

7 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION - REDESIGNATION AND REGRADING OF POSTS (AN95-2004)

The IT Team Leader (Projects) and the IT Team Leader Support (Information Security) recently submitted applications for regrading. The Head of Information Technology also asked the Assistant Chief Executive (Management) to review these posts together with the post of IT Team Leader (Software). The exercise has been completed and the following information is provided for the Committee's consideration.

The post of IT Team Leader (Projects) was established 4 years ago when National Grid for Learning began. Originally, a team of 4 was set up. Since then, the volume of equipment involved has significantly exceeded the expected level. As a result, it has proved necessary to establish a further 10 Assistant ICT Officers (one in each secondary school) and all of these employees report to the Team Leader. In addition, 2 other employees who previously provided desk-top support have been moved to this team which now provides a comprehensive IT service to all schools.

As the use of the internet has increased, security has become a major issue. A year ago, a dedicated post of IT Team Leader Support (Information Security) was created to address security. Since then, the role has expanded, covering corporate as well as departmental responsibilities. The vigilance required to prevent hacker intrusion and virus attack is enormous and requires to be provided by a senior officer with the skills, experience and authority to ensure that the Council's infrastructure is adequately protected.

The development of e-government and the corporate ICT strategy has necessitated more cross departmental working, and more links with external agencies. The Social Work Department is heavily involved in this work and has been assisted by the IT Team Leader (Software). Recently, 4 other employees have been added to the development team to establish links to Education, Communities and Housing systems, and to deliver links to Health. In addition, a new system is about to be written for Social Work and this major development has already added considerable responsibility to the Team Leader post.

In view of the employees' increases in responsibility, not only in terms of the number of people managed, but also in overall terms, the Assistant Chief Executive (Management) recommends the following:-

- redesignate the post of IT Team Leader (Projects) to IT Section Leader (Projects);
- redesignate the post of IT Team Leader Support (Information Security) to IT Section Leader (Information Security);
- redesignate the post of IT Team Leader (Software) to IT Section Leader (Software);
- regrade all 3 posts from PO7-14, £29,313 - £34,554, to PO11-18, £32,244 - £37,833.

The cost of implementing these proposals would be £3,126, inclusive of employer's costs, in a full financial year. This could be met from the department's Revenue Budget. The Committee's approval is requested.