

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 8 NOVEMBER 2000

KIRKIN' OF THE COUNCIL

Report by Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request the Sub-Committee to give consideration to arrangements for the Kirkin' of the Council ceremony.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Prior to reorganisation, it was customary that a Council, upon its election, would attend a local church service designed to mark the Kirkin' of the Council.
- 2.2 However, to mark the inauguration of East Ayrshire Council, ceremonies were held within each of the former District Council boundaries. Thereafter, as it was considered important to establish the profile of the new Council and to bring together the new Council area, which had no previous identify, it was agreed to hold a Kirkin' of the Council ceremony to mark the beginning of each Council year.
- 2.3 The Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 23 January 1996 (Item 13, Page 445, 96/99), agreed that an annual Kirkin' should take place in Churches throughout East Ayrshire and that visits to the Church of Scotland, Roman Catholic and Congregational establishments take place in sequence. The last Kirkin of the Council took place on 30 April 2000.

3. REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 It is considered that good progress has been made and it is suggested that the Council can now revert to the customary practice of holding a Kirkin' ceremony at the start of a Council term, thereby giving the ceremony greater significance. The ceremony would be held at the most convenient Sunday possible following Council Elections.
- 3.2 The previous arrangements (services be ecumenical following faiths represented on the Education Committee) would be followed.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The usual practice was that the Council would make a donation of £200 to help meet the costs of any afternoon hospitality (tea and coffee etc) provided by the relevant church following the service. Members will recall that a broad range of local organisations are invited to attend the Kirkin' and are provided

with hospitality by the Church. It is intended that the practice of making such a donation would continue.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS/POLICY IMPLICATIONS - Nil.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Sub-Committee is asked:-

- (i) to agree the Kirkin' of the Council takes place on the most convenient Sunday possible following each Council Election;
- (ii) to agree that all services continue to be ecumenical in nature and minority faiths continue to be invited to be represented;
- (iii) that arrangements be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources who would submit a report on specific arrangements for the next Kirkin' of the Council to the appropriate meeting of this Sub-Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Fiona Lees
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

23 October 2000

BW/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on telephone number (01563) 576103.

Implementation Officer: Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager.

AGENDA