



8 November 2017

## WEST MIDLANDS PENSION FUND RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS PROPERTY AWARD

The West Midlands Pension Fund has been recognised for its Property Development in a recent award ceremony held in Bath.

The Fund won the prestigious Office Development of the Year Award at the Insider Property Awards South West 2017 for the redevelopment of its property on Manver Street, Bath. The award recognised the high quality of the 45,000 sq. ft. development which incorporated a full refurbishment to the highest standard of finishes and overcame technical challenges presented by the addition of a new floor as well as dropping the existing ground floor to street level.

The awarding body recognised the Fund's commitment to providing sustainable workplaces and resulted in a BREEAM very good accreditation and an Energy Performance Certificate rating of 'A'.

All of these factors aided the letting prospects for the building and resulted in it being fully let, prior to completion, at rental levels that surpassed any previously seen in the City of Bath and thereby securing the investment returns needed to pay members' benefits.

Speaking about the award, Councillor Ian Brookfield, Chair of Pensions Committee commented "***I am delighted that the Fund has once again been recognised in an Industry Award. The success of this investment is a credit to the Fund's in-house investment team who continue to recognise our duty to provide a retirement income for our members.***"

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### Notes for editors

#### The West Midlands Pension Fund

The West Midlands Pension Fund provides pension services to over 300,000 current and former employees of the seven district councils and over 600 public body employers within the West Midlands. It is one of the largest funds in England and Wales, employing 124 FTE members of staff and as at March 31, 2017 the Fund was valued at £14.3 billion.

In December 2015 the Fund announced that it would be joining with 8 other pension funds across the Midlands region to create LGPS Central in creating a £35 billion investment pool, meeting the criteria set out by Government.

The West Midlands Pension Fund strives to be a best practice organisation, delivering a customer-focused service, while providing value for money to its stakeholders.

