



Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan  
**Pension Fund**

# Statement of Accounts 2024/25

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## ***Narrative Report***

Cardiff Council is the Administering Authority for the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund (the Fund) which is part of the national Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for England & Wales. The LGPS is the statutory occupational pension scheme for all local government employees (except teachers) and the regulations are determined by the UK Government.

The Council's responsibilities as manager of the Fund are discharged through the Pension Fund Committee which has oversight of the Fund's strategies and policies. Operational management of the Fund has been delegated to the Corporate Director Resources. The Local Pension Board assists the Council to secure compliance with the LGPS regulations and the requirements of the Pensions Regulator and to ensure the effective and efficient administration of the scheme. The Pension Fund Committee also continues to be assisted by the Investment Advisory Panel whose membership includes two independent advisors.

The membership of the Fund as at 31 March 2025 was 46,640 with 17,904 contributing employees, 14,127 pensioners and 14,609 deferred members.

The value of the Pension Fund's Investment assets as at 31 March 2025 was £3,081 million an increase of 4.0% compared with the 31 March 2024 valuation of £2,963 million. The rise in value of a small number of very large US technology and consumer discretionary stocks continued during most of 2024 before Global Markets declined in the first quarter of 2025 when geopolitical uncertainty including the potential implementation of tariffs influenced market sentiment.

The attention of the Wales Pension Partnership (WPP) continued to be focused on Private Markets in 2024/25 with the launch of new "vintages" for Private Equity and Private Credit continuing during 2024/25 with investments into these sub-funds planned for 2025/26 along with the WPP Open-ended Infrastructure and UK Forestry Funds. 2024/25 also saw the completion of the procurement for the WPP Real Estate Manager(s) with Schrodgers appointed to the UK Core and Impact portfolios and CBRE to the Global Real Estate portfolio. The transfer of this fund's existing Real Estate investments into the new WPP funds is expected to take place in the first half of 2025/26.

At 31 March 2025 the value of the Fund's assets held in WPP sub-funds was 65% of the Fund's total value which increases to 90% of Fund value being pooled if the jointly procured BlackRock passive equity fund is included. If the soon to be transferred Real Estate Assets are included, then the proportion of assets pooled increases to over 96%. After that transfer the only investments outside of the Pool will be the Fund's legacy Private Equity investments.

A significant development during 2024/25 was the release in November 2024 of the Government's "Fit for the Future" consultation for the LGPS in England and Wales. The consultation included significant proposals in three key areas

- Reforming the LGPS Asset Pools
- Boosting LGPS investment in their localities and regions in the UK
- Strengthening the governance of both LGPS Funds and Pools

One of the key proposals was that Pools would be required to be Investment Management Companies authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). This would represent a major change to the current WPP operating model but the WPP and the eight LGPS funds in Wales were pleased to receive confirmation from the Minister's for Pensions and Local Government that the WPP business case

to move forward to the setting up of a FCA authorised Investment Management Company by the target date of 31 March 2026 had been approved. Updates on the implementation of the business case will be presented to the Pension Committee during 2025/26.

A further notable event in 2024/25 was the Pension Committee at its meeting on 20 May 2024 approving the Net Zero Policy including setting an ambitious but achievable target for the Fund to be net zero by 2040.

**Christopher Lee**  
**Corporate Director Resources**

# Actuarial Statement

## Introduction

This statement has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 57(1)(d) of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (the 'LGPS Regulations').

The LGPS Regulations require that a full actuarial valuation is carried out every third year. The purpose of this is to establish that the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund (the 'Fund') is able to meet its liabilities to past and present contributors and to review employer contribution rates. The last full actuarial investigation into the financial position of the Fund was completed as at 31 March 2022 by Aon, in accordance with Regulation 62 of the LGPS Regulations.

## Actuarial Position

1. The valuation as at 31 March 2022 showed that the funding level of the Fund had increased since the previous valuation with the market value of the Fund's assets as at 31 March 2022 (of £2,698.9M) covering 98% of the liabilities.
2. The valuation also assessed each individual employer's (or group of employers') position separately. Contribution requirements were determined based on the principles in the Fund's Funding Strategy Statement and are set out in Aon's report dated 31 March 2023 (the "actuarial valuation report"). In addition to the contributions certified, payments to cover additional liabilities arising from early retirements (other than ill-health retirements) will be made to the Fund by the employers.

Total contributions payable by all employers over the three years to 31 March 2026 are estimated to be:

Year from 1 April	% of pensionable pay	Plus total contribution amount (£M)
2023	19.5%	0.932
2024	19.5%	0.962
2025	19.5%	0.994

3. The funding plan adopted in assessing the contributions for each employer is in accordance with the Funding Strategy Statement. Different approaches were adopted in relation to the calculation of the primary contribution rate, stepping of contribution changes and individual employers' recovery periods as agreed with the Administering Authority and reflected in the Funding Strategy Statement, reflecting the employers' circumstances.
4. The valuation was carried out using the projected unit actuarial method for most employers, allowing for future increases in pensionable pay. The main financial actuarial assumptions used for assessing the funding target and the contribution rates were as follows.

<b>Discount rate for periods in service</b>	4.5% p.a.
<b>Discount rate for periods after leaving service</b>	
Scheduled and subsumption body funding target *	4.5% p.a.
Ongoing orphan funding target	1.3% p.a.
<b>Rate of pay increases</b>	3.3% p.a.
<b>Rate of increase to pension accounts **</b>	2.3% p.a.
<b>Rate of increases in pensions in payment ** (in excess of Guaranteed Minimum Pension)</b>	2.3% p.a.

\* The secure scheduled body discount rate was also used for employers whose liabilities will be subsumed after exit by a scheduled body.

\*\* In addition, a 10% uplift has been applied to the past service liabilities on the scheduled body and subsumption funding target to make allowance for short-term inflation above the long-term assumption.

In addition, the discount rate and rate of increases to pensions for already orphaned liabilities (i.e. where there is no scheme employer responsible for funding those liabilities and the employer has exited the Fund) were assumed to be 1.7% p.a. and 3.4% p.a. respectively.

The assets were valued at market value.

5. The key demographic assumption was the allowance made for longevity. The post retirement mortality assumption adopted for the actuarial valuation was in line with standard self-administered pension scheme (SAPS) S3 mortality tables with appropriate scaling factors applied based on an analysis of the Fund's pensioner mortality experience and a Fund membership postcode analysis using Aon's Demographic Horizons™ longevity model, and included an allowance for future improvements based on the 2021 Continuous Mortality Investigation Projections Model, with a long term annual rate of improvement in mortality rates of 1.5% p.a. The resulting average future life expectancies at age 65 (for normal health retirements) were:

	Men	Women
Current pensioners aged 65 at the valuation date	22.5	24.6
Future pensioners aged 45 at the valuation date	23.1	25.7

Further details of the assumptions adopted for the valuation, including the other demographic assumptions, are set out in the actuarial valuation report.

6. The valuation results summarised in paragraph 1 and 2 above are based on the financial position and market levels at the valuation date, 31 March 2022. As such the results do not make allowance for changes which have occurred subsequent to the valuation date. The Actuary, in conjunction with the Administering Authority, monitors the funding position on a regular basis.
7. The formal actuarial valuation report and the Rates and Adjustments Certificate setting out the employer contribution rates for the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026 were signed on 31 March 2023. Other than as agreed or otherwise permitted or required by the Regulations, employer

contribution rates will be reviewed at the next actuarial valuation of the Fund as at 31 March 2025 in accordance with Regulation 62 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.

8. This Statement has been prepared by the Actuary to the Fund, Aon, for inclusion in the accounts of the Fund. It provides a summary of the results of their actuarial valuation which was carried out as at 31 March 2022. The valuation provides a snapshot of the funding position at the valuation date and is used to assess the future level of contributions required.

This Statement must not be considered without reference to the formal actuarial valuation report which details fully the context and limitations of the actuarial valuation.

Aon does not accept any responsibility or liability to any party other than our client, Cardiff Council, the Administering Authority of the Fund, in respect of this Statement.

9. The report on the actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2022 is available on the Fund's website at the following address:  
<https://www.cardiffandvalepensionfund.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Cardiff-2022-actuarial-valuation-report-FINAL.pdf>

**Aon Solutions UK Limited**

**May 2025**

## ***Statement of Responsibilities for the Financial Statements***

### ***The Council's responsibilities***

As administering authority of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund, Cardiff Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In 2024/25 that officer was Christopher Lee, Corporate Director Resources;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- approve the statement of accounts.



**Councillor Adrian Robson**  
**Deputy Lord Mayor**

**Date:** 23 October 2025

### ***The Corporate Director Resources responsibilities***

The Corporate Director Resources (who holds the statutory post of Section 151 Officer) is responsible for the preparation of the Council's financial statements in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25 (the Code).

In preparing these financial statements, the Corporate Director Resources has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently, except where policy changes have been noted in these accounts;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and
- complied with the Code.

The Corporate Director Resources has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### ***Corporate Director Resources Certificate***

The financial statements for the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund give a true and fair view of its income and expenditure for the financial year 2024/25 and financial position at 31 March 2025.



**Christopher Lee**  
**Corporate Director Resources**

**Date:** 23 October 2025

# ***The report of the Auditor General for Wales to the members of the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff as administering authority for Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund***

## **Opinion on financial statements**

I have audited the financial statements of Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund for the year ended 31 March 2025 under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund's financial statements comprise the fund account, the net assets statement and the related notes, including the significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024-25.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2025, and of the amount and disposition at that date of its assets and liabilities;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and UK adopted international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024-25.

## **Basis for opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing in the UK (ISAs (UK)) and Practice Note 10 'Audit of Financial Statements of Public Sector Entities in the United Kingdom'. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

My staff and I are independent of the pension fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

## **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the pension fund's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the responsible financial officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Narrative Report other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The Responsible Financial Officer is responsible for the other information contained within the Narrative Report. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover

the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my report, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinion on other matters**

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of my audit:

- the information contained in the Narrative Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

### **Matters on which I report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the pension fund and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the Narrative Report.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters, which I report to you, if, in my opinion:

- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit;
- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by my team; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

### **Responsibilities of the responsible financial officer for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the financial statements, the responsible financial officer is responsible for:

- the preparation of the financial statements, which give a true and fair view;
- maintaining proper accounting records;
- internal controls as the responsible financial officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- assessing the Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible financial officer anticipates that the services provided by Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund will not continue to be provided in the future.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

My procedures included the following:

- Enquiring of management, the pension fund's head of internal audit and those charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund's policies and procedures concerned with:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Considering as an audit team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud;
- Obtaining an understanding of Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund's framework of authority as well as other legal and regulatory frameworks that Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund; and
- Obtaining an understanding of related party relationships.

In addition to the above, my procedures to respond to identified risks included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- enquiring of management and the Governance and Audit Committee about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and the administering authority; and
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

I also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all audit team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of my auditor's report.

### **Other auditor's responsibilities**

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

**Certificate of completion of audit**

I certify that I have completed the audit of the accounts of Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Auditor General for Wales' Code of Audit Practice.



Adrian Crompton  
Auditor General for Wales  
28 October 2025

1 Capital Quarter  
Tyndall Street  
Cardiff, CF10 4BZ

## Fund Account

2023/24		Note	2024/25
£000			£000
	<b>Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the fund</b>		
	<b>Contributions</b>		
(79,896)	From employers	8	(83,238)
(27,253)	From employees	8	(27,990)
0	Group transfers from other schemes or funds		0
(3,581)	Individual transfers from other schemes or funds		(8,438)
(4,188)	Other income (capitalised payments and interest on deficit funding)		(4,573)
<b>(114,918)</b>			<b>(124,239)</b>
	<b>Benefits Payable</b>		
85,183	Pensions	9	94,270
23,457	Lump sums, grants and other payments	9	27,170
	<b>Payments to and on account of leavers</b>		
100	Refunds of contributions		177
0	Group transfers to other schemes or funds		0
5,253	Individual transfers to other schemes or funds		9,080
<b>113,993</b>			<b>130,697</b>
<b>(925)</b>	<b>Net (additions)/withdrawals from dealings with members of the Fund</b>		<b>6,458</b>
8,080	Management expenses	10	8,874
<b>7,155</b>	<b>Net (additions)/withdrawals including fund management expenses</b>		<b>15,332</b>
	<b>Returns on Investment</b>		
(52,342)	Investment income	11	(54,820)
(283,983)	Change in market value of investments	12a	(80,026)
<b>(336,325)</b>	<b>Net returns on investments</b>		<b>(134,846)</b>
<b>(329,170)</b>	<b>Net (increase)/decrease in the Fund during year</b>		<b>(119,514)</b>
(2,639,289)	Opening net assets of the scheme		(2,968,459)
<b>(2,968,459)</b>	<b>Closing net assets of the scheme</b>		<b>(3,087,973)</b>

## Net Assets Statement

2023/24		Note	2024/25
£000			£000
2,842,209	Investments at market value	12	3,063,385
121,133	Cash (including derivatives) and investment proceeds due	12	17,660
<b>2,963,342</b>	<b>Total investments</b>		<b>3,081,045</b>
49	UK & overseas tax		(5)
3,192	Contributions due from employers and deficit funding		3,292
726	Sundry debtors		1,195
1,217	Pension strain costs due within one year		1,205
<b>5,184</b>	<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>5,687</b>
21	Deficit funding (former employers)		16
2,280	Pension strain costs due after one year		4,162
<b>2,301</b>	<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>4,178</b>
(461)	Unpaid benefits		(517)
(1,212)	Sundry creditors		(584)
(50)	Provision - death grants & frozen refunds*	20	(613)
<b>(1,723)</b>	<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>(1,714)</b>
(645)	Provision - death grants & frozen refunds*	20	(1,223)
<b>(645)</b>	<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>(1,223)</b>
<b>2,968,459</b>	<b>Net assets of the scheme</b>		<b>3,087,973</b>

\*Provision – death grants for 2024/25 only includes grants due within the last 10 years and for 2024/25 now includes a provision for frozen refunds due within the last 10 years.

## **Notes to the Accounts**

### **1. Description of Fund**

The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund (the Fund) is part of the LGPS and is administered by Cardiff Council.

#### **General**

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

It is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme administered by Cardiff Council to provide pensions and other benefits for pensionable employees of Cardiff Council and Vale of Glamorgan Council, except for teachers who have a separate scheme. Employees of a range of other scheduled and admitted bodies within the area are also permitted to join the Fund. The Fund is overseen by the Pension Fund Committee, which is a committee of Cardiff Council.

