

13 JANUARY 2017

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes and Licensing Committee held in Council Chamber, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Friday, 13 January 2017

* Cllr S J Clarke (Chairman)
Cllr L R Puttock (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

* G C Beck
* G R Blunden
Ms L C Ford
* R L Frampton
* A T Glass
* L E Harris
* J M Olliff-Cooper

Councillors:

* A K Penson
* D N Tungate
A S Wade
* Mrs C V Ward
* J G Ward
* Mrs P A Wyeth

*Present

Officers Attending:

K Green, Mrs J McClay, Mrs R Rutins, Mrs M Sandhu, Ms M Stephens and S Stone

Apologies:

Cllr Puttock

13 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by members in connection with an agenda item.

15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No issues were raised during the public participation period.

16 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman reported that in October the Council had received an application for an all powered electrical vehicle (a Nissan). As the application satisfied the Council's policy concerning passenger safety with space and comfort, the Chairman had supported the officers' decision to license the vehicle.

The application had highlighted the need for the Council's Statement of Principles for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing to be reviewed to take account of recent developments and a report would be made to the March meeting.

17 PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2017-18

The Committee considered the proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2017-18.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Pay Policy Statement 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes be approved.

18 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE - FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee considered the recommendations of the Industrial Relations Committee that a new Employee Engagement Panel should be established in its place, with revised membership and operating procedures.

The Cabinet had also considered the issue at their meeting on 4 January and had supported the principle. The Committee considered that there should be four Employer Side substitutes rather than two, and that there should be a quorum of four comprising at least two members from each side (Employee and Employer).

RECOMMENDED:

That with immediate effect, the Industrial Relations Committee be discontinued and replaced with the Employee Engagement Panel (EEP), with the following applying:

- (i) ***That the EEP meet 4 times per year, and on the following dates and times in 2017/18:-***

16 February 2017 – 2.00 p.m.

1 June 2017 – 10.00 a.m.

7 September 2017 – 2.30 p.m.

7 December 2017 – 10.00 a.m.

15 February 2018 – 2.30 p.m.

- (ii) ***That the terms of reference of the EEP be as set out in Appendix 1 to the report to the Committee;***

- (iii) ***That the agenda and reports be not published to the press and public;***

- (iv) ***That arrangements for EEP membership be as follows:***

4 Elected Members (+ four nominated substitutes)

2 Unison Representatives (+1 nominated substitute)

1 Unite Representative, (+1 nominated substitute)

1 Representative from GMB. (Can be substituted by GMB, UNISON or UNITE)

[Elected Member appointments will be made by full Council. The union representatives should be nominated to the Panel's secretary

(Democratic Services) and may be amended by giving notice in writing];

- (v) That the Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship alternate between the Employer's and Employee's sides, unless it is mutually agreed to vary the arrangement;*
- (vi) That the agreement of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Committee be obtained before any meeting is cancelled;*
- (vii) That there be a 15 minute employee participation period at the start of each meeting to allow any non-union member to speak on individual items on the agenda. Notice of the issue to be raised must be given to Democratic Services two working days before of the meeting;*
- (viii) That officers be authorised to make any consequential alterations to the Constitution; and*
- (ix) That the operation of the new Panel be reviewed after 12 months.*

19 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND ANNUAL BUDGET 2017-18

Members considered the medium term financial plan and annual budget for 2017/18 insofar as it related to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet be advised that the Committee has no comments to make on the 2017/18 base budget for the service areas falling within the terms of reference of this Committee.

20 FEES AND CHARGES 2017/18

Members considered the fees and charges for 2017/18 for the services which were the responsibility of the General Purposes and Licensing Committee.

Members had no comments to make.

RECOMMENDED:

That the fees and charges for 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 2 to these minutes be approved.

CHAIRMAN

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New Forest District Council Pay Policy Statement Financial year 2017-18

