
Buckinghamshire County Council Pension Fund



Statement of Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2020

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Pension Fund Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

The Pension Fund Accounts contain two core statements, the Pension Fund Account and the Net Assets Statement. Each of the statements is accompanied by supplementary notes providing additional detail to the figures presented.

31 March 2019 £000	Pension Fund Account	Note	31 March 2020 £000
	Dealings with Members, Employers and Others directly Involved in the Fund		
	Income		
(137,260)	Contributions	3	(116,621)
(11,349)	Transfers in from other pension funds	4	(12,403)
(163)	Other income		(152)
(148,772)			(129,176)
	Benefits	5	
90,860	Pensions		95,975
21,210	Commutation of pensions and lump sums		23,045
	Payments to and on Account of Leavers	6	
804	Refunds of contributions		878
11,736	Transfers out to other pension funds		9,311
124,610			129,209
(24,162)	Net (Additions)/Withdrawals from Dealings with Members		33
16,237	Management expenses	7	16,474
(7,925)	Net (Additions)/Withdrawals including Fund Management Expenses		16,507
	Returns on Investments		
(47,693)	Investment income	8	(40,527)
(129,727)	Profits and losses on disposal of investments and changes in the market value of investments	9	116,993
471	Taxes on income	16	351
(176,949)	Net Returns on Investments		76,817
(184,874)	Net (Increase)/Decrease in the Net Assets Available for Benefits During the Year		93,324

Net Assets Statement

31 March 2019 £000	Net Assets Statement	Note	31 March 2020 £000
	Investments		
840	Long term investments		840
573,933	Equities - quoted		36,849
428,687	Bonds		421,714
1,690,849	Pooled investment vehicles		2,160,297
214,243	Unit trusts - property		213,484
80,693	Cash deposits		61,856
(34)	Derivative contracts		
10,489	Investment income receivable		7,873
2,999,700	Net Investments	11	2,902,913
21,694	Current assets	15	15,495
(14,370)	Current liabilities	15	(4,708)
3,007,024	Net Assets of the Fund Available to Fund Benefits at 31 March		2,913,700

Note: The Fund's financial statements do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the period end. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed at Note 18.

1 Description of the Fund

Buckinghamshire County Council Pension Fund (the Fund) is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is administered by Buckinghamshire County Council. Organisations participating in the Fund include the County Council, Milton Keynes Council, the district and parish Councils of Buckinghamshire, Thames Valley Police, Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service, and other scheduled and admitted bodies. These are listed in Note 21 to these Financial Statements. Teachers, fire fighters and police officers, for whom separate pension schemes apply, are excluded from the Pension Fund. On the 1st April 2020 the administering authority Buckinghamshire County Council ceased to exist due to the County Council and all four District Councils becoming one Unitary Authority, Buckinghamshire Council. Therefore, going forward the administering authority is Buckinghamshire Council.

The purpose of the Pension Fund is to provide defined benefits for employees and their widows, widowers and children, based on pay and past service. The scheme is a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of 1/49th. Employee contribution bands range from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay. In April 2014 a 50/50 option was introduced which means members can pay half their contribution rate and build up half the pension benefit whilst retaining full value of other scheme benefits such as death in service lump sum and ill health cover. Accrued pension is revised annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index. Prior to 1 April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service. More details of benefits provided under the scheme are available on the Council's pension website.

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/local-government-pension-scheme/scheme-members>

The Fund is governed by the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. The fund is administered in accordance with the following secondary legislation:

- the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- the Local Government Pensions Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

In 2015 the government announced that they wanted the 91 Local Government Pension Scheme funds to pool their investments into larger pools in order to achieve savings in investment management costs. Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd was formed to implement the investment strategies for ten Funds. The founding Funds include The Environment Agency Pension Fund, and the Local Government Funds of Avon, Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Somerset and Wiltshire. The company Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd was formed on 14 October 2016. By 31 March 2020 the collective assets transitioned to Brunel portfolios were circa £12 billion.

The objective of pooling assets is to achieve savings over the longer term from both lower investment management costs and more effective management of the investment assets. The pool will look to deliver the savings based upon the collective buying power the collaboration initiative will produce. Local accountability will be maintained as each individual fund will remain responsible for strategic decisions including asset allocation. The pooling of assets will only affect the implementation of the investment strategy in terms of manager appointments. The transition of assets began in July 2018 and by the end of 2021 the majority of the assets will have transitioned, although illiquid alternative assets such as private equity may need a longer transition timetable. More information and updates can be found on the Brunel Pension Partnership website at: www.brunelpensionpartnership.org

The following summarises the membership of the Fund:

31 March 2019	Membership of the Fund	31 March 2020
24,141	Contributors	24,489
19,411	Pensioners	20,290
28,991	Deferred pensioners	29,936
72,543	Total Membership of the Fund	74,715

Investment Strategy Statement

The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 require administering authorities to formulate and to publish a statement of its investment strategy, in accordance with guidance issued from time to time by the Secretary of State. The Investment Strategy Statement can be viewed on the Council's website.

https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/media/4515323/2020_04_01-investment-strategy-statement-final.pdf

Further Information

The County Council publishes a separate Annual Report on the Pension Fund, which gives more detailed information, a copy can be viewed on the Council's pension website. <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/local-government-pension-scheme/investment/pension-fund-annual-reports/>

Basis of Preparation

The accounts summarise the Fund's transactions for the 2019/20 financial year and its position at year end as at 31 March 2020. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the Code), which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector. The accounts summarise the transactions of the Fund and report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits. The accounts do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed at Note 18 of these accounts. The Pension Fund is administered by Buckinghamshire County Council, but the Fund balances are not included in Buckinghamshire County Council's Balance Sheet. Buckinghamshire Council replaced Buckinghamshire County Council as administering authority of the Fund on 1 April 2020.

2. Accounting Policies and Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

Accounting Policies

Accruals of Income and Expenditure

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual's basis, unless otherwise stated. That is, income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as they are received or paid.

Contributions, benefits and investment income are included on an accrual's basis. All settlements for buying and selling investments are accrued on the day of trading. Interest on deposits is accrued if not received by the end of the financial year. Investment management expenses are accounted for on an accrual's basis. Administrative expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis, staff costs are paid by Buckinghamshire County Council then recharged to the Pension Fund at the year end and group transfers to and from the Fund are accounted for on an accruals basis unless it is too early in the negotiations for an estimate of the value to be available. Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Net Assets Statement. Some additional payments are made to beneficiaries on behalf of certain employers. These payments are subsequently reimbursed by those employers. The figures contained in the accounts are shown exclusive of both payments and reimbursements.

Employers' augmentation contributions and pension strain contributions are accounted for in the period in which the liability arises. Individual transfers in / out are accounted for when received / paid, which is normally when the member liability is accepted or discharged.

Investment Income

Interest income is recognised in the fund account as it accrues, using the effective interest rate of the financial instrument as at the date of acquisition or origination. Income includes the amortisation of any discount or premium, transaction costs (where material) or other differences between the initial carrying amount of the instrument and its amount at maturity calculated on an effective interest rate basis. Investment income is recognised on the date the shares are quoted ex-dividend. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the net assets statement as investment income. Distributions from pooled funds are recognised at the date of issue. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the net assets statement as a current financial asset. Changes in the net market value of investments are recognised as income and comprise all realised and unrealised profits / losses during the year.

Benefits Payable

Pensions and lump sum benefits payable include all amounts known to be due as at the end of the financial year. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the net assets statement as current liabilities.

Management Expenses

All management expenses are accounted for on an accrual's basis. Fees of the external investment managers and custodian are agreed in the respective mandates governing their appointments. These are based on the market value of the investments under their management and therefore increase or reduce as the value of these investments change.

In addition, the Fund has negotiated with the following managers that an element of their fee be performance related:

- Investec Asset Management (now called Ninety One) – global equities
- Royal London Asset Management – bonds
- Aberdeen Standard – UK equities

Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments that are "held for trading" are classified as financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss when the financial instrument is:

- Acquired or incurred principally for the purpose of selling or repurchasing it in the near term, or
- Part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of a recent actual pattern of short-term profit taking, or
- A derivative.

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value excluding transaction costs and carried at fair value without any deduction for transaction costs that would be incurred on sale or disposal.

Financial instruments have been classified as Loans and Receivables when they have fixed or determinable payments and are not quoted in an active market. Loans and receivables are initially recognised at Fair Value and carried at historic cost as they are all short term.

The value of market quoted investments is determined by the bid market price ruling on the final day of the accounting period. Fixed interest securities are recorded at net market value based on their current yields. Pooled investments in property funds, equity funds, fixed interest funds, private equity funds and hedge fund of funds are valued by the fund manager in accordance with industry guidelines. Note 12 includes commentary on the valuation methods that the Fund's fund managers use.

Foreign Currency Transactions

Foreign currency transactions are translated into sterling at the exchange rate ruling at the date of transaction. End of year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, market values of overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

Derivatives

The Fund uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to certain risks arising from its investment activities. The Fund does not hold derivatives for speculative purposes. Currently the Fund only holds forward currency contracts. The future value of the forward currency contracts is based on market forward exchange rates at the year-end date and determined as the gain or loss that would arise if the outstanding contract were matched at the year end with an equal and opposite contract.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash comprises cash in hand and demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to minimal risk of changes in value.

Contingent Assets & Liabilities and Commitments

Contingent liabilities are disclosed by way of a note when there is a possible obligation which may require a payment or a transfer of economic benefits. The timing of the economic transfer and the level of certainty attaching to the event are such that it would be inappropriate to make a provision.

Contingent assets are disclosed by way of a note where inflow or a receipt or an economic benefit is possible and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more future events not wholly within the control of the Pension Fund.

Commitments are disclosed by way of a note when there is a contractual commitment which may require a payment. The timing of the payment is such that it would be inappropriate to make a provision. Commitments are accounted for at the best estimate of the obligation.

Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

Pension Fund Liability

The Fund liability is calculated every three years by the appointed actuary, with annual updates in the intervening years. The last such valuation took place as at 31 March 2019, the funding level of the Fund as a whole increased from 87% to 94% between 31 March 2016 and 31 March 2019. All employers are projected to be fully funded by no later than 31 March 2035. The next valuation will take place as at 31 March 2022.

Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the year-end date and the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the year-end date and the amounts reported for the revenues and expenses during the year. Estimates and assumptions are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, the nature of estimation means that the actual outcomes could differ from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the net assets statement at 31 March 2020 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows.

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits (Note 18)	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the fund with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance: a 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £95m a 0.1% increase in assumed earnings inflation would increase the value of liabilities by approximately £7m a one-year increase in assumed life expectancy would increase the liability by approximately £185m.
Private equity fund of funds (Note 12)	Private equity investments are valued at fair value in accordance with <i>International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines (2012)</i> . These investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	Private equity investments are valued at £143m in the financial statements. There is a risk that this investment may be under or overstated in the accounts by £38m.

Events after the Reporting Date

Since 31 March 2020, the spread of COVID-19 has severely impacted many local economies around the globe. In many countries, organisations are being forced to cease or limit operations for long or indefinite periods of time.

Measures taken to contain the spread of the virus, including travel bans, quarantines, social distancing, and closures of Non-essentials services have triggered significant disruptions to organisations worldwide, resulting in an economic slowdown. Global stock markets have also experienced great volatility and significant weakening. Governments and central banks have responded with monetary and fiscal interventions to stabilise economic conditions.

There is potential for a reduction in the Council's income, in all forms (Business Rates, Council Tax, Service Income from fees, charges and investment returns of all types) and an increase in expenditure in the form of additional costs in response to the pandemic, growth in demand, increases in the price from suppliers, as well as less tangible items such as delays to proposed savings plans as a result of staff being diverted to responding to immediate needs. The Council has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and performance of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2020 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. The duration and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the effectiveness of government and central bank responses, remain unclear at this time. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and performance of the Council for future periods.

Accounting Standards that have been issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) requires the disclosure of information relating to the expected impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted. Potentially relevant standards include annual improvements to IFRS standards 2014/2016, IFRIC 22 foreign currency transactions and advance considerations and amendments to IFRS9 financial instruments: prepayment features with negative compensation.

3. Contributions

Contributions relating to wages and salaries paid up to 31 March 2020 have been included in these accounts, there were no augmented employers' contributions received during 2018/19 or 2019/20.

2018/19 £000	Contributions by Category	2019/20 £000
	Employers' Contributions	
(87,302)	Normal Contributions	(64,063)
(19,829)	Deficit Recovery Contributions	(20,524)
<u>(107,131)</u>	Total Employers' Contributions	<u>(84,587)</u>
<u>(30,129)</u>	Members' Contributions	<u>(32,034)</u>
<u>(137,260)</u>	Total Contributions	<u>(116,621)</u>

2018/19 £000	Contributions by Authority	2019/20 £000
(40,308)	Administering authority	(42,780)
(92,413)	Scheduled bodies	(69,752)
(4,539)	Admitted bodies	(4,089)
<u>(137,260)</u>	Total Contributions	<u>(116,621)</u>

4. Transfer Values

2018/19	Transfers in from other pension funds	2019/20
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£000		£000
(2,159)	Group transfers	(2,059)
(9,190)	Individual transfers	(10,344)
(11,349)	Total Transfers in from other pension funds	(12,403)

The individual transfer values relate to transfers, which have been received during the financial year i.e. included on a cash basis. On 31 March 2020 there were 7 outstanding transfer values receivable greater than £50k, for which £1,211k had not been received. (On 31 March 2019 there were two outstanding transfer values receivable greater than £50k, for which £196k had not been received.)

On 31 March 2020 there were 3 group transfer to the Fund being negotiated with other Funds (one on the 31 March 2019), the value of the transfers to the Fund is £2,059k and has been accrued.

5. Benefits

Benefits include all valid benefit claims notified during the financial year.

2018/19	Benefits Payable by Category	2019/20
£000		£000
90,860	Pensions	95,975
19,321	Commutations of pensions and lump sum retirement benefits	20,532
1,889	Lump sum death benefits	2,513
112,070	Total Benefits	119,020

2018/19	Benefits Payable by Authority	2019/20
£000		£000
40,227	Administering authority	41,916
63,044	Scheduled bodies	67,587
8,799	Admitted bodies	9,517
112,070	Total Benefits	119,020

6. Payments to and on Account of Leavers

2018/19	Payments to and on Account of Leavers	2019/20
£000		£000
761	Refunds to members leaving service	903

43	Payments for members joining the state scheme	(24)
0	Group transfers to other pension funds	0
11,736	Individual transfers to other pension funds	9,311
12,540	Total Payments to and on Account of Leavers	10,190

The individual transfer values relate to transfers, which have been paid during the financial year i.e. included on a cash basis. On 31 March 2020 there were 0 outstanding individual transfer values payable greater than £50k. On 31 March 2019 there were four outstanding individual transfer values payable greater than £50k, for which £528k had not been paid.

On 31 March 2020 there was 1 group transfer from the Fund being negotiated with other Funds (one on the 31 March 2019); the value of the transfers from the Fund is being negotiated between the Funds' actuaries. The expenditure in respect of the transfer has not been accrued since negotiations are at too early a stage for an estimate of the value to be available.

7. Management Expenses

2018/19	Management Expenses	2019/20
£000		£000
2,177	Administrative costs	2,203
13,501	Investment management expenses	13,538
559	Oversight and governance costs	733
16,237	Total Management Expenses	16,474

The analysis of the cost of managing the Pension Fund during the period has been prepared in accordance with CIPFA guidance. Management expenses have been categorised as administrative costs, investment management expenses and oversight / governance costs. Included in the oversight and governance costs are the external audit fees, £29k in 2019/20 (£19k in 2018/19).

Management fees for pooled funds and transaction costs have been included in the investment management expenses. The investment management expenses include £0.89m (£3.03m in the 2018/19 financial year) in respect of performance related fees payable to the fund's investment managers. It also includes £4.030m in respect of transaction costs (£2.621m in the 2018/19 financial year).

