

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2003 AT 1000 HRS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

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

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development 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 & Communication; Malcolm Roulston, Head of Information Technology; Stephen Moore, Head of Social Work; Colin Houston, Chief Auditor; and Anne Marie Carr, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Maureen McKay, Willie Coffey, Douglas Reid, John Weir, Harry Wilson and Jimmy Carmichael.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There were submitted and approved as correct records, and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes as contained within Appendices I and II of these Minutes, viz:-
 - 1.1 **MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF 21 MAY 2003** - Appendix I.
 - 1.2 **CHAIR'S SUB-COMMITTEE OF 3 JUNE 2003** - Appendix II.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDIT**2.1 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2002/03**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 May 2003 (circulated) by the Chief Auditor which provided details of the Internal Audit Annual Report for the financial year 2002/03.

2.2 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2003/04

There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 May 2003 (circulated) by the Chief Auditor which provided details of the 2003/04 Internal Audit Plan.

2.3 EXTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN

There was submitted and noted a report dated 4 June 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which advised of the External Audit Annual Service Plan in relation to the audit of the Council's performance for 2002/03.

2.4 EXTERNAL AUDIT BUSINESS CONTROL REPORT

There was submitted and noted a report dated 4 June 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which advised of the conclusions of a Business Control Report prepared by the External Auditor.

SCOTTISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION UNIT (Item 14, Page 3225, 99/03)

3. There was submitted a report dated 26 May 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to consider the Council's affiliation to the Scottish Local Government Information Unit (SLGIU) for 2003/04.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the affiliation to the SLGIU for 2003/04 at a cost of £2,610; and
- (ii) to note that the affiliation fee would be payable to CoSLA as a consequence of the merger of both organisations.

CCTV MONITORING STATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT CENTRE

4. There was submitted a report dated 3 June 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which sought approval to the allocation of funding for the creation of a dedicated CCTV Monitoring Station and Risk Management Centre.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposals to establish a Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Monitoring and Risk Management Centre as detailed in Sections 4 and 5 of the report;
- (ii) to approve capital funding of £1.813m in respect of these proposals plus any limited and essential associated revenue costs;
- (iii) subject to a positive outcome to the ongoing discussions with Strathclyde Police, to approve the integration of Town Centre CCTV operations into the new CCTV Monitoring and Risk Management Centre;
- (iv) that Service Directors continually keep under review the potential costs and benefits of introducing and upgrading CCTV systems to properties falling within their portfolios;
- (v) to note that a further report would be presented to the Corporate Governance Committee in respect of the staffing requirements and costs as indicated at paragraph 4.6.5 of the report;
- (vi) that an update report be submitted to the Committee in due course; and
- (vii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

VISIT BY GROUP FROM KULMBACH (Item 4.3, Page 3236, 99/03)

5. There was submitted a report dated 23 May 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised the Committee of a visit by a group from Kulmbach who would be visiting Scotland in August 2003 and which requested consideration of a further request for a Kulmbach/Kilmarnock evening.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposed evening event as detailed in paragraph 3 of the report at a cost of approximately £1,000;
- (ii) to remit to appropriate Officers to finalise arrangements for the event; and
- (iii) that it be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Chair, to agree suitable Member and Officer representation for the evening event.

Councillor Ross left the meeting at this point.

E-GOVERNMENT PROGRESS REPORT

6. There was submitted a report dated 19 May 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised Members of progress being made in respect of the Council's E-Government Strategy, the achievement of Scottish Executive targets for electronic service delivery and the implementation of MGF2 projects for which the Council had secured Scottish Executive funding.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the progress being made to meet the targets for the delivery of E-Government within the Council;
- (ii) to remit to appropriate Officers to continue to hold discussions with Renfrewshire Council in respect of the ABC Consortium and the proposals for an electronic procurement project with a report coming back in due course to a meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee;
- (iii) to remit to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make representation to the Minister for Enterprise and Life Long Learning and the Council's Community Learning Partners in respect of Scottish Executive plans to support the delivery of Broadband connectivity to rural communities within East Ayrshire and that appropriate Officers be authorised to have discussions with relevant suppliers on the provision of associated services; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATE 2002/03

7. There was submitted a report dated 27 May 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of progress in increasing external funding gained for the communities of East Ayrshire during 2002/2003.

It was agreed:

- (i) that a further report be submitted to the Committee illustrating how East Ayrshire Council compares with other Local Authorities in securing external funding for the benefit of communities within East Ayrshire; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN SCOTLAND ACT 2003 - SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE DRAFT GUIDANCE - CONSULTATION RESPONSE

8. There was submitted a report dated 29 May 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which sought approval for the Council's

response to the Scottish Executive's consultation on the contents of draft guidance in respect of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the basis of the corporate response to the consultation on the Scottish Executive draft guidance in relation to the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, as summarised in the Appendix to the report;
- (ii) to remit to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to summarise the Appendix by way of a Council response to the Scottish Executive by the due date of 20 June 2003; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

THE SCOTTISH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CONSULTATION PAPER

9. There was submitted a report dated 27 May 2003 (circulated) by the Head of Administrative and Legal Services which advised on the consultation paper issued by the Scottish Executive seeking views on issues in relation to the Scottish Human Rights Commission.

It was agreed to approve the response detailed in the Appendix to the report and to submit this to the Scottish Executive as being representative of the views of East Ayrshire Council on the consultation paper.

BUILDING STRONG, SAFE AND ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITIES

10. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the Scottish Executive's consultation document "Wardens and Other Community Based Initiatives to Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour" and which sought approval for a response to the consultation contained within the document.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the response to the consultation document detailed in the report and to remit to the Director of Community Services to forward this response to the Scottish Executive; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

INTER-AUTHORITY BOWLING TOURNAMENT

11. There was submitted a report dated 4 June 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for funding for three inter-authority bowling matches.

It was agreed:

- (i) to grant approval to host three inter-authority bowling matches at an estimated total cost of £3,450 over the period 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06;
- (ii) that the Director of Community Services be authorised to organise the events; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1044 hrs.