

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

8 FEBRUARY 2012

SUBJECT	INTERNAL AUDIT: APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL REVIEWER
WARD/S AFFECTED	ALL
REPORT OF	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	COUNCILLOR STEVE FOULKES
KEY DECISION	NO

1. The procedure for recruiting external assistance to support the Corporate Governance Improvement Programme was agreed at Corporate Governance Cabinet Committee on 16 November 2011. The overarching objective is to comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
2. The intention was to source three quotations, one from the Local Government Association and others from two suppliers recommended by Anna Klonowski (AKA)
3. The LGA confirmed on 7 December 2011 that it did not wish to tender for the work.
4. A procurement process using the Council's eTendering and sourcing portal (The Chest) was conducted for the two suppliers recommended by AKA. The process closed on 23 December 2011. Neither supplier had responded and it was confirmed on 29 December 2011 that one had officially withdrawn, and the other confirmed his interest in participating in an extended return period.
5. Following discussions between the Council's Corporate Procurement Manager and the Director of Finance / Deputy Chief Executive it was agreed to offer the remaining supplier the opportunity to bid, having due regard to the urgency of the work.
6. The procurement process was repeated and a subsequent proposal was received by the closing date of 20 January 2011.
7. Confirmation has been sought as to the cost of the proposal. This was received on 26 January 2011. The cost will be £15,000 (£1,000 per day) including expenses.
8. In the opinion of the Director of Finance / Deputy Chief Executive the respondent is appropriate to appoint because:
 - The bidder has appropriate skills, abilities and experience as evidenced in his CV

- Extensive experience as finance director with more than 20 years at Board level, the last 9 at the City of London
 - Experienced non-executive director and Audit Committee Chair
 - Wide knowledge of investment strategy, fund management and pensions
 - Deep understanding of the intricacies of public sector policy, finance and administration
 - Sound knowledge of property development and practical experience of major project management
 - Direct involvement in promoting carbon reduction projects at Salix Finance Limited and keen interest in environmental issues.
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- He is recommended by AKA
 - His charges are not unreasonable given the Council's timescale and the nature of the work
 - The alternative is to enter a further procurement process, which would mean that the work could not be completed within the timescale laid down by the Committee.

9. In accordance with Contract Procedure Rule 19.1.4 Peter Derrick, BA, CPFA has been appointed to undertake the External Support for the Review of Internal Audit at a cost of £15,000