Essex Pension Fund Strategy Board PSB 05b Date: 18 March 2022

Essex Pension Fund Policies and Publications: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Report by the Director for Essex Pension Fund in consultation with the Independent Governance and Administration Adviser (IGAA)

Enquiries to Jody Evans 03330 138489

This Report requires a decision

Executive Summary

The Fund has developed a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy to formalise how it engages with all its stakeholders. It highlights the objectives and the behaviours to assist in achieving the Strategy.

In addition, the Strategy also includes the Fund's Resolution Process.

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present the Essex Pension Fund Stakeholder Engagement Strategy to the Board for approval.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Board **approve** the Essex Pension Fund Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and note the content of the report.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Fund set out the ambition to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy as part of the 2021/22 business planning process which was approved by the Board at their 17 March 2021 meeting.
- 3.2 The Fund held an EPF Away Day during October 2021 to help develop the basis for the Strategy where values, behaviours and a vision statement were formulised.
- 3.3 The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy was drafted and consulted on with all Fund Officers and the Fund's Advisers.

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the Board approve the Essex Pension Fund Stakeholder Engagement Strategy provided at Appendix A.

5. Link to Essex Pension Fund Objectives

- 5.1 A Stakeholder Engagement Strategy will assist in achieving the following Fund objectives:
 - act with integrity and be accountable to our Stakeholders;
 - continually measure and monitor success against our objectives;
 - communicate in a friendly, expert and direct way to our Stakeholders, treating all our Stakeholders equally; and
 - aim for full appreciation of the pension scheme benefits and changes to the scheme by all scheme members, prospective Scheme Members and Employers.

6. Risk Implications

6.1 There are no key risks as a result of agreeing this Strategy as it is predominantly based on current practices.

7. Communication Implications

7.1 This Strategy will be published on Fund's website and reviewed in conjunction with the Fund's Communications Policy.

8. Finance and Resources Implications

8.1 None.

9. Background Papers

9.1 EPF Three Year Business Plan, PSB 04a, 17 March 2021.