

WIRRAL COUNCIL

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

13 JANUARY 2010

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

MEMBERS' TRAINING 2010

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Members are requested to agree the training programme anticipated for 2010.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The updated Myners Principles now constitute the Government view of best practice for the investment management and stewardship of the LGPS. Principle 1: Effective decision-making places emphasis on the need for those acting as trustees to have sufficient expertise to be able to evaluate and challenge the advice they receive; suitable training should, therefore, be offered to support this on an ongoing basis.

3. TRAINING PROGRAMME

- 3.1 The anticipated training programme for 2010 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. It is comprised of a series of internal and external training events throughout the year. Separate papers, to authorize attendance at these events, will be put to Committee on an event by event basis. As I become aware of other appropriate events, Members will be advised at the time.
- 3.2 Individual Members are offered bespoke training opportunities through the three day 'Fundamentals' course, provided by the Local Government Employers (LGE) organization. This course generally takes place from October to December and Members will be provided with details of course content, dates and locations closer to the time. LGE also offers refresher courses on investment and pensions administration matters throughout the year.
- 3.3 The internal training days, to be arranged by MPF, are intended to address topical pensions and investment issues with direct relevance to the work of the Committee. As such, Members' views on suitable subject matter will be sought as part of the planning for these events.

- 3.4. As a supplement to its recently published guidance on applying the updated Myners Principles, CIPFA Pensions Panel intends soon to publish a knowledge and skills framework for officers and elected Members serving in the LGPS. This will enable MPF to conduct a self-assessment exercise within the framework. Members are asked to indicate their willingness to participate in such an exercise, and to note that the outcome could lead to revisions to the training programme (as outlined in Appendix 1).

4. FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The anticipated costs of the programme will be included in the training budget for 2010-11

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. There are none arising from this report.

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. There are none arising from this report.

7. LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. This report has no particular implications for any Members or wards.

8. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. There are none arising from this report.

9. PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. There are none arising from this report.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None were used in the preparation of this report.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 That Members approve the training programme for 2010.
- 11.2 That Members note that the programme may be subject to revision, following publication of the CIPFA knowledge and skills framework for the LGPS.

IAN COLEMAN
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

APPENDIX 1

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Representation*</u>
26 January	Pioneer Investments' Forum, Liverpool	All Members
27 January	CIPFA Members Seminar, London	Chair
25/26 February	LGC Investment Seminar, Chester	Party Spokespersons
17/19 May	NAPF Local Authority Conference, Birmingham	Chair
June or July	Internal training day, Liverpool	All Members
8/10 June	CIPFA Conference, Harrogate	Chair
9/10 September	LGC Investment Summit, Newport	Party Spokespersons
September or October	Internal training day, Liverpool	All Members
6/8 October	<i>NAPF Annual Conference, Liverpool</i>	<i>TBC</i>
October	LGPS Trustees' Conference, Cardiff	All Members
November	MPF Annual Employers' Conference, Liverpool	All Members
December	LAPFF Annual Conference, Bournemouth	Chair

*** Representation reflects previous attendance at these events**