8. Investment Income

2018/19	Investment Income	2019/20
£000		£000
(23,026)	Dividends from equities	(15,072)
(14,315)	Income from bonds	(16,137)
(162)	Income from pooled investments	(541)
(7,420)	Income from property unit trusts	(7,262)
(903)	Interest on cash deposits	(770)
(1,867)	Other	(745)
(47,693)	Total Investment Income	(40,527)

9. Investments

All investments are valued on a fair value basis and where there is an active market the bid price is the appropriate quoted market price. The investment accounting information is provided by State Street, the Fund's custodian. During 2019/20 realised profit of £87,619m and unrealised loss of £204,613m combined to report a decrease in the market value of investments of £116.993m.

Investments (All values are shown £000)	Value at 31 March 2019 £000	Reclassification of Assets £000	Purchases at Cost £000	Sales Proceeds £000	Realised Profit / (Loss) £000	Unrealised Profit / (Loss) £000	Value at 31 March 2020 £000
Long term investments	840	-	-	-	-	-	840
Equities - quoted	573,933	-	347,507	(870,319)	22,920	(37,191)	36,850
Bonds	428,687	-	110,978	(110,343)	4,595	(12,204)	421,713
Pooled investment vehicles	1,690,849	-	737,308	(170,102)	58,630	(156,387)	2,160,298
Unit Trusts - property funds	214,243	-	11,057	(6,381)	1,424	(6,859)	213,484
Derivative contracts	(34)	-	326	(376)	50	34	
Cash deposits	80,693	-	-	(26,833)	-	7,995	61,855
	2,989,211	-	1,207,176	(1,184,354)	87,619	(204,613)	2,895,040
Investment income due	10,489						7,873
	2,999,700						2,902,913

During 2018/19 realised profit of £324m and unrealised loss of £195m are combined to report an increase in the market value of investments of £129m.

Investments (All values are shown £000)	Value at 31 March 2018 £000	Reclassification of Assets £000	Purchases at Cost £000	Sales Proceeds £000	Realised Profit / (Loss) £000	Unrealised Profit / (Loss) £000	Value at 31 March 2019 £000
Long term investments	840	-	-	-	-	-	840
Equities - quoted	883,946	-	458,840	(822,441)	79,231	(25,643)	573,933
Bonds	352,726	-	194,371	(123,385)	2,349	2,626	428,687
Pooled investment vehicles	1,239,939	-	1,308,442	(922,451)	238,483	(173,564)	1,690,849
Unit trusts - property funds	204,534	-	26,351	(18,923)	4,227	(1,946)	214,243
Derivative contracts	102	-	485	(463)	(22)	(136)	(34)
Cash deposits	121,408	-	-	(44,837)	-	4,122	80,693
	2,803,495	-	1,988,489	(1,932,500)	324,268	(194,541)	2,989,211
Investment income due	9,504						10,489
	2,812,999						2,999,700

Pooled investment vehicles are funds where the Pension Fund is not the named owner of specific investments such as shares or bonds but owns a proportion of a pooled fund. The Code requires that pooled investments are analysed between unit trusts, unitised insurance policies and other managed funds. The pooled investment vehicles in the tables above are other managed funds. These funds include the following types of investments:

- Equities

- Fixed interest securities
- Index linked securities
- Hedge fund of funds
- Diversified growth funds
- Private equity fund of funds

The change in the fair value of investments during the year comprises all increases and decreases in the fair value of investments held at any time during the year, including profits and losses realised on sales of investments during the year. The Fund's investments in derivatives are not material and therefore further disclosures are not included in the accounts. Indirect costs are incurred through the bid-offer spread on investments within pooled investments.

The Fund does not participate directly in a stock lending programme.

Assets which exceed 5% of the total value of the net assets of the Fund are shown in the table below:

Fund Manager / Mandate	Proportion of Fund				
	31 March 2019		31 March 2020		
	£000	%	£000	%	
Investments managed by Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd					
World Developed Equities	767,145	26	725,922	25	
Global Equities			401,912	14	
Investments managed by the Fund					
LaSalle	Property	221,066	7	222,898	8
Legal & General Investment Management	Passive index-tracker	444,420	15	362,721	12
Royal London Asset Management	Core plus bonds	464,444	15	469,468	16

IFRS accounting requires that the Fund discloses information on fair value hedges, cash flow hedges and hedges of net investments in foreign operations. The Fund has exposure to hedges through its investments in a hedge fund of funds pooled investment vehicle, and so the hedge disclosure is not applicable to this type of investment.

10. Investment Management Arrangements

Fund manager fees have been calculated according to the specific mandate and the associated contract agreement as shown in the following table:

Fund Manager / Mandate	Proportion of Fund				
	31 March 2019		31 March 2020		
	£000	%	£000	%	
Investments managed by Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd					
Low Volatility Equities			110,593	4	
Passive Developed Equities	767,145	26	725,922	25	
Emerging Markets Equities			123,402	4	
Global Equities			401,912	14	
Infrastructure	5,883	0	11,451	0	
Private Equity	1,565	0	14,105	1	
Investments managed by the Fund					
LaSalle	Property	221,066	7	222,898	8
BlackRock	Cash / inflation plus	139,122	5	135,425	5
Blackstone Alternative Asset Management	Hedge fund of funds	156,310	5	146,881	5
Investec Asset Management (now known as Ninety One)	Less constrained global equities	258,633	9	1,122	0
Legal & General Investment Management	Passive index-tracker	444,420	15	362,721	12
Mirabaud Investment Management Limited	UK equities	218	0	217	0
Pantheon Private Equity	Private equity	119,040	4	106,965	4
Partners Group	Private equity	24,867	1	21,042	1
Royal London Asset Management	Core plus bonds	464,444	15	469,468	16
Schroders	Less constrained global equities	219,222	7	3,180	0
Aberdeen Standard Investments	Less constrained UK equities	121,985	4	964	0
GTP		884		908	0
Fidelity		588		600	0
Total		2,945,392	98	2,859,776	100

11. Analysis of the Value of Investments

31 March 2019 £000	Analysis of the Value of Investments	31 March 2020 £000
840	Long Term Investments	840
	Bonds	
	Fixed Interest Securities	
0	Overseas public sector	0
279,600	UK other	286,003
86,759	Overseas other	73,474
366,359	Total Fixed Interest Securities	359,477
	Index-Linked Securities	
51,742	UK Index-linked securities public sector	51,806
10,586	UK Index-linked securities other	10,431
62,328	Total Index-Linked Securities	62,237
428,687	Total Bonds	421,714
	Equities	
144,069	UK quoted	129
429,864	Overseas quoted	36,720
573,933	Total Equities	36,849
	Pooled Investment Vehicles	
0	UK Equities	0
379,310	UK Bonds	362,721
864,319	Overseas Equities	1,361,829
139,122	Overseas Diversified Growth Fund	135,421
156,310	Overseas Hedge Fund of Funds	146,881
5,883	Overseas Infrastructure	22,828
145,909	Overseas Private Equities	130,617
1,690,849	Total Pooled Investment vehicles	2,160,297
	Other	
214,243	Unit Trusts - property funds	213,484
(34)	Derivatives	0
80,693	Cash deposits – sterling and foreign cash	61,856
10,489	Investment Income receivable	7,873
305,391	Total Other	283,213
2,999,700	Total Value of Investments	2,902,913

12. Financial Instruments

The Net Assets of the Fund disclosed in the Net Assets Statement are made up of the following categories of financial instruments:

31 March 2019			31 March 2020		
Fair value through profit and loss £000	Loans And Receivables £000	Financial Liabilities At amortised cost £000	Fair value through profit and loss £000	Loans And Receivables £000	Financial Liabilities At amortised cost £000
Financial Assets					
840	-	-	840	-	-
366,359	-	-	359,477	-	-
573,931	-	-	36,849	-	-
62,329	-	-	62,237	-	-
214,243	-	-	213,484	-	-
-	-	-	135,421	-	-
-	-	-	362,721	-	-
-	-	-	1,361,829	-	-
1,690,849	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	22,828	-	-
-	-	-	146,881	-	-
-	-	-	130,618	-	-
10,489	-	-	7,873	-	-
-	80,693	-	-	61,856	-
-	11,585	-	-	5,182	-
2,919,041	92,278	-	2,841,057	67,038	-
Financial Liabilities					
(34)	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	(13,367)	-	-	(3,721)
-	-	(13,367)	-	-	(3,721)
2,919,007	92,278	(13,367)	2,841,057	67,038	(3,721)
		2,997,918			2,904,373

Reconciliation to Net Investments in the Net Assets Statement		31 March 2020
31 March 2019		£000
3,007,024	Net Investments	2,913,700
(10,109)	Less contributions due current assets	(10,313)
1,003	Add HMRC current liabilities	986
2,997,918	Valuation of Financial Instruments carried at fair value	2,904,373

The net gains and losses on financial instruments are shown in the table below.