#### **Membership**

Membership of the LGPS is automatic for all employees, who can then choose to remain in the scheme or make their own personal arrangements outside the scheme.

Organisations participating in the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund include the following:

- Scheduled bodies, which are automatically entitled to be members of the Fund
- Admitted bodies, which participate in the Fund by virtue of an admission agreement made between the Fund and the employer. Admitted bodies include, voluntary, charitable and similar not-for-profit organisations, or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.

#### **Funding**

Benefits are funded by contributions and investment earnings. Contributions are made by active members of the Fund in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and ranged from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year ending 31 March 2025. Employers' contributions are set based on triennial actuarial funding valuations. The last such valuation was at 31 March 2022. Currently, employer contribution rates range from 14.5% to 38.9% of pensionable pay with effect from 1 April 2023.

#### **Benefits**

Prior to 1 April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service. From 1 April 2014, the scheme became a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of 1/49th. Accrued pension is uprated annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index. A range of other benefits are also provided including early retirement, disability pensions and death benefits. For more details, please refer to the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund website <https://www.cardiffandvalepensionfund.org.uk/>

## 2. *Basis of Preparation*

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Funds transactions for the 2024/25 financial year and its financial position at 31 March 2025. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25, which is based upon 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. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year.

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

## 3. *Significant Accounting Policies*

### ***Accounting standards that have been issued but not yet adopted***

At the balance sheet date, no accounting standards issued but not yet adopted have been identified.

### ***Income and Expenditure***

Calls and distributions from private market investments (private equity, private credit and closed-ended infrastructure) are recognised at the date of issue.

Income earned within some of the pooled investments is retained by the fund manager as part of the capital assets of the fund and reflected in the higher unit price. For all other pooled investments, excluding private market investments, the income is reinvested as a purchase of additional units in the fund.

Investment management expenses are recognised in year and are not included in, or netted off from, the reported return on investment.

The Fund does not account for any benefits payable or receivable in respect of members wishing to transfer from one scheme to another until assets (either cash investments or other form) have been received by the receiving scheme.

All other income and expenditure have been accounted for on an accruals basis, except the liability to pay pensions and benefits in the future, which has been separately disclosed within the notes to the accounts.

### ***Acquisition costs of Investments***

Acquisition costs are included with the original book cost at the time of purchase. The difference between the original cost and the value as at the reporting date is recorded in the accounts as "Change in Market Value of Investments".

### ***Valuation of Investments***

Investments are included in the financial statements on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. The values of investments as shown in the net assets statement have been determined in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS 13. Valuation methods employed by the Fund are detailed within Note 14c.

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash is represented by cash in hand, the net balance on all of the Council's bank accounts. It includes deposits with financial institutions, including investment managers and the custodian, that are repayable on notice of not more than 24 hours without significant penalty. It also includes investments maturing and interest received on the first working day of April.

### **Foreign Currency Transactions**

Where investment valuations are received from fund managers in foreign currencies, they are converted at the Bank of England closing spot rate at the date of valuation.

### **Taxation**

<b>Taxation</b>	<b>Treatment</b>
<b>UK Income Tax</b>	The Fund is an exempt approved fund able to recover UK Income Tax.
<b>UK Capital Gains Tax</b>	No Capital Gains Tax is chargeable.
<b>Value Added Tax</b>	Accounts are shown exclusive of VAT. As the Council is the administering Authority, VAT is recoverable on all Fund activities.
<b>Overseas Withholding Tax</b>	Foreign investment income usually suffers withholding tax in the country of origin, some of which may be recoverable. Irrecoverable tax is netted off against income.

## **4. Critical judgements in applying accounting policies**

### **Unquoted private market investments**

These are inherently based on forward looking estimates and judgements valued by the investment managers using the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines.

### **Pension fund liability**

This is calculated in accordance with IAS19 every three years by the actuary, with an annual statement in the intervening years. This estimate is subject to significant variances based on changes to the underlying assumptions which are agreed with the actuary.

## **5. Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty**

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures based on assumptions made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other factors. As balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Uncertainties</b>	<b>Effect if actual results differ from assumptions</b>
<b>Actual present value of promised retirement benefits</b>	Estimations of the liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries increase, changes in mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. The actuary provides the Fund with advice regarding the assumptions to be used.	The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, an increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability. An increase in assumed earnings inflation or assumed life expectancy would increase the value of the liabilities.

<b>Private Market Valuations</b>	Private market investments are valued at fair value in accordance with international accounting standards. These investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	The total private market investments in the financial statements are £206 million. There is a risk that this investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. Further information is provided on the sensitivity of these assets within the accounts.
<b>Pooled Property Funds &amp; Open-ended Infrastructure</b>	Valuation techniques are used to determine the carrying amount of pooled property funds and open ended-infrastructure funds.	The total pooled property fund and open-ended infrastructure investments in the financial statements are £376 million. Changes in the valuation assumptions used, together with significant changes in rental growth could affect (increase or decrease) the fair value of property-based investments. Further information is provided on the sensitivity of these assets within the accounts.

## 6. Titles of Ownership

Evidences of ownership for the pooled property funds (excluding Blackrock which is held by The Northern Trust Company) and private equity holdings (excluding the WPP holding) are held by Cardiff Council. All other evidences of ownership were held at 31 March 2025 by The Northern Trust Company for the benefit of the Council and the WPP. Statements of holdings have been provided by Northern Trust.

## 7. Membership

Fund membership at 31 March 2025 is as follows:

2023/24		2024/25
41	Contributing employers	43
<b>41</b>	<b>Total contributing employers</b>	<b>43</b>
18,225	Contributors	17,904
13,436	Pensioners	14,127
13,670	Deferred pensioners	14,609
<b>45,331</b>	<b>Total membership</b>	<b>46,640</b>

In addition to the above, there are also members who at year end were not yet categorised as to whether they would be deferring their pension, transferring it to another scheme or requesting a refund of their contributions and accordingly are not actively contributing to the Pension Fund. The number of members not yet categorised at 31 March 2025 was 11,020 (10,508 at 31 March 2024).

## 8. Employing Bodies – Contributions

2024/25	No. of contributors at 31/03/2025	Employers	Deficit Funding Received	Total Employers	Employees	Total
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Administering Body:</b>						
Cardiff Council	10,736	(53,600)	0	(53,600)	(17,142)	(70,742)
<b>Scheduled Bodies:</b>						
Vale of Glamorgan Council	4,768	(18,634)	0	(18,634)	(6,063)	(24,697)
Town and Community Councils	64	(329)	0	(329)	(113)	(442)
Education Bodies	1,588	(8,433)	0	(8,433)	(3,426)	(11,859)
Other Scheduled Bodies	109	(829)	0	(829)	(309)	(1,138)
<b>Admitted Bodies:</b>						
Admitted Bodies *	639	(1,269)	(144)	(1,413)	(937)	(2,350)
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,904</b>	<b>(83,094)</b>	<b>(144)</b>	<b>(83,238)</b>	<b>(27,990)</b>	<b>(111,228)</b>

\* Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru exited the fund in 2024/25, the surplus exit payment of £2.450 million is included in the Employers figures above.

