

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 25 JANUARY 2000 AT 1100 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Katie Hall, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, John Weir, David Macrae, Harry Wilson, Alan Campbell, Jane Darnbrough, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillors Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie and Robert Taylor.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Barbara Haughan, Director of Corporate Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; James Lavery, Director of Homes and Technical Services; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Kate McVey, Solicitor to the Council; Tom McHugh, Head of Accounting Services; Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Graham Haugh, Head of Personnel; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; Ian Arnott, Corporate Accounting Manager and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Robert McDill.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 2000/2001 - GENERAL SERVICES

1. There was submitted a report dated 18 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which sought, as a basis for consultation only at this stage, the approval of Members of the draft estimates 2000/2001 for General Services which would enable the Council to embark on a public consultation exercise prior to the declaration of the Council Tax for 2000/2001 on 9 March 2000.

An amended paper was circulated in respect of the cuts package relating to the Social Work Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the date of payment for Council Tax be changed from 28th of the month to the 1st of the month;
- (ii) otherwise, to approve, as a basis for consultation, the estimates detailed within the report together with the cuts packages as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (iii) to note the timetable for Committees and the Council as detailed in Section 2 of the report; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**DRAFT ESTIMATES 2000/2001 -
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (Item 1, Page 613, 99/02)**

2. There was submitted a joint report dated 19 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services and the Director of Finance, which sought, as a basis for consultation only at this stage, approval by Members of the Draft Estimates 2000/2001 for the Housing Revenue Account as considered by the Special Housing Committee on 21 January 2000 and the associated possible rent levels for 2000/2001. This would enable the Council to embark on a public consultation exercise prior to agreeing the level at which Council house rents and other charges would be levied for financial year 2000/2001 on 10 February 2000.

It was agreed to approve the estimates for the purposes of the consultation exercise.

Councillor Ross left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2000/2001-2002/2003

3. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which advised Members of the proposed capital allocation to each Service Committee in relation to the financial year 2000/2001 together with indicative allocations for the two subsequent financial years.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to the capital allocations to Services as shown in paragraph 3.1 of the report;
- (ii) that Directors submit detailed Capital Programmes to their Committee for the utilisation of their capital allocation; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

BUDGET CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4. There was submitted a report dated 19 January 2000 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which proposed new arrangements for public consultation on the Council's General Services Revenue Budget and Housing Revenue Account 2000/2001.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to adopt the new consultation arrangements outlined within Section 4 of the report and that it be remitted to the Chief Executive to investigate the possibility of re-scheduling the meeting due to be held in Kilmarnock on Wednesday 2 February 2000;
- (ii) that the Chief Executive report the outcome of the consultation process of the Housing Revenue Account be reported to the Special Housing Committee on 8 February 2000; and
- (iii) that the Chief Executive report the outcome of the consultation process on the General Services Revenue Account including an evaluation of the effectiveness of the consultation arrangements be reported to the Special Policy and Resources Committee on 25 February 2000.

The meeting terminated at 1210 hours.