

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 3 October 1995 at 10am in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Kilmarnock

- PRESENT:** Councillors J O'Neill (Chair), T Farrell, E Jackson, J Knapp, A McIntyre, J Smith, R Stirling and R Taylor,
- ATTENDING:** F Lees, Depute Chief Executive; B Devlin and G Fraser, Chief Executive's Department; D Tierney, Director of Commercial Operations; R Gourlay, W McKenzie and C McIvor; D Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing.
- APOLOGIES:** Councillor A Campbell.

1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIR

Councillor O'Neill welcomed members to the second meeting of the Commercial Operations Committee and referred to those transitional issues which will require to be addressed as well as emphasising the fact that there is less than six months available before the Committee takes on formal responsibility for the delivery of local authority direct services. He also indicated his disappointment with regard to newspaper articles reporting comments by the Secretary of State for Scotland about the reorganisation of Scottish Local Government, a view which was endorsed by other members of the Committee.

2. MINUTE OF COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF 22 AUGUST 1995

The minutes of the Commercial Operations Committee of 22 August 1995 were submitted for noting and the Chair highlighted the following:

- (a) Item 9, Local Government : Exemption from Competition Orders Circular 13/1995 - where it was reported that a reply had been received from the Scottish Office which essentially repeated the content of the original guidance note. The Chair indicated, however, that he understood there to be significant differences in approach in Scotland in comparison to England and Wales and proposed that this issue be investigated further;
- (b) Item 11, CCT Briefing Sessions for Elected Members - where it was reported that four half-day training sessions are currently being organised for elected members from November onwards.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the minute and the further information.

3. DIRECTORATE APPOINTMENTS

Councillor O'Neill welcomed:

William McKenzie, Senior Depute Director (Roads, Transport and Building Maintenance);

Robin Gourlay, Depute Director (Cleaning, Catering and Grounds Maintenance); and

Charles McIvor, Depute Director (Support Services)

to the Commercial Operations Committee and congratulated them on their appointments within the Commercial Operations Department.

4. KEY ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT

With reference to the meeting of the Commercial Operations Committee of 22 August 1995 there was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Commercial Operations indicating progress to date on a number of the key issues facing the Commercial Operations Department in the run-up to 1 April 1996.

After discussion the Committee noted the contents of the report.

5. ROADS CONSORTIUM UPDATE

With reference to the meeting of the Commercial Operations Committee of 22 August 1995 there was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Commercial Operations which advised the Committee of the ongoing tender preparations for the management and maintenance work on trunk roads within the Clyde area by a consortia of local authorities. The report highlighted the fact that with regard to the tender process the Scottish Office had extended the tender submission date by 14 days to 20 October 1995.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to note the progress made to date by the Clyde Unit consortium and the revised closing date for the submission of tenders,

6. DEPARTMENT QUALITY STRATEGY

There was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Commercial Operations advising of the issues which the Department will be taking into account in the development of a Quality Strategy which will form part of the corporate strategy being developed for all services.

Having heard the Director in explanation the Committee agreed:

- (i) that a further report be submitted to a future meeting on the progress of the development of the Council's overall quality strategy and the contributory role being played by the Commercial Operations Department; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT WORKING PARTIES REPORT FROM MEETING OF 13 OCTOBER 1995

There was submitted a report (issued) by the Director of Commercial Operations advising of topics discussed at a recent meeting involving DLO/DSO staff from all three of the present local authorities.

After hearing from the Director with regard to the success of the meeting the Committee noted the contents of the report.