

SUMMARY UPDATE (Part I)
ACCESS Joint Committee (JC):
7 March 2022



All ACCESS Authorities were represented, and the key matters considered are described below.

Part I Item	Details
Minutes of meeting 6 December 2021	Minutes of the Joint Committee meeting of 6 December 2021 were agreed.
Chairman's remarks	<p>Cllr Kemp-Gee highlighted that a statement had been drafted on Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Once finalised this would be published on behalf the Committee.</p> <p>Subsequently the following statement was published on the ACCESS website on 9 March 2022:</p> <p><i>"The ACCESS Joint Committee met on Monday 7 March 2022.</i></p> <p><i>At that meeting the 11 Local Authorities that make up the ACCESS Pool unanimously condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine in the strongest possible terms.</i></p> <p><i>The extent of direct Russian-based investment within the ACCESS Pool has only ever been on a very small scale, and as at 1 March 2022 accounted for just 0.05% of pooled assets. Following the imposition of sanctions by the UK and other governments, the Russian equity market closed and Russian stocks have been excluded from major indices. As a result of these actions, the value of ACCESS Pool holdings in local Russian shares, ADRs and GDRs has been written down to zero. At this time, ACCESS has received assurances from our partners involved regarding the cessation of all new purchases of Russian securities until further notice.</i></p> <p><i>On behalf of the Joint Committee, and with our partners and advisers, the ACCESS Support Unit will continue to monitor the situation. Furthermore, the ACCESS Authorities will continue to review and monitor their investments including approaches to exiting Russian-based investments when that is practicable.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee's thoughts throughout this time remain with the courageous people of Ukraine."</i></p> <p>Weblink:</p> <p>ACCESS Joint Committee statement on Russian invasion of Ukraine Access Pool</p>

<p>Local Pension Board (LPB) observation of JC meetings</p>	<p>A report on LPB observation was considered which included relevant background and a proposal that had been circulated to the JC in advance of the agenda dispatch.</p> <p>The Committee discussed this matter in detail and agreed the report's proposal. An amendment proposing two scheme member representative observers on four year terms was considered but not agreed.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the report • agreed to the invitation of observers to attend Joint Committee meetings on a rotational basis, allowing two observers from each Local Pension Board to be in attendance in person at least once each a year, as detailed in section 2 of the report • agreed that the Committee will undertake a review of these arrangements after a full year following their implementation, and • agreed that the ACCESS Support Unit liaise with Councils as necessary in order to establish and progress the requisite changes to the Inter Authority Agreement
<p>Internal Audit of the Access Support Unit (ASU)</p>	<p>It was highlighted to the JC that the 2021 Internal Audit had been conducted with an outcome of good assurance. It was noted that as the Lead Auditor was unable to attend the meeting, this matter would be brought to the next JC meeting.</p>
<p>Business plan, budget and risk summary</p>	<p>The JC were given an overview of the 2021/22 Business Plan, and it was noted that a number of key milestones were the subject of specific reports elsewhere within the agenda.</p> <p>Following the February publication of the white paper entitled "Levelling Up the United Kingdom" current expectations are that a consultation will occur during Summer 2022 including the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - climate change reporting - pooling - levelling up - potential Secretary of State guidance on investments & UK foreign policy <p>Details of the anticipated outturn against the current year's budget were highlighted.</p> <p>The Committee noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Business Plan update • the 2021/22 budget update, and • summary risk register

Part II Item	Details
Exempt minutes of meeting 6 December 2021	The exempt minutes of the of the Joint Committee meeting of 6 December 2021 were agreed.
Communications	<p>Kate Cunningham from MHP Mischief introduced a report covering the first full year's activity by the pool's communication partner.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the report
Alternative Investments Implementation Advisor	<p>A report highlighting MJ Hudson's appointment as implementation adviser following a procurement process during 2021 was discussed. Jack Fishburn, Odi Lahav and Ben Lucas from MJ Hudson gave an introductory update to the JC and along with an outline of their initial engagement with Authorities. In light of a number of factors including its relative simplicity as an alternative asset class, the report's main recommendation was that Real Estate be the first area with which to proceed.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the report • approved Real Estate (property) as the first asset class to be progressed
Draft Responsible Investment Guidelines	<p>A brief update was given on progress with the draft Responsible Investment guidelines. Plans are in hand for a workshop in May.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the report
Performance Report	<p>The Committee were updated on the progress of pooling assets, the performance of sub-funds against benchmark, the income generated by stock lending and voting by Investment Managers.</p> <p>The Committee noted the Investment Performance report as at 31 December 2021. The combined total of pool assets (within the Link ACS) and pool aligned assets (passive UBS mandates) was £34.993bn, an increase of £2.078bn from the September 2021 quarter end. Subscriptions in the quarter totalled £1.868 billion which went into the two new sub-funds, £1.766 billion into the M&G Alpha Opportunities Fund and £102 million into the Fidelity Investment Grade Credit Fund. Redemptions totalled £0.788 billion during the quarter.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the report
Sub-fund implementation	<p>A report updating the Committee on sub-fund launches and the future pipeline was noted.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the report

Contract and Supplier Relationship Management	<p>The Members received the regular report covering a number of aspects of Contract and Supplier Relationship management.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• noted the report
Risk Management	<p>The Committee were updated on ACCESS risks.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• noted the report
Business As Usual evaluation	<p>The JC received an update report.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• noted the report
Link Presentation	<p>A presentation was given by Karl Midl, James Z and AC from Link.</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• noted the presentation
Next meeting date	6 June 2022

PART DRAFT