

19 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT - REGRADING OF POSTS (AN13-2002)

For a number of months, discussions have taken place between representatives of Technicians, Senior Technicians and management in the Education Department regarding an enhanced role for these employees.

The Director of Personnel and Management Services is pleased to report that these discussions have gone well. Revised job descriptions have been agreed: these include additional responsibility for assisting the Information Technology Division with support in a number of areas together with providing comprehensive fault symptom information when reporting IT faults to the Corporate Help Desk. Progress has also been made in establishing and delivering a programme of training for Technicians and Senior Technicians and good, clear working relationships have been developed between these employees and Assistant IT Officers in schools.

To recognise the additional responsibilities referred to above, it is proposed to regrade 12 Technician posts from GS1-Tech 1, £9,680 - £13,976, to Tech 2 £14,240 - £15,815; and to regrade 12 Senior Technician posts from Tech 1/2 £13,124 - £15,815 to Tech 3, £16,217 - £18,296. These regradings would date from 1st April, 2002 and employees would receive their next increment on 1st October, 2002. The Committee is also advised that, as a result of the discussions and these proposals, the employees have agreed to withdraw a grading appeal which is outstanding.

The cost of these proposals in financial year 2002/2003 is £21,600 and will be met from the Education Department revenue budget.

The Committee's approval is sought.