

Date of meeting: 21 November 2022

Title of Report: **LGPS Discretions Policy**

Lead Member: Councillor Mark Shayer

Lead Strategic Director: Andy Ralphs (Strategic Director of Customer and Corporate Services)

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Your Reference:

Key Decision: Yes

Confidentiality: Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Regulations requires each local authority to have a written policy confirming how mandatory discretions will be exercised and how optional discretions are to be considered.

Plymouth City Council's current LGPS Discretions Policy was approved in November 2014. The policy has been reviewed and updated.

Plymouth City Council also adopts the principle of aligning discretions with the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

The policy is also amended to support the introduction of a Shared Contribution Additional Voluntary Contributions (SCAVC).

Power to deal with this type of pension decision is given to Council rather than Cabinet under the Local Government (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000 and Superannuation Act.

Recommendations and Reasons

To approve the attached Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Discretions Policy with the recommended discretions, to be applied to current scheme members, employees eligible for scheme membership or previous scheme members.

Alternative options considered and rejected

There is a statutory requirement to have a discretionary policy that sets out how each discretion available under the regulations has been exercised.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

In accordance with the council's values of being responsible and fair in the use of resources.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

There will be no financial implications, unless the discretions are exercised in exceptional circumstances, and the budgetary circumstances would be different in each individual circumstance, if ever used.

Financial Risks

Not applicable

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

Not applicable

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

Not applicable

Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Briefing report title							
B	Equalities Impact Assessment (if applicable)							

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Click here to enter text.											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 14/12/2021											
Cabinet Member approval: <i>[electronic signature (or typed name and statement of 'approved by email/verbally')]</i>											
Date approved: 11/11/2022											