

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

PRESENT: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Iain Linton, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Provost Jimmy Boyd, Councillors 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; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; James Lavery, Director of Homes and Technical Services; Tom McHugh, Head of Accounting Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; John Clayton, Head of Corporate Development and Communication; and Julie Armstrong, Assistant Administration Manager.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Willie Coffey, Douglas Reid, John Weir, Harry Wilson, Jane Darnbrough, Robert McDill and Jimmy Kelly.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

**REVENUE ESTIMATES 2003/04 - CORPORATE RESOURCES
AND CENTRAL SERVICES**

1. There was submitted a report dated 5 February 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to consider the allocation of resources to this Committee for 2003/04 in respect of Corporate Resources.

There was also submitted a joint report dated 5 February 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Finance, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Development Services to consider the allocation of resources to this Committee for 2003/04 in respect of Central Services.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved acceptance of the resource allocations and approval of the distribution of these as detailed in paragraph 3 of both reports.

Councillor D Coffey, seconded by Councillor Linton, moved as an amendment to note the resource allocations and continue consideration to the appropriate Committee.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 9 votes to 3.

**GENERAL SERVICES REVENUE ESTIMATES 2003/04 -
SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX**

2. There was submitted a report dated 7 February 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which requested that the Committee agree the overall General Services Revenue budget for 2003/04 and recommended to Council the level at which Council Tax Band 'D' should be set for the financial year 2003/04 and the indicative level of Council Tax for 2004/05 and 2005/06.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Jackson, having noted the service resource allocations for 2003/04 shown as follows:

Service	Allocation £m
Education	79.848
Social Work	36.686
Community Services	43.622
Development Services	12.174
Policy & Resources - Corporate Resources	6.211
Policy & Resources - Other	46.644
Homes & Technical Services	1.697
Quality of Life	1.169
Insurance Fund	2.224
Trading Services	(0.846)
Better Neighbourhood Services Fund	3.665
Supporting People	0.977
Debt Charges	12.545
Contingencies	0.642
Total Expenditure	247.258

moved:

- (i) to recommend to Council that the budget be approved including the submission of proposals to the Scottish Executive for Quality of Life initiatives;
- (ii) to recommend to Council that the Band 'D' Council Tax level for 2003/04 should be set at £1,014.30;
- (iii) to recommend to Council that the indicative Band 'D' Council Tax levels for 2004/05 and 2005/06 should be £1,064.07 and £1,116.27; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor D Coffey, seconded by Councillor Linton, 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 9 votes to 3.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES AND ASSOCIATED RENT LEVELS FOR 2003/04

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 30 January 2003 (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 2003/04 as considered by the Special Housing Committee on 5 February 2003 and on the associated possible rent levels for 2003/04.

There was also submitted excerpt from the Special Housing Committee Minutes of 5 February 2003 (circulated) which detailed the recommendations of the Committee as follows:

- (i) recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee;
 - (a) approval of the Draft Estimates for the Housing Revenue Account 2003/04 as submitted to the Special Housing Committee of 16 January 2003;
 - (b) approval for 2003/04 of a flat-rate increase on all house rents of £1.50 per week over a 48 week period, in order to balance the Housing Revenue Account; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved to recommend to Council acceptance of the recommendations of the Special Housing Committee of 5 February 2003 as detailed above.

Councillor D Coffey, seconded by Councillor Linton, 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 9 votes to 3.

The meeting terminated at 1008 hrs.