

MINUTES

meeting: **INVESTMENT ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE**

date: **19 OCTOBER 2005**

PRESENT:-

Councillor Singh (Chair)	-	Wolverhampton City Council
Councillor Clark	-	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Docherty (Vice-Chair)	-	Wolverhampton City Council
Councillor Bilson	-	Wolverhampton City Council
Mrs J M C Stevenson	-	Wolverhampton City Council

UNION OBSERVER

M Clift	-	TGWU
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EXTERNAL ADVISERS IN ATTENDANCE:-

P Gale	-	Gartmore Investments Ltd
M B Reid	-	William M Mercer Ltd
H Meaney	-	Healey and Baker
J Fender	-	John Fender Consultants Ltd

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:-

B Bailey	-	Director for Resources and Support
J A Saunders	-	Chief Investment Officer
D Evans	-	Investment Manager
C W Craney	-	Democratic Support Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Eling (Sandwell MBC), Councillor Ridley (Coventry City Council), Councillor Kyles (Solihull MBC), Councillor Zahid (Walsall MBC) and Councillor Miller (Dudley MBC)

PART I OPEN ITEMS
(Open to the Press and Public)

Declarations of Interest

11 There were no declarations of interest made.

Minutes

12 Resolved:-
 That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Exclusion of Press and Public

13 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
(Press and Public Excluded)

Appointment of Active Global Equities Manager (Appendix 8)

The Sub-Committee received a report which provided background information on potential Managers for a Global Equity Portfolio.

The following Managers represented and were asked questions on their presentation and management capabilities:-

Baillie Gifford
Franklyn Templeton
AXA Rosenberg
Alliance & Bernstein

14 Resolved:-
 That fund management contracts be awarded to Alliance & Bernstein (£75m) and AXA Rosenberg (£50m). (This achieved a 60/40 split between two managers.)

West Midlands Pension Fund Investment Management Activity from 1 June 2005 to 31 August 2005 (Appendix 9)

The Director for Resources and Support presented a report giving details of investment activity from 1 June 2005 to 31 August 2005. It drew attention to the build-up of cash and on steps which had been taken to reduce this by purchasing futures. Mr H Meaney of Healey & Baker updated

the Panel on the current position with regard to the redevelopment of 35/39 Newhall Street, Birmingham, which had now received planning permission and on steps taken to appoint a contractor. He advised that it was likely that work on the development would commence in January 2006. J Fender of J Fender Consultancy advised the Sub-Committee on the discussions which had taken place with Birmingham City Council in relation to the planning application.

The Sub-Committee received further details of other property developments which had been pursued by Healey & Baker and J Fender Consultancy on behalf of the Pension Fund.

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Resolved:-

That the report be received and noted.

