

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

13 DECEMBER 2023

GOVERNANCE UPDATE

Recommendation

- 1. The Chief Financial Officer recommends that the Worcestershire Pension Fund Governance Update and the Fund's draft Breaches of Law Policy be noted.**

Background

2. The Fund has been updating its Business Plan and Risk Register, its key operational / planning / management documents, quarterly since March 2019.
3. Following the March 2023 review of the Fund's Risk Register, progress in developing mitigating action for five risks will henceforth be reported in our Governance Updates, so that members can assess whether further mitigating actions are appropriate:
 - a) WPF 26 Fraud by staff;
 - b) WPF 15 Failure of the actuary to deliver the services contracted;
 - c) WPF 01 Failure of governance arrangements to match up to recommended best practice;
 - d) WPF 17 Failure of custodian to deliver the services contracted; and
 - e) WPF 04 Not having an established and meaningful Business Plan / Pension Administration Strategy.
4. Progress in mitigating the five risks since the last quarterly Board / Committee cycle has included:
 - a) Drafting a Breaches of Law Policy to add to our range of governance material (attached as an Appendix);
 - b) Arranging the candidate interviews for reprocurring actuarial services; and
 - c) Adding more detail to the Business Plan projects appendix.
5. It is also worth noting that our Good Governance Position Statement August 2023 remains an up-to-date statement of where we are as we await statutory guidance.

Supporting information

- Appendix - Draft Breaches of Law Policy November 2023

Contact Points

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper Officer (in this case the Chief Financial Officer), there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.