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£000		£000
	Financial Assets	
175,424	Fair value through profit and loss	(116,993)
2,227	Loans and receivables	-
	Financial Liabilities	
(9,177)	Loans and receivables	-
168,474	Total	(116,993)

The code requires that for each class of financial assets and financial liabilities an authority shall disclose the fair value of that class of assets and liabilities in a way that permits it to be compared with its carrying amount. As all investments are disclosed at fair value, carrying value and fair value are therefore the same.

Valuation of Financial Instruments Carried at Fair Value

The valuation of financial instruments has been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values.

Level 1: Financial instruments where the fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, quoted equities are classified as level 1. Listed investments are shown at bid prices. The bid value of the investment is based on the bid market quotation of the relevant stock exchange.

Level 2: Financial instruments where quoted market prices are not available; for example, where an instrument is traded in a market that is not considered to be active, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value and where these techniques use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data. Fixed interest securities are traded in an active market and evaluated prices sourced from a valid pricing vendor.

Level 3: Financial instruments at level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data. Such instruments would include unquoted equity investments and hedge fund of funds, which are valued using various valuation techniques that require significant judgement in determining appropriate assumptions. The values of the investment in private equity are based on valuations provided by the general partners to the private equity fund of funds in which the Fund has invested. These valuations are prepared in accordance with the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines, which follow the valuation principles of IFRS. Valuations are audited annually as at 31 December, and the valuations as at 31 March reflect cash flow transactions since 31 December.

The values of the hedge fund of funds are based on the net asset value provided by the fund manager. Assurances over the valuation are gained from the independent audit of the value.

The following table analyses financial instruments, measured at fair value at the end of the reporting period, by the level in the fair value hierarchy into which the fair value measurement is categorised:

Value at 31 March 2020	Quoted	Using	With	Total
	Market	Observable	Significant	
	Price	Inputs	Unobservable	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Long term investments	-	-	840	840
Equities	129	36,720	-	36,849
Bonds	-	421,714	-	421,714
Diversified Growth Fun	-	135,421	-	135,421
Hedge Fund	-	146,881	-	146,881
Infrastructure	-	-	22,828	22,828
Pooled Bonds	-	362,721	-	362,721
Pooled Equities	-	1,361,829	-	1,361,829
Private Equities	-	-	130,618	130,618
Property – unit trusts	-	213,484	-	213,484
Total	129	2,678,770	154,286	2,833,182

Cash is not included in the analysis of assets held at fair value since it is held at amortised cost, not fair value.

Reconciliation to Net Investments in the 31 March 2020 Net Assets Statement	£000
Net Investments	2,902,913
Less Cash deposits	(61,856)
Less investment income receivable	(7,873)
Valuation of Financial Instruments carried at fair value	2,833,182

Value at 31 March 2019	Quoted	Using	With	Total
	Market	Observable	Significant	
	Price	Inputs	Unobservable	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Long term investments	-	-	840	840
Equities - quoted	573,933	-	-	573,933
Bonds	-	428,687	-	428,687
Pooled investment vehicles	-	1,539,057	151,792	1,690,849
Property – unit trusts	-	214,243	-	214,243
Derivatives	-	(34)	-	(34)
Total	573,933	2,181,953	152,632	2,908,518

Reconciliation to Net Investments in the 31 March 2019 Net Assets Statement	£000
Net Investments	2,999,700
Less Cash deposits	(80,693)
Less investment income receivable	(10,489)
Valuation of Financial Instruments carried at fair value	2,908,518

Sensitivity Analysis of Assets Valued at Level 3

Having analysed historical data and current market trends, the Fund has determined that the valuation methods described above are likely to be accurate within the following ranges and has set out below the potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2019.

	Assessed valuation range (+/-)	Value at 31 March 2020 £000	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
Pooled investment vehicles - infrastructure	16.4%	22,828	26,572	19,084
Pooled investment vehicles – private equity	26.4%	130,617	165,100	96,134
Total		153,445	191,672	115,218

	Assessed valuation range (+/-)	Value at 31 March 2019 £000	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
Pooled investment vehicles - infrastructure	15%	5,883	6,765	5,001
Pooled investment vehicles – private equity	15%	145,909	167,795	124,023
Total		151,792	174,560	129,024

Reconciliation of Fair Value Measurements Within Level 3

	Value at 31 March 2019 £000	Purchases £000	Sales £000	Realised profit/(loss) £000	Unrealised profit/loss £000	Value at 31 March 2020 £000
Pooled investment vehicles – private equity	135,939	15,974	(35,441)	28,443	(14,297)	130,617
Pooled investment vehicles – infrastructure	15,853	8,861	(2,974)	1,116	(27)	22,828
Total	151,792	24,834	(38,415)	29,559	(14,324)	153,445

Restated	Value at 31 March 2018 £000	Purchases £000	Sales £000	Realised profit/(loss) £000	Unrealised profit/loss £000	Value at 31 March 2019 £000
Pooled investment vehicles – private equity	154,809	8,853	(36,719)	30,912	(21,916)	135,939
Pooled investment vehicles – infrastructure	10,775	6,154	(833)	833	(1,077)	15,853
Total	165,584	15,007	(37,552)	31,745	(22,992)	151,792

The Fund's fund managers provided the following commentary on the valuation methods they use:

Blackstone – Fund of Hedge Funds

Blackstone's direct securities and derivative investments made through Blackstone's fund of hedge fund vehicles, such as Securities, Options, Futures are valued using prices quoted on the relevant exchanges. Forward currency contracts are valued at the current forward market prices obtained from brokers. Total return swaps are valued using the last reported public closing price of the underlying index.

Partners Group – Private Equity

Partners Group performs independent valuations of its underlying investments through a fair market valuation process, which is in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (US GAAP).

Partners Group gathers the valuation-relevant information by systematically screening a broad set of sources for valuation-relevant information about portfolio companies which are held directly or indirectly by Partners Group's programs and mandates. This includes information supplied by the firm's due diligence and monitoring professionals, underlying fund managers and information published in industry journals and/or other publications.

LGIM – Passive Tracker Fund

The method used to value units is the same at every valuation date throughout the year. All holdings of the appropriate Pooled Fund Sections are valued at the close of business valuation point using a recognised pricing service. These values are then adjusted to allow for outstanding dividends, tax payable or recoverable and any relevant expenses (this creates the "Mid Value").

Brunel – Global Equity, High Alpha Equity, Emerging Markets Equity, Low Volatility Equity ACS Funds

Weekly prices each Wednesday valued at close of business valuation point. These values are then adjusted to allow for outstanding dividends, tax payable or recoverable and any relevant expenses (this creates "Mid Value").

Brunel – Private Equity

Brunel selects managers who apply a fair value process, which is in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and United States Generally Accepted Accounts Principals (US GAAP). Systematically Brunel ensures valuations are driven by IPEV guidelines and that this process is annually appraised by 3rd parties for appropriateness.

Brunel – Infrastructure

Brunel selects managers who apply a fair value process, which is in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and United States Generally Accepted Accounts Principals (US GAAP). Systematically Brunel ensures valuations are driven by IPEV guidelines and that this process is annually appraised by 3rd parties for appropriateness.

LaSalle – Property Fund

LaSalle rely on the NAV provided by each fund manager, computed in accordance with appropriate local standards, incorporating independent valuations conducted from suitably qualified external providers. These external NAVs are subject to review by LaSalle's Real Estate Multi Manager (REMM) team.

Pantheon – Private Equity

Investments are valued using the most relevant of methods listed below:

- Cost/recent round of financing/price of recent investment where recent transactions may be the most reflective of fair value.
- Comparable Private Company Transactions used for companies with low enterprise value or low EBITDA which means it is not appropriate to use earnings multiples of similar publicly listed companies.
- Earnings/Earnings Multiples /Performance Multiples valuations involve applying a multiple, appropriate to the company being valued, to the earnings of a company. The valuation is described as a function of two variables, price and earnings (The most widely used of the valuation methodologies, especially for buyout or other businesses that have comparable characteristics to companies in the public markets).
- Underlying value of Net Assets.
- Discounted Cash flows (DCF) where there are predictable cash flows visible over a given time horizon.
- Industry Benchmarks are based on assumptions that investors pay for market share, and the profitability of the business does not vary greatly.
- Unrestricted Publicly traded securities are valued at the closing public market price on the valuation date.

These methods are consistently applied across all investment types.

BlackRock Institutional Jersey Dynamic Diversified Growth Fund

The above Fund is a sub-fund of the BlackRock Institutional Jersey Funds umbrella which reports under UK SORP and is not exchange-traded. The price is determined daily by the Funds Administrator and will be representative of the Fund's net asset value ("NAV") at each dealing point subject to any spreads applied, where appropriate. The Fund is not subject to any redemption notice periods and can be redeemed at each dealing point, currently on a daily basis.

13. Additional Financial Risk Management Disclosures

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that the Fund's assets will fall short of its liabilities (i.e. promised benefits payable to members). Therefore, the aim of investment risk management is to minimise the risk of an overall reduction in the value of the Fund and to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole fund portfolio. The Fund achieves this through asset diversification to reduce exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the Fund manages its liquidity risk to ensure that there is sufficient liquidity to meet the Fund's forecast cash flows. The Pension Fund Committee manages these investment risks as part of its overall Fund risk management programme.

Responsibility for the Fund's risk management strategy rests with the Pension Fund Committee. The Pension Fund Risk Assessment analyses the risks faced by the Council's pensions operations, it is reviewed regularly by the Pension Fund Committee to reflect changes in activity and in market conditions. The analysis below is designed to meet the disclosure requirements of IFRS 7.

Market Risk

Market risk represents the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices of equities, commodities, interest rates, foreign exchange rates and credit spreads. This could be as a result of changes in market price, interest rates or currencies. The objective of the Fund's Investment strategy is to manage and control market risk exposure within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return.

In general, excessive volatility in market risk is managed through diversification across asset class, investment manager, country, industry sector and individual securities. Each manager is expected to maintain a diversified portfolio within their allocation.

Market Price Risk

Market price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting the market in general.

By diversifying investments across asset classes and managers, the Fund aims to reduce the exposure to price risk. Diversification of asset classes seeks to reduce correlation of price movements, whilst the appointment of specialist managers enables the Fund to gain from their investment expertise.

Market Price - Sensitivity Analysis

Whilst the value of the Fund's assets is sensitive to changes in market conditions and the Fund's assets are diversified across fund managers and asset classes to mitigate the risks. The Fund's liability to pay future benefits is equally sensitive, particularly to interest rate changes. In consultation with Mercer, the Fund's investment consultant, the Fund has determined that the following movements in market price risk are reasonably possible for 2020/21. Assuming that all other variables, in particular foreign exchange rates and interest rates, remain constant. If the market price of the Fund's investments does increase/decrease in line with the table below, the change in the market price of net assets available to pay benefits would be as follows.

Asset Type	31 March 2020 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
Long term investments	840	20.6	1,013	667
Equities – quoted	36,849	20.6	44,440	29,258
Bonds	421,714	4.84	442,117	401,311
Pooled investment vehicles	2,160,297	16.93	2,526,137	1,794,457
Property - unit trusts	213,484	15.6	246,788	180,180
Derivative contracts	0	12.2	0	0
Cash deposits	61,856	1.0	62,475	61,237
Investment income receivable	7,873	20.6	9,495	6,251
Total	2,902,913		3,332,465	2,473,361

In consultation with Mercer, the Fund's investment consultant, the Fund determined that the following movements in market price risk were reasonably possible for 2019/20. Assuming that all other variables, in particular foreign exchange rates and interest rates, remain constant. If the market price of the Fund's investments did increase/decrease in line with the table below, the change in the market price of net assets available to pay benefits would be as follows.

Asset Type	31 March 2019 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
Long term investments	840	20.0	1,008	672
Equities – quoted	573,933	20.0	688,720	459,146
Bonds	428,687	4.2	446,621	410,753
Pooled investment vehicles	1,690,849	17.0	1,940,104	1,441,594
Property - unit trusts	214,243	14.8	245,951	182,535
Derivative contracts	(34)	12.2	(30)	(38)
Cash deposits	80,693	1.0	81,500	79,886
Investment income receivable	10,489	20.0	12,587	8,391
Total	2,999,700		3,416,461	2,582,939

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

Interest Rate – Sensitivity Analysis

The Pension Fund recognises that interest rates vary and can impact income to the fund and the fair value of the assets, both of which affect the value of the net assets available to pay benefits. The sensitivity of the Fund's investments to changes in interest rates has been analysed by showing the impact of a 1% change, long term average interest rates are expected to move less than 1% from one year to the next. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency exchange rates, remain constant.

31 March 2020

	Asset Value	Impact of 1% increase	Impact of 1% decrease
	£000	£000	£000
Exposure to interest rate risk			
Cash and cash equivalents	64,862	64,862	64,862
Fixed interest bonds	359,477	363,072	355,882
Variable rate bonds	62,237	62,237	62,237
Total	486,576	490,171	482,981

31 March 2019

	Asset Value	Impact of 1% increase	Impact of 1% decrease
	£000	£000	£000
Exposure to interest rate risk			
Cash and cash equivalents	90,575	90,575	90,575
Fixed interest bonds	366,359	370,023	362,695
Variable rate bonds	62,328	62,328	62,328
Total	519,262	522,926	515,598

2019/20

	Interest receivable	Impact of 1% increase	Impact of 1% decrease
	£000	£000	£000
Exposure to interest rate risk			
Cash and cash equivalents	770	778	762
Fixed interest bonds	9,830	9,928	9,732
Variable rate bonds	6,307	6,370	6,244
Total	16,907	17,076	16,738

2018/19

	Interest receivable	Impact of 1% increase	Impact of 1% decrease
	£000	£000	£000
Exposure to interest rate risk			
Cash and cash equivalents	903	912	894
Fixed interest bonds	8,721	8,721	8,721
Variable rate bonds	5,595	5,651	5,539
Total	15,219	15,284	15,154

Changes in interest rates do not impact on the value of cash / cash equivalent balances but they will affect the interest income received on those balances. Changes to both the fair value of assets and the income received from investments impact on the net assets available to pay benefits.

Currency Risk

Currency risk represents the risk that the fair value of financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to currency risk on financial instruments that are denominated in any currency other than sterling. When sterling depreciates the sterling value of foreign currency denominated investments will rise and when sterling appreciates the sterling value of foreign currency denominated investments will fall. Over the long term the differences in currencies are likely to balance out and the Fund has chosen not to hedge its currencies.

Currency Risk – Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity of the Fund's investments to changes in foreign currency rates have been analysed using a 7.64% movement in exchange rates in either direction for 31 March 2020. This analysis assumes that all variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant. Based on the composition of the Fund's currency exposure a 7.64% fluctuation in the currency is considered reasonable. A 7.64% weakening or strengthening of Sterling against the various currencies at 31 March 2020 would have increased or decreased the net assets by the amount shown below.

Currency Exposure by Asset Type	31 March 2020	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	£000 +7.64%	£000 -7.64%
Equities – quoted	1,276,253	1,373,759	1,178,747
Infrastructure	19,227	20,696	17,758
Private Equities	130,617	140,596	120,638
Property - unit trusts	29	31	27
Cash deposits	43,923	47,279	40,567
Total	1,470,049	1,582,361	1,357,737

The sensitivity of the Fund's investments to changes in foreign currency rates have been analysed using a 9.36% movement in exchange rates in either direction for 31 March 2019. This analysis assumes that all variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant. Based on the composition of the Fund's currency exposure a 9.36% fluctuation in the currency is considered reasonable. A 9.36% weakening or strengthening of Sterling against the various currencies at 31 March 2019 would have increased or decreased the net assets by the amount shown below.

Currency Exposure by Asset Type	31 March 2019	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£000	£000 +9.36%	£000 -9.36%
Equities – quoted	439,638	480,788	398,488
Pooled investment vehicles	151,787	165,994	137,580
Property - unit trusts	163	178	148
Cash deposits	40,181	43,942	36,420
Total	631,769	690,902	572,636

One important point to note is that currency movements are not independent of each other. If sterling strengthened generally it may rise against all the above currencies producing losses across all the currencies.

Currency Exposure by Significant Currency

The Fund's most significant currency exposures are to US Dollars and EUROS, using data on currency risk of 7.73% for the US Dollar and 6.72% for the EURO. Weakening or strengthening of Sterling against US Dollars and EUROS at 31 March 2020 would have increased or decreased the net assets by the amounts shown in the following table.

Asset Type	31 March 2020 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
US Dollars	869,526	7.73	936,740	802,312
EUROS	196,309	6.72	209,501	183,117
Total	1,065,835		1,146,241	985,429

Weakening or strengthening of Sterling against US Dollars and EUROS at 31 March 2019 would have increased or decreased the net assets by the amounts shown in the following table.

Asset Type	31 March 2019 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
US Dollars	388,278	9.40	424,776	351,780
EUROS	113,438	7.99	122,502	104,374
Total	501,716		547,278	456,154

Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a transaction or financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. The market value of investments generally reflects an assessment of credit in their pricing and consequently the risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities. In essence the Fund's entire investment portfolio is exposed to some sort of credit risk. The Fund is exposed to credit risk through its investment managers, custodian and its daily treasury management activities. Credit risk is minimised through the careful selection and monitoring of financial institutions and counterparties. Contractual credit risk is represented by the net payment or receipt that remains outstanding.

A source of credit risk is the cash balances held internally or by managers. The Pension Fund's bank account is held at Lloyds, which holds an "A+" long term credit rating. The management of the cash held in this account is managed by the Council's Treasury Management Team in line with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy which sets out the permitted counterparties and limits. The value of the Fund invested by the Treasury Management Team at 31 March 2020 was £1.109m in an instant access Lloyds account and £2.000m invested in Federated's money market fund. (On 31 March 2019 £0.691m was invested in an instant access Lloyds account.) Cash held by investment managers is invested with the global custodian, State Street, in a diversified money market fund rated AAAM.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The main liabilities of the Fund relate to the benefits payable which fall due over a long period of time. The investment strategy reflects this and sets out the strategic asset allocation of the Fund. Liquidity risk is mitigated by investing a proportion of the Fund in actively traded instruments in particular equities and fixed income investments. The Fund maintains a cash balance to meet operational requirements.

The Fund defines liquid assets as assets that can be converted to cash within three months. Illiquid assets are those assets which will take longer to convert into cash. The following table summarises the Fund's illiquid assets by fund manager.

31 March 2019		31 March 2020	
£000		£000	
156,310	Blackstone	146,881	
5,883	Brunel Infrastructure	11,451	
1,565	Brunel Private Equity	14,105	
221,066	LaSalle	222,898	
119,040	Pantheon Private Equity	106,965	
24,867	Partners Group	21,042	
588	Hg Capital	600	
529,319		523,942	

14. Related Parties

The Buckinghamshire County Council Pension Fund is administered by Buckinghamshire County Council and therefore there is a strong relationship between the Council and the Pension Fund.

The County Council was reimbursed £2.35m (£2.2m in the 2018/19 year) for oversight & governance costs and administration costs incurred by the County Council on behalf of the Pension Fund. The County Council is also the single largest employer of members of the Pension Fund and contributed £47.2m to the Fund in 2019/20 (£45.1m in the 2018/19 year).

The Pension Fund's surplus cash held for day to day cash flow purposes is invested on the money markets by Buckinghamshire County Council's treasury management team, through a service level agreement. During the year to 31 March 2020, the Fund had an average investment balance of £8.1m (£7.7m in the 2018/19 year), earning interest of £53k (£55k in the 2018/19 year).

Membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for Councillors closed to new members on 31 March 2014, councillors who were active members ceased to be a member at the next end of term of office. There is one member of the Pension Fund Committee who is a deferred member of the Fund. There are no members of the Pension Fund Committee who were pensioner members of the Fund on 31 March 2020 (on 31 March 2019 no pensioner members and one deferred member). The Service Director – Corporate Finance (s151 Officer), holds a key position in the financial management of the Fund and is an active member. He is an employee of Buckinghamshire County Council for whom a portion of his costs of employment are re-charged to the Fund. Disclosure of his pay costs can be found within the officer remuneration note in the main Buckinghamshire County Council accounts.

The Pension Fund has transactions with Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd (Brunel) (Company number 10429110) which was formed on 14 October 2016 and will oversee the investment of pension fund assets for ten Funds. The founding Funds include The Environment Agency Pension Fund, and the Local Government Funds of Avon, Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Somerset and Wiltshire. Each of the 10 organisations, including Buckinghamshire County Council own 10% of Brunel. During the year to 31 March 2020 Brunel provided services costing £1,144k (£835k in the year to 31 March 2019).

15. Current Assets and Liabilities

31 March 2019 £000	Current Assets and Liabilities	31 March 2020 £000
	Current Assets	
10,109	Contributions due from employer's 31 March	10,313
9,882	Cash balances (not forming part of the investment assets)	3,006
1,703	Other current assets	2,176
21,694	Total Current Assets	15,495
	Current Liabilities	
(1,170)	Management charges	(727)
(1,003)	HM Revenue and Customs	(986)
(692)	Unpaid benefits	(673)
(11,505)	Other current liabilities	(2,322)
(14,370)	Total Current Liabilities	(4,708)
7,324	Net Current Assets	10,787

16. Taxes on Income

2018/19 £000	Taxes on Income	2019/20 £000
-	Withholding tax - fixed interest securities	-
471	Withholding tax - equities	351
471	Total Taxes on Income	351

The Fund retains the following taxation status:

- VAT input tax is recoverable on all fund activities by virtue of Buckinghamshire County Council being the administering authority.
- The fund is an exempt approved fund under the Finance Act 2004 and is therefore not liable to UK income tax or capital gains tax.
- Income earned from investments overseas in certain countries is subject to withholding tax, unless an exemption is available.

17. Actuarial Position of the Fund

In accordance with Regulation 62 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended), the Fund's actuary, Barnett Waddingham LLP, undertakes a funding valuation every three years to review the financial position of the Fund and to set appropriate contribution rates for each employer in the Fund for the forthcoming triennial period. The last such valuation took place as at 31 March 2019. The next valuation will take place as at 31 March 2022.

On 31 March 2019, the market value of the assets held were £3,007.020m, sufficient to cover 94% of the accrued liabilities assessed on an ongoing basis. All employers are projected to be fully funded by no later than 31 March 2035. The primary rate of contribution is the employers' share of the cost of benefits accruing in each of the three years beginning 1 April 2020 and is 18.2% of payroll. In addition, each employer pays a secondary contribution rate based on their particular circumstances, the secondary contribution rate across the whole Fund averages 3.9% in 2020/21, 4.0% in 2021/22 and 4.1% in 2021/22.

