



Minutes

Name of meeting	EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT PENSION FUND COMMITTEE
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM
Venue	CONFERENCE ROOM 4, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Ivor Warlow (Chairman), Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, David Eccles, Stuart Hutchinson, Gordon Kendall
Also Present	Cllr Roger Whitby-Smith
Representatives	Steve Milford, Unison Representative
Employer Representatives	Christine Shaw, Island Roads
Officers	Marie Bartlett, Democratic Services Officer Jo Thistlewood, Technical Finance Manager
Apologies	Cllr Gordon Kendall

17. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meetings held on [8](#) and [22 July 2016](#) be confirmed.

18. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillors Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard and Ivor Warlow all declared a personal interest as they were either in receipt of a pension from or active contributors to the pension fund.

19. **Reports of the Technical Finance Manager**

(a) [Final structure of pooled investment vehicle](#)

The Technical Finance Manager updated the Committee of the outcomes of A Collaboration of Central, Eastern and Southern Shires (ACCESS) group chairs' meeting held the previous week which was attended by both officers and a member of the Pension Fund Committee from each authority in the group.

The ACCESS group had discussed a number of issues and asked each Pension Fund Committee to discuss the options available and ratify the decision in principle which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Committee looked at all of the options that had been discussed at the meeting and were advised that the officers of the ACCESS group believed that they didn't have the experience and capacity for the build "max" option, but they believed that an element of influence from the pool was essential so they had ruled out both the rent "max" and build "max" options.

The build "light" and rent "light" options were outlined and discussed, the Committee were advised that a procurement process would be put in place if a decision to rent "light" was agreed to ensure the right provider was appointed. The Technical Finance Manager also informed members that the pool would have a strong say in the appointment of the fund manager.

The ACCESS group were currently working with other pooling groups who were further ahead with their pooling arrangements. The groups had shared best practice and some of the lessons learnt during the set-up of their pools.

Any contract for the renting option would contain a break clause after five or seven years to allow the option to change to either another rented operator or to an ACCESS-owned operator.

A draft letter to Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) had been circulated from the ACCESS group in response to a telephone conference call in August 2016 DCLG civil servants. The letter addressed DCLG concerns about the ACCESS July submission and requested written confirmation that the pool's proposal was accepted, before any further costs of implementation were incurred. DCLG officials would be meeting to review all pool submission on 8 September, following which a response was expected in approximately two weeks.

A proposal was made and a named vote was taken, the result of which was as follows:

For (4)

Cllrs Bob Blezzard, David Eccles, Stuart Hutchinson, Ivor Warlow

Against (1)

Cllr Reg Barry

RESOLVED:

- (I) THAT the draft recommendation to rent with conditions be agreed by the Isle of Wight Pension Fund
- (II) THAT the final recommendation be circulated to the Isle of Wight Pension Fund Committee when received, highlighting any changes from the draft recommendation.
- (III) THAT if it is felt necessary a meeting of the Isle of Wight Pension Fund Committee be arranged to further discuss the matter.

(b) Consideration of letter to the minister

A letter from Hampshire County Council to the Secretary of State was circulated to the Committee. The letter highlighted concerns regarding the way the government required Local Government Pension Schemes to pool funds. This had been outlined in the criteria for pooling and draft investment regulations, published in November 2015.

The Committee was asked if they wanted to produce a similar letter to be sent to the government requesting that they reconsider the decision made. The Committee considered the content of the letter and discussed how best to proceed.

RESOLVED:

- (I) THAT a letter be sent to the Government endorsing the letter from Hampshire County Council.
- (II) THAT the Technical Finance Manager and Chairman of the Isle of Wight Pension Fund Committee agree the letter before it is sent.

CHAIRMAN