

Surrey Heath Borough Council
Employment Committee
26 January 2023

Pensions Discretions Policy

Head of Service: Sally Kipping – Head of HR, Performance & Communications
Report Author: Julie Simmonds – HR Manager
Key Decision: no
Wards Affected: n/a

Summary and purpose

This report provides the Employment Committee with information regarding the Council's Pensions Discretions Policy which is an annual item on the agenda.

Each pension fund has to have a discretionary policy, which needs to be kept under review. However, it is noted that there is no legal requirement that it be reviewed annually and Surrey County Council have not issued an updated Pensions Discretions Policy.

The policy has not changed but it has come back this year again points as a reminder of the considerations. It has also been reviewed by the S151 Officer and taken to Corporate Management Team for consideration.

The Joint Staff Consultative Group considered this item at its meeting on 12 January 2023.

Recommendation

The Employment Committee is advised to RESOLVE that no amendments be made to the current Pensions Discretions Policy.

1. Background and Supporting Information

1.1 The Pension Discretions Policy has to be reviewed and it has been an annual review to date. If there is a need to change it before the annual review it will come back for recommendation sooner.

2. Reasons for Recommendation

2.1 Each pension fund has to have a discretionary policy, which needs to be kept under review.

3. Proposal and Alternative Options

3.1 It is proposed to continue the existing Pensions Discretions Policy brought to the Committee in January 2020.

4. Contribution to the Council's Five Year Strategy

4.1 No matters arising.

5. Resource Implications

5.1 n/a

6. Section 151 Officer Comments:

6.1 No comments highlighted.

7. Legal and Governance Issues

7.1 No matters arising.

8. Monitoring Officer Comments:

8.1 No matters arising.

9. Other Considerations and Impacts

Environment and Climate Change

9.1 n/a

Equalities and Human Rights

9.2 Equality Impact Assessment completed Jan 2020 and no changes to Pensions Discretions Policy have been made since this date

Risk Management

9.3 No matters arising.

Community Engagement

9.4 n/a

Annexes

Annex A - Pensions Discretions Policy

Background Papers - n/a