


<p style="text-align: center;">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PENSIONS SUB-COMMITTEE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">13 February 2019</p>	
<p>MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MHCLG) STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON ASSET POOLING IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME CONSULTATION</p>	
<p>Report of the Strategic Director, Finance and Governance</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification – For Information</p>	
<p>Key Decision: No</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: None</p>	
<p>Accountable Director: Philip Triggs, Tri-Borough Director of Pensions & Treasury</p>	
<p>Report Author: Philip Triggs, Tri-Borough Director of Pensions & Treasury</p>	<p>Contact Details: Tel: 0207 641 4136 E-mail: pdriggs@westminster.gov.uk</p>

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has been preparing new statutory guidance on LGPS asset pooling. This guidance will set out the requirements on administering authorities, replacing previous guidance, and builds on previous ministerial communications and guidance on asset pooling and investment strategies.
- 1.2 MHCLG is now inviting views on the draft guidance and the consultation process will close on 28 March 2019.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Pensions Sub-Committee is recommended to note the draft guidance on pooling and express any desired feedback for the consultation process.

3 MHCLG DRAFT GUIDANCE

- 3.1 A summary of the key points are as follows:

- 3.2 Pool members must appoint a pooling company to implement their investment strategies, including the selection, appointment and dismissal of investment managers.
- 3.3 Pool members must establish and maintain a pool governance body in order to set the direction of the pool and to hold the pool company to account.
- 3.4 Pool members should transition existing assets into the pool as quickly and cost effectively as possible. Transition of listed assets should take place over a relatively short period. However, some existing investments may be retained by pool members on a temporary basis if the cost of moving the existing investment to a pooling vehicle exceeds the benefits of doing so.
- 3.5 Pool members should normally make all new investments through the pool company in order to maximise the benefits of scale. Following the 2019 valuation, pool members will review their investment strategies and implement revised strategies post 1 April 2020. From 2020, when new investment strategies are in place, pool members should make new investments outside the pool only in very limited circumstances.
- 3.6 There is no target set for infrastructure investment for pool members or pools, but pool members are expected to declare an ambition on investment in this investment category.
- 3.7 Pool members are required to report total investment costs and performance against benchmarks publicly and transparently in their annual reports and accounts, following the CIPFA guidance 'Preparing the Annual Report', with effect from the 2018-19 annual report.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Not Applicable

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None

6 FINANCE AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Finance risks are outlined within the report.

7 IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS

- 7.1 Not applicable

8 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 Risks are outlined within the report.

9 PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
1.	None		

LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: MHCLG draft guidance on pooling