutes

- 21.1 The Secretary to the Joint Committee shall arrange for written minutes to be taken at each meeting of the Joint Committee and shall present them to the Joint Committee at its next meeting for approval as a correct record. At the next meeting of the Joint Committee, the Chairman shall move that the minutes of the previous meeting be signed as a correct record. If this is agreed, the Chairman of the Joint Committee shall sign the minutes. The only part of the minutes that can be discussed is their accuracy.
- 21.2 Draft minutes or a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting and a note of the actions arising shall be circulated to the Committee and to each Council by email no later than 7 days after the date of the meeting.
- 22. Any elected member of the Councils who is not a member of the Joint Committee may speak at a meeting of the Joint Committee if the Chairman of the Joint Committee invites him or her to do so but an elected member of the Councils who is not a member of the Joint Committee shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of the Joint Committee.
- 23. Meetings of the Joint Committee shall be open for members of the public to attend unless the Joint Committee determines that it is necessary to exclude members of the public in accordance with Part VA of the Local Government Act 1972 or the Joint Committee determines that it is necessary to close the meeting to the public because of a disturbance.
- 23.1 Copies of the agenda for meetings of the Joint Committee and any reports for its meetings shall be open to inspection by members of the public at the offices of the Councils with the exception of any report which the Secretary to the Joint Committee determines relates to items which in his or her opinion are likely to be considered at a time when the meeting is not to be open to the public.
- 24. Minutes of the meeting shall be published by the Host Authority to the extent required by Part VA of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 25. If a member of the public interrupts proceedings, the Chairman will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chairman will arrange for their removal from the meeting room and will suspend the meeting until the member of the public has left or been removed.
- 26. If there is a general disturbance in any part of the meeting room open to the public, the Chairman may call for that part to be cleared.

27. **Overview and Scrutiny**

27.1 Each Council has overview and scrutiny committees which have the right to scrutinise the operation of the Joint Committee and the Joint Committee and the Host Authority will co-operate with reasonable requests for information from any of the Councils' overview and scrutiny committees.

27.2 The decisions of the Joint Committee are not subject to call-in.

28. **Regulation of Business**

28.1 Any ruling given by the Chairman as to the interpretation of this constitution with respect to the regulation of proceedings at meeting shall be final.

28.2 Subject to the law, the provisions of this Constitution and the terms of any contract, the Joint Committee may decide how it discharges its business.

Appendix 2

Draft Terms of Reference of the Joint Committee for a CIV Operator

Part 1 Functions in relation to the Operator

1. **Specifying Operator services:** Deciding, in consultation with the Councils, the specification of services and functions that the Operator will be required to deliver including the sub-funds and classes of investments required to enable each Council to execute its investment strategy.
2. **Procuring the Operator:** agreeing the method and process for the procurement and selection of the Operator.
3. **Appointing the Operator:** Making a recommendation to the Councils as to the identity of the Operator and the terms upon which the Operator are to be appointed.
4. **Reviewing the Performance of the Operator:** Keeping the performance of the Operator under constant review and making arrangements to ensure that the Joint Committee is provided with regular and sufficient reports from the Officer Working Group to enable it to do so including but not limited to:
 - 4.1 the performance of the Operator against its contractual requirements and any other performance measures such as any Service Level Agreement (SLA) and key performance indicators (KPIs) and Officer Working Group recommendations on any remedial action;
 - 4.2 sub-fund investment performance;
 - 4.3 investment and operational costs including the annual review of investment manager costs;
 - 4.4 performance against the strategic business plan agreed by the Councils.
5. **Managing the Operator:** The Joint Committee shall:
 - 5.1 Make recommendations to the Councils on the termination or extension of the Operator Contract and
 - 5.2 Make decisions about any other action to be taken to manage the Operator Contract including the giving of any instruction or the making of any recommendation to the Operator including but not restricted to recommendations on investment managers (within any regulatory constraints that may apply).

6. Appointment of Advisers

- 6.1 The Joint Committee may appoint such professional advisers on such terms as it thinks fit. Any procurement of advisers must comply with the constitution of the Authority designated to undertake the procurement and that Authority will enter into a contract with the appointed adviser on behalf of the Authorities.
- 6.2 The Joint Committee may appoint such professional advisers on such terms as it thinks fit. Any procurement of advisers must comply with the constitution of the Authority designated to undertake the procurement and that Authority will enter into a contract with the appointed adviser on behalf of the Authorities.
- 6.3 The Joint Committee shall decide which tasks shall be performed by the Client Unit and which Council shall manage the Client Unit including the employment arrangements for employees in the Client Unit.

Part 1 Functions in relation to management of Pool Assets

- 7. The Joint Committee shall make recommendations to the Councils on the strategic plan for transition of assets that are to become Pool Assets.

Part 2 Functions Concerning Pool Aligned Assets

- 8. Making recommendations to the Councils about Pool Aligned Assets (including proposals concerning the migration of investments-such as passive investments via life fund policies-to become Pool Aligned Assets) in accordance with this Agreement or any other delegation to the Joint Committee by the Councils.

