## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

## Pensions and Investment Committee 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013

REPORT BY: Strategic Director of Resources

SUBJECT: LGPS 'Call for Evidence'

REPORT FOR: Information

- On 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013, DCLG and LGA jointly issued 'Call for evidence on the future structure of the Local Government Pension Scheme'. The deadline for the submission of responses is 27<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
- On 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013 at the National Association of Pension Funds' local authority conference, the Local Government Minister Brandon Lewis MP, following reviews of LGPS structure in London and Wales said:

I am determined that we make progress and make it as quickly as reasonably possible. I can therefore announce this morning, that we will consult later in the year on a number of broad principles for change. This will be your opportunity to tell us what reforms could be made to both help improve your investment performance and reduce your fund management costs.

The consultation will not set out some pre-determined solution to what is undoubtedly a complex and contentious issue. I am neither ruling anything in nor ruling anything out at this stage. However, the clear message from me this morning is that I am not wedded to the existing number of 89 funds in England and Wales. If it takes a smaller number of funds to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the scheme, I shall not shy away from pursuing that goal.

I have talked a fair amount about the need for robust data to inform decisions. I am therefore working with the LGA and others to launch a call for evidence, which will both inform our consultation and help all involved formulate their views in response to the consultation.

The Society of Welsh Treasurers Pensions Group is keen that a clear and consistent response to this call for evidence be made from Welsh LGPS Fund authorities based on the interim findings of the All Wales Collaborative Working Project, earlier this year.

Therefore, a co-ordinated approach has been adopted in which the Powys County Council Pension Fund has participated. At the time of writing, the final Welsh response was still being drafted.

4 Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

Recommendation:				Reason for Recommendation:		
• To note the contents of the report.			t. As	As per report		
Person(s) To Action						
Decision:						
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:						
Relevant Policy		N/A				
(ies):						
Within Policy:	N/A		Within		N/A	
			Budg	et:		
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Relevant Portfolio Member(s):	Councillor Dai Davies
Relevant Local Member(s):	