

OXFORDSHIRE PENSION FUND

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

2012-2013

Registered number PS049/20



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Foreword by the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer

Introduction

2012-13 was another busy year for pensions in the public sector, with the publication of draft Regulations for the New Look Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) 2014 as well as the passage of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 through Parliament, culminating in Royal Assent on 25 April 2013. Much remains to be done before the implementation of the changes from April 2014 and the scale of change both in terms of scheme design and governance arrangements is significant. A lot of work is required during the next 12 months to upgrade systems to cope with the changes, and undertake a widespread communications exercise so that all stakeholders properly understand the changes and the impact they will have on them.

Locally during 2012/13, Wellington took on responsibility for a £150m global equity mandate, and the Fund continued to find opportunities to invest in private equity mandates. The shape of the Fund continued to evolve with the increase in Academy schools. Scheme membership benefitted from the auto-enrolment of just under 1,000 County Council staff under the Government's legislation aimed at driving up numbers of people saving for their retirement (although subsequently around 50% again chose to opt out of the LGPS). The Pension Fund also began the process for appointing a new Custodian to manage the now £1.5bn of assets held by the Fund.

This report sets out in more detail some of the key information with regard to the Pension Fund, including the audited accounts, information on the Fund's investments, the performance of Fund Managers, and the key strategy documents which drive the governance of the Fund.

Background

The Oxfordshire Pension Fund is administered by Oxfordshire County Council. There are now well over 100 employers within the Fund, including 28 Academy Schools. This is a significant increase in employer numbers since last year when there were just 81 employers with active members. The increase reflects the changing nature of public service delivery, with each new Academy and each new service provider following an out-sourcing of previous Council provided services, forming a new employer within the Fund.

Active numbers at March 2013 were up against the same time last year, partly as a result of the near 1,000 County Council staff auto-enrolled in the Fund in February 2013. Total active members were 19,962. The numbers of pensioners and deferred members have also risen to 12,250 and 19,043 respectively.

Importantly, the Fund remains cash positive, collecting around £1m each month more than it pays out by way of benefits. This allows the Fund to retain an investment strategy which maximises the long term returns to the Fund, without the restriction of maintaining high levels of cash or liquid assets to meet pension payments.

Investment Performance and Asset Allocation

Investment Performance over the last year was very positive, with an overall return on the Fund of 14.9%. There was double figure growth across all equity allocations including private equity, as well as in index-linked gilts and corporate bonds. UK Gilts, overseas bonds, property and hedge funds all saw much lower levels of growth.

Foreword by the
Assistant Chief
Executive and
Chief Finance
Officer

Baillie Gifford continued to outperform strongly, beating their benchmark in 2012/13 by 3.6%, leading to an average 3 year outperformance of 5.9%. This helped the overall Fund's performance over a 3 year period to rise by an average of 9.2% per year, beating the benchmark by 0.2%.

The asset allocation remained largely unchanged over the year, with the main change being the transfer of £150m from the temporary passive global equity mandate to the new active mandate under the management of Wellington.

As noted above, the Fund can maintain its current weighting towards growth assets whilst the cash from contributions exceeds the funds required to meet the payment of pensions. This position is constantly kept under review as the reductions in public expenditure continue to reduce the size of the public sector workforce. Auto-enrolment for the larger employers in the Fund may temporarily lead to further increases in Fund membership. However, the proposed 50:50 option in the New Look LGPS 2014 may lead to a reduction in current contributions, whilst the contribution level increases for all higher paid staff may lead to an increased level of opt outs from April 2014 onwards.

The Future

The proposed changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme to be effective from 1 April 2014 are designed to secure the long term sustainability and affordability of the Scheme. Key challenges over the next year therefore are to review the proposals against this objective, and ensure we are in a position to explain the new scheme to employees to maximise scheme membership, and administer the new arrangements. The scale of the change including

the switch from a final salary to a career average scheme, a normal retirement age linked to the state pension age, a new accrual rate of 1/49th compared to the current 1/60th, the introduction of an option to pay half the normal contribution rate in return for half the benefits plus a number of transitional arrangements means this will be no simple challenge.

There will also be the challenge of setting up the new governance arrangements required under the Public Service Pensions Act, including the new Pension Boards which are proposed to comprise equal representation from employers and scheme employees. This challenge will take place against a context of the current Government looking for increased efficiency, cost effectiveness and transparency in the LGPS, and the need to look at closer working or indeed mergers with other LGPS funds.

2013/14 will also see the publication of the next set of triennial valuation results and employer contribution rates applicable from April 2014 onwards. April 2014 also sees further changes to the rules on tax relief on pensions, which will result in many more members of the LGPS facing tax bills in the future on their pension contributions

2013/14 therefore promises to be yet another eventful year for the LGPS in Oxfordshire. We look forward to the challenge.

Sue Scane
Assistant Chief Executive &
Chief Finance Officer
June 2013

Statement of
Responsibilities
for the
Pension Fund

The County Council's Responsibilities

The County Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of the financial affairs of the Pension Fund and to ensure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. For the County Council, that officer is the Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.

The Pension Fund Committee has examined the Pension Fund accounts and authorised the Chairman to approve them on its behalf.

The Responsibilities of the Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer

The Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Pension Fund's accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 ('the Code of Practice').

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the Code of Practice.

The Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Sue Scane
**Assistant Chief Executive &
Chief Finance Officer**

Administering Authority	Oxfordshire County Council PO Box 12 County Hall Oxford OX1 1TH
Administrator	Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer
Pension Fund Committee	Cllr David Harvey (Chairman)
County Council Members	Cllr Bill Service (Deputy Chairman)
2012/13 Membership	Cllr Jean Fooks Cllr Stewart Lilly Cllr Charles Shouler Cllr Roy Darke Cllr Sandy Lovatt
Representatives of District Councils	Cllr Richard Langridge (WODC) Cllr Jerry Patterson (VOWHDC)
Beneficiary Observer	Paul Gerrish (from June 2012)
Independent Investment Adviser	Peter Davies AllenbridgeEpic Investment Advisers Limited
Fund Managers	Adams Street Partners Baillie Gifford Legal & General Investment Management Partners Group UBS Global Asset Management UBS Wealth Management Wellington Management
Actuary	Graeme Muir FFA and Alison Hamilton FFA Barnett Waddingham LLP
Auditor	Ernst & Young LLP
AVC Provider	Prudential Assurance Company Ltd
Corporate Governance & Socially Responsible Investment Service	ISS
Custodian	BNY Mellon
Performance Management	WM Performance Services

How the Scheme Operates

Legal Framework

The Local Government Pension Scheme is a statutory, funded final salary pension scheme. It is "contracted-out" of the state scheme and is termed a defined benefit scheme. The operation of the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund is principally governed by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2007 [as amended] (effective from April 2008). The scheme covers eligible employees and elected members of the County Council, District Councils within the county area and employees of other bodies eligible to be employers in the Scheme. A recent scheme amendment enables the Academy Schools to be a full employer in the scheme in their own right. A list of all those bodies with employees currently participating in the Scheme is shown on pages 8 to 9.

This defined benefit scheme provides benefits related to salary for its members and the benefits are unaffected by the investment return achieved on the Scheme's assets. Pensions paid to retired employees, their dependents, and deferred benefits are subject to mandatory increases in accordance with annual pension increase legislation. Since 2011 the amount has been based the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Pension Investment and Administration is governed by Her Majesty's Customs and Revenue Office (HMRC) setting out personal maximum values of benefit and reporting structures for schemes.

Contributions

The Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund is financed by contributions from employees and employers, together with income earned from investments. The surplus of contributions and investment income over benefits being paid is invested.

The contribution from employees is prescribed by statute at rates between 5.5% and 7.5% of whole time equivalent pensionable earnings.

Employers' contribution rates are set following the actuarial valuation, which takes place every three years. The contribution rate reflects an employer experience, the fund deficit or surplus and is the rate at which employers need to contribute to achieve a 100% funding level projected over twenty five years.

Contribution rates for 2012-13 were based on the completed valuation of the Scheme's financial position as at 31 March 2010 and are shown on pages 8 to 9. The results of the next actuarial valuation, taking place in 2013 will coincide with the introduction of major scheme changes to reflect the outcome of the Hutton Report and required government savings, to be operational from April 2014.

Benefits

The benefits payable under the Scheme are laid down by the 2007 Regulations. Pension payments are guaranteed and any shortfall is met through the Pension Fund linked to employer contribution rates set by the fund valuation. The Scheme is a 'final salary' scheme and provides a pension as a proportion of final salary according to the length of service. A Summary of Benefits is shown on pages 63 to 65.

Overriding legislation

The LGPS exists within rules laid down by HMRC. These provide time limits for benefit payments and also on the member limits to the amount of pension built up within a year and within a lifetime. At retirement a member has to declare any other benefits, not just from the LGPS but all pension

provision, to ensure all benefits are within this limit. A tax charge is imposed if this limit is exceeded or if the member fails to make the declaration. Members can convert a portion of their annual pension to provide a larger tax free lump sum at retirement.

The limits an individual can build up in a year and a lifetime are set by HMRC with additional reporting timetables for fund administration.

Internal Dispute Procedure

The first stage of a dispute is, generally, looked at by the claimants' employer. The second stage referral is to the County Council and the Nominated Person. For information please contact the Pension Services Manager.

Participating Employers

Scheduled Bodies	Contribution Rate		Scheduled Bodies	Contribution Rate	
	Payroll %	Additional Monetary Amount		Payroll %	Additional Monetary Amount
	2012/13	2012/13		2012/13	2012/13
Aspirations Academy Trust	19.3	-	Isis Academy School	19.3	-
Abingdon Town Council	15.1	£11,800	Kidlington Parish Council	15.1	£7,100
Abingdon & Witney College	14.4	£81,000	King Alfred's Academy	19.3	-
Banbury Town Council	15.1	£10,800	Langtree School Academy	19.3	-
Bartholomew School Academy	19.3	-	Lord Williams School	19.3	-
Benson Parish Council	15.1	£1,100	Littlemore Parish Council	*	-
Berinsfield Parish Council	15.1	£400	Malborough CE VC School	19.3	-
Bicester Town Council	15.1	£8,100	Marcham Parish Council	15.1	£400
Burford School	20.0	-	North Hinksey Parish Council	*	-
Carterton Town Council	15.1	£3,300	Northern House School	19.3	-
Cherwell District Council	13.9	£1,005,000	North Oxfordshire Academy	13.1	£33,000
Cherwell School Academy	19.3	-	Old Marston Parish Council	15.1	£300
Chalgrove Parish Council	*	-	Oxford Brookes University	18.5	-
Cheney Academy School	19.3	-	Oxford City Council	20.2	-
Chinnor Parish Council	15.1	£2,200	Oxford & Cherwell College	13.9	£126,000
Chipping Norton School Academy	19.3	-	Oxfordshire County Council	19.3	-
Chipping Norton Town Council	15.1	£1,500	Oxford Diocesan Trust	19.3	-
Cumnor Parish Council	15.1	£400	Oxford Spires Academy	14.5	£32,700
Didcot Girls' Academy	19.3	-	Radley Parish Council	*	-
Didcot Town Council	15.1	£9,000	Risinghurst & Sandhills Parish Council	*	-
Europa School	19.3	-	Rotherfield Greys Parish Council	15.1	£100
Eynsham Parish Council	15.1	£600	Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council	15.1	£200
Faringdon College Academy	19.3	-	Propeller Academy Trust	19.3	-
Faringdon Town Council	15.1	£2,400	Rush Common School Academy	19.3	-
Gillots School Academy	19.3	-	Sonning Common Parish Council	15.1	-
Gosford Hill Academy School	19.3	-	South Oxfordshire District Council	13.3	£350,000
Hanborough Parish Council	15.1	-	St Birinus Academy	19.3	-
Henry Box School	19.3	-	Sutton Courtenay Parish Council	15.1	£600
Hanwell Fields Academy	19.3	-	Thame Town Council	15.1	£12,200
Henley College	14.6	£54,000			
Henley-on-Thames Town Council	15.1	£9,700			

Continued on next page

* No active members at the date of the last valuation (31 March 2010). A contribution rate will be advised by the actuary at the date an active member joins the fund.

Participating
Employers

The Oxford Academy	14.9	£36,000	West Oxfordshire District Council	14.4	£430,000
Vale of White Horse District Council	14.5	£520,000	Wheatley Parish Council	15.1	£600
Wallingford School Academy	19.3	-	Whitchurch Parish Council	*	-
Wallingford Town Council	15.1	£7,000	Witney Town Council	15.1	£12,400
Wantage Town Council	*	-	Woodstock Town Council	15.1	£1,000

Admitted Bodies	Contribution Rate		Admitted Bodies	Contribution Rate	
	Payroll %	Additional Monetary Amount		Payroll %	Additional Monetary Amount
	2012/13	2012/13		2012/13	2012/13
A2 Dominion	13.7	£54,000	Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust	19.3	-
Abingdon Citizens' Advice Bureau	13.7	£1,000	Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust (Reablement)	19.3	-
Allied Healthcare	19.3	-	Oxford Homeless Pathways	13.7	£15,000
Atkins Global	14.6	-	Oxford Inspires	13.1	£5,000
Banbury Citizens Advice Bureau	13.7	£2,000	Oxfordshire Community Foundation	13.7	£1,000
Banbury Homes	13.7	£3,000	Oxfordshire Council for Voluntary Action	13.7	£3,000
Barnardos	19.3	-	Oxfordshire Youth Arts Partnership	13.7	£3,000
CAPITA (Vale)	14.1	£21,000	Reading Quest	*	-
Capita Symonds Ltd	19.3	-	RM Education	12	£1,400
Care Outlook Ltd	19.3	-	SOLL Vale	15.8	£7,000
Carillion (AMBS) Ltd	19.3	-	Sovereign Vale	21.1	-
CfBT Career Service	16.2	£9,000	Stonham Services	13.7	£3,000
Charter Community Housing	15.1	£79,000	Swalcliffe Park School Trust	13.7	£41,000
Community Voice	19.3	-	Thames Valley Partnership	13.7	£6,000
Connexions	19.3	-	The Camden Society - City 1 Contract	19.3	-
Cottsway Housing Association	14.1	£231,000	The Camden Society - City 2 Contract	19.3	-
Elmore Community Services	13.7	£3,000	The Camden Society - North Contract	19.3	-
Fusion Lifestyle	20.2	-	The Camden Society - West Contract	19.3	-
Home Farm Trust - South & Vale 1 Contract	19.3	-	United Sustainable Energy Authority	14.8	£7,000
Home Farm Trust - South & Vale 2 Contract	19.3	-	West Oxon Citizens' Advice Bureau	13.7	£5,000
Leonard Cheshire Disability	19.3	-			
Nexus Community	14.4	-			
Order of St John's Care Trust	19.3	-			
Oxford Archaeological Unit	13.7	£118,000			
Oxford Citizens' Housing Association	19.3	-			
Oxford Community Work Agency	13.7	£7,000			

Investment
Review
2012/13

Economic Background

GDP growth in 2012 was in line with mid-year forecasts, except for a disappointing UK which recorded no growth for the year. The US and Japan each grew by 2%, and China by 8%, but the Eurozone economies contracted by 0.5%. Forecasts for 2013 show an improvement for the UK, and similar numbers to 2012 elsewhere, but these remain below the longer-term trend rates of growth.

Within the Eurozone, fears that Greece would leave the euro – and worries about the situation in Spain and Italy – were alleviated by the European Central Bank (ECB) President Mario Draghi's statement in July that he would do "whatever it takes" to preserve the euro. This was backed up by the launch of the ECB's Outright Monetary Transactions (OMT) policy, under which the ECB would buy shorter-dated government bonds provided the government in question had requested help and agreed to the imposition of fiscal conditions. The policy has not yet been activated, but the yields on Spanish and Italian sovereign bonds have fallen significantly. Elections in Holland and Italy have shown strong support for the anti-austerity candidates, which casts doubt on the political acceptability of further austerity measures. In the UK, the Chancellor has had to admit that his deficit reduction targets will not be met until at least two years later than planned.

The US Federal Reserve has continued its programme of Quantitative Easing, but the Bank of England's programme is in abeyance. The new Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, has overhauled economic policy – announcing a 2% inflation target, fiscal stimulus and structural

reforms – while the Bank of Japan intends to double the money supply in the next two years. This has caused a sharp fall in the yen since November, but an even sharper rise in Japanese equities.

Market Returns

Equity markets began to gain ground in the autumn of 2012, and rose strongly in the first quarter of 2013 as fears regarding a Eurozone breakup and the likelihood of a 'fiscal cliff' in the US subsided. Developed Market equities gave total returns of 15-20% (in £) for the year to March, but returns from Emerging Market equities once again lagged behind. 'Safe haven' government bonds continued to be in demand: 10-year yields fell to below 2% in the US and UK, and below 1.5% in Germany. Peripheral sovereign bonds rose after the ECB statement, and corporate bonds also recorded good gains as their spreads relative to government bonds narrowed.

The Oxfordshire County Council Fund achieved a total return of 14.9% for the year, which was in line with the return on its benchmark.

Outlook

The surge in equity prices in the early months of 2013 has taken most regional indices above their 2007 peaks, and in some cases to all-time highs. Meanwhile yields on government bonds are still being held down by the substantial programmes of Quantitative Easing being run by Central Banks. In time this flow of money will abate, and then the current levels of equity and bond markets will be tested in the light of the outlook for economic growth, corporate profits and inflation.

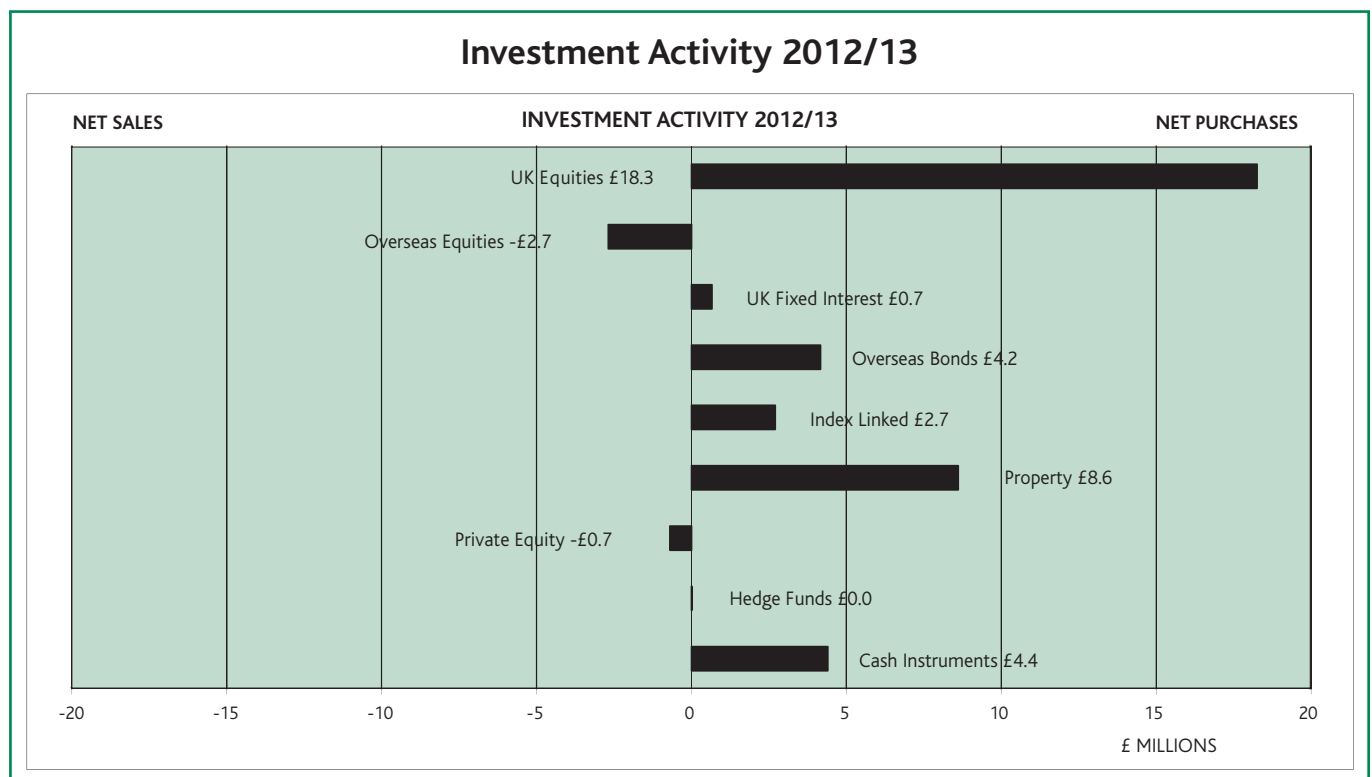
Table showing the total returns (capital plus income) in sterling terms calculated on major indices for the year to 31 March 2013.

SECTOR		INDEX	% Total Returns Year to 31.3.13
Equities	Global	FTSE All World	17.1
	UK	FTSE Actuaries All Share	16.8
	North America	FTSE North American Developed	19.3
	Japan	FTSE Japan Developed	14.3
	Europe	FTSE Europe (ex UK) Developed	17.8
	Asia Pacific (ex Japan)	FTSE Asia Pacific (ex Japan) Developed	20.0
	Emerging Markets	FTSE Emerging Markets	7.6
Bonds	UK Government	FTSE Government UK Gilts All Stocks	5.2
	UK Index-Linked	FTSE Government Index-Linked (over 5 years)	11.7
	UK Corporate Bonds	iBoxx Sterling Non-Gilt All Stocks Index	12.0
	Overseas	JP Morgan Traded WXUK	4.5
Cash	UK	7 DAY £ LIBID INDEX	0.4
Property	UK Commercial	IPD (HSBC) All Balanced Funds Index	1.0

Investment
Review
2012/13

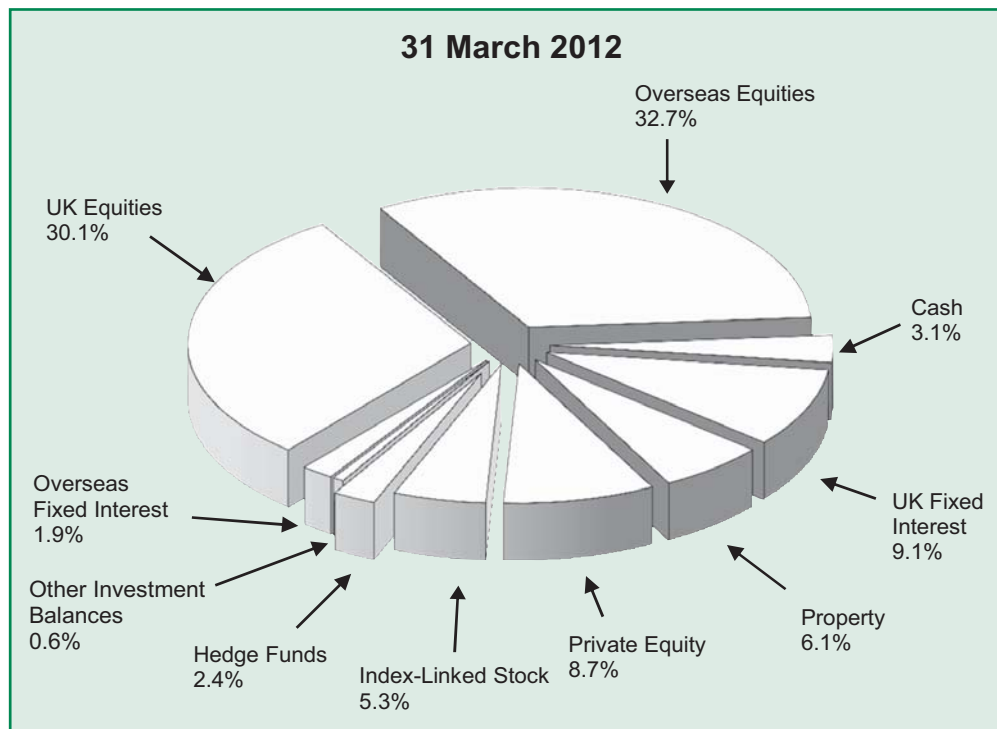
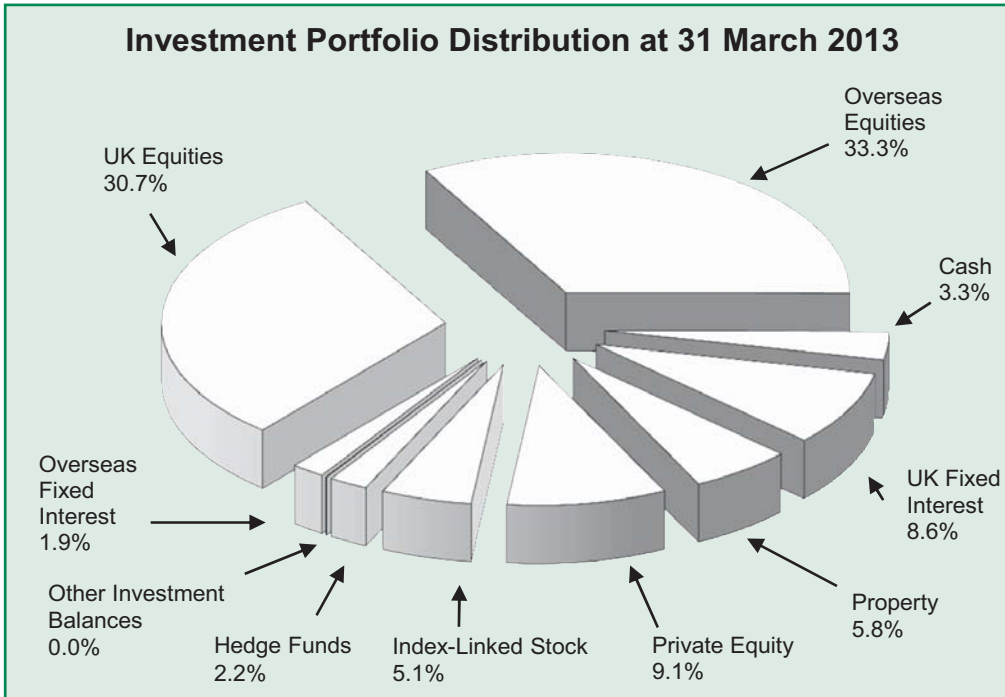
Investment Activity

The Pension Fund invested a net £35 million during the year ended 31 March 2013. The amounts invested or disinvested in each principal category of asset are shown in the chart below.



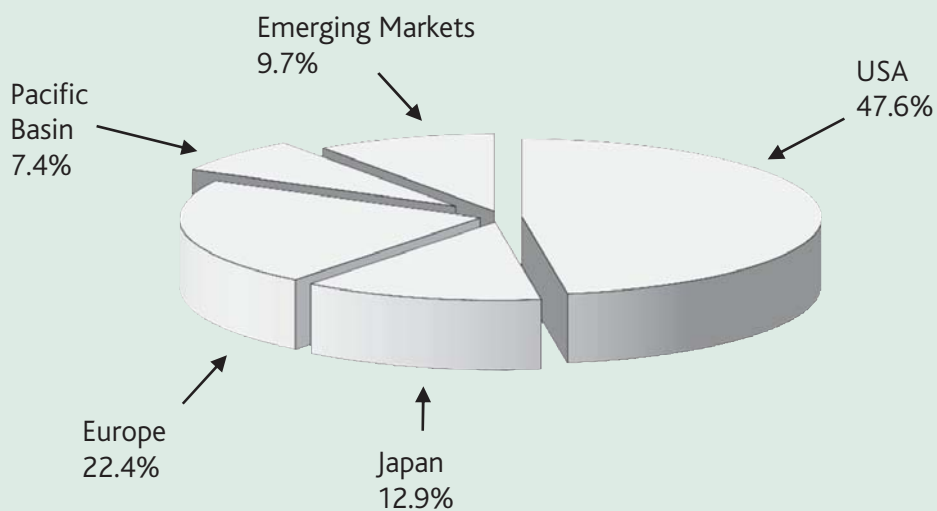
Portfolio Distribution

The distribution of the Pension Fund amongst the principal categories of assets as at 31 March 2013 is shown in the chart below. A comparative chart of the position at 31 March 2012 is also shown. The two further charts show the distribution of overseas investments at 31 March 2013 and 31 March 2012. Changes in the asset weightings, from one year to another, are due to investment activity and market movements.

