

LGPS Fund Annual Reporting Guidance

Background

At the SAB's February meeting the Joint Secretaries had asked the SAB to give consideration to whether supporting guidance is needed for Scottish Funds, following the publication of updated Fund Annual Reporting Guidance developed by the English & Welsh SAB, with implementation from 1 April 2024.

Advisers had noted that it would make sense for guidance to be consistent and that the Annual Reporting Guidance could be adopted in Scotland, along similar lines to previous CIPFA guidance which applied across England, Wales and Scotland, this being on an advisory basis.

Current Position

Subsequent feedback from Fund advisers is that there are no substantive concerns around the Scottish specific references included in the Guidance. Further assurance has also been provided by the English & Welsh SAB, that the references have been thoroughly checked prior to endorsement by CIPFA. It should be noted that Funds can go further re cost transparency etc but this is not a requirement at this stage.

Recommendation

Given the feedback and assurances, it is recommended that the SAB advises all Scottish Pension Funds that they should comply with the Fund Annual Reporting Guidance, as per previous CIPFA produced guidance, and for this to be applied formally from 1st April 2025 (recognising that Funds are likely to be complying already).