

Minutes of the meeting of the **GENERAL PURPOSES** Committee held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Tuesday 10 January 2012 at 3.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor S M Le Chevalier

Councillors: M D Conolly
G Cowan
M R Eddy
C J Smith

Officers: Chief Executive
Director of Governance
Director of Environment and Corporate Assets
Case Consultant (Employee Relations) EK HR Partnership
Team Leader Democratic Support

369 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 December 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

370 DELIVERING EFFECTIVE SERVICES – CAR MILEAGE ALLOWANCES

Members considered the report of the Head of Paid Service on the outcome of successful negotiations with representatives of the Corporate Management Team and the Unison Branch Executive on changes to the Council's car mileage allowance scheme. Formal consultation had included all staff and the agreed new scheme, to be introduced from 1 April 2012, would be equitable, support the Council's green agenda and achieve the savings required by the Delivering Effective Services report completed in November 2010.

The Director of Governance clarified the compensatory nature of the new scheme and Members asked that a timescale be determined for the formal green scheme lined to DVLA car tax bands in order that staff could take this into consideration when buying a new car in the near future.

- RESOLVED: (a) That the current officer Casual and Essential Car Mileage Scheme is withdrawn from 31 March 2012 for all users.
- (b) That a new Car Mileage Scheme including a basic rate and a threshold to trigger a higher rate mileage allowance is introduced from 1 April 2012.
- (c) That the new car mileage rate is set at the HMRC rate, currently 45p payable for the first 1200 miles in a tax year.
- (d) That a rate at 1.5 x the HMRC rate, currently 67.5p, is payable for mileage over 1200 miles in a tax year.
- (e) That the Director of Governance be authorised to adjust both the car mileage rates and the cash

alternative and leased car mileage rates in line with each HMRC rate change.

- (f) That a zero mileage rate is payable for lease car/cash for car recipients for the first 1000 miles claimed in a tax year.
- (g) That the existing HMRC lease car/cash for car mileage rates continue to be payable for mileage from 1001 mile upwards.
- (h) That the highest HMRC lease car/cash for car mileage rate payable is at the 1401cc level for petrol engines and 1601cc for diesel engines.
- (i) That a 20p per mile rate for a bicycle is introduced.
- (j) That the Committee supports the principle of a green scheme and would like to see the progressive introduction of such a scheme, in consultation with the staff and Unions.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm.