

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY 1999
AT 1400 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors David Sneller, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Jim O'Neill, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, Robert McDill, Jim Kelly, 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; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; Ian Arnott, Corporate Accounting Manager; Anne Jackson, Principal Community Education Officer; and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Douglas Reid, Provost Robert Stirling and Councillors Kathleen Hall, Ann Hay, Kim Nicoll and George Turnbull.

CHAIR: Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

DRAFT ESTIMATES 1999/2000 - GENERAL SERVICES

1. There was submitted a report dated 16 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which (i) advised of the position with regard to the General Services Revenue Budget for 1999/2000; (ii) advised of new and updated information on additional income and expenditure pressures and (iii) recommended that the Committee determine final allocations for each of the Service Committees and request those Committees to finalise savings and growth packages to align Service delivery plans with the financial allocations for 1999/2000, taking into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise. The appendix to the report detailed the outcome of the Council's public consultation exercise on the budget.

Having noted that at paragraph 3.2.2(c) the projected Galleon Centre deficit was now £0.050m, it was agreed:

- (i) to remit the block allocation of financial resources for changes to cuts/growth packages to each Service Committee in light of the overall resources now available as shown below, and to request those Committees now to finalise savings and growth packages to align Service delivery plans with the final financial allocation for 1999/2000, taking into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise which was detailed in the appendix to the report;

Department	<u>Original</u>	Adjustments for Identified Pressures	Allocation of Additional Funds	<u>Proposed</u>
	Draft Estimates approved by P&R 26/01/99			Departmental Resource Allocations
	£M	£M	£M	£M
Education	61.939	0.116	0.250	62.305
Social Work	22.971	0.139	0.200	23.310
Community Services	34.974	0.104	0.040	35.118
Development Services	9.099	0.174	0.090	9.363
General Fund	0.552	0.005		0.557
Housing Policy and Resources	12.286	0.127	0.755	13.168
Housing and Council Tax Benefit	1.794	-		1.794
Common Police Services	0.125	-		0.125
Community Alarms	0.343	-		0.343
Other Specific Budget Items	(1.328)	(2.000)		(3.328)
Debt Charges	12.837	-		12.837
Urban Aid	0.063	-		0.063
TOTAL	155.655	(1.335)	1.335	155.655
EXPENDITURE				

- (ii) that the Director of Support Services negotiate a lump sum accelerated rent agreement with Land Securities Properties Ltd in respect of the Burns Mall as indicated in paragraph 3.2.1(b) of the report and report back to Committee accordingly; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

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 3 March 1999 along with a report by the Director of Finance detailing the implications for each of the Council Tax bandings following the budget review exercise.

A STRATEGY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

2. There was submitted a report dated 15 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Education which sought agreement of proposed action regarding the implementation of the Strategy for Young People.

It was agreed:

- (i) in principle, to launch a youth magazine, establish a youth development fund, and encourage and support active partnership as detailed within the report and Appendix I to the report;
- (ii) that the Head of Public Relations and Marketing investigate whether any trust funds existed which could be utilised to support the youth trust fund;
- (iii) to approve the arrangements for consultation as detailed within the report and the Appendix to the report;
- (iv) to note that a further report containing a fully costed formal strategy for young people would be submitted to a future Policy and Resources Committee meeting; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

3. 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 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

REORGANISATION OF SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT (Item 13, Page 4188)

4. There was submitted a joint report dated 12 February 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and of Personnel Services which advised the Committee of the agreement of the Social Work Committee on 2 February 1999 to revised service delivery structure for the Social Work Department and which sought Committee approval for the implementation of a revised Departmental staffing/grading structure from 1 April 1999 subject to consultation with Trade Unions.

It was agreed:

- (i) to the staffing structure and gradings as set out in the report subject to discussion with the Trade Unions; and
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work and Director of Personnel Services implement these changes from 1 April 1999.

The meeting terminated at 1435 hrs.