



Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Joint Committee

Date of Meeting: 9 March 2020

Report Title: Governance Charter Update

Report Sponsor: Rachel Elwell, CEO

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Governance Charter is a document setting out a summary of the governance arrangements for Border to Coast and is subject to annual review.
- 1.2 A summary of the proposed changes following review are included in Section 3 and a track-changed version is included in Appendix to this report. They primarily reflect changes as a result of the new FCA Senior Manager and Certification Regime and the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan. Scheme membership representation on the Committee is also now reflected.
- 1.3 The Board reviewed the proposed changes at its meeting on 25 February and are happy to recommend the revised Charter for approval by the Joint Committee.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to approve the proposed changes to the Governance Charter for publication on the Border to Coast and Joint Committee websites.

3 The Governance Charter

- 3.1 As part of establishing Border to Coast, the Partner Funds spent significant time in considering an appropriate governance model. Due to the number of stakeholders and the need for public accountability, the model is complex.
- 3.2 Due to this relative complexity involving many different stakeholders, it is important that we are able to have a shared understanding of how decisions are made and how progress and performance is overseen in order to achieve the pooling objectives effectively and efficiently.
- 3.3 Governance is also a significant area of focus for Central Government (MHCLG) and the Scheme Advisory Board.
- 3.4 To support understanding in this area, during 2018 a "Governance Charter" setting out roles and responsibilities across the Pool was jointly developed by Border to Coast and Partner Fund Officers. The aim was to have a public document available for all stakeholders to understand their role in the governance of Border to Coast.

- 3.5 Following further development and review at the March 2019 Joint Committee meeting (and equivalent Q1 2019 Border to Coast Board meeting), the Governance Charter was approved for inclusion on both the Border to Coast and Joint Committee websites.
- 3.6 The Charter has been reviewed and updated for the following points:
- 3.6.1 An update given the increase in the number of Board Committees to include the Private Markets Committee and a split of the Audit & Risk Committee.
 - 3.6.2 An update to the strategy section to reflect the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan.
 - 3.6.3 Scheme membership representation on the Joint Committee.
 - 3.6.4 Reflection of the move to bi-monthly Officers Operations Group meetings, which is a result of holding specific workshops to discuss design and other significant aspects, reducing the need to hold monthly general business meetings.
 - 3.6.5 Updated chart reflecting new Border to Coast committees.
 - 3.6.6 General updating to reflect the changes following the implementation of SM&CR.

4 Risks

- 4.1 The Governance Charter should provide external stakeholders with an up-to-date view of the management of governance within the organisation and the interaction with external parties. As the governance changes the Charter must reflect this. Without these changes stakeholders cannot be confident in their ability to hold the firm to account.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 It is good governance to review these documents on an annual basis and the Joint Committee is recommended to approve the changes contained in the documents.

6 Author

Femi Sobo-Allen, Border to Coast Deputy Company Secretary
28 February 2020

Supporting Documentation

Appendix – Revised Governance Charter marked to show change