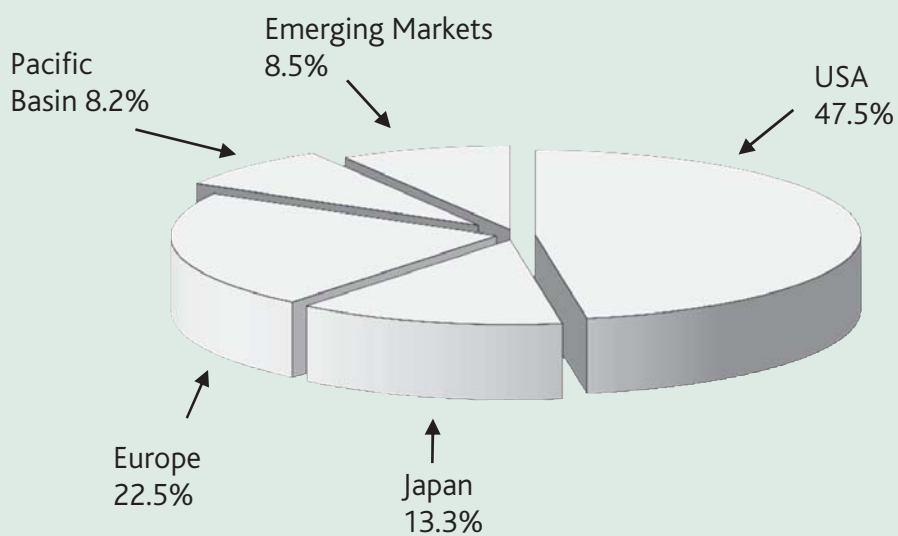


Investment
Review
2012/13

Overseas Investment Distribution at 31 March 2013



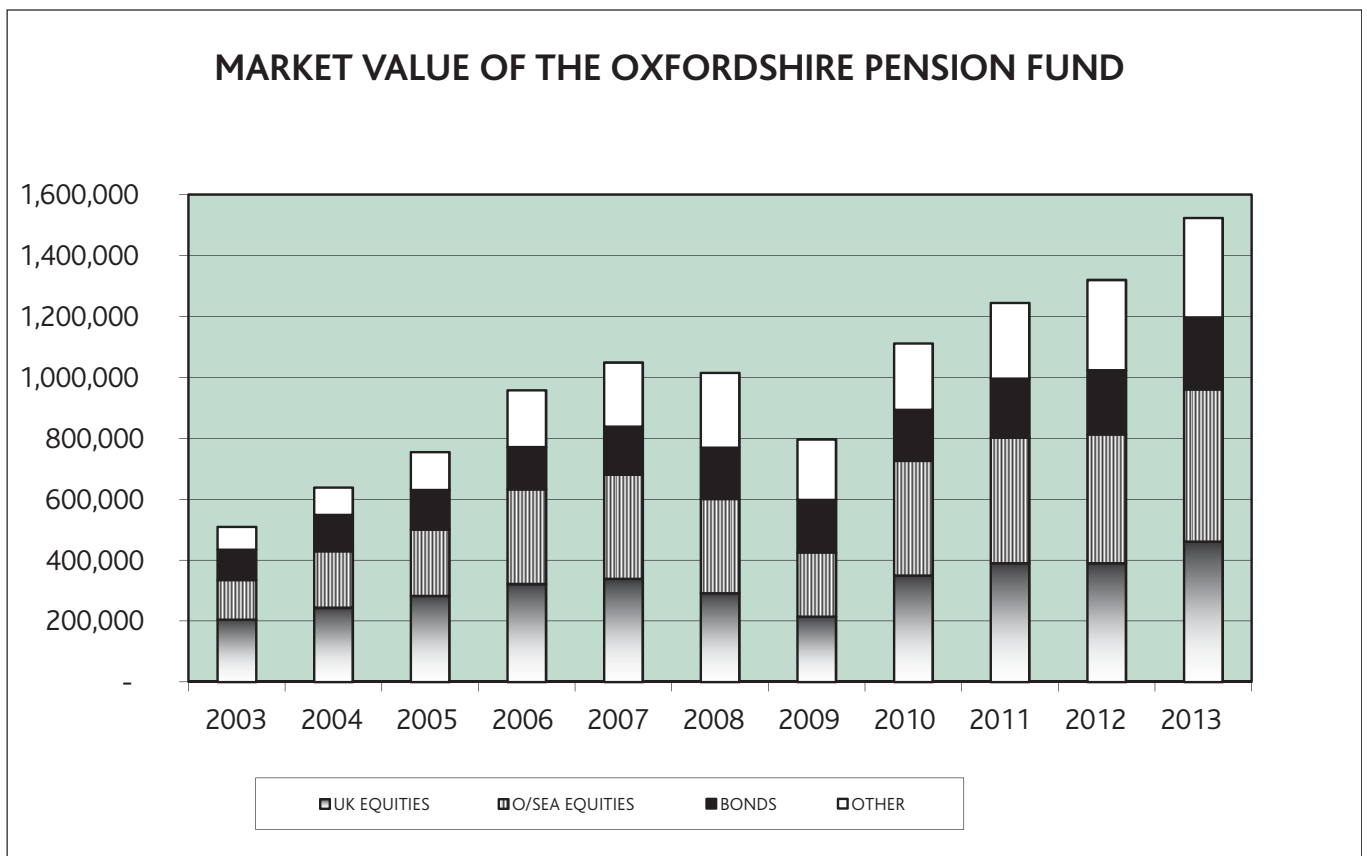
31 March 2012



Portfolio Asset Allocation over the Ten Years to March 2013

The total assets of the Pension Fund have grown from £510 million at end of March 2003 to £1,524 million at end of March 2013 (see chart below).

Over the period the percentage in UK equities decreased from 40.2% to 30.3% and bonds decreased from 19.5% to 15.5%.



Note: In 2008 the basis of valuation changed from mid-price to bid-price

Investment
Benchmark
and
Performance

Investment Benchmark and Performance

2012/13 saw the conclusion of the switch in global equity Manager, a process initiated by the Pension Fund Committee in March 2011 when they sacked the previous Manager. Just over £150m was transferred to Wellington at the beginning of September 2012, with the remaining £100m from the previous mandate remained with Legal & General to manage on a passive basis. There were no other significant changes to the strategic asset allocation during 2012/13. During the year officers meet quarterly to consider the allocation of assets, rebalancing where appropriate after consultation with the Independent Financial Adviser and the Chairman of the Committee.

The Fund uses WM Performance Services to independently measure investment performance. Investment performance returns for all of the Oxfordshire Pension Fund's managers and at the total fund level are reported quarterly to the Pension Fund Committee. A representative from the WM Company also gives an annual presentation to the Committee each August. The table below provides details of the Pension Fund's one and three year investment returns, on an annualised basis, for each asset class.

The tables indicate that performance in 2012/13 was in line with benchmark showing overall returns of 14.9%. The table shows the range of returns across the different asset classes, and the volatility between returns over 1 and 3 years. Performance over 3 years was 0.2% above benchmark, a reversal of the position at the end of March 2012, when 3 year performance was 1.0% below benchmark. The three year figure benefitted in particular from improved performance on both UK equities and private equity.

Asset	Strategic Asset Allocation Benchmark %	One Year Ended 31 March 2013		Three Years Ended 31 March 2013	
		Benchmark Return %	Oxfordshire Total Fund %	Benchmark Return %	Oxfordshire Total Fund %
UK Equities	28.8	16.8	19.1	8.8	12.5
Overseas Equities	19.8	17.2	14.1	8.2	5.4
* Global Equities	14.4	17.1	17.0	8.2	7.0
UK Gilts	3.0	5.2	4.2	8.2	7.3
Index Linked Gilts	5.0	11.7	12.2	13.0	14.1
Overseas Bonds	2.0	3.8	5.3	4.5	5.1
Corporate Bonds	6.0	12.0	11.6	8.6	9.3
Property	8.0	1.0	1.6	5.2	5.7
Private Equity	10.0	24.5	23.1	12.6	15.5
Hedge Funds	3.0	3.7	3.6	3.8	2.8
† Cash	0.0	-	2.2	-	1.1
Total Fund		14.9	14.9	9.0	9.2

* The Global Equity benchmarks have assumed a 10% allocation to UK Equities. In practice the actual allocation will continuously fluctuate.

† Cash includes cash held by Fund Managers.

Investment
Benchmark
and
Performance

The performance of the individual Fund Managers against their benchmark is shown in the following table. Each Fund Manager is given a different target to outperform their benchmark over a three year rolling period. The figures highlight the particularly strong performance of Baillie Gifford over recent years in their management of a UK equity mandate. Over the 3 years to March 2013, they were 5.9% above benchmark. As noted above, Wellington only received funding in September 2012 so have yet to complete a full year's set of results. The Committee remain concerned about the performance figures for UBS across both global equities and hedge funds and keep these areas under close scrutiny.

Fund Manager	Target above Benchmark %	One Year Ended 31 March 2013		Three Years Ended 31 March 2013	
		Benchmark Return %	Oxfordshire Return %	Benchmark Return %	Oxfordshire Return %
Baillie Gifford UK Equities	1.3	16.8	20.4	8.8	14.7
Wellington Overseas Equities	2.0	-	-	-	-
UBS Overseas Equities	1.0	17.2	14.5	7.1	5.6
Legal & General UK Equities - Passive	n/a	15.4	15.5	7.9	8.0
Legal & General Ex UK Equities - Passive	n/a	17.6	17.6	-	-
Legal & General In UK Equities - Passive	n/a	-	-	-	-
Legal & General Fixed Income	0.6	9.8	9.7	9.5	9.9
UBS Property	1.0	1.0	1.2	5.2	5.1
Partners Grp Property	Excess	1.0	6.4	5.2	9.7
Private equity	1.0	24.5	23.1	12.6	15.5
UBS Hedge Funds	Excess	3.7	3.6	3.8	2.8
Cash	n/a	0.4	1.5	0.4	1.4
Total Fund		14.9	14.9	9.0	9.2

Cash held by Fund Managers is included within total Fund Manager performance.

Further investment performance details comparing the Oxfordshire Pension Fund with other local authority funds and indices are shown in the table below:

% Returns per annum for the financial year ended 31 March 2013				
Actual Returns	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Oxfordshire Total Fund Return	14.9	9.2	6.1	9.0
Average Returns and other Comparators				
WM Local Authority Average Return	13.8	8.1	6.5	9.4
Oxfordshire Benchmark	14.9	9.0	7.3	9.7
Retail Price Index	3.3	4.1	3.2	3.3
Average Earnings	-0.1	1.0	1.7	3.4

*The five and ten year benchmark figures are a composite of the current customised benchmark and the previously used peer group benchmark.

Pension Fund
Accounts
2012-13

FUND ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

	Notes	2013	2012
		£000	£000
CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS			
Contributions Receivable	7	(78,406)	(102,349)
Transfers from Other Schemes	8	(5,769)	(6,725)
Other Income	9	(528)	0
Income Sub Total		(84,703)	(109,074)
Benefits Payable	10	65,846	68,041
Payments to and on account of leavers	11	4,215	6,132
Administrative expenses borne by the Scheme	12	1,438	1,360
Other Expenses	9	0	2,748
Expenditure Sub Total		71,499	78,281
Net Additions from dealings with members		(13,204)	(30,793)
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS			
Investment Income	13	(17,850)	(21,855)
Commission Recapture		(1)	0
Profits and losses on disposal of investments and changes in Market Value of Investments	17a	(175,818)	(21,534)
Less Investment Management Expenses	14	3,032	2,159
Less Taxes on Income	13	87	135
Net returns on investments		(190,550)	(41,095)
Net increase in the net assets available for benefits during the year		(203,754)	(71,888)
Opening Net Assets of the Scheme		1,319,994	1,248,106
Closing Net Assets of the Scheme		1,523,748	1,319,994

NET ASSETS AS AT 31 MARCH 2013

	Notes	2013 £000	2012 £000
INVESTMENT ASSETS			
Fixed Interest Securities	17b	65,628	142,416
Index Linked Securities	17b	77,416	68,246
Equities	17b	455,489	231,167
Pooled Investments	17b	676,896	652,936
Pooled Property Investments	17b	86,589	78,731
Private Equity	17b	90,881	72,736
Derivative Contracts	17c	813	932
Cash Deposits	17d	8,995	3,172
Other Investment Balances	17d	4,247	10,687
INVESTMENT LIABILITIES			
Derivative Contracts	17c	(55)	(20)
Other Investment Balances	17d	(5,742)	(3,215)
Total Investments		1,461,157	1,257,788
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
Current Assets	18	50,966	47,212
Current Liabilities	19	(2,505)	(1,471)
Net current assets		48,461	45,741
Long-Term Assets	20	14,130	16,465
Net Assets of the scheme available to fund benefits at year end		1,523,748	1,319,994

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Note 1 – Description of the fund

This description of the fund is a summary only. Further details are available in the Fund's 2012/13 Annual Report and in the underlying statutes.

General

The Oxfordshire County Council Local Government Pension Fund is a statutory, funded final salary pension scheme. It is "contracted-out" of the state scheme and is termed a defined benefit scheme. Oxfordshire County Council is the administering body for this pension fund. The scheme is principally governed by the Superannuation Act 1972. The fund is administered in accordance with Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations. The scheme covers eligible employees and elected members of the County Council, District Councils within the county area and employees of other bodies eligible to join the Scheme.

This defined benefit scheme provides benefits related to salary for its members. Pensions paid to retired employees, their dependents, and deferred benefits are subject to mandatory increases in accordance with annual pension increase legislation. The amount is determined by the Secretary of State.

There were no significant changes to the asset allocation of the fund during 2012/13. As planned, during the year the full balance of £153m that was being held in a transition fund with Legal & General on a pooled basis was transferred to Wellington International Management to form a new active global equities portfolio.

Membership

Members are made up of three main groups. Firstly, the contributors - those who are still working and paying money into the Fund. Secondly, the pensioners - those who are in receipt of a pension and thirdly, by those who have left their employment with an entitlement to a deferred benefit on reaching pensionable age.

Organisations participating in the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund include:

- Scheduled Bodies – Local Authorities and similar bodies, such as Academies, whose staff are automatically entitled to become members of the fund.
- Admitted Bodies – Organisations that participate in the fund under an admission agreement between the fund and the organisation. Admitted bodies include voluntary, charitable and similar bodies or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.
- Admitted Bodies can be split in to two groups:
 - Community Admission Bodies – these are typically employers that provide a public service on a not-for-profit basis and often have links to scheduled bodies already in the fund. Housing Corporations fall under this category.
 - Transferee Admission Bodies – these are bodies that provide a service or asset in connection with the exercise of a function of a scheme employer in certain circumstances. Typically this will be when a service is transferred from

a scheme employer and is to allow continuing membership for staff still involved in the delivery of the service transferred.

Full definitions are contained in The Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008.

The table below details the composition of the Fund's membership:

	As at	As at
	31 March 2013	31 March 2012
Number of Contributory Employees in Scheme		
Oxfordshire County Council	12,070	12,599
Other Scheduled Bodies	6,657	5,241
Admitted Bodies	1,235	742
	19,962	18,582
Number of Pensioners and Dependants		
Oxfordshire County Council	7,219	6,863
Other Scheduled Bodies	4,395	4,244
Admitted Bodies	636	576
	12,250	11,683
Deferred Pensioners		
Oxfordshire County Council	12,721	12,214
Other Scheduled Bodies	5,512	5,207
Admitted Bodies	810	803
	19,043	18,224

Nineteen Scheduled Bodies, of which seventeen are Academies and two are Parish Councils, plus ten Admitted Bodies joined the scheme in 2012/13. There was no significant impact on the membership of the scheme because the majority

of the new bodies are Academies, whose members were previously in the scheme as County Council employees. Scheme membership of other new bodies is small.

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Funding

The Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund is financed by contributions from employees and employers, together with income earned from investments. The contribution from employees is prescribed by statute, and for the year ending 31 March 2013 rates ranged from 5.5% to 7.5% of whole time equivalent pensionable earnings.

Employers' contribution rates are set following the actuarial valuation, which takes place every three years. The next actuarial valuation is to take place in 2013.

Benefits

The benefits payable under the Scheme are laid down by the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits,

Membership & Contributions) Regulations 2007 and are summarised in the following table. Pension payments are guaranteed and any shortfall is met through the Pension Fund through employer contribution rates set by the fund valuation. The Scheme is a 'final salary' scheme and provides a pension as a proportion of final salary according to the length of service.

The scheme also provides a range of other benefits including early retirement, disability pensions and death benefits.

Benefits are index-linked in order to keep pace with inflation. The Government announced in June 2010 that the basis of indexation would change from the retail prices index to the consumer prices index. This change took effect from 1 April 2011.

	Service Pre 1 April 2008	Service Post 31 March 2008
Pension	Each full-time year worked is worth $1/80 \times$ final pensionable salary.	Each full-time year worked is worth $1/60 \times$ final pensionable salary.
Lump Sum	Automatic lump sum of $3 \times$ salary. In addition, part of the annual pension can be exchanged for a one-off tax-free cash payment. A lump sum of £12 is paid for each £1 of pension given up.	No automatic lump sum. Part of the annual pension can be exchanged for a one-off tax-free cash payment. A lump sum of £12 is paid for each £1 of pension given up.

Note 2 – Basis of Preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13.

Regulation 5(2)(c) of the Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 1998 (SI 1998 No 1831) prohibits administering authorities from crediting Additional Voluntary Contributions to the Pension Fund. In consequence Additional Voluntary Contributions are excluded from the Net Assets Statement and are disclosed separately in Note 24.

The accounts summarise the transactions of the scheme and deal with the net assets at the disposal of the Pension Fund Committee members. The accounts do not take account of the obligation to pay future benefits which fall due after the year-end. The actuarial position of the scheme which takes into account these obligations is dealt with in the Actuarial Statement on pages 61 to 62.

Note 3 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Investments

1. Investments are shown in the accounts at market value, which has been determined as follows:
 - (a) The majority of listed investments are stated at the bid price or the last traded price, depending on the convention of the stock exchange on which they are quoted, as at 31 March 2013.
 - (b) Unlisted securities are included at fair value, estimated by having regard to the latest

dealings, professional valuations, asset values and other appropriate financial information;

- (c) Pooled Investment Vehicles are stated at bid price for funds with bid/offer spreads, or single price where there are no bid/offer spreads, as provided by the investment manager.
- (d) Where appropriate, investments held in foreign currencies have been valued on the relevant basis and translated into sterling at the rate ruling on 31 March 2013.
- (e) Fixed Interest stocks are valued on a 'clean' basis (i.e. the value of interest accruing from the previous interest payment date to the valuation date has been included within the amount receivable for accrued income).
- (f) Derivatives are stated at market value. Exchange traded derivatives are stated at market values determined using market quoted prices. For exchange traded derivative contracts which are assets, market value is based on quoted bid prices. For exchange traded derivative contracts which are liabilities, market value is based on quoted offer prices.

Forward foreign exchange contracts are valued by determining the gain or loss that would arise from closing out the contract at the reporting date by entering into an equal and opposite contract at that date.

All gains and losses arising on derivative contracts are reported within 'Change in Market Value'.

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Foreign Currencies

2. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the net assets statement date. Asset and liability balances are translated at the bid and offer rates respectively. Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the date of transaction. Differences arising on investment balance translation are accounted for in the change in market value of investments during the year.

Contributions

3. Employee normal contributions are accounted for when deducted from pay. Employer normal contributions that are expressed as a rate of salary are accounted for on the same basis as employees' contributions, otherwise they are accounted for in the period they are due under the Schedule of Contributions. Employer deficit funding contributions are accounted for on the due dates on which they are payable in accordance with the Schedule of Contributions and recovery plan under which they are being paid.

Employers' pensions strain contributions are accounted for in the period in which the liability arises. Any amount due in year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial asset. Amounts not due until future years are classed as long-term financial assets.

The Actuary at his triennial valuations of the Fund's assets and liabilities determines the employers' rate for contributions. Employees' contributions have been included at rates required by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations.

Benefits, Refunds of Contributions and Transfer Values

4. Benefits payable and refunds of contributions have been brought into the accounts on the basis of all amounts known to be due at the end of the financial year. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the net assets statement as current liabilities. Transfer values are those sums paid to, or received from, other pension schemes and relate to periods of previous pensionable employment. Transfer values have been included in the accounts on the basis of the date when agreements were concluded.

In the case of inter-fund adjustments provision has only been made where the amount payable or receivable was known at the year-end. Group transfers are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the transfer agreement.

Investment Income

5. Dividends and interest have been accounted for on an accruals basis. Dividends from quoted securities are accounted for when the security is declared ex-div. Interest is accrued on a daily basis. Investment income is reported net of attributable tax credits but gross of withholding taxes which are accrued in line with the associated investment income. Irrecoverable withholding taxes are reported separately as a tax charge. Investment income arising from the underlying investments of the Pooled Investment Vehicles is reinvested within the Pooled Investment Vehicles and reflected in the unit price. It is reported within 'Change in Market Value'. Foreign income has been translated into sterling at the date of the

transaction. Income due at the year-end was translated into sterling at the rate ruling at 31 March 2013.

Investment Management and Scheme Administration

6. A proportion of relevant County Council officers' salaries, including salary oncosts, have been charged to the Fund on the basis of time spent on scheme administration and investment related business. The fees of the Fund's general investment managers have been accounted for on the basis contained within their management agreements. Investment management fees are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Expenses

7. Expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Cash

8. Cash held in bank accounts and other readily accessible cash funds is classified under cash balances as it is viewed that these funds are not held for investment purposes but to allow for effective cash management. Cash that has been deposited for a fixed period and has been placed as such as an investment decision has been included under cash deposits.

Note 4 – Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

Unquoted Private Equity Investments

Determining the fair value of unquoted private equity investments is highly subjective in nature. Unquoted private equity investments are valued by the investment managers using various valuation techniques and this involves the use of significant judgements by the managers. The value of unquoted private equity investments at 31 March 2013 was £45.497m (£39.450m at 31 March 2012).

Pension Fund Liability

The pension fund liability is calculated every three years by the funds actuary, with annual updates in the intervening years. Methods and assumptions consistent with IAS19 are used in the calculations. Assumptions underpinning the valuations are agreed with the actuary and are summarised in Note 28. The estimate of the liability is therefore subject to significant variances based on changes to the assumptions used.

Note 5 – Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for the revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

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The key judgements and estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are:-

Item	Uncertainties	Potential Impact
Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on fund assets. The fund engages an actuarial firm to provide expert advice on the assumptions to be applied.	The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits included in the financial statements is £2,305m. There is a risk that this figure is under, or overstated in the note 29 to the accounts.
Unquoted Private Equity	Unquoted private equity investments are valued at fair value using recognised valuation techniques. Due to the assumptions involved in this process there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	Unquoted private equity investments included in the financial statements total £45.497m. There is a risk these investments are under, or overstated in the accounts.
Fund of Funds Hedge Funds	Fund of Funds Hedge Fund investments are valued based on the sum of the fair values provided by the administrators of the underlying funds, plus adjustments that directors of the fund of funds deem appropriate. As these investments are not publicly listed there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	The total value for Fund of Funds Hedge Funds included in the financial statements is £32.842m. There is a risk that these investments could be under, or overstated in the accounts.

Note 6 – Events After the Balance Sheet Date

There have been no events since 31 March 2013, and up to the date when these accounts were signed, which require any adjustments to these accounts.

Note 7 – Contributions

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Employers		
Normal	(41,381)	(41,769)
Augmentation	0	(26)
Deficit Funding	(16,523)	(37,858)
Costs of Early Retirement	(1,831)	(3,527)
	(59,735)	(83,180)
Members		
Normal	(18,321)	(18,694)
Additional*	(350)	(475)
	(18,671)	(19,169)
Total	(78,406)	(102,349)

Deficit funding contributions are being paid by the employers into the scheme in accordance with a 25 year recovery plan, with the exception of one employer who has a 12 year recovery plan.

*Local Government Scheme Additional Employees contributions are invested within the Fund, unlike AVCs which are held separately, as disclosed in Note 24.

	Employer Contributions		Members Contributions	
	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Oxfordshire County Council	(31,967)	(35,662)	(9,819)	(10,907)
Scheduled Bodies	(22,845)	(43,015)	(7,483)	(6,900)
Resolution Bodies	(607)	(530)	(198)	(196)
Community Admission Bodies	(3,087)	(3,131)	(790)	(954)
Transferee Admission Bodies	(1,229)	(842)	(381)	(212)
Total	(59,735)	(83,180)	(18,671)	(19,169)

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Note 8 – Transfers in

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Group Transfers In from other schemes	0	(131)
Individual Transfers In from other schemes	(5,769)	(6,594)
Total	(5,769)	(6,725)

Note 9 – Other Income and Expenses

Other Income for 2012/13 of £0.528m reflects the interest resulting from the unwinding of the discount for the long-term receivable recognised for transfers to Magistrates' Courts. In 2011/12 there were £2.748m of Other Expenses which related to the difference between the cash payments due and the value of these payments on a discounted cash-flow basis in relation to transfers to Magistrates' Courts (see note 20 for further details).

Note 10 – Benefits

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Pensions Payable	52,673	47,843
Lump Sums - Retirement Grants	11,593	18,513
Lump Sums - Death Grants	1,580	1,685
Total	65,846	68,041

	Pensions Payable		Lump Sums	
	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Oxfordshire County Council	26,281	23,599	7,045	11,873
Scheduled Bodies	23,577	21,698	4,653	6,429
Resolution Bodies	430	399	56	44
Community Admission Bodies	1,742	1,656	831	1,108
Transferee Admission Bodies	643	491	588	744
Total	52,673	47,843	13,173	20,198

Note 11 – Payments to and on account of leavers

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Refunds of Contributions	6	18
Payments for members joining state schemes	(5)	(4)
Group Transfers Out to other schemes	0	0
Individual Transfers Out to other schemes	4,214	6,118
Total	4,215	6,132

Note 12 – Administrative Expenses

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Employee Costs		
- Administrative	697	727
- Investment	178	184
Support Services Including ICT	67	52
Actuarial Fees	17	35
External Audit Fees	48	24
Internal Audit Fees	14	14
Printing & Stationary	34	28
Advisory & Consultancy Fees	50	56
Other	333	240
Total	1,438	1,360

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Note 13 – Investment Income

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Fixed Interest Securities	(2,071)	(6,258)
Index Linked Securities	(1,593)	(2,119)
Equity Dividends	(10,030)	(9,081)
Pooled Property Investments	(2,976)	(2,913)
Pooled Investments – Unit Trusts & Other Managed Funds	0	(364)
Interest on Cash Deposits	(287)	(241)
Private Equity Income	(861)	(832)
Other – Securities Lending	(32)	(47)
	(17,850)	(21,855)
Irrecoverable Withholding Tax – Equities	87	135
Total	(17,763)	(21,720)

Note 14 – Investment Management Expenses

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Management Fees	2,858	2,104
Custody Fees	76	42
Performance Monitoring Service	13	13
Other	85	0
Total	3,032	2,159

Investment Manager & Custody Fees are mostly calculated on a fixed sliding scale basis and are applied to the market value of the assets managed.

Note 15 – Securities Lending

In April 2004 the Fund introduced an arrangement with its custodian BNY Mellon to lend eligible securities from within its portfolio of stocks to third parties in return for collateral. Lending is limited to a maximum of 25% of the aggregate market value of the Fund. Collateralised lending generated income of £0.032m in 2012/13 (2011/12 £0.047m). This is included within investment income in the Pension Fund Accounts. At 31 March 2013 £22.999m of stock (1.51% of the Fund) was on loan, for which the Fund was in receipt of £23.723m worth of collateral. Collateral consists of acceptable securities and government and supranational debt.

Note 16 – Related Party Transactions

The Pension Fund is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Pension Fund or to be controlled or influenced by the Pension Fund. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Pension Fund might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Pension Fund.

Members of the Pension Fund Committee and the post of Service Manager (Pensions, Insurance & Money Management) are the key management personnel involved with the Pension Fund. During 2012/13 the Committee consisted of seven County Councillors, two District Councillors and a beneficiary observer. Members of the Pension Fund Committee are disclosed in the Pension Fund Report and Accounts. An amount of £0.056m was paid to Oxfordshire County Council in respect of key management compensation during the financial year as follows:

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Short Term Benefits	47*	44
Long Term/Post Retirement Benefits	9	9
Total	56	53

*Includes allowance paid to Chairman of Pension Fund Committee

These figures represent the relevant proportion of the salary and employer pension contributions for the key Council staff, reflecting their work for the Pension Fund.

As the County Council is the designated statutory body responsible for administering the Oxfordshire Pension Fund, it is a related party.

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For the 12 months ended 31 March 2013, employer contributions to the Pension Fund from the County Council were £31.967m (2011/12 £35.662m). At 31 March 2013 there were receivables in respect of contributions due from the County Council of £2.356m and payables due to the County Council of £0.069m for support services.

The County Council was reimbursed £1.042m (2011/12 £1.035m) by the Pension Fund for administration costs incurred by the County Council on behalf of the Pension Fund.

Note 17 – Investments

	Value at 31.3.2013 £000	Value at 31.3.2012 £000
<u>Investment Assets</u>		
Fixed Interest Securities	65,628	142,416
Index Linked Securities	77,416	68,246
Equities	455,489	231,167
Pooled Investments	676,896	652,936
Pooled Property Investments	86,589	78,731
Private Equity	90,881	72,736
Derivatives:		
- Forward Currency Contracts	813	932
Cash Deposits	8,995	3,172
Investment Income Due	2,961	3,977
Amounts Receivable for Sales	1,286	6,710
Total Investment Assets	1,466,954	1,261,023
<u>Investment Liabilities</u>		
Derivatives:		
- Forward Currency Contracts	(55)	(20)
Investment Expenses Due	(1,111)	(630)
Amounts Payable for Purchases	(4,631)	(2,585)
Total Investment Liabilities	(5,797)	(3,235)
Net Investment Assets	1,461,157	1,257,788

Note 17a – Reconciliation of Movements in Investments and Derivatives

	Value at 1.4.2012	Purchases at Cost & Derivative Payments £'000	Sales Proceeds & Derivative Receipts £'000	Change in Market Value £'000	Cash Movement £'000	Increase in Receivables/ (Payables) £'000	Value at 31.3.2013 £'000
Fixed Interest Securities	142,416	90,494	(169,110)	1,828			65,628
Index Linked Securities	68,246	51,302	(48,597)	6,465			77,416
Equities	231,167	217,227	(58,568)	65,663			455,489
Pooled Investments	652,936	267,180	(324,129)	80,909			676,896
Pooled Property Investments	78,731	10,145	(1,537)	(750)			86,589
Private Equity	72,736	2,860	(6,249)	21,534			90,881
Derivative Contracts							
FX	912	4,360	(4,815)	301			758
Other Investment Balances							
Cash Deposits	3,172	40,019	(35,619)	(132)	1,555		8,995
Amounts Receivable for Sales of Investments	6,710					(5,424)	1,286
Investment Income Due	3,977					(1,016)	2,961
Amounts Payable for Purchases of Investments	(3,215)					(2,527)	(5,742)
	1,257,788	683,587	(648,624)	175,818	1,555	(8,967)	1,461,157

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Included within the below purchases and sales figures are transaction costs of £0.336m. Costs are also borne by the scheme in relation to transactions in pooled investment vehicles. However, such costs are taken into account in calculating the bid/offer spread of these investments and are not therefore separately identifiable.

There have been no employer-related investments at any time during the year.

	Value at 1.4.2011	Purchases at Cost & Derivative Payments £'000	Sales Proceeds & Derivative Receipts £'000	Change in Market Value £'000	Cash Movement £'000	Increase in Receivables/ (Payables) £'000	Value at 31.3.2012 £'000
Fixed Interest Securities	130,276	250,385	(245,422)	7,177			142,416
Index Linked Securities	62,860	144,562	(150,766)	11,590			68,246
Equities	443,438	24,327	(241,264)	4,666			231,167
Pooled Investments	420,125	518,547	(285,719)	(17)			652,936
Pooled Property Investments	75,241	4,797	(2,339)	1,032			78,731
Private Equity	76,979	2,357	(4,330)	(2,270)			72,736
<u>Derivative Contracts</u>							
Futures	28		(59)	31			0
FX	(985)	2,454	(2,073)	1,516			912
<u>Other Investment Balances</u>							
Cash Deposits	5,875	42,809	(42,633)	(2,191)	(688)		3,172
Amounts Receivable for Sales of Investments	1,746					4,964	6,710
Investment Income Due	4,046					(69)	3,977
Amounts Payable for Purchases of Investments	(3,290)					75	(3,215)
	1,216,339	990,238	(974,605)	21,534	(688)	4,970	1,257,788

Note 17b – Analysis of Investments (Excluding Derivative Contracts)**Fixed Interest Securities**

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
UK Public Sector	33,327	57,939
UK Other	3,570	60,423
Overseas Public Sector	28,731	24,054
	65,628	142,416

Index linked Securities

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
UK Public Sector Index Linked	77,416	68,246
	77,416	68,246

Equity Investments

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
UK Listed Equities	290,833	231,167
Overseas Listed Equities:		
North America	91,275	0
Japan	14,503	0
Europe	30,329	0
Pacific Basin	4,552	0
Emerging Markets	23,997	0
	455,489	231,167

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Pooled Investment Vehicles

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
UK Registered Managed Funds – Property	18,250	18,286
Non UK Registered Managed Funds - Property	18,023	15,660
UK Registered Managed Funds - Other	391,229	400,972
Non UK Registered Managed Funds – Other	96,581	84,578
UK Registered Property Unit Trusts	45,100	39,582
Non UK Registered Property Unit Trusts	5,216	5,203
Non UK Registered Unit Linked Insurance Fund	189,085	167,386
	763,484	731,667

Private Equity

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Listed Investments	90,872	72,727
Unlisted Investments	9	9
	90,881	72,736

Total Investments (excluding derivative contracts)

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
	1,452,898	1,246,232

Note 17c – Derivative Contracts

Objectives and policies

The Pension Fund Committee have authorised the use of derivatives by their Investment Managers as part of their investment strategy for the pension scheme.

The main objectives and policies followed during the year are summarised as follows:

Forward Foreign Exchange – in order to maintain appropriate diversification of investments within the portfolio and take advantage of overseas investment returns, a proportion of the underlying investment portfolio is invested overseas. To balance the risk of investing in foreign currencies whilst having an obligation to settle benefits in Sterling, a currency hedging programme, using forward foreign exchange contracts, has been put in place to reduce the currency exposure of these overseas investments to the targeted level.

Hedge Funds

IFRS accounting requires that the Fund discloses information on fair value hedges, cash flow hedges and hedges of net investments in foreign operations. The Fund has exposure to such hedges through its £32.842m investment in a Fund of Funds Hedge Fund. As the Fund has no direct ownership in these hedge arrangements, with all decisions made by the Fund Managers rather than the Oxfordshire Pension Fund, the hedge disclosure requirements are deemed not to apply.

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Forward Foreign Exchange (FX)

The scheme had open FX contracts at the year-end as follows:

Contract	Settlement Date	Currency Bought '000	Currency Sold '000	Asset value At year end £000	Liability value At year end £000	Net Forward Currency Contracts £000
Forward OTC	3 months	1,287 GBP	1,920 USD	22		
Forward OTC	3 months	453 GBP	695 CAD	3		
Forward OTC	3 months	97 GBP	930 SEK	3		
Forward OTC	3 months	140 GBP	1,195 DKK	4		
Forward OTC	3 months	10,572 GBP	12,100 EUR	329		
Forward OTC	3 months	9,802 GBP	14,600 USD	183		
Forward OTC	3 months	9,187 GBP	1,316,000 JPY		(40)	
Forward OTC	3 months	990 USD	665 GBP		(12)	
Forward OTC	1 month	1,001 EUR	847 GBP		(1)	
Forward OTC	2 months	825 USD	545 GBP		(2)	
Forward OTC	2 months	943 GBP	1,113 EUR	1		
Forward OTC	3 months	15,253 GBP	17,710 EUR	263		
Forward OTC	1 month	822 USD	643 EUR	3		
Forward OTC	1 month	1,412 USD	1,101 EUR	2		
Forward Currency Contracts at 31 March 2013				813	(55)	758
Prior Year Comparative						
Forward Currency Contracts at 31 March 2012				932	(20)	912

Note 17d Other Investment Balances

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
<u>Receivables</u>		
Sale of Investments	1,286	6,710
Dividend & Interest Accrued	2,810	3,865
Inland Revenue	144	105
Other	7	7
	4,247	10,687
<u>Payables</u>		
Purchase of Investments	(4,631)	(2,585)
Management Fees	(1,077)	(625)
Custodian Fees	(34)	(5)
	(5,742)	(3,215)
Total	(1,495)	7,472

Cash Deposits

	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000
Non-Sterling Cash Deposits	8,995	3,172
	8,995	3,172

The following investments represent more than 5% of the net assets of the scheme

	2012/13 £000	% of Total Fund	2011/12 £000	% of Total Fund
UBS Global Optimal Thirds	189,086	12.41	167,386	12.68
L&G World Equity Index	0	0.00	154,443	11.70
L&G UK FTSE100 Equity Index	151,058	9.91	130,835	9.91
L&G World (ex-UK) Equity Index	128,102	8.41	100,139	7.59
L&G Core Plus Bond Fund	92,649	6.08	0	0.00

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Note 18 – Current Assets

2012/13	Central Government Bodies £'000	Local Authorities £'000	NHS Bodies £'000	Public Corporations & Trading Funds £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Receivables:						
Employer Contributions	2,121	4,231	20	52	518	6,942
Employee Contributions	0	1,410	6	16	64	1,496
Transferred Benefits	0	542	0	0	0	542
Costs of Early Retirement	0	927	0	43	236	1,206
Inland Revenue	21	0	0	0	0	21
Other	46	163	0	3	94	306
Cash Balances	0	0	0	0	40,453	40,453
Total	2,188	7,273	26	114	41,365	50,966

2011/12	Central Government Bodies £'000	Local Authorities £'000	NHS Bodies £'000	Public Corporations & Trading Funds £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Receivables:						
Employer Contributions	2,122	4,283	1	4	233	6,643
Employee Contributions	0	1,446	0	2	77	1,525
Transferred Benefits	0	176	0	0	0	176
Costs of Early Retirement	0	1,097	0	13	254	1,364
Inland Revenue	60	0	0	0	0	60
Other	46	151	0	14	18	229
Cash Balances	0	0	0	0	37,215	37,215
Total	2,228	7,153	1	33	37,797	47,212

Note 19 – Current Liabilities

2012/13	Central Government Bodies £'000	Local Authorities £'000	Public Corporations & Trading Funds £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Transferred Benefits	0	(1,359)	0	0	(1,359)
Benefits Payable	0	(79)	0	(15)	(94)
Inland Revenue	(736)	0	0	0	(736)
Costs of Early Retirement	(201)	0	0	0	(201)
Staff Costs	0	(69)	0	0	(69)
Consultancy	0	0	(4)	0	(4)
Other	(1)	(6)	(33)	(2)	(42)
Total	(938)	(1,513)	(37)	(17)	(2,505)

2011/12	Central Government Bodies £'000	Local Authorities £'000	Public Corporations & Trading Funds £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Transferred Benefits	0	(112)	0	(183)	(295)
Benefits Payable	0	(209)	0	(22)	(231)
Inland Revenue	(665)	0	0	0	(665)
Costs of Early Retirement	(201)	0	0	0	(201)
Staff Costs	0	(31)	0	0	(31)
Consultancy	0	0	(9)	0	(9)
Other	(1)	(7)	(6)	(25)	(39)
Total	(867)	(359)	(15)	(230)	(1,471)

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Note 20 – Long-Term Assets

2012/13	Central Government Bodies £'000	Local Authorities £'000	NHS Bodies £'000	Public Corporations & Trading Funds £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Employer Contributions	13,148	0	0	0	0	13,148
Costs of Early Retirement	0	742	0	81	159	982
Total	13,148	742	0	81	159	14,130

2011/12	Central Government Bodies £'000	Local Authorities £'000	NHS Bodies £'000	Public Corporations & Trading Funds £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Employer Contributions	14,806	0	0	0	0	14,806
Costs of Early Retirement	0	1,274	0	11	374	1,659
Total	14,806	1,274	0	11	374	16,465

Long-Term assets for 2012/13 include deferred receivables in relation to the transfer of staff to Magistrates' Courts for which the payment of £21.860m is due to be received in ten equal annual instalments, in line with the national agreement reached between Actuaries on behalf of Pension Funds, and the Government Actuary Department on behalf of the Government.

Note 21 – Assets under External Management

The market value of assets under external fund management amounted to £1,344.655m as at 31 March 2013. The table that follows gives a breakdown of this sum:

	2012/13		2011/12	
	Market Value £000	%	Market Value £000	%
Alliance Bernstein	0	0.00	117	0.01
Baillie Gifford	304,811	22.67	253,802	21.26
Legal & General	521,324	38.77	606,360	50.78
UBS	286,281	21.29	290,216	24.30
Wellington	180,813	13.45	0	0.00
Adams Street Partners	18,166	1.35	13,888	1.16
Partners Group	33,260	2.47	29,750	2.49
	1,344,655	100.00	1,194,133	100.00

Note 22 – Top 5 Holdings

Value of the Fund's Top Five Holdings	£000	% of Fund
Electra Investment Trust	24,022	1.58
HG Capital Trust	22,860	1.50
British American Tobacco	15,249	1.00
HSBC Holdings	14,237	0.93
BG Group PLC	12,055	0.79

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Note 23 – Taxation

The scheme is a 'registered pension scheme' for tax purposes under the Finance Act 2004. As such the fund is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains. However, the Scheme cannot reclaim certain amounts of withholding taxes relating to overseas investment income which are suffered in the country of origin.

Note 24 – Additional Voluntary Contributions

	Market Value 31 March 2013 £000	Market Value 31 March 2012 £000
Prudential	14,534	14,517

AVC contributions of £1.671m were paid directly to Prudential during the year (2011/12 - £1.711m).

The AVC provider to the Fund is the Prudential. The assets of these investments are held separately from the Fund. The AVC provider secures additional benefits on a money purchase basis for those members electing to pay additional voluntary contributions. Members participating in this arrangement each receive an annual statement confirming the amounts held in their account and the movements in the year.

Note 25 – Contingent Liabilities and Contractual Commitments

There are two contingencies to note:

- 1) The Museums, Libraries and Archive (MLA) Council. Staff from three of the regional MLA employers who were previous members of the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund transferred to the MLA Council on 6 April 2009 and 31 March 2010. Actuaries are currently working on the calculation of the payments to be made to the Premium section of the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme in relation to the transfer of past service rights.
- 2) The Pension Fund received a Final Determination from the Pension Ombudsman, in which he has instructed the Administering Authority to pay compensation to a complainant as a result of mal-administration. The final level of compensation is contingent on the circumstances of the complainant over the next 11 years, though the maximum payment has been calculated as approximately £0.2m plus pensions increase.

As at 31 March 2013 the fund had outstanding capital commitments (investments) totalling £59.970m (31 March 2012 - £48.825m). These commitments relate to outstanding call payments due on unquoted limited partnership funds held in the private equity and pooled property fund elements of the investment portfolio. The amounts 'called' by these funds are irregular in both size and timing from the date of the original commitment due to the nature of the investments.

Note 26 – Contingent Assets

An estimated bulk transfer payment of £0.6m is due to Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund. The date for settling this balance has yet to be agreed.

Two Admitted Body employers in the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund hold insurance bonds to guard against the possibility of being unable to meet their pension obligations to the fund. These bonds are drawn in favour of the pension fund and payment of the bond will only be triggered in an event of default by the employer.

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Note 27 – Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

	2013 £000	2012 £000
Present Value of Funded Obligation	2,304,966	2,083,843

Present Value of Funded Obligation consists of £1,833.996m (2012 – £1,683.817m) in respect of Vested Obligation and £470.970m (2012 – £400.026m) in respect of Non-Vested Obligation. The movement from March 2012 can in part be explained by the normal changes over the year as new benefits are accrued and previous benefits paid out. This explains an increase in the present value of the Funded Obligation of £114.361m (2012 - £94.843m).

There has been a further increase in the present value of the Funded Obligation of £106.762m (2012 - £304.242m) reflecting a change in the actuarial assumptions as a consequence of changes in the financial markets. The key changes in financial assumptions were:

- An increase in the assumed level of CPI and therefore pension increase from 2.5% to 2.6% (net effect an increase in Present Value of Funded Obligation)
- An increase in the assumed level of pay increases from 4.7% to 4.8% (net effect an increase in Present Value of Funded Obligations)
- A reduction in the discount factor from 4.6% to 4.5% (net effect an increase in Present Value of Funded Obligations).

Note 28 – Financial Instruments**Note 28a – Classification of Financial Instruments**

The following table analyses the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities by category and net assets statement heading. No financial assets were reclassified during the accounting period.

	2012/13			2011/12		
	Fair Value Through Profit & Loss £000	Loans & Receivables £000	Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost £000	Fair Value Through Profit & Loss £000	Loans & Receivables £000	Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost £000
Financial Assets						
Fixed Interest Securities	65,628			142,416		
Index Linked Securities	77,416			68,246		
Equities	455,489			231,167		
Pooled Investments	676,896			652,936		
Pooled Property Investments	86,589			78,731		
Private Equity	90,881			72,736		
Derivatives	813			932		
Cash		49,448			40,387	
Other Investment Balances	4,103			10,582		
Receivables		65			72	
	1,457,815	49,513	0	1,257,746	40,459	0
Financial Liabilities						
Derivatives	(55)			(20)		
Other Investment Balances	(5,742)			(3,215)		
Payables			(108)			(58)
	(5,797)	0	(108)	(3,235)	0	(58)
Total	1,452,018	49,513	(108)	1,254,511	40,459	(58)

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Note 28b – Fair Value of Financial Instruments and Liabilities

The carrying values of the financial assets and liabilities compared with their fair values are summarised below by instrument class.

