

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**

**REPORT**

To: JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES	Subject: SINGLE STATUS - SUPPLY OF RED BOOK TO SHOP STEWARDS
From: HEAD OF PERSONNEL SERVICES	
Date: 8 May 2000	Ref: IW/AB/JJ

**1. Background Information**

- 1.1 At the Joint Consultative Committee Meetings of 10 February 2000, it was agreed that the Head of Personnel Services, inter alia, investigate the possibility of supplying the Red Book to Trade Union Representatives.
- 1.2 On further consideration of this request, due regard was had to the practical arrangements of the request; the financial implications, including available budgets, as well as the practice within other Councils.
- 1.3 The cost of one copy of the Conditions of Service book is £30, exclusive of the cost of the regular supply of updates. Based on the present notified number of Trade Union Representatives, a cost of approximately £5,250 would be incurred, as a minimum. There is no scope within the Personnel Services budget, or any other identified budget, for the provision of this service. In addition, the administrative arrangements of supplying 175 representatives, and maintaining an accurate database of updates, cannot be underestimated.
- 1.4 Enquiries within a number of other Councils have identified no similar supply service and, indeed, there is evidence that unions are obtaining supplies of books directly from COSLA, utilising their own funding.
- 1.5 It is acknowledged that COSLA is developing website access and there are no early timescales which could be cited for accessing any data. Meanwhile, all representatives within the Council would have access to the Red Book through their individual Departments or the corporate Personnel Services Division.

**2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee

- (i) notes the financial and administrative difficulties in supplying the Red Book to shop stewards, and
- (ii) otherwise notes the terms of the report.

*Gris Dylie*

**Head of Personnel Services**