

JOINT EMPLOYEE COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 23rd October 2019 at Worksop Town Hall

Present:

Employer's Representatives:

Councillors C Entwistle, J Evans, J Sanger MBE and J White.

Sub: Councillor D R Pressley

Employee Representatives:

M Bassett, P Lee, R Parr, T Walstow and J Whalley.

Officers in attendance: K Childs and E Whittles.

(Meeting commenced at 3.00pm.)

(The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and read out the Fire Alarm/Evacuation Procedure. She also enquired as to whether any member of the public wished to film/record the meeting or any part thereof; however, there were no members of public present.)

12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D G Pidwell, M Quigley MBE and Employee Representatives K Circuit.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations by members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

14. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10th JULY 2019

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2019 be approved.

15. MINUTES FOR ACTION

RESOLVED that the Minutes for Action be received.

16. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

RESOLVED that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

17. REPORT(S) OF THE EMPLOYER'S REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Occasional Homeworking

Members were presented with a report that proposed that on certain occasions an office based employee may be required to carry out some work from home on an ad hoc basis.

Current guidance available on the staff portal is set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

The Policies Working Group has developed and agreed a new policy which sets out the activities and tasks that are suitable for homeworking and where it is not appropriate (attached at Appendix 2).

The draft policy also identified the arrangements needed to ensure that the home environment is conducive to home working.

RESOLVED that Members agree the proposed new Occasional Home Working Policy, for recommendation to Cabinet.

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

18. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and after considering the public interest test as set out by the officer in the body of the report, Members agreed that the following items of business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 4, and therefore, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No. 7(a) – Pay and Grading Review – Paragraph 4
Agenda Item No. 7(b) – Review of Agency Workers – Paragraph 4

K. Childs entered the meeting at this point.

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

19. REPORT(S) OF THE EMPLOYER'S REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Pay and Grading Review

Members were given an update outlining progress on the Pay and Grading Review against the timetable for completion.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(b) Review of Agency Workers

Members were updated on the use of agency workers and consultants for the period 1st April to 31th June 2019. The data was appended to the report with a year's worth of data for comparison.

RESOLVED that:

1. The report on the use of agency workers and consultants be noted.
2. In order to seek to reduce the incidence of agency workers, managers be required to complete the quarterly monitoring form and data be reported to the Joint Employee Council.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

None

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Meeting closed at 3.28pm.)