

# **WIRRAL COUNCIL**

## **AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**28 JUNE 2007**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

#### **MEMBERS TRAINING**

##### **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. The CIPFA guidance Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities recommends that the Members of an Audit Committee should receive specific training in their role and responsibilities as Members of that Committee. This report recommends suitable training.

##### **2. TRAINING**

- 2.1. During 2006-07 the training requirements were comprehensively achieved at minimum cost by appointing one of the Members of the working party who wrote Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities to undertake the training. The course was supplied over two sessions at a cost of £2,500.

- 2.2. The Practical Guidance for Local Authorities recommends that induction training should be provided for all committee Members and cover:

- the role of the committee
- the terms of reference
- the time input required of Members
- an overview of Council activities
- the financial and risk environment.

Further regular and specific Audit Committee training should also be provided in:

- financial reporting
- governance
- understanding financial statement
- the regularity framework
- the role of internal and external audit
- the importance of risk management.

2.3. The training provided in 2006-07 was generally viewed by the Members of the Committee as very useful. Therefore I recommend that the existing trainer, Anna Klonowski, is retained for Members training in 2007-08.

**3. FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

3.1. The cost of two training sessions would be approximately £2,500

**4. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**6. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

6.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**7. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**8. PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**9. LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1. Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities – CIPFA December 2005.

**11. RECOMMENDATION**

11.1. That Members agree to continue the existing specific training.

**IAN COLEMAN  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

FNCE/121/07