

DESCRIPTION OF OPTION

This option proposes a non-managerial service restructure in the Regeneration, Housing and Planning (RHP) Department.

RATIONALE FOR SAVINGS

Over the last 12 months there have been a number of significant changes which have led to a reconsideration of the structure and work of the Department. The rationale for this option is all revenue saving related and are as follows:

Regeneration Team

The proposed team restructure/ reduction will realise revenue savings of £143,700.

Invest Wirral

Through the removal of the **International Links** and Social **Enterprise** posts, a saving of £47,900 for each will be made (A total of £95,800).

Investment Strategy Team

The Inward Investment Manager post is currently vacant. Deleting this post will result in a saving of £60,800.

Housing Strategy Team

This team currently has a vacant Principal Officer Housing Strategy post. Deleting this post will result in a saving of £38,600.

IMPACT

Taking into consideration proposed post deletions, workloads for remaining staff would have to be considered.

The proposal will include the deletion of seven posts (two of which are currently vacant).

MITIGATION

- The work of the Regeneration Team has reduced as access to external funds such as those via NWDA and ERDF have diminished, particularly in relation to funds for development of the “place”. The proposals involved reducing the number of project managers from six to three, that will continue to allow sufficient resource to deal with the deliverable projects seeking some form of external resource
- There has recently been a successful bid for EU funds from a voluntary organisation in Wirral to develop support for Social Enterprises and referrals will be made to that organisation
- The Government has recently increased resource into UKTI to encourage businesses to look at international markets for additional business. Referrals will be made direct to UKTI for relevant business support
- Not filling the vacant Inward Investment manager post will mean that we will be unable to have a dedicated senior officer dealing with the creation of Inward Investment. We will spread that role across a number of senior officers and increase our publicised “offer” via the LEP and UKTI
- The Principal Housing Officer post has been vacant for a while and not filling the post will mean continuing as we have, with duties shared amongst the team

