

MEMBERS PRIVILEGES SUB (POLICY AND RESOURCES) COMMITTEE

Monday, 3 June 2019

EXTRACT Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Members Privileges Sub (Policy and Resources Committee) held at the Guildhall EC2 at 4.00pm.

4. EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR MEMBERS

The Sub Committee considered a joint report of the Director of HR and the Director of Members Services that presented options for providing Members with access to support advice and guidance similar to those provided by an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) to assist in relation to wellbeing.

The Director of HR introduced the item and explained that following discussion with the current provider of the City Corporation's EAP for officers, Health Assured, it had been agreed to extend the current contract to Members of the Court so that they could receive the same services as those offered to staff.

The Director explained that regular update reports would be received from Health Assured giving utilisation statistics, a breakdown of number of callers, issues raised e.g. debt advice or counselling. She stressed that individuals would remain anonymised at all times and confirmed that adding Members to the existing contract would be cost neutral to the City Corporation as Health Assured had agreed to extend the contract at no additional cost.

Members would be treated as employees under the contract and would come under a separate heading of Members Services.

It was noted that, subject to Members agreement to the proposal, the intention would be for the facility to be communicated to all Members as a benefit which was now available to them. The communication would also include details of the Employee Benefits Portal being accessible to Members as well as the availability of free flu jabs (reimbursement for flu jabs, to a maximum of £15, will be available from September 2019, the start of the next flu season).

The Sub-Committee was fully supportive of the proposal to add Members to the existing EAP contract and it was agreed that this should be expedited to allow for the service to be rolled out at the earliest opportunity.

The Director of HR clarified that there would be no tax implications for Members receiving this benefit.

The Chairman conveyed his thanks to the Director of HR and her team for their work in organising this benefit for Members.

RESOLVED:-

that Members be added to the existing Employee Assistance Programme provided by Health Assured and that this be recommended to Policy and Resources Committee for approval.