

MINUTES

meeting: INVESTMENT ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE

date: 13 OCTOBER 2004

PRESENT:-

Councillor Singh	-	Chair
Councillor L Clarke	-	Birmingham City Council
Councillor G Ridley	-	Coventry City Council
Councillor P Bilson and Councillor Mrs J M C Stevenson	-	Wolverhampton City Council

UNION OBSERVERS

M Clift - TGWU

ADVISERS:-

J Fender	-	J Fender Consultancy
H Meaney	-	Healey and Baker
M Reid	-	Mercer Investment Consulting
P Gale	-	Gartmore Investments Ltd

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:-

Wolverhampton City Council

B Bailey	-	Director for Finance and Physical Resources
B Summers	-	Finance and Physical Resources
R H Roberts	-	Director for Law and Resources
J Rawlings	-	Democratic Support Officer

Wolverhampton
City Council



APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

Apologies for absence were received from

Councillor Kyles	-	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Millward	-	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Zahid	-	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Docherty	-	Wolverhampton City Council and
I Smith	-	AEEU

PART I OPEN ITEMS

Declarations of Interest

- 6 There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

- 7 Resolved:-
 That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July be approved as a correct record.

Exclusion of Press and Public

- 8 Resolved:-
 That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from consideration of the items of business in Part II of the Agenda on the grounds that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, exempt information falling within paragraph 7 of Schedule 12A of the Act is likely to be disclosed.

PART II - EXEMPT ITEMS

Investment Presentations (Appendix 1)

Jan Kingzett from Schrodgers gave a presentation about the performance of the funds managed for the West Midlands Pension Fund outlining that Asia is currently a good place to invest. Members were informed of the growth in technology, which is a key beneficiary to investors in the region. The significant impact of China on the region was highlighted.

Victoria Cannon and Sajiv Vaid from Royal London Asset Management made a presentation informing Members that target performance for the funds managed is to exceed benchmark by 0.50% per annum, on a rolling three year basis. In the first 18 months of managing the West Midlands Pension Fund Portfolio, the Fund had out-performed by 40 basis points per annum net of fees since inception.

**West Midlands Pension Fund Investment Management Activity from
1 June 2004 to 31 August 2004**

The Director for Finance and Physical Resources presented a report giving details of investment activity from 1 June 2004 to 31 August 2004.

It was reported that three property portfolio sales have completed during the period:

Copthall Avenue, London
Anniesland Retail Park, Glasgow
27 English Street, Carlisle.

Ashford Retail Park continues trading well. 35/39 Newhall Street was purchased in April 1996 and is currently let to Price Waterhouse Coopers for a period of 25 years from 1987, Price Waterhouse Coopers have recently exercised a break option in their lease creating an opportunity to create more floor space.

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Resolved:-

(a) That the report providing information on the implementation of the investment policy and related matters be approved by Investment Advisory Sub-Committee.