

DELEGATED RESPONSIBILITIES

	Delegation to Officer(s)	Delegated Officer(s)	Communication and Monitoring of Use of Delegation
1.10.1	Rebalancing and cash management	PFM (having regard to ongoing advice of the IC and PAP)	High level monitoring at PFC with more detailed monitoring by PAP

Rebalancing Asset Allocation

Background

The Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) includes a target allocation against which strategic performance is monitored (Strategic Allocation). There are strategic ranges for each asset category that allow for limited deviation away from the strategic allocation as a result of market movements. In addition there is a conditional medium term asset allocation range (Conditional range) to manage major risks to the long term strategic allocation which may emerge between reviews of the strategic allocation.

The Tactical Asset Allocation Group (Investment Consultant & Officers) which meets each month consider whether it is appropriate to re-balance to the strategic asset allocation. Recommendations are made to the Head of the Clwyd Pension Fund who has delegated authority to make the decision. Re-balances or asset transitions may be required due to market movements, new cash into the Fund or approved changes to the strategic allocation following a strategic review.

Action Taken

In the period to September 2020 the Fund completed a transition of approximately £420.6m each of redemptions and subscriptions. These were to facilitate the transfer of additional assets to the Wales Pension Partnership and BlackRock, the WPP Passive provider as well as rebalancing assets within the Fund to meet the agreed revised investment strategy. More details are disclosed in 1.08 of this investment report.

Cash Management

Background

The Deputy Head of the Clwyd Pension Fund forecasts the Fund's 3 year cash flows in the Business Plan and this is monitored quarterly and revised on an annual basis. The bank account balance is monitored daily. The main payments are pension related, expenses and investment drawdowns. New monies come from employer and employee contributions and investment income or distributions. This cash flow management ensures the availability of funds to meet payments and investment drawdowns. The LGPS investment regulation only allow a very limited ability to borrow. There is no strategic asset allocation for cash, although there is a strategic range of +5% and a conditional range of +30% which could be used during times of major market stress.

Action Taken

The cash balance as at 30th June 2020 was £33.3m (£20.2m at 31st March 2020). This included deficit contributions of £14.3m paid by employers in April and May. The balance as at 31st August is £20.9m and included the payment of £9.3m which was used in the transition of assets in July. The cash flow is monitored to ensure there is sufficient monies to pay benefits and capital calls for investments. Work is continuing with the Consultant and Actuary to monitor the cash-flow situation and be aware of any unforeseen issues. As a result of the COVID pandemic, the Fund is reviewing the levels of distributions and drawdowns it originally expected. Whilst, as suspected, distributions are lower than expected, drawdowns are also

lower and the effect to end of August has been neutral. As part of the Investment Strategy Review, the new Cash Management and Risk Strategy can be utilised if this situation reverses. Monthly cash flows for the financial year to 2020/21 are shown graphically at the end of the delegations appendix.

	Delegation to Officer(s)	Delegated Officer(s)	Communication and Monitoring of Use of Delegation
1.10.2	Short term tactical decisions relating to the 'best ideas' portfolio	PFM (having regard to ongoing advice of the IC and PAP)	High level monitoring at PFC with more detailed monitoring by PAP

Background

The Tactical Asset Allocation Group (Investment Consultant and Officers) meet each month to consider how to invest assets within the 'Best Ideas' portfolio given the shorter term market outlook (usually 12 months). The strategic asset allocation is 11% of the Fund. The investment performance target is CPI +3 %, although the aim is to also add value to the total pension fund investment performance.

Action Taken

Since the previous Committee in February 2020 the transactions agreed within the portfolio were:

- Redeem total BlackRock Japanese Equities –£ 15.8m (crystallised -3.4%)
- Invest £15.8m in LGIM Global Corporate Bond Fund
- Partial Redemption LGIM UK Equity Fund - £9m (crystallised -8.0%)
- Partial Redemption BlackRock US Opportunities Fund - £9m (crystallised +11.6%)
- Partial Redemption LGIM North American Equities - £7m (crystallised +0.6%)
- Invest £25m in LGIM Liquidity Fund
- Partial Redemption LGIM High Yield Bond Fund -£10.3m (crystallised -5.9%)
- Invest £10.3m in LGIM Liquidity Fund
- Partial redemption £25.75m LGIM Liquidity Fund
- Invest £25.75m in LGIM American Equity Fund (Hedged)
- Redeem total PIMCO EM Local Bond Fund - £24.1m (crystallised
- Invest £10m in LGIM High Yield Bond Fund
- Invest £14.1m in LGIM Liquidity Fund
- Partial Redemption LGIM North American Equity (Hedged) - £17.5m (crystallised - 6.1%)
- Invest £17.5m in LGIM Liquidity Fund
- Redeem total LGIM Global REITS -£15M (crystallised+ 0.1%)
- Invest £15m in LGIM Listed Infrastructure (Hedged)
- Switch total LGIM North American Equity Fund from hedged to unhedged
- Invest £14m in LGIM Infrastructure Fund (Hedged)
- Invest £14m in LGIM Global Corporate Bond Fund
- Redeem £28 m LGIM Liquidity Fund

The current allocations within the portfolio following the transactions are:

- US Equities (1.7%)
- Commodities (1.0%)
- Infrastructure (2.6%)
- Global Bonds (2.6%)
- High Yield Bonds (0.6%)
- UK Equity (0.5%)
- Liquidity Fund (2.0%)

Detailed minutes of the Group identifying the rationale behind the recommendations made to the Head of the Clwyd Pension Fund and decisions made under this delegation are circulated to the Advisory Panel.

As at the end of July 2020, the Best Ideas portfolio 1 year performance was -3.4% against a target of +4.1% and the 3 year performance was +3.8% against a target of +4.9%.

	Delegation to Officer(s)	Delegated Officer(s)	Communication and Monitoring of Use of Delegation
1.10.3	Investment into new mandates / emerging opportunities	PFM and either the CFM or CEO (having regard to ongoing advice of the IC)	High level monitoring at PFC with more detailed monitoring by PAP

Background

The Fund’s current investment strategy includes a 27% asset allocation to private equity (8%), property (4%), infrastructure (including legacy timber and agriculture assets) (8%), private debt (3%) and impact / local investing (4%) These are higher risk investments, usually in limited partnerships, and as such, previously, these are smaller commitments of about £8m in each. Across these asset categories there are currently in excess of 60 investment managers, investing in 115+ limited partnerships or other vehicles.

The Private Equity & Real Estate Group (PERAG) of officers and Consultant meet at least quarterly and are responsible for implementing and monitoring the investment strategy and limited partnerships across these asset classes. The investments in total are referred to as the ‘In-House portfolio’. There is particular focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) aspects on the investments made.

A review is currently being undertaken of the existing portfolio and future cash flows by the Consultants and the results will determine the forward work plan. It is anticipated that when the Wales Pension Partnership (WPP) are able to accommodate commitments in these alternative areas, the Fund will commit any available monies through the WPP. The Fund Consultants and WPP will work closely to ensure the available sub funds are suitable for the Funds existing Private Market strategy. Until these asset classes are available through the WPP, the Fund will continue to deploy capital and look for any opportunities which fulfil the current agreed strategy.

Action Taken

There have been no suitable opportunities to consider since the February 2020 Committee

Clwyd Pension Fund - Cash-flow 2020/21

