

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**Pensions and Investment Committee
23rd February 2012**

REPORT BY: Head of Finance

SUBJECT: Admission Agreements – Provision of Legal Services

REPORT FOR: Information

- 1 Following discussions last year with the Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure and the need for the Pension Fund to review and revise existing admission agreements with those employers so covered and, in the light of issues raised by BUPA Care Homes, a small tender by invitation exercise has been undertaken to secure the services of a suitable qualified legal firm.
- 2 The tender exercise sought a legal firm who would be able to assist the Council to undertake the review of admission agreements with the object of redrafting agreements to better reflect the provisions of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The Head of Legal Services has confirmed that there is no such specialist advise available from the Council's own Legal Department.
- 3 Therefore, tenders were invited from the six leading pension law firms who have offices in Wales and the South West. Following an evaluation based on the Council's standard procurement matrices comparing the principal requirements of cost, experience and appropriate level of resource support, Burges Salmon LLP have been appointed.
- 4 Burges Salmon have wide experience in the LGPS and currently provide a range of services to a number of local authorities, including Gwynedd Council, Cardiff County Council, Hampshire County Council, Devon County Council, Wiltshire County Council and North Somerset County Council. The initial work to be undertaken in reviewing six existing admission agreements is estimated at approximately £4,500.
- 5 Committee are asked to note the contents of this report.

Recommendation:		Reason for Recommendation:	
To note the appointment of Burges Salmon as providers of Legal Services to the Pension Fund for the purpose of reviewing admission agreements.		As per report	
Person(s) To Action Decision:			
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:			
Relevant Policy (ies):		N/A	
Within Policy:	N/A	Within Budget:	N/A
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Relevant Portfolio Member(s):	Councillor Tony Thomas
Relevant Local Member(s):	