



meeting **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

date 21st September 2005

agenda item number

REFERRAL FROM PENSIONS ADMINISTRATION SUB COMMITTEE

PENSION FUND TRUSTEE TRAINING

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the participation of all Members of the Pensions Committee and Sub Committees in the “Fundamentals 2005” training course organised by the Employers Organisation specifically for Councillors involved with pensions issues.

2. Information and Advice

- 2.1 The Employers Organisation has previously run a series of trustee training events, mainly for the benefit of Councillors and other members of pensions committees. All members of the Pensions Committees were previously invited to attend and there was significant interest and take up. Those Members and other representatives who attended gave very positive feedback.
- 2.2 The Employers Organisation is re-running the course which would be of particular benefit to newly elected Members of the Pensions Committee and Sub Committees and might also be of interest to existing Members and representatives as a refresher event.
- 2.3 The course is run over three days in October, November and December and at four locations (Cardiff, Edinburgh, Leeds and London). The Pensions Administration Sub Committee was of the view that it would again be of benefit to attend these training events and the Director of Resources is obtaining expressions of interest.
- 2.4 The cost of attending all three days is £420 plus VAT per delegate. Travel costs, and potentially accommodation costs will vary according to the location chosen by each Member according to their other diary commitments. Costs will be met from the Pension Fund trustee activities budget.

3. Statutory and policy implications

- 3.1 This report is necessary to ensure compliance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy and current arrangements for approving attendance at conferences, seminars and Members training events.

4. Recommendations

That approval be given to all Members of the Pensions Committee and Sub Committees to participate in the "Fundamentals 2005" trustee training programme.

Director of Resources Financial Comments

These are contained in the report (AS 22/6/05)

Head of Legal Services' Comments (LM24/06/05)

The Administration Committee has delegated power under the Scheme of Delegation to approve Members attendance at conferences and seminars which must be in accordance with the County Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy.

Background papers available for inspection

Employers Organisation Circular No 172
Conference Details.

Electoral division(s) affected

All