2023/24	No. of contributors at 31/03/2024	Employers	Deficit Funding Received	Total Employers	Employees	Total
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Administering Body:</b>						
Cardiff Council	11,062	(51,330)	0	(51,330)	(16,629)	(67,959)
<b>Scheduled Bodies:</b>						
Vale of Glamorgan Council	4,513	(17,490)	0	(17,490)	(5,786)	(23,276)
Town and Community Councils	60	(307)	0	(307)	(104)	(411)
Education Bodies	1,823	(8,483)	0	(8,483)	(3,434)	(11,917)
Other Scheduled Bodies	6	(45)	0	(45)	(16)	(61)
<b>Admitted Bodies:</b>						
Admitted Bodies	761	(2,204)	(37)	(2,241)	(1,284)	(3,525)
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,225</b>	<b>(79,859)</b>	<b>(37)</b>	<b>(79,896)</b>	<b>(27,253)</b>	<b>(107,149)</b>

### **Additional deficit funding**

There has been no further deficit funding agreed in 2024/25 in addition to that agreed in previous years (no additional deficit funding in 2023/24).

## 9. Employing Bodies – Benefits Payable

2024/25	Retirement Pensions	Lump Sums, Grants and Other Payments		
		Lump Sums on Retirement	Death Grants & Refunds *	Commutation Payments
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Administering Body:</b>				
Cardiff Council	57,795	15,413	1,964	126
<b>Scheduled Bodies:</b>				
Vale of Glamorgan Council	19,148	5,274	752	28
Town and Community Councils	286	130	5	0
Education Bodies	5,177	1,876	193	30
Other Scheduled Bodies	4,371	212	6	0
<b>Admitted Bodies:</b>				
Admitted Bodies	7,493	943	218	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,270</b>	<b>23,848</b>	<b>3,138</b>	<b>184</b>

\*Provision for frozen refunds is now included in Death Grants & Refunds for 2024/25. The provision for death grants and frozen refunds now only includes payments due within the last 10 years.

2023/24	Retirement Pensions	Lump Sums, Grants and Other Payments		
		Lump Sums on Retirement	Death Grants	Commutation Payments
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Administering Body:</b>				
Cardiff Council	53,523	11,748	1,715	310
<b>Scheduled Bodies:</b>				
Vale of Glamorgan Council	16,869	4,735	550	116
Town and Community Councils	264	10	21	18
Education Bodies	4,330	1,369	213	60
Other Scheduled Bodies	2,783	27	0	0
<b>Admitted Bodies:</b>				
Admitted Bodies	7,414	2,276	289	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,183</b>	<b>20,165</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>504</b>

## 10. Management Expenses

2023/24		2024/25
£000		£000
1,835	Administration costs	2,373
46	Audit fees	47
<b>1,881</b>	<b>Total administration costs</b>	<b>2,420</b>
86	WPP Clean Energy Infrastructure	85
173	WPP Credit Fund	215
89	WPP Emerging Markets Fund	128
693	WPP Global Growth Fund	512
355	WPP Global Opportunities Fund	437
183	WPP Government Bond Fund	208
0	WPP Infrastructure	993
120	WPP Multi Asset Credit Fund	93
1,054	WPP Private Credit	462
25	WPP Private Equity	173
70	WPP Sustainable Active Equities	97
366	WPP UK Opportunities Equity Fund	160
65	Equity Pooled Fund	78
1,279	Pooled Property Funds	1,229
1,078	Private equity	938
306	Custody fees	329
<b>5,942</b>	<b>Total investment management expenses</b>	<b>6,137</b>
<b>257</b>	<b>Total Oversight and governance costs</b>	<b>317</b>
<b>8,080</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,874</b>

2023/24	WPP Management Expenses	2024/25
£000		£000
613	Fund manager fees	2,175
2,431	Transaction costs	1,250
170	Transition costs	138
281	Custody fees	306
<b>3,495</b>	<b>Total WPP investment management expenses</b>	<b>3,869</b>
226	Host authority costs	241
<b>226</b>	<b>Total WPP oversight and governance costs</b>	<b>241</b>
<b>3,721</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,110</b>

Included in Management Expenses in the first table of this note is the cost of the Fund's involvement in the Wales Pension Partnership (WPP) collective investment pooling arrangement. These are further analysed in the table above. The Oversight and Governance costs are the annual running costs of the pool which are made up of the host authority costs including other external advisor costs. These costs are funded equally by all eight of the local authority pension funds in Wales. Fund Management fees are payable to Waystone Management (UK) Limited (the WPP operator) and include the operator fee and other associated costs. These costs are based on each Fund's percentage share of WPP pooled assets and are deducted from the Net Asset Value (NAV). Underlying manager fees are not included in this table.

## 11. Investment Income

2023/24		2024/25
£000		£000
(299)	Private Equity Funds	(40)
(45,600)	Pooled Investments	(50,781)
(3,124)	Pooled Property Funds	(2,981)
(3,147)	Interest on UK cash	(833)
(172)	Securities lending	(185)
<b>(52,342)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>(54,820)</b>

## 12. Investments at Market Value

2023/24		2024/25
£000		£000
2,918	WPP Clean Energy Infrastructure	4,393
207,395	WPP Credit Fund	161,453
115,162	WPP Emerging Markets	121,198
199,081	WPP Global Growth	151,938
535,216	WPP Global Opportunities	567,296
234,341	WPP Government Bond Fund	241,345
32,418	WPP Infrastructure	195,878
155,244	WPP Multi Asset Credit Fund	166,129
15,126	WPP Private Credit	75,587
12,370	WPP Private Equity	29,463
142,092	WPP Sustainable Equity	142,358
173,675	WPP UK Opportunities Equity Fund	158,179
<b>1,825,038</b>	<b>Total WPP pooled funds</b>	<b>2,015,217</b>
735,083	Equity pooled	767,326
<b>2,560,121</b>	<b>Total pooled funds (incl WPP)</b>	<b>2,782,543</b>
176,606	Pooled Property Funds	180,053
105,482	Private Equity	100,789
<b>2,842,209</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,063,385</b>
5,271	Cash Fund Manager & Custodian	5,477
23,362	Cash Internally managed	12,183
92,500	Net investment proceeds due	0
<b>121,133</b>	<b>Total cash</b>	<b>17,660</b>
<b>2,963,342</b>	<b>Total investment assets</b>	<b>3,081,045</b>

## 12a. Reconciliation in movement in investments

2024/25	Value at 31/03/24	Purchase at cost	Sale proceeds	Change in market value	Value at 31/03/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled funds	2,560,121	276,290	(127,860)	73,992	2,782,543
Pooled property funds	176,606	2,630	0	817	180,053
Private equity	105,482	9,841	(14,313)	(221)	100,789
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,842,209</b>	<b>288,761</b>	<b>(142,173)</b>	<b>74,588</b>	<b>3,063,385</b>
Cash Fund Manager & Custodian	5,271				5,477
Cash Internally managed	23,362				12,183
Net investment proceeds due	92,500				0
<b>Total cash</b>	<b>121,133</b>				<b>17,660</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,963,342</b>			<b>74,588</b>	<b>3,081,045</b>
Net realised movement in cash				5,438	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,963,342</b>			<b>80,026</b>	<b>3,081,045</b>

