

to Michael Thomas,  
District Auditor,  
Aspinall House,  
Aspinall Close,  
Horwich,  
Bolton.  
BL6 6QQ

date To be after Audit Committee

your ref

my ref FA/TWS/SB

service Finance

tel 0151-666-3407 Please ask for Tom Sault

email [tomsault@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:tomsault@wirral.gov.uk)

Dear Sir,

### **Merseyside Pension Fund - Audit for the year ended 31/03/2012**

I confirm to the best of my knowledge and belief, having made appropriate enquiries of other directors and officers of Merseyside Pension Fund and Wirral Borough Council, the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of the Pension Fund's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2012.

### **Compliance with the statutory authorities**

I have fulfilled my responsibility under the relevant statutory authorities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom which give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Pension Fund, for the completeness of the information provided to you, and for making accurate representations to you.

### **Supporting records**

I have made available all relevant information and access to persons within the Pension Fund and Wirral Council for the purpose of your audit. I have properly reflected and recorded in the financial statements all the transactions undertaken by the Pension Fund.

### **Internal control**

I have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which I am aware.

### **Irregularities**

I acknowledge my responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud or error.

I also confirm that I have disclosed:

- my knowledge of fraud, or suspected fraud, involving either management, employees who have significant roles in internal control or others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements;
- my knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others; and
- the results of our assessment of the risk the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

### **Law, regulations, contractual arrangements and codes of practice**

I have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance, or suspected non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

Other than the breach of regulations identified and reported in Table 3, transactions and events have been carried out in accordance with law, regulation or other authority. The Pension Fund has complied with all aspects of contractual arrangements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

All known actual or possible litigation and claims, whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements, have been disclosed to the auditor and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

### **Accounting estimates including fair values**

I confirm the reasonableness of the significant assumptions used in making the accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value.

For accounting estimates relating to Private Equity, Hedge Funds and Investment Property valuations, I confirm:

- the appropriateness of the measurement method, including related assumptions and models, and the consistency in application of the method;
- the assumptions appropriately reflect management's intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the Pension Fund, where relevant to the accounting estimates and disclosures;
- the disclosures relating to the accounting estimate are complete and appropriate under the Code; and
- that no subsequent event requires the Pension Fund to adjust the accounting estimate and related disclosures included in the financial statements.

**Related party transactions**

I confirm that I have disclosed the identity of the Pension Fund's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware. I have appropriately accounted for and disclosed such relationships and transactions in accordance with the requirements of the Code.

**Subsequent events**

I have adjusted for or disclosed in the financial statements all relevant events subsequent to the date of the financial statements.

I confirm that this letter has been discussed by the Pensions Committee on 18 September 2012 and agreed by the Audit and Risk Management Committee on 19 September 2012.

Tom Sault  
Acting Director of Finance