The results of the valuation are that the past service funding level of the Fund as a whole has increased from 87% to 94% between 31 March 2016 and 31 March 2019. The improvement of the funding position since the previous valuation is mainly due to good investment returns and employer contributions. To produce the future cashflows or liabilities and their present value Barnett Waddingham formulate assumptions about the factors affecting the Fund's future finances such as inflation, salary increases, investment returns, rates of mortality, early retirement and staff turnover etc.

The main assumptions used in the valuation were:

Financial assumptions

▪ Discount rate	2.35%
▪ Pension increases	1.85%
▪ CPI inflation	1.85%
▪ Salary increases	2.85%

Demographic assumptions

	Male / Female
▪ Post retirement mortality	
Member base tables	S3PA
Member mortality multiplier	110% / 95%
Dependant base tables	S3DA
Dependant mortality multiplier	95% / 80%
Projection model	CMI 2018
Long-term rate of improvement	1.25% per annum
Smoothing parameter	7.5
In addition to improvements	0.5% per annum
▪ Retirement assumption	Weighted average of each tranche retirement
▪ Pre-retirement decrements	GAD 2016 scheme valuation with no salary scale, 50% ill-health decrement, 105% pre-retirement
▪ 50:50 assumption	Member data
▪ Commutation	50% of maximum
% members with qualifying dependant	75% / 70%
▪ Age difference	Males are 3 years older

18. Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) requires the disclosure of the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. The Fund's Actuary has prepared a report which rolls forward the value of the Employers' liabilities calculated for the Triennial valuation as at 31 March 2019. On an IAS 19 basis the Actuary estimates that the net liability as at 31 March 2020 is £1,647m (31 March 2019 £1,792m), but figures calculated on an IAS 19 basis are not relevant for calculations undertaken for funding purposes or for other statutory purposes undertaken under UK pensions legislation. The Fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future.

For the Triennial Valuation the actuary asks the question – what is the value of the assets required based on existing investment strategy to be sufficient to meet future liabilities? For IAS 19 valuations, however, the actuary asks the question – how much would need to be borrowed on the corporate bond market to meet future liabilities?

The expected returns on the assets actually held will be different from borrowing costs, and so different amounts are required. This manifest itself in different discount rates being used in each type of valuation, and so different values are placed on the same liabilities.

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£000		£000
4,791,251	Present value of funded obligation	4,549,742
(2,998,856)	Fair value of scheme assets	(2,902,913)
1,792,395	Net Liability	1,646,829

The Present Value of Funded Obligation consists of £4,446m (£4,628m at 31 March 2019) in respect of Vested Obligation and £104m (£163m at 31 March 2019) in respect of Non-Vested Obligation. Vested benefits are the benefits that employees have a right to receive even if they do not render services to the employer. In other words, the employees will receive their vested benefits even if they stop working for the employer. Thus, non-vested benefits are the benefits an employee can receive in the future if he or she continues providing services to the employer. The liabilities above are calculated on an IAS19 basis and therefore differ from the results of the triennial funding valuation (see Note 17) because IAS19 stipulates a discount rate rather than a rate that reflects market rates. The main assumptions used were:

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
3.4%	RPI increases	2.65%
2.4%	CPI increases	1.85%
3.9%	Salary increases	2.85%
2.4%	Pension increases	1.85%
2.4%	Discount rate	2.35%

These assumptions are set with reference to market conditions at 31 March. The Actuary's estimate of the duration of the Fund's past service liabilities is 22 years. An estimate of the Fund's future cashflows is made using notional cashflows based on the estimated duration above. These estimated cashflows are then used to derive a Single Equivalent Discount Rate (SEDR). The discount rate derived is such that the net present value of the notional cashflows, discounted at this single rate, equates to the net present value of the cashflows, discounted using the annualised Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond yield curve (where the spot curve is assumed to be flat beyond the 30 year point). This is consistent with the approach used at the previous accounting date.

Similarly, to the approach used to derive the discount rate, the Retail Prices Index (RPI) increase assumption is set using a Single Equivalent Inflation Rate (SEIR) approach, using the notional cashflows described above. The single inflation rate derived is that which gives the same net present value of the cashflows, discounted using the annualised Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond yield curve, as applying the BoE implied inflation curve. As above, the Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond yield spot curve is assumed to be flat beyond the 30-year point and the BoE implied inflation spot curve is assumed to be flat beyond the 40 year point. This is consistent with the approach used at the previous accounting date. As future pension increases are expected to be based on CPI rather than RPI, the Actuary has made a further assumption about CPI which is that it will be 0.8% below RPI i.e. 1.85%.

Salaries are assumed to increase at 1.0% above CPI. This differs from the salary increase assumption at the previous accounting date and has been updated in line with the most recent funding valuation. The liabilities include an allowance for the Court of Appeal judgement in relation to the McCloud & Sergeant cases which related to age discrimination within the Judicial & Fire Pension schemes respectively.

Demographic/Statistical assumptions

The actuary has adopted a set of demographic assumptions that are consistent with those used for the most recent Fund valuation, which was carried out as at 31 March 2019. The post retirement mortality tables adopted are the S3PA tables with a multiplier of 110% for males and 95% for females. These base tables are then projected using the CMI 2018 Model, allowing for a long-term rate of improvement of 1.25% p.a, smoothing parameter of 7.5 and an initial addition to improvements of 0.5% pa. The assumed life expectations from age 65 are:

Life expectancy from age 65 (years)	31 March 2019	31 March 2020
Retiring today		
Males	22.9	21.8
Females	24.8	25.1
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.6	23.2
Females	26.6	26.5

The actuary also assumed that:

- Members will exchange half of their commutable pension for cash at retirement;
- Members will retire at one retirement age for all tranches of benefit, which will be the pension weighted average tranche retirement age; and
- The proportion of the membership that had taken up the 50:50 option at the previous valuation date will remain the same.

19. Contingent Liabilities and Contractual Commitments

Outstanding contractual commitments at 31 March 2020 relate to outstanding call payments due on unquoted limited partnership funds held in the private equity, resources, global real estate and infrastructure parts of the portfolio. The amounts “called” by the funds are irregular in both size and timing over several years from the date of each original commitment. The undrawn amount, the outstanding commitment, for each of these contracts is shown in the table below:

Outstanding Capital Commitments

	31 March 2019	31 March 2020
	£000	£000
Brunel Infrastructure Cycle 2	0	250,000
Brunel Private Debt Cycle 2	0	130,000
Brunel Private Equity Cycle 2	0	120,000
Brunel Infrastructure Cycle 1	68,846	61,095
Brunel Private Equity Cycle 1	73,570	64,240
Pantheon Asia Fund V LP	715	1,587
Pantheon Asia Fund VI LP	6,369	18,506
Pantheon USA Fund VII Limited	1,244	1,168
Pantheon USA Fund VIII Feeder LP	5,803	4,517
Pantheon Global Secondary Fund IV Feeder LP	3,465	4,063
Partners Group Global Resources 2009, LP	3,271	3,435
Pantheon Europe Fund V “A” LP	982	854
Pantheon Europe Fund VI LP	3,578	3,061
Partners Group Global Real Estate 2008 SICAR	1,722	1,781
Partners Group Global Infrastructure 2009 SICAR	2,715	2,806
	172,280	667,113

On 31 March 2020 there were 3 group transfers to the Fund being negotiated with other Funds (one on the 31 March 2019), the value of the transfers to the Fund is £2,059k and has been accrued. On 31 March 2020 there was one group transfer from the Fund being negotiated with other Funds (one on the 31 March 2019), the value of the transfers from the Fund is being negotiated between the Funds’ actuaries. The expenditure in respect of the transfers has not been accrued since negotiations are at too early a stage for an estimate of the value to be available.

20. Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs)

AVC providers secure additional benefits on a money purchase basis for those members electing to pay additional voluntary contributions. The AVC providers to the Fund are Prudential and Scottish Widows. Prudential invests in several funds including with profits accumulation, deposit and discretionary funds. Scottish Widows invests in a range of funds to suit Scheme members' changing lifestyles. These amounts are not included in the pension fund accounts in accordance with Regulation 4(1)(b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of funds) Regulations 2016.

