Pensions Committee



Wednesday, 9 December 2020 at 6.30 p.m.

Online 'Virtual' Meeting - https://towerhamlets.public-

i.tv/core/portal/home

Agenda

Chair: Councillor Kyrsten Perry

Members

Vice-Chair: Councillor Rachel Blake

Councillor Ayas Miah, Councillor Helal Uddin, Councillor Abdal Ullah, Councillor Puru Miah and Councillor Andrew Wood

Observers (Independent Persons):

Kehinde Akintunde ((GMB Union Representative)), Colin Robertson (Independent Investment Advisor (Pensions Committee)) and Steve Turner (Mercers - Senior Investment Consultant)

Substitutes:

Councillor Faroque Ahmed, Councillor Kevin Brady, Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan and Councillor Peter Golds

[The quorum for the Pensions Committee is 3 Members]

Further Information

Reports for consideration, meeting contact details, public participation and more information is available on the following pages.

Public Information

Viewing or Participating in Committee Meetings

The public are welcome to view this meeting through the Council's webcast system.

Physical Attendance at the Town Hall is not possible at this time.

Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system. <u>http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home</u>

Contact for further enquiries:

Farhana Zia, Senior Committee Services Officer, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG Tel: 020 7364 0842 E-mail: farhana.zia@towerhamlets.gov.uk Web:http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee

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London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Pensions Committee

Wednesday, 9 December 2020

6.30 p.m.

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest, identified in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine: whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are also reminded to declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it is the Members' responsibility to identify any interests and also update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of an interest, you are advised to seek advice prior the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

"That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972."

EXEMPT SECTION (Pink Papers)

The exempt committee papers in the agenda will contain information, which is

commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties. If you do not wish to retain these papers after the meeting, please post them to the Democratic Service Office, 1st Floor, Mulberry Place London E14 3BG or hold onto the papers until such time you can

return to the Town Hall and dispose of the papers in the confidential bins.

2. **REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

2.1 Sustainable Equity Investments Next Steps

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3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Next Meeting of the Committee:

Thursday, 25 March 2021 at 6.30 p.m. to be held in the Online 'Virtual' Meeting - https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home

Agenda Item 1

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS- NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii)Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless**:

• A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

<u>Further Advice</u> contact: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer, Tel: 0207 364 4800.

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either—
	(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
	(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Agenda Item 2.1

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