

7 SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - SOCIAL WORK ASSISTANTS AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANTS (AN53-2002)

At its meeting of 12th June, 2000, the Personnel and Management Services Committee approved Report No 391-2000, Review of Social Work Assistants/Occupational Therapy Assistants.

Among other things, this report introduced a qualification bar at the maximum of GS3 (SCP15), progression beyond which would be dependent upon employees having the appropriate SVQ level 2 qualification.

Having considered this situation and the relevance of an SVQ level 2 qualification, the Director of Social Work is of the view that it is no longer necessary to request such a qualification for employees to progress. However, before permitting an employee to progress, the Director of Social Work must be satisfied that the required experience and expertise has been attained to allow the employee to carry out the full range of duties appropriate to the grade.

Accordingly, the Committee is requested to approve the removal of the qualification bar in the grade for Social Work Assistants and Occupational Therapy Assistants.

The cost of implementing the above recommendations will be £8,500, inclusive of employer's costs, in a full financial year. This will be contained within the department's Revenue Budget.