

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 23 AUGUST 2005

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT QUARTER 2 (2005)

Report by Executive Director of Development and Property Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of absence rates for the Department of Development and Property Services for the quarterly period ending 30 June 2005.

2. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- 2.1 Historical data for this quarter last year and Quarter 1 of 2005 is detailed in Appendix A to assist Members in considering the absence rates.

3. ANALYSIS OF QUARTERLY ABSENCE RATES

- 3.1 The department's average absence rate over the period 1 April 2005 – 30 June 2005 was 5.20%. This consisted of 4.10% for APT&C employees, 8.33% for manual employees and 11.09% for craft employees. This compares to 3.32%, 12.71% and 2.34% for these groups respectively in the same quarter in 2004.

4. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

- 4.1 With regard to the absence levels reported for Quarter 2 the following points can be noted:
- 4.1.1 In relation to the high absence rates for manual and craft employees, this is attributable to a small number of long term absences which are being dealt with in accordance with the Council's managing absence policy. Excluding these long term absences from the figures reduces the absence rates to 1.72% and 1.20% for those groups respectively for the period.
- 4.1.2 Operations/Recovery was the main reason for absence within Development & Property Services, accounting for 16.39% of the overall collective absence rate of 1070.5 days. The absence information does not identify any common underlying reason at this time but all absences will be monitored on an ongoing basis with referrals to Occupational Health and/or Employee Counselling Service as appropriate.
- 4.1.3 7 absence reviews and 5 Follow-Up meetings had been held. There were 3 referrals to the Occupational Health Service.
- 4.1.4 A detailed review of individual record cards within each section has been carried out to ensure that the Council's Managing Absence Policy is being adhered to in terms of Absence Review Meetings.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – COST OF ABSENCE

- 5.1 The current cost of absence requires to be met from within existing resources.

6. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Absence within Development Services is being managed in accordance with Council Policy and employment legislation.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

James Lavery

Executive Director of Development and Property Services

20 July 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Departmental Returns – Quarter 2, 2005
2. Departmental Returns – Quarter 1, 2005

Any member wishing further information should contact James Lavery, Executive Director Development and Property Services (Telephone 01563 576596).

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HISTORICAL DATA

APT&C EMPLOYEES

SECTION	Q2 2004 (01.04. 04 – 30.06.04)	Q2 2005 (01.04.05 – 30.06.05)	% INCREASE/ DECREASE
Economic Development & Property	3.91%	5.22%	+1.31%
Planning, Development & Building Standards	4.20%	2.11%	-2.09%
Roads & Transportation	2.19%	3.79%	+1.60%

SECTION	Q1 2005 (01.01. 05 – 31.03.05)	Q2 2005 (01.04.05 – 30.06.05)	% INCREASE/ DECREASE
Economic Development & Property	4.30%	5.22%	+0.92%
Planning, Development & Building Standards	2.22%	2.11%	-0.11%
Roads & Transportation	3.70%	3.79%	+0.09%

Council Target: 4%

MANUAL EMPLOYEES

SECTION	Q2 2004 (01.04. 04 – 30.06.04)	Q2 2005 (01.04.05 – 30.06.05)	% INCREASE/ DECREASE
Roads & Transportation	12.71%	8.33%	-4.38%

SECTION	Q1 2005 (01.01. 05 – 31.03.05)	Q2 2005 (01.04.05 – 30.06.05)	% INCREASE/ DECREASE
Roads & Transportation	8.89%	8.33%	-0.56%

Council target: 5%

CRAFT EMPLOYEES

SECTION	Q2 2004 (01.04. 04 – 30.06.04)	Q2 2005 (01.04.05 – 30.06.05)	% INCREASE/ DECREASE
Roads & Transportation	2.34%	11.09%	+8.75%

SECTION	Q1 2005 (01.01. 05 – 31.03.05)	Q2 2005 (01.04.05 – 30.06.05)	% INCREASE/ DECREASE
Roads & Transportation	3.02%	11.09%	+8.07%

Council Target: 5%