

6 January 2017

Andrew Antcliff
Vice Chair
Lincolnshire County – UNISON
34 Orchard Street
Lincoln
LN1 1XX

Dear Mr Antcliff

UNISON LGPS PRIORITIES IN 2017

Thank you for your letter dated 14th December and we apologise for the delay in responding.

We agree and support Unison's campaign for greater cost transparency regarding the management of investments. We believe that there has been a vast improvement in this area but as requested, we will raise the issue in the various forums we attend. Once the Borders to Coast Pensions Partnership (BCPP) is up and running, this should provide even more transparency on costs.

We also agree about the need for strong governance. However, we believe that scheme members are best represented on the Lincolnshire Pension Fund Pensions Committee and Pensions Board. It is the Pensions Committee that will determine the investment strategy and asset allocation. The BCPP will effectively be an investment company in another guise and subject to scrutiny and challenge by the Pensions Committee and the Pensions Board.

We are sympathetic with your comments about a fair and accurate valuation of liabilities when calculating the funding level. As you will recall, at the valuation training session in October the Actuary was challenged on the methodology used and the prudence of his assumptions; this was followed by an email dialogue. The methodology for the valuation of liabilities will be an ongoing debate.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mark Allan and Roger Buttery

Copies: Mr Ian Crowther, Mr Dave Vickers, Mr C Meech, Mrs H Stokes

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