2023/24	Value at 31/03/23	Purchase at cost	Sale proceeds	Change in market value	Value at 31/03/24
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pooled funds	2,255,186	236,935	(217,670)	285,670	2,560,121
Pooled property funds	183,538	2,724	0	(9,656)	176,606
Private equity	109,038	9,365	(10,905)	(2,016)	105,482
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,547,762</b>	<b>249,024</b>	<b>(228,575)</b>	<b>273,998</b>	<b>2,842,209</b>
Cash Fund Manager & Custodian	5,115				5,271
Cash Internally managed	82,531				23,362
Net investment proceeds due	0				92,500
<b>Total cash</b>	<b>87,646</b>				<b>121,133</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,635,408</b>			<b>273,998</b>	<b>2,963,342</b>
Net realised movement in cash				9,985	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,635,408</b>			<b>283,983</b>	<b>2,963,342</b>

### 13. Summary of manager's portfolio values

2023/24		Fund Manager	2024/25	
£000	% of Fund		£000	% of Fund
735,083	24.8	Blackrock Investment Management	767,326	24.9
1,825,038	61.6	Wales Pension Partnership (WPP)	2,015,217	65.4
65,562	2.2	CBRE - Global Property	63,185	2.1
25,109	0.8	Blackrock UK Property	26,481	0.9
27,705	0.9	Schroder UK Real Estate	28,533	0.9
31,999	1.1	Standard Life Property	33,959	1.1
26,231	0.9	UBS Triton Property Fund	27,896	0.9
17,239	0.6	Capital Dynamics	9,034	0.3
30,396	1.0	Harbourvest	28,844	0.9
57,847	2.0	Pantheon	62,911	2.0
97,771	3.3	Cash Fund Manager & Custodian	5,476	0.2
23,362	0.8	Cash internally managed	12,183	0.4
<b>2,963,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,081,045</b>	<b>100.00</b>

#### 13a. Investments exceeding 5% of net assets

The following investments represent more than 5% of the net assets available to pay benefits (in either 2023/24, 2024/25 or both years).

2023/24		Fund Manager	2024/25	
£000	% of net assets		£000	% of net assets
735,083	24.8	BlackRock Low Carbon Tracker Fund	767,326	24.9
207,395	7.0	WPP Credit Fund	161,453	5.2
199,081	6.7	WPP Global Growth	151,938	4.9
535,216	18.0	WPP Global Opportunities	567,296	18.4
234,341	7.9	WPP Government Bond Fund	241,344	7.8
0	0.0	WPP Open Ended Infrastructure	195,877	6.3
155,244	5.2	WPP Multi Asset Credit Fund	166,128	5.4
173,675	5.9	WPP UK Opportunities Equity Fund	158,179	5.1

## 14. Financial Instruments

### 14a. Classification of financial instruments

Value at 31/03/24				Value at 31/03/25		
Fair value through profit and loss	Amortised Cost	Financial liabilities at amortised costs		Fair value through profit and loss	Amortised Cost	Financial liabilities at amortised costs
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
2,560,121	0	0	Pooled funds	2,782,543	0	0
176,606	0	0	Pooled property funds	180,053	0	0
105,482	0	0	Private equity	100,789	0	0
0	121,133	0	Cash	0	17,660	0
0	7,485	0	Debtors	0	9,865	0
<b>2,842,209</b>	<b>128,618</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>3,063,385</b>	<b>27,525</b>	<b>0</b>
0	0	(1,673)	Creditors	0	0	(1,101)
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,673)</b>	<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,101)</b>
<b>2,842,209</b>	<b>128,618</b>	<b>(1,673)</b>	<b>Net financial assets</b>	<b>3,063,385</b>	<b>27,525</b>	<b>(1,101)</b>

### 14b. Net gains and losses on financial instruments

31/03/24		31/03/25
£000		£000
284,160	Fair value through profit and loss	79,454
<b>284,160</b>	<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>79,454</b>
(177)	Amortised cost	572
<b>(177)</b>	<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>572</b>
<b>283,983</b>	<b>Net financial assets</b>	<b>80,026</b>

### 14c. Fair Value – Basis of Valuation

Investment	Valuation Method	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
<b>Level 1</b>			
Quoted prices for similar instruments.			
<b>Quoted Bonds (Fixed Interest Securities)</b>	Market value based on current yields	Not required	Not required
<b>Market Quoted Investments</b>	Published bid market price at close of business on the final working day of the accounting period	Not required	Not required
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not required	Not required

<b>Level 2</b>			
Traded in a market which is not considered to be active, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value which use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data.			
<b>Pooled Investments - Equities &amp; Fixed Interest</b>	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published. Closing single price where single price published	Net Asset Value (NAV) based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Not required
<b>Level 3</b>			
Inputs not based on observable market data			
<b>Private Markets</b>	Valuations provided by the general partners to the funds in accordance with International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines (2012)	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) multiple, revenue multiple, discount for lack of marketability and control premium	Valuations may be affected by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the pension fund's own reporting date (although updated to reflect calls/distributions made during this period), changes to expected cash flows and any differences between unaudited and audited accounts
<b>Pooled Investment Infrastructure</b>	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published. Closing single price where single price published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Valuations may be affected by post balance sheet events, changes to expected cash flows and any differences between unaudited and audited accounts
<b>Pooled Investments - Property Funds</b>	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published. Closing single price where single price published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Valuations may be affected by post balance sheet events, changes to expected cash flows and any differences between unaudited and audited accounts

## 14d. Fair Value Hierarchy

As detailed above, investments have been classified into three levels according to the quality and reliability of the information used to determine fair values. The following table provides an analysis of the assets and liabilities of the pension fund based on the level at which the fair value is observable.

Value at 31/03/25	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets at fair value	0	2,477,222	586,163	3,063,385
Amortised Cost	27,525	0	0	27,525
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>27,525</b>	<b>2,477,222</b>	<b>586,163</b>	<b>3,090,910</b>
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(1,101)	0	0	(1,101)
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>(1,101)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,101)</b>
<b>Net financial assets</b>	<b>26,424</b>	<b>2,477,222</b>	<b>586,163</b>	<b>3,089,809</b>

Value at 31/03/24	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets at fair value	0	2,497,289	344,920	2,842,209
Amortised Cost	128,618	0	0	128,618
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>128,618</b>	<b>2,497,289</b>	<b>344,920</b>	<b>2,970,827</b>
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(1,673)	0	0	(1,673)
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>(1,673)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,673)</b>
<b>Net financial assets</b>	<b>126,945</b>	<b>2,497,289</b>	<b>344,920</b>	<b>2,969,154</b>

### Reconciliation of fair value measurements within Level 3

2024/25	Market Value at 31/03/24	Transfers into level 3	Transfers out of level 3	Purchases	Sales	Unrealised gains/(losses)	Realised gains/(losses)	Market Value at 31/03/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Private equity	105,482	0	0	9,841	(14,313)	(221)	0	100,789
Pooled funds	62,832	0	0	228,643	0	13,846	0	305,321
Pooled property funds	176,606	0	0	2,630	0	817	0	180,053
<b>Total</b>	<b>344,920</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>241,114</b>	<b>(14,313)</b>	<b>14,442</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>586,163</b>

\*WPP Private equity included in Pooled funds

### 14e. Sensitivity of Assets Valued at Level 3

Having analysed historical data, current market trends, and consulted with independent investment advisors (Pensions and Investments Research Consultants Ltd (PIRC)), the Fund has determined that the valuations methods described above for Level 3 investments are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges, and has set out the consequential impact below:

	Assessed valuation range	Value at 31/03/25	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	(%)	£000	£000	£000
Private Equity	9.2	100,789	110,062	91,516
Pooled Funds	9.2	305,321	333,411	277,231
Pooled Property Funds	6.1	180,053	191,036	169,070
<b>Total</b>		<b>586,163</b>	<b>634,509</b>	<b>537,817</b>

### 15. Nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments

The Fund maintains positions in a variety of instruments, as dictated by the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS), and is consequently exposed to credit and liquidity risk, as well as market risk including foreign exchange and interest rate risks.

