

# TEESSIDE PENSION FUND

Administered by Middlesbrough Council

AGENDA ITEM 7

## PENSIONS FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

13 MARCH 2019

STRATEGIC DIRECTOR: FINANCE, GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT, JAMES BROMILEY

### EXTERNAL MANAGERS' REPORTS

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with quarterly investment reports in respect of funds invested externally with Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited ('Border to Coast') and with State Street Global Advisers ('State Street').

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Members note the report and pass any comments.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Any decisions taken by Members, in light of information contained within this report, will have an impact on the performance of the Fund.

#### 4. PERFORMANCE

- 4.1 As at 31 December 2018 the Fund had investments in the following two Border to Coast sub-funds:

- The Border to Coast UK Listed Equity Fund, which has an active UK equity portfolio aiming to produce long term returns of at least 1% above the FTSE All Share index.
- The Border to Coast Overseas Developed Markets Equity Fund, which has an active overseas equity portfolio aiming to produce total returns of at least 1% above the total return of the benchmark (40% S&P 500, 30% FTSE Developed Europe ex UK, 20% FTSE Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan, 10% FTSE Japan).

For both sub-funds the return target is an annual amount, expected to be delivered over rolling 3 year periods, before calculation of the management fee.

- 4.2 The Border to Coast report (at Appendix A) shows the market value of the portfolio as at 31 December 2018 and the investment performance over the preceding quarter and since the Fund's investments began. Border to Coast has also provided additional information (at Appendix B) in relation to the Overseas Developed Markets Equity Fund, giving a breakdown

of key drivers of and detractors from performance in relation to each of its four regional elements.

- 4.3 State Street has a passive global equity portfolio invested across four different region tracking indices appropriate to each region. The State Street report (at Appendix C) shows the market value of the State Street passive equity portfolio and the proportions invested in each region as at 30 December 2018. Performance figures are also shown in the report: For Japan and Asia Pacific ex Japan these figures date back 10 years, as the Fund has been investing a small proportion of its assets in these regions passively for some time; for North America and Europe ex UK the figures only cover just over a quarter as this represents a comparatively new investment for the Fund. The nature of passive investment – where an index is closely tracked in an automated or semi-automated way – means deviation from the index should always be low.
- 4.3 Members will be aware that the Fund holds equity investments over the long term, and performance can only realistic be judged over a significantly longer time-frame than a single quarter. However, it is important to monitor investment performance regularly and to understand the reasons behind any under of over performance against benchmarks and targets.

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