2018/19	Prudential	2019/20
£000		£000
3,869	Value of AVC fund at beginning of year	4,740
860	Correction opening value	0
543	Employees' contributions and transfers in	622
79	Investment income and change in market value	160
(611)	Benefits paid and transfers out	(795)
4,740	Value of AVC fund at year end	4,727
2018/19	Scottish Widows	2019/20
£000		£000
3,321	Value of AVC fund at beginning of year	2,838
(437)	Correction opening value	0
119	Employees' contributions	44
(46)	Investment income and change in market value	(2,066)
(119)	Benefits paid and transfers out	(69)
2,838	Value of AVC fund at year end	747

21. List of Scheduled and Admitted Bodies

Scheduled Bodies

Buckinghamshire County Council
 Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
 Thames Valley Police
 Aylesbury Vale District Council
 Chiltern District Council
 Milton Keynes Council
 South Bucks District Council
 Wycombe District Council

Amersham Town Council
 Aston Clinton Parish Council

Aylesbury Town Council
 Beaconsfield Town Council
 Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council
 Bradwell Parish Council
 Broughton & Milton Keynes Parish Council
 Buckingham Town Council
 Burnham Parish Council
 Campbell Park Parish Council
 Chalfont St Giles Parish Council
 Chalfont St Peter Parish Council
 Chepping Wycombe Parish Council

Chesham Bois Parish Council	Aspire Schools
Chesham Town Council	Aylesbury College
Chiltern Crematorium	Aylesbury Grammar School
Chilterns Conservation Board	Aylesbury High School
Coldharbour Parish Council	Aylesbury Vale Academy
Coleshill Parish Council	Beaconsfield High School
Gerrards Cross Parish Council	Bearbrook Combined & Pre-school
Great Missenden Parish Council	Bedgrove Infant School
Hambleden Parish Council	Bedgrove Junior School
Hazlemere Parish Council	Beechview Academy
Iver Parish Council	Bourne End Academy
Ivinghoe Parish Council	Bourton Meadow Academy
Kents Hill & Monkston Parish Council	Bridge Academy
Lacey Green Parish Council	Brill CofE Combined School
Lane End Parish Council	Brookmead School
Little Marlow Parish Council	Brooksward School
Longwick-cum-Ilmer Parish Council	Brushwood Junior School
Marlow Town Council	Buckinghamshire New University
Mentmore Parish Council	Buckinghamshire University Technical College
New Bradwell Parish Council	Burnham Grammar School
Newport Pagnell Town Council	Bushfield School
Newton Longville Parish Council	Castlefield School
Olney Town Council	Chalfonts Community College
PCC for Thames Valley	Chalfont St Peter CE Academy
Penn Parish Council	Chalfont Valley E-Act Academy
Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council	Charles Warren Academy
Princes Risborough Town Council	Chepping View Primary Academy
Shenley Brook End and Tattenhoe Parish Council	Chesham Bois CofE Combined School
Shenley Church End Parish Council	Chesham Grammar School
Stantonbury Parish Council	Chestnuts Academy
Stony Stratford Town Council	Chiltern Hills Academy
Taplow Parish Council	Chiltern Way Academy
Waddesdon Parish Council	Christ the Sower Ecumenical Primary School
Wendover Parish Council	Cottesloe School
West Bletchley Town Council	Danesfield School
West Wycombe Parish Council	Denbigh School
Weston Turville Parish Council	Denham Green E-Act Academy
Winslow Town Council	Dorney School
Woburn Sands Town Council	Dr Challoner's Grammar School
Wolverton & Greenleys Town Council	Dr Challoner's High School
Wooburn & Bourne End Parish Council	E-Act Burnham Park Academy
Woughton Community Council	Elmhurst School (Academy)
	EMLC Academy Trust
Abbey View Primary School	Fairfields Primary School
Alfriston School	George Grenville Academy
Amersham School	Germander Park School
Ashbrook School	Gerrards Cross CoE School

Glastonbury Thorn First School	Oxley Park Academy
Great Horwood CofE Combined School	Padbury CofE School
Great Kimble CoE School	Portfields Combined School
Great Kingshill CoE Combined School	Princes Risborough Primary School
Great Marlow School	Princes Risborough School
Great Missenden CoE Combined School	Rickley Park Primary School
Green Park School	Royal Grammar School
Green Ridge Academy	Royal Latin School
Hamilton Academy	St John's CofE Combined School
Heronsgate School	St Mary Magdelene Catholic Primary
Heronshaw School	St Nicolas' CE Combined School Taplow
Holmer Green Senior School	St Paul's RC School
Holmwood School	Seer Green CofE School
Ickford School	Shenley Brook End School
Inspiring Futures Through Learning	Shepherdswell School
Ivingswood Academy	Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School
John Colet School	Sir Herbert Leon Academy
John Hampden Grammar School	Sir Thomas Fremantle Academy
Jubilee Wood Primary School	Sir William Borlase's Grammar School
Kents Hill Park School	Sir William Ramsay School
Kents Hill School	Southwood Middle School
Khalsa Secondary Academy	Stanton School
Kingsbridge Education Trust (MAT)	Stantonbury Campus
Knowles Primary School	Stephenson Academy
Lace Hill Academy	The Beaconsfield School
Lent Rise Combined School	The Bridge Academy
Longwick CofE Combined School	The Hazeley Academy
Lord Grey Academy	The Highcrest Academy
Loudwater Combined School	The Misbourne School
Loughton School	The Premier Academy
Middleton Primary School	The Radcliffe School
Milton Keynes Academy	Thomas Harding Junior School
Milton Keynes College	Two Mile Ash School
Milton Keynes Development Partnership	Waddesdon CoE School
Milton Keynes Education Trust	Walton High
Monkston Primary Academy	Water Hall Primary School
Moorland Primary School	Waterside Combined School
New Bradwell School	Whitehouse Primary School
New Chapter Primary School	Wooburn Green Primary Academy
Oakgrove School	Woodside Junior School
Olney Infant School	Wycombe High School
Olney Middle Academy	Wyvern School
Orchard Academy	
Ousedale School	Election Fees:
Overstone Combined School	Aylesbury Vale Local
Oxford Diocesan Bucks School Trust (MAT)	South Bucks Local

Admitted Bodies

Acorn Childcare
Action for Children
Action for Children (Children's Centres)
Adventure Learning Foundation (BCC)
Ambassador Theatre Group
Ashridge Security Management
Aspens Services Ltd
Avalon Cleaning Services (Langland School)
Buckinghamshire Music Trust
Bucks Association of Local Councils
Bucks County Museum Trust
Busy Bee Cleaning Services Ltd (WDC)
C-SALT (Woughton Leisure Centre)
Capita (WDC)
Caterlink Ltd (Buckingham Primary)
Caterlink Ltd (Chiltern Hills Academy)
Chartwells Ltd (Oakgrove School)
Chiltern Rangers CIC
Cleantec Services Limited (MK Academy)
Cleantec Services Limited (Oakgrove School)
Connexions Buckinghamshire
Cucina Restaurants Ltd (Denbigh School)
Cucina Restaurants Ltd (Walton High)
Derwent Facilities Management Ltd
Excelcare
Fujitsu Services Limited
Hayward Services Ltd (Downley School)
Hayward Services Ltd (John Colet)
Heritage Care
Hightown Housing Association Ltd
Innovate Ltd
Kids Play Ltd
Manpower Direct Ltd
Mears Group plc
Mercury Infrastructure Limited
NSL Services Group
Nurture Landscapes (MKC)
Oxfordshire Health NHS Foundation Trust
Paradigm Housing Association
Places for People Leisure (Newport Pagnell TC)
Places for People Leisure (WDC)
Police Superintendents Association Limited
Red Kite Community Housing Ltd
Ridge Crest Cleaning Ltd (Shenley Brook End)
Ridge Crest Cleaning Ltd (Walton High)
Ringway Infrastructure Services
Ringway Jacobs
Serco (MKC)
Serco (MKC Recreation & Maintenance)
Sports Leisure Management
Spurgeons
The Fremantle Trust
Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust
Wolverton & Watling Way Pools Trust
Wycombe Heritage and Arts Trust

