

Haringey Pension Fund Annual Report



Contents

Introduction and overview 1

About the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) 1

Governance Arrangements 2

Service Delivery 3

Risk Management 4

Fund Membership 5

Financial Performance 5

Investments 7

Investment Strategy 7

Asset Allocation 7

Investment Performance 9

Asset Pooling 10

Responsible Investment 10

Scheme Administration 12

Adminstration Service Delivery 12

Communications Policy 12

Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP) 12

Adminstration Management Performance 13

Actuary's Report 14

Statement of Fund Actuary 14

Financial Statements 17

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts 17

Pension Fund Accounts 18

Independent Auditor's Report 40

Introduction and overview

About the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

Haringey Pension Fund is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

The LGPS is a defined benefit pension scheme for employees of local government and related organisations within the United Kingdom. During their employment, scheme members can build up their pension benefits based on a fixed formula as set out in the LGPS Regulations.

The LGPS is a national scheme, administered locally by councils nominated as "administering authorities". Haringey Council is the administering authority for Haringey Pension Fund. It is responsible for running the pension scheme to provide pension benefits to current and former employees of Haringey Council and other employers participating in the pension scheme.

More information about the LGPS works can be found at www.lgpsmember.org.

This annual report includes information on the following sections:

- Management and Financial
 Performance which explains the
 governance and management
 arrangements for the pension fund, as
 well a summary of the overall financial
 position and Fund's approach to risk
 management.
- Investment Policy and Performance which details the Fund's investment strategy, arrangements, and performance.
- Scheme administration which sets out how the scheme is administered including a summary of some key administration statistics.
- Actuary's report which provides an update on the Fund's Funding Position including a statement from the Fund Actuary.
- The Pension Fund's Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code').

Governance Arrangements

Pensions Committee and Board

Haringey Council, in its role as the Administering Authority, has delegated responsibility for administering the Haringey Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) to the Pensions Committee and Board. The terms of reference for Pensions Committee and Board are set out in the Council's constitution.

The Committee and Board is responsible for setting the investment strategy, appointing investment managers and monitoring the ongoing performance of investments. In doing so, the Committee and Board considers advice from officers and the Fund's appointed advisors.

The Committee and Board has dual responsibility over the decision-making functions and oversight of the administration of the Fund. This arrangement fulfils the duties required by LGPS regulations for the Council to operate a Pensions Board.

The Committee and Board consists of elected councillors, and employer and employee representatives, all with equal voting rights. Councillors are selected by their respective political groups and their appointments are confirmed at an annual meeting of the full Council. They are not appointed for a fixed term, but their membership is regularly reviewed by their respective political groups. The other representatives are appointed through a separate selection process for a fixed term.

Details of the individuals who served on the Committee and Board during 2023/24 are shown below.

Member	Member	Meeting
	Representation	Attendance
Cllr Ahmed	Elected	4/4
Mahbub	member	
(Chair)		
Cllr John	Elected	4/4
Bevan (Vice	member	
Chair)		
Cllr Tammy	Elected	4/4
Hymas	member	
Cllr	Elected	4/4
Thayahlan	member	
lyngkaran		
Cllr Matt	Elected	3/4
White	member	
Cllr Nick da	Elected	3/4
Costa	member	
Keith Brown	Employer	3/4
	representative	
Craig	Employer	2/4
Pattinson	representative	
Ishmael	Employee	3/4
Owarish	representative	
Randy	Employee	2/4
Plowright	representative	

Members of the Committee and Board can be contacted at 7th Floor, Alexandra House, London, N22 7TR.

Governance Compliance Statement

The LGPS Regulations 2013 require Pension Funds to prepare, publish and maintain a governance compliance statement, and to assess the governance arrangements in place against a set of best practice principles.

The most recent version of the Fund's Governance Compliance Statement is available on the Pension Fund's website.

Service Delivery

Haringey Pension Fund is administered by officers working within Haringey Council's finance department. These officers provide the pensions service on behalf of the Council.

The service is responsible for accounting, investment management, and pensions administration activities for the Fund. In addition to this, the pension service is supported by other departments within the Council including legal, human resources, procurement, and democratic services.

The key responsibilities for the Investments and Accounting team include:

- Supporting the Pensions Committee and Board in setting the investment strategy, as well as monitoring investment performance on an ongoing basis
- Producing the Pension Fund's Annual Report and Accounts
- Managing contractual relationships with the Fund's appointed advisors
- Maintaining the key governance statements the Fund is required to publish

The key responsibilities for the Pensions Administration service are included in the Scheme Administration section of this report.

The table below lists the key officers supporting the Fund.

Role	Officer
Director of Finance	Jon Warlow (until
(S151 Officer)	March 2024)
Assistant Director of	Josephine Lyseight
Finance	
Assistant Director for	Fiona Alderman
Head of Legal &	
Governance	
Head of Pensions &	Tim Mpofu
Treasury	

Pension Fund Advisors

The LGPS regulations require members of the Pensions Committee and Board to receive proper advice to support the effective undertaking of their duties. The table below lists the Fund's appointed advisors.

Role	Appointed Advisor
Fund Actuary	Hymans Robertson
Investment	Mercer
Consultants	
Independent	John Raisin Financial
Advisor	Services Ltd

Investment Managers

The Fund has appointed several external investment managers to undertake the day-to-day management of its investment portfolio. Each investment manager is appointed with a mandate to cover a specific asset class or strategy.

The table below provides a list of the Fund's current external investment managers and the mandates that they are responsible for.

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Mandate	Investment
	Manager
Listed Equities	LGIM
Property	CBRE
	Aviva Investors
	London CIV, LPPI
Multi Asset Credit	London CIV
	CQS, PIMCO
Multi Asset	London CIV
	Ruffer
Index Linked Gilts	LGIM
Renewable	London CIV
Infrastructure	BlackRock
	CIP
Private Equity	Pantheon
Infrastructure Debt	Allianz

Other service providers

The Fund has procured other services from external providers to support with the administration of the Fund.

The table below lists other service providers and the services they provide to the Pension Fund.

Service	Organisation
Custodian	Northern Trust
Bankers	Barclays Bank
	Aviva Investors
Auditors	KPMG (external)
	Mazars (internal)
Administration	Heywood
Software Provider	
Additional Voluntary	Equitable Life
Contributions (AVCs)	Clerical & Medical
Providers	Prudential

Risk Management

The Pensions Committee and Board is responsible for the Fund's risk management strategy.

Risk Register

The Fund maintains a risk register that is reviewed quarterly and discussed at the Committee and Board's meetings.

The risk register identifies the key risks that affect the Fund and outlines the planned actions to mitigate and/or reduce the impact of each identified risk.

The full risk register is made available in the public section of the meetings and published online.

Funding risks

The Funding Strategy Statement (FSS) outlines the key risks related to changing demographics, regulatory risks, employer related risks, and the measures in place to manage these risks. The FSS is reviewed regularly.

Operational risks

Haringey Council's internal audit team conducts risk-based audits on the management risk of the Pension Fund. These audits are carried at least once every two years.

Investment risks

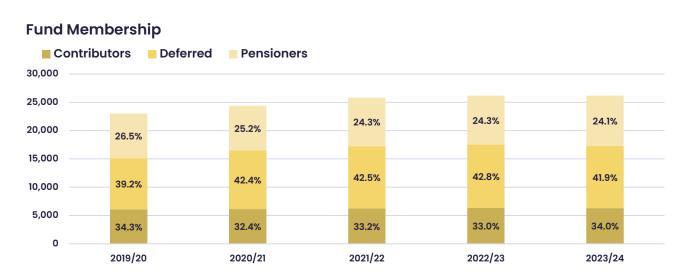
Further details of the Fund's policy regarding the management of investment risk are outlined in the Fund's Investment Strategy Statement (ISS).

Investment managers and other relevant service providers provide assurance over their internal controls annually through the disclosure of ISAE 3402 reports.

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Fund Membership

The chart below shows the breakdown of the Fund's membership over the past 5 years.



At 31 March 2024, the Fund had approximately 26,000 in total scheme members. This has been broken down into the following categories:

- **Contributors** (also referred to as active members) are employees who are currently contributing to the Fund. There were **6,299** active contributors at 31 March 2024.
- Deferred members are members who have left Haringey LGPS but are not yet
 entitled to their accrued benefits. Some individuals may have multiple memberships
 due to having had multiple contracts of employment with different employers
 participating in the scheme. There were 10,973 deferred membership records at 31
 March 2024.
- **Pensioners** are individuals who have already reached retirement age and are receiving their pension benefits, paid out by the Fund. There were **8,906** pensioner members at 31 March 2024.

Financial Performance

The Fund's net asset value decreased by over £95m during the financial year. This was largely due to the impact of rising interest rates and uncertainty in the economic environment, which negatively impacted the performance of various asset classes.

The table below provides a summary of the Fund's net investment trends over the past three years.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Net Asset Statement	£m	£m	£m
Pooled investment vehicles	1,758	1,667	1,841
Cash and other balances	45	43	32
Total net assets	1,803	1,710	1,873

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's
and overview		Administration	Report	statements	
					Report

The table below provides a summary of the Fund's income and expenditure trends over the past three years.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Fund Account	000£	000 3	£000
Fund value at start of the year	1,638,253	1,803,329	1,708,178
Contributions received	49,872	56,043	57,692
Benefits paid	(54,106)	(56,232)	(65,047)
Net transfers	458	321	(3,405)
Net investment income	7,663	10,507	14,618
Net Revenue	3,887	10,639	3,858
Change in market value	161,189	(105,790)	159,023
Net increase (decrease)	165,076	(95,151)	162,881
Fund value at end of the year	1,803,329	1,708,178	1,871,059

The Fund's contributions have increased at a slower rate than benefits paid out due to the increasing maturity of the Fund's membership profile. Benefits paid have been higher than contributions received for some years now, the resulting gap being more than covered by investment income.

The amount of benefits paid to pensioners is uplifted annually by Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate. This increase also depends on the number of individuals retiring in any given year.

Investment income increased from £10.6m in 2022/23 to £14.6m in 2023/24. The Fund's asset allocation is structured to include income generating assets such as Fixed Income, Property, and Infrastructure.

The table overleaf provides a summary of the Fund's operational expenses, which are the costs of administering the Fund.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Administration and Governance Costs	000£	£000	£000
Administration			
Employee related costs	819	865	832
Administration software	195	670	148
III health liability insurance	421	_	_
Other administration costs	198	312	38
Total administration expenses	1,633	1,847	1,018
Oversight and governance			
London CIV pooling costs	123	106	94
Actuarial fees	106	201	142
Investment consultancy and advice	71	89	92
Audit fees	14	_	_
Other governance costs	18	26	28
Total oversight and governance expenses	332	422	356
Total administration and governance costs	1,965	2,269	1,374

Investments

Investment Strategy

The Pensions Committee and Board is responsible for setting the Pension Fund's investment strategy. This strategy is formulated in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Fund) Regulations 2016.

The strategy is outlined in detail in the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) which can be found on Haringey Pension Fund's website. The ISS outlines the responsibilities relating to the overall investment policy of the Fund which includes:

- strategic asset allocation
- methods of investment management
- performance monitoring

The ISS also outlines the Fund's approach to responsible investment and demonstrates compliance with the "Myners Principles". These principles are a set of recommendations relating to the investment of pension funds originally prepared by Lord Myners in the early 2000s. These were subsequently endorsed by the UK Government and cover the following areas:

- Effective decision-making
- Clear objectives
- Risk & Liabilities
- Performance measurement
- Responsible ownership
- Transparency and report

Asset Allocation

The strategic asset allocation is agreed by the Pensions Committee and Board, considering the advice of the Fund's advisers.

The table below shows the Fund's strategic asset allocation as at 31 March 2024.

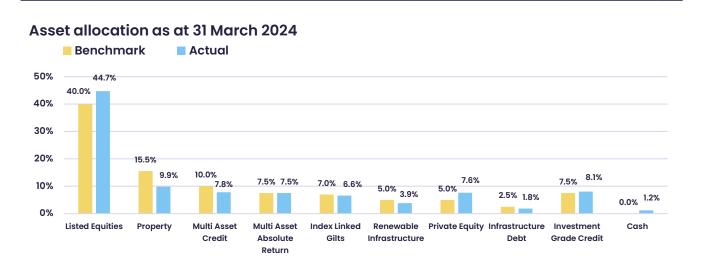
Asset Class	Target Allocation %
Listed Equities	40.0%
Property	15.5%
Multi Asset Credit	10.0%
Multi Asset – Absolute Return	7.5%
Index Linked Gilts	7.0%
Renewable Infrastructure	5.0%
Private Equity	5.0%
Infrastructure Debt	2.5%
Investment Grade Credit	7.5%
Total	100.0%

Haringey Pension Fund is a member of the London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV), one of the 8 asset pools that was set up after the government guidance issued in November 2015. At the reporting date, the Pension Fund had approximately 78% of assets invested with the pool.

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Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Portfolio distribution

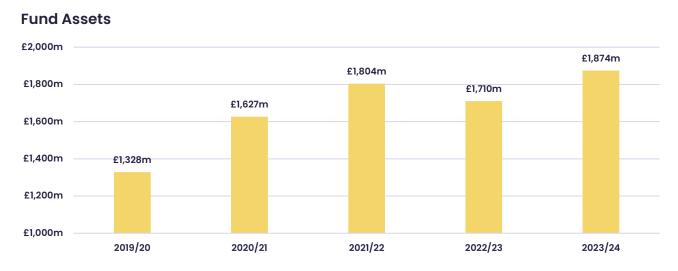
The chart below shows a comparison of the Fund's benchmark asset allocation to the actual asset allocation at 31 March 2024.



The current benchmark strategic asset allocation was set towards the end of the year and as time progresses, investment decisions will be made to move the current actual allocation towards the target allocation. The time taken to fund strategies as well as movements in investment performance can also result in a variance between the benchmark strategic asset allocation and the actual asset allocation.

Fund value

The chart below shows the growth in Fund Assets over the past 5 years.



Since 1 April 2019, the Fund's assets have increased by 41%. During this period, several significant events which include the COVID-19 pandemic, heightened geopolitical uncertainty and inflationary pressures have all had an impact on the financial markets. Despite these challenges, the Fund's investment strategy has been resilient.

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Investment Performance

The Fund's investment assets are invested to meet the Fund's liabilities over the medium to long term, and therefore its performance is assessed over the corresponding periods. Annual investment performance can be volatile and does not necessarily indicate the underlying long-term sustainability of the Fund.

The performance of the Fund's investment managers, and overall investment performance is reported on a quarterly basis to the Pensions Committee and Board. The Fund's investment performance is compared against the target strategic benchmark, based on the individual performance targets assigned to each investment manager.

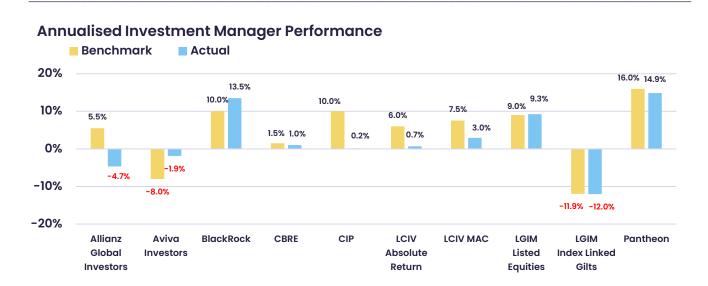
Annualised Investment Performance

The chart below shows the Fund's annualised investment performance over several time periods.



Investment manager performance

The chart below shows the individual investment performance for each investment manager measured over the rolling three-year period.



Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Figures have been excluded for the LCIV Renewable Infrastructure Fund and the London Fund who were still in their funding period during the financial year, as well as for the LCIV Buy and Maintain Long Duration Credit Fund in which investing commenced from March 2024.

Asset Pooling

In 2015, the Government issued guidance on LGPS asset pooling (LGPS: Investment Reform Criteria and Guidance), which sets out the Government's expectations for LGPS funds to establish asset pooling arrangements. The Fund recognises the Government's requirement for LGPS funds to pool their investments and has over the years committed to supporting the pool and transitioning assets were possible.

The Fund is a member of the London Collective Investment Vehicle (London CIV), an asset pool comprised of the 32 local authorities within London and has £26.8bn of assets under management, including £14.3bn under direct management.

The Fund has transitioned assets into the London CIV with a value of £1.455bn or 78% of assets as at 31 March 2024. The table below provides a summary of the Fund's investment in the pool.

		Valuation
Investment Manager	Asset Class	£m
Legal & General Investment Management	Listed Equities	838
LCIV Absolute Return Fund	Multi Asset	141
LCIV MAC Multi Asset Credit	Multi Asset Credit	147
Legal & General Investment Management	Index Linked Gilts	123
LCIV Long Duration Buy & Maintain Credit	Investment Grade Credit	151
LCIV Renewable Infrastructure	Renewable Infrastructure	37
London Fund	Property/infrastructure	18
Total		1,455

As shareholders in the London CIV, the Fund contributed £150k of shareholder capital alongside other London Borough funds. This amount is present on the Net Asset Statement in the Fund's Statement of Account. In addition to this, there is an annual service charge of £25k and the Development Funding Charge for 2023/24 was £76k.

The Fund estimates that asset pooling has generated net savings since inception, thereby offsetting the London CIV's costs due to savings achieved on the assets under the London CIV's oversight.

Responsible Investment

The Pension Fund has a fiduciary duty to protect its members' pensions through its investments. The Fund recognises that managing Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risks that may have a financially material impact on future investment returns is consistent with this duty. Therefore, the Fund expects those responsible for managing its investments to demonstrate their ability to successfully integrate ESG factors into their investment decision-making process.

As part of its commitment to being a responsible investor, the Fund takes an engagement approach. This approach aims to engage with and encourage companies to take positive action on social, environmental and governance issues, rather than divesting from any specific

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

companies. Research has shown that engagement achieves better outcomes than broad divestment.

The Fund is a member of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF), an organisation comprised of several other local authorities across England and Wales. LAPFF engages directly with companies on behalf of its member funds and often issues voting recommendations to investment managers. Additionally, LAPFF meets with company boards and management to effect positive change. The Pension Committee and Board receive an update report at each meeting which reports on LAPFF's most recent engagement activity.

Over the past few years, the Fund has made several decisions to transition its listed equity investments into low carbon index funds. It was also one of the first London Borough pension funds to include an allocation to renewable energy infrastructure as part of its strategic asset allocation. In 2021, the allocation to renewable energy infrastructure was increased by an additional £65m.

Furthermore, the Fund completed its transition to the RAFI Multifactor Climate Transition Fund. The goal of this strategy is to reduce the fund's carbon intensity by 7% annually in line with the Paris Agreement. As a result of this decision, all of the Fund's listed equity investments have been invested in low carbon index funds since 2022.

The Fund remains committed to identifying and pursuing investment opportunities where its investment objectives align with alternative sustainable funds. More information regarding the Fund's approaching to responsible investing is available in the Fund's Investment Strategy Statement.

Introduction and overview

Investments

Scheme Administration Actuary's Report Financial Statements Independent Auditor's Report

Scheme Administration

Administration Service Delivery

The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is a national scheme, administered locally by the 85 Administering Authorities.

Haringey Council is the administering authority for the Haringey Pension scheme and therefore responsible for operating the Fund's pension administration service. The service interprets and implements the LGPS regulations and related legislation for administering the scheme. This includes maintaining a database of scheme members, including their employment service details. Additionally, the Pensions Administration service calculates and processes pension benefit payments.

Communications Policy

Proper management and administration of the pension scheme requires effective communication between the administering authority, scheme members, and participating employers.

According to The LGPS Regulations 2013, pension funds must create, publish, and maintain a communication policy statement. Haringey Pension Fund's website provides the Fund's current communication policy, which has been prepared in accordance with the LGPS regulatory requirements.

The policy sets out the framework which defines the format, frequency, and method of

distributing information and publicity.

Additionally, it outlines the processes for promoting the scheme to prospective members and scheme employers.

The policy also includes the provision for a Member Self Service portal on Haringey Pension Fund's website. This is a useful resource for members to view and amend details related to their pension benefits.

Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure (IDRP)

Scheme members have statutory rights to ensure that complaints, queries, and problems concerning rights to pensions are properly resolved. To facilitate this process, an Internal Disputes Resolution Procedure policy has been established.

IDRP Stage 1 involves making a formal complaint in writing. This would normally be considered by the body that made the decision in question. If the scheme member is not satisfied with the actions taken at Stage 1, the complaint will progress to Stage 2

IDRP Stage 2 involves a referral to the administering authority, Haringey Council, to undertake an independent review which is conducted by the Head of Pensions.

IDRP Stage 3 is a referral of the complaint to the Pensions Ombudsman.

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

For more information about the scheme generally, or to get in touch with the Pensions Team, please see contact details in the table below.

Contact	Details
Head of Pensions	7 th Floor
Pensions Manager	Alexandra House
Pensions Team	10 Station Road
	Wood Green
	London, N22 7LR
	Email: pensions.mailbox@haringey.gov.uk
	Telephone: 020 8489 5916
	Website: www.haringeypensionfund.co.uk

Administration Management Performance

Administration statistics

The table below provides a summary of some of the key activities undertaken by the Pensions Administration service during the financial year.

Type of case	Target	% Completed within SLA
Letter detailing transfer in quote	30 days	68%
Letter detailing transfer out quote	30 days	72%
Calculation and notification of deferred benefits	30 days	98%
Letter notifying of estimate retirement benefits	5 days	88%
Letter notifying of actual retirement benefits	5 days	97%
Letter notifying of dependant's benefits	5 days	93%
Processing of refunds	14 days	87%

Key performance indicators

The Fund aims to provide value for money for its members and employers participating in the scheme. The Fund participates in a benchmarking exercise which compares its costs and staff numbers against other similar pension funds.

The table below provides an analysis of the administration costs per fund member over the past 3 years.

Type of administration cost	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Administration costs per member	£35.45	£39.28	£44.03	£38.87
Administration FTEs	7.6	9.0	9.0	10.0
LGPS members per FTE staff	3,209	2,868	2,909	2,618

The administration costs included in the analysis above consist of staffing costs and administration contract costs. Following the retirement of a few staff in the pensions administration team, a restructuring was undertaken, which resulted in an increase in full-time equivalents (FTEs) in the team in 2021/22. Additionally, in 2022/23, the Fund procured a new pensions administration software contract.

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's
					Report

Actuary's Report

Statement of Fund Actuary

Introduction

CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2023/24 requires Administering Authorities of LGPS funds to prepare pension fund accounts to disclose what IAS26 refers to as the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. I have been instructed by the Administering Authority to provide the necessary information for the London Borough of Haringey Pension Fund ("the Fund").

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is to be calculated similarly to the Defined Benefit Obligation under IAS19. There are three options for its disclosure in the pension fund accounts:

- showing the figure in the Net Assets Statement, in which case it requires the statement to disclose the resulting surplus or deficit;
- as a note to the accounts; or
- by reference to this information in an accompanying actuarial report.

If an actuarial valuation has not been prepared at the date of the financial statements, IAS26 requires the most recent valuation to be used as a base and the date of the valuation disclosed. The valuation should be carried out using assumptions in line with IAS19 and not the Fund's funding assumptions.

Present value of promised retirement benefits

	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
	£m	£m
Active members	577	526
Pensioner members	430	430
Deferred members	718	729
Total (£m)	1,725	1,685

The promised retirement benefits at 31 March 2024 have been projected using a roll forward approximation from the latest formal funding valuation as at 31 March 2023. The approximation involved in the roll forward model means that the split of benefits between the three classes of member may not be reliable. However, I am satisfied that the total figure is a reasonable estimate of the actuarial present value of benefit promises.

The figures include both vested and non-vested benefits, although the latter is assumed to have a negligible value. Further, I have not made any allowance for unfunded benefits.

It should be noted the above figures are appropriate for the Administering Authority only for preparation of the pension fund accounts. They should not be used for any other purpose (i.e., comparing against liability measures on a funding basis or a cessation basis).

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Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Assumptions

The assumptions used are those adopted for the Administering Authority's IAS19 report and are different as at 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2023. I estimate that the impact of the change in financial assumptions to 31 March 2024 is to decrease the actuarial present value by £58m. I estimate that the impact of the change in demographic and longevity assumptions is to decrease the actuarial present value by £10m.

	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
Pension Increase Rate (CPI)	2.80%	2.95%
Salary Increase Rate	3.80%	3.95%
Discount Rate	4.80%	4.75%

Longevity assumptions

The longevity assumptions have changed since the previous IAS26 disclosure for the Fund. Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2022 model, with a 25% weighting of 2022 data, 0% weighting of 2021 (and 2020) data, standard smoothing (Sk7), initial adjustment of 0.25% and a long-term rate of improvement of 1.5% p.a. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current pensioners	21.2 years	24.0 years
Future pensions (assumed to be		
aged 45 at the latest formal	22.5 years	25.6 years
valuation)		

All other demographic assumptions are unchanged from last year and as per the latest funding valuation of the Fund.

