

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7 JANUARY 1997 AT
1500 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors David Sneller, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Wilma Doyle, Ronald Brailsford, Provost Robert Stirling, Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Bob Beattie, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, Kim Nicoll, George Turnbull, Eric Ross, Jim Kelly, Jimmy Boyd, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Gordon Clark, Director of Finance; John Hillis, Director of Housing; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; Tom McHugh, Depute Director of Finance; Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Kate McVey, Head of Legal Services; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Douglas Reid.

CHAIR: Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 1997/98 - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

1. There was submitted a report dated 23 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Finance providing details and seeking approval of the draft Estimates 1997/98 in terms of the cost of the current levels of service (CCLS).

The report summarised the estimated CCLS budget 1997/98 for the Housing Revenue Account and provided details of the variances between the estimates for the current financial year and those proposed for the forthcoming financial year.

Having heard the Director of Finance in explanation, Councillor Sneller, seconded by Councillor McIntyre, moved that the Housing Revenue Account 1997/98 CCLS budget be approved for the purposes of the 1997/98 budget process and in accordance with the approved budgetary timetable as follows:

<u>Description Expenditure</u>	<u>CCLS Estimate 1997/98</u>
	£
Employee Costs	509,890
Property Cost	11,120,000
Supplies and Services	66,240
Administration Costs	896,120
Supervision and Management	4,245,190
Total Expenditure (CCLS) - excluding debt charges	16,837,440

Councillor Coffey, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, moved as an amendment to note the Housing Revenue Account 1997/98 CCLS budget and to continue consideration meantime to await further information.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 15 votes to 3.

It was also agreed that the Director of Housing submit a report to either a future meeting of this Committee or the Housing Committee providing detailed figures and an explanation on the level of existing and anticipated Housing voids.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 1997/98 - GENERAL SERVICES

2. There was submitted a report dated 23 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Finance providing details and seeking approval of the Draft Revenue Estimates 1997/98 in respect of the General Services in terms of the cost of the current level of service.

The Draft Revenue Estimates 1997/98 (CCLS) were summarised by Service in the booklet attached to the report and the Director of Finance reported that a more detailed booklet was available to Members upon request.

The Director of Finance stated that the Secretary of State had intimated that the capping level for East Ayrshire Council would be £132,842,000.

Councillor Sneller, seconded by Councillor McIntyre, moved that the draft Revenue Estimates 1997/98 (CCLS) for General Services be approved for the purposes of the 1997/98 budget process and in accordance with the approved budgetary timetable as follows:

	CCLS Estimate 1997/98
	£
Education	57,681,569
Social Work	21,622,032
Community Services (Less Non Relevant Expenditure)	31,977,337 (239,000)
Development Services	14,651,215
Policy and Resources	
Central Services	4,442,914
Support Services	6,164,118
Housing General Fund	378,815
Commercial Operations	(550,000)
Contingency Fund	500,000
Capital Funded from Current Revenue (CFCR)	1,700,000
Total	138,329,000

Councillor Coffey, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, moved as an amendment to note the Draft Revenue Estimates 1997/98 (CCLS) for General Services and to continue consideration meantime to await further information.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 15 votes to 3.

It was also agreed:

- (i) that when the draft estimates for the General Services in connection with the transferred responsibility for CCTV as contained with the Community Services estimate were discussed a full paper be submitted at that point; and
- (ii) that the Director of Finance advise Councillor Coffey of the budget which was credited with the money collected from the bottle bank scheme.

**GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 1997/98 -
CENTRAL CHALLENGE FUND BID (Item 3, Page 1409)**

3.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Sneller declared a non-pecuniary interest in terms of the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

3.2 CONSIDERATION OF ITEM

There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Finance seeking approval as to which two projects should form the Council's Challenge Fund Bid for 1997/98 to be submitted to the Scottish Office by 17 January 1997.

At the Policy and Resources Committee on 24 October 1996, three potential projects had been identified, viz:- (i) recycling; (ii) decentralisation; and (iii) River Irvine/Kilmarnock Water flood mitigation measures.

A maximum of two bids in order of priority could be submitted to the Scottish Office.

Having noted that the deputation to London for the meeting with George Kynoch MP, Minister for Industry and Local Government, would attempt to persuade the Minister to take the bid in respect of the flood mitigation measures as an exceptional bid and therefore accept all three, it was agreed that failing this proposal the bids to be submitted in priority order should be (i) the River Irvine/Kilmarnock Water flood mitigation measures; and (ii) recycling.

The meeting terminated at 1545 hrs.