

North Tyneside Council

Report to Cabinet

Date: 14 May 2012

ITEM 6 (h)(ii)(b)

Title: 36 hour working week

Portfolio(s): Elected Mayor

Cabinet Member(s): Mrs Linda Arkley

Report from Directorate: Chief Executive's Office

Report Author: Alison Lazazzera, Strategic Human Resources Manager (Tel: (0191) 643 5012)
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Wards affected: All wards

1. Purpose of Report

This holding report comes to Cabinet in advance of a more detailed report on progress in relation to consultations regarding the Council proposal to implement a 36 hour working week.

The proposal agreed by Council on 1 March 2012 related to the Council moving to a 36 hour working week. The Council currently operates a 37 hour working week which is in line with the Single Status Agreement 1997 and Part 2 of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service (known as the Green Book). Officers have recently met with trades unions and formally put this proposal to them to change this part of the Green Book.

In order to achieve this change, the Council are required to formally consult with recognised trades unions. The process for making such a change would either involve reaching agreement with the trades unions and balloting the workforce to bring in the change using a collective agreement or terminating and re-engaging the workforce to achieve the change.

The desired approach is clearly to reach agreement with the trades unions.

The responses received from the trades unions will confirm the position in relation to implementation of this proposal and the likelihood of the Council being able to reach an agreement with trades unions in order to formally ballot the affected workforce regarding the proposed changes.

A further report to Cabinet on 14 May 2012 will follow confirming the outcome of this consultation.

Report Authors: Alison Lazazzera and Carol Murphy