

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Buildings, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 16 September 2009 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, G Hayton, K Baird, P Barrett, A Grant, E Grant, Provost Hulbert, A Jack, J Kellas, A MacLellan, M Roberts, L Simpson (substituting for W Robertson), A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Wylie.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive; J Irons, Executive Director (Environment) and Depute Chief Executive; G Taylor and C Irons (Chief Executive's Service); J Symon, H Mackenzie and M Mitchell (all Corporate Services); D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); S Merone, B Renton and A Seggie (all The Environment Service) and H Turley (Housing and Community Care).

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

461. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

462. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 10 June 2009 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held on 30 June 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix I**)

(iii) Executive Director Appointments Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Executive Director Appointments Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held on 2 June 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix II**)

(iv) Executive Director Appointments Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Executive Director Appointments Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held on 13 July 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix III**)

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(v) Executive Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 1 July 2009 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix IV*)

(vi) Property Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of 12 August 2009 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix V*)

463. ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT 2008/09

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/425) summarising the Council's treasury activities for the 2008/09 financial year and contrasting actual performance with the approved Treasury Strategy for 2008/09.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 09/425, which was submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices, be noted.

464. ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2008/09

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/426) outlining the Council's Annual Efficiency Statement for 2008/2009 which had been submitted to COSLA for consolidation into a national report to the Scottish Government. The report also detailed the efficiency gains made by the Council during 2008/2009 and areas which will be targeted for efficiencies in 2009/2010.

Resolved:

It was noted that the cash-releasing efficiency gains totalling approximately £5.7 million in 2008/09 had been identified in contribution to the Scottish Government's Efficient Government Agenda.

465. SAVINGS ARISING FROM EARLY RETIREMENT DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2008/09

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/427) outlining the costs and consequential savings of early retiral decisions taken in the financial year 2008/09.

Resolved:

The savings achieved, as indicated in Appendix 1 to Report 09/427, be noted.

466. PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME – TENDERS ACCEPTED AND AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted and noted a joint report by the Head of Legal Services and the Head of Finance (09/428), (1) presenting the contracts awarded by the Tayside Procurement Consortium, Scotland Excel and Procurement Scotland in

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accordance with Section 10 of the Council's Contract Rules; and (2) reporting on the twelve month period from 1 June 2008 to 31 May 2009, whilst highlighting the procurement efficiencies for 2008/09.

467. REVENUE BUDGET 2009/10 – MONITORING REPORT NO 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/429) providing (1) update on progress with the 2009/10 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the June 2009 ledger; and (2) the projected out-turn of the Housing Revenue Account.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/429 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2009/10 management revenue budget, detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 09/429 and Sections 2.2 to 2.20 of Report 09/429, be approved.
- (iii) The payment to Tayside Contracts, as set out in Section 3 to Report 09/429, be approved.
- (iv) The Service virements, summarised in Appendix 2 to Report 09/429, be approved.

468. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2009/14 - MONITORING REPORT NO 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/430), (1) providing a summary position to date of the Composite Capital Programme for 2009/10 to 2013/14; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/430 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Capital Budget 2009/14, as set out in Sections 3, 4 and 5 of Report 09/430 and summarised in Appendices I and II thereto, be approved.

469. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/431), (1) providing a summary of the Loans Fund transactions for the quarter to 30 June 2009; and (2) reporting on compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS), Treasury Management Practices (TMP's) and the Prudential Indicators for the same period.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 09/431, which was submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices, be noted.

470. HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2009/14 – BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and the Head of Finance (09/432), (1) summarising the position as

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at 30 June 2009 for the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for 2009/10 to 2013/14; and (2) seeking approval for adjustment to the Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/432 be noted.
- (ii) That prudential borrowing requirement had decreased by £489,000 be noted.
- (iii) The adjustments made to the budget for 2009/10, as set out in Section 4 to Report 09/43, and summarised at Appendices 1 and 2 thereto, be approved.

471. BUDGET UPDATE REPORT NO 1

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/433), (1) providing an update on progress with the preparation of the General Fund Revenue Budget and Composite Capital Budget; and (2) setting out the projected funding position for Perth and Kinross Council for financial year 2010/11.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/433 be noted.
- (ii) The 2010/11 Revenue Budget Timetable, as set out in Appendix A to Report 09/433 be approved.

***472. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME – EMPLOYING AUTHORITY DISCRETIONS**

There was submitted a joint report by the Head of Finance and the Head of Human Resources (09/434) outlining the discretions the Council had in relation to the application of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefit, Membership and Contributions) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 and related regulations, including the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 1998.

Resolved:

- (i) The discretions, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 09/434, be noted.
- (ii) It be recommend to Council that the Scheme of Administration be amended to delegate authority to the Executive Director (Corporate Services) to determine other pensions discretions not specifically addressed within Report 09/434.
- (iii) The employer discretions shown as 10-12 in Appendix 1 to Report 09/434 be reviewed when the amendments to the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 1998 are published.

473. CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUP (Art 314)

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (09/435) outlining the governance framework, membership and roles/responsibilities of the Corporate Asset Management Member/Officer Working Group.

Resolved:

- (i) The governance framework for Corporate Asset Management, as outlined in Appendix 1 to Report 09/435, be approved.

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- (ii) The roles/responsibilities for the Corporate Asset Management Member/Officer Working Group, as outlined in Appendix 2 to Report 09/435, be approved.
- (iii) The composition and membership of the Working Group, as detailed in Section 3 of Report 09/435, be approved, with the names of elected members to be submitted to the Head of Democratic Services as soon as possible.

474. PERTH CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU – LONG TERM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and the Executive Director (Environment) (09/440) requesting that consideration be given to entering into a long-term financial assistance agreement with Perth Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) for the years 2010/11 to 2015/16.

Resolved:

- (i) Subject to sufficient budget allocations being available, a long-term financial assistance agreement with Perth Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) in relation to core funding (ie £142,000 in 2009/10) for the years 2010/11 to 2015/16, be approved.
- (ii) The financial assistance agreement with Perth Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) be reviewed after 3 years.

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