Background

1. The purpose of this Pay Policy Statement (“Pay Statement”) is to set out New Forest District Council’s pay policies relating to its workforce for the financial year 2017-18, including the remuneration of its Chief Officers and that of its lowest paid employees.
2. The functions of appointment, dismissal and related matters for all employees below Chief Officer Level shall be dealt with by the Chief Executive and Executive Heads, or such other employees as may be authorised. Standing Orders for General Procedures deal with procedures for appointing and dismissing employees at Chief Officer Level.
3. With the exception of apprentices on the National Minimum Wage, pay for all staff, including Chief Officers, is negotiated and recommended by the Pay Panel. Consultation takes place through the Industrial Relations Committee onto the General Purposes and Licensing Committee who will make recommendations to Council.
4. For the purposes of this Pay Statement and in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 (“Localism Act”), staff employed by the Council have been separated into two groups:-
 - (a) Chief Officers as defined by the Localism Act
 - (b) Employees who are not Chief Officers as defined by the Localism Act
5. An “employee who is not a Chief Officer” refers to all staff that are not covered within the “Chief Officer” group as outlined below. This includes the “lowest paid employees”. In the context of the Council, the “lowest paid employees” are those employed at Band 1 on the District Council’s pay structure (this is appended as item 1).
6. Section 43(2) of the Localism Act defines Chief Officers for the purposes of the Localism Act. The following roles within the Council fall within the definition of “Chief Officers”: -
 - (a) Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive)
 - (b) Monitoring Officer
 - (c) Section 151(Chief Finance Officer)
 - (d) Non-Statutory Chief Officers (Executive Heads)
 - (e) Officers reporting directly to those officers falling within (a), (b), (c) and (d) above (Deputy Monitoring Officer and Deputy S151 Chief Finance Officer)

Chief Officers as defined by the Localism Act 2011

7. The Chief Executive’s pay is set in comparison with other district councils. The Chief Officers below the Chief Executive are paid on Band 11 of the Council’s pay structure (the Band for each role is determined by a consistent job evaluation process), Chief Officer current salaries are outlined below:

8. The Head of Paid Service salary range is detailed below, CX4 (£117,047) and CX5 (£120,668) are available for exceptional performance:

Spinal points	Salary
CX1	£106,826
CX2	£110,130
CX3	£113,536

9. The Council has a duty to appoint a Returning Officer responsible for local government elections, and has decided that this role be carried out by the Chief Executive. The Returning Officer fees are regarded as a special responsibility payment in relation to independent duties carried out.
10. The fees and charges for European, UK Parliamentary and Police Commissioner elections and National Referendums are set by external bodies. The scale of fees and expenses for County, District, Parish and Town Council elections will be set in partnership with the County Council and other Hampshire local authorities to ensure uniformity and will be submitted to General Purposes and Licensing Committee.
11. The Monitoring Officer and 3 Executive Heads salary range (Band 11) is detailed below, spinal point 73 (£79,882) and spinal point 74 (£82,224) are available for exceptional performance:

Spinal points	Salary
70	£73,260
71	£75,391
72	£77,605

12. The Executive Head of Operations also takes on the additional role of Deputy Chief Executive and receives an additional payment of £6,000 per annum.
13. The Section 151 (Chief Financial Officer) and Deputy Monitoring Officer will be paid on Band 10. The Deputy S151 (Chief Financial Officer) will be paid on Band 9.
14. The Service Managers salary range (Band 10) is detailed below:

Spinal points	Salary
58	£53,808
59	£54,937
60	£56,070
61	£57,284
62	£58,819
63	£60,374

15. The Council reviews its terms and conditions and pay levels regularly. The Chief Executive, Executive Heads and Service Managers pay was reviewed in 2015/16.
16. Pay awards are considered annually for all staff including Chief Officers. The outcome of the national consultations by the Local Government Employers in negotiation with the Trades Unions is applied.
17. The Chief Executive, Chief Officers' and Service Managers' performance and pay progression is reviewed annually on the achievement of clear organisational objectives. Incremental progression does not apply to these roles. The Chief Executives' annual review is undertaken by a member panel (comprising of the Leader of the Council, plus three other Portfolio Holders to be determined by the Leader).
18. The Council recognises that Chief Officers sometimes incur necessary expenditure in carrying out their responsibilities e.g. travel costs. Chief Officers will be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred on council business in accordance with local Terms and Conditions.
19. Chief Officers as a result of their employment are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme in the same way as other employees. The pension's policy statement is appended as item 2 to this statement applies to all employees including chief officers.
20. All employees including Chief Officers with more than 2 years continuous service will be entitled to a redundancy payment. If employees are aged at least 55 they are also automatically entitled to the immediate payment of pension benefits if they are retired on the grounds of redundancy. The redundancy payments are based on actual weekly pay. The number of weeks individuals are entitled to is based on the statutory redundancy grid which provides for a maximum of 30 weeks. A multiplier of 1.5 is used to support efficient organisational change. The Council scheme therefore provides for an entitlement of up to a maximum of 45 weeks based on length of service and age. The Council operates one redundancy scheme for both voluntary and compulsory redundancies. All redundancies are subject to a full Business case which requires a maximum financial payback of 3 years.
21. The Council practice is not to re-employ Chief Officers who have received a redundancy or severance package on leaving the council.
22. In accordance with the Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency, pay and benefits information for staff paid over £58,200 are published. This information is contained on 'Transparency and Open Government' pages on the Council's external website. Information on senior employees' remuneration can also be found in the Council's annual Statement of accounts.

