

Report to Joint Consultative and Safety Committee

Subject: Current staffing issues (Standing Item)

Date: 21 February 2017

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1. Purpose of the Report

This is an information item highlighting to the Committee, any issues of particular interest that relate to the council's workforce.

2. Summary of current issues

2.1 This year's Training Awards and Employee Awards took place on Friday 9 December. The event was well attended and, as in previous years, proved to be a real celebration of personal achievement and the opportunity for employees to recognise the excellent service delivered by their colleagues.

2.2 The Sports and Social Club has run for many years as a body, separate from the Council and run purely through the work of volunteers. The club operates on a monthly subscription basis with about half the workforce (250 people) being members and a slightly smaller number (around 200) retired members who do not pay fees. At its height the club had a healthy body of volunteers on its committee and ran frequent sporting and social events. In recent years the organisation of the club and events has fallen predominantly to one employee who works part-time, and her retired husband. Although quizzes and trips are still organised, this arrangement is not one that can be sustained.

Senior Leadership Team has looked at the current arrangements and is keen that the employee wellbeing and social benefits of a "Gedling Society" are sustainable and has asked that alternative methods of delivery are investigated in order to reinvigorate our offering. It is also keen that future arrangements allow us to widen membership to all employees without the need for contribution of monthly fees. Implicitly there will be less of an emphasis on providing social events or activities for retired members.

Early meetings with the current club organisers have been broadly supportive of this transition and the STEPs Group have been approached to ask for suggested

models of how a future range of events might be organised for staff utilising the resource of that Group.

Ideas and proposals are in their very early stages and there is still much work to be done before exact details are determined of how a new body might be established and what events might be programmed. More information will be brought to this committee as new arrangements are developed.

3. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note this report.