

## PERSONNEL

### **5 FINANCE DEPARTMENT - REVENUES DIVISION - CHANGES TO ESTABLISHMENT (AN246-2006)**

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) provided funding to establish the Living Together Initiative which was aimed at tackling benefit fraud in relation to benefit claims where claimants were not declaring their partners.

Funding from the DWP was used to create 2 Fraud Officer posts and a Benefit Assistant post, fixed term, until the middle of August 2006 to facilitate the initiative and this has been highly successful.

As a result of success of this new initiative and the fact that funding will cease in August 2006 the Committee is asked to approve the following proposed changes to the establishment within the Fraud Section of the Revenues Division:-

- the establishment of one post of Benefit Fraud Officer, grade AP3/4, £18,840 - £23,610;
- the deletion of one vacant post of Recovery Officer within the Housing Benefit Overpayment Section, grade GS2/AP1, £14,244 - £16,518;
- the establishment of one post of Benefit Assistant within Fraud Section, grade GS3/AP1, £14,829 - £16,518.

The cost of implementing these changes would be £14,684 in the current financial year and £25,370 in a full financial year, with figures being inclusive of employer's costs. These costs would be met from the Finance Department's Revenue Budget.