

SUMMARY UPDATE (Part I)
ACCESS Joint Committee (JC):
7 September 2020



All ACCESS Authorities were represented. The key matters considered are described below.

Part I Item	Details
Virtual meeting protocols	The Chair and Clerk outlined virtual meeting protocols which were noted by the Committee.
Business plan & budget	<p>The Committee noted proposals to amend the 2020/21 meeting schedule. Dates for the meetings in early November and the first half of January will be notified by the Clerk.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the revised Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) had now been agreed by the Monitoring Officers of each Authority. ACCESS's legal advisers, Squire Patton Boggs will circulate a memo detailing the changes, and inviting the adoption of the revised IAA to all Authorities.</p> <p>It was noted that proposals on pooling alternatives assets were expected to be brought to the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>In detailing 2020/21 budget variances, it was noted that as the programme of alternative procurements will not occur in full in the current financial year, no additional budget provision would be required to resource the proposals on external communications support along with advice on ESG/RI matters.</p>
Communications	<p>Hymans Robertson introduced a report detailing aspects of communications messaging and included a proposal to source external communications support. An approach to procuring the external support was outlined by the ASU. The Committee noted the report, agreed the Hymans Robertson recommendations and agreed that Essex be designated as the procurement lead authority.</p> <p>Officers will progress the matter in consultation with the Chairman.</p>
Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) and Responsible Investment guidelines.	<p>The Committee noted a report surmising the references within each Authorities' ESG/RI policy to the UK Stewardship Code and the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment (UNPRI).</p> <p>Initial results from the investment manager survey indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all 11 investment Managers are UNPRI signatories; • all 10 UK based managers intend to be signatories to the revised UK Stewardship Code; • 9 of the 10 UK based managers have been assessed as Tier 1 under the Code;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 managers currently benchmark the carbon footprint of their portfolio. <p>The outline specification for ESG/RI advice was noted, along with intention to use Lot 5 of the LGPS Stewardship framework.</p> <p>Following discussion, the Committee noted the report and agreed that Essex be designated as the lead authority for the procurement of ESG/RI advice.</p>
Next meeting date	November 2020 – date to be confirmed.

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