



Edition 5 – August 2021

Welcome to the Summer edition of the National LGPS Frameworks News Bulletin As always 'by the LGPS, for the LGPS'

We hope you are keeping safe and well and have been enjoying the Spring and Summer as restrictions have begun to relax. The Frameworks Team together with colleagues from across the LGPS have been maintaining business as usual, including the launch of two new Frameworks – the new Global Custody Services and more recently the new Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services Frameworks - since our last edition.

There is more information about both within this News Bulletin.

We understand the importance of keeping our colleagues within the LGPS informed of the latest news and developments within the National LGPS Frameworks. Hopefully this bulletin will help to keep you up to date with the latest news. We always welcome feedback, so if there is anything you would like to see in future editions please get in touch. Our contact details can be found at the bottom of this Bulletin.

We hope you enjoy reading our Summer edition and thank you for your continuing support of the National LGPS Frameworks.

Our New Frameworks

Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services Framework

We are very pleased to announce that the Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services Framework launched successfully on Thursday 1 July. The Framework is already proving very popular, with several Funds registering their interest in the Framework before it went live. A number of procurements are already underway.

Thank you to the 13 Founding Authorities who worked together to deliver this Framework, despite the complications of lockdown: The Environment Agency Pension Fund, Essex Pension Fund, Clwyd Pension Fund, Greater Manchester Pension Fund, Hampshire Pension Fund, the London Borough of Hackney, Lincolnshire Pension Fund, Norfolk Pension Fund, South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, Suffolk Pension Fund, Surrey Pension Fund, Teesside Pension Fund and West Midlands Pension Fund.

Services covered by this Framework are split across five separate Lots, including a new Funding Risk Advisory Services Lot (not in the previous version). The Services available are:

- **Lot 1 Actuarial Services**
- **Lot 2 Benefits Consultancy**
- **Lot 3 Governance Consultancy**
- **Lot 4 Funding Risk Advisory Services**
- **Lot 5 Consultancy Services to Support Specialist Projects.**

Depending upon which Lots you wish to use, joining fee's start from £500 and you can either choose to join Lots individually or all Lots of the Framework. Whichever option you use you will never be charged more the **£3,000** to access the Framework.

For more information on the Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services Framework, please [click here](#).

Global Custody Services Framework

The Global Custody Services Framework has now been live for five months. A number of Call Off's have already been completed and the interest continues to grow.

We would like to thank the nine Founding Authorities who worked through the pandemic on this Framework: Cambridgeshire Pension Fund, Essex Pension Fund, Hampshire County Council, Hertfordshire Pension Fund, Norfolk Pension Fund, Northamptonshire Pension Fund, Suffolk Pension Fund, Lothian Pension Fund and West Midlands Pension Fund together with specialist advisory support from Mercer Sentinel and Squire Patton Boggs.

This Framework enables easy and efficient access to specialist Providers who are able to deliver Global Custody services to support the LGPS (and wider Public Services Schemes). Five Service Providers were appointed to the Framework: Bank of New York Mellon; Caceis Investor Services; HSBC Bank plc; Northern Trust and State Street.

This Framework includes a pre-scored technical element to help you to evaluate Quality and Service under this Framework. Mercer Sentinel, technical advisors to the Framework, have independently evaluated and scored each Service Provider, based on the technical proposals submitted in Providers' applications to join the Framework. You can choose to judge the Quality and Service elements of your Further Competition purely on these scores, saving you the time and resources needed to evaluate each Service Provider's response.

The joining fee is £8,000. This gives access to all the usual benefits of using a National LGPS Framework including pre-agreed Terms and Conditions, evaluation, a full set of supporting documentation, the Mercer Sentinel technical evaluation and the removal of the need to run a full Public Contract Regulation (2015) compliant procurement process.

If you are interested in the Global Custody Services Framework, please [click here](#).

What's new @ www.nationallgpsframeworks.org

Recognising the importance of enhanced Cyber-Security, the Team conducted a Frameworks website Cyber Security review, including full accredited penetration tests of the secure portal area. As a result of the recommendations of the review the team has added a 'Two Factor Authentication' log on to the secure portal area of the website. The addition of the 'Two Factor Authentication' will help reduce the risk of a successful cyber-attack.



We have also prepared an updated user guide with detailed instructions to help our users navigate and use the updated website.

As part of the updates to the National LGPS Frameworks website, we have also made improvements to the website's accessibility. We have worked with the website Providers to ensure that the site is fully compatible with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. Changes have been made to the site layout, colour scheme and background code to ensure its accessibility, and we have tested these using a combination of automatic software and manual sampling.

For our full accessibility statement please [click here](#).

EU exit and the National LGPS Frameworks

Although the UK has left the European Union, we still need to comply with the latest Public Procurement regulations.



The National LGPS Frameworks provide you with an efficient and effective Procurement vehicle compliant with all current Procurement Directives, Regulations, Policies and Guidance.

All our current Frameworks are OJEU (pre-January 1, 2021) and Public Contracts Regulations (2015 Compliant). This removes the need to independently undertake a full procurement process, as this has already been done as part of setting up the Framework.

If you would like further information on how the National LGPS Frameworks could help you with your next procurement you can find out more information on our website or by contacting us – our details are at the end of this Bulletin.

Founder's set-up cost repaid

In line with the financial principles of the National LGPS Frameworks, Founders of the Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services 2016 Framework and Investment Management Consultancy Services 2017 Frameworks have now had their Founder contributions towards the set-up costs repaid.

We would like to say **thank you** to **all Founders** for their support of the National LGPS Frameworks. The Frameworks could not have been as successful as they have been without the time and dedication of the Founding Authorities.

Looking Forward

Founders needed - for the next Investment Management Consultancy Services Framework



'By the LGPS, for the LGPS' - each National LGPS Frameworks is the result of a need identified within the LGPS and then Funds and Pools working together as Founders to establish a Framework that meets the need identified. Without the support of Funds and Pools as 'Founders', the Frameworks wouldn't exist. The Founders are at the heart of every Framework; from shaping the specification of services through to evaluating the Provider responses.

The current National LGPS Framework for Investment Management Consultancy Services is due to expire at the end of October 2022. The existing Framework has proven to be popular with 57 joiners to date making use of the Framework.

This is a very important area and so we are very keen to begin the process of letting this replacement Framework as soon as possible and are looking for volunteers to be Founders.

If you are able to help shape this replacement Framework by acting as a Founder, we would be delighted to hear from you. We do appreciate the pressure on resource and time at the moment so understand if you are unable to act as a Founder on this occasion. We'd still be grateful though to hear any feedback or ideas to help shape the new Framework.

If you would like to know more about what being a Founder involves or have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact either **Jo Quarterman** at jo.quarterman@norfolk.gov.uk or **Leon Thorpe** at leon.thorpe@norfolk.gov.uk.

New Stewardship Advisory Services Framework – expected to launch April 2022

The current National LGPS Framework for Stewardship Advisory Services is due to expire in March 2022.

The process of letting a new Stewardship Framework has begun and we are very grateful to East Sussex Pension Fund, Greater Manchester Pensions Fund, Merseyside Pension Fund, Norfolk Pension Fund, South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, West Midlands Pension Fund, West Sussex Pension Fund and West Yorkshire Pension Fund for agreeing to be the Founding Authorities on this Framework. Our plan is to have a replacement Framework in place by April 2022. We will keep you updated on progress.

To ensure the new Framework fits the needs of the LGPS, we would really welcome your thoughts and ideas on which services you would like to see included along with any suggestions of Providers. All comments and feedback would be gratefully received – please contact either **Jo Quarterman** at jo.quarterman@norfolk.gov.uk or **Leon Thorpe** at leon.thorpe@norfolk.gov.uk.

Do you need specialist services around public website design, building and hosting?

The Founders of the new Third Party Administration Support Services Framework are keen to understand what, if any, demand there is within the LGPS for specialist services around public website design, building and hosting? This will help us gauge if this an area the new Framework should consider addressing or if solutions are already available and effective in these areas.

We'd be grateful if you were able to share any insight in this area which may help the Founders in their thinking, thank you.

The savings in numbers

Since the inception of the National LGPS Frameworks in 2012, the Programme has saved the LGPS approximately £141M+ in Procurement costs by Funds being able to access an effective Procurement tool. Each Framework removes the need for users to conduct full tender exercises or lengthy Provider evaluations, saving the time and costs associated with procurement exercises. In addition, this allows you to be more flexible with the planning and running of any tender process via Further Competition.



Assuming an average Pension in Payment of approximately £5,000 per year, this saving would pay the Pension of around 28,200 pensioners for 1 year!

Have you recently awarded a contract via a National LGPS Framework?

If you have recently awarded a contract under a National LGPS Framework and are planning on publishing a Press Release, we would be grateful if you could also mention you used the Frameworks! We can always provide a few words if that would help, explaining the not for profit LGPS team effort behind them.



Services you can access via the National LGPS Frameworks

Did you know that there are 11 Live National LGPS Frameworks to help you access services ranging from specialist Legal advice to Global Custody and Pension Administration Software services?

These are the 11 Frameworks currently available:

- Actuarial, Benefits and Governance Consultancy Services (2021)
- Global Custody Services (2021)
- Investment Management Consultancy Services
- Investment Management Performance and Cost Monitoring and Reporting Services
- Legal Services
- Member Data Services
- Passive Investment Services
- Pensions Administration Software
- Stewardship Advisory Services
- Third Party Administration Services
- Transition Management and Implementation Services

If you would like further information on how the Frameworks listed above could help you with your next procurement you can find out more information on our website or by contacting us – our details are at the end of this Bulletin.

The Team

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Want to find out more?

If you would like to find out more about the Frameworks mentioned above, or any other National LGPS Frameworks please visit <https://www.nationallgpsframeworks.org/> or contact us on the details below.

We also have a news section on our website where you can easily keep up to date with news articles we publish, along with the entire back catalogue of National LGPS Frameworks news bulletins!

'by the LGPS, for the LGPS'

www.nationallgpsframeworks.org

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