

ANGUS COUNCIL

PERSONNEL & PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE

1 MAY 2000

INDUSTRIAL CHAPLAINCY IN ARBROATH

REPORT BY ACTING DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

**ABSTRACT**

This report recommends the introduction of an Industrial Chaplaincy for employees within the Arbroath area.

**1. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Committee approve the introduction of an Industrial Chaplaincy for employees within the Arbroath area.

**2. BACKGROUND**

An industrial chaplaincy has been set up in the Arbroath area under the auspices of the Scottish Churches Industrial Mission with the approval and support of all local churches.

Its objectives are to strengthen the links between the churches and the workplace through:

Pastoral Involvement

- visits to premises to chat informally with staff
- visits to staff who are in hospital, bereaved or otherwise traumatised
- creating a positive outlook and attitude by encouragement and prayer

Practical Support

- offering the resources and services available from the christian community, eg counselling on addictions, death, family problems etc
- conveying the pressures and stresses of the workplace to the churches to give them a better understanding of today's problems

Social Action

- adding the voice of the church in Scotland to political and other representation on behalf of industry and commerce in Arbroath
- supporting efforts to maintain a just and equitable relationship within the workplace

**3. PROPOSAL**

Mr Peter Donald, Industrial Chaplain, approached the Council suggesting that the chaplaincy be made available to Council employees within the Arbroath area.

While noting that the chaplaincy would be contained within Arbroath area workplace locations discussions with Mr Donald have confirmed that should an employee from another location within the Council approach him they would be given support. Furthermore, the Scottish Churches Industrial Mission would hope that the chaplaincy in Arbroath will prove to be a success and that in time churches within other parts of Angus will wish to establish chaplaincies.

The Chaplain would not propose to visit schools in recognition that each school has its own established chaplain support with local churches although employees could contact the Chaplain should they so choose.

It is proposed that the Committee agree to proceed with a chaplaincy on the basis as outlined. Should the Committee be agreeable, it would be proposed to raise awareness of the chaplaincy amongst employees through workplace notice boards, an introductory article in the next edition of Angus Matters with subsequent editions including a small insert advertising the chaplaincy.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications associated with the terms of this report.

**5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights implications associated with the terms of this report.

**6. CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Law & Administration have been consulted on the terms of this report. The Chief Officers' Management Team and Trade Unions are supportive of the proposal as outlined in the report.

**HUGH ROBERTSON**  
**Acting Director of Personnel**

**NOTE** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.