

# Item 13

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

### EMPLOYMENT ISSUES PANEL

Conference Room 2,  
Council Offices,  
Spennymoor

Wednesday,  
19 September 2007

Time: 10.00 a.m.

**Present:** Councillor A. Hodgson (Chairman) and

Councillors A. Gray, G.C. Gray, Mrs. H.J. Hutchinson, Mrs. E. Maddison  
and A. Smith

**Apologies:** Councillor D.M. Hancock

#### EIP.4/07

#### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### EIP.5/07

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor A. Smith reported that he would be declaring a personal and prejudicial interest in Item No. 6 as he knew the applicant.

#### **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

*RESOLVED: That in accordance with Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12a of the Act.*

#### EIP.6/07

#### **APPLICATION FOR FLEXIBLE RETIREMENT**

The Panel considered a joint report of the Chief Executive and Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding an application for flexible retirement. (For copy see file of Minutes)

Members were reminded that in accordance with the Council's adopted Flexible Retirement Policy, all applications for flexible retirement must be considered on an individual basis and decisions made on the merits of each case. Requested reductions in hours and / or grade must be compatible with the business requirements of the Council and should only be allowed in circumstances where the request did not adversely effect Council services.

The Panel considered the application, taking account of the evaluation criteria set out in Paragraph 3.3 of the report.

*RESOLVED: That application for flexible retirement be approved subject to full Council approving the necessary organisational re-structures.*

**EIP.7/07**

**APPLICATION TO RETIRE UNDER REGULATION 31 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONS SCHEME (LGPS)**

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding an application to retire under Regulation 31 of the Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS).

It was explained that Regulation 31 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LPGS) allowed an employee, aged 50 or over to apply to the Council to retire early. Furthermore if age and contributory service, when added together total 85, the benefits could be paid on an unreduced basis.

The Panel considered the application taking account of the guidance set out in paragraph 3 of the report.

*RESOLVED : That the application to retire early under Regulation 31 of the LGPS be approved.*

**EIP.8/07**

**APPLICATION TO RETIRE UNDER REGULATION 31 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONS SCHEME (LGPS)**

**N.B. In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor A. Smith declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above item and left the meeting for the duration of discussion and voting on the item.**

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding an application to retire under Regulation 31 of the Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS).

It was explained that Regulation 31 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LPGS) allowed an employee, aged 50 or over to apply to the Council to retire early. Furthermore if age and contributory service, when added together total 85, the benefits could be paid on an unreduced basis.

The Panel considered the application taking account of the guidance set out in paragraph 3 of the report.

*RESOLVED : That the application to retire early under Regulation 31 of the LGPS be approved.*

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**ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Mrs. Gillian Garrigan Spennymoor 816166 Ext 4240