PENSIONS SCHEME INVESTMENT TOOLKIT



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TRAINING CENTER

GENTEX Training Center LLC | Orlando - FL, USA
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Introduction

Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit Training Course gives trustees, investment officers and advisers a working set of tools for running a pension scheme's investments. Participants learn how to read funding reports, build allocation models, set de-risking triggers and hold managers to account. The programme covers funding and covenant review, liability hedging, asset allocation, cash flow planning, manager monitoring, fee control and trustee reporting. Furthermore, it assembles these into a practical toolkit each delegate can apply to their own scheme. As a result, trustees can take decisions on evidence rather than intuition. Gentex Training Center delivers the programme through modelling workshops and trustee decision case work.

Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit Course Objectives

- Read and challenge actuarial funding reports and valuation assumptions.
- Assess the employer covenant and its effect on scheme risk capacity.
- Build allocation models across growth, matching and defensive assets.
- Design liability hedging for interest rate and inflation exposure.
- Set de-risking triggers and glidepath milestones with clear rules.
- Plan scheme cash flows for benefit payments and liquidity needs.
- Apply manager selection, monitoring and termination criteria.
- Evaluate fees, transparency and value for money in scheme arrangements.
- Apply risk budgeting, tracking error and drawdown control techniques.
- Prepare trustee reports, investment strategy statements and review cycles.

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Course Methodology

The course combines practical briefings with hands-on modelling workshops and trustee case simulations. Participants build an allocation model, run funding scenarios, design a trigger schedule and prepare a trustee paper. In addition, structured peer review reinforces each technique, and every day closes with a toolkit exercise.

Who Should Take This Course

- Pension scheme trustees and scheme managers.
- Investment officers in pension and retirement funds.
- Actuarial and investment consulting professionals.
- Finance and treasury staff overseeing scheme funding.
- Pension scheme administrators and governance advisers.
- Auditors and advisers reviewing scheme investment arrangements.

Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit Course Outlines

Day 1: Scheme Framework, Funding and Covenant

- Scheme types, benefit structures and liability profiles.
- Actuarial funding valuations, discount rates and funding levels.
- Reading the actuary's report and challenging key assumptions.
- Employer covenant assessment and its link to risk capacity.
- Integrated risk management across funding, covenant and investment.
- Regulatory funding and governance expectations.
- Workshop: reviewing a funding report and building a scheme summary.

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Day 2: Liability Hedging and Matching Assets

- Interest rate and inflation sensitivity of scheme liabilities.
- Liability hedging instruments: swaps, gilts and inflation-linked bonds.
- Hedge ratio design and collateral requirements.
- Liquidity demands from collateral calls and cash flow needs.
- Basis and counterparty risk in hedging programmes.
- Monitoring hedge effectiveness against funding movements.
- Workshop: designing a hedging toolkit for a scheme's liability profile.

Day 3: Asset Allocation and De-Risking Design

- Growth, matching and defensive asset categorisation.
- Return and risk assumptions by asset class and correlation analysis.
- Building strategic allocation models in Excel.
- De-risking triggers, glidepaths and funding milestones.
- Scenario and stress testing of allocation decisions.
- Rebalancing policy and tactical ranges.
- Workshop: building an allocation model with a trigger schedule.

Day 4: Manager Monitoring, Fees and Implementation

- Mandate design and implementation approach selection.
- Active, passive and factor-based strategy choices.
- Manager due diligence, selection and termination criteria.
- Performance monitoring, attribution and peer comparison.
- Fee structures, transparency and value for money assessment.

- Transition management and implementation cost control.
- Workshop: running a manager review and fee assessment.

Day 5: Governance, Reporting and the Trustee Toolkit

- Trustee duties, decision frameworks and delegation arrangements.
- Risk budgeting, tracking error limits and drawdown control.
- Cash flow planning for benefit payments and scheme maturity.
- Environmental, social and governance considerations in scheme investment.
- Preparing trustee reports and investment strategy statements.
- Assembling and applying the scheme investment toolkit.
- Workshop: presenting a trustee investment paper before a review panel.

Conclusion

By successfully completing Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit Training Course, participants will have acquired a practical set of tools for managing scheme investments. They will understand funding and covenant analysis, liability hedging, asset allocation, de-risking design, manager monitoring and governance reporting, and they will know how to apply each tool to their own scheme. As a result, delegates improve trustee decision quality and funding outcomes. Gentex Training Center builds the programme around current pension investment practice.

FAQs for the Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit course

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Q1 What is the "Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit" course about?

It gives trustees and advisers a practical set of investment tools. You cover funding and covenant review, liability hedging, asset allocation, de-risking triggers, manager monitoring, fee assessment and trustee reporting, building each into an applicable toolkit.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit" course?

You gain ready-to-use tools rather than abstract theory. You also improve funding report challenge, design clearer hedging and de-risking rules, control manager fees more firmly, plan scheme cash flows better, and produce trustee papers that stand up to scrutiny.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit" course?

You will gain pension funding and covenant analysis, liability hedging design, asset allocation and de-risking modelling, and manager monitoring, fee assessment and trustee reporting.

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Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit" course?

The course covers actuarial valuation and discount rate analysis, employer covenant assessment, integrated risk management, liability hedging with swaps, gilts and inflation-linked bonds, hedge ratio and collateral design, efficient frontier and correlation analysis, glidepath and trigger design, scenario and stress testing, manager due diligence and termination criteria, fee and value for money assessment, tracking error and risk budgeting, and investment strategy statement frameworks.

Q5 How is the "Pensions Scheme Investment Toolkit" course applied in real-world practice?

Graduates apply it to review funding reports and actuary assumptions, design hedging and de-risking programmes, build allocation models in Excel, set trigger schedules for trustees, run manager reviews and fee benchmarking, plan scheme cash flows, and prepare trustee papers and investment strategy statements.