

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WIRRAL

EMPLOYMENT AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE – 19th November 2007

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

INVESTMENT STRATEGY TEAM

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report requests authority to undertake the recruitment of a new Investment Strategy Team within the Department of Corporate Services to provide policy and planning work in connection with Wirral Waters and related strategic regeneration developments.

2. Background

- 2.1 The implementation of Wirral Waters will be delivered by Peel Holdings but the Council will need resources to manage the planning policy and the information to support the major planning applications which are expected over the next few years as part of Wirral Waters and the wider investment Strategy. In addition, the Council will need to ensure coherence between the Wirral Waters development and the other strategic developments across the Borough. The need for clear and coherent economic policy to help determine the need for such large developments is absolutely crucial, as too is the need to be able to make the economic case to both public sector partners and central Government. The team will report to the Head of Strategic Development.

3. Proposal

- 3.1 Cabinet approval was received for this new Investment Strategy Team on 16th August 2007. A budget of £222,000 was approved for 5 FTE Posts within the Corporate Services Department which have been evaluated as follows below:

- 1 x Investment Strategy Manager (EPO8)
- 2 x Senior Planning Officers (PO2/4)
- 1 x Senior Economic Project Officer (PO10)
- 1 x Admin Officer (Sc 2)

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The total cost of this new team is calculated at £202,649, using LGS Payscales 2007/08. Cabinet approved a budget of £220,000. The cost of the new Investment Strategy Team will initially be met from the Community Fund Budget.

5. Staffing Implications

- 5.1 The Director of Corporate Services will recruit for 5 new FTE posts on the grades given in 3.1.

6. Equal Opportunities Implications

- 6.1 None as a result of this report.

7. Human Rights Implications

- 7.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

8. Local Agenda 21 Implications

- 8.1 There are no implications arising from this report

9. Community Safety Implications

- 9.1 There are no community safety implications arising directly from this report.

10. Local Member Support Implications

- 10.1 None as a direct result of this report.

11. Background Documents

- 11.1 A copy of the Investment Strategy is available on request and further details on the Wirral Waters proposal can be obtained by contacting the Head of Strategic Development on 0151 691 8187.

12. Recommendation

- 12.1 That Committee authorises the Director of Corporate Services to make 5 new appointments to support the delivery of the Investment strategy.

J WILKIE
Deputy Chief Executive/ Director of Corporate Services