Employees who are not Chief Officers as defined by the Localism Act

23. These employees are all paid on the Council's pay structure on Bands 1-9. Each employee will be on one of the 9 Bands based on the job evaluation of their role. Each Band consists of 3, 4, 5 or 6 spinal points. Pay progression within the Band is subject always to good performance.
24. Each "lowest paid employee" is paid within the salary range for Band 1. All other employees are paid within the salary range for the Band of their role i.e. (2-9). In very exceptional cases individuals are paid a pay supplement.
25. Employees new to the Council will normally be appointed to the first spinal point of the salary range for their Band. Where the candidate's current employment package would make the first spinal point of the salary range unattractive (and this can be demonstrated by the applicant in relation to current earnings) or where the employee already operates at a level commensurate with a higher salary, a different spinal point in starting salary may be considered by the recruiting manager. This will be within the salary range for the Band. The candidate's level of skill and experience should be consistent with that of other employees in a similar position on the salary range.
26. Employees' performance during the course of the year is reviewed within the Council's performance management arrangements, and pay progression within the Band is subject always to good performance.
27. Pay awards are considered annually for staff. For all staff up to and including the Chief Executive the outcome of the national consultations by the Local Government Employers in negotiation with the Trades Unions is applied.
28. The Council believes in rewarding outstanding performance. It operates this through a system of bonus payments which are designed to reward outstanding performance at the time it occurs. The size of the award paid to an employee will be commensurate with the work being rewarded. All bonuses are subject to Executive Management Team approval.
29. The Council recognises that employees sometimes incur necessary expenditure in carrying out their responsibilities, for example travel costs. Employees will be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred on Council business in accordance with the Council's local Terms and Conditions.
30. Band 9 staff are entitled to the lease car cash alternative. The Essential User allowance only applies to jobs that are visiting officers or jobs that manage across more than one site (average of 2500 miles per annum) and agreed by the Service Manager. This will be reviewed in 2017.
31. All employees as a result of their employment are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme. Details of the Council's pension policy are appended as item 2 of this Pay Statement.
32. The Council's redundancy scheme is detailed in paragraph 20 and this applies to all employees.

33. The Council practice is not to re-employ staff who have received a redundancy or severance package on leaving the Council; any request to do so would require specific approval from the appropriate Executive Head.
34. In accordance with The Local Government Association guidance on the Government's requirement for reporting remuneration relationships (the ratio between the highest paid employee and the median average earnings across the organisation as a multiple). Based on current salaries for 1st April 2017 this has been calculated as follows:

Chief Executive Remuneration	£110,130
Employees Median average remuneration	£19,546
Ratio	5.6

