

**SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
EMPLOYMENT ISSUES PANEL**

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Wednesday,
18 February 2009

Time: 11.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor A. Hodgson (Chairman) and
Councillors A. Gray, G.C. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. E. Maddison and A. Smith

Apologies: Councillor D.M. Hancock

EIP.17/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS
No Declarations of Interest were received.

EIP.18/08 MINUTES
The minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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.19/08 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - APPLICATIONS FOR EARLY RETIREMENT/VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY

Consideration was given to a report of Head of Organisational Development and Monitoring Officer (For copy see file of Minutes) regarding an application for Early Retirement/ Voluntary Redundancy.

Members' attention was drawn to Section 3 of the report which outlined the provisions of Regulation 4 and 5 of the Local Government (Structural Boundary Changes) (Staffing) Regulations 2008.

Specific reference was made to the table on the appendix attached to the report which assessed the financial impact of the application.

With regard to financial implications concerns were expressed by some members in relation to paragraph 7.2 and 7.3 detailed in the report concerning the use of Sedgfield Borough Council's General Fund Reserves to meet the associated costs as they considered these to be costs associated with Local Government Reorganisation and, therefore,

should be met by Durham County Council from the Transitional Cost Budget. The Director of Resources explained the position and other Members confirmed that they understood the reasons for the financial arrangements

RECOMMENDED: That Council be recommended to approve the application.

EIP.20/08

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - APPLICATIONS FOR EARLY RETIREMENT/VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY

Consideration was given to a report of Chief Executive and Head of Organisational Development (for copy see file of Minutes) regarding applications for Early Retirement/ Voluntary Redundancy from postholders detailed in the report.

Members attention was drawn to Section 3 of the report which outlined details contained in the Department of Communities and Local Government document “Local Government Restructuring: Guidance on Staffing Issues”

Specific reference was made to the appendices attached to the report which assessed the financial impact of the applications.

With regard to financial implications concerns were expressed by some members in relation to paragraph 7.2 and 7.3 detailed in the report concerning the use of Sedgfield Borough Council’s General Fund Reserves to meet the associated costs as they considered these to be costs associated with Local Government Reorganisation and, therefore, should be met by Durham County Council from the Transitional Cost Budget. The Director of Resources explained the position and other Members confirmed that they understood the reasons for the financial arrangements

RECOMMENDED: That Council be recommended to approve the applications

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Miss E.A. North, Spennymoor (01388) 816166 Ext 4237