Sensitivity Analysis

CIPFA guidance requires the disclosure of the sensitivity of the results to the methods and assumptions used. The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the liabilities are set out below:

Change in assumption at 31 March 2024	Approximate % increase to promised retirement benefits	Approximate monetary amount £m
0.1% p.a. decrease in the Discount Rate	2%	29
1 year increase in member Life Expectancy	4%	69
0.1% p.a. decrease in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	1
0.1% p.a. increase in the Rate of CPI inflation	2%	28

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Professional notes

This paper accompanies the 'Accounting Covering Report – 31 March 2024' which identifies the appropriate reliance and limitations for the use of the figures in this paper, together with further details regarding the professional requirements and assumptions.

Prepared by:

Adrian Loughlin FFA

17 May 2024

For and on behalf of Hymans Robertson LLP

Financial Statements

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

Haringey Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- make arrangement for the proper administration of its affairs and ensure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)
- to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient, and effective use of resources and to safeguard its assets; and
- to approve the Statement of Accounts

The Section 151 Officer's Responsibilities

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts, which include the Pension Fund's Statement of Accounts.

These accounts must be prepared in accordance with the proper practices as set out in the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code') which require that the Statement of Accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the accounting date and

its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024.

In preparing these Statement of Accounts, the Section 151 Officer has:

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

The Section 151 Officer has also:

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

I confirm that these accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the reporting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024.

1.Ecs-

Taryn Eves, CPFA
Director of Finance (S151 Officer)

Councillor George Dunstall
Chair of the Pension Committee and
Board

Pension Fund Accounts

2023/24	Pension Fund Account	Note	2022/23
£000			£000
	Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the fund		
57,692	Contributions	7	56,043
8,923	Transfers in from other pension funds	8	5,938
66,615			61,981
(65,047)	Benefits	9	(56,232)
(12,328)	Payments to and on account of leavers	10	(5,617)
(77,375)			(61,849)
(10,760)	Net additions/(withdrawals) from dealings with members		132
(6,931)	Management expenses	11	(8,722)
(17,691)	Net withdrawals including fund management expenses		(8,590)
21,549 -	Returns on Investments: Investment Income Taxes on income	12	19,232 (3)
159,023	Profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in market value of investments	13a	(105,790)
180,572	Net return on investments		(86,561)
162,881	Net increase/decrease in the net assets available for benefits during the year		(95,151)
1,708,178	Opening net assets of the scheme		1,803,329
1,871,059	Closing net assets of the scheme		1,708,178

2023/24	Net Assets Statement	Note	2022/23
£000			£000
150	Long Term Investments	13	150
1,878,532	Investment assets	13	1,709,824
(4,800)	Investment liabilities	13	-
1,873,882	Total net investments		1,709,974
1,657	Current assets	19	1,389
(4,480)	Current liabilities	20	(3,185)
1,871,059	Net assets of the fund available to fund benefits at the end of the reporting period		1,708,178

Notes to the Haringey Pension Fund Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

1.Description of the fund

The Haringey Pension Fund is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is administered by Haringey Council.

1 a) General

The scheme is governed by the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. The fund is administered in accordance with the following secondary legislation.

- The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

It is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme administered by Haringey Council to provide pensions and other benefits for pensionable employees of Haringey Council, a range of other scheduled bodies, and admitted bodies within the London Borough of Haringey area. Teachers, police officers and firefighters are not included as they come within other national pension schemes. The fund is overseen by Haringey Pension Fund's Combined Pensions Committee and Board, which is a committee of Haringey Council.

b) Fund administration and membership

Membership of the LGPS is voluntary and employees are free to choose whether to join the scheme, remain in the scheme or make their own personal arrangements outside of the scheme.

Organisations participating in the Haringey Pension Fund include the following:

- scheduled bodies, which are automatically entitled to be members of the fund.
- admitted bodies, which participate under the terms of an admission agreement between the fund and the employer.
 Admitted bodies include voluntary, charitable, and similar notfor-profit organisation, or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.

Membership details of the Pension Fund are set out below:

Haringey Pension Fund	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
Number of employers	62	69
Number of employees in scheme		
Haringey Council	5,206	5,373
Other employers	1,093	977
Total	6,299	6,350
Number of pensioners		
Haringey Council	7,919	7,687
Other employers	987	946
Total	8,906	8,633
Deferred pensioners		
Haringey Council	9,172	9,392
Other employers	1,801	1,802
Total	10,973	11,194
Total number of members in pension scheme	26,178	26,177

2 c) Funding

3 Benefits are funded by contributions and investment earnings. Contributions are made by active members of the fund in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and ranged from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year ending 31 March 2024. Employers' contributions are set based on triennial actuarial funding valuations. The valuation for the period to 31 March 2024 was carried out as at 31 March 2022. The primary employer contribution rate for the whole fund was 17.5%.

4 d) Benefits

- 5 Prior to 1 April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service. From April 2014, the scheme became a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of 1/49th. Accrued pension is uplifted annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index inflation rate.
- 6 A range of other benefits are also provided included early retirement, disability pensions and death benefits, as explained on the LGPS website see www.lgpsmember.org.

2. Basis of Preparation

The statement of accounts summarises the fund's transactions for the 2023/2024 financial year and its financial position at 31 March 2024. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2023/24* (the Code), which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The accounts report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits that fall due after the end of the financial year, nor do they take into account the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. The Code gives administering authorities the option to disclose this information in the net assets statement, in the notes to the accounts or by appending an actuarial report prepared for this purpose. The pension fund has opted to disclose this information in Note 18.

3. Summary of significant accounting policies

Fund account - revenue recognition

a) Contribution income

Normal contributions are accounted for on an accruals basis as follows:

- Employee contribution rates are set in accordance with LGPS regulations, using common percentage rates for all schemes that rise according to pensionable pay.
- Employer contributions are set at the percentage rate recommended by the fund actuary for the period to which they relate.

Employer deficit funding contributions are accounted for on the basis advised by the fund actuary in the rates and adjustment certificate issued to the relevant employing body.

Additional employer contributions in respect of ill-health and early retirements are accounted for in the year the event rose. Any amount due in year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial asset. Amounts not due until future years would be classed as long-term financial assets.

b) Transfers to and from other schemes

Transfers in and out relate to members who have either joined or left the fund. Individual transfers in/out are accounted for when received or paid. Bulk (group) transfers are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the transfer agreement.

c) Investment income

- Interest income is recognised in the fund account as it accrues, using the effective interest rate of the financial instrument as at the date of acquisition or origination.
- ii. Distributions from pooled funds are recognised at the date of issue. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the net assets statement as a current financial asset.
- iii. Changes in value of investments (including investment properties) are recognised as income and comprise all realised and unrealised profits/losses during the year.

Fund account - expense items

d) Benefits payable

Pensions and lump-sum benefits payable include all amounts known to be due as at the end of the financial year. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the net assets statement as current liabilities, providing that payment has been approved.

e) Management expenses

The fund discloses its management expenses in line with the CIPFA guidance Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Expenses (2016), as show in the following table. All items of expenditure are charged to the fund on an accrual basis as

follows:

Administrative expenses	All staff costs relating to the pensions administration team are charged directly to the fund. The Council recharges for management and legal costs which are also accounted for as administrative expenses of the fund.
Oversight and governance	All costs associated with governance and oversight are separately identified, apportioned to this activity, and charged as expenses to the fund.
Investment management expenses	Investment fees are charged directly to the fund as part of management expenses and are not included in, or netted from, the reported return on investments. Where fees are netted off returns by investment managers, these are grossed up to increase the change in value of investments. Fees charged by external investment managers and the custodian are set out in the respective mandates governing their appointments. Broadly, these are
	based on the market value of the investments under management and therefore increase or reduce as the value of the investments change throughout the year. In addition, the fund has agreed with Pantheon
	Ventures and BlackRock that an element of their fee be performance related.

f) Taxation

The fund is a registered public service scheme under Section 1 (1) of the Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as a fund expense as it arises.

Net assets statement

g) Financial assets

All investment assets are included in the financial statements on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. A financial asset is recognised in the net assets statement on the date the fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset. Any amounts due or payable in respect of trades entered into but not yet completed at 31 March each year are accounted for as financial instruments held at amortised cost and reflected in the reconciliation of movements in investments and derivatives in Note 13. Any gains or losses on investment sales arising from changes in the fair value of the net asset are recognised in the fund account.

