

to Michael Thomas,  
District Auditor,  
Audit Commission,  
The Heath Technical and Business Park,  
The Heath,  
Runcorn,  
Cheshire,  
WA7 4QF.

date 17 September 2009

your ref  
my ref FA/MPF/IEC  
please ask for Ian Coleman

Dear Sir,

### **Merseyside Pension Fund - Audit for the year ended 31 March 2009**

I confirm to the best of my knowledge and belief, having made appropriate enquiries of other directors, officers, officials of Merseyside Pension Fund, the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of Merseyside Pension Fund's financial statements for the year 31/3/09. All representations cover Merseyside Pension Fund's accounts.

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

I acknowledge my responsibility under the relevant statutory authorities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: A Statement of Recommended Practice and the Pensions SORP 2007-08, which present fairly the financial position and financial performance of the Pension Fund and for making accurate representations to you.

### **Supporting records**

All the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the Pension Fund have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all relevant meetings, have been made available to you.

## **Irregularities**

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

There have been no:

- irregularities involving management or employees who have significant roles in the system of internal accounting control;
- irregularities involving other employees that could have a material effect on the financial statements; or
- communications from regulatory agencies concerning non-compliance with, or deficiencies on, financial reporting practices which could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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; and
- 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.

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

There are no instances of non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice, likely to have a significant effect on the finances or operations of the Pension Fund.

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. There has been no non-compliance with requirements of regulatory authorities that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

## **Fair values**

I confirm the reasonableness of the significant assumptions within the financial statements. I confirm:

- the appropriateness of the measurement method;
- the basis used by management to overcome the presumption under the financial reporting framework;
- the completeness and appropriateness under the financial reporting framework; and
- if subsequent events require adjustment to the fair value measurement.

## **Contingent liabilities**

Other than those already disclosed in regards to private equity investments, there are no contingent liabilities. In particular:

- there is no significant pending or threatened litigation;
- there are no material commitments or contractual issues, other than those already disclosed in the financial statements; and
- no financial guarantees have been given to third parties.

## **Related party transactions**

Other than the one case of non-disclosure referred to in the Annual Report on Governance, I confirm the completeness of the information disclosed regarding the identification of related parties.

The identity of, and balances and transactions with, related parties have been properly recorded and where appropriate, adequately disclosed in the financial statements

## **Post balance sheet events**

Other than those referred to in my current report to the Committee, since the date of approval in June 2009 of the financial statements by the Pensions Committee, no additional significant post balance sheet events that have occurred which would require additional adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements.

The Pension Fund has no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

## **Specific representations**

I am satisfied the Harewood structured investment balance of £2,408k has been properly recorded and disclosed in the financial statements.

I am satisfied that the tax debtor of £752k recorded in the year end financial statements is collectable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

## **Signed on behalf of Wirral Borough Council**

I confirm that the this letter has been discussed by the Pensions Committee on 22 September 2009 and agreed by the Audit and Risk Management Committee of Wirral Council on 23 September 2009

Signed

Ian Coleman

Director of Finance, Wirral Council

Date