

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL AD HOC COMMERCIAL STRATEGY REVIEW COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 1999
AT 1230 HRS AND WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH 1999 AT 1430 HRS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors David Sneller, Gordon Cree, Jane Darnbrough and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; William Taylor, Acting Director of Commercial Operations; Kate McVey, Solicitor to the Council; Tom Wilkie, Head of Contracting and Technical Services; Malcolm Roulston, Head of Information Technology; John Donohoe, Building and Works Manager; John Carrick, Administration Manager (Building and Works); and James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Drew McIntyre, David Macrae and Tommy Farrell.

CHAIR: Councillor Sneller, Chair.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

1. 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)**

2. It was agreed to continue consideration of this item until the next meeting of the Committee scheduled to be held on 8 March 1999.

BUILDING AND WORKS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM (PARA 6)

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 12 February 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance, Support Services and the Acting Director of Commercial Operations seeking approval to utilise the Glasgow City Council Building and Works computer system.

It was agreed:

- (i) that at conclusion of business detailed on the Agenda for this meeting, the meeting be adjourned to allow further information in relation to the financial, legal and policy implications of this proposal to be provided to Members; and
- (ii) that in the interim period the Solicitor to the Council be authorised, without commitment, to initiate negotiations with Glasgow City Council.

BUILDING AND WORKS DLO - PRODUCTIVITY ISSUES

4. There was submitted a joint report dated 19 February 1999 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations and the Director of Personnel Services advising of the outcome of meetings with Trade Unions and of measures taken to increase the productive time of the Building and Works DLO operatives in the short term.

Councillor Sneller reported and it was noted that following consultation with Trade Union representatives it had been agreed:

- (i) that in the first line of Section 3.5 of the report the word "management" should be replaced by "there were"; and
- (ii) that in the fourth line of Section 3.6 of the report the words "go back" should be replaced by "recommend" and that the word "with" should be deleted.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the outcome of the meetings with Trade Unions and the issues identified for immediate implementation to increase productivity within the Building and Works DLO;
- (ii) to express continuing concern in relation to the financial situation within the Building and Works DLO; and
- (iii) to request the Acting Director of Commercial Operations to continue to ensure that all practical steps were being taken to maximise productivity and increase the income of the Building and Works DLO.

BUILDING AND WORKS BONUS SCHEME

5. There was submitted report dated 17 February 1999 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Commercial Operations informing of the situation regarding the incentive scheme which currently operated within Building and Works.

It was agreed to note the report and that the importance of ensuring that an alternative appropriate bonus scheme to be in place and fully operational by 1 July 1999, should be highlighted to Trade Union representatives.

ADJOURNMENT

6. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1325 hrs and reconvene at the conclusion of the Special Policy and Resources Committee to be held on Wednesday 3 March 1999.

RECONVENTION/CONTINUATION OF BUSINESS

7. The Committee reconvened at 1430 hrs on Wednesday 3 March 1999 in the Meeting Room with the undernoted Members and Officials present and in attendance.

PRESENT: Councillors David Sneller, Drew McIntyre, Gordon Cree, Jane Darnbrough and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; Iain McLachlan, Director of Personnel Services; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; William Taylor, Acting Director of Commercial Operations; Malcolm Roulston, Head of Information Technology; Tom McHugh, Head of Accounting Services; David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; and James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Macrae and Tommy Farrell.

CHAIR: Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

BUILDING AND WORKS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM

8. There was submitted amended joint report (circulated) by the Directors of Finance, Support Services and Acting Director of Commercial Operations seeking approval to utilise the Glasgow City Council, Building and Works Computer System which contained additional information in relation to financial, policy and legal implications detailed within the new Appendix IV of the report.

It was agreed:

- (i) that Building and Works utilise the Glasgow City Council Building and Works computer system and that the Solicitor to the Council be authorised to negotiate an appropriate agreement; and
- (ii) to remit to the Policy and Resources Committee a request for authority to incur capital expenditure on the computer system of £254,937 in the year 1999/2000.

ADDITIONAL ITEM

9. The Chair agreed that the undernoted additional item of urgent business should be considered as an early decision was required.

RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

10. It was agreed to re-admit the Press and public to the meeting.

DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 19(B) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING AND LAND ACT 1980

11. There was submitted a report dated 3 March 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive informing of the receipt of a new Direction under Section 19(b) of the above Act.

It was agreed:

- (i) to welcome the new Direction which lifted the previous requirement for Roads Winter Maintenance for 1999/2000 to be subjected to tender and accepted that instead the service would be the subject of a best value review in the year 2000/01;
- (ii) that the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Secretary of State to advise him of the Committee's comments and provide him with a short summary of progress made to date; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1450 hrs.