

# TEESSIDE PENSION FUND

Administered by Middlesbrough Council

AGENDA ITEM 9

## TEESSIDE PENSION BOARD REPORT

4 NOVEMBER 2019

STRATEGIC DIRECTOR FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & SUPPORT – JAMES BROMILEY

### Border to Coast Governance Charter

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Teesside Pension Board (the Board) with an opportunity to comment on the current Border to Coast Governance Charter in order to inform a review of the Charter being undertaken by Border to Coast early in 2020.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members note this report and discuss any comments they may have on the current Governance Charter to allow the Head of Pensions Governance and Investments to forward any comments to Border to Coast.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no specific financial implications in respect of the information contained in this report.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As the Board will be aware, Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited ('Border to Coast') is the investment management company established and jointly owned by the administering authorities of its twelve Partner Funds (Bedfordshire, Cumbria, Durham, East Riding, Lincolnshire, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, South Yorkshire, Surrey, Teesside, Tyne & Wear and Warwickshire Pension Funds).

- 4.2 Border to Coast published a Governance Charter in March 2019 (enclosed at Appendix A - also available online at <https://www.bordertocoast.org.uk/corporate-governance/>). The purpose of the Governance and Charter is to summarise "the governance arrangements for the Pool, including capturing the structure and roles, responsibilities and authority of the following in relation to Border to Coast (as operator and asset manager):

- The Administering Authorities
- The Pensions Committees

- Advisors to Pensions Committees
- Local Pension Boards
- The Joint Committee
- Officers Operations Group
- Statutory Officers (including s151s and monitoring officers)
- Shareholders
- Border to Coast Board
- Border to Coast Management Team
- The Financial Conduct Authority
- The Depository (in respect of regulated collective vehicles such as the Authorised Contractual Scheme)”

4.3 As well as being a useful summary of the roles of all these entities, the Governance Charter also helpfully summarises Border to Coast’s objectives and approach.

## **5. GOVERNANCE CHARTER REVIEW**

5.1 The Governance Charter is reviewed annually by the Border to Coast Head of Legal and Company Secretary and the Officers Operations Group, and updated as required to reflect any changes in governance arrangements in agreement with the Border to Coast Board, Joint Committee and Shareholders.

5.2 As part of this review process the CEO of Border to Coast has asked Local Pension Board Chairs and, where possible, Local Pension Boards for initial feedback on the Governance Charter to inform the company’s assessment.

## **6. NEXT STEPS**

6.1 Any comments the Board has on the current Governance Charter will be forwarded to Border to Coast to help inform its ongoing review.

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