

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

**27TH MARCH 2023
REPORT OF: THE DEPUTY CHIEF
EXECUTIVE AND GROUP DIRECTOR -
FINANCE, DIGITAL AND FRONTLINE
SERVICES**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

**WALES PENSION
PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE**

**Author – Barrie Davies, Deputy Chief Executive and Group Director -
Finance, Digital and Frontline 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.

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 took place on the 5th December 2022. The agenda can be accessed [here](#), which was shared with all Committee (and board) members before the meeting.

3.4 At the March 2023 meeting the following annual policies and papers will be reviewed:

- Business Plan 2023-2026.
- Training Plan 2023/24.
- Stock Lending report.
- Policy Review of Governance matrix.
- Operator update.
- Performance reports as at 31st December 2022.
- ESG and Climate Risk reports.

Next Steps / Priorities:

- Development of the Private Markets Sub-Funds.
 - Launch of Private Debt and Infrastructure sub funds.
 - Launch of the Private equity sub fund.
 - Formulate the WPP's Property requirements.
- Launch of the Sustainable Equity Fund.
- Operator contract procurement process.
 - The existing contract comes to an end in December 2024.
 - The procurement process is ongoing.
 - The prior information notice was issued 17th January 2023.
 - A market engagement day took place on the 9th March 2023.
 - A report is scheduled to be presented to the JGC to approve the operator appointment March 2024.
 - Each individual Pension Committee will need to approve the appointment March / April 2024.
- A public announcement on the planned sale of Link Fund Solutions was received 20th February 2023. Link Group is in exclusive negotiation with the Waystone Group in respect of the sale of the whole of its Fund Solutions business.
- Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) reporting.

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.
