

WIRRAL COUNCIL

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

29 SEPTEMBER 2008

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 Tuesday 18 November 2008.

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.

3. DETAILS OF THE AGENDA

- 3.1 The 2008 conference will be held at Aintree Racecourse on Tuesday 18 November 2008.
- 3.2 In addition to the annual reports in respect of investment performance and administration of the Pension Fund over the previous year presentations will be given by Dr Damian Trafford a Specialist Occupational Health Physician from the Association of Local Authority Medical Advisors (ALAMA) on ill health retirement issues, and by Bob Holloway from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on LGPS Cost Sharing Proposals. The Actuary will also 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 speakers from the DCLG and ALAMA to update employers on developments during the past year and the latest information on the implementation of the revised LGPS introduced from 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, Dr Damian Trafford from ALAMA and Bob Holloway from the DCLG. After an Open Forum session the Conference should close at 1 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. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1. That Members note the arrangements for the annual Employers Conference.
- 13.2. That attendance at the Conference be referred to the Cabinet for approval of duty.

IAN COLEMAN
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

FNCE/198/08