

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of the **FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 13 February 2003 at 2.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillors ALEX KING, IAN MACKINTOSH, BILL MIDDLETON, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, BRIAN MILNE, PETER MURPHY, ROB MURRAY, ROBERT MYLES, PETER NIELD, HELEN OSWALD, BILL ROBERTON, RON SCRIMGEOUR and DAVID SELFRIDGE.

Councillor KING, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. PROVISIONAL REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2003/2004

There were submitted (a) Report No 185/03 by the Director of Finance, being a background report apprising members of the Provisional Revenue Budget submissions of each Council Department and of the departmental budget cuts considered necessary to allow the Council to deliver a Revenue Budget within the resources expected to be available and also setting out the Provisional Composite Capital Budget submissions for those Departments with capital programme expenditure; (b) Report No 186/03 by the Director of Finance, being the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume, together with a commentary by each Head of Department; (c) Report No 187/03 by the Director of Finance being the Departmental Budget Cuts Proposals Volume; (d) Report No 188/03 by the Director of Finance, being the Provisional Capital Budget 2003/2004; and (e) Report No 189/03 by the Director of Finance, being the recommended projects for funding from the Quality of Life Resources allocated to Angus Council following the Scottish Executive's spending review 2002.

Councillor Bill Middleton then reported on the outcome of the meeting of the Central Consultative Committee held earlier this day at which the representatives of the trade unions and teachers associations had welcomed the opportunity to be involved in the budget process and acknowledged the benefits of the practice that had been adopted which gave the Teachers Association and Trade Union representatives sight of the budget papers at an early stage. In addition, they had expressed a number of concerns in relation to the level of staff slippage, the difficulties of spending ring-fenced monies within the financial year and the number of demand led services over which the Council had no control.

Councillors Mackintosh, Murphy, Myles and Nield indicated that they would not be supporting this budget, but rather than move an amendment at this meeting, reserved their position to the special meeting of the Council.

The Committee agreed:

- (i) to note and approve the recommendations contained in the Quality of Life – Project Programme Report (No. 189/03);
- (ii) to note the views of the Teacher Association and Trade Union representatives on the Central Consultative Committee arising from their meeting of earlier this day;
- (iii) to note the provisional base revenue budget submissions for 2003/04 of Miscellaneous Other Services, Finance (General and Revenues) and Information Technology as contained in pages 87, 102 to 104, and 114 and 115 respectively of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 186/03);
- (iv) to note the budget cuts proposals of the Finance (General and Revenues) and Information Technology Departments as contained in pages 32 and 33, and 38 respectively of the Departmental Budget Cuts Proposals Volume (Report 187/03);
- (v) to approve the budget cuts for Finance (General and Revenues) totalling £43,000 and the budget cuts for Information Technology totalling £17,000;

- (vi) to approve the revised budget net expenditure for Miscellaneous Other Services, Finance (General and Revenues) and Information Technology resulting from 2 to 5 above and recommend accordingly to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (vii) to note and submit to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting that the provision for Pay Inflation (including Teaching staff) be £5.735 million; the provision for Surplus Local Tax Income be £0.400 million; the provision for Capital Financing Costs (Loan Charges) be £9.905 million; the provision for increased insurance costs be £0.324 million; the provision for review of Common Good rents be £0.150 million (all of which were shown on page 3 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume - Report 186/03);
- (viii) to note and approve the Provisional Common Good Fund budgets for 2003/04 as detailed in pages 120 to 125 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 186/03);
- (ix) to approve the Miscellaneous provisional capital budget for 2003/04 as contained in pages 23 and 24 of the Provisional Capital Budget Volume (Report 188/03);
- (x) to note the provisional base revenue budget submissions (excluding Loan Charges) for 2003/04 of the three Joint Boards for Tayside, namely Valuation (Assessors) £713,000, Fire £3.962 million and Police £16.576 million as shown on page 119 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 186/03);
- (xi) to note that the finalised budget submissions for 2003/04 of the Tayside Valuation, Tayside Fire and Tayside Police Joint Boards had been agreed at meetings of the respective Boards on 27 January 2003;
- (xii) to submit the finalised budget requisitions for the Joint Boards to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (xiii) to note the provisional base revenue budget submission for 2003/04 of the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement being £225,000 (Surplus) as shown on page 119 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 186/03);
- (xiv) to note that the 2003/04 budget estimate for the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement had yet to be formally approved by the Joint Committee; and
- (xv) to submit the provisional budget position for the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting.