

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**SPECIAL AD HOC COMMERCIAL STRATEGY REVIEW COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14 DECEMBER 1998 AT 1030 HRS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors David Sneller, Gordon Cree, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; John Hillis, Director of Housing; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; William Taylor, Acting Director of Commercial Operations; Robin Gourlay, Depute Director of Commercial Operations; Kate McVey, Solicitor to Council; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Drew McIntyre and David Macrae.

CHAIR: Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

FUTURE TIMETABLE

1. There was submitted and noted a report dated 11 December 1998 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which updated the timetable for the submission of reports to future meetings of this Committee.

TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS

2. There was submitted a report dated 11 December 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services to provide information on the timetabling arrangements for further meetings of the Special Ad Hoc Commercial Strategy Review Committee.

It was agreed:

- (i) to the timetable arrangements as detailed below:

Tuesday 12 January 1999	-	1530 hrs
Monday 8 February 1999	-	1400 hrs
Monday 8 March 1999	-	1400 hrs
Tuesday 6 April 1999	-	1030 hrs
- (ii) to note that additional meetings of the Committee would also be convened as and when required; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

AUTHORITIES BUYING CONSORTIUM - SUPPLIES FOR DLO/DSOs

3. There was submitted a report dated 9 December 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the position relative to the possibility of extending yet further the scope of the Authorities Buying Consortium in respect of supplies for DLO/DSOs.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Support Services write to the ABC and ask them to consider extending yet further the scope in respect of supplies for DLOs and DSOs; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the report.

**INTERIM MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS TO STRENGTHEN
THE BUILDING AND WORKS DLO**

4. There was submitted a report dated 9 December 1998 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which sought confirmation that following strengthening of the Building and Works DLO Management Arrangements there was no need for the further engagement of consultancy support in this respect.

It was agreed to the deletion from its monitoring and review of the progress timetable of the requirement to report on the outcome of meetings with consultants specialising in the provision of management services as it was considered that such meetings were no longer required.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

5. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

**NOTE OF MEETING WITH TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING
SPECIAL AD HOC COMMERCIAL STRATEGY REVIEW COMMITTEE (PARA 11)**

6. MATTERS ARISING - MOT TESTING STATION, CROOKEDHOLM DEPOT

It was agreed to note:

- (i) that in relation to the vehicle ramps at the MOT Testing Station at Western Road, the Acting Director of Commercial Operations was considering options for the ramps ie relocating the ramps to the new MOT Station, retaining the ramps at the Western Road site or disposing of the ramps as surplus to requirement; and
- (ii) that Members and Trade Union officials would be informed of the outcome of this consideration.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE - STRATHCLYDE POLICE (PARA 6)

7. The Chair agreed to consider this item which appeared as item 12 on the Agenda at this stage.

There was submitted a report dated 8 December 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised that Strathclyde Police intended submitting grounds maintenance at Police properties to competitive tendering with effect from 1 April 1999 and which requested Members to consider if the Council should participate in this exercise, having regard to the very small size of the contract and the likely return to the Council.

It was agreed:

- (i) to remit to the Director of Community Services to advise Strathclyde Police and the other two Ayrshire Authorities that the Council did not wish to submit a bid in this instance; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - COMMERCIAL
OPERATIONS TO 6 NOVEMBER 1998 (PERIOD 8) (PARA 6)**

8. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 8 December 1998 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations and the Director of Finance on the current budgetary control position and projected out-turn for the year for the Commercial Operations Department for the period ended 6 November 1998 (Period 8).

BUILDING AND WORKS STORES UPDATE (PARA 6)

9. There was submitted a report dated 11 December 1998 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations on issues arising from the introduction of continuous stocktaking and action to reduce the number of stock lines and to recommend accordingly.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the issues which had arisen as a result of further checking of Building and Works stores;
- (ii) that a full stocktaking would take place at the end of January 1999;
- (iii) that the Acting Director of Commercial Operations investigate the possibility of alternative methods of securing the supply of materials on a daily basis as required; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the terms of the report.

BUILDING AND WORKS INCOME RECOVERY (PARA 6)

10. There was submitted a report dated 8 December 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations on the amount of income recovered by Building and Works.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that discussions were ongoing with the Trade Unions on ways to increase productivity; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the terms of the report.

BUILDING AND WORKS INVOICES (PARA 6)

11. There was submitted a report dated 7 December 1998 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations on the progress in reducing the level of Building and Works invoices.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that an analysis of the fast-track invoices be included in the next report to Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the progress made in clearing Building and Works invoices.

BUILDING AND WORKS' SUB-CONTRACTORS (PARA 6)

12. There was submitted a report dated 9 December 1998 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations which provided a profile of the nature of works carried out by sub-contractors on behalf of Building and Works.

It was agreed to note the analysis of payments to sub-contractors.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE DSO - MOT TESTING STATION (PARA 6)

13. There was submitted a report dated 3 December 1998 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations to (i) seek permission to surrender the MOT Station at Western Road and subject to Department of Transport approval to open a new one at the Crookedholm Depot; (ii) approve capital and revenue expenditure for the new MOT Station; (iii) retain an extra labourer at Crookedholm Depot; and (iv) increase the charge to Community Services to test taxis from £17.05 to £54.50.

It was agreed:

- (i) to surrender the MOT Test Station at Western Road;
- (ii) subject to Department of Transport approval, to open a new MOT Station at Crookedholm Depot;
- (iii) to approve the capital expenditure required for the new MOT Test Station together with associated revenue costs;
- (iv) to increase the charge to Community Services for taxi testing from £17.05 to £54.50; and
- (v) to the retention of one post for a labourer.

The meeting terminated at 1110 hrs.