

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 10 February 2010 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, G Hayton, K Baird, P Barrett, J Flynn, A Grant, E Grant, Provost Hulbert, J Kellas, A MacLellan, M Roberts, 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; I Innes, J Jarvie, J Somerville J Symon, G Taylor, and T Yule (all Chief Executive's Service); J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); B Renton (Environment); and D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care).

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

67. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 2 December 2009 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The following minutes were submitted and noted:

- (a) Minute of Meeting of 10 November 2009 (**Appendix I**)
- (b) Minute of Meeting of 19 January 2010 (**Appendix II**)

(iii) Executive Sub-Committee

The following minutes were submitted and noted:

- (a) Minute of Meeting of 13 October 2009 (**Appendix III**)
- (b) Minute of Meeting of 25 November 2009 (**Appendix IV**)

(iv) Special Provost's Sub-Committee

The following minute was submitted and noted subject to reference to Mr Pete Wishart, MP for North Tayside being amended to read Mr Pete Wishart, MP for Perth and North Perthshire.

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- (a) Minute of Meeting of 5 November 2009 (**Appendix V**)

The following minute was submitted and noted:

- (b) Minute of Meeting of 14 December 2009 (**Appendix VI**)

(v) Corporate Health and Safety Consultative Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Corporate Health and Safety Consultative Committee of 7 September 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix VII**)

(vi) Employees Joint Consultative Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Employees Consultative Committee of 24 September 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix VIII**)

68. REVENUE BUDGET 2009/10 – MONITORING REPORT NO 3 (Art. 600/09)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (10/62) providing an update on, (1) progress with the 2009/10 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the November 2009 ledger; and (2) the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

The Convener referred to the Council's previous decision to approve the construction of 26 affordable family homes at sites in Methven and Letham, Perth (Arts. 245/09) and advised that the tender evaluation process was still on-going. Since initial indications had suggested that the cost of delivering the programme would be more than that set out in the original business case and in order to allow the Council to enter into a contract in March 2010, thereby satisfying the Scottish Government's reporting requirements for grant funding of the project, it was additionally recommended that the Committee agree that any shortfall in the programme budget be financed through Council Tax Income on Second Homes with the outcome of the tender process reported to the Committee in due course.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 10/62 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2009/10 management revenue budget, detailed in Appendix 1 of Report 10/62 and Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Report 10/62, be approved.
- (iii) The individual Service virements, summarised in Appendices 2 and 3 of Report 10/62, be approved.
- (iv) That the shortfall in the programme budget for the 26 affordable family homes at sites in Methven and Letham, Perth, be funded through Council Tax Income on Second Homes, with the outcome of the tender process reported to the Committee in due course, be agreed.

COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON JOINED THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION
OF THE ABOVE ITEM

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**69. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2009/14 - MONITORING REPORT NO 3
(Art. 601/09)**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (10/63) (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 10/63 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Composite Capital Programme 2009/14, as set out in Sections 3 and 4 of Report 10/63 and summarised in Appendices I and II thereto, be approved.

70. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE REPORT (Art. 604/09)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (10/64) (1) providing a summary of the Loans Fund transactions for the quarter to 31 December 2009; and (2) reporting on compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement, Treasury Management Practices and the Prudential Indicators for the same period.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 10/64, which was submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices, be noted.

71. HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2009/14 – BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 3 (Art. 602/09)

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and the Head of Finance (10/65) (1) summarising the position as at 30 November 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 10/65 and that the net borrowing requirement had increased by £525,000 in 2009/10 and decreased by £211,000 in 2010/11 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments made to the budgets for 2009/10, set out in Section 4 of Report 10/65 and summarised at Appendices 1 and 2 to Report 10/65, be approved.

72. PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY: SPECIFIC DUTIES – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION BY SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Transformation and Improvement (10/66) outlining the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation process in relation to the proposed specific duties in Scotland to support the Single Equality Bill.

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Resolved:

The response to the consultation on Public Sector Equality Duty Specific Duties, attached at Appendix 1 of Report 10/66, be noted.

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