

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

## PENSION BOARD

14 JULY 2015

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>TRAINING PROGRAMME</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR TRANSFORMATION AND RESOURCES</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>NO</b>

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an outline of the proposed programme to assist members in fulfilling requirements of the Knowledge and Understanding policy.

### 2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 In accordance with the Pensions Act 2004 every member of the Wirral Pension Board must be conversant with key areas of knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions with particular reference to:

- Background and understanding of the legislative framework of the LGPS;
- General pension legislation applicable to the LGPS;
- Role and responsibilities of the Local Pension Board;
- Role and responsibilities of the Administering Authority;
- Funding and investment;
- Role and responsibilities of Scheme Employers;
- Tax and contracting out;
- Role of advisors and key persons;
- Key bodies connected to the LGPS.

2.2 Pension Board members are expected to complete induction training within the first three months of their appointment. This consists of an online training course provided in a Trustee Toolkit by the Pensions Regulator (TPR).

2.3 Pension Board members will undertake the same knowledge and understanding framework which is currently provided to members of Merseyside Pension Fund Board through the CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework.

- 2.4 The Scheme Manager will use the TPR Trustee Toolkit assessments that the Local Pension Board members complete as a basis for agreeing an appropriate training programme..
- 2.5 In addition to the training event organised by the LGA on 28 May 2015, a further bespoke training day is proposed for September.
- 2.7 The annual assessment of the performance of the Pension Board will include a detailed report on training events offered and attended by Board members.

### **3.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

- 3.1 Failure to maintain an appropriate level of knowledge and skills would be a potential breach of the requirements of the Pensions Act 2004.

### **4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 Based on an ongoing assessment of training needs, there may be the option of reverting to stand-alone training and development events.

### **5.0 CONSULTATION**

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

### **6.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS**

- 6.1 None

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

- 7.1 There are none arising from this report.

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

- 8.1 Provision for Board member training and development is included in the Fund's annual operating budget.

### **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are none arising from this report.

### **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

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

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

## **11.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are none arising from this report.

## **12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are none arising from this report.

## **13.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

13.1 That Board members note the report.

## **14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

14.1 The Pensions Act 2004 requires members of Wirral's Pensions Board to be conversant with key areas of knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions.

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## **APPENDICES**

None.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL**

## **BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY**

<b>Briefing Note</b>	<b>Date</b>

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

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>