

MEETING	PENSIONS COMMITTEE
DATE	12 DECEMBER 2008
TITLE	REVIEW OF THE GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE STATEMENT
RECCOMENDATION	THAT THE STATEMENTS ARE FORMALLY APPROVED
AUTHOR	PENSION AND INVESTMENT OFFICER

1. Background

- 1.1 In the last Pensions Committee the decision was made not to increase the membership of the Pensions Committee as Gwynedd Council is responsible for matters relating to the fund, and it would be difficult to choose other representatives from the employers.

However a decision was also made to recommend to the Resources and Corporate Scrutiny Committee that the constitution of the Pensions Committee should be amended to allow voting rights for the representative from Anglesey County Council and the representative from Conwy County Borough Council.

Because of the above decisions the Committee also agreed that informal employer meetings would be arranged. A consultation letter has been sent out to all the employers on this matter on the 30/11/08 to gage their views.

- 1.2 To reflect the decisions taken by the Pensions Committee, the Governance Policy Statement and the Governance Compliance Statement have been amended as noted below in bold.

1.3 Amendments to the Governance Policy Statement:-

*“The Committee is comprised of 9 members, 7 of whom are elected members of Gwynedd Council, 1 member from Anglesey County Council and 1 member from Conwy County Borough Council, **all of whom have voting rights.** There is no member (staff) representation on the Committee.”*

1.4 Amendments to the Governance Compliance Statement:-

Principle A, Part b)

b)	That representatives of participating LGPS employers, admitted bodies and scheme members (including pensioner and deferred members) are members of either the main or secondary committee established to underpin the work of the main committee.
	Gwynedd Council is partly compliant with this principle. Representatives from two participating LGPS employers are members of the main committee. Currently there is no representation from admitted bodies or scheme members in order to retain a relatively small committee which can review manager performance in an effective manner. As the pension promise is defined by legislation for scheme members, the actions of the Committee have not hitherto been considered to impinge upon their interests and thus no representation has been afforded. All employees are afforded the

	opportunity to influence decisions through a series of informal employer meetings.
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Principle A, Part c)

c)	That where a secondary committee or panel has been established, the structure ensures effective communication across both levels.
	No secondary committee or panel exists, although the informal employer meetings ensure effective communication.

Principle D, Part a)

a)	The policy of individual administering authorities on voting rights is clear and transparent, including the justification for not extending voting rights to each body or group represented on main LGPS committees.
	The Pensions Committee is comprised of 9 members, all of whom have voting rights , 7 of whom are elected members of Gwynedd Council, and 1 representative from each of the other two participating LGPS employers.

Principle F, Part b)

b)	That an administering authority's secondary committee or panel meet at least twice a year and is synchronized with the dates when the main committee sits.
	No secondary committee or panel exists, although the informal employer meetings are synchronized with the dates of the main committee.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Committee is asked to formally approve these documents.

