

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Human Resources Committee** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Tuesday 15 November 2016 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor J Hillary (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors S Iveson (Vice-Chairman), J Armstrong, J Blakey, J Brown, J Clark, T Henderson, D Hicks, B Moir, S Morrison, J Shuttleworth, A Surtees and K Thompson

Also Present:

J Kemp – Human Resources Advice and Support Manager
S Urwin – Principal Pensions Officer
S Weston – HR Business Lead
J Walt – HR Business Lead

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Dearden, K Henig, J Robinson, M Stanton, K Shaw and A Turner.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute Members.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2016 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

5 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That 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 paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

6 Applications for Early Retirement and/or Voluntary Redundancy for Council Employees

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Directors Transformations and Partnerships, Resources and Adult and Health Services, and the Human Resources Advice and Support Manager regarding applications for Early Retirement and Voluntary Redundancy (for copy see file of Minutes).

Following a question from Councillor Hillary in respect of the application at paragraphs 13-16 in the report the Member was informed that the Service had retained an ICT systems team because of the specialist and individual hardware systems used by the Directorate.

Resolved:

That the cases of Early Retirement and Voluntary Redundancy be noted and agreed with effect from the dates specified in the report.

7 Application for Early Release of Pension Benefits on Compassionate Grounds from a Former Employee of Adult and Health Services

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director Adult and Health Services and the Human Resources Advice and Support Manager regarding an application for the early release of deferred pension benefits on compassionate grounds (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members discussed the case and following a question from Councillor Brown concerning the circumstances of the former employee, the Human Resources Advice and Support Manager confirmed that the applicant had been advised to seek assistance from the Welfare Rights Unit.

Resolved:

That in view of the applicant's circumstances and as there would be no capital cost to the Council, the application for the early release of pension benefits be granted on compassionate grounds with reductions (option 6(c) in the report).