

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

Councillors S Bentley, A Blackburn,
J Blake, A Carter, R Finnigan, S Golton,
P Gruen, M Lobley (as substitute for J. L
Carter), T Murray, A Ogilvie (as substitute
for A.Lowe) and J Procter

Apologies Councillors J L Carter, A Lowe and
N Taggart

20 Short Notice

Meeting called at short notice under the provisions of paragraph 4.1 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

21 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

22 Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public

The Committee considered the designation of Appendix 1 to Agenda item 5 (minute 24 refers) as exempt under the Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4 (4) and (5).

RESOLVED - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following part of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business transacted, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-

Appendix 1 to Agenda item 5 because it contained information relating to negotiations in connection with industrial relations and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings . It was considered in these circumstances that the public interest in maintaining the exemption from publication outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

23 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made either under this item or at any stage during the meeting.

24 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Taggart, Lowe and J L Carter.

25 Introduction of Performance Related Pay Schemes

Before the item was considered the Committee agreed that members of the public should be excluded as the Main issue in the report referred directly to the exempted Appendix 1.

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods presented his and the Director of Resources report, which followed on from the report received by General Purposes Committee on 6th September 2010. This report set out further analysis of the options appraisal previously presented, in order to inform a decision in relation to the implementation of a Performance Related Pay (PRP) Scheme for the Refuse Collection Service.

Members considered the options available with the respective financial and legal implications, and also the equal pay legislation more generally

Members also discussed the implementation of other PRP schemes across the Council .

RESOLVED - Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to agree the introduction of a PRP scheme within the Refuse Collection Service and authorise the Director of Resources to finalise negotiations with the Trade Unions in order to enter into a collective agreement to bring it into effect.

(This item was considered urgent so as to ensure that the PRP scheme could be introduced as soon as possible to realise the savings as soon as possible in the current financial climate.)