The values of investments as show in the net assets statement have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS13 (see Note 15). For the purposes of disclosing levels of fair value hierarchy, the fund has adopted the classification guidelines recommended in Practical Guidance on Investment Disclosures (PRAG/Investment Association, 2016).

h) Foreign currency transactions

Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies have been accounted for at the spot market rates at the date of transaction. End-of-year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprises cash in hand and demand deposits and includes amounts held by the fund's external managers. All cash balances are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to minimal risk of changes in value.

j) Loans and receivables

Financial assets classified as amortised cost are carried in the net asset statement at the value of outstanding principal receivable at the year-end date plus accrued interest.

k) Financial liabilities

A financial liability is recognised in the net assets statement on the date the fund becomes legally responsible for that liability. The fund recognises financial liabilities related to investments trading at fair value. Any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the liability's value, between the contract date, the year-end date, and the eventual settlement date, are recognised in the fund account as part of the change in value of investments.

Other financial liabilities classed as amortised cost are carried in the net asset statement at the value of the outstanding principal at 31 March each year. Any interest due not yet paid is accounted for on an accruals basis and included in administration costs.

I) Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the scheme actuary in accordance with the requirements of IAS19 and relevant actuarial standards. As permitted under the Code, the fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits by way of a note to the net assets statement (Note 18).

m) Additional voluntary contributions

The fund provides an additional voluntary contribution (AVC) scheme for its members. The assets of these AVCs are invested separately from those of the pension fund, and are therefore not included in the accounts in accordance with Section 4 (1) (b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016. However, this information is disclosed in Note 21 for informational purposes only.

n) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place giving rise to a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed or otherwise by future events.

A contingent liability arises where an event prior to the end of the yearend has created a possible financial obligation whose existence will only be confirmed or otherwise by future events. Contingent liabilities can also arise when it is not possible at the balance sheet date to measure the value of the financial obligation reliably.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the net assets statement but are disclosed by way of narrative in the notes.

4. Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

The Council has not applied any critical judgements in applying accounting policies in the preparation of the statement of accounts.

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 reported amounts. Estimates and assumptions take account of historical experience, current trends, and future expectations. However, actual outcomes could be different from assumptions and estimates made. The items in the net assets statement for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment the following year are as follows:

Items	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits (Note 18)	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on several complete judgements relating to the discount rate used, salary increases, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and returns on fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the fund with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	For instance: • a 0.1% decrease in the discount rate would increase future pension liabilities by c. £29m (2%) • a 0.1% increase in earnings inflation would increase future pension benefits by c. £1m (0%) • a one-year increase in assumed life expectancy would increase future pension benefits by c.
		£69m (4%)

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administ	ration	Actuary's Report
Private equity investments (Note 14)	Private equity investme valued at fair value in accordance with Interprivate Equity and Vecapital Valuation Guid (December 2018). Inverse not publicly listed such there is a degree estimation involved in valuation. For the purposes of exprivate equity investme include infrastructure aprivate debt.	national nture delines estments and as e of the stimation, ents	are valued the financi There is a investmen or overstal accounts b an increas	uity investments at £215m in al statements. risk that this t may be underted in the by up to 5% i.e., e or decrease mately £11m.

6. Events after the reporting date

No significant events occurred after the reporting date.

7. Contributions receivable

By category	£000
Employee contributions	12,483
Employer contributions	
- Normal contributions	33,411
- Deficit recovery contributions	9,644
- Augmentation contributions	505
Total employers' contributions	43,560
Total contributions receivable	56,043
	Employee contributions Employer contributions - Normal contributions - Deficit recovery contributions - Augmentation contributions Total employers' contributions

2023/24		2022/23
£000	By type of employer	£000
51,489	Administering authority	50,128
5,553	Scheduled bodies	4,900
650	Admitted bodies	1,015
57,692	Total contributions receivable	56,043

8. Transfers in from other pension funds

Independent

Auditor's

Report

Financial

Statements

During 2023/24, there were transfers of £8.9 million into the Pension Fund, an increase compared to £5.9 million in 2022/23. These transfers all related to individuals.

9. Benefits payable

2023/24		2022/23
£000	By category	£000
52,380	Pensions	46,445
10,721	Commutation and lump sum retirement benefits	8,154
1,946	Lump sum death benefits	1,633
65,047	Total benefits payable	56,232

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's Report
					Report

9. Benefits payable (continued)

	2022/23
By type of employer	£000
Administering authority	50,367
Scheduled bodies	4,310
Admitted bodies	1,555
Total benefits payable	56,232
	Administering authority Scheduled bodies Admitted bodies

10. Payments to and on account of leavers

2023/24		2022/23
£000		£000
215	Refunds to members leaving service	116
12,113	Individual transfers	5,502
12,328	Total	5,617

11. Management Expenses

2023/24		2022/23
£000		£000
1,018	Administrative costs	1,847
5,651	Investment management expenses	6,559
262	Oversight and governance costs	316
6,931	Total management expenses	8,722

11a. Investment Management Expenses

2023/24		2022/23
£000		£000
4,738	Management Fees	5,722
529	Performance Related Fees	383
92	Custody fees	61
292	Transaction Fees	393
5,651	Total	6,559

12. Investment income

2023/24		2022/23
£000		£000
21,207	Pooled investments - unit trusts and other managed funds	19,084
342	Interest on cash deposits	148
21,549	Total	19,232

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's
					Report

13. Investments

Market Value 31 March 2024		Market Value 31 March 2023
£000	Investment assets	£000
	Pooled funds	
837,719	Global equity	843,501
420,823	Fixed income unit trusts	240,878
141,154	Multi-asset absolute return fund	150,173
72,148	Infrastructure funds	61,542
1,471,844		1,296,094
	Other investments	
192,182	Pooled property investments	202,014
142,615	Private equity funds	134,535
34,478	Infrastructure debt funds	34,500
369,275		371,049
37,126	Cash deposits	42,681
287	Accrued Income	-
1,878,532	Total investment assets	1,709,824
	Long-term investments	
	UK unquoted equities	
150	Shares in London CIV	150
	Investment liabilities	
(4,800)	Payables for purchases	-
1,873,882	Total net investment assets	1,709,974

13a. Reconciliation of movements in investments and derivatives

2023/24	Value at 31st March 2023	Purchases at cost	Sales proceeds	Changes in market	Value at 31st March 2024
Pooled investment vehicles	1,667,019	192,902	(177,877)	159,075	1,841,119
Cash deposits	42,639	70,457	(75,920)	(50)	37,126
Other investment assets/ liabilities*	166	136	(4,813)	(2)	(4,513)
Total	1,709,824	263,495	(258,610)	159,023	1,873,732

2022/23	Value at 31st March 2022	Purchases at cost	Sales	Changes in market	Value at 31st March 2023
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled investment vehicles	1,758,620	74,041	(59,102)	(106,541)	1,667,019
Cash deposits	45,927	62,173	(66,200)	739	42,639
Other investment assets/ liabilities*	(616)	787	(16)	12	166
Total	1,803,931	137,001	(125,318)	(105,790)	1,709,824

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's
					Report

*In-house cash excludes non-discretionary cash managed by external managers. Any such cash is allocated to the respective asset manager.

The following investments represent over 5% of net assets of the fund.

13b. Investments analysed	by fund manager
---------------------------	-----------------

	et Value ch 2024			tet Value rch 2023
£000	%		£000	%
		Investments managed by London CIV asset pool:		
960,774	51.3	Legal & General Investment Management	943,001	55.2
141,154	7.5	LCIV Absolute Return	150,173	8.8
146,779	7.8	LCIV Multi-Asset Credit	141,379	8.3
36,819	2.0	LCIV Renewable Infrastructure	29,082	1.7
17,927	1.0	London Fund	18,190	1.1
150,998	8.1	LCIV Long Duration Buy and Maintain Credit Fund	-	-
1,454,451	77.7		1,281,825	75.0
		Investments managed outside of London CIV asset pool:		
142,615	7.6	Pantheon	134,535	7.9
99,824	5.3	CBRE Global Investors	93,286	5.5
84,887	4.5	Aviva Investors	90,536	5.3
34,478	1.8	Allianz Global Investors	34,500	2.0
20,053	1.1	BlackRock	20,377	1.2
15,276	8.0	CIP	12,084	0.7
22,148	1.2	In-house cash deposits*	42,681	2.5
419,281	22.3		427,999	25.0
1,873,732	100.0	Total	1,709,824	100.0

	Market Value 31 March 2024			Market 31 Marc	
•	£000	%		£000	%
	358,473	19.1	LGIM MSCI World Low Carbon Index Fund	352,431	20.6
	356,725	19.0	LGIM RAFI Multi Factor Climate Transition Fund	371,973	21.8
	150,998	8.1	LCIV Long Duration Buy and Maintain Credit Fund	-	-
	146,779	7.8	LCIV Multi-Asset Credit	-	-
	141,154	7.5	LCIV Absolute Return Fund (Ruffer LLP)	150,173	8.8
	123,056	6.6	LGIM Index Linked Gilts (Over 5 year) Fund	99,499	5.8
	122,519	6.5	LGIM Bespoke Low Carbon Emerging Markets Fund	119,097	7.0
	1,399,704	74.6	Total	1,093,173	63.9

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

14. Fair Value - Basis of valuation

All investment assets are valued using fair value techniques based in the characteristics of each instrument where possible, using marketbased information. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year.

Assets and liabilities have been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values.

Level 1 – where the fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, comprising quoted equities, quoted bonds, and unit trusts.

Level 2 – where quoted market prices are not available, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value based on observable data.

Level 3 – where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data.

The valuation basis for each category of investment asset is set out below:

Description of asset	Basis of Valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Level 1			
Quoted equities and pooled fund investments	The published bid market price on the final day of the accounting period	Not required	Not Required

Description of asset	Basis of Valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Level 1			
Quoted fixed income bond and unit trusts	Quoted market value based on current yields	Not required	Not Required
Cash and cash equivalents	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not required	Not Required
Amounts receivable from investment sales	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not required	Not required
Investment debtors and creditors	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not required	Not required

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financ Staten		Inder Audit Repo			
					Description asset		Basis of Valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Description of	Basis of	Observable and	Key sensitivities		Level 3				
asset	Valuation	unobservable inputs	affecting the valuations provided		Shares in London CIV asset pool	/	Based on the historical cost at acquisition of	Not required	Not required
Level 2							shares		
Pooled property funds where regular trading takes place	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published; closing single price where single price published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Not Required		Other unquoted and private equities	similar s companies in accordance wit International	valuation of similar companies in accordance with	EBITDA multiple Revenue multiple Discount for lack of marketability	Valuations could be affected by changed to expected cashflows or by differences
Unquoted fixed income bonds and unit trusts	Average broker prices	Evaluated price feeds	Not required				and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines 2018	Control premium	between audited and unaudited accounts.
					Sensitivity	of as	ssets valued at	level 3	
Description of asset	Basis of Valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations		The fund ha	as de nvest	termined that the	e valuation metho	within the follow

Level 3 Pooled

property funds

where regular

not take place

trading does

Valued by

investment

managers on a

fair value basis

each year using PRAG guidance

NAV-based

basis

pricing set on a

forward pricing

Not required

/e ranges, and has set out below the consequent potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March 2024.

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

	Potential variation in fair value	Valuation as at 31 March 2024	Value on Increase	Value on Decrease
		£000	£000	£000
Pooled property investments	2%	102,802	104,858	100,746
Private equity and joint venture funds	5%	142,615	149,746	135,484
Infrastructure funds	5%	72,148	75,755	68,541
Total		317,565	330,359	304,771

14a. Fair value hierarchy

The following table provides an analysis of the assets and liabilities of the pension fund grouped into levels 1 to 3, based on the level at which the fair value is observable.

Values as at 31 March 2024	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets / liabilities at fair value through profit and loss				
Pooled investments Pooled property investments	1,399,696	34,478 89,380	72,148 102,802	1,506,322 192,182
Private equity	_	_	142,615	142,615
Cash deposits	37,126	-	-	37,126
Accrued income	287	-	-	287
Payables for investment purchases	(4,800)	-	-	(4,800)
Total	1,432,309	123,858	317,565	1,873,732

Introduction and overview	Investments		Scheme Administration		Financial Statement
Values as at 31 March 2023	Quoted market price Level 1	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs Level 3	Total	14c
Financial assets / liabilities at fair value through	£000	£000	£000	£000	Poo
profit and loss Pooled investments Pooled property	1,234,552	34,500	61,542	1,330,594	trus Priv Infr
investments Private equity Cash deposits	- 42,683	93,286	108,725 134,535	202,012 134,535 42,683	Tot

127,786

14c. Reconciliation of fair value measurements within level 3

Independent

Auditor's

Report

Statements

1,709,824

304,803

2023/24	Value at 1st April 2023	Purchases in the year	Sales in the year	Unrealised gains (losses)	Realised gains (losses)	Value at 31st March 2024
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled UK property unit trusts	108,726	4,162	(4,903)	(5,183)	-	102,802
Private Equity	134,535	10,771	(7,109)	(1,047)	5,465	142,615
Infrastructure	61,542	16,464	(3,703)	(2,439)	284	72,148
Total	304,803	31,397	(15,715)	(8,669)	5,749	317,565

14b. Transfers between Levels 1 and 2

Total

1,277,235

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2 during the year.

15. Classification of financial instruments

		31 March 2024	
	Fair value through profit and loss	Assets at amortised cost	Liabilities at amortised cost
	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets			
Pooled investments	1,506,322		
Pooled property investments	192,182		
Private equity	142,615		
Equities		150	
Cash	31,295	5,831	
Debtors		1,657	
Other investment balances		287	
Total financial assets	1,872,414	7,925	-
Financial liabilities	•		_
Other investment balances			(4,800)
Creditors			(4,480)
Total financial liabilities	_	-	(9,280)
Grand total	1,872,414	7,925	(9,280)

		31 March 2023		
	Fair value through profit and loss	Assets at amortised cost	Liabilities at amortised cost	
	£000	£000	£000	
Financial assets				
Pooled investments	1,330,594			
Pooled property investments	202,014			
Private equity	134,535			
Equities		150		
Cash		42,681		
Debtors		1,389		
Total financial assets	1,667,143	44,220	-	
Financial liabilities				
Other investment balances				
Creditors			(3,185)	
Total financial liabilities	-	-	(3,185)	
Grand total	1,667,143	44,220	(3,185)	

15a. Net gains and losses on financial instruments

All realised gains and losses arise from the sale or disposal of financial assets that have been derecognised in the financial statements. The fund has not entered into any financial guarantees that are required to be accounted for as financial instruments.

2023/24		2022/23
£000		£000
	Financial Assets	
159,075	Fair value through profit or loss	(106,541)
(52)	Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost	751
159,023		(105,790)

16. Nature and extent of risks arising from Financial Instruments

Risk and risk management

The fund's primary long-term risk is that its assets will fall short of its liabilities (i.e., promised benefits payable to members). The aim of investment risk management is to minimise the risk of an overall reduction in the value of the fund and to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole fund portfolio. The fund achieves this through asset diversification to reduce exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the fund manages its liquidity risk to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet the fund's forecast cash flows. The fund manages these investment risks as part of its overall pension fund risk management programme.

Responsibility for the fund's risk management strategy rests with the pension fund's Combined Committee and Board. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the pension fund's operations, then reviewed regularly to reflect changes in activity and market conditions.

a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk of loss from fluctuations in equity and commodity prices, interest and foreign exchange rates and credit spreads. The fund is exposed to market risk from its investment activities, particularly through its equity holdings. The level of risk exposure depends on market conditions, expectations of future price and yield movements, and the overall asset mix. The objective of the fund's risk management strategy is to identify, manage and control market risk exposure within acceptable parameters, while optimising investment return.

In general, excessive volatility in market risk is managed through the diversification of the portfolio's strategic asset allocation across different asset classes, industry sectors, and jurisdictions. To mitigate market risk, the pension fund and its investment advisors undertake appropriate monitoring of market conditions and benchmark analysis on a regular basis. The strategic asset allocation is reviewed each quarter and any significant deviations from this are rebalanced as appropriate.

Other price risk

Other price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of change in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or by factors affect all such instruments in the market.

The fund is exposed to share price risk. The fund's investment managers mitigate this price risk through diversification and the selection of securities and other financial instruments is monitored to ensure it is within limits specified in the fund investment strategy

Other price risk - sensitivity analysis

A significant portion of the pension fund's assets are invested in pooled investment vehicles with underlying assets which can fluctuate daily as market prices change. To demonstrate the impact of this volatility, the table below shows the impact of potential price changes based on the observed historical volatility of asset class returns. The assessment of the potential volatilities is consistent with a one standard deviation movement in the change in value of assets over the last three years.

