



West Yorkshire Pension Fund

Lincolnshire
Pension Fund



London Borough
of Hounslow

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Pension

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2021/22 • PENSIONER MEMBERS



Includes Hounslow Pension Fund Annual Report **2021**



Hounslow Pension Fund Annual Report 2021

Introduction

The Pension Fund Panel is responsible for overseeing the management of the Pension Fund, including both investment management and pension administration. As the S151 officer of the administering authority I am pleased to introduce the Pension Fund's annual report for the year 2020/21.

During the year, the value of the fund increased by 24%, £228.7m, from £958m to £1,186.8m. The significant increase reflects how quickly financial markets recovered from the sharp falls witnessed at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in February 2020. Officers and their advisers continue to monitor the Fund closely and challenge the investment managers as necessary to ensure the fund's investments are managed effectively during this unprecedented time.

The triennial actuarial valuation of the fund at March 2019 was carried out by Barnett Waddingham and reported to Panel in January 2020. At that time it was pleasing to note that the funding position had substantially increased from 86% to 94%, meaning that the fund had assets to cover 94% liabilities. This primarily reflected the significant increase in the performance of the investments during the previous three years. The next actuarial valuation will be carried out at the end of March 2022.

In March 2020 the panel agreed to the following actions:

- to switch the passive global equity portfolio to a low carbon passive global equity portfolio
- to transfer the residual active global equity portfolio into a sustainable equity fund on the London Collective Investment vehicle (LCIV), and
- to consider investing resources into renewable energy.

The panel agreed to delegate authority to officers, to instruct managers to measure carbon footprint on the equity portfolios.

The switch to a low carbon passive global equity fund and the transfer to the sustainable equity fund were completed by June 21 while a decision on whether to invest in renewable infrastructure will likely be made in 2022. Officers are currently working on proposals for measuring the carbon footprint of the fund that will be brought to the panel in 2022.

I would like to thank the officers and all our stakeholders involved in the management of the Pension Fund during the year during 2020/21.

Clive Palfreyman

Executive Director of Finances and Resources

Fund Accounts

	2019/20	2020/21
	£m	£m
Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the fund		
Contributions		
From employers	32.0	31.1
From employees	9.0	9.6
Individual transfers in from other pension funds	5.8	6.2
	46.8	46.9
Benefits		
Pensions	(34.3)	(35.1)
Commutation, lump sum retirement and death benefits	(12.4)	(8.1)
Payments to and on account of leavers		
Individual transfers out to other pension funds	(5.3)	(4.0)
Refunds to members leaving service	(0.4)	(0.2)
	(52.4)	(47.4)
Net additions/(withdrawals) from dealings with members	(5.6)	(0.5)
Management expenses	(5.7)	(4.9)
Returns on investments		
Investment income	26.2	23.9
Taxes on income (irrecoverable withholding tax)	(0.1)	(0.1)
	26.1	23.8
Profit and loss on disposal of investments and change in the market value of investments	(95.7)	210.3
Net returns on investments	(69.6)	234.1
Net increase/(decrease) in the net assets available for benefits during the year	(80.9)	228.7
Opening net assets of the scheme	1,039.0	958.1
Closing net assets of the scheme	958.1	1,186.8

Investments

The top 10 equity holdings of the London Borough of Hounslow Pension Fund worldwide as at 31 March 2021

	Bid value	% of total fund	% of Equities
	£m	%	%
Astra Zeneca Plc	30.3	2.6	8.0
Relx Plc	23.8	2.0	6.3
British American Tobacco Plc	20.7	1.8	5.5
Rio Tinto Ltd	20.7	1.8	5.5
London Stock Exchange Group	17.8	1.5	4.7
Compass Group Plc	15.8	1.3	4.2
Next Plc	15.8	1.3	4.2
Reckitt Benckiser Group	15.7	1.3	4.1
Ferguson Plc	12.7	1.1	3.4
Standard Chartered Plc	12	1.0	3.2
	185.3	15.7	49.1

Equities

	31 Mar 20	31 Mar 21
	£m	£m
UK Investments (listed)	274.0	370.5
Overseas Investments (listed):		
North America	25.3	5.8
Japan	4.0	0.0
Europe	12.8	2.2
Other	11.6	0.0
	327.7	378.5

Important information

Pensioner self service

If you get a pension from the London Borough of Hounslow, you have an online self-service facility where you can view and print your monthly payslips and P60. In addition, you can update your address and bank account details online without the need to write in with these changes.

