

WIRRAL COUNCIL

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

22 SEPTEMBER 2009

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

ANNUAL EMPLOYERS CONFERENCE

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the arrangements for the annual Employers Conference to be held on Wednesday 25 November 2009.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The value of holding an annual conference was recognised following the successful re-introduction of this event in November 1997, with attending representatives appreciating the opportunity to hear presentations on topical issues, and receive reports on current activity and performance.
- 2.2 Previous conferences have taken as their themes; Control of Early Retirement Costs, Ill Health Retirement Procedures, Stakeholder Pensions and Pensions Sharing on Divorce, the Stocktake Review of the LGPS and the role of the Pensions Ombudsman.

3. DETAILS OF THE AGENDA

- 3.1 The 2009 conference will again be held at Aintree Racecourse on Wednesday 25 November 2009.
- 3.2 In addition to the annual reports in respect of investment performance and administration of the Fund over the previous year, presentations will be given by Michelle Lewis from the Personal Accounts Delivery Authority (PADA) and by Bob Holloway from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on the latest reform proposals and developments. Paul Middleman from Mercer the Fund Actuary will also provide an update on the latest funding position and be in attendance to answer employers' questions on valuation and liability issues.
- 3.3 The conference will be an opportunity for MPF with the assistance of the external speakers to update employers on developments during the past year and the latest information on the implementation of the revised LGPS introduced on 1 April 2008.

3.4 The draft programme commences with coffee and registration at 9.30 a.m. My welcome and introduction will be followed by speakers from Merseyside Pension Fund with the Annual Investment and Administration reports, the Actuary, PADA representative and Bob Holloway from the DCLG. After an Open Forum session the Conference should close at 1:30 p.m. Lunch is to be provided.

3.5 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.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The cost of holding the Conference is estimated at £4,500, provision for which is contained within the budget.

5. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no staffing implications in this report.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

8. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

9. LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific implications for any Member or Ward.

10. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

11. PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 No background papers were used in preparing this report.

13. RECOMMENDATION

- 13.1. That Members note the arrangements for the annual Employers Conference.

IAN COLEMAN
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

FNCE/235/09