As at 31 March 2024	Value	% change	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Overseas equities	960,774	12.0	1,076,067	845,481
Fixed Income	438,931	11.9	491,164	386,698
Property	187,631	6.3	199,452	175,810
Alternatives	249,241	16.5	290,366	208,116
Cash	37,155	0.0	37,155	37,155
Total Assets	1,873,732		2,094,203	1,653,261

As at 31 March 2023	Value	% change	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
•		40.0		
Overseas equities	993,675	12.0	1,112,916	874,434
Fixed Income	240,878	11.9	269,542	212,214
Property	202,012	6.3	214,739	189,285
Alternatives	230,578	16.5	268,623	192,533
`Cash	42,681	0.0	42,681	42,681
Total Assets	1,709,824		1,908,501	1,511,147

Interest rate risk

The fund recognises that interest rates can vary and can affect both income into the fund and the carrying value of fund assets, both of

which affect the value of net assets available to pay benefits. A 100-basis point (BPS) movement in interest rates is consistent with the level of sensitivity applied as part of the fund's risk management strategy.

Interest rate risk - sensitivity analysis

The analysis that follows assumes that all other variables, in particular exchange rates, remain constant, and shows the effect in the year on the net assets available to pay benefits of a +/- 1% change in interest rates. The analysis demonstrates that a 1% increase in interest rates will not affect the interest received on fixed interest assets but will reduce their fair value, and vice versa. Changes in interest rates do not impact on the value of cash and cash equivalent balances but they will affect the interest income received on those balances.

Assets exposed to interest rate risk:

	Interest earned 2023/24	Interest rate if 1% higher	Interest rate if 1% lower
	£000	£000	£000
Cash deposits	342	407	233
Total	342	407	233

	Interest earned 2022/23	Interest rate if 1% higher	Interest rate if 1% lower
	£000	£000	£000
Cash deposits	148	220	76
Total	148	220	76

Introduction Investments Scheme Actuary's Financial Independent and overview Administration Report Statements Auditor's Report

Currency risk

Currency risk represents the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The fund is exposed to currency risk on any cash balances and investment assets not denominated in UK sterling. The table below demonstrates how a 10% strengthening/weakening of the pound against the various currencies in which the fund holds investments would increase/decrease the net assets available to pay benefits as follows.

Currency risk - sensitivity analysis

As at 31 March 2024	Value	% change	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Overseas equities	480,900	10.0	528,990	432,810
Fixed Income	146,779	10.0	161,457	132,101
Private equity	142,615	10.0	156,877	128,354
Infrastructure	35,329	10.0	38,862	31,796
Cash	5,416	10.0	5,958	4,874
Total Assets	811,039	10.0	892,144	729,935

As at 31 March 2023	Value	% change	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Overseas equities	482,112	10.0	530,323	433,901
Fixed Income	141,379	10.0	155,517	127,241
Private equity	134,535	10.0	147,989	121,082
Infrastructure	32,461	10.0	35,707	29,215
Cash	14,610	10.0	16,071	13,149
Total Assets	805,097	10.0	885,608	724,587

b) Credit risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a financial

transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the fund to incur a financial loss. Assets potentially affected by this risk are investment assets, cash deposits and third-party loans. The selection of high-quality counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises credit risk and the market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit risk.

Credit risk may also occur if an employing body not supported by central government does not pay contributions promptly, or defaults on its obligations. The pension fund has not experienced any actual defaults in recent years and the current practice is to obtain a guarantee before admitting new employers so that all pension obligations are covered in the event of that employer facing financial difficulties. All contributions due at 31 March 2024 were received within the first two months of the financial year.

Money market funds and bank accounts all have AAA rating from a leading ratings agency, and the pension fund has experienced no defaults from fund managers, brokers or bank accounts over the past five years.

Summary	Credit Rating	Balances at 31 March 2024	Balances at 31 March 2023
		£000	£000
Money Market Funds			
Blackrock institutional sterling liquidity fund	AAA	780	5,000
Invesco liquidity fund	AAA	5,000	5,000
Bank current accounts			
Northern Trust	A+	31,295	30,473
Barclays Bank plc	A+	51	2,208
Total		37,126	42,681

Introduction Investments Scheme Actuary's Financial Independent and overview Administration Report Statements Auditor's Report

c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The pension fund therefore takes steps to ensure that it always has adequate cash resources to meet its commitments. The fund's policy is to maintain a minimum balance of £5m immediately available in the current accounts or Money Market Funds.

The fund also has access to an overdraft facility for short-term cash needs (up to seven days), in order to cover any timing differences on pension payments. The fund has not used this facility since 2015.

Refinancing risk

The key risk is that the pension fund will need to replenish a significant proportion of its financial instruments at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The pension fund does not have any financial instruments that have a refinancing risk as part of its investment strategy.

17. Funding Arrangements

In line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 the fund's actuary undertakes a funding valuation every three years for the purpose of setting employer contributions rates for the forthcoming triennial period. The pensions fund accounts for the period were based on the most recent valuation which took place as at 31 March 2022.

The key elements of the funding policy are:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of the fund, using a long-term prudent view i.e., that sufficient funds are available to meet all members'/dependants' as they fall due for payment.
- to ensure that employer contribution rates are reasonably stable where appropriate.
- to minimise the long-term cost of the scheme by recognising the link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy that balances risk and return.
- to reflect the different characteristics of employing bodies in determining contribution rates where it is reasonable to do so.

• to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the council taxpayer from an employer defaulting on its obligations.

The aim is to achieve 100% solvency over a period of 20 years and to provide stability in employer contribution rates by spreading any increases in rates over a period of time. Normally this is three years but, in some cases, a maximum period of 12 years can be granted. Solvency is achieved when the funds held, plus future expected investment returns and future contributions, are sufficient to meet expected future pension benefits payable. When an employer's funding level is less than 10% of the 100% funding target, then a deficit recovery plan will be put in place requiring additional employer contributions.

At the 2022 actuarial valuation, the fund was assessed as 113% funded (100% at the March 2019 valuation). Contribution increases will be phased in over the three-year period ending 31 March 2026 for both scheme employers and admitted bodies.

The whole-fund primary contribution rate was due to decrease over a three-year period from 18.6% to 17.5% of pensionable pay. However, each employer will be different, and the primary contribution rate will reflect the membership and experiences of each employer.

In addition to the primary contribution rate, most employers also pay a secondary contribution rate depending on the demographic and actuarial factors particular to each employer. Full details of the contribution rates payable can be found in the 2022 actuarial valuation report and the funding strategy statement on the fund's website

Introduction Investments Scheme Actuary's Financial Independent and overview Administration Report Statements Auditor's Report

The valuation of the fund has been undertaken using the projected unit method under which the salary increase for each member is assumed to increase until they leave active service by death, retirement, or withdrawal from service. The principal assumptions were as follows.

Financial assumptions

Future assumed rates	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-19
	%	%
Discount rate (annual nominal return rate)	4.3	4.2
Pay increase (annual change)*	3.7	3.3
Benefit increase (CPI)	2.7	2.3

Demographic assumptions

The assumed life expectancy from 65 is as follows:

Life expectancy from age 65		31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
Retiring today	Males	21.2	21.3
	Females	24.0	24.0
Retiring in 20 years	Males	22.5	22.6
	Females	25.6	25.3

18. Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

In addition to the triennial funding valuation, the fund's actuary also undertakes a valuation of the pension fund liabilities on an IAS 19 basis every year using the same base data as the funding valuation rolled forward to the current financial year but taking account of changes in membership numbers and updating assumptions to the current year. This valuation is not carried out on the same basis as that used for setting fund contribution rates and the fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future.

In order to assess the value of the benefits on this basis, the actuary has updated the actuarial assumptions (set out below) from those used

for funding purposes (see Note 17). The actuary has also valued ill health and death benefits in line with IAS 19.

31 Mar 24		31 Mar 23
£000		£000
(1,725,000)	Present Value of promised retirement benefits	(1,685,000)
1,871,058	Fair Value of scheme assets	1,708,178
146,058	Net (liability)/asset	23,178

As noted above, the liabilities above are calculated on an IAS 19 basis and therefore will differ from the results of the 2022 triennial funding valuation (see Note 17) because IAS 19 stipulates a discount rate rather than a rate which reflects market rates.

Other key assumptions used are:

	31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
	%	%
Pension increase rate (CPI)	2.8	2.95
Salary increase rate	3.8	3.95
Discount rate	4.8	4.75

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's
					Report

19. Current assets

31/03/2024		31/03/2023
£000		£000
94	Contributions due - employees	128
1,081	Contributions due - employers	908
482	Sundry debtors	353
1,657		1,389

20. Current liabilities

31/03/2024		31/03/2023
£000		£000
2,924	Sundry creditors	2,382
1,556	Benefits payable	803
4,480		3,185

21. Additional Voluntary Contributions ("AVCs")

	Contributions Paid 2023/24	Market Value 31 March 2024
	£000	£000
Utmost life and pensions	-	188
Prudential assurance	269	1,182
Clerical and medical	-	17

	Contributions Paid 2022/23	Market Value 31 March 2023
	£000	£000
Utmost life and pensions	83	195
Prudential assurance	262	1,053
Clerical and medical	1	17

22. Related party transactions

Haringey Council

The Haringey Pension Fund is administered by Haringey Council. During the reporting period, the council incurred costs of £0.835m (2022/23 £0.885m) in relation to the administration and management of the fund and was reimbursed by the fund for these expenses.

The Council is also the single largest employer of members of the pension fund. As at 31 March 2024, an amount of £0.305m was due from the fund to the Council.

Each member of the pension fund's Combined Pensions Committee and Board is required to declare their interests at each meeting.

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's
					Report

Two members of the Combined Pensions Committee and Board were scheme members in the Haringey Pension Fund.

23. Key management personnel

Key management personnel are the Section 151 Officer and the head of pensions. Their remuneration is set out below:

31/03/2024	Key Management Personnel	31/03/2023
£000		£000
28	Short - term benefits	26
6	Post-employment benefits	7
34		33

24. Contingent liabilities and contractual commitments

Outstanding capital commitments (investments) at 31 March 2024 were £105.4m. These commitments relate to outstanding capital call payments due on limited partnership funds held within the private equity and infrastructure portion of the portfolio. The amounts 'called' by these funds are irregular in both size and timing over a period of between four and six years from the date of each original commitment.

31 Mar 24		31 Mar 23
£000		£000
33,756	Pantheon Ventures	43,906
33,975	LCIV Renewable Fud	42,852
22,295	LCIV London Fund	26,452
13,562	Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners	15,669
1,776	Blackrock	2,410
105,364	Total	131,289

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Independent Auditor's Report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY ON THE PENSION FUND'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Qualified opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Haringey Pension Fund ("the Pension Fund") for the year ended 31 March 2024 on pages 17 to 39 which comprise the Pension Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes to the Pension Fund financial statements, including the accounting policies in note 3. In our opinion, except for the possible effects solely on the comparative information for the year ended 31 March 2023 of the matter described in the *Basis for qualified opinion* section of our report, the Pension Fund financial statements give a true and fair view of the amount and disposition at that date of its assets and liabilities. In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for qualified opinion* section of our report, 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 2024; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24.

Basis for qualified opinion

The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (the "Amendment Regulations") require the Pension Fund to publish its financial statements and our opinion thereon for the year ended 31 March 2024 by 28 February 2025 (the "Backstop Date").

We have been unable to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence over the disclosed comparative figures for the year ended 31 March 2023 due to the Backstop Date, including the valuation of investment assets with a carrying amount of £1,709,824,000 as at 31 March 2023. Therefore, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments were necessary to the net assets of the fund available to fund benefits as at 1 April 2022 or 31 March 2023 or whether there were any consequential effects on the profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in market value of investments for the years ended 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the London Borough of Haringey (as administering authority for the Pension Fund, the "Authority") in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our qualified opinion.

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Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

Going concern

The Director of Finance has prepared the Pension Fund financial statements on the going concern basis as they have not been informed by the government of the intention to either cease the Authority's services or dissolve the Authority without the transfer of its services to another public sector entity. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over its ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the Pension Fund financial statements ("the going concern period").

In our evaluation of the Director of Finance's conclusions, we considered the inherent risks associated with the continuity of services provided by the Authority over the going concern period.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the Director of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the Pension Fund financial statements is appropriate; and
- we have not identified, and concur with the Director of Finance's assessment that there is not, a material
 uncertainty related to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the
 Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for the going concern period.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the above conclusions are not a guarantee that the Authority will continue in operation.

Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations - ability to detect

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of management and the Pension Committee and Board as to the Pension Fund's high-level
 policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud, including the internal audit function, and the
 Pension Fund's channel for "whistleblowing", as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual,
 suspected, or alleged fraud.
- Reading Pension Committee and Board and Audit Committee minutes.

We communicated identified fraud risks throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud throughout the audit.

As required by auditing standards, we performed procedures to address the risk of management override of controls in particular the risk that Pension Fund management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries and the risk of bias in accounting estimates and judgements such as the valuation of unlisted investments. On this audit we did not identify a fraud risk related to revenue recognition because revenue in a pension scheme relates to contributions receivable as paid under an agreed schedules.

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Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

We performed procedures including:

- Identifying journal entries to test based on risk criteria and comparing the identified entries to supporting documentation. These included those posted by senior management.
- Evaluating the business purpose of significant unusual transactions.
- Assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement related to compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the Pension Fund financial statements from our general sector experience and through discussion with the Director of Finance (as required by auditing standards), and from inspection of the Pension Fund's regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the Director of Finance the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the Pension Fund financial statements varies considerably. Firstly, the Pension Fund is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the Pension Fund financial statements, including the financial reporting aspects of local government legislation. We assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items. Law requires that the Pension Fund's accounts are prepared in accordance with CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24 ("the CIPFA/LASAAC Code"). The Qualified opinion section of our report explains the impact on our opinion of the matter described in the Basis for qualified opinion section of our report in relation to the preparation of the Pension Fund's financial statements in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code.

Secondly, the Pension Fund is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the Pension Fund financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: pensions legislation, data protection laws, anti-bribery, employment law recognising the nature of the Pension Fund's activities. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Director of Finance and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the Pension Fund financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance

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Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the Pension Fund financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations

Other information

The Director of Finance is responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the Annual Report & Accounts, other than the Pension Fund financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the Pension Fund financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our Pension Fund financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the Pension Fund financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work, except for the possible consequential effects of the matter described in the *Basis for qualified opinion* section of our report on the related disclosures in the other information, we have not identified material misstatements in the other information.

Director of Finance's and Pension Committee and Board's responsibilities

As explained more fully in the statement set out on page 17, the Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of Pension Fund financial statements, that give a true and fair view. They are also responsible for: such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of Pension Fund financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they have been informed by the government of the intention to either cease the services provided by the Authority or dissolve the Authority without the transfer of its services to another public sector entity.

The Pension Committee and Board of the Pension Fund is responsible for overseeing the Pension Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Pension Fund financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue our opinion in an auditor's report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be

Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the Pension Fund financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

THE PURPOSE OF OUR AUDIT WORK AND TO WHOM WE OWE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

This report is made solely to the members of London Borough of Haringey, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of London Borough of Haringey, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than London Borough of Haringey and the members of London Borough of Haringey, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Timothy Cutler

TOT and On Denait Of KHING LLP

Chartered Accountants

1 St. Peter's Square

Manchester

M23AE

28 February 2025

Introduction and overview	Investments	Scheme Administration	Actuary's Report	Financial Statements	Independent Auditor's Report
					Report

Independent auditor's report to the members of London BOROUGH OF HARINGEY on the Pension Fund financial statements INCLUDED IN the Pension Fund Annual Report & Accounts

Opinion

We have examined the Pension Fund Financial Statements of **Haringey Pension Fund** ("the Pension Fund") for the year ended 31 March 2024 included in the **Haringey Pension Fund Annual Report & Accounts**, which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the notes to the financial statements, including the significant accounting policies in note 3.

In our opinion, the Pension Fund Financial Statements included in the Pension Fund Annual Report are consistent, in all material respects, with the Pension Fund financial statements included in the annual statement of accounts of **London Borough of Haringey** ("the Council") for the year ended 31 March 2024 that were approved on 28 February 2025.

Director of Finance's responsibilities

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance's Responsibilities, the Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Pension Fund Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24.

Auditor's responsibilities

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the Pension Fund Financial Statements included in the Pension Fund Annual Report with the Pension Fund financial statements included in the annual statement of accounts of the Council.

In addition, we read the other information contained in the Pension Fund Annual Report and, if we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies, we consider the implications for our report. We conducted our work in accordance with Auditor Guidance Note 07 - Auditor Reporting, issued by the National Audit Office in November 2024.

Our audit report on the Council's annual published statement of accounts that we issued on 28 February 2025 describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements.

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Introduction	Investments	Scheme	Actuary's	Financial	Independent
and overview		Administration	Report	Statements	Auditor's
					Report

The purpose of our work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This auditor's statement is made solely to the members of the Council, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council those matters we are required to state to them in such a statement and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Council and the members of the Council, as a body, for our work, for this statement, or for the opinions we have formed.

Timothy Cutler

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP

Chartered Accountants

1 St. Peter's Square

Manchester

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28 February 2025