	2013		2012	
	Carrying Value £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Value £000	Fair Value £000
Financial Assets - Current				
Loans & Receivables	49,513	49,513	40,459	40,459
Financial Assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,404,114	1,404,114	1,212,278	1,212,278
	1,453,627	1,453,627	1,252,737	1,252,737
Financial Assets – Long-Term				
Financial Assets at fair value through profit or loss	53,701	53,701	45,468	45,468
Financial Liabilities – Current				
Amortised Cost	(108)	(108)	(58)	(58)
Financial Liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(5,797)	(5,797)	(3,235)	(3,235)
	(5,905)	(5,905)	(3,293)	(3,293)
Total	1,501,423	1,501,423	1,294,912	1,294,912

The Fair Value of operational debtors and creditors, cash and short-term deposits, is assumed to be equal to the carrying value.

Note 28c – Net Gains and Losses on Financial Instruments

	31 March 2013 £000	31 March 2012 £000
<u>Financial Assets</u>		
Fair Value through Profit and Loss	175,650	22,209
Loans and Receivables	(132)	(2,191)
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>		
Fair Value through Profit and Loss	301	1,516
Financial Liabilities Measured at Amortised Cost	0	0
Total	175,819	21,534

Note 28d – Valuation of Financial Instruments Carried at Fair Value

Financial instruments have been classified in to one of the following three categories to reflect the level of uncertainty in estimating their fair values:

Level 1

Fair value is derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2

Fair value is based on inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable either directly (i.e., from prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices).

Level 3

Fair value is determined by reference to valuation techniques using inputs that are not observable in the market.

Included within Level 3 are pooled private equity investments made in Limited Liability Partnerships where fair value is determined using valuation techniques which involve significant judgements by fund managers due to the unquoted nature of the fund investments. Fund of funds hedge fund investments are included within Level 3 of the hierarchy as the fair value is based on the sum of the fair values of the underlying funds, which are unlisted, as provided by the fund administrators and is subject to adjustments by the Directors of the fund of funds as deemed appropriate. Some listed private equity investments have been included within Level 3 of the hierarchy where it has been determined that the market for the fund is inactive.

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Categorisation of financial instruments within the levels is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of the instrument.

The following table presents the Fund's financial assets and liabilities within the fair value hierarchy.

Values at 31 March 2013	Level 1 £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	Total £000
<u>Financial Assets</u>				
Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit and Loss	617,520	749,787	93,862	1,461,169
Loans and Receivables	21,190	24,968	0	46,158
Total Financial Assets	638,710	774,755	93,862	1,507,327
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>				
Financial Liabilities at Fair Value through Profit and Loss	(5,742)	(55)	0	(5,797)
Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost	(108)	0	0	(108)
Total Financial Liabilities	(5,850)	(55)	0	(5,905)
Net Financial Assets	632,860	774,700	93,862	1,501,422

Values at 31 March 2012	Level 1 £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	Total £000
<u>Financial Assets</u>				
Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit and Loss	403,222	766,546	87,978	1,257,746
Loans and Receivables	19,001	21,458	0	40,459
Total Financial Assets	422,223	788,004	87,978	1,298,205
<u>Financial Liabilities</u>				
Financial Liabilities at Fair Value through Profit and Loss	(3,215)	(20)	0	(3,235)
Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost	(58)	0	0	(58)
Total Financial Liabilities	(3,273)	(20)	0	(3,293)
Net Financial Assets	418,950	787,984	87,978	1,294,912

Purchases and sales represent -£0.175m of the movement in assets classified under level 3 of the hierarchy between 2011/12 and 2012/13. The remaining movement is made up of £2.498m of realised profits and £3.561m from the movement in fair value estimated using valuation techniques.

Note 29 – Risk

The Pension Fund is subject to risk in terms of its key responsibility to meet the pension liabilities of the scheme members as they become due. These risks relate to the value of both the assets and the liabilities of the Fund and the timing of when the payment of the liabilities becomes due.

At a strategic level, the main tools used by the Pension Fund to manage risk are:

- The triennial Fund Valuation which reviews the assets and liabilities of the Fund, and resets employer contribution rates to target a 100% Funding Level. The 2010 Valuation estimated that the current Funding Level is only 79%, but set contribution rates to address the deficit over the next 25 years.
- The Statement of Investment Principles which sets out the Fund's approach to the investment of funds, and specifically sets out the approach to the mitigation of investment risk.
- The review of the Strategic Asset allocation to ensure compliance with the Statement of Investment Principles.
- The regular review of the performance of all Fund Managers.

Key elements of the approach to managing the investment risk as set out in the Statement of Investment Principles include:

- Maintaining an element of the asset allocation in fixed income securities, the behaviour of which most closely mirrors that of the Fund liabilities. The allocation to fixed income securities is constantly reviewed with the proposal that the allocation will increase as the maturity of the fund increases. Whilst the Fund maintains a high proportion of active members where the payment of liabilities is not due for many decades, the Fund can afford to seek the higher investment returns associated with the more volatile asset classes.
- Maintaining an element of the asset allocation in passive equity funds which remove the risk associated with poor manager performance (though retaining the market risk).
- Ensuring a diversification amongst asset groups, and in particular an allocation to alternative asset classes for which performance has historically not correlated to equity performance.
- Ensuring a diversification of Fund Managers and investment styles (e.g. some with a growth philosophy, some with a value philosophy) to mitigate the risk of poor manager performance impacting on asset values.
- Restrictions on investments in line with the LGPS Investment Management Regulations, which set limits for total exposure to different investment classes, investment types etc.

The key risks associated with the level of liabilities stem from the level of initial pension benefit payable, the indexation of this benefit and the time the benefit is in payment for. These risks largely lie outside the control of the Pension Fund. Management of these risks is a key element of the Government's current review of all public sector pension schemes. The recent proposals agreed by the employers and unions subject to wider consultation link normal retirement age to future estimates of life expectancy to bring

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stability to the length of time benefits are in payment, the introduction of career average revalued earnings schemes to avoid the sudden hike possible in final benefits under a final salary scheme, and the switch to indexation under CPI. The new scheme is planned to take effect from 1 April 2014.

The Actuary when completing the 2010 Valuation undertook sensitivity analysis calculations to look at the impact on potential liabilities and the funding level. A variation of 0.5% per annum in the discount rate would move the calculated funding level from 79% down to 73% or up to 85%. A change in mortality rates of 10% per annum would lead to a reduction in the funding level to 77% or an increase to 81%.

In terms of the investment in the various Financial Instruments open to the Pension Fund, the Fund is exposed to the following risks:

- Credit risk – the possibility of financial loss stemming from other parties no longer being able to make payments or meet contractual obligations to the Pension Fund.
- Liquidity Risk – the possibility that the Pension Fund might not have the funds available to meet its payment commitments as they fall due.
- Market Risk – the possibility that the Pension Fund may suffer financial loss as a consequence of changes in such measures as interest rates, market prices, and foreign currency exchange rates.

Credit Risk

In terms of the Pension Fund, the credit risk is largely associated in terms of the Fund's investments in Fixed Interest and Index Linked Securities, Cash Deposits and Short Term loans, where the risk is that the other parties fail to meet the interest payment or to return the Fund's investment at the end of the investment period.

At 31 March 2013 the Fund's exposure to credit risk was therefore limited to the following investments:

Investment Category	31 March 2013 £000	31 March 2012 £000
UK Government Gilts	33,328	57,939
UK Corporate Bonds	96,219	60,423
UK Index Linked Gilts	77,416	68,246
Overseas Government Bonds	28,731	24,054
Non-Sterling Cash Deposits	8,995	3,172
Cash Balances	40,453	37,215
Total	285,142	251,049

The Pension Fund manages the credit risk by ensuring a diversification of investments both in terms of product and in terms of redemption dates whilst limiting investments made to sub-investment grade bonds to those made through pooled funds. Corporate Bonds are held through a pooled fund vehicle and up to 15% of holdings can be in sub-investment grade bonds. Cash held in Sterling at 31 March 2013 was deposited in short-term notice cash accounts and money market funds as shown in the table below:

	Rating	Balance as at 31 March 2013 £000	Rating	Balance as at 31 March 2012 £000
<u>Money Market Funds</u>				
Deutsche Managed Sterling Fund	AAA	21,324	AAA	19,016
Ignis Asset Management	AAA	0	AAA	543
<u>Bank Deposit Accounts</u>				
Royal Bank of Scotland Plc	A	8,773	A	8,497
Euroclear Bank S.A.	AA+	876	AA+	397
UBS AG	A	0	A	4
Santander UK Plc	A	501	A	0
<u>Bank Current Accounts</u>				
Lloyds TSB Plc	A	8,979	A	8,758
Total		40,453		37,215

The Pension fund has no experience of default against which to quantify the credit risk against the current investments.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will be unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. At the present time, the Liquidity risk is seen, relatively, as the greatest threat to the Pension Fund, although the absolute risk itself is still seen to be very low, particularly in the short term.

During 2012/13 the Pension Fund received/accrued contributions of £84.7m (2011/12 - £109.0m) and paid out benefits of £71.5m (2011/12 - £78.3m). There were further receipts/accruals of £17.9m (2011/12 - £21.9) in respect of investment income, against which need to be set investment management fees of £3.0m (2011/12 - £2.2m) and taxes of £0.1m (2011/12 - £0.2m). The net inflow was therefore £28.0m (2011/12 - £50.2m).

These figures indicate significant levels of flexibility around the levels of cash available to meet liabilities as they are due. A cash flow forecast is maintained for the Fund to understand and manage the timing of the Fund's cash flows. On a daily basis, the Fund holds a minimum of £10m of cash in call accounts and money

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market funds to meet benefit payments due, drawdowns from the private equity fund managers, and other payments due from the Fund.

For the Fund to be required to liquidate assets at financial loss would therefore require a significant change in either the levels of contributions received, and/or the levels of benefits payable as well as the loss of all current investment income.

There are risks in this area going forward as a result of the scale of the reductions in public expenditure, and the forthcoming changes to the local government pension scheme. The reductions in public sector expenditure will impact on the liquidity of the Pension Fund both in terms of a reduction in contributions receivable as the workforce shrinks, as well as an increase in benefits payable as staff above the age of 55 are made redundant and become entitled to early payment of their pension.

The risks associated with the reform of the LGPS are largely in respect of the contributions receivable (benefits in payment are unlikely to be significantly impacted in the short term, and are likely to reduce in the longer term). These risks are seen to have reduced in light of the specific proposals now issued for consultation. The fact that no staff on salaries below £43,000 will see an increase in their contribution rate has reduced the risk of widespread opt out, though the risk still remains. Similarly, confirmation of the retention of the Fair Deal provisions reduces the sudden loss of significant contributions on the outsourcing of services, though this remains a longer term risk to the on-going liquidity of the Fund. The new element of risk introduced by the proposals relates to the introduction of an option to pay 50% of your contribution for 50% of your future benefits. If this option sees a significant take up, this will impact on current contributions received.

The Fund's auto-enrolment staging date was 1 February 2013. This has resulted in an initial increase in contribution levels. Opt-out rates will need to be monitored to evaluate the impact this will have on the Fund's cashflow going forward.

However, as noted above, for the Fund to reach a position where it is forced to sell assets and therefore face a potential financial loss (as well as to forego future investment returns which have been assumed to meet pension liabilities in the future), the net movement in cash would be equivalent to a reduction in contributions received in the region of 50% or an increase in benefits payable in the region of 70%. Movements of this scale are deemed highly unlikely. The Pension Fund will seek to mitigate these risks through advice to the Government on the impact of any proposals for change, as well as clear communication to current scheme members of the on-going benefits of scheme membership and the personal risks to their future financial prospects of opting out at this time.

Market Risk

The whole of the Pension Fund's investment asset base is subject to financial loss through market risk, which includes the impact of changes in interest rates, movements in market prices and movements in foreign currency rates. However, as noted above under the liquidity risk, these financial losses are not automatically

realised, as all assets held by the Pension Fund are done so on a long term basis. Subject to the liquidity risk above, it is many years into the future before any assets will be required to be realised, during which time market risk will have the opportunity to even itself out.

Market risk is generally managed through diversification of investments within the portfolio in terms of asset types, geographical and industry sectors, and individual securities.

Whilst widespread recession will drive down the value of the Fund's assets and therefore funding level in the short term, this will have no direct bearing on the long term position of the Fund, nor the contribution rates for individual employers. Under the LGPS Regulations, the Fund Actuary is required to maintain as near stable contribution rate as possible, and as such the Valuation is based on long term assumptions about asset values, and all short term movements smoothed to reflect the long term trends.

Interest Rate Risk

The direct exposure of the fund to interest rate risk and the impact of a 100 basis point movement in interest rates are presented in the table below. This analysis assumes that all other variables remain constant:

Asset Type	Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2013 £000	Change in Year in the Net Assets Available to Pay Benefits	
		+1% £000	-1% £000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	8,995	90	-90
Cash Balances	40,453	405	-405
Fixed Interest Securities	235,694	2,357	-2,357
Total Change in Assets Available	285,142	2,852	-2,852

Asset Type	Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2012 £000	Change in Year in the Net Assets Available to Pay Benefits	
		+1% £000	-1% £000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,172	32	-32
Cash Balances	37,215	372	-372
Fixed Interest Securities	210,662	2,107	-2,107
Total Change in Assets Available	251,049	2,511	-2,511

In the short term, interest rate risk is difficult to quantify in that it impacts directly on both the price of fixed interest and index linked securities as well as the discount factor used to value liabilities. Increases in interest rates which will drive down security prices and asset values will also reduce the future pension liabilities and therefore improve funding levels rather than worsen them.

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Currency Risk

Currency risk concerns the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to foreign exchange risk on financial instruments that are denominated in currencies other than the Fund's functional currency (£GBP). Risks around foreign currency rates are mitigated in part by allowing the Fund Managers to put in place currency hedging arrangements up to the value of the stock held in a foreign currency (also see note 17c).

Based on the Fund's exposure to various currencies at 31 March 2013 and data on the level of volatility associated with these currencies provided by the Fund's performance monitoring service provider it has been determined that the likely volatility associated with exchange rate movements is 5.8%. This is based on a one standard deviation movement in the foreign exchange data over a 36 month period and is adjusted for currency correlation. The inclusion of currency correlation is an addition from the previous year which will act to dampen volatility and has been incorporated to more accurately reflect the currency risk the Fund is exposed to.

This analysis assumes that all other variables remain constant.

