

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020-2021

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

14th DECEMBER 2020

**REPORT OF: THE DIRECTOR OF
FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

WALES PENSION PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE

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1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on the work and progress with regard to the Wales Pension Partnership (WPP) and Joint Governance Committee (JGC).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1.1 Note the update.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 As the Committee is aware the UK Government's requirement for all pension funds to pool their investments has been progressing in Wales through the WPP.

3.2 The Partnership governance arrangements include a JGC which meets around 4 times a year. Each pension fund in Wales is represented on the Committee by their Chair (or Vice Chair).

3.3 The last meeting of the JGC was held on the 11th September 2020. The agenda can be accessed [here](#), which was shared with all Committee (and board) members before the meeting.

3.4 At the September 2020 meeting, the Host update included:

Work continuing to develop in a number of key areas:

- WPP Sub funds – 4 of the 5 Fixed Income sub funds have now launched and the ARB will be launching later this month. Work has continued with the next tranches of sub funds.
- WPP 2019/20 Annual Report.
- WPP Governance Manual.

Other key areas:

- Work is continuing on the development of tranche 5 – private markets sub fund.
- The WPP voting policy is being developed.
- Robeco, the voting and engagement provider of the WPP, has commenced engaging with companies held within the sub fund of the WPP on ESG issues.
- Training – Training sessions are continuing to be arranged in line with the 2020/21 training plan. A training session took place on 23rd October covering private debt, infrastructure and a presentation from MSCI on ESG indices. A further training session took place on 24th November 2020 covering the progress of other LGPS pools and various ESG presentations by ShareAction and Climate Action 100+.
- Legal Advisor Contract – The preferred supplier will be recommended to the December JGC for approval.
- A Beliefs Statement is being developed.
- Website – The Annual Report has been published on the WPP website.

3.5 The next JGC meeting is scheduled to take place on 10th December 2020, the agenda for which can be also be accessed [here](#).

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on the work of the Wales Pension Partnership and the Joint Governance Committee.
