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To: Councillors McIntyre (Chair), O'Neill, Young, Reeves, D Coffey, W Coffey, Reid, Cree, Weir, Macrae, Wilson, Provost Darnbrough and Councillors Knapp, Finlayson, Jackson, Kelly, Farrell, Menzies, Ross, Dinwoodie and Carmichael.

13 September 2005

Dear Councillor

**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 20 SEPTEMBER 2005**

You are requested to attend the meeting of the **Policy and Resources Committee** to be held in the **MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**, on **TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2005** at **1000 HRS** to consider the undernoted business.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Morton  
Depute Chief Executive/  
Executive Director of Corporate Support  
AMC/FM

**B U S I N E S S**

**INTIMATE APOLOGIES.**

**MINUTES**

1. **SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES** - Submit for approval as a correct record and approval of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes, viz:-
  - 1.1 **MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 7 SEPTEMBER 2005 (pages 1-4).**

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2. **BUDGET SCRUTINY GROUP (pages 5-10)** - Submit, for noting, the Minutes of the Budget Scrutiny Group meeting held on 30 August 2005 (copy enclosed).

**R**

## **FINANCE**

3. **BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT - GENERAL FUND SERVICES (pages 11-16)** - Submit report dated 23 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance advising of the projected financial position for Revenue Services and the General Services Capital Programme based on information provided by Executive Directors.

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4. **BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - POLICY AND RESOURCES (CENTRAL SERVICES) (pages 17-18)** - Submit report dated 24 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance advising of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the services within the remit of Policy and Resources (Central Services).

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5. **BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - POLICY AND RESOURCES (CORPORATE SUPPORT) (pages 19-21)** - Submit joint report dated 24 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Corporate Support.

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6. **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT TO 24 JULY 2005 (PERIOD 4) (pages 22-23)** - Submit joint report dated 12 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services advising of the current budgetary control position of the Housing Revenue Account for the period ending 24 July 2005 (Period 4).

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7. **STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON REVENUE COLLECTION AS AT 21 AUGUST 2005 (PERIOD 5) (pages 24-25)** - Submit report dated 23 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance updating Members on the position of the Council with regard to billing and collection of local taxes as at 21 August 2005 (Period 5).

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8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2004/05 AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITY FOR 2005/06 (pages 26-36)** - Submit report dated 29 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance informing Members of the Committee of the out-turn performance of the Treasury Management function for the financial year ended 31 March 2005, including the actual Prudential Indicators for 2004/05 in line with the requirement of the

Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, and review current year performance.

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9. **EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATE (Item 11, Page 1016, 03/07) (pages 37-43)** - Submit report dated 18 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Head of Finance advising of progress made in securing funding to the East Ayrshire area.

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10. **SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE FUNDING TO SUPPORT FINANCIAL INCLUSION (pages 44-46)** - Submit report 26 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services advising Members with regard to new financial inclusion funding which will be made available to the Council from April 2006.

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#### **REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND ASSOCIATED ITEM**

11. **AYRSHIRE RACE EQUALITY PARTNERSHIP - RESEARCH PROJECT ASSESSING THE NEEDS OF THE BLACK AND ETHNIC MINORITY COMMUNITIES ACROSS AYRSHIRE (pages 47-50)** - Submit report dated 19 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support advising of the results of the research project carried out by Ayrshire Race Equality Partnership into the needs of the black and ethnic minority communities across Ayrshire and to identify further actions arising therefrom.

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12. **AYRSHIRE RACE EQUALITY PARTNERSHIP - APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (Item 8, Page 1257, 03/07) (pages 51-52)** - Submit report dated 19 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support advising the Committee of a request for financial assistance which has been received from the Ayrshire Race Equality Partnership (AREP) and recommending accordingly.

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#### **CORPORATE MANAGEMENT**

13. **STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR 2004/05 (pages 53-55)** - Submit report dated 8 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support presenting the outcome for the 2004/05 Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) in respect of those Indicators for which Committee has an interest, ie Corporate Management and Benefits Administration.

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14. **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS (Item 15, Page 1017, 03/07) (pages 56-59)** - Submit report dated 1 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support advising of statutory guidance issued by the Scottish Executive relating to measures to support public performance reporting and providing an update on the continuing development of the Council's framework and arrangements for the reporting of performance and related information to the people of East Ayrshire.



15. **DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATE SUPPORT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE - ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT (pages 60-62)** - Submit report dated 26 July 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support advising of absence rates for the Department of Corporate Support including the Chief Executive's office for the quarterly period ending 30 June 2005.



