

WIRRAL COUNCIL

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

19 SEPTEMBER 2011

SUBJECT:	ANNUAL EMPLOYERS' CONFERENCE
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	
KEY DECISION	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the arrangements for the annual Employers' Conference to be held on Thursday 17 November 2011.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Members attend the Annual Employers Conference.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The value of holding an annual conference was recognised following the successful re-introduction of this event in November 1997, with attendees appreciating the opportunity to hear presentations on topical issues, and receive reports on current Fund activity and performance.

4.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The 2011 conference will again be held at Aintree Racecourse on Thursday 17 November 2011.
- 4.2 In addition to the annual reports on investment performance and the administration of the Pension Fund over the previous year, a presentation will be given by Paul Middleman from Mercer, the Actuary and Bob Holloway from the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- 4.3 The draft programme commences with coffee and registration at 9.30am, with a start time of 10am. There will be an open forum for questions and an anticipated finish time of 1.30pm. Lunch will be provided for delegates.
- 4.4 Members are invited to attend the Conference and further details will be circulated to all Members of this Committee as soon as arrangements are finalised.

5.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 5.1 There are none rising directly from this report.

6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 Other venues were considered including a cost comparison to assess value for money.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 An online survey was taken of previous delegates in 2010 and 87% rated Aintree Racecourse as an excellent or very good venue. The location, public transport links and overall quality of Aintree Racecourse was commended.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 8.1 None arising from this report.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 9.1 The cost of holding the Conference is estimated at £5,000; provision for which is contained within the budget.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 None arising from this report.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 None arising from this report.

- 11.2 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

(a) Is an EIA required? Yes Completed on 17 August 2011

Access for delegates with limited mobility was assessed; and appropriate emergency arrangements are in place. A hearing loop and relay screens will be provided for people with sensory impairments.

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 None arising from this report.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 None arising from this report.

FNCE/190/11

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APPENDICES

NONE

REFERENCE MATERIAL

NONE

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Pensions Committee	27 September 2010
Pensions Committee	22 September 2009
Pensions Committee	29 September 2008