

LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 22 May 2013. Minute of Meeting of the LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. Aberdeen City Council Representatives:- Councillor Young (Chair); and Councillors Finlayson, Forsyth, Graham, Greig, Kiddie and McCaig.

Trade Union Representatives:- Joe Craig and Patrick Evans (UNITE), Kevin Masson (as a substitute for Michelle McDonald) and Neil Watson (GMB), John Noble (UCATT), John Connon, Karen Davidson, Deirdre Macdonald (Vice-Chair) (UNISON), and Grant Bruce (EIS).

Officers in attendance:- Valerie Watts (Chief Executive), Stewart Carruth (Director of Corporate Governance), Pete Leonard (Director of Housing and Environment), Gayle Gorman (Director of Education, Culture and Sport), Fred McBride (Director of Social Care and Wellbeing), Ewan Sutherland, (Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development) and Jeff Capstick, (Personnel Manager).

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Malone, Mike Middleton (GMB), Steve Robb (UNITE), and Rebecka Coull (UNISON), Jim Currie (UNISON) and Peter Smyth (UNISON).

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 23 JANUARY 2013

2. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 23 January 2013, for information.

In relation to item 2, Karen Davidson (UNISON) advised that at the two previous meetings it had been agreed that Andrew Sproull would meet with Trades Union representatives on a regular basis to provide updates on the current actions being taken to address issues still being experienced at Marischal College, however a meeting had yet to be held and she therefore requested that this be arranged as soon as possible.

In relation to item 3 (Joint Consultative Committee Update), Karen Davidson whilst noting that the Council was moving to electron pay slips sought clarity on whether Trades Union could advertise by means of pay inserts. In response Jeff Capstick advised that there was a Committee decision which stated that Trades Union could not use this method of advertising.

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note the minute;
- (ii) to note that the Chief Executive would ensure that a meeting between Trades Union representatives and Andrew Sproull was held in early course; and

- (iii) to instruct Jeff Capstick to provide all members of the Committee with a copy of the report and decision regarding advertising in payslip inserts.

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

3. With reference to article 3 of the minute of its meeting of 23 January 2013, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Corporate Governance on progress with the partnership agreement and employee forums.

Members discussed the report, in particular noting that a report on the draft partnership agreement and employee forums had been drafted by officers and that this had been the subject of an initial discussion at CMT. However, further discussion was required and when a decision was taken by CMT, the proposals would be placed before trades union for formal consultation.

The Committee resolved:-

to note the report.

DELEGATED POWERS

4. The Committee heard from Karen Davidson (UNISON) who raised concern regarding the consistency of the application of the delegated power which permitted all Directors to carry out restructuring including appointing new posts, converting one post to another, changing grade and changing job titles, provided it is within approved Service budget. Specifically, she referred to two current proposed restructures both of which were within budget, noting that one was being reported to Committee, whilst the other was not.

In response, the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development explained that the restructure which was being reported to Committee was for elected members' information only and was not seeking approval.

The Committee resolved:-

to note the information.

CCTV POLICY

5. The Committee heard from Karen Davidson (UNISON) who advised that the matter regarding CCTV policy had been resolved prior to today's meeting.

TRADE UNION USE OF UNION TERRACE GARDENS

6. The Committee heard from Karen Davidson (UNISON) who advised that UNISON had held a May Day Fun Day in Union Terrace Gardens and would like to do this again, however the total cost for use of this venue was prohibitive. She asked whether the Council would consider providing a discount on charges applied for the use of this venue to Trades Unions for events such as these. Concern was also expressed about the quality of services which were being charged for.

The Committee resolved:-

to note that the Chief Executive would review the charging policy.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. The Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on 23 October 2013 at 10am.

- **COUNCILLOR YOUNG, Chairperson**