

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2004
AT 1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Maureen McKay, Jim O'Neill, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Daniel Coffey, Willie Coffey, Douglas Reid, Gordon Cree, Harry Wilson, Provost Jane Darnbrough and Councillors John Knapp, Stuart Finlayson, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; James Lavery, Director of Homes and Technical Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services/Solicitor to the Council; John Clayton, Head of Corporate Development and Communication; Jackie Donnelly, Head of Social Work; and Anne Marie Carr, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor John Weir.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

**GENERAL SERVICES REVENUE ESTIMATES 2004/05 AND 2005/06 -
SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX (Item 1, Page 502, 03/07)**

1. There was submitted a report dated 7 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which requested that the Committee agree the overall General Services Revenue budget for 2004/05 and projection for 2005/06 and which recommended to the Council the level at which Council Tax Band 'D' should be set for the financial year 2004/05 and the indicative level of Council Tax for 2005/06.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Reeves, having noted the overall allocations for the General Services Revenue budget for 2004/05 and projection for 2005/06 shown as follows:-

Service	Proposed Allocation 2004/05 £m	Allocation for Local Priorities £m	Revised Proposed Allocation 2004/05 £m	Proposed Allocation 2005/06 £m
Education	87.265	0.400	87.665	90.288
Social Work	38.259	0.400	38.659	39.482
Community Services	45.205	0.025	45.230	47.099
Development Services	12.820		12.820	13.044
Central and Corporate Services	12.269		12.269	12.443
Other Non-Departmental Items	69.908	0.150	70.058	72.974
Contingency	0.550	0.100	0.650	0.650
Unallocated	1.075	-1.075	0.000	0.688
Net Expenditure	267.351		267.351	276.668
Net Income	267.351		267.351	276.668

moved:

- (i) to recommend to Council that the budget be approved;
- (ii) to recommend to Council that the Band 'D' Council Tax level for 2004/05 be set at £1,064.07;
- (iii) to recommend to Council that the indicative Band 'D' Council Tax level for 2005/06 be £1,116.27; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment to note the report and continue consideration to the full Council meeting.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 15 votes to 5.

GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05 - 2006/07

2. There was submitted a report dated 9 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which proposed the basis for capital allocations to each Service Committee in relation to the financial years 2004/05 to 2006/07.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Reeves, moved:-

- (i) to recommend to Council to approve the proposed Service allocations detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report;
- (ii) to recommend to approve the proposed arrangements for expenditure controls on construction and related works, and ask the Director of Development and Property Services to make the appropriate arrangements in this regard;
- (iii) to recommend to Council to instruct Directors to submit detailed Capital Programmes for the utilisation of capital allocations to their Service Committees for consideration;
- (iv) to recommend to Council to approve the overall proposed capital expenditure outlined in the report and summarised in paragraph 6.1 of the report with a review in Autumn 2004 to take account of any new circumstances or information.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment to note the report and continue consideration to the full Council.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 15 votes to 5.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES AND ASSOCIATED RENT LEVELS FOR 2004/05 (Item 2, Page 493, 03/07)

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 6 February 2004 (circulated) by the Directors of Homes and Technical Services and of Finance regarding the outcome of the consultation exercise for the Housing Revenue Account on the draft Estimates for 2004/05 and on the associated possible rent levels for 2004/05.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Reeves moved:

- (i) to recommend approval of the draft Estimates for the Housing Revenue Account submitted to the Housing Committee on 28 January 2004;
- (ii) to recommend a rent increase of £3.99 per week over a 48 week period, in order to balance the Housing Revenue Account; and

(iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment to note the report and continue consideration to the full Council meeting.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 15 votes to 5.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL STRATEGY REPORT FOR 2004/05

4. There was submitted a report dated 16 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which sought the approval of the Committee of the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for the financial year 2004/05 in line with the requirements of the Treasury Policy Statement.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Reeves moved:

- (i) to recommend to Council that the Prudential Indicators set out in paragraphs 4.5, 5.1, 5.4, 6.2, 6.3 and 7.8 be approved;
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment to note the report and continue consideration to the full Council meeting.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 15 votes to 5.

BEST VALUE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY MEALS SERVICE

5. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a proposed Best Value Review of the Community Meals Service.

It was agreed to:

- (i) to approve the establishment of a short life Member/Officer Group to review the Community Meals Service;
- (ii) to approve the Terms of Reference for the Group detailed in paragraph 3.2 of the report;
- (iii) to recommend to Council that the membership comprise three Members from the Administration and one Member from the Opposition;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report on the outcome of the review to a future meeting of this Committee; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1010 hrs.