

CORPORATE SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE  
6<sup>th</sup> February, 2001

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**UNISON BRANCH**

**Purpose**

1. To give members of the Corporate Services Sub-Committee a framework for decision making in relation to the UNISON request for the funding of one additional full-time Branch official from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2001 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2003.

**What are the issues?**

2. The UNISON Branch has put forward a case for an additional full-time Branch official, to cover the period of intense change within the County Council up to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2003.
3. One post is already funded, with the funding "capped" at the maximum of Scale 6 plus on costs (approximately £20,000 p.a.)
4. UNISON is asking for further funding, where the salary and on costs of an officer seconded for the two year period are met in full by the County Council. After taking account of annual leave, training, and making allowance for any sickness periods, this is equivalent to some 210 days per annum of paid time off for trade union work.
5. If the Sub-Committee is minded to agree with the UNISON request, it needs to identify funding which, if the seconded officer chosen is relatively senior, could equate to £30,000 p.a. (salary plus on costs for pension, National Insurance etc.)
6. The request arrives at an awkward time if funding is to be found. The budget is before the County Council on Tuesday next week, which means that the normal route (a recommendation to Policy & Resources Committee, next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> February) is not available.
7. The recommendations which follow are couched with these issues in mind.

**Recommendations**

8. The Sub-Committee is asked:
  - 8.1 to decide whether the case put forward by UNISON for one additional full-time Branch official seconded to trade union duties for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2001 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2003, is accepted; and if so

- 8.2 to recommend to the County Council that the means for funding this post to a maximum of £30,000 p.a. be found within the overall provision for the 2001/02 budget; and, if such provision is approved:
- 8.3 to ask the Director of Corporate Services to conclude arrangements with the UNISON Branch and to report back to the Sub-Committee once an appointment has been made.

**PETER SMITH**

Director of Corporate Services

6<sup>th</sup> February, 2001

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The following unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report: None

Environmental impact of the recommendations contained in this report: None.