Part 3 Functions concerning Business Planning and Budget

- 9. Make recommendations to the Councils about the annual strategic business plan for the Pool
- 10. Determine the budget necessary to implement that plan and meet the expenses of undertaking the Specified Functions (insofar as they will not be met by individual transaction costs paid by Councils to the Operator) in accordance with Schedule 5 hereof.
- 11. Keep the structures created by this Agreement under review from time to time and make recommendations to the Councils about:
 - 11.1 the future of the Pool;
 - 11.2 any changes to this Agreement; and
 - 11.3 as to the respective merits of continuing to procure operator services by means of a third party or by creation of an operator owned by the Councils.

12. The Joint Committee is required to commence the first review of this Agreement by the second anniversary of its first meeting.
13. The Joint Committee is required to undertake a review of the Pool and this Agreement:
 - 13.1 to be completed 18 months before the expiry of each and every Operator Contract including as a result of the exercise of any option to terminate the Operator Contract;
 - 13.2 whenever a Council gives notice of withdrawal under clause 12 of this agreement

Appendix 3

Draft Terms of Reference of the Joint Committee for Collaborative Joint Procurement

Part 1 Functions in relation to Contractors

1. **Specifying shared procurements:** Deciding, in consultation with the Councils, the specification of services and functions that will be procured jointly by the Councils in order to enable each Council to execute its investment strategy.
2. **Managing shared procurements:** agreeing the method and process for the procurement and selection of Contractors.
3. **Appointing Contractors:** Making a recommendation to the Councils as to the identity of the Contractor and the terms upon which the Contractor is to be appointed to the framework.
4. **Reviewing the Performance of Contractors:** Keeping the performance of Contractors under constant review and making arrangements to ensure that the Joint Committee is provided with regular and sufficient reports from the Officer Working Group to enable it to do so including but not limited to:
 - 4.1 the performance of Contractors against contractual requirements and any other performance measures such as any Service Level Agreement (SLA) and key performance indicators (KPIs) and Officer Working Group recommendations on any remedial action;
 - 4.2 investment performance;
 - 4.3 investment and operational costs including the annual review of investment manager costs;
 - 4.4 performance against the strategic business plan agreed by the Councils.
5. **Managing Contractors:** The Joint Committee shall:
 - 5.1 Make recommendations to the Councils on the termination or extension of contracts with Contractors and
 - 5.2 Make decisions about any other action to be taken to manage the Contracts with Contractors including the giving of any instruction or the making of any recommendation to Contractors including but not restricted to recommendations on investment managers (within any regulatory constraints that may apply).
6. **Appointment of Advisers**
 - 6.1 The Joint Committee may appoint such professional advisers on such terms as it thinks fit. Any procurement of advisers must comply with the constitution of

the Authority designated to undertake the procurement and that Authority will enter into a contract with the appointed adviser on behalf of the Authorities.

- 6.2 The Joint Committee may appoint such professional advisers on such terms as it thinks fit. Any procurement of advisers must comply with the constitution of the Authority designated to undertake the procurement and that Authority will enter into a contract with the appointed adviser on behalf of the Authorities.
- 6.3 The Joint Committee shall decide which tasks shall be performed by the Client Unit and which Council shall manage the Client Unit including the employment arrangements for employees in the Client Unit.

Part 2 Functions in relation to management of Pool Assets

- 6.4 The Joint Committee shall make recommendations to the Councils on the strategic plan for transition of assets that are to become Pool Assets.

Part 3 Functions Concerning Pool Aligned Assets

- 7. Making recommendations to the Councils about Pool Aligned Assets (including proposals concerning the migration of investments-such as passive investments via life fund policies-to become Pool Aligned Assets) in accordance with this Agreement or any other delegation to the Joint Committee by the Councils.

Part 4 Functions concerning Business Planning and Budget

- 8. Make recommendations to the Councils about the annual strategic business plan for the Pool
- 9. Determine the budget necessary to implement that plan and meet the expenses of undertaking the Specified Functions (insofar as they will not be met by individual transaction costs paid by Councils) in accordance with Schedule 5 hereof.
- 10. Keep the structures created by this Agreement under review from time to time and make recommendations to the Councils about:
 - 10.1 the future of the Pool;
 - 10.2 any changes to this Agreement.
- 11. The Joint Committee is required to commence the first review of this Agreement by the second anniversary of its first meeting, or whenever a Council gives notice of withdrawal under clause 12 of this agreement

Summary of key Inter-Authority Agreement terms

“Client Unit”	employees of any Council employed at the request of the Joint Committee wholly or mainly for the purposes of implementing this agreement or the Pool
“Operator”	the person appointed by the Councils from time to time to provide the Services
“Operator Contract”	the arrangement entered into between the Councils and the Operator for the provision of investment services.
“Pool Aligned Assets”	any assets of the Councils not in vehicles run by the Operator but where the Joint Committee may recommend the Councils to use the same investment
“Pool Assets”	any assets of the councils which are managed by the Operator
“Services”	the services provided by the Operator in accordance with the Operator Contract

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