EMPLOYEE SIDE LIAISON PANEL – 24 February 2021 HR COMMITTEE – 18 March 2021

SENIOR PAY RESTRUCTURE REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report recommends a change to the existing pay structure for senior managers, this will provide greater flexibility and will utilise additional pay points.
- 1.2 The objective being to provide fit-for-purpose pay bands that will help the council to recruit and retain senior managers. The changes are also expected to help reduce the overall average pay of Senior Officers throughout the Council.
- 1.3 The Council currently has performance based increments for Service Managers (Band 11 in the new proposal), and to ensure we continue to improve performance and recognise exceptional performance within the council, it is proposed to introduce these in Bands 9 and above.
- 1.4 This issue is one identified within Employee Side Liaison Panel work programme, it is proposed that other pay issues within the work programme are also progressed in due course.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The current NFDC pay structure is inadequate towards the top of the pay spine, with 8 scale points not allocated to a pay band between the existing band 9 and band 10. This creates issues where market forces and conditions deem posts worthy of more than £50,652 (top of band 9 @ £48,377 + Lease Car Payment £2,275), but less than £64,540 (top of band 10).
- 2.2 The Senior Management structure has evolved over time since the original review that introduced Executive Heads and Service Managers in 2016. Service Manager numbers have increased to 19, with the eventual pay point for these 19 posts being a salary of £64,540 per annum.
- 2.3 When introduced in 2016 Service Managers were placed into a generic Job Description and therefore all graded at the same band.
- 2.3 The Lease Car scheme was removed in 2012. Since then, posts in Band 9 have retained an additional 'cash alternative', valued at £2,275 PA as part of their Pay package.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The overall current pay scale is included as appendix 1 with the summary section being dealt with in this report included at table 1.
- 3.2 As can be clearly see from our current pay scale there is a considerable gap as indicated in red where we have spinal column points that are not within a pay grade.

Leave Days	Salary (April 2020)	SCP Band 9 Band 10		Band 10A	Employee Numbers	
27	£73,992	68				0
27	£71,942	67				0
27	£69,981	66			£69,981	0
27	£68,088	65			£68,088	0
27	£66,275	64			£66,275	0
27	£64,540	63		£64,540		7
27	£62,878	62		£62,878		9
27	£61,238	61		£61,238		1
27	£59,939	60		£59,939		2
27	£58,729	59		£58,729		0
27	£57,522	58		£57,522		0
27	£56,323	57				0
27	£55,341	56				0
27	£54,338	55				0
27	£53,344	54	NOT ALL	OCATED		0
27	£52,358	53	WITHIN A	PAY BAND		2
27	£51,351	52				2
27	£50,361	51				1
27	£49,184	50				1
27	£48,377	49	£48,377	+ £2,275	= £50,652	11
27	£47,395	48	£47,395	+ £2,275	= £49,670	2
27	£46,408	47	£46,408	+ £2,275	= £48,683	5
27	£45,397	46	£45,397	+ £2,275	= £47,672	5
27	£44,375	45	£44,375	+ £2,275	= £46,650	1
27	£43,317	44	£43,317	+ £2,275	= £45,592	1
						50

Current Pay Spine Bands 9 – 10A with Employee Numbers (Table 1)

3.3 This reduces our flexibility in recruitment as although we can use market supplements for a band 9 post (which is why there are 6 employees in spine points 50 - 53), it prevents us from using spine points 54-57.

4. PROPOSED CHANGES

The Implementation of a new band and extension of performance pay

- 4.1 To introduce a new pay band between the current band 9 and band 10. The pay band will consist of 4 appointment and progression points, (subject to good performance), with 2 points reserved at the top of the band for exceptional performance. There will be no automatic right for any progression through the band. This will be called Band 10.
- 4,2 The current band 10 (Service Manager) will become band 11. For new appointments, 4 points will exist for appointment and progression (subject

to good performance), with a further 2 points reserved at the top of the band for exceptional performance. There will be no automatic progression through this band and it is not anticipated that all Service Managers will meet the criteria for exceptional performance.

- 4.3 Existing Service Managers that were appointed on the terms that subject to good performance they would be able to progress through to the top of the band will be protected in this regard.
- 4.4 The current band 10A will become band 12. This band is not currently used, so no further changes are proposed at this time.
- 4.4 For new appointments, band 9 will contain 4 points for appointment and progression (subject to good performance), with a further 2 points reserved at the top of the band for exceptional performance.
- 4.5 Existing Band 9 staff will be given the same protection as Service Managers in that that if they were appointed on the terms that subject to good performance they would be able to progress through to the top of the band 9 they will be protected in this regard.

The Removal of the Lease Car Cash Alternative Payment and Revised Placement of Band 9

- 4.6 At the same time as the changes mentioned above it is proposed to implement changes to the current 'cash alternative' payment currently received by some staff on Band 9. This equates to £2,275 per annum.
- 4.7 The 'Cash Alternative' payment will be stopped from 1/4/21, with band 9 shifted up 2 scale points within the pay spine to compensate.
- 4.8 Spinal column points 46 50 will be adjusted so the new basic salary matches the current remuneration position (as shown by the grey text within table 1).
- 4.9 The revised pay spine covering the impacted bands as a result of the changes outlined above is shown in Table 2 (with proposed changes highlighted orange) with the complete revised pay spine at appendix 2.

Proposed P	ay Spine	Bands 9 –	12 (Table 2)
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Leave Days	Salary (April 2020)	SCP	Band 9	Band 10	Band 11	Band 12				
27	£73,992	68								
27	£71,942	67								
27	£69,981	66				£69,981				
27	£68,088	65				£68,088				
27	£66,275	64				£66,275				
27	£64,540	63			£64,540					
27	£62,878	62			£62,878					
27	£61,238	61			£61,238					
27	£59,939	60			£59,939					
27	£58,729	59			£58,729					
27	£57,522	58			£57,522					
27	£56,323	57		£56,323						
27	£55,341	56		£55,341						
27	£54,338	55		£54,338						
27	£53,344	54		£53,344						
27	£52,358	53		£52,358						
27	£51,351	52		£51,351						
27	£50,652	51	£50,652							
27	£49,670	50	£49,670							
27	£48,683	49	£48,683							
27	£47,672	48	£47,672							
27	£46,650	47	£46,650							
27	£45,592	46	£45,592							
27	£44,375	45	remove							
27	£43,317	44	remove							

5.0 Job Evaluation and Pay Protection

- 5.1 In order to facilitate the proposal we would need to reassess the job evaluation system and the range for each Band.
- 5.2 Existing Service Manager roles (currently on a shared generic JD) would be retained on the current band (albeit from band 10 to band 11 due to the re-numbering as covered above) on the current progression terms and conditions. At the point a Service Manager role becomes vacant, or where organisational change takes effect, a specific JD would be written and scored against the new pay ranges.
- 5.3 New Service Managers (band 11) will progress into SCP's 62 and 63 only if their performance is considered exceptional. Where their standard of performance is considered to be good they will progress through the band to spine point 61.
- 5.4 New band 9 employees will progress into 50 and 51 only if their performance is considered exceptional. Where their standard of performance is considered good

they will progress through the band up to spine point 49 as indicated on the table above.

5.5 The 6 employee who are currently paid within the market supplement on band 9 will also have their lease car payment removed, but will receive an equivalent amount in their salary to compensate.

6.0 Future use of Market Supplements

- 6.1 It is recognised that, even with market related pay scales, there will be difficulties in attracting certain skills into employment during times of particular shortage. The Council's Pay and Reward strategy therefore provides, under delegated authority, for market supplements to be paid in exceptional circumstances. The current policy is based on reflecting a market supplement in an appointment scale point above the band (applicable up to and including band 9).
- 6.2 Going forward the market supplement will be based on a maximum of 10% (available in 2.5% increases) above the highest <u>recruitment</u> point available in the band and will be available up to and including the new band 10. The resultant market supplement salary will be fixed (i.e. not subject to annual pay award) until such a time that the top scale point within the band overtakes the market adjusted salary.

	Highest Recruitment	Max 10% Market	Maximum Fixed
	Point	Supplement	Remuneration
Band 9	£48,683	£4,868	£53,551
Band 10	£54,338	£5,434	£59,772

6.3 The 6 employees who are currently paid market supplements above band 9 will have their supplements protected where a contractual obligation exists.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no immediate financial implications as there are no plans to move any existing employees into the new proposed band.
- 7.2 Other changes such as the removal of the Cash Alternative will have a neutral cost.
- 7.3 It is envisaged that over time with natural turnover in current Service Manager roles that there will be future savings as roles are re-evaluated.
- 7.4 The impact in the medium to longer term will be to reduce the overall average pay of Senior Officers across the Council.

8. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None

10. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The main change is to implement a new pay band. There are no current staff on the proposed band.
- 10.2 Changes to the cash alternative payment relate to those on band 9, noting of course there is no overall impact to the level of total remuneration for these employees.

The number of employees currently in Band 9 is 31. This can be broken down by gender as follows:

- 22 males 71%
- 9 females 29%
- 10.3 Other changes proposed such as the new exceptional performance points will only relate to new staff and not existing employees.

