

Contact Officer: Steve Copley

KIRKLEES COUNCIL
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Thursday 14th July 2016

Present: Councillor David Sheard (Chair)
Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Terry Lyons
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor John Taylor

Apologies: Councillor David Hall
Councillor Nigel Patrick
Councillor Nicola Turner

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were noted on behalf of Councillors David Hall, Nigel Patrick and Nicola Turner.

Councillors John Lawson and John Taylor were present as substitutes.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Personnel Committee meetings on 14 April and 25 May 2016 were approved.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

Members resolved to consider items 9 and 10 in private session, as they contain exempt information. The details and reasons are set out at the start of each item.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were received.

6 Member Question Time

No questions were received.

7 Deputation/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

8 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED - That acting under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as specifically stated in the under mentioned minutes.

9 Succession Planning and Managing Change

(Exempt information relating to particular employees. The public interest in maintaining the exemption, which would protect the rights of the individual under the Data Protection Act 1988, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the council's decision making)

Following a report at the Personnel Committee on 14 April 2016, Adrian Lythgo provided a report to seek approval and a steer on some new and proposed management arrangements for discharging the Council's functions and providing services that will underpin the achievement of New Council and align senior officer capacity and structure with the needs of the organisation for the medium term.

The report also explained that the Council's management arrangements need to be effective within the financial constraints facing the Council and achieve the approved budget reduction relating to the Council's senior management structure of £489,000 for 2017/18.

Adrian Lythgo also explained that the report sought agreement to changing the nature of Directors roles in the Autumn of 2016, and using the approach set out in the previous Personnel Committee report of 14 April 2016, to achieve some early savings before those that are required in 2017/18

Adrian Lythgo answered questions on the content of the report, along with its four appendices. These set out more information on:-

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- The opportunities to develop new profiles and roles for Directors (Executive Directors), Assistant Directors (Service Directors) and their senior managers in 2016.
- The strategic and operational functions associated with the work of the New Council in 2016/17
- The stage reached with the current thinking on the future shape of the council
- An approach to manage voluntary retirement, exit options and skills for the future.

RESOLVED – That the Personnel Committee approves the following recommendations within the report:-

- (1) That the roles of Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Directors in the Council going forward should be focussed on strategic direction, the commissioning of outcomes and the risk and performance management of outcomes dictated by Council.
- (2) That the roles of Service Directors should be focussed on strategic implementation and direct responsibility for services.
- (3) That strategic functions should be exercised across the Council as a whole and that future Executive and Service Director future roles will not involve a mix of corporate and service functions.
- (4) That Personnel Committee delegate responsibility to the Chief Executive and Directors in the Executive Team to approve business cases for the early achievement of savings, where it is appropriate to do so.
- (5) That Personnel Committee has determined that the balance between Executive and Service Director roles should give priority to maximising capacity for Service Director posts and that as a consequence there will be 3 Executive Director roles. Adrian Lythgo, Chief Executive, to develop the new arrangements and management structures for 2016/17, based on this decision.
- (6) That Personnel Committee approve the recruitment process set out in paragraph 5 of the report to fill the two vacant posts of (i) Assistant Director for Family Support and Child Protection, and (ii) Assistant Director for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing. This will require the establishment of a member appointment panel, or panels, based on a ratio of 2.1.1.
- (7) Chief Executive to revise and update the report in light of today's discussion and decisions
- (8) Chief Executive to provide a progress report for members of the Personnel Committee in September 2016.

10 Update on Human Resources and Industrial Relations and Trade Union Relationships in the New Council

(Exempt information relating to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations and negotiations, in connection with a labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority. The need to maintain confidentiality around negotiations with the trade unions outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information)

Further to the Personnel Committee on 14 April 2016, the Committee received a verbal update from Jacqui Gedman and Debra Ladlow, HR Manager, on the progress being made in the discussions with the trade unions to try to develop the working arrangements between the management and trade unions in 2016/17.

The progress report highlighted:-

- The progress made with the development and use of the service review process, plus the working relationships between the management and trade union sides, following the completion of a collective agreement and memorandum of understanding at the end of March 2015.
- That the total number of trade union representatives, plus time allocated to them for their trade union duties, will be based on some new ratios based on the total number of members that they have working in Kirklees in 2016/17
- That work is being undertaken to create some transparent records of the time that trade union representatives are taking off for their trade union duties under a series of broad headings. This will include looking at the use of time to deal with formal and any other ad hoc duties.
- Kirklees UNISON has an e-mail address, which officers from HR will look to develop the use of in 2016.

Members of the Personnel Committee agreed to receive this report, but asked officers to clarify the rules surrounding:-

- How the arrival or creation of any new trade unions in Kirklees would be recognised by the council, and
- The provision and recording of time off for trade union representatives to attend Cabinet and Council meetings to present deputations, petitions and questions

RESOLVED - That the Personnel Committee notes the progress report and supports the work that is being undertaken to develop the working arrangements between the management and trade unions in 2016/17