The table below shows the impact a 5.8% weakening/strengthening of the pound against the various currencies would have on the assets available to pay benefits:

Currency Exposure - Asset Type	Asset Values as at 31 March 2013 £000	Change in Year in the Net Assets Available to Pay Benefits	
		+5.8% £000	-5.8% £000
Overseas Equities	164,656	9,483	(9,483)
Pooled Overseas Equities	335,438	19,318	(19,318)
Private Equity	6,035	348	(348)
Pooled Private Equity (LLPs)	43,222	2,489	(2,489)
Pooled Property	23,239	1,338	(1,338)
Cash	8,995	518	(518)
Total Change in Assets Available	581,585	33,494	(33,494)

Currency Exposure - Asset Type	Asset Values as at 31 March 2012 £000	Change in Year in the Net Assets Available to Pay Benefits	
		+9.6% £000	-9.6% £000
Overseas Bonds	24,054	2,309	(2,309)
Private Equity	6,395	614	(614)
Pooled Private Equity (LLPs)	37,620	3,612	(3,612)
Pooled Property	6,019	578	(578)
Cash	3,172	304	(304)
Total Change in Assets Available	77,260	7,417	(7,417)

Pension Fund
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Other Price Risk

Other price risk represents the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk.

All investments in securities present a risk of loss of capital. The maximum risk is the fair value of the financial instrument.

Based on an analysis of historical data by the Fund's performance monitoring service provider, movements in market price that are reasonably possible have been determined. This is based on a one standard deviation movement in historical price data over a 36 month period. These are presented in the table below along with the effect on total assets available to pay benefits assuming all other factors remain constant:

Asset Type	Value as at 31 March 2013 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on Increase £000	Value on Decrease £000
UK Equities	461,312	12.8	520,314	402,310
Pooled Overseas Equities	500,094	14.9	574,558	425,630
UK Bonds	129,547	4.4	135,234	123,860
Overseas Bonds	28,731	2.4	29,432	28,030
UK Index Linked Bonds	77,416	8.4	83,950	70,883
Pooled Hedge Funds	32,842	2.8	33,775	31,910
Private Equity	90,881	13.7	103,313	78,448
Pooled Private Equity (LLPs)	45,488	8.4	49,291	41,685
Pooled Property	86,589	1.6	88,009	85,168
Cash	49,448	0.0	49,458	49,438
Total Assets Available to Pay Benefits	1,502,348		1,631,549	1,373,145

The totals for value on increase and value on decrease do not equal the total of the values for the individual asset classes. This is because the impact of correlation across asset classes has been incorporated at total asset level.

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2012-13

Asset Type	Value as at 31 March 2012 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on Increase £000	Value on Decrease £000
UK Equities	389,943	14.1	444,925	334,961
Pooled Global Equities	142,056	16.6	165,638	118,475
Pooled Overseas Equities	280,975	17.4	329,865	232,085
UK Bonds	118,362	4.7	123,926	112,800
Overseas Bonds	24,054	2.5	24,655	23,452
UK Index Linked Bonds	68,246	7.7	73,501	62,991
Pooled Hedge Funds	31,688	3.7	32,860	30,515
Private Equity	72,736	15.4	83,937	61,535
Pooled Private Equity (LLPs)	39,441	18.7	46,816	32,065
Pooled Property	78,731	5.2	82,825	74,637
Cash	40,387	0.0	40,387	40,387
Total Assets Available to Pay Benefits	1,286,619		1,449,335	1,123,903

Audit Report

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund

Opinion on the pension fund financial statements

We have audited the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March

2013 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The pension fund financial statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes 1 to 30. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13.

This report is made solely to the members of Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the authority and the authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer's Responsibilities set out on page 8, the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts, which includes the pension fund financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Statement of Accounts 2012/13 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the pension fund financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2013 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2013; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13.

Opinion on other matters

In our opinion, the information given in the Statement of Accounts 2012/13 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Peter O'Neill

**for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP,
Appointed Auditor**

Reading

September 2013

Statement of the Actuary for the year ended 31 March 2013

Introduction

The last full triennial valuation of the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund ("the Fund") was carried out as at 31 March 2010 in accordance with the Funding Strategy Statement of the Fund. The results were published in the triennial valuation report dated March 2011.

2010 Valuation Results

The results of the valuation of the Fund were as follows

- The Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund had a funding level of 79%, i.e. the assets amounted to 79% of the liability promises made as at that valuation date. This corresponded to a deficit of £287.1m at that time.
- The overall contribution rate was set at 19.0% of payroll and assumed that the funding level was to be restored over a 25 year period.
- The common contribution rate was set at 19.0% of payroll and individual employers paid this rate plus individual adjustments reflecting their own experience in the Fund.

Valuation method

The contribution rates were calculated using the Projected Unit Method or the Attained Age Method. Employers remaining open to new entrants were valued on the Projected Unit Method, whereas the employers who did not allow new entrants to join were valued using the Attained Age Method.

Contribution Rates

The contributions rates, in addition to those paid by the members of the Fund, are set to be sufficient to meet

- The additional annual accrual of benefits allowing for future pay increases and increases to pension in payment when these fall due
- plus an amount to reflect each participating employer's notional share of value of the Fund's assets compared with 100% of their liabilities in the Fund in respect of service to the valuation date.

Key Financial Assumptions

The liabilities were valued allowing for expected future investment returns and increases to benefits as determined by market levels at the valuation date as follows;

Rate of return on investments	6.7% per annum
Rate of increases in pay	5.0% per annum
Rate of Increases to pensions in payment	3.0% per annum

Asset valuation

To be consistent with the assumptions used to value the liabilities the assets were valued at their smoothed market value over the 6 months spanning the date of valuation.

Actuarial Statement

Post Valuation Events – Changes in market conditions

Since March 2010, investment returns have been close to the assumptions made at the 2010 valuation. Liabilities will have increased slightly due to a slight decrease in the real discount rate underlying the valuation funding model.

We will be reviewing the methods and assumptions to be used at the 2013 valuation including the determination of discount rates as well as the allowance of future mortality improvements. There may also be other changes to the assumptions and methodology reflecting more recent experience and data that has become available.

The contribution rates resulting from the 2013 valuation will take effect from 1 April 2014 and will also allow for the expected changes to the benefits that will come into force from that date.

Graeme Muir FFA

Partner

17 September 2013

Barnett Waddingham
Public Sector Consulting

Introduction

Membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) secures entitlement to benefits that are determined by statute, contained within the LGPS Regulations. The regulations current for this year's report were effective from April 2008. A summary of the main benefit structure follows. There is further specific information in the sections, making up an Employee Guide currently held on the pension pages of the County public website www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/pensions

Employers' Discretion

The regulations require each employer within the Oxfordshire Fund to determine their own local policy in specific areas. These policy statements have to be published and kept under review.

The specific areas include how employers will exercise discretionary powers to award additional membership to an active member, award additional pension for a member, agreement to early or flexible retirement on request of the member and setting up a shared cost AVC scheme.

Retirement

Although the scheme retirement age is 65 for men and women, membership of the scheme continues when employment continues after age 65. All pensions must be paid before the 75th birthday.

Scheme benefits can be taken after leaving employment from age 60, but the benefit payable may be reduced. Alternatively when retirement is deferred until after age 65, the benefit will be increased.

The regulations confirm 'normal retirement age' to be 65, but protection is offered to those members

who previously had the entitlement for earlier retirement with an unreduced benefit. The protections offered are limited according to the age of the member and may not apply on the whole of their membership.

The earliest age for payment of pensions increased to 55 from April 2008 but is only permitted with the employer's approval.

Flexible retirement options, now from 55 were introduced from April 2006. A person could reduce their hours or grade and request a payment of pension while continuing in employment. Employers have to agree to the whole arrangement.

Ill health retirement – the Regulations now provide 3 tiers of benefit depending upon the likelihood of the member being able to obtain gainful employment in the future. An employer's assessment for ill health pension is based upon capability to carry out duties of the member's current job and must be supported by appropriate independent medical certification.

From age 55, unreduced benefits are payable immediately when an employer terminates employment due to a redundancy or efficiency dismissal.

Benefits

A retirement benefit, whether payable immediately or deferred, consists of an annual retirement pension and lump sum retirement grant for membership to 31 March 2008 and an annual retirement pension on membership from April 2008 (see below). However there is an option for members to convert pension to lump sum retirement grant. The minimum period of membership to qualify for retirement benefits is 3

Summary of Benefits at March 2013

months. The standard pension calculation, for membership to 31 March 2008, is 1/80 of final years' pensionable pay for each year of membership and the retirement grant is 3/80 of final year's pensionable pay for each year of membership. From 1 April 2008 the standard calculation is 1/60 of final years' pensionable pay for each year of membership.

Example – retirement in 2013

25 years membership, final pay £15,000

Annual Pension

20 years \times 1/80 \times £15,000 = **£3,750**

5 years \times 1/60 \times £15,000 = **£1,250**

Retirement Grant

20 years \times 3/80 \times £15,000 = **£11,250**

Members can choose at retirement to exchange pension for a larger retirement grant lump sum. AVC funds can also be used to provide a larger tax free lump sum. This combined lump sum can be up to 25 percent of the member's individual total pension fund value.

There are differences for elected members: Final pay is derived from career average pay and the benefit calculation remains for the time being as 1/80 for annual pension and 3/80 retirement grant.

Liability to pay future benefits

The Pension Fund financial statements provide information about the financial position, performance and financial arrangements of the Fund. They are intended to show the results of the stewardship and management, that is the

accountability of management for the resources entrusted to it, and of the disposition of its assets at the period end. The only items that are required to be excluded by regulations are liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future, which are reported upon in the actuary's statement.

Increasing Benefits

Scheme members have several options as to how they increase their benefits, additional contributions to the LGPS or by contributing to the group AVC scheme arranged with the Prudential. **Additional Regular contributions** (ARC's) to the LGPS can buy units of additional pension for the member or the member and the dependants. Each unit buys £250 of annual pension (to a maximum of £5000). Members apply to Pension Services for quotations, although an online ready-reckoner is on our website. **Prudential AVCs.** A member's additional contributions are invested by the Prudential to enable an annuity to be bought at retirement either from the Prudential, on the open market or as a top up pension with the LGPS. In certain protected circumstances the AVC value may also be used to buy additional LGPS membership

Members may also make their own arrangements using a stakeholder pension or an FSAVC.

Death

Following a death in service a death grant of up to three times pensionable pay is payable. Scheme members are recommended to keep their 'expression of wish' nominations current.

Widows' and Widowers' Pension; Civil Partners' Pension; Nominated co-habiting partners' Pension

The formula for pensions for surviving partners is 1/160 of the members' final year's pensionable pay for the allowable membership.

For a widow or widower married before the member left employment all of membership can be used.

For civil partners and nominated cohabiting partners only membership from 6 April 1988 is allowable for pension calculations.

A co-habiting partner must be nominated and couple's declaration must be held on the pension record to show that they qualify under the LGPS rules.

Once in payment a pension for the surviving partner is payable for their lifetime.

Leaving the Scheme

With less than 3 months membership leavers can choose between a refund of their contributions, or a transfer to an approved scheme. Taking a refund could affect any other benefits held in the LGPS.

Entitlement to a deferred benefit exists when membership is of at least 3 months duration. The deferred benefit remains within this fund until retirement or an earlier transfer to an approved scheme.

Early Retirement

Most early retirement, (where an employer decision results in the release an unreduced benefit), incur a cost to the pension fund. Employers are advised of these costs to enable them to make informed decisions about the early release of benefit. The Pension Fund recoups the cost direct from employers who agree early retirements.

Statement of Investment Principles

Introduction

Oxfordshire County Council has drawn up this Statement of Investment Principles to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009. The Authority has consulted its actuary and independent financial adviser in preparing this statement.

Investment policy falls into two parts: strategic management and day-to-day management. The strategic management of the assets is the responsibility of the Authority and is driven by its investment objectives set out below. Day-to-day management of the assets is delegated to investment managers as described in the management of the assets section below.

Overall Responsibility

The County Council is the designated statutory body responsible for administering the Oxfordshire Pension Fund on behalf of the constituent Scheduled and Admitted Bodies. The Council is responsible for setting investment policy, appointing suitable persons to implement that policy and carrying out regular reviews and monitoring of investments.

The review and monitoring of investment performance and fund administration is delegated to the County Council's Pension Fund Committee. The Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer has delegated powers for investing the Oxfordshire Pension Fund in accordance with the policies determined by the Pension Fund Committee. The Committee is comprised of seven County Councillors plus two District Council representatives. A beneficiaries' representative attends Committee meetings as a non-voting member.

The Committee meets quarterly and is advised by the Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer and the Fund's Independent Financial Adviser. The Committee members are not trustees, although they have similar responsibilities.

Investment Objectives and Strategy

Investment Objectives

The investment objectives are:

1. to achieve a 100% funding level;
2. to ensure there are sufficient liquid resources available to meet the Fund's current liabilities and investment commitments;
3. for the overall Fund to outperform the benchmark, set out in the next section, by 1.0% per annum over a rolling three-year period.

In looking to deliver these objectives the Committee will take into account the fact that the Fund is immature with the cash received from employer and employee contributions exceeding the cash required to pay benefits and the costs of administering the Fund. This enables the Committee to take a long term view.

Risk

There are several risks to which any pension fund is exposed. The overriding risk is a deterioration of the funding level of the Fund. This could be caused by the differential movement of markets within the global economy or investment managers performing poorly and not achieving their target rate of return, or even their benchmark return.

Statement of
Investment
Principles

To mitigate such risks, the following strategy has been adopted:

- retaining a proportion of investments in bonds to reflect potential changes in liabilities;
- investing a proportion of the fund passively to limit the impact of poor performance by investment managers;
- diversification of investments, including investing in alternative assets with a low degree of correlation;
- use of a number of different investment managers to spread the risk of poor performance.
- diversification of investment styles, e.g. growth and value

Investment managers are required to implement appropriate risk management measures and to operate in such a way that the possibility of undershooting the performance target is kept within acceptable limits. The managers report on portfolio risk each quarter.

Strategic asset allocation

In September 2009 the Pension Fund Committee agreed a customised benchmark for the strategic allocation of assets. This was most recently endorsed in March 2011 and is set out in the table below:

Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation %	Range %
<u>UK Equities</u>		
– passively managed	10	
– actively managed	21	
Total UK Equities	31	29-33
<u>Overseas Equities</u>		
– passively managed	8	
– actively managed	24	
Total Overseas Equities	32	30-34
TOTAL EQUITIES	63	59-67
UK Gilts	3	
Index Linked Gilts	5	
Overseas Bonds	2	
Corporate Bonds	6	
TOTAL BONDS & INDEX LINKED	16	14-18
Property	8	5-9
Private Equity	10	6-11
Hedge Funds	3	2-4
Cash	0	0-5
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	21	
TOTAL ALL ASSETS	100	

Statement of
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Management of the Assets

Following a fundamental review of the management of the Funds assets in 2003, the Committee decided to switch from investment managers with a balanced mandate to a specialist management structure. As part of this review the Committee, advised by the Independent Financial Adviser, took over responsibility for strategic asset allocation. Once every three years, following the actuarial valuation, there is a fundamental review of how the assets are managed. The last such review was undertaken in March 2011. The assets are currently managed as set out in the following table.

Asset Class	Investment Manager	Benchmark	Annual Target
UK Equities	Baillie Gifford Legal & General	FTSE Actuaries All-Share FTSE 100	+1.25% Passive
Overseas Equities	UBS Global Asset Management	Various FTSE geographical indices	+1.0%
Global Equities	Wellington Legal & General	FTSE All World FTSE All World	+2.0% Passive
Bonds & Index Linked - UK Gilts - Index Linked - Corporate bonds - Overseas bonds	Legal & General	FTSE A All Gilts Stocks FTSE A Over 5 year IBoxx Sterling Non-Gilts JPMorgan Global Govt (ex UK) traded bond	+ 0.6%
Property	UBS Global Asset Management	IPD UK All Balanced Funds Index weighted average	+1.0%
Private Equity - Quoted Inv. Trusts - Limited Partnerships	Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer Adams Street Partners Group	FTSE smaller companies (including investment trusts)	+ 1.0%
Hedge Funds	UBS Wealth Management	3 month Libor	+ 3.0%
Cash	Internal	3 month Libor	-

Target performance is based on rolling 3-year periods

Legal & General have been given control ranges for each of the four sub categories of bonds & index linked. UBS Global Asset Management have been given control ranges for overseas equities relating to investment in their Global Pooled Fund and emerging markets. These ranges have been drawn up to ensure the Fund's investments remain well diversified.

Restrictions on Investment

The investment managers are prohibited from holding investments not defined as 'investments' in the LGPS (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009. Use of derivatives and currency hedging is permitted within pre-agreed limits. Underwriting is permitted, provided that the underlying stock is suitable on investment grounds and complies with existing investment criteria.

The regulations limit the powers of the Council to invest. The key restrictions are:

- not more than 10% (15%) of the Fund may be invested in unlisted securities of companies;
- not more than 10% of the Fund may be held in any single holding;
- not more than 10% of the Fund may be held as a deposit in any single bank, institution or person;
- not more than 2% (5%) of the Fund may be contributed to a single partnership
- not more than 5% (30%) of the Fund may be contributed to partnerships in total.
- not more than 10% of the Fund may be deposited or loaned to local authorities
- not more than 25% (35%) of the Fund may be invested in open ended investment companies where the collective investment schemes constituted by the companies are managed by one body.
- Not more than 25% (35%) in any single insurance contract.

Where figures are quoted in brackets, the Council could increase its limit as long as certain conditions are met.

The Council has determined to increase its limits as follows:

- to increase the limit on the proportion of the Fund that may be invested in any single insurance contract
- the limit on this investment has been increased to 35%
- this increase has been agreed to ensure that Legal and General retain the flexibility to manage their fixed income mandate within the limits previously set. Currently, Legal and General manage the allocations for passive UK and overseas equities, and the allocation for corporate bonds through a single insurance contract. Whilst the benchmark figure for the combined allocation to these funds is 24%, the flexibility provided to Legal and General to switch between corporate bonds and other elements of the fixed income mandate means the total allocation could rise above 27%. As the three component parts of the Legal and General contract are diversified, and operated within strict limits, it is not felt that this increase in overall limit exposes the Fund to undue risk.
- The increase has been agreed for a period not exceeding 18 months, and follows on from an agreement which covered the previous 2 years.
- The increase will be reviewed as part of the 2014 Fundamental Asset Allocation Review and expires no later than 5 November 2014.
- The decision to increase the limit has been made in accordance with the Regulations.

Statement of Investment Principles

Realisation of Investments

Investment managers are required to maintain portfolios which consist of assets that are readily realisable. Any investment within an in-house or pooled fund which is not readily tradable requires specific approval. It is recognised that investment in Limited Partnership private equity funds are long term investments and as such are not readily realisable.

Monitoring and review

The individual manager's performance, current activity and transactions are monitored quarterly by the Pension Fund Committee. Investment management performance of the Fund is reviewed annually upon receipt of the annual report prepared by WM Performance Services.

Social, Environmental & Ethically Responsible Investment

The Council's principal concern is to invest in the best interests of the Fund's employing bodies and beneficiaries. Its Investment Managers are given performance objectives accordingly. However, the Council requires its Investment Managers to monitor and assess the social, environmental and ethical considerations, which may impact on the reputation of a particular company when selecting and retaining investments, and to engage with companies on these issues where appropriate. The Council believes that the operation of such a policy will ensure the sustainability of a company's earnings and hence its merits as an investment; it will also assess the company's sensitivity to its various stakeholders.

The Investment Managers report at quarterly intervals on the selection, retention and realisation of investments on the Council's behalf. These Report/Review Meetings provide an opportunity for the Council to influence the Investment Manager's choice of investments but the Council is careful to preserve the Investment Manager's autonomy in pursuit of their given performance. The Council will use meetings to identify Investment Managers' adherence to the policy and to ask Investment Managers to report regularly on any engagement undertaken.

Exercise of Rights attached to Investments

The Council takes an interest in the way the companies in which it has made investments manage their affairs. It will always exercise its voting rights to promote and support good corporate governance and socially responsible corporate behaviour.

In practice its Investment Managers are delegated authority to exercise voting rights in respect of the Council's holdings. Voting decisions are fully delegated to fund managers, subject to an annual review by the Pension Fund Committee.

Investment Managers are required to report quarterly on action taken. The Council, through its Investment Managers, may act with other pension funds to influence corporate behaviour and, apart from the exercise of voting rights in concert with others, may make direct representation to the boards of companies through its Investment Managers in concert with others, on issues of social responsibility.

Custody & Stock Lending

Custodian services are provided by BNY Mellon. In accordance with normal practice, the Scheme's share certificates are registered in the name of the custodian's own nominee company with designation for the Scheme. Officers receive and review internal control reports produced by the custodian. The custodian regularly reconciles their records with the investment manager records, providing a regular report to officers which they in turn review.

The custodian holds the majority of the Fund's assets. Exceptions include some pooled funds, held by the relevant Investment Manager's custodian, hedge fund assets and a working cash balance, which is held by the County Council and invested in the wholesale money market.

The Council allows the custodian to lend stock and share the proceeds with the Council. This is done to generate income for the Fund and to minimise the cost of custody. To minimise risk of loss the counterparty is required to provide suitable collateral to the custodian.

Compliance

The Council will monitor compliance with this statement annually. In particular it will obtain written confirmation from the Investment Managers that they exercised their powers of investment with a view to giving effect to the principles contained in the Statement so far as is reasonably practicable. The Council undertakes to advise the Investment Managers promptly and in writing of any material change to the Statement.

The Pension Fund Committee has assessed itself against the updated Principles of Pension Fund Investment in June 2010 and is broadly compliant. This statement also complies with the guidance given by the Secretary of State.

Review of this Statement

The Council will review this Statement in response to any material changes to any aspect of the Fund, its liabilities, finances and its attitude to risk, which has a bearing on its stated investment objectives. A formal review of the strategic asset allocation will be undertaken annually. In addition the Council will undertake a strategic review of this Statement every three years to coincide with the actuarial valuation.

Other Governance and Financial Statements

In addition to the statement of Investment Principles, the regulations now require the Pension Fund Report to include a reference to the Funding Strategy Statement, the Governance Compliance Statement and the Communications Policy. These documents are available in full on the OCC website at <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/howthepensionfundismanaged>. Detailed below is a summary.

Funding Strategy Statement

This is a key document in driving the triennial valuation process, and sets out the Pension Fund's approach to ensuring the long term financial position of the Fund. The three main purposes of this Funding Strategy Statement are:

- To establish a clear and transparent strategy, specific to the Fund, which will identify how employers' pension liabilities are best met going forward.
- To support the regulatory requirement in relation to the desirability of maintaining as nearly constant employer contribution rates as possible.
- To take a prudent longer-term view of funding the Fund's liabilities.

The document sets out the aims and purposes of the Fund, the key responsibilities of stakeholders of the Fund, definitions of solvency, and the approach to allowing deficits to be recovered over periods of time, the approach to grouping employers for Valuation purposes, the approach to risks and the links to the investment principles.

The Governance Compliance Statement

The Governance Compliance Statement - All Pension funds must publish a Governance Policy

and a Governance Compliance Statement which sets out the extent to which this Governance Policy matches best practice guidance. The Governance Policy covers how the Administering Authority delegated its powers, the frequency of meetings, the terms of reference, structure and operating procedures in relation to the use of delegated powers, and the representation of scheme employers, and members within the arrangements. The current Governance Compliance Statement indicates that the Oxfordshire Fund is fully compliant in respect of most of the best practice statements, and partially compliant in the remaining three. These three relate to the fact that not all key scheme employers have representation on the Pension Fund Committee, the fact that there is no restriction on who can substitute for a Committee Member in terms of a minimum level of training on Pension fund matters, and the absence of a formal annual training plan for Committee Members, including a log of all training undertaken.

The Communications Policy

The Communications Policy sets out the approach of the Pension Fund to ensuring all key stakeholders and scheme members are briefed on Pension Fund issues. The Policy sets out that the Administering Authority seeks to fully brief all Scheme employers, such that they in turn can brief individual scheme members. The Administering Authority does not regard itself as solely responsible for communicating directly with all scheme members. Key elements of the Communication Policy include the development of the Website, the production of regular newsletters, and the holding of regular Pension User Group Meetings, and the annual Pension Forum.

The Pension Fund Committee approved a Communication Strategy, which sets out the fund's communication policy with all employing bodies, contributors and pensioners. The following initiatives are currently in place: -

- **Annual Report and Accounts** – The investment team circulate this document to all Oxfordshire County Council Directors and all employing bodies. It is also available on line from the website page. Copies are available for public inspection in the main Oxfordshire public libraries.
- **Summary of Report and Accounts Leaflet** – The Pension Fund Investment Manager selects sections from the main document to incorporate into an issue of Reporting Pensions for all current members. Pensioners receive the fund information with their annual newsletter.
- **Annual Pension Fund Forum** – An annual event for all employers in the fund, with an open invitation to submit topics for discussion and to send representatives. The forum is to keep employing bodies informed of topical issues and events that have occurred in the last year and also to give them the opportunity to raise any questions in relation to the Pension Fund.
- **Pensions Employer/User Group** – This is a meeting held quarterly for all employing bodies within the Oxfordshire Fund. The purpose of the group is to inform, consult and discuss LGPS matters such as changes in legislation, the results of the actuarial valuation and other policy changes. We will continue with the recently revised format of presenting on specific subjects at these meetings.
- **Employee Guide to LGPS** – presents aspects of the scheme to all members as a series of short subject leaflets. Taken together they provide a full guide for members, but individually offer broad information on specific subjects. The leaflets are available from the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund website or on request from Pension Services.
- **Short Guide to the LGPS** - a reduced version of the scheme guide, with main points, for all employers to give to all employees on starting employment.
- **Reports by Beneficiaries Representative** – The beneficiaries' representative attends all Pension Fund Committee meetings as an observer. He has no voting rights but is allowed to speak with the permission of the Chairman. The Representative's report after each meeting is circulated to all employers for their staff, and is also on the pensions website pages.
- **Reporting Pensions** – a quarterly newsletter distributed, with the assistance of fund employers to scheme members and those eligible to join the fund. These pick up major changes to the LGPS and ensure that Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund complies with the Disclosure of Information Regulations.
- **Website** – Pages for the Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund are located on the County's public website. They offer access to administration and investment information, including Pension Fund Committee reports and minutes. Fund Employers can find detailed Administration information as an online toolkit to support their role in the fund. All members; current, pensioners, and deferred, have dedicated sections, with links to newsletters and guides.
- **Intranet** - is not maintained by Pension Services as it reflects the decisions and policies of the County Council as a fund employer. Their pages

Communication

also provide links and access to the Pension Fund website. Other fund employers also provide information on their intranet sites for employees.

- **Talking Pensions** – This is an informal monthly newsheet for all employers in the Oxfordshire Fund distributed to all Human Resources and Payroll contacts.
- **Annual Benefit Statements** - Pension Services issue statements to current members and to members who have left the scheme with an entitlement to pension but not to an immediate payment. Additional information to the Statement is available from the website.
- **Administration principles - we encourage all new employers to attend a meeting to help acquaint themselves to our requirements and importantly, their responsibilities within the scheme.**

USEFUL CONTACTS AND ADDRESSES

BENEFIT ADMINISTRATION

Pension Services
Oxfordshire County Council
Unipart House
Garsington Road
Oxford, OX4 2GQ
Telephone:
01865 797133 or 01865 797125
email: pension.services@oxfordshire.gov.uk

ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS

Principal Financial Manager
(Treasury Management & Pensions Investment)
Financial Services
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
Oxford OX1 1ND
Telephone: 01865 328001
email: pension.investments@oxfordshire.gov.uk

BENEFICIARIES OBSERVER

c/o Pension Services
Oxfordshire County Council
Unipart House
Garsington Road
Oxford
OX4 2GQ

SPECIFIED PERSON FOR INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Disputes to be sent to:

Pensions Services Manager
Oxfordshire County Council
Unipart House
Garsington Road
Oxford, OX4 2GQ
Telephone: 01865 797111
email: sally.fox@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The Pensions Regulator

Napier House
Trafalgar Place
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 4DW 0870 606 3636

The Registrar of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes

PO Box 1NN
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE99 1NN

The Pensions Advisory Service (TPAS)

11 Belgrave Road
London
SW1V 1RB 0845 601 2923

Pensions Ombudsman

11 Belgrave Road
London
SW1V 1RB 0207 834 9144

আপনি যদি অনুরোধ করেন তাহলে এই পুস্তিকাটি বিকল্প ছাঁদে, যেমন, অন্য কোনও ভাষায়, বড় হরফে, ব্রেইলে, অডিও-ক্যাসেটে, কমপিউটারের ডিস্কে বা ইমেলের মাধ্যমে পেতে পারেন।

Bengali

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Chinese

प्रार्थना करने पर यह प्रकाशन दूसरे रूपों में प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। जिस में सम्मिलित है, दूसरी भाषाओं में, बड़े छापे में, ब्रेअल, सुनने की टेप पर, कम्प्यूटर की डिस्क पर या ई-मेल द्वारा।

Hindi

“ਇਹ ਪੁਸਤਕ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ, ਵੱਡੇ ਛਾਪੇ ਤੇ, ਬ੍ਰੇਲ ਵਿਚ, ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੀ ਟੇਪ ਤੇ, ਕੰਪਿਊਟਰ ਡਿਸਕ ਜਾਂ ਈ ਮੇਲ ਤੇ।”

Punjabi

“اس اشاعت کو متبادل اشکال میں درخواست کرنے پر حاصل کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اس میں دوسری زبانیں، بڑا پرنٹ، بریل (جسے اندھے چھو کر پڑھ سکیں)، آڈیو کیسٹ، کمپیوٹر ڈسک یا ای میل شامل ہیں۔”

Urdu

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Polish

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Portuguese

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