

Committee: Pension Fund Advisory Panel

Date: 7th September 2017

Agenda item: 3

Wards: All

Subject: L.B Merton Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17

Lead officer: Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services

Lead member: Councillor Phillip Jones

Forward Plan reference number: N/A

Contact officer: Roger Kershaw

This document is a public document

Recommendations:

- a) That the Panel note the contents of the audited 2016/17 L.B Merton Pension Fund Annual Report;
- b) Note the audited Pension Fund 2016/17 Accounts and external auditors recommendations;
- c) Note that the Pension Fund has a separate Audit Partner from the Council; and
- d) Send comments verbally through the Director of Corporate Services to the Chair of the Standards and General Purposes Committee who will be signing off the Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts in addition to the Director of Corporate Services' sign off at the 7th September 2017 Standards and General Purposes Committee Meeting.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The London Borough of Merton Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts includes the full audited Pension Fund Accounts together with data describing the governance of the Fund, its Policies and its administration and investment performance.
- 1.2 The Pension Fund Advisory Panel is considering the Pension Fund Annual Report, which is attached (Appendix 1) to this Report. Their comments and recommendations will be provided to the Standards and General Purposes Committee by the Director of Corporate Services.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Pension Fund Statement of Accounts summarise the Fund's transactions for the 2016/17 financial year and its position at year-end as at 31st March 2017.

The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17 which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as amended for UK Public Sector.

- 2.2 The Accounts summarise the transactions of the Fund and report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits.
- 2.3 The Council, as administering authority, is required to prepare and publish a Pension Fund Annual Report in relation to each year beginning on 1st April 2008 and each subsequent year.
- 2.4 Regulations 34(3) of The Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) regulations 2008 and Regulation 57 (3) of The Local Government Pension Scheme 2013 (as amended) require administering authorities to have regard to Guidance given by the Secretary of State and CIPFA when preparing and publishing their pension fund annual report under those Regulations.
- 2.5 Under Regulations 34(2), the report for the financial year ended 31st March 2017 must be published by no later than 1st December 2017.
- 2.6 Regulation 34 specifies in outline the contents of the pension fund annual report and L.B Merton Pension Fund Annual Report 2016/17 is compliant.

3 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

N/A

4. FINANCIAL, RESOURCES AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

5. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 These are contained within the Report.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

N/A

7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

9. APPENDICES

1. 2016/17 Audited L.B Merton Pension Fund Annual Report and Accounts
2. L.B Merton Pension Fund Draft Independent Auditor's Results Report to the Members of Merton Council
3. Letter of Representation for L.B Merton Pension Fund

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 The Papers used to compile this Report are held within the Corporate Services Department.

This page is intentionally left blank