16. **IMPROVING CUSTOMER SERVICE (pages 63-69)** - Submit report dated 13 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Chief Executive advising the Committee of the recent publication and findings from an Audit Scotland report entitled 'Improving Customer Service Through Better Customer Contact' and recommending further measures to strengthen East Ayrshire Council's approach to customer service.



#### CONSULTATION

17. **ACCOUNTS COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND CONSULTATION ON THE 2005 STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS DIRECTION (FOR 2006/07 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS) (pages 70-79)** - Submit report dated 8 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support advising of the receipt of the Accounts Commission's consultation paper on the 2005 Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) Direction and to request approval of the Officers' response to the consultation document.



#### COMMUNITY PLANNING

18. **EAST AYRSHIRE COALFIELD AREA SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2004/05 (pages 80-88)** - Submit report dated 8 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support presenting a summary of the published edition of East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) Annual Report 2004/05.



19. **RURAL SERVICE PRIORITY AREAS - UPDATE (Item 14, Page 1533, 03/07) (pages 89-90)** - Submit report dated 8 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/ Executive Director of Corporate Support updating the Committee on the Council's bid for additional areas to be incorporated in Rural Service Priority Areas (RSPAs).

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20. **REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENT (Item 16, Page 1534, 03/07) (pages 91-93)** - Submit report dated 8 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/ Executive Director of Corporate Support providing an update to Committee on the Regeneration Outcome Agreement.

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

21. **REVIEW OF ROAD BRIDGE ASSESSMENT/STRENGTHENING AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (pages 94-99)** - Submit report dated 26 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services advising (i) of the current status of the programme of structural assessments of the Council's road bridges and the requirements for strengthening/replacement of structure arising from the assessment process; (ii) requesting the Committee to consider as part of the 2006/07 budget setting process the allocation of the additional funding required to bring the assessment process and the strengthening/replacement programmes up-to-date; and (iii) advising of the current backlog of bridge maintenance.

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22. **UNALLOCATED FOOT BRIDGES (pages 100-104)** - Submit report dated 18 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services advising (i) that there are a number of footbridges in East Ayrshire that were maintained by the former Strathclyde Regional Council and District Councils but it is not known which Department is now responsible for them; (ii) requesting the Committee to note that the Roads Division is willing to formally adopt these footbridges if the appropriate funding for repair and maintenance can be allocated; and (iii) to consider as part of the 2006/07 budget setting process, the allocation of additional funding to undertake the necessary repair/replacement programme for these foot bridges.

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### CHILDREN'S PANEL

23. **EAST AYRSHIRE CHILDREN'S PANEL - CONCURRENT MEMBERSHIP (pages 105-108)** - Submit report dated 31 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support seeking approval, following a request by the Depute Panel Chair, for the establishment of a concurrent membership scheme with either North Ayrshire Children's

Panel or South Ayrshire Children's Panel in order to populate East Ayrshire Children's Panel with male Panel members.



- 24. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC** - Recommend that the Committee pass the following Resolution:- "That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item".

#### **PROPERTY**

- 25. PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT REAR OF 43 LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK (PARA 9) (pages 109-111)** - Submit report dated 22 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services seeking approval to dispose of land at the rear of 43 London Road, Kilmarnock extending to 1,337 sq ms (0.33 acres) or thereby, as detailed on the plan attached to the report in respect of the parties detailed therein. **Report not enclosed - Refer to Exclusion of Press and Public paragraph above.**
- 26. ASSET MANAGEMENT - CUMNOCK TOWN CENTRE - PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF LAND AT GREENHOLM ROAD, CUMNOCK (PARA 9) (pages 112-114)** - Submit report dated 13 September 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services seeking approval to acquire land at Greenholm Road, Cumnock extending to 3262 q ms (0.80 acres) or thereby in the context of a wider physical Regeneration Plan for Cumnock Town Centre. **Report not enclosed - Refer to Exclusion of Press and Public paragraph above.**

#### **CHILDREN'S PANEL**

- 27. PANEL OF SAFEGUARDERS (PARA 6) (pages 115-118)** - Submit report dated 24 August 2005 (copy enclosed) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support requesting the Committee to consider the appointment of two further Safeguarders to the Councils Panel of Safeguarders in the light of an examination of the operation of the Panel. **Report not enclosed - Refer to Exclusion of Press and Public paragraph above.**