

**PORTFOLIO:**

**CORPORATE RESOURCES**

Report of  
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR  
MRS J GEDDES**

### ***Key Decisions***

Key decisions on Organisational Review are documented in the Council minutes.

### ***Non-Key Decisions***

No non-key decision to report.

### ***Training***

Training for Members on Budget matters is currently being arranged.

### ***Personnel***

The work of the Personnel Department in connection with LSVT, Leisuretime and Organisational Review will be ongoing over the next few months.

### ***Pay Claim***

The National Employers are in dispute with the Unions over the current pay claim. The national pay negotiations commenced last December when the Trade Union side submitted their claim for £1760 or 6%, which ever is the greater. The Employers responded in February with 2.5% initially, and a final offer of 3% being the limit authorities could afford. The Unions consulted their members on the offer, recommending rejection and a move to ballot for industrial action. The ballot took place from 10 June to 5 July, The result of the ballot was announced on the 5 July with the majority of members in favour of strike action. The date set by the Unions for initial industrial action has been set for 17<sup>th</sup> July 2002.

## REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

### *North West Employers Organisation*

The Regional Overview Committee is currently looking at how the new allowances affect Elected Members who are receiving state benefit payments. They are interested in any case studies, which could demonstrate the faults in the system and can be used as a basis for lobbying the Government. If any Member, past or present, has any information, which would help this piece of work, could they please contact Andrew Manson at the North West Employers Organisation office at Delphian House, Riverside, Manchester.

### **East Cumbria Community Health Council**

The NHS Reform and Health Care Professions Act received Royal Assent on 25 June 2002. With the passage of this law, together with the provisions of the Health and Social Care Act, the government's legislative framework for the abolition of Community Health Councils and their replacement with the new mechanisms for patient and public involvement, is now complete.

A description for the new patient and public involvement system is as follows:

Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in Health

**National**

Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in Health

**Strategic Health Authority**

**NORTH CUMBRIA**

Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in Health

**Local**

Primary Care Trusts **Patient's Forums**

## Patient's Forums

There will be a Patient's Forum for every Primary Care Trust. In every NHS Trust and Primary Care Trust there will be a Patient Advice and Liaison Service. The Independent Complaints Advocacy Service is still under the role of the PCT Patient's Forum, will advise health bodies on the way they involve and consult patients and the public. Patient's Forums will have more freedom about who they can report to or make recommendations to, this could include the media and politicians. In all Local Authorities with Social Service responsibilities there will be an Overview & Scrutiny Committee. There will no longer be any local networks of Community Health Councils, although a date has not been set for this.