11. EMPLOYEE SIDE COMMENTS

- 11.1 UNISON is Britain's biggest trade union, representing 1.3 million workers across both the public and private sector. As a union we have a long-standing recognition agreement with New Forest District Council (NFDC) and represent a significant proportion of the council's workforce, including some in senior grades.
- 11.2 We would therefore like to make the following comments with regards to the Senior Pay Restructure Report:
 - Item 1.3 outlines that the council currently uses performance based increments or Service Managers, but it does not explain the mechanism or process that is used to assess this performance. Further detail on this would therefore be appreciated.
 - UNISON has submitted its detailed comments on our opposition to performance based pay as part of a separate document on Performance Review.
 - The document makes it clear that a significant driver behind the proposal is the need to amend the pay structure so as to avoid the need to use market supplements in the future. However, item 6 suggests that even under a revised pay spine, the council still intends to use market supplements for certain posts. This seems rather contradictory.
 - On examining the council's current pay spine it appears that there are even greater inconsistencies that need addressing beyond those raised by this report. For example, staff on Band 6 have 6 incremental points, whereas those on Band 7 only have 5. UNISON would therefore be keen to see how this situation could be addressed going forward.

12. **RECOMMENDATION**

12.1 That the HR Ctte supports and recommends to Council the implementation of the proposed changes to the senior management pay structure, the lease car scheme, job evaluation and Market Supplements as covered in the report from 1 April 2021.

For Further Information:

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Leave Days		Hourly Rate Apr 2020	SCP	BAND 1	BAND 2	BAND 3	BAND 4	BAND 5	BAND 6	BAND 7	BAND 8	6 UND 9	BAND 10	BAND 10A	BAND 11
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	£117,731 £114,198														─
	£108,040		81												<u> </u>
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27		£33.45	63										64,540		
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Leave	April	Hourly Rate Apr		BAND 1	BAND 2	BAND 3	BAND 4	BAND 5	BAND 6	BAND 7	BAND 8	6 GND 9	BAND 10	BAND 10-11	8AND 11-12	84ND 104- 13	Chief Exec(CX)
Days	2020	2020	SCP	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	BAN	Ċ,
27	£121,371	£62.91															121,371
27	£117,731 £114,198	£61.02 £59.19	CX2 CX1														117,731 114,198
27	£108,040	£56.00	81														114,190
27	£104,897	£54.37	80														
27	£101,841	£52.79	79														
27	£98,875 £95,997	£51.25 £49.76	78 77														
27	£93,186	£49.76	76														
27	£90,485	£46.90	75														
27	£87,897	£45.56	74													87,897	
27	£85,396 £82,960	£44.26 £43.00	73 72													85,396 82,960	
27	£80,594	£43.00 £41.77	71													80,594	
27	£78,316	£40.59	70													78,316	
27	£76,115	£39.45	69														
27	£73,992	£38.35	68														
27	£71,942 £69,981	£37.29 £36.27	67 66												69,981		
27	£68,088	£35.29	65												68,088		
27	£66,275	£34.35	64												66,275		
27	£64,540	£33.45	63											64,540			
27	£62,878 £61,238	£32.59 £31.74	62 61											62,878 61,238			
27	£59,939	£31.07	60											59,939			
27	£58,729	£30.44	59											58,729			
27	£57,522	£29.81	58											57,522			
27	£56,323 £55,341	£29.19 £28.68	57 56										56,323 55,341				
27	£54,338	£28.16	55										54,338				
27	£53,344	£27.65	54										53,344				
27	£52,358	£27.14	53										52,358				
27	£51,351 £50,652	£26.62 £26.25	52 51									50,652	51,351				
27	£49,670	£25.75	50									49,670					
27	£48,683	£25.23	49									48,683					
27	£47,672	£24.71	48									47,672					
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27	£44,375	£23.00	_	Political	ly Restric	ted Abo	/e Point /	43				43,332					
27	£43,317	£22.45	44														
27	£41,939																
	£41,356 £40,320	£21.44 £20.90	42								41,356						
26	£39,316										39,316						
26	£38,290	£19.85	39								38,290						
26	£37,300	£19.33	38								37,300						
26	£36,123 £35,080	£18.72 £18.18	37 36							36,123							
26	£34,099	£17.67	35							34,099							
26	£33,207	£17.21	34							33,207							
26	£32,536		33							32,536							
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25	£29,825								29,825								
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25	£27,950	£14.49	28					26.074	27,950								
24	£26,876 £26,271	£13.93 £13.62	27 26					26,876									
24	£25,436	£13.18						25,436									
23	£24,624	£12.76	24					24,624									
23	£23,872	£12.37	23				22211	23,872									
23	£23,214 £22,206	£12.03 £11.51	22				23,214										
23	£22,206 £21,556						21,556										
22	£21,023	£10.90				21,023											
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