

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CENTRAL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER 2004 AT 1400 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Jennifer Elliot, TGWU; Councillors John Knapp, Daniel Coffey, Drew McIntyre and Jimmy Kelly; Brian Reid and Graham Cumming, Unison; Kate Connell, Ian Conn and June Minnery, GMB; William Cree, TGWU; Andrew Wilson, UCAT; and William Hadden, AMICUS/AEEU.

ATTENDING: Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; John Walker, Head of Building and Works; John Clayton, Head of Corporate Development and Communication; Robin Gourley, Head of Onsite Services; Martin Rose, Head of Personnel Services; George Park, Employee Relations Manager; and Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Tracey Dalling, Full-Time Officer, Unison; Arthur West, Unison; and David Doran, GMB, Joint Secretaries.

CHAIR: Jennifer Elliot, Chair.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

1. The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, wished Frank Minnery, who was seriously ill in hospital, sincere best wishes for a speedy recovery. The Chair also wished to support June Minnery, who was present at the meeting, and acknowledge her commitment to the Trade Union movement.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There were submitted and approved Minutes of the previous meetings held on 16 September and 11 November 2004 (circulated).

MATTERS ARISING

4.1 EAGER

It was reported and noted that the EAGER Forum would meet early next year to address the issues raised previously by the Joint Secretaries. This would include a review of internal and external courses generated by EAGER to date, and general provision for staff development, in particular for manual employees, in light of the issues raised by the Joint Secretaries.

4.2 BUDGET EFFICIENCY SAVINGS

It was agreed to note Trade Unions' concern that Budget Efficiency Savings did not impact on front line services.

SINGLE STATUS

5. There was submitted a report dated 1 November 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which advised on a revised time table for the implementation of the Single Status Agreement.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the revised timetable for the implementation of the Single Status Agreement;
- (ii) to note that regular update reports would be submitted to the Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the report.

TRADE UNION CONSULTATION PROTOCOL

6. There was submitted a report dated 2 November 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which proposed the adoption of a Protocol on Trade Union Consultation.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note an amendment to Para 4 of the Protocol attached as Appendix 1 of the report as follows, viz:- "A Member/Officer Working Group may invite the Trade Unions to submit evidence to the Working Group where it is considered appropriate";
- (ii) to approve the Trade Union Consultation Protocol in principle, subject to further discussion with the Trade Unions prior to finalisation; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the report.

TIME OFF FOR TRADE UNION DUTIES

7. There was submitted a report dated 27 October 2004 (circulated) by the Head of Personnel which provided an update on the establishment of Trade Union Learning Representatives; and proposed a framework for the provision for time off for undertaking Trade Union duties for Trade Union Learning Representatives.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the time off for Trade Union duties policy and procedure appended to the report, in principle subject to further discussion with the Trade Unions prior to finalisation; and
- (ii) other wise to note the content of the report.

EMPLOYEE CRECHE FACILITIES

8. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Joint Secretaries which recommended that the Council consider the possibility of establishing a crèche facility for Council employees.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Joint Secretaries would meet initially to explore the issues involved in establishing an employee crèche facility; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the report.

ASSISTED CAR PURCHASE SCHEME

9. There was submitted a report dated 2 November 2004 (circulated) by the Head of Personnel which advised on proposed amendments to the Council's Assisted Car Purchase Scheme.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the continued use of an Assisted Car Purchase Scheme as an employee benefit;
- (ii) to approve the adoption of the revised Assisted Car Purchase Scheme outlined in the report; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the report.

TIMETABLE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

10. It was agreed that meetings of the Central Joint Consultative Committee would be held during to 2005 on 17 March, 2 June, 15 September and 1 December all at 1400 hours in The Meeting Room, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock with pre-meetings at 1330 hours in The Meeting Room for the employees side and Meeting Room 2 for the employer's side.

The meeting terminated at 1436 hrs.