Leave Days	Salary	Hourly Rate	SCP	BAND 1	BAND 2	BAND 3	BAND 4	BAND 5	BAND 6	BAND 7	BAND 8	BAND 9	BAND 10	BAND 11	Chief Exec (CX)
27	£113,536	£58.8486	CX3												£113,536
27	£110,130	£57.0831	CX2												£110,130
27	£106,826	£55.3706	CX1												£106,826
27	£101,065	£52.3845	81												
27	£98,125	£50.8607	80												
27	£95,267	£49.3793	79												
27	£92,492	£47.9409	78												
27	£89,800	£46.5456	77												
27	£87,171	£45.1829	76												
27	£84,643	£43.8726	75												
27	£82,224	£42.6188	74												
27	£79,882	£41.4048	73												
27	£77,605	£40.2246	72												£77,605
27	£75,391	£39.0770	71												£75,391
27	£73,260	£37.9725	70												£73,260
27	£71,201	£36.9053	69												
27	£69,216	£35.8764	68												
27	£67,298	£34.8822	67												
27	£65,464	£33.9316	66												
27	£63,693	£33.0137	65												
27	£61,996	£32.1341	64												
27	£60,374	£31.2934	63												£60,374
27	£58,819	£30.4874	62												£58,819
27	£57,284	£29.6917	61												£57,284
27	£56,070	£29.0625	60												£56,070
27	£54,937	£28.4752	59												£54,937
27	£53,808	£27.8900	58												£53,808
27	£52,687	£27.3090	57												
27	£51,769	£26.8332	56												
27	£50,830	£26.3465	55												
27	£49,900	£25.8644	54												
27	£48,978	£25.3865	53												
27	£48,036	£24.8983	52												
27	£47,110	£24.4183	51												
27	£46,009	£23.8476	50												
27	£45,254	£23.4563	49												£45,254
27	£44,336	£22.9805	48												£44,336
27	£43,412	£22.5015	47												£43,412
27	£42,467	£22.0117	46												£42,467
27	£41,510	£21.5157	45	Politically Restricted Above Point 43											£41,510
27	£40,521	£21.0031	44												£40,521
27	£39,232	£20.3349	43												
26	£38,683	£20.0504	42												£38,683
26	£37,718	£19.5502	41												£37,718
26	£36,778	£19.0630	40												£36,778
26	£35,818	£18.5654	39												£35,818
26	£34,892	£18.0854	38												£34,892
26	£33,791	£17.5147	37												£33,791
26	£32,816	£17.0094	36												£32,816
26	£31,897	£16.5330	35												£31,897
26	£31,063	£16.1007	34												£31,063
26	£30,435	£15.7752	33												£30,435
26	£29,581	£15.3326	32												£29,581
26	£28,723	£14.8879	31												£28,723
25	£27,900	£14.4613	30												£27,900
25	£27,030	£14.0103	29												£27,030
25	£26,146	£13.5521	28												£26,146
24	£25,141	£13.0312	27												£25,141
24	£24,325	£12.6083	26												£24,325
24	£23,551	£12.2071	25												£23,551
23	£22,801	£11.8183	24												£22,801
23	£22,104	£11.4571	23												£22,104
23	£21,399	£11.0916	22												£21,399
23	£20,794	£10.7781	21												£20,794
22	£20,264	£10.5033	20												£20,264
22	£19,546	£10.1312	19												£19,546
22	£18,861	£9.7761	18												£18,861
22	£18,183	£9.4247	17												£18,183
22	£17,833	£9.2433	16												£17,833
22	£17,403	£9.0204	15												£17,403
22	£17,016	£8.8198	14												£17,016
22	£16,666	£8.6384	13												£16,666
22	£16,363	£8.4814	12												£16,363
22	£15,931	£8.2574	11												£15,931
22	£15,632	£8.1025	10												£15,632
22	£15,125	£7.8397	9												£15,125
22	£14,919	£7.7329	8												£14,919
22	£14,761	£7.6510	7												£14,761
22	£14,659	£7.5981	6												£14,659

Pension Policy Statement

Under the Local Government Pension Scheme, the Council is required to publish a written statement of policy in relation to pensions.

Any decision that has a financial impact will be subject to a Business Case, where a payback period of no more than three years, is achievable.

1. Regulation 16 (2e)(4d) Shared cost additional pension contributions

Discretion not exercised. (Decision at Council July 2014)

2. Regulation 30(6) Power to allow flexible retirement

Discretion exercised in line with Policy agreed from 1 May 2015 (Decision at Council April 2015)

3. Regulation 30 (8) Waiving of actuarial reductions on compassionate grounds

Discretion exercised provided there is no cost to the Council (Decision at Council July 2014)

4. Regulation 31 Power to award additional pension

Discretion not exercised. (Decision at Council July 2014)

5. (LGPS Regulations 2014 (Transitional provisions, savings and amendments – paragraph 2 (2) of schedule 2)) – Switching on the 85 year rule

Discretion not exercised (Decision at Council July 2014)

6. Regulation B30(2)(5)B30A(3)(5) Post – 31 March 2008 /pre – 1 April 2014 leavers early payment of pension

Discretion not exercised (Decision at Council July 2014)

7. Membership aggregation Regulation 22 (7)(b), (8)(b)

Discretion not exercised (Decision at Council July 2014)

8. Transfers of Pension Rights (Administration Regulation 100 (6))

Discretion not exercised (Decision at Council July 2014)

9. Pension Contribution Bands (Regulations 9 and 10 of LGPS Regulations 2013)

Discretion is exercised (Decision at Council July 2014) - The Council's policy is to review an employee's contributions band when there is a contractual change to the member's salary or hours at some point during the year, when the change is permanent. Any changes in variable pay (i.e. overtime) will only be reviewed once on 1st April each year.

10. Assumed Pensionable Pay and 'regular lump sum' (regulations 21(4)(a), 21(4)(b) and 21(5) of the LGPS Regulations 2013)

Discretion not exercised (Decision at Council July 2014)

11. Election of Early Payment of Benefits

The Council's Early Retirement Policy came into effect from 1 July 2009, and applies to all employees at least 55 and over. Early Retirement can only occur in the following circumstances:

REDUNDANCY – for employees where employment is terminated for reasons of redundancy.

