



**At the meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 26th November 2021**

Present:

**Cllr T Concepcion
Cllr L Robertson-Collins
Cllr Y Sayers
Cllr S Williams
Cllr J Hanson
Cllr H Bell
Cllr C Page
Cllr A Johnson
Cllr J Walsh**

67. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from: Cllr C Paige

68. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 24th September 2021**

Resolved that

The minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 24th September 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.

69. **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**

There were no declarations of interest.

70. **Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9**

There were no questions submitted by Members in accordance with Procedural Rule 9.

71. **Question(s) from Members of the Public under Procedural Rule 10**

There were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Procedural Rule 10.

72. **Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15**

There were no motions proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15.

73. **WDA/23/21 PROPOSED CORPORATE PLAN**

Members agreed the proposed Corporate Plan for 2022-23.

Resolved that:

Members Agreed the Authority's proposed Corporate Plan attached at Appendix 1.

74. **WDA/24/21 PENSIONS REPORT**

Members reviewed the current Pensions Policy Statement attached at Appendix 1.

Members considered and agreed not adopting Regulation 21(4)(a)(iv) 21(4)(b)(iv) 21(5) - Calculating Assumed Pensionable Pay, but to adopt Regulations 10(6) - Aggregation of Deferred Benefits and Regulation 7 - Assumed Pensionable Pay, which are the additional non- compulsory discretions that were introduced by the LGPS in 2018. The revised list of 6 compulsory regulations and 8 non-compulsory regulations are detailed in Appendix 2.

Resolved that:

1. The current Pension Discretion Policy Statement attached at Appendix 1 be reviewed;
2. The discretion under Regulation 21(4)(a)(iv) 21(4)(b)(iv) 21(5) - Calculating Assumed Pensionable Pay as detailed in paragraph 2.7 of the Report not be adopted;
3. That the discretions under Regulation 10(6) - Aggregation of Deferred Benefits and Regulation 7 - Assumed Pensionable Pay on a case-by-case basis as detailed in paragraph 2.7 of the Report be adopted; and
4. Delegated powers be granted to the Chief Executive to update the proposed Pension Discretions Policy Statement attached at Appendix 2.

75. **WDA/25/21 WASTE DEVELOPMENT FUND**

This report meets one of the Authority's obligations under the terms of the MoU with District Councils regarding the distribution of the Waste Development Fund, by reporting to Members on the assurances provided by each Council that the funds have been used to support the shared objectives of the JRWMS.

Resolved that:

Members noted the assurance provided by District Councils regarding the way they have spent the monies allocated to them from the Waste Development Fund on actions that achieve the shared objectives of the Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy.

76. WDA/26/21 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

There are no key issues for Members, Internal Audit reviewed the Authority's arrangements for Covid expenditure and concluded that they gave 'High Assurance'.

Internal Audit also reviewed the arrangements for managing the Authority's Levy Calculation and concluded that they gave 'Significant Assurance'. Finally, Internal Audit reviewed the Authority's Health and Safety arrangements and concluded that they gave 'Significant Assurance'

Resolved that:

Members noted the contents of the reports from the Internal Auditor

77. WDA/27/21 EXTERNAL AUDIT APPOINTMENT ARRANGEMENTS

MRWA is required to have an external auditor appointed to it.

PSAA is recognised as an appointing person, with all the expertise required to make and manage the appointment of an external auditor.

If MRWA were to make its own appointment the process may be both expensive and technically challenging.

Members approve the acceptance of the invitation from PSAA to take part in their external auditor appointment process.

Resolved that:

Members agreed to the Authority accepting the invitation to be included in the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) process for appointing an external auditor.

78. WDA/28/21 MRWA RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Members agree the Authority's proposed response to the external Auditors report recommendations and accept the Auditor's recommendations and management actions are in place or underway to address them, as set out in this report. Members will receive future progress reports.

Resolved that:

Members accepted the external auditors report and recommendations, and agreed the Authority's response to the external auditors report and recommendations.