

<b>Title of Report</b>	Review of Pensions Committee Work (Public Papers)
<b>For Consideration By</b>	Pensions Board
<b>Meeting Date</b>	8 July 2026
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b><u>Ward(s) Affected</u></b>	All
<b><u>Group Director</u></b>	Naeem Ahmed, Group Director, Finance & Corporate Resources
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## 1. **Introduction**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is for the Pensions Board to consider the work undertaken by the Pensions Committee at 30 March 2026 and 24 June 2026 meetings and to note items that are relevant to the work of the Pension Board.

## 2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1. **The Pensions Board is recommended to:**
- **Note the report**

## 3. **Related Decisions**

- 3.1. None

## 4. **Background to the Report**

- 4.1. Whilst not a decision making body for the Pension Fund, the Board does have a broad remit to review the decision-making process of the Pensions Committee and in particular, matters relating to scheme administration and governance.
- 4.2. Where Pensions Committee work has specific relevance to the Pension

Board and where the subject matter is such that it would be helpful for the Board to consider it in greater detail, these have become dedicated papers for the Board agenda. In other areas, it is worth highlighting either reports or elements of Committee reports that are of relevance to the Board.

4.3. The links to the Committee meetings covered in this report are as follows:

- 30 March 2026

<https://hackney.moderngov.co.uk/ielistdocuments.aspx?CId=499&MId=6224&Ver=4>

- 24 June 2026

<https://hackney.moderngov.co.uk/ielistdocuments.aspx?CId=499&MId=6558&Ver=4>

4.4. At its meeting on 30 March 2026, the Committee considered the following public reports:

- 2024/25 Pension Fund Accounts and Audit Outcome Report
- 2025 Triennial Valuation Report, Funding Strategy Statement and Policies
- Bulk Transfer - Brook House Sixth Form College to New City College
- London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund - Treasury Management Strategy 2026 - 29
- Quarterly Pensions Administration and Projects Update

4.5. The key items particularly relevant to the Board were the Audit Outcome Report of the 2024/25 pension fund accounts. A true and fair audit opinion was issued by Forvis Mazars.

4.6. The Committee considered the 2025 Triennial Valuation report, 2025 Funding Strategy Statement and Actuarial Cash flow monitoring report. The valuation report contains the triennial valuation's two key outcomes:

- Employer contribution rates for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029
- The funding position of the whole Fund at 31 March 2025.

The whole Fund funding position at 31 March 2025 was 138% (v 106% at the 2022 valuation) based on a 80% likelihood of success (72% in 2022). The improvement in funding level was primarily due to higher assumed future investment returns and discount rate assumption of 6.3% against 4.3% in the 2022 valuation.

4.7. The Committee received a report on the Brooke House Sixth Form College ("BSix") bulk transfer to New City College which participates in the London Pensions Fund Authority Pension Fund ("LPFA").Fund. A Direction Order

was granted by the Secretary of State to enable the transfer of all Fund members (i.e. active, deferred and pensioner members) relating to BSix to LPFA. All active, deferred and pensioner members of BSix (that were members of the HPF prior to the merger) transferred to LPFA with effect from the transfer date. At the time of the transfer, the Fund was in the process of migrating to a new Pension Administrator, LPPA, who was also the pension administrator for LPFA. To help save time and costs for both funds, it was agreed that the transfer of BSix data would take place in October 2025, following completion of the Fund pension administration migration. Initially estimated at £13.5m, the final transfer value was £11.171m.

- 4.8. The Committee approved the Pension Fund Treasury Management Strategy for 2026 - 29. Unlike previous years, the strategy now excludes investment cash. The 2026 LGPS regulations now require investment cash to be managed by the asset pool, however operating cash will still need to be held at the Fund.
- 4.9. The Committee considered the Quarterly Administration and Projects Update Report. The quarterly Pensions Administration and Projects report provides an update on how the administration service provided by Equiniti performed against KPIs, LGPS regulatory updates and Administration migration project update. The Fund's Death Grant Policy was approved. The December quarter ending pensions administration performance report for LPPA was received. The quarterly performance report covers the following:
  - LPPA Projects Update
  - Fund Membership
  - Casework Performance
  - LPPA Contact Centre Call Performance
  - Customer Satisfaction Scores
  - PensionPoint: Member Online Portal update
  - Employer Engagement & Member Communication Activity
- 4.10. A number of statutory deadlines to be met in the coming months are:
  - 31 August 2026 Annual Benefit Statement
  - 6 October 2026 Pension Saving Statement
  - 31 October 2026 Statutory deadline for public sector schemes including the LGPS to connect to the Pensions Dashboard ecosystem.
- 4.11. Each quarter, the Committee considers the Data Improvement Plan Updates as part of the report. Work started in January 2026 and officers met separately with LPPA officers to consider progress. Good progress is being made with data quality. Since going live in October 2025, the number of scheme members signing up to the PensionPoint online portal has increased with the current total shy of 5,000.
- 4.12. The Pensions Committee under the new administration met for the first time

