

Suffolk Pension Fund Committee

Report Title:	Statement of Investment Principles
Meeting Date:	3 June 2015
Chairman:	Peter Bellfield
Director:	Geoff Dobson, Director of Resource Management Tel. 01473 264347
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Brief summary of report

1. This report provides a revised format of the Fund's Statement of Investment principles, and proposes no changes to the investment principles for the coming year.

Action recommended

2. The Committee is asked to approve the revised Statement of Investment Principles which will then be subject to consultation with all employers in the Fund.

Reason for recommendation

3. The Committee is required to review its Statement of Investment Principles on a regular basis.

Alternative options

4. The Committee could agree to amend the wording of the draft Statement of Investment Principles prior to the start of the consultation with the employers.

Main body of report

5. It is good practice that the Committee reviews its Statement of Investment Principles annually.
6. The last time the Suffolk Pension Fund officially reviewed its Statement of Investment Principles was in September 2013.
7. Since then the Committee has considered the County Council's request to disinvest from investing in companies that fall part of the tobacco industry. This would have required a change to the agreed investment principles that the Fund has adopted.
8. The Committee has also undertaken an asset allocation review which has made some changes to the way the Fund's assets are invested. The final part of the changes is being decided today on the future investment in private equity.
9. The time is now right for the Committee to review its investment principles.

10. Attached in Appendix A is a revised Statement of Investment Principles for the Fund. This new version separates out what are the principles that the Fund has agreed from how they are applied. This makes it much clearer as to what the Fund has to consult on (the principles) and what it does not (the application). This will make the process of consulting with employers simpler and more transparent.
11. However there are no proposed changes to the principles that the Fund has previously adopted.
12. The Committee is asked to approve the revised Statement of Investment Principles. This will then be sent out to all employers in the Fund for consultation during June 2015 and will enable the Committee to review any consultation responses at its July meeting before publishing its revised principles document.
13. The Committee agreed at its February 2015 meeting that it would review annually its position on continuing to invest in the tobacco industry, and that this would be done as part of the review of its investment principles. This will be reviewed again in June 2016 to see if any of the circumstances outlined in the opinion of Nigel Giffin QC have changed.

Sources of further information

- a) [Suffolk Pension Fund Statement of Investment Principles \(September 2013\) link](#)