



CORPORATE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON WEDNESDAY, 23RD APRIL 2014 AT 2.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor H.A. Andrews - Chairman

Councillors:

Mrs C. Forehead, K. James, G. Jones, D.V. Poole, K.V. Reynolds, T.J. Williams, R. Woodyatt

Together with:

S. Rosser (Interim Chief Executive), S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), G. Hardacre (Head of HR and Organisational Development), S.M. Kauczok (Committee Services Officer)

Trade Union Representatives:

G. Parr (UCATT), K. Fish (Unite) and D.A. Williams (Unite).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors D.T. Hardacre and Mrs R. Passmore, N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services), D. Street (Corporate Director of Social Services), G. Enright (Unison), D. Bezzina (Unison Regional), J. Roberts-Garcia (Unison), N. Funnell (GMB), N. Blundell (UCATT) and S. Brassine (UCATT).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

3. MINUTES - 29TH JANUARY 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Corporate Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 29th January 2014 (minute nos. 1-10; page nos. 1-3) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the reference to the TGWU in Minute No. 1 being amended to UNITE.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. CONSULTATION BETWEEN TRADE UNIONS AND MANAGEMENT

The Interim Chief Executive referred to an email, which he had recently received from Mr N. Blundell, Regional Secretary, UCATT, in connection with the Trade Union facilities agreement. The Head of HR and Organisational Development confirmed that he would discuss the issues raised by the Trade Union in the email outside the meeting and that he would place the matter on an agenda for a future meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee if appropriate.

6. COLLABORATION UPDATE

Councillor D.V. Poole, Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services, provided an update on the single service collaborative working arrangements for the Trading Standards departments across the five Gwent Local Authorities. He advised that a full business case is currently being drawn up which will set out proposals for service delivery and personnel issues. Consultation will take place with the Trade Unions regarding all HR matters arising from the proposals.

Councillor Poole also confirmed that the provision of Pest Control Services on behalf of Blaenau Gwent had now completed its first year with compliments being received from Blaenau Gwent residents and Members on a regular basis. He also advised that a pilot is currently taking place whereby the Caerphilly meals on wheels kitchen is preparing meals for collection by Blaenau Gwent and delivery to their residents. Initial feedback has been positive and will be used to inform consideration of a formal decision on longer term arrangements.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Head of HR and Organisational Development referred to discussions, which had taken place at the Chief Executive's Joint Consultative Committee and the detailed work that was being undertaken in relation to workforce proposals. A report on "Workforce Strategies for Managing the Impacts of the Medium Term Financial Budget Savings" would be presented to Cabinet on 30th April 2014 seeking approval to develop proposals to introduce tools that will allow a reduction in workforce costs with the aim of avoiding compulsory redundancies whenever possible. The Head of HR and Organisational Development had forwarded copies of the report to Trade Union representatives and an update on developments would be provided in due course.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Corporate Joint Consultative Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, 23rd July 2014.

The meeting closed at 2.08 pm.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July 2014 they were signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN