

## **WIRRAL COUNCIL**

### **CABINET**

**14 JANUARY 2010**

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

#### **COLLECTION FUND 2009-10**

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

- 1.1. This report estimates the Collection Fund for the year ending 31 March 2010. This has to be notified to the precepting Authorities by 22 January 2010.

##### **2. REQUIREMENT TO CALCULATE ANY SURPLUS/DEFICIT**

- 2.1. In accordance with the Local Authority (Funds) (England) Regulations 1992, the Authority must annually estimate the likely surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund for the current financial year. The estimate should be made on, or as close to, 15 January as possible but cover the period up to 31 March. The Authority must notify the precepting Authorities of the Fund within seven days of 15 January and the estimated surplus or deficit can then be taken into account by the precepting bodies for calculating their likely precept required on the Collection Fund for the following year.
- 2.2. Any surplus or deficit on the Fund must be shared pro-rata to the existing precepts on the Fund. Based upon 2009/10 Wirral is responsible for 85.94% of the precept on the Fund with the Merseyside Police and Fire and Rescue Authorities accounting for 9.74% and 4.32% respectively.

##### **3. ESTIMATE FOR 2009/10**

- 3.1. The Collection Fund for the year ending 31 March 2010 is estimated to be in a balanced position.
- 3.2. The reported deficit for 2008/09 was forecast to be £0.8m; this has been recovered from the precept bodies during 2009/10. The actual Collection Fund deficit at 31 March 2009 was £0.39m.
- 3.3. Although the deficit was less than anticipated, the surplus funds recovered in 2009/10 will be utilised to increase the Collection Fund provision for 2009/10. This follows a recommendation from the Audit Commission following the 2008/09 audit of accounts.
- 3.3. In 2009-10, the collection rate is in line with the 2008-09 performance and on target. I am continuing to closely monitor collection performance in light of the national economic situation.

#### **4. FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. The consequence of the balanced position of the Collection Fund is that no surplus or deficit will be received by or charged to the General fund during the 20010/11 financial year.

4.2. There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

#### **5. LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. There are no specific implications arising from this report.

#### **6. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

6.1. There are none arising from this report.

#### **7. PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

7.1. There are none arising from this report.

#### **8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. There are none arising from this report

#### **9. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. There are none arising from this report.

#### **10. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATION**

10.1. There are none arising from this report.

#### **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1. Local Authority Funds (England) Regulations 1992.

#### **12. RECOMMENDATION**

12.1. That the declaration of an estimated balanced position for the Collection Fund for the year ending 31 March 2010 be noted.

IAN COLEMAN  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE