

WIRRAL COUNCIL

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

18 SEPTEMBER 2012

SUBJECT:	ANNUAL EMPLOYERS' CONFERENCE
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	INTERIM 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 15 November 2012.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 The 2012 conference will be held at Aintree Racecourse on Thursday 15 November.

2.2 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 Fund Actuary and Jeff Houston, Head of Pensions at the Local Government Association.

2.3 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.

2.4 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.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 There are none rising directly from this report.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 Other venues have been considered for appropriateness, location, transport links and a cost comparison to assess value for money.

5.0 CONSULTATION

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

5.2 Feedback from delegates in 2011 further supported the previous year's survey of the choice of venue as 94% rated it as good or excellent.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

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

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

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are none arising from this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

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

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None arising from this report

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None arising from this report

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

12.1 That Members note the report.

13.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

13.1 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.

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