

EARLY RETIREMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

26 MARCH 2009

Chairman: * Councillor Richard Romain

Councillors: * Miss Christine Bednell * Mano Dharmarajah

* Denotes Member present

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS - NIL**PART II - MINUTES**68. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

RESOLVED: To note that there were no Reserve Members in attendance at this meeting.

69. **Declarations of Interest:**

RESOLVED: To note that there were no declarations of interests made by Members present in relation to the business to be transacted at this meeting.

70. **Minutes:**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2009, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

71. **Public Questions, Petitions and Deputations:**

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions were put, or petitions or deputations received at the meeting under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rules 19, 16 and 17 respectively.

72. **Exclusion of the Press and Public:**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business for the reasons set out below:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason</u>
9.	Exercise Discretion Under Regulation 18 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007	Information under paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, relating to any individual.

73. **Exercise Discretion Under Regulation 18 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007:**

The Sub-Committee considered a confidential report of the Corporate Director of Place Shaping, which detailed an application under Regulation 18 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007.

The officer introduced the report and explained that the application for flexible retirement had been made in order to support succession planning within the department. In addition, the officer stated that the proposed reduction in the working hours of the postholder would create budget savings.

In response to queries by Members, the officer clarified the management case in relation to the application. Members agreed that, although the potential financial savings appeared to be minimal, the early retirement of the postholder would be beneficial to the department's future performance.

RESOLVED: That (1) the postholder was a suitable case for consideration under Regulation 18 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007; and

(2) having determined that the application met the criteria determined at Licensing and General Purposes Committee on 27 September 2007, the flexible retirement for the postholder under Regulation 18 be agreed.

74. **Any Other Urgent Business:**

The Chairman stated that the Early Retirement Sub-Committee had recently been presented with a number of cases that did not allow Members to deviate from officer recommendations. He requested that an officer provide a verbal update in order to explain how future cases of "rubber stamping" could be avoided.

The officer informed the Sub-Committee that he would write a report for the next meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee recommending that, in cases where Councillors had little or no discretionary power, officers deal with the matter. He stated that a yearly report detailing these cases could be produced so that Members would be kept updated.

The officer confirmed that he would work closely with Members of the Early Retirement Sub-Committee in the drafting of the report to ensure that they were happy with his recommendations.

(Note: The meeting having commenced at 5.03 pm, closed at 5.36 pm)

(Signed) COUNCILLOR RICHARD DAVID ROMAIN
Chairman