

Report to: Governance Committee

Date of meeting: 27 January 2026

By: Chief Finance Officer

Title: East Sussex Pension Fund – Pension Board membership

Purpose: To extend the term of a scheme member representative on the Pension Board by 2 years.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Governance Committee is recommended to extend the term of Neil Simpson as a scheme member representative of the Pension Board for 2 years to 28 February 2028.

1. Background

1.1 The Local Pension Board of the East Sussex Pension Fund was set up to meet the requirements of the Public Service Pension Act 2013, requiring Funds in the Local Government Pension Scheme to have a Pension Board, whose duties are to provide governance oversight and advice to the Administering Authority. The Pension Board is not a decision-making body.

1.2 The Pension Board is required to have an equal number of member and employer representatives and individuals can be appointed for a 4-year term with the option for a 2-year extension. Currently the Pension Board consists of 3 employer and 3 member representatives together with an independent chair. Changes to the Pension Board membership are expected during 2026.

1.3 Under the East Sussex County Council's Constitution, appointments to the Pension Board, and the extension of terms for people already appointed, are reserved to the Governance Committee.

2. Supporting information

2.1 In February 2026, Neil Simpson, one of three scheme member representatives' term of office is due to end. Neil Simpson would like to be considered for having his term extended.

2.2 To avoid significant turnover in the membership of the Pension Board and the associated loss of knowledge and expertise, Officers recommend that Neil Simpson's term be extended by 2 years to 28 February 2028, rather than going through the full process required for a full term of 4 years. In addition to mitigating the risk of a loss of knowledge across the Pension Board, this will also help to avoid unnecessary increases in the turnover of Pension Board members.

3. Conclusion

3.1 The Governance Committee is therefore recommended to extend Neil Simpson's term on the Pension Board by a period of 2 years.

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