on 24 June. The key focus. The Committee received 3 training sessions covering governance, the actuary and asset pool oversight and scheme changes. The Committee considered the following public reports:

- 2025/26 Pension Fund Audit Plan
- Quarterly Administration and Projects Update
- Quarterly Investment Performance and Strategy Update
- Quarterly Governance and Risk Update
- 2026/27 - 2027/28 Training Plan Update

4.13. Key items particularly relevant to the Board are the 2026/27 - 2028/29 Business Plan, the Conflict of Interest Policy and Risk Register.

4.14. The Committee received the March 2026 Quarterly Administration and Projects Update as well as the Administering Authority Discretions Policy. The Discretions Policy included work done with LPPA to align some discretions inline with their usual work practices, whilst ensuring that robust and equitable decisions can be made.

At 31 March 2026, progress on data improvement was 95% of in-scope data issues resolved. Although the project was initially expected to be completed by the end of March, the focus now is on clearing difficult cases which require manual intervention.

4.15. The Committee considered the Quarterly Investment Performance Report for the quarter ending March 2026. The Fund's return of 2.20% under-performed benchmark return by -1.76%, while one year performance of 9.39% underperformed benchmark by 0.11%. On a 3 year to date (annualised) basis, the fund's performance of 6.93% underperformed against benchmark by -1.08%. The Fund also underperformed against benchmark on a 5 year (annualised) basis by -1.45%.

The biggest detractors during the quarter were LCIV Global Alpha Growth Paris Aligned fund underperforming by -5.79%, LCIV Sustainable Equity Fund underperforming by -2.38% and LCIV Multi Asset Credit fund underperforming benchmark by -3.25%.

4.16. At the beginning of the quarter, the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund had a value of £2,313m. The Fund value decreased by £59m ending at £2,254m at 31 March 2026. The Fund received a number of private market capital call requests during the quarter.

4.17. The Committee also considered the Fund's first Responsible Investment Annual Newsletter which provides a summary of key responsible investment activities and highlights for the year.

4.18. The Quarterly Governance Update Report also included updates on the Risk Register and recent LGPS "Fit for the Future" Regulations. The Committee

approved the updated Conflict of Interest Policy and 2026/27 to 2028/29 Business Plan.

## **5. Comments of the Group Director, Finance & Corporate Resources**

5.1 Understanding the remit of and decisions taken by the Pensions Committee helps the Pensions Board to assist Hackney Council as the administering authority in ensuring the efficient and effective governance and administration of the Fund, in line with its statutory duties. Good governance of the Fund helps to ensure its long term financial health and that of its stakeholders, including the Council.

5.2 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications prepared on behalf of the Group Director Finance & Corporate Resources by: Deirdre Worrell, Director Financial Management  
Email: deirdre.worrell@hackney.gov.uk  
Date: 29th June 2026

## **6. Comments of the Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services**

6.1. The role of the Pensions Board is prescribed by Section 106 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and includes the following:

- Securing compliance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme
- Securing compliance with any requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme and any connected scheme
- Ensuring the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme

6.2. Reviewing the work and decision-making processes of the Pensions Committee helps the Board to ensure that decisions are being taken in line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and other relevant legislation, and that the scheme's governance and administration processes are efficient and effective.

6.3. Taking into account the role of the Pensions Board as set out in the Regulations, the consideration of the work of the Pensions Committee would appear to properly fall within the Board's remit.

Legal implications prepared on behalf of the Director of Legal, Democratic & Electoral Services by: Georgia Lazari , Team Leader-Places  
Email: georgia.lazari@hackney.gov.uk  
Date: 29.06.2026

**Appendices**

None

**Background documents**

None