

# Risk Management Policy

## **RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Lincolnshire County Council, as the Administering Authority of the Lincolnshire Pension Fund (the Fund), is aware that some risks will always exist and will never be eliminated.

Against this background, and within the overall risk strategy of the County Council, the Fund recognises it has a moral and statutory duty to manage risk with a view to protecting its assets and the benefits due to the scheme members, and supporting its employers.

The Fund will meet this duty by adopting best practice risk management (RM) which will support a structured and focused approach to managing risks, and ensuring risk management is an integral part in the governance of the Fund at a strategic and operational level.

The overall aim is to embed risk management into the processes and culture of the Fund to help it achieve its objectives and enhance the value of services the Fund provides to scheme members and employers.

### **THE FUND'S RM OBJECTIVES**

The Fund's RM objectives are to:

- integrate risk management into the culture and day-to-day activities of the Fund;
- raise awareness of the need for risk management by all those connected with the delivery of services (including partners, delivery agents and those involved in any form of collaborative delivery of services);
- enable the Fund to anticipate and respond positively to change;
- minimise loss and inconvenience to employers and scheme members arising from, or connected with, the delivery of Pension Fund services;
- establish and maintain a robust process for identification, analysis, assessment and management of risk, and the reporting and recording of events, based on best practice; and
- ensure consistent application of the Fund's RM methodology.

## KEY MECHANISMS FOR DELIVERY

To demonstrate the Fund's clear commitment to achieving the objectives of the risk management strategy, the Fund has identified the key mechanisms through which they will be delivered. These objectives will be achieved by:

- maintaining clear roles, responsibilities and reporting lines within the Fund for risk management;
- maintaining adequate representation at departmental and corporate level, and also across the LGPS, so that risks may be freely communicated, experience pooled and information, guidance or procedures that may have a significant impact on the Fund's risk may be considered;
- promoting excellence in risk management;
- ensuring that risk management is explicitly considered in all policy decisions, partnerships, projects and key planning processes;
- maintaining a risk register for risks arising across all aspects of managing the Fund, and ensuring that the process assesses risks for likelihood and impact, identifies owners and mitigating controls and ensures that they are reviewed at least annually – ensuring that these are adequately documented and regularly reviewed in the light of changing circumstances;
- providing opportunities for shared learning on risk management across the LGPS, and with partners and stakeholders where appropriate;
- reinforcing the importance of effective risk management as part of the everyday work of employees, and that employees, officers and members are adequately informed and receive training about the risks within their own working environment; and
- regularly monitoring, reporting and independently reviewing the Fund's arrangements.

The Fund recognises the breadth and complexity of the service that it delivers, and also of the mechanisms by which they are delivered. Further support, advice and guidance can also be obtained from the Head of Pensions.

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