

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1998
AT 1500 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors David Sneller, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Douglas Reid, Wilma Doyle, Ronald Brailsford, Provost Robert Stirling, Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, George Turnbull, Jimmy Boyd, John Smith, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Gordon Clark, Director of Finance; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; Alex McPhee, Senior Depute Director of Finance; Alan McDougall, Depute Director of Social Work; Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; George Fraser, Senior Policy Adviser; and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Kathleen Hall and Kim Nicoll.

CHAIR: Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 1998/99 - GENERAL SERVICES (Item 1, Page 2906)

1. There was submitted a report dated 20 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Finance on the latest budget position now that finalised figures had been obtained in terms of the 1998/99 budget and which recommended that the Committee determine final allocations for each of the Service Committees and requested that those Committees finalise now the savings and growth packages to align service delivery plans with the final financial allocations for 1998/99 taking into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise.

There was also submitted a further report dated 23 February 1998 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which gave further information in relation to a number of late responses to the Council's public consultation on the budget which had been received that day.

Councillor Sneller, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved:

- (i) to remit the block allocation of financial resources for changes to cuts/growth packages to each Service Committee in the light of the overall resources now available as shown below, and to request Service Committees now to finalise savings and growth packages to align service delivery plans with the final financial allocation for 1998/99 taking into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise;

<u>Department</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Available for Cuts/ Growth Changes</u> <u>£000</u>
Education	235
Social Work	250
Community Services (net)	30
Development Services (net)	75
General Fund Housing	-
Policy & Resources	
Support (including Capital Repairs)	255
Miscellaneous	25
Across Council Action	40
Total	910; and

(ii) otherwise to note the report.

Councillor Coffey, seconded by Councillor Reid, moved as an amendment to note the content of the report and request that the Committees continue to work towards finalisation of the savings and growth packages taking into account the views and comments made during the consultation exercise.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 13 votes to 3.

It was thereafter noted that, following the agreed timetable, the final decisions made by each of the respective Service Committees in relation to the foregoing would be submitted for consideration to the Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee to be held on 4 March 1998 along with a report by the Director of Finance detailing the implications for each of the Council Tax bandings following the budget review exercise.

EAST AYRSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (Item 14, Page 2935)

2. There was submitted a report dated 20 February 1998 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which proposed the adoption of a partnership agreement, the content of which was considered by the Member/Officer Group on Information and Advice at its meeting on 18 February 1998 which included costings, a service agreement and appropriate targets between the Council and East Ayrshire Citizens Advice Bureau.

Having noted that the Development Committee of Citizens Advice Scotland would meet on 5 March 1998 at which representatives of the East Ayrshire Citizens Advice Bureau would present the funding package, it was agreed:

- (i) to accept the recommendations of the Member/Officer Group on Information and Advice and the content of the Partnership Agreement;
- (ii) to the funding path between the financial years 1998/99 and 2001/2002 outlined in Section 4.1 of the report;
- (iii) that Officers advise Citizens Advice Scotland accordingly;

- (iv) to note that for the financial year 2002-2003 and beyond the Council would require to consider appropriate funding for East Ayrshire Citizens Advice Bureau; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1517 hrs.