

West Sussex Pension Fund identifies Border to Coast Pensions Partnership as preferred pooling partner.

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) funds are expected to pool investments to reduce costs while maintaining strong investment performance. Since 2016, the West Sussex Pension Fund (WSPF) has participated in the ACCESS LGPS Asset Pool but the Government has now set further key reforms to require that the management of pension fund assets is delegated to a FCA-authorized and regulated investment pool (the Government's *Fit for the Future* policy). **These changes do not affect LGPS members' benefits, which are guaranteed in law,**

On 23 July 2025, the Pension Committee confirmed Border to Coast Pensions Partnership as its preferred FCA-authorized pooling partner. Established in 2018, Border to Coast is one of the UK's largest LGPS Asset Pools. Its mission is to deliver cost-effective, innovative, and responsible investment opportunities that generate long-term returns.

Whilst significant work remains to meet the Government's policy, the decision marks a significant milestone for WSPF ahead of the deadline from government to transition assets to the new asset pool by 31 March 2026.

"Following a robust evaluation, supported by Barnett Waddingham, we have chosen to enter exclusive discussions with the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership.

Border to Coast offers a strong governance framework and a collaborative approach. Their proven track record gives us confidence in a smooth transition and continued excellence in service delivery.

We extend our thanks to colleagues across the LGPS for their positive and constructive engagement throughout this process".

Jeremy Hunt, Chairman, West Sussex Pensions Committee

"Our role focused on creating a clear, robust decision-making process to identify a suitable long-term partner.

It has been a pleasure working with the committed officers and the Committee.

The decision to join Border to Coast reflects the hard work of all involved and highlights the LGPS's strength in tackling complex challenges through collaboration".

David Moreton, Head of LGPS Investment, Barnett Waddingham