

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

## PENSIONS COMMITTEE

24 JUNE 2013

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>OFFICIAL OPENING OF GWYNEDD AD PLANT</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR TRANSFORMATION AND RESOURCES</b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b> <i>(Defined in paragraph 13.3 of Article 13 'Decision Making' in the Council's Constitution.)</i>	NO

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report seeks approval for the Chair of Pensions Committee to attend the official opening of the Gwynedd Anaerobic Digestion Plant on 2 July 2013.

### 2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 In March 2012, Committee was informed of an investment into a fund providing the financing for the construction and operation of anaerobic digestion (AD) plants. The plants process food waste and generate biogas reducing landfill requirements. Potentially, initial investments were into contracts for AD plants being tendered by a number of Welsh local authorities.

2.2 MPF is currently the sole investor in the fund which has successfully won three tenders, two of which are in Wales. Construction of the first plant, "Prosiect GwyriAD" is completing. The facility will treat 11,000 tonnes of food waste from local households and businesses, all of which could otherwise be sent to landfill. The plant is fully licensed and regulated by the Environment Agency and will generate 3,500 MWh per annum of renewable electricity and a biofertiliser for use on local farmland. It is the first AD plant to be commissioned by the Welsh Assembly and to be completed. In recognition of this, a formal opening ceremony has been organised by Gwynedd Council and, as funder of the project, MPF has been invited.

### 3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 None

### 4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 No other options have been considered

### 5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 There has been no consultation undertaken or proposed for this report. There are no implications for partner organisations arising out of this report.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

## **7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS**

7.1 The cost of attendance will be travel which can be met from the existing Pension Fund budget.

## **8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are none arising from this report.

## **9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

(b) No because there is no relevance to equality.

## **10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The project will generate 3,500 megawatt hours per year of renewable electricity for the national grid.

## **11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are none arising from this report.

## **12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

12.1 That Committee approves attendance at this ceremony of the Chair of Pensions Committee, accompanied by an officer.

## **13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

13.1 To provide recognition and support for this environmental and sustainable initiative.

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## **APPENDICES**

NONE

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

NONE

## **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Pensions Committee</b>	March 2012

