

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

10th OCTOBER 2022

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

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| AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 |
| WALES PENSION PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE |

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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.

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, scheduled to take place on the 21st September 2022, was cancelled due to the passing of Her Majesty the Queen and the period of mourning. The next JGC meeting is scheduled for 5th December 2022.
- 3.4 Work continuing to develop in a number of key areas, including:

- New policies and policy reviews, including a Complaints Policy, review of the Rebalancing and Alteration Policy
- Private Markets Allocator procurement process
- Officer Working Group sub-groups:
 - Private Markets sub-group.
 - Responsible Investment sub-group.
 - Risk Register sub-group.

3.5 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.
- Operator contract procurement process.
 - The existing contract comes to an end in December 2024.
 - Continuing discussions with Burges Salmon re the legal requirements.
- Launch of the Active Sustainable Equity Fund.
- Annual Stewardship Report to maintain the WPP's signatory status to the UK Stewardship Code.
- Voting Priorities and engagement.

3.6 Other Key areas:

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

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.
