

PROPOSED SHARED SERVICES ARRANGEMENT FOR PENSION ADMINISTRATION

Report of the County Treasurer

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect

Recommendation : that Members note the successful completion of the shared service arrangement for Pension Administration Services with Somerset County Council.

1. At its meeting of 7th June 2013, the Committee received an update report (CT/13/29) on progress towards the establishment of a shared service with Somerset County Council for pensions administration.
2. Significant work has progressed since that meeting. Senior managers from both Authorities have continued to develop the project and Somerset staff have agreed actions with that Authority's Union representative which has resulted in the withdrawal of the trade dispute.
3. As a consequence, the legal agreement for the shared service was finalised at the end of August and staff from Somerset TUPE transferred their employment to Devon County Council on 1st September 2013.
4. Consultation with the staff group and Unions has commenced, lasting for one month. This will provide proposals on team structure, flexible work arrangements and staff appointment processes. Subject to responses, it is anticipated that final decisions on the specific issues will be taken during early October with staff appointments being confirmed by the end of November 2013.
5. Initially the Team will remain working on separate sites in Exeter and Taunton. However, as soon as a single Altair system becomes live, the team will operate as a single entity, with Exeter being the central base (Great Moor House) and staff having the opportunity for flexible working, either from home or at County Hall, Taunton.
6. The Team will be rebranded as Peninsula Pensions. The recent consultation process from Government where a call for evidence was made in relation to regionalised Local Government Pension Fund Investment and Administration is one driver for the establishment of the team. It is hoped that if this initiative develops, the team will be well based to become the regional Centre of Excellence for Local Government Pension Fund administration within the South West, although other shared service proposals for such partnerships will be explored as they arise.

Item 9

Mary Davis

County Treasurer

Electoral Divisions : All

Local Government Act 1972 : List of Background Paper

Contact for Enquiries : Mary Davis

Tel no : (01392) 383310 Room : 190