

Lancashire County Council

Employment Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th September 2021 at 2.00 pm in Cabinet Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson (Chair)

County Councillors

A Vincent	D O'Toole
A Ali OBE	A Riggott
L Beavers	S Serridge
P Buckley	

County Councillor Serridge replaced County Councillor Mein at this meeting only.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from County Councillor Mein.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 June 2021

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. Review of Assistant Coroner Fee Rates

The committee considered a report presented by Janet Mather, Coroner Services Manager, which set out the proposed increase in fees paid to Assistant Coroners who deal with Jury inquests and complex mental health inquests.

It was noted that the report contained an error and that Recommendation i) should have read £472.00, rather than £478.00.

Following a question about the implications of raising the fee paid to Assistant Coroners in some circumstances, the committee was informed that the proposed fees still fell within the salary range agreed by the Joint Negotiating Committee for Coroners.

Resolved: That

- i) The fee paid to Assistant Coroners who deal with Jury inquests and complex mental health inquests be increased to £472.00 per day and £236.00 per half day; and
- ii) The fee paid to Assistant Coroners for all other inquests remain at £416.00 per day and £208.00 per half day.

5. Review of Coroner Salaries and Fees 2021/22

The committee considered a report presented by Janet Mather, Coroner Services Manager, which detailed the proposed pay award of 1.5% across Coroner salaries and the fees paid to Assistant Coroners, in line with guidance received from the Joint Negotiating Committee for Coroners.

The committee thanked Janet for the reports and for the recent training provided to county councillors on the coroners and registrars services.

Resolved: That

- i) The salary for the Senior Coroner and two Area Coroners be increased by 1.5% as set out in the report, with effect from 1 April 2021; and
- ii) The fees paid to Assistant Coroners be increased by 1.5% as set out in the report, with effect from 1 April 2021.

6. Proposed Re-Engagement Following Retirement Policy Statement for Members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

The committee considered a report presented by Deborah Barrow, Head of Service Human Resources, which set out the draft policy statement which had been produced to clarify the county council's position on the re-engagement of former employees after they had accessed their Local Government Pension Scheme benefits.

Resolved: That the Re-Engagement Following Retirement Policy Statement for Members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), as set out in the report, be approved.

7. Urgent Business

None.

8. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the committee would be held on Monday 11 October 2021 at 10.30am at County Hall, Preston.

L Sales
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall
Preston