The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 16 March 2017

Appointment to the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF)

Item number	7.1		
Report number			
Executive/routine			
Wards	All		

Executive summary

The Lothian Pension Fund is a founding member of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) when it was established in 1990. The Pensions Committee agreed to submit Councillor Rankin's name for nomination to the LAPFF executive. The nomination was submitted to the LAPFF Executive at the Annual General Meeting in January 2017 and was approved. The Council are now asked to approve the appointment.

Links Coalition pledges Council outcomes CO26 Single Outcome Agreement

Report

Appointment to the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF)

1. Recommendations

1.1 Council is requested to approve the appointment of Councillor Rankin to the Executive Committee of the LAPFF.

2. Background

- 2.1 LAPFF provides an opportunity for local authority pension funds across the UK to come together for focused discussion and the sharing of ideas and working practices in relation to investment issues and shareholder engagement.
- 2.2 The LAPFF promotes the long-term investment interests of local authority pension funds and aims to maximise their influence as shareholders to promote corporate social responsibility and high standards of corporate governance amongst the companies in which they invest, commensurate with statutory regulation. Its membership has increased over the recent years (currently 71 of the 110 UK local government pension schemes).
- 2.3 Until January 2017, Councillor Cameron Rose has been Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the LAPFF for a number of years and served on the Executive Committee since 2007.

3. Main report

- 3.1 The Pensions Committee of 6 December 2016 endorsed the nomination of Councillor Rankin to the LAPFF Executive Committee. At its meeting January 2017, the LAPFF appointed Councillor Rankin to its Executive Committee. This report seeks ratification of this appointment by the City of Edinburgh Council.
- 3.2 The role involves travel to meetings with companies and other entities such as regulatory bodies, primarily within the UK and occasionally overseas. The Pension Funds meet associated costs from within their budget.

4. Measures of success

4.1 The interests of Lothian Pension Fund are served by the constructive engagement on key issues affecting local government pension schemes.

5. Financial impact

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report . The costs of Councillor Rankin's participation in LAPFF are included in the pension funds' budget.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

6.1 The Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) activity of the Fund, that is being responsible informed and involved investors, is expected to reduce risk.

7. Equalities impact

7.1 There are no adverse equalities impacts arising from this report.

8. Sustainability impact

8.1 ESG activity is expected to contribute to the sustainability of the Funds' investments.

9. Consultation and engagement

9.1 Approval by the City of Edinburgh Council will ensure the Lothian Pension Fund continues to engage and consult with partners and stakeholders.

10. Background reading / external references

- 10.1 Responsible Investment <u>http://www.lpf.org.uk/info/68/responsible_investment</u>
- 10.2 Local Authority Pension Fund Forum http://www.lapfforum.org/

Hugh Dunn

Acting Executive Director of Resources

Contact: Susan Handyside, Customer Service and Compliance Officer E-mail: <u>susan.handyside@edinburgh.gov.uk</u> | Tel: 0777 137 8238

11. Links

Coalition pledges	
Council outcomes	CO26 - The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnerships to improve services and deliver agreed objectives.
Single Outcome Agreement Appendices	