EFFICIENCY - for employees where early retirement is in the interests of the efficiency of the service.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE
PROPOSED SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2017/18

APPENDIX 2

	Charges 2016/17 £	Proposed Charges 2017/18 £	Increase %	Review Indicator
<u>HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE FEES</u>				
Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Drivers Joint Licence				
New or Renewal 3 year (includes drivers badge)	140.00	142.00	1.4	L
Drivers Knowledge Test booking fee	36.00	37.00	2.8	L
Private Hire Operator's Licences				
New or Renewal 5 year	509.00	509.00	-	L
Vehicle Licence				
Hackney Carriage per annum	192.00	192.00	-	L
Private Hire per annum	192.00	192.00	-	L
Hackney Carriage/Private Hire (Over 8 years old) per annum	242.00	242.00	-	L
Duplicate driver's badge	12.50	12.50	-	L
Vehicle plate - replacement	23.00	24.00	4.3	L
Vehicle plate - replacement of insert	11.50	12.00	4.3	L
Vehicle plate - replacement of bracket and fixings	11.50	12.00	4.3	L
Vehicle test booking fee (set by Environmental Services)	50.00	50.00	-	L
Vehicle - private plate registration	50.00	51.00	2.0	L
<u>ANIMAL WELFARE LICENCE FEES</u>				
Breeding of Dogs Act first licence	380.00	387.00	1.8	L
Breeding of Dogs Act Licence renewal per annum	149.00	152.00	2.0	L
Pet Animals Act Licence per annum plus vets' fees where dangerous wild animals are sold	149.00 <-----Actual Cost----->	152.00	2.0	L
Animal Boarding Establishments Licence per annum plus vets' fees if necessary	206.00 <-----Actual Cost----->	210.00	1.9	L
Smaller Animal Boarding Estab. Licence per annum	56.00	57.00	1.8	L
Riding Establishments Act Licence annual fee plus vets' fees	176.00 <-----Actual Cost----->	176.00	-	L
annual fee per horse	17.00	17.00	-	L
Increase of horse numbers during licenced year per horse	17.00	17.00	-	L
Renewal of provisional licence	75.00	76.00	1.3	L
Dangerous Wild Animals Acts Licence plus vets' fees if necessary	149.00 <-----Actual Cost----->	151.00	1.3	L
Zoo Licence	<-----Actual Cost----->			
<u>HEALTH & SAFETY SERVICE CHARGES</u>				
Accident Reports (Provision of Accident Reports to Solicitors and other interested groups)	<-----Actual Cost----->			
Training Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace	54.00	55.00	1.9	L
<u>REGISTER OF ELECTORS</u>				
Statutory Charges Apply - For further details please contact 023 8028 5445				

GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE
PROPOSED SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2017/18

APPENDIX 1

	Charges 2016/17 £	Proposed Charges 2017/18 £	Increase %	Review Indicator
OTHER LICENCE AND REGISTRATION FEES				
Sex Shop Licence	<-----Actual Cost----->			L
Public Health (Amendments) Act 1907				
Pleasure Boat per annum including plate	85.00	87.00	2.4	L
Self Drive Crafts etc	24.00	24.50	2.1	L
Boatman Licences - new and renewal 1 or 3 years	88.00	89.00	1.1	L
Scrap Metal Dealers - Site Licence	140.00	143.00	2.1	L
Scrap Metal Dealers - Collectors Licence	103.00	105.00	1.9	L
Ear Piercing				
Registration of Premises	112.00	112.00	-	L
Registration of Practitioners	51.00	51.00	-	L
Tattooing - Electrolysis - Acupuncture				
Registration of Premises	133.00	135.00	1.5	L
Registration of Practitioners	53.00	54.00	1.9	L
Reissue of registration certificate where changes are requested	15.00	15.00		L

LICENSING ACT 2003 & GAMBLING ACT 2005 FEES

Statutory Fees Apply - For further details please contact Paul Weston 023 8028 5505

RELEVANT PROTECTED CARAVAN SITE LICENCE FEES

Application for a New Single Licensed Site	360.00	360.00	-	L
Application for a New Multiple Licensed Site	510.00	510.00	-	L
Multiple Licensed Site Annual Fee for Each Permitted Caravan	10.70	10.70	-	L
Transfer of Site Licence	148.00	148.00	-	L
Alteration of Conditions Attached to an Existing Site Licence	302.00	302.00	-	L
Depositing Site Rules	72.00	72.00	-	L

Licence Fees are not subject to VAT unless otherwise stated
 Where applicable veterinary charges will be added at cost

Review Indicator Key

M	= Market Comparisons undertaken
L	= Local Authority Comparisons undertaken
S	= Statutory Charge Level