

# Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panel - Absence Management Sub-Group

**Tuesday, 19 February 2008**

**Present:** Councillor Mike Devaney (Chair) and Councillors Terry Brown, Mrs Doreen Dickinson, Pat Haughton, Hasina Khan, June Molyneaux, Geoffrey Russell and Mrs Stella Walsh

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Alan Cullens (Executive Member for Resources) Lorraine Charlesworth (Director of Human Resources) and Ruth Hawes (Assistant Democratic Services Officer)

## **08.09 WELCOME TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Alan Cullens, the Executive Member for Resources, to the meeting.

## **08.10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Danny Gee and Joyce Snape.

## **08.11 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest by Members relating to the items on the agenda.

## **08.12 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Absence Management Sub-Group held on 16 January 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

## **08.13 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

No members of the public requested to speak at the meeting.

## **08.14 INQUIRY DOCUMENTATION**

The Sub-Group considered the enclosed scoping document, project plan, information checklist and witness checklist.

**RESOLVED – That the Inquiry documentation be noted.**

## **08.15 CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT FINAL REPORT**

The Chair introduced the report and asked the sub-group for comments page by page. Members clarified several points on the return to work interviews figures and graph.

The Corporate Director of Human Resources reported that at end of January 2008 the performance indicator stood at 6.38 days sickness absence per employee. This was an excellent achievement.

The Chair thanked the Members and officers for their contribution to the inquiry.

**RESOLVED – That the report be presented to the meeting of the Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panel to be held on 11 March.**

**08.16 DISCUSSION WITH THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Alan Cullens, the Executive Member for Resources. Councillor Cullens welcomed the report and the work gone in to inquiry.

Councillor Cullens suggested a recommendation to have an internal target for absence in addition to the best value performance indicator.

**RESOLVED – That a recommendation to added to the report: “To set an annual target of 8.5 working days lost due to sickness for internal Council use”.**

Chair