

**EMPLOYEES' CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

**2 NOVEMBER 2005**

- Chair: \* Councillor Marie-Louise Nolan
- Councillors: \* Mrs Bath \* Gate (1)  
 \* Billson (1) \* N Shah  
 \* Janet Cowan \* Toms
- Representatives of HTCC: (Currently no appointees)
- Representatives of UNISON: \* Ms M Cawley † Mr K McDonald  
 \* Ms S Duffell † Mr M Nolan  
 \* Ms A Jackson † Mr S Sivashankar  
 † Mr G Martin

\* Denotes Member present/Employee Representative present  
 (1) Denotes category of Reserve Member  
 † Denotes apologies received

**PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS - NIL**

**PART II - MINUTES**

173. **Apologies for Absence:**

**RESOLVED:** To note the apologies received from Mr Shankar Sivashankar and Mr Martin Nolan.

174. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

**RESOLVED:** To note the attendance at this meeting of the following duly appointed Reserve Members:-

<u>Ordinary Member</u>	<u>Reserve Member</u>
Councillor Currie	Councillor Gate
Councillor Mrs Joyce Nickolay	Councillor Billson

175. **Declarations of Interest:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that the following interest was declared:

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>
11. Middle Management Review	Councillor Gate	The member declared a personal interest in that he was chairing a review of the Middle Management Review. He would remain in the room whilst the matter was considered and voted upon.

176. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

**RESOLVED:** That (1) agenda item 10 be considered immediately after item 7;

(2) in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the following agenda items be admitted late to the agenda by virtue of the special circumstances and grounds for urgency detailed below:-

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Special Circumstances</u>
10. Progress on the Implementation of the Action Plan at Millman's Resource Centre	This item was included on the agenda at the request of the Chair, following the circulation of the main agenda.
13. Stress Strategy Group	This item was included on the agenda at the request of the Chair, following the circulation of the main agenda.

Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

This report was being consulted on at the time of the despatch of the agenda and, due to staff absence, was not received in its final form to be included on the original agenda. Members were asked to consider the report, to update the Forum on issues arising from the previous meetings.

(3) that all items be considered with the press and public present.

177. **Minutes:**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meetings held on 5 July 2005 and 21 July 2005, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record

178. **Tabled Reports:**

The Chair expressed a concern that reports for items 11 – Middle Management Review, 12 – Concerns Over Pace of Change, 14 – Use of Consultants and 15 – Budget Cuts had not been received prior to the meeting. She explained that she had had discussions with UNISON officers following a previous meeting of the Forum where they had agreed that documents would be circulated to Forum Members prior to meetings. The Chair stated that none of the items above could be considered as urgent.

A UNISON representative explained that UNISON officers were not full time officials and did not have sufficient time to prepare reports. The UNISON representative requested that the items be discussed.

Other Councillors on the Forum agreed unanimously with the Chair's ruling, especially as this issue had been discussed at previous Forum meetings.

**RESOLVED:** That the tabled reports would not be considered at this meeting.

[Notes: (1) Following the above resolution, one of the representatives of UNISON left the meeting;

(2) following the departure of the UNISON representative, it was noted that the Employees' Consultative Forum was inquorate, as three members from the Employees' side were required to be present to make the meeting quorate;

(3) It was noted that, as the Forum was inquorate, it would not be able to take any decisions but that it could make recommendations to the next (quorate) meeting of the Forum;

(4) in view of the above, the remaining Members of the Forum present at the meeting discussed, informally, the issue of late reports].

(Note: The meeting having commenced at 7.45 pm, closed at 8.13 pm)

(Signed) COUNCILLOR MARIE-LOUISE NOLAN  
Chair