

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 20 June 1995**  
**in the Council Chambers, Lugar, Cumnock**

- PRESENT:** Councillors A McIntyre (Chair), R Beattie, D Fulton, E Jackson and D Sneller.
- ATTENDING:** D Montgomery, Chief Executive; and Donald McVicar, Chief Executive's Department.
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors T Farrell, G Turnbull, A Campbell, K Hall and R McDill.

**1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Submitted and approved as a correct record minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 1995 (circulated).

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

It was agreed the above would be discussed in conjunction with item 3(a) and (b) below.

**3. PROPERTY ISSUES**

- (a) Joint Progress Report by the Director of Estates (SRC), Director of Administration and Legal Services (KLDC) and the District Manager of Technical Services (CDVDC).

There was submitted a report outlining the property issues that will be critical in the process of aggregation and disaggregation for the existing 3 Councils. In explanation of issues relating to property matters, Mr Baird reported that:

- i) a Draft Transfer Order from the Scottish Office is still awaited, despite continued requests for its issue;
- ii) the interface between staff and property is important and would of course dictate the size of the property required;
- iii) ownership should follow use in respect of shared properties;
- iv) surplus property would not be pooled;
- v) it would be prudent if proportion of buildings were disaggregated in a manner that would allow easy disposal, if required;

- vi) generating large capital receipts could possible in future lead to the Scottish Office reducing the ability to borrow under Section 94 but at present capital receipts represented a most valuable additional resource to authorities;
- vii) property insurance would have to be considered for example joint brokerage/joint policies with other authorities; and
- viii) harmonising IT would be an issue to be pursued in the property remit.

In response to the joint report Mr Montgomery raised the following issues:

- i) it was imperative that East Ayrshire know the number of their staff who are not currently houses in the area as well as details regarding their specific posts and nature of work;
  - ii) it would be desirable that staff transferring to East Ayrshire have a sufficient mix of skills to be self sufficient and if not there should be an opportunity to arrange training. The positive steps being taken in this regard by the Regional Council's Estates Department were to be warmly welcomed;
  - iii) in addition to the Geographical Information Systems (GIS) capability located at regional headquarters, the planning department of Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council also operated GIS equipment.
- (b) Section 55 of the Local Government Etc (Scotland) Act 1994

There was submitted a letter from the Scottish Office in conjunction with a minute excerpt of East Ayrshire Policy and Resources Committee meeting of 31 May 1995 regarding the above.

In explanation Mr Montgomery reported that East Ayrshire had accepted 1 August 1995 as the date after which existing local authorities must gain the agreement of their successors before committing themselves to larger financial transactions.