Find out more about this at

[www.hounslow.gov.uk/ PensionerSelfService](http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/PensionerSelfService) where you can request a login to get started.

West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) deals with the administration of your pension record, but the London Borough of Hounslow will continue to pay your monthly pension through its partner Liberata. See the panels below for when to contact the WYPF and when to contact Liberata. If you're not sure which, please give WYPF a call and they'll point you in the right direction.

When to contact Liberata

- When you have questions about the payment of your monthly pension or the tax on it
- To change your bank account, address, or anything else you think could affect how you get your monthly pension

Login to www.hounslow.gov.uk/PensionerSelfService or write to Liberata at:

Payroll Services – Liberata
Hounslow House
7 Bath Road, Hounslow Middlesex TW3 3EB

Phone: 020 3949 7800

Email:
hounslow.payroll@liberata.com

When to contact West Yorkshire Pension Fund

- When you have questions about how your pension is worked out
- When you change your address
- When there are changes in your circumstances that you think could affect your pension

Phone 01274 434999

Email pensions@wypf.org.uk

Write to WYPF

PO Box 67
Bradford BD1 1UP

Life certificates

From time-to-time we need to check that you are still getting the pension you are entitled to. Over the next 12 months we will be sending everyone who is receiving a pension from the London Borough of Hounslow a routine form called a 'life certificate'.

When you get one, please fill it in and send it back as soon as you can. We have to send life certificates because we have a duty of care to protect our members' money and guard against fraud.

This will be a big exercise and will be done in stages over a long period so please don't worry if you don't receive one for a few months.

Failure to return your certificate may result in your pension being suspended.

The new name for Money Advice Service

Money Advice Service (including The Pensions Advisory Service and The Pension Wise Service) changed to MoneyHelper in June 2021. All in one place, get clear, free and impartial money and pension help. MoneyHelper is our direct to consumer brand of the Money and Pensions Service.

Their new website address from early June 2021 is [moneyhelper.org.uk](https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk)

Whatever your circumstances or

Death grants in retirement

You may have nominated somebody to get your death grant when you were working, but you can do it in retirement too – as long as you are under age 75 at date of death and left employment on or after 1 April 2008.

A death grant is a one-off tax-free lump sum on top of any pension due to your husband, wife, partner or children if you die. Conditions apply depending on when you retired and the options you chose, but the grant is usually ten times your yearly pension less any pension already paid (only up to age 75). It's up to you to decide who gets your death grant and if you nominate it can help those you leave behind avoid paying inheritance tax.

For more about all this see www.wyypf.org.uk/deathbenefits, and if you want to make a nomination, or change one you've already made, you can download a form at www.wyypf.org.uk/deathgrant

plans, MoneyHelper is on your side. Online or over the phone, you'll get clear money and pensions guidance, and pointers to trusted services, if you need more support.

Open to everyone, MoneyHelper is helping people to clear their debts, reduce spending and make the most of their income. To support loved ones, plan ahead for major purchases and find out about entitlements. To build up savings and pensions, and know their options.

Moving house?

If you move house, we need to know your new address – not only to keep your records up to date but to make sure personal or sensitive information going to your old address doesn't put you at risk of identity fraud. So when you move, please let us know your new address as soon as you can.

Contact WYPF

Phone 01274 434999

Monday to Friday 8.45am to 4.30pm

Email pensions@wyypf.org.uk

Our postal address is
PO Box 67 Bradford BD1 1UP

Our office in Lincoln remains closed for the time being because of the pandemic. Please check our website for updates on this.

Privacy and your data

Read how we use the data we hold about you at
www.wyypf.org.uk/privacy

What to do if you become a scam victim

Being scammed can take a huge toll on people's mental health. **Mind** and **Victim Support** have confidential helplines that provide support to consumers who have been hit and you can get more information from their websites.

There are some immediate practical steps you can take if you think you've been scammed however. Call your bank directly, first checking its website for the correct number to ring. If the fraud involved any of your personal information, consider signing up for a Protective Registration with fraud prevention organisation **Cifas**, which costs £25 for two years. Cifas is an independent, not-for-profit organisation working to reduce fraud and related financial crime in the UK. Check out their website at www.cifas.org.uk for information.

Change your passwords for any accounts that have been compromised due to fraud - and any that use the same password. Set up two-factor authentication wherever possible to provide another layer of protection.

Be ScamSmart – don't fall for scams in the first place

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and The Pensions Regulator (TPR)'s ScamSmart campaign warns you to be on your guard if you receive unexpected offers about your pension. If you are ever in doubt about a pension offer, visit www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart