Extracts of Executive Board and Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes that are relevant to the Corporate Policy and Performance Board.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2011

81	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME - POLICY
	DISCRETIONS AND STATEMENTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Policy Discretions and Statements.

The Board was advised that Halton employees (other than teachers), had an option to join the Cheshire Pension Fund, which was part of the LGPS. The scheme allowed for employers to exercise certain discretions and to publish those discretions in an annual scheme. The Council was required to publish an annual statement setting out which discretions it intended to adopt.

The Board noted that the Policy formed an integral element of the Council's overall approach to the management of its employees, and that it had been negotiated with the Trade Unions.

RESOLVED: That the LGPS Pensions Policy Discretions and Statements, contained in the attached scheme be approved, as in the case of augmentation, further detailed in the Staffing Protocol.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2012

EXB 95 RISK MANAGEMENT – KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the Risk Management Policy (the Policy) and Strategic Risk Register (the Register) for 2012.

The Board was advised that the purpose of the Policy and the Register was to ensure that the Council maximised its opportunities whilst minimising and controlling risks in delivering its priorities. The Policy described the framework the Council operated under Risk

Management, which was linked to its performance management arrangements.

The Policy and the Register, attached to the report, had been reviewed and updated, with the process simplified in accordance with the Corporate Risk Management Policy, without losing any of the benefits of the old processes. The risks had been grouped in order of priority of risks under eight headings listed in the report. It was noted that briefings had taken place with Directorate Senior Management Teams, as part of the review process.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Policy and Register be approved; and
- 2) the Business Efficiency Board be asked to review the adequacy of arrangements for identifying and managing business risks, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2012

75 DISCRETIONARY NON DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which sought Members' consideration of an application for discretionary rate relief, under the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

The Sub-Committee was advised that under the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Authority was allowed to grant discretionary rate relief to organisations that were either a Charity or a non-profit making organisation. This relief may also be awarded to community amateur sport clubs. A summary of the applications was outlined within the report and a list of the associated figures was included.

RESOLVED: That

1) under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, discretionary rate relief be granted to the following organisations at the percentage indicated, for the period from 1st April 2011 or the commencement of liability, whichever was the later, to 31st March 2013:

Age Concern Mid Mersey	20%
Four Estates Limited	20%
Halton Credit Union Limited	100%
Halton Haven Hospice	20%
Halton Speak Out	20%
RSPCA, Warrington, Halton	
and St. Helens Branch	20%

2) in respect of the following organisations, it was also recommended that they should be granted discretionary rate relief for the backdated element of the charge from 1st April 2010 of the commencement or liability, whichever is the later:

Four Estates Limited 20% Halton Credit Union Limited 100%