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that the Fund's assets will fall short of its liabilities and will be unable to pay the promised benefits to members. 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 and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the fund managers monitor its liquidity risk to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet the Fund's forecast cash flows.

The management of risk is a key objective of the Pension Fund. A policy of diversification of its asset classes and investment managers helps the Pension Fund to lower risk arising from financial instruments. Benchmarks for asset allocation and targets against which investment managers are expected to perform are further measures which are put in place in order to manage risk.

**Market risk** is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of an institution will fluctuate because of a change in market price.

In order to manage risk, the Fund invests in a diversified pool of assets, split between a number of managers with different performance targets and investment strategies. In order to mitigate risk, the Fund regularly reviews the pension fund investment strategy together with regular monitoring of asset allocation and investment performance.

**Interest rate risk** is the risk to which the Pension Fund is exposed to fluctuations in interest rates and mainly relates to changes in bonds.

To mitigate the risk and diversify, the Fund holds three fixed income sub funds managed by WPP.

Interest Rates can vary and can affect both income to the Fund and the value of the net assets available to pay benefits. The analysis below shows the effect of a 100 basis point (1%) movement in interest rates on the net assets available to pay benefits:

Asset Type	Carrying Amount as at 31/03/25	Change to the net assets available to pay benefits	
		+ 100bps	- 100bps
	£000	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents	17,660	177	(177)
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,660</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>(177)</b>

Asset Type	Carrying Amount as at 31/03/24	Change to the net assets available to pay benefits	
		+ 100bps	- 100bps
	£000	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents	121,133	1,211	(1,211)
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,133</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>(1,211)</b>

**Currency risk** is the risk to which the Pension Fund is exposed to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. Fund managers will also take account of currency risk in their investment decisions.

Following analysis of historical data and consulted with independent investment advisors Pensions and Investments Research Consultants Ltd (PIRC), the Fund's aggregate currency change has been calculated as 5.40%. A 5.40% strengthening/weakening of the pound against the various currencies in which the Fund holds investments would increase/decrease the net assets available to pay benefits as follows:

Currency exposure – asset type	Asset Value as at 31/03/25	Change to net assets available to pay benefits	
		+ 5.40%	- 5.40%
	£000	£000	£000
Overseas pooled funds	2,624,364	141,716	(141,716)
Overseas pooled property funds	63,185	3,412	(3,412)
<b>Total change in assets available</b>	<b>2,687,549</b>	<b>145,128</b>	<b>(145,128)</b>

Currency exposure – asset type	Asset Value as at 31/03/24	Change to net assets available to pay benefits	
		+ 5.60%	- 5.60%
	£000	£000	£000
Overseas pooled funds	2,386,446	133,641	(133,641)
Overseas pooled property funds	65,562	3,671	(3,671)
<b>Total change in assets available</b>	<b>2,452,008</b>	<b>137,312</b>	<b>(137,312)</b>

**Price risk** is the risk of losses associated with the movement in prices of the underlying assets. By diversifying investments across asset classes and managers, the Pension Fund aims to reduce the exposure to price risk. Diversification of asset classes seeks to reduce correlation of price movements, whilst employing specialist managers enables the Fund to benefit from investment expertise.

Potential price changes are determined based on the observed historical volatility of asset class returns. The potential volatilities are consistent with movement in the change in value of assets over the last three years, applied to the period end asset mix. The total volatility shown below for total assets incorporates

the impact of correlation across currencies, which dampens volatility, therefore the value on increase and value on decrease figures for the currencies will not sum to the total figure.

Asset type	Value at 31/03/25	Percentage change	Value on increase	Value on Decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
UK Equities	158,179	13.00	178,742	137,616
Global Equities	1,628,918	10.80	1,804,841	1,452,995
Emerging Market Equities	121,198	13.30	137,317	105,079
Fixed Income	568,927	7.70	612,734	525,120
Cash and Cash Equivalents	17,660	2.30	18,066	17,254
Private Equity/Credit	205,839	9.20	224,776	186,902
Property	180,053	6.10	191,036	169,070
Infrastructure	200,271	9.20	218,696	181,846
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,081,045</b>		<b>3,386,208</b>	<b>2,775,882</b>

Asset type	Value at 31/03/24	Percentage change	Value on increase	Value on Decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
UK Equities	173,675	13.00	196,253	151,097
Global Equities	1,611,472	10.60	1,782,288	1,440,656
Emerging Market Equities	115,162	13.50	130,709	99,615
Fixed Income	596,980	6.90	638,172	555,788
Cash and Cash Equivalents	121,133	1.00	122,344	119,922
Private Equity/Credit	132,978	11.90	148,802	117,154
Property	176,606	7.10	189,145	164,067
Infrastructure	35,336	11.90	39,541	31,131
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,963,342</b>		<b>3,247,254</b>	<b>2,679,430</b>

**Credit risk** is the risk that a counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. The Fund reviews its exposure to credit and counterparty risk through its external investment managers. The Fund is also exposed to credit risk through its securities lending programme run by the Fund's custodian, Northern Trust who manages and monitors the counterparty risk, collateral risk and the overall lending programme.

The Pension Fund's bank account is held with NatWest. Surplus cash is placed with a selection of AAA Money Market institutions. The Fund's internally managed cash holding under its treasury management arrangements is held with the following institutions:

	Fitch Rating	31/03/24	31/03/25
		£000	£000
<b>Money market funds</b>			
Aberdeen Standard Liquidity - Sterling Fund	AAA	0	9,141
Blackrock ICS Sterling Liquidity Fund	AAA	8,660	1,328
Deutsche Global Liquidity - Sterling Fund	AAA	14,700	1,176
<b>Bank current account</b>			
NatWest	A	2	538
<b>Total</b>		<b>23,362</b>	<b>12,183</b>

The Pension Fund has experienced no defaults from fund managers, brokers, or bank accounts over the past ten years, therefore no expected credit loss provision is required.

**Liquidity risk** represents the possibility that the Fund may not have resources available to meet its financial obligations. The current position of the Fund is that it is cash negative, with benefit payments exceeding contributions. The Fund's cash is kept in a separate bank account and the cash position is monitored on a daily basis. Surplus funds are deposited in money market funds on a short term basis. At an investment level, the Fund's investments are substantially made up of listed securities which are considered readily realisable.

## 16. Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

CIPFA's Code of Practice requires the disclosure of the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits calculated on an IAS 19 basis, as set out in IAS 26.

Therefore, in addition to the triennial funding valuation, the Fund's actuary undertakes a valuation of the pension fund liabilities on an IAS 19 basis at the same date. The IAS 19 valuation is carried out using updated actuarial assumptions from those used for setting fund contribution rates and the Fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future.

The most recent actuarial valuation based on IAS 19 is shown below:

31/03/2019		31/03/2022
£000		£000
3,168,100	Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits	3,893,700
2,177,800	Fair value of net assets	2,698,900

The estimated future Pension Fund liabilities will also be subject to the consideration of the McCloud judgement and GMP equalisation. The impact has been considered by the actuary within the 2022 triennial valuation (see Actuarial Statement on pages 3-5 of this document).

## 17. Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVC)

Scheme members may elect to make additional voluntary contributions to enhance their pension benefits. Contributions are made directly from scheme members to the AVC provider and are therefore not represented in these accounts in accordance with section 4(2)b of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/3093). However, as the administering authority, we oversee the following AVC arrangements:

2023/24		2024/25
£000		£000
1,631	AVC paid in by members during the year	2,178
6,409	Market Value of separately invested AVC's	7,586

There has been a significant increase in the AVC contributions by members in 2023/24 and 2024/25 following the introduction of a Shared Cost AVC Scheme by several employers.

## 18. Contractual Commitments

Commitment at 31/03/24	Asset Type	Commitment at 31/03/25
£000		£000
58,138	Private Equity (excluding WPP)	47,369
7,073	WPP Clean Energy Infrastructure	5,869
68,980	WPP Private Equity *	53,380
148,074	WPP Private Credit *	92,297
152,452	WPP Open Ended Infrastructure *	0
0	WPP Closed Ended Infrastructure *	50,000
<b>434,717</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>248,915</b>

\* New investments in 2023/2024 and 2024/2025

## 19. Securities Lending

At the year end the value of quoted equities on loan was £79.286 million (£84.290 million on 31 March 2024). In 2024/25 the Fund received income of £185,037 from the lending of stock (£172,000 in 2023/24).

## 20. Provisions and Contingent Liabilities

A number of death grants and frozen refunds have been identified, where the Fund has been unable to trace the next of kin or has insufficient information, meaning no payment has been made to date. In all the outstanding cases, there has been difficulty in making contact, meaning that the payments are not likely to be settled within the next financial year. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the timing of these payments and final amounts payable, a provision has been made in the accounts.

Provision at 31/03/24	Provision							Provision at 31/03/25
	Short Term	Long Term	Interest	Provision Type	Short Term	Long Term	Interest	
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000	
695	50	570	75	Death Grant *	396	144	20	560
0	0	0	0	Frozen Refund **	217	951	108	1,276
<b>695</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>1,836</b>

\*All death grants over 10 years old were removed from the 2024/25 provision (approximately £0.531 million)

\*\*A provision for frozen refunds due within 10 years was introduced in 2024/25

## 21. Related Party Transactions

Cardiff Council is the administering authority for Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund. The Pensions Committee includes members of the Council. At 31 March 2025 there were four members of the Pension Fund Committee that were active members of the Pension Fund. During 2024/2025 there was a change in one of the active members represented on the Committee. Each member of the Committee is required to declare their interests at each meeting. No other declarations were made during the year.

Examples of related party transactions with the Council are:

- The Council is the largest employer of members of the Pension Fund. All monies owing to and due from the Fund are generally paid in year with the following balances outstanding at year end
  - Intercompany cash balance £1,106 owed to Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund included in Note 12 Cash internally managed (2023/24 £1,106 owed to Cardiff Council)
  - Pension strain of £5.349 million included in the Net Asset Statement (2023/24 £3.348 million)
- Cash invested internally by the Council (for working capital purposes) – see Note 13 Summary of manager’s portfolio values – Cash internally managed £12.182 million (2023/24 £23.362 million), earning interest of £0.829 million (2023/24 £3.140 million)
- Administration expenses charged to the Fund by the Council are included in Note 10 Management Expenses. During the reporting period, the Council incurred costs of £1.328 million (2023/24 £1.190 million) in relation to the administration and management of the Fund and was reimbursed by the Fund for these expenses.
- Paragraph 3.9.4.4 of the Code of Practice exempts Local Authorities from the key management personnel disclosure requirements of IAS24 on the basis that requirements for officer remuneration and members’ allowances are detailed in section 3.4 of the Code. Total remuneration for Chris Lee Corporate Director of Resources can be found in the Cardiff Council Statement of Accounts Remuneration Note.

## 22. Contributing Employers

The employers contributing to the Fund in 2024/2025, highlighting changes since 2023/2024 are detailed below:

Administering Body	
Cardiff Council	
Scheduled Bodies	
Councils	Town and Community Councils
Vale of Glamorgan Council	Barry Town Council
Education Bodies	Cowbridge Town Council
Cardiff And Vale College	Lisvane Community Council
Cardiff Metropolitan University	Llantwit Major Council
St David's Sixth Form College	Old St Mellons Community Council **
Stanwell Comprehensive *	Penarth Town Council
Other Scheduled Bodies	Pentyrch Community Council
Cardiff Bus	Peterston Super Ely Community Council
Sports Council for Wales	Radyr & Morganstown Community Council
	St Fagans Community Council
	Wenvoe Community Council
Admitted Bodies	
A and R Cleaning Lansdowne	Design Commission For Wales
A and R Cleaning St Patrick	Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru *
A and R Cleaning Whitchurch	Glen Cleaning (Barry Comprehensive) *
A and R Cleaning Ysgol Y Ddraig *	Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL)
Adult Learning Wales	Grangetown Primary Cleaning (APP)
Aramark **	Legacy Leisure
AQS - Ysgol Bro Morgannwg	Mirus Wales
Big Fresh Cleaning	Mrs Bucket - Stanwell **
Cardiff Business Technology Centre	New Theatre
Cardiff University	One Voice Wales
Careers Wales (Cardiff And Vale)	Play Wales
Colegau Cymru - Colleges Wales	St Teilo's Cleaning (APP)

\* Employers contributing to the Fund 2024/25 but exited or ceased contributions during the year.

\*\* Employers that contributed to the Fund in 2024/25 that were not contributing to the Fund in 2023/24.

## 23. Events after the Reporting Period

There are no events after the reporting period to report.

## 24. Date of Authorisation of the Accounts for Issue

This Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue on 23 October 2025 by the Corporate Director Resources. Post balance sheet events have been considered up to this date.

## **Glossary**

Knowledge of basic accountancy terminology is assumed. However, there are certain specialist terms related to local government finance, pensions and investments, which are described below:

### ***Accruals Basis***

The accruals principle is that income is recorded when it is earned rather than when it is received, and expenses are recorded when goods or services are received rather than when the payment is made.

### ***Active / Passive Management***

Active management is the traditional form of investment management involving a series of individual investment decisions that seek to maximise returns by exploiting price inefficiencies i.e. 'beat the market'. Passive management is a low cost alternative where managers normally hold stocks in line with a published index, such as the FTSE All-Share, not seeking to outperform but to keep pace with the index being tracked.

### ***Actuary***

An independent consultant who advises on the long-term viability of the Fund. Every three years the Fund actuaries review the assets and liabilities of the Fund and report to the Council on the financial position and recommended employer contribution rates. This is known as the actuarial valuation.

### ***Actuarial Gains and Losses***

For a defined benefit pensions scheme, the changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation, or the actuarial assumptions have changed.

### ***Active Member***

Current employee who is contributing to a pension scheme.

### ***Admitted Body***

An organisation, whose staff can become members of the Fund by virtue of an admission agreement made between the Council and the organisation. It enables contractors who take on the Council's services with employees transferring, to offer those staff continued membership of the Fund.

### ***Asset Allocation***

Apportionment of investment funds among categories of assets, such as Bonds, Equities, Cash, Property, Derivatives, and Private Equity. Asset allocation affects both risk and return.

### ***Benchmark***

A measure against which the investment policy or performance of an investment manager can be compared.

### ***Bonds***

Investments, mainly in government stocks, which guarantee a fixed rate of interest. The securities represent loans which are repayable at a future date but which can be traded on a recognised stock exchange in the meantime.

### ***Cash and Cash Equivalents***

Sums of money available for immediate use and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

### ***Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA)***

CIPFA is the leading professional accountancy body which determines accounting standards and reporting standards to be followed by Local Government.

### ***Contingent Liabilities or Assets***

These are amounts potentially due to or from individuals or organisations which may arise in the future but which at this time cannot be determined accurately, and for which provision has not been made in the Council's accounts.

### ***Creditors***

Amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received, or services rendered, for which payment has not been made at the date of the balance sheet.

### ***Custodian***

Bank or other financial institution that keeps custody of stock certificates and other assets of a client, collects dividends and tax refunds due, and settles any purchases and sales.

### ***Debtors***

These are sums of money due to the Council that have not been received at the date of the Balance Sheet.

### ***Deferred Pensioner***

A member who has stopped paying into the scheme but is not yet retired.

### ***Defined Benefit Scheme (Pensions)***

This is a pension or other retirement benefit scheme other than a defined contribution scheme. Usually, the scheme rules define the benefits independently of the contributions payable and the benefits are not directly related to the investments of the scheme. The scheme may be funded or unfunded (including notionally funded).

### ***Defined Contribution Scheme (Pensions)***

A Defined Contribution Scheme is a pension or other retirement benefit scheme into which an employer pays regular contributions as an amount or as a percentage of pay and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the scheme does not have sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

### ***Emerging Markets***

Relatively new and immature stock markets for equities or bonds. Settlement and liquidity can be less reliable than in the more established 'developed' markets, and they tend to be more volatile.

### ***Employer Contribution Rates***

The percentage of the salary of employees that employers pay as a contribution towards the employees' pension.

### ***Equities***

Ordinary shares in UK and overseas companies traded on a recognised stock exchange. Shareholders have an interest in the profits of the company and may normally vote at shareholders' meetings.

**Fair Value**

Fair Value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

**Financial Assets**

Financial assets are cash, equity instruments within another entity (e.g. shares) or a contractual right to receive cash or another asset from another entity (e.g. debtors) or exchange financial assets or financial liabilities under potentially favourable conditions (e.g. derivatives).

**Financial Instruments**

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another. The term 'financial instrument' covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes both the most straightforward financial assets and liabilities such as trade receivables and trade payables and the most complex ones such as derivatives and embedded derivatives.

**Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset (e.g. creditors) or exchange financial assets or financial liabilities under potentially unfavourable conditions (e.g. derivatives).

**Fixed Interest Securities/Bonds**

Investments, especially in government stocks, with a guaranteed rate of interest. Conventional bonds have fixed rates, whilst Index Linked vary with inflation. They represent loans repayable at a stated future date, and which can be traded on a stock exchange in the meantime.

**Fund Manager**

A fund that handles investments on behalf of the pension fund according to an agreed investment mandate.

**Fund of Funds**

A pooled fund that invests in other pooled funds. They are able to move money between the best funds in the industry, and thereby aim to lower stakeholder risk with greater diversification than is offered by a single fund.

**Funding Strategy Statement (FSS)**

The FSS is a document that addresses the issue of the primary responsibility of the Fund to ensure the Fund has sufficient assets to ensure its liabilities to pay pension benefits can be made. It will aim to ensure the solvency and long term cost efficiency of the Fund by taking a prudent longer-term view of how it funds its liabilities to pay future benefits. The Administering Authority will prepare, maintain and publish the FSS after acting on professional advice provided by the Fund Actuary.

**Impairment**

A reduction in the value of assets below its value brought forward in the Balance Sheet. Examples of factors which may cause such a reduction in value include general price decreases, a significant decline in an asset's market value.

**Index**

A calculation of the average price of shares, bonds, or other assets in a specified market to provide an indication of the average performance and general trends in the market.

### ***Investment Strategy Statement (ISS)***

The Investment Strategy Statement which each LGPS fund is required to prepare and keep under review.

### ***Liabilities***

These are amounts due to individuals or organisations which will have to be paid at some time in the future. Current liabilities are usually payable within one year of the Balance Sheet date.

### ***Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)***

The Local Government Pension Scheme, governed by regulations issued by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

### ***Materiality***

Information is material if omitting it or misstating it could influence the decisions that users make on the basis of financial information about a specific reporting authority.

### ***Pension Fund***

A fund built up from deductions from employees' pay, contributions from employers and investment income from which pension benefits are paid.

### ***Pensioner***

A scheme member who received a pension from the Fund.

### ***Pooled Funds***

Pooled investment vehicles issue units to a range of investors. Unit's prices move in response to changes in the value of the underlying portfolio, and investors do not own directly the assets in the fund.

### ***Portfolio***

A collective term for all the investments held in a fund, market or sector. A segregated portfolio is a portfolio of investments of a specific type held directly in the name of the investor e.g. Global Bonds, or a specific market e.g. UK Equities, Far East Equities.

### ***Prior Period Adjustments***

These are material adjustments which are applicable to an earlier period arising from changes in accounting policies or for the correction of fundamental errors.

### ***Private Credit***

Investments made by specialist managers in privately negotiated loans made outside of the traditional banking network.

### ***Private Equity***

Investments made by specialist managers in all types of unlisted companies rather than through publicly tradable shares.

### ***Private Market***

Investment in debt or equity instruments that are not traded on public exchanges or stock markets. These Investments can offer higher returns and more control over the investment, compared to publicly listed investments, but they could also come with higher risks and lower liquidity.

**Provisions**

Amounts set aside in respect of liabilities or losses which are likely or certain to be incurred, but in relation to which the exact amount and date of settlement may be uncertain.

**Related Parties**

Related parties are Central Government, other local authorities, precepting and levying bodies, subsidiary and associated companies, Elected Members, all senior officers from Director and above. For individuals identified as related parties, the following are also presumed to be related parties:

- members of the close family, or the same household; and
- partnerships, companies, trusts or other entities in which the individual, or member of their close family or the same household, has a controlling interest.

**Return**

The total gain from holding an investment, including both income and any increase or decrease in market value. Returns over periods longer than a year are usually expressed as an average annual return.

**Scheme Employers**

Local authorities and bodies specified in the LGPS Regulations, whose employees are entitled automatically to be members of the Fund, and Admission Bodies including voluntary, charitable and similar bodies, carrying out work of a public nature, whose staff can become members of the Fund by virtue of an admission agreement with the Council.

**Scheduled Body**

An organisation that has the right to become a member the Local Government Pension Scheme under the scheme regulations. Such an organisation does not need to be admitted, as its right to membership is automatic.

**Unrealised Gains / Losses**

The increase or decrease in the market value of investments held by the Fund since the date of their purchase. Note: values throughout these accounts are presented rounded to whole numbers.

**Wales Pension Partnership (WPP)**

The WPP pool is a collaboration of all eight LGPS funds in Wales including Dyfed the Host Authority. It operates via a Joint Governance committee (JGC) represented by all eight Funds. The governance arrangements are set out in an Inter Authority Agreement approved by both the Pensions Committee and Administering Authority's full Council in March 2017.