

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE PENSIONS COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT 7.30P.M. ON THURSDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009**

**COMMITTEE ROOM C1, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5  
CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

**Members Present:**

Councillor Rajib Ahmed - (Chair)  
Councillor Helal Abbas  
Councillor Marc Francis  
Councillor Denise Jones  
Councillor Emma Jones  
Councillor Waiseul Islam  
Councillor David Snowdon

**Other Councillors Present:**

None.

**Officers Present:**

Alan Finch - Service Head Corporate Finance (Resources)  
Jim Ricketts - Capital and Investment Manager (Resources)  
Daniel Hudson - Democratic Services

John Gray - Trade Union Representative

**1. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor M. Francis be appointed the Vice Chair of the Pensions Committee for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor T. O'Flaherty.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

### 4. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The Chair **Moved** and it was **RESOLVED**

That subject to the following amendment, the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Pension Committee held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings:

#### **Page 1, Members Present**

It be noted that Councillor Joshua Peck was the Lead Member Resources and not the Deputy Leader of the Councillor.

### 5. DEPUTATIONS & PETITIONS

None received.

### 6. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

#### 6.1 Pension Committee Terms of Reference, Membership and Quorum (PC/001/910)

The Service Head Corporate Finance introduced the report.

The Committee briefly discussed the report and having due regard to the current variable economic conditions it was suggested that if required additional meetings and/or briefings for the Pension Committee be held to allow Members to be fully appraised as to any significant changes to the investment portfolio. It was agreed that training would be arranged for members of the Committee.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that the Terms of Reference, Members and Quorum as set out in Appendix A of the report be approved.

#### 6.2 Composition of the Pension Fund Investment Panel (PC/002/910)

Having due regard to the commitments of Members it was **RESOLVED** that

- (i) The Investment Panel be established;
- (ii) That membership of the Investment Panel comprise:-

- All Members of the Pensions Committee or their designated deputies and including the 2 non-voting Members
    - A Investment Professional as Chair
    - An Independent Financial Advisor
    - The Corporate Director of Resources or nominee
    - 2 Trade Union Representatives and 1 Admitted Body
- (iii) Provide that up to two Trade Union representatives (or their designated deputies) as nominated by the Staffside Secretary attend the Investment Panel as observers;
- (iv) That the terms of reference for the Investment Panel as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- (v) That meetings of the Investment Panel commence at 6.30p.m. with meetings of the Pension Committee to start at 8.30p.m.

### **6.3 Draft Pension Fund Financial Accounts 2008/09 (PC/003/910)**

The Service Head Corporate Finance comprehensively introduced the report.

Members expressed disquiet at the financial performance over the past 12-18 months and debate the performance of the Fund Managers.

In reply to points raised by Members the Capital and Investment Manager (Resources) agreed to circulate financial data which would allow Members to compare fund performance especially in light of the risk parameters of the fund portfolios.

Having due regard to investment opportunities it was noted that at future meetings of the Investment Panel debate could be opened in respect of options for inward investment in the Borough to support and nurture local enterprise.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### **7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

None was raised.

The meeting ended at 8.36p.m.

Chair, Councillor Rajib Ahmed  
Pensions Committee