

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

Councillors S Bentley, A Blackburn,
J Blake, A Carter, J L Carter, S Golton,
P Gruen, T Leadley (as substitute for R
Finnigan), A Lowe, T Murray (as substitute
for N Taggart) and J Procter

Apologies Councillors
R Finnigan and N Taggart

10 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

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

11 Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public

The Committee considered the designation of Appendix 2 and 3 to Agenda item 7 (minute 16 refers) as exempt under the Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (5).

RESOLVED – That the exemption applied to Appendix 2 and 3 to Agenda Item 7 be maintained and as a consequence the public be excluded from the discussion of the item.

12 Late items

In accordance with his powers under Section 100 B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair admitted late supplementary information in relation to PRP schemes for Refuse Collectors (See Agenda Item 7, minute No.16).

13 Declaration of Interests

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

14 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Taggart and Councillor Finnigan.

15 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 28th June 2010 be approved as a correct record.

16 PRP Scheme for Refuse Collectors

The Director of Resources and Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods presented their report which introduced the criteria by which potential Performance Related Pay (PRP) schemes within the Council should be assessed. The report updated the Committee on progress with the implementation of a PRP scheme for the Refuse Collection service and sought authorisation for the Director of Resources to finalise the scheme before it's introduction. The report also informed the Committee of other work being done to look at implementing PRP schemes in other parts of the Council.

Following the introduction of the item, the Committee agreed that members of the public should be excluded so that Appendix 2 and 3 could be discussed in conjunction with the rest of the report. At this stage further confidential information updating the Committee on the latest developments was distributed.

Members discussed the report and its appendices in detail in particular they considered all the options available to the Council for remunerating refuse collectors and the implications associated with them.

Members considered the future recruitment of refuse collectors and the need for job descriptions to be clear that the work of refuse collecting is suitable for both women and men.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to:

- note that further work is being done to identify the potential introduction of PRP schemes in other areas of the Council's workforce;
- note the criteria set out at Appendix 1 to the report as the criteria by which PRP schemes considered for introduction within the Council are assessed;
- support the introduction of a PRP scheme within the Refuse Collection service provided that it meets the criteria set out at Appendix 1 to the report and subject to consideration of further financial information to be provided by the Director of Resources.
- to convene a further emergency meeting following the provision of Director of Resource's further information to the group leaders.

17 Area Committees: Amendment to Composition

The Chief Regeneration Officer presented a report of The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods which proposed to change the ward composition of two area committees. The report considered that by doing so anomalies in the demographic and socio economic profiles of the current committees in the North West of the city could be resolved. The changes proposed aimed to produce committees composed of wards with comparable profiles.

Members discussed the extent of work done to consult both the public and the members of the wards affected by the proposed changes and concluded that further work needed to be done with regards to this.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to withdraw the item.

18 Amendment to Council Procedure Rules - Question Time

The Principal Corporate Governance Officer (Corporate Governance) presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance). The report proposed an amendment to Council Procedure Rule 11.6 'Expiry of Question Time' to allow that at the close of question time, the question in progress will be dealt with in full, including the asking and response to any supplementary question.

RESOLVED - Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to recommend to full Council to approve the amendment to Council Procedure Rule 11.6 as detailed in the Appendix to the report.

19 Work Programme

The Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) submitted a report notifying members of the draft work programme for the 2010/11 municipal year.

RESOLVED - Members resolved to agree that the draft work programme for 2010/11 be noted.