

Ariane Burgess
Convener
Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee
Scottish Parliament

5 November 2025

Good morning,

In response to the letter from the Convener of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee to the Convener of the Pension Committee, regarding its consideration of legislative consent memorandum LCM-S6-65 on the Pension Schemes Bill. Please see the below response from Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund:

1. Scottish Borders Council Pension fund is aware of the new powers being provided to Scottish Ministers and agree that is a sensible approach to ensure that Ministers and the Scottish Parliament have appropriate powers and maintain parity of powers with England & Wales.
2. It is recognised that this approach will ensure that Scottish Ministers and the Parliament have the appropriate powers required and doing this via the current Bill means that there will be no need for separate Westminster legislation at a later date.
3. Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund does not support the Scottish LGPS being reformed in the same manner as England & Wales and does not believe there is a case for Scottish pooling or mega funds. The fund does, however, strongly support greater collaboration amongst the 11 Scottish LGPS Funds and is currently actively engaged in work to develop this approach.

Please let me know if you need anything further.

Kind regards,

Jill Murray

Pensions, Investments and Accounting Manager
Finance & Corporate Governance Department
Scottish Borders Council