

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

12th July 2022

**REPORT OF: THE DIRECTOR OF
FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
<p>WALES PENSION PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE</p>

**Author – Barrie Davies, Director of Finance and Digital Services (01443)
424026**

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on the work and progress with regard to the Wales Pension Partnership (WPP) and Joint Governance Committee (JGC).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1.1 Note the update.

2.1.2 Consider and, if appropriate, approve the WPP Business Plan 2022-2025.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 As the Committee is aware the UK Government's requirement for all pension funds to pool their investments has been progressing in Wales through the WPP.

3.2 The Partnership governance arrangements include a JGC which meets around 4 times a year. Each pension fund in Wales is represented on the Committee by their Chair (or Vice Chair).

3.3 The latest meeting of the JGC is scheduled to take place on the 8th July 2022. The agenda can be accessed [here](#), which was shared with all Committee (and board) members before the meeting.

3.4 At the July 2022 meeting, the Host update includes:

Work continuing to develop in a number of key areas, including:

- Completing the 2021/22 year end closure of the accounts
- New policies and policy reviews.
- Private Markets Allocator procurement process
- Officer Working Group sub-groups:
 - Private Markets sub-group.
 - Responsible Investment sub-group.
 - Risk Register sub-group.

Next Steps / Priorities:

- Development of the Private Markets Sub-Funds.
 - March 2022 to December 2022 – Private debt and Infrastructure sub funds to be developed, approved and launched.
 - 21st September 2022 – JGC to approve Private Equity Allocator appointment.
- Operator contract procurement process.
 - The existing contract comes to an end in December 2024.
 - Start discussions with Burges Salmon re the legal requirements.
 - Put a timeline in place.
- Formulate the 2021/22 Annual Update and Annual Return.
- Launch of the Active Sustainable Equity Fund.

Other Key areas:

- Virtual training sessions continue.
- The website continues to be updated with approved policies, press releases and details of sub-fund launches.

3.5 It is recommended that the Committee review and approve the WPP Business Plan 2022-2025 (Appendix 1).

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on the work of the Wales Pension Partnership and the Joint Governance Committee.
