

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29 MAY 1997 AT 1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill, Ronald Brailsford, Drew McIntyre, Provost Robert Stirling, Councillors Kathleen Hall, John Knapp, David Sneller, Jimmy Carmichael, Robert Taylor, Tom Farrell and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Des Tierney, Director of Commercial Operations; William McKenzie, Senior Depute Director of Commercial Operations; Robin Gourlay, Depute Director of Commercial Operations; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; and Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Campbell and John Smith.

CHAIR: Councillor O'Neill, Chair.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS 1996/97

1. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations informing of the progress made by the Department in achieving its objectives for 1996/97.

Following details given by the Chair on a current News Release from the Scottish Office the Committee welcomed the announcement from the Secretary of State confirming that the current moratorium on compulsory competitive tendering would be extended to allow a joint task force to develop a new system to achieve best value in Local Government Services.

PROGRESS REPORT - BUILDING AND WORKS, ROADS AND TRANSPORT

2. There was submitted a report dated 13 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations providing information on recent and ongoing issues within the Section.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the arrangements for two open evenings for prospective applicants for Building and Works apprenticeships to be held on Thursday 5 June 1997 and Tuesday 10 June 1997 from 1700 hrs to 2100 hours in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock and Cumnock Town Hall respectively and that transport to the open evenings would be provided from outlying areas; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the report.

The Chair then introduced and reported on the outstanding achievements of Second Year Electrician Christopher Boyle during his apprenticeship training and presented an award in recognition of his efforts.

The Committee congratulated the apprentice.

The Chair then presented Provost Stirling with two plaques awarded to East Ayrshire Council in respect of Christopher Boyle achieving Apprentice of the Year 1996 for Ayr College, and Apprentice of the Year 1996 for Ayrshire, Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway.

Provost Stirling left the meeting on conclusion of the presentations.

DIRECT SERVICES - PROGRESS REPORT

3. There was submitted a report dated 13 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations informing on some of the key issues within each of the Services comprising Commercial Operations Direct Services.

It was agreed:

- (i) in relation to refuse collection that the Director of Commercial Operations investigate and identify a means of stabilising refuse bins in rural areas; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the report.

HEALTH AND SAFETY - REPORTING OF INJURIES, DISEASES AND DANGEROUS OCCURRENCES

4. There was submitted and noted report dated 13 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations advising of the number of incidents/accidents reported in the period 1-31 March 1997 and 1-30 April 1997 and on the number of reports made to the Health and Safety Executive in terms of the reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995.

BUILDING AND WORKS - MEASURED TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

5. There was submitted a report dated 14 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations advising of progress made in preparing a bid for the Building Maintenance, Cyclic Maintenance and Minor Works 1997-2001 (2002) Contracts.

It was agreed to note the report and the substantial manpower investment in the preparation of the bid.

MARKET ANALYSIS FOR SPORT AND LEISURE MANAGEMENT

6. There was submitted a report dated 14 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations appraising the Committee of the competitive issues arising for the Sports and Leisure Management Contract. The DSO would compete for this work under the CCT regime in June 1997.

It was agreed to note the contents of the report intended to signal that the Sports and Leisure Management DSO would be robust in the pending compulsory competitive tendering exercise.

REWARDS AND RECOGNITION SCHEME

7. There was submitted a report dated 13 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations providing an update of the Rewards and Recognition Scheme which reached its final stages during May and June.

It was agreed to note arrangements for the final stages of a process culminating in the presentation of the first East Ayrshire Rewards and Recognition Scheme.

There followed a presentation by the Depute Director of Commercial Operations on the awards event arranged for Sunday 15 June 1997 at Loudoun Castle Theme Park.

ASSOCIATION OF DIRECT LABOUR ORGANISATIONS

8. There was submitted a report dated 19 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations informing of the election of the Chair of Commercial Operations as the Chairperson of the Association of Direct Labour Organisations (ADLO) Scotland and to reach approval for the renewal of the subscription to ADLO.
- It was agreed to note Councillor O'Neill's election and to agree the renewal of the ADLO subscription of £2,098.55

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

9. 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

AMENDMENT TO STAFFING STRUCTURE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING SECTION, SUPPORT SERVICES

10. There was submitted a report dated 13 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations recommending alterations to the staffing structure of the Management Accounting Section of Support Services within Commercial Operations.
- The Committee agreed to restructuring in principle and referred the matter to the Personnel Sub-Committee of Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

The meeting terminated at 1100 hrs.