

MEMBERS/TRADES UNIONS JOINT CONSULTATION AND SAFETY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 1 March 2005, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 4.30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Employers' side: Councillors Copping, Hammon, Holland and Short.

Trades Unions' side: Mr A E Foster, Mr J M Lynch, Mr A Rybicki and Mrs J Webb.

(Mr A E Foster took the Chair as it was the trades unions' turn)

798. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute Number 800 – Local Government Pension Scheme

Councillor Holland declared a personal interest because his wife is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

799. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2004, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

800. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

The Panel considered a report from Unison detailing the proposed changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme which were due to take effect on 1 April 2005.

A presentation compiled by Glyn Jenkins, Head of Pensions at UNISON, was attached to the report.

The Government proposed to introduce the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2004 SI No.3372, which had been laid before parliament on 22 December 2004, and were due to come into effect on 1 April 2005.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the good working relationship locally between the Employers and Trades Unions be recognised and that the possible strike on 23 March is due to a national issue which can not be resolved at this level;

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(Continued)

- (2) the Government should honour it's commitment to engage in real dialogue with the trade unions concerning reform of the public sector pension schemes;
- (3) the Government should ensure that all public service workers have equal access to a quality pension scheme that will give them real choice and a decent, affordable pension when they need it; and
- (4) that all future consultations, relating to the Local Government Pension Scheme, should be submitted to this Panel before they go to the Executive or Employment Committee for a decision.

(The meeting ended at 5.34 p.m.).

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