

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of Special MEETING of the **CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Wednesday 27 February 2008 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors MARK SALMOND, JOHN WHYTE, IAIN GAUL, ALEX KING, IAN MACKINTOSH, DAVID MAY, BILL MIDDLETON, DONALD MORRISON, PETER MURPHY, ROB MURRAY, BOB MYLES, PETER NIELD, HELEN OSWALD, JOHN RYMER and SANDY WEST.

Councillor SALMOND, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee agreed to note that no declarations of interest were made.

3. PROVISIONAL REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2008/2009

There were submitted (a) [Report No 246/08](#) by the Chief Executive together with the draft Service Plan for the Corporate Services Department; (b) [Joint Report No 161/08](#) by the Director of Corporate Services and the Head of Finance advising members of the Provisional Revenue Budget of each Council department and of the departmental budget savings considered necessary to allow the Council to deliver a Revenue Budget within the resources expected to be available and also setting out the Provisional Capital Budget submissions for those departments with capital expenditures; (c) [Joint Report No 162/08](#) by the Director of Corporate Services and the Head of Finance being the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume, together with a commentary by each head of department; (d) [Joint Report No 163/08](#) by the Director of Corporate Services and the Head of Finance being the proposed departmental budget savings volume; and (e) [Joint Report No 164/08](#) by the Director of Corporate Services and the Head of Finance being the provisional capital budget 2008/2009.

The Committee was advised that the Central Consultative Committee had met earlier today and considered the budget reports. Teacher representatives had made reference to the results of an SJNC working time survey which indicated that teachers (both classroom and management levels) were working well in excess of the 35 hour week agreed as part of TP21 and the impact the proposed levels of savings would have on the workloads of staff. The point was also made that cuts could not continue every year without it having an effect on the education of children in Angus. Concern was also expressed about teachers ability to deliver the new and continuing actions in the Education Department's service plan for 2008/2009 and it was hoped that meaningful discussions could take place on the matter at the earliest opportunity.

It was however acknowledged that Angus Council had an enviable record in protecting services and that considerable efforts had been made to minimise the effects of the proposed savings. Other trade unions had offered no comments.

Councillors Gaul, King, Bill Middleton, Morrison, Murray, Oswald and West indicated that they wished to reserve their position on the budget to the special meeting of the Council.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the draft 2008/09 Service Plan for Corporate Services;
- (ii) to note the views of the Trade Union representatives on the Central Consultative Committee arising from their meeting held earlier today;

- (iii) to note and approve the service developments, new burdens, budget issues and review of charges applicable to Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Other Services as detailed in Report 161/08 (Appendices 3, 4 and 6);
- (iv) to note the provisional base revenue budget submissions for 2008/09 of Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Other Services as contained in pages 93 to 108 respectively of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 162/08);
- (v) to note the budget savings proposals of Corporate Services as contained in pages 19 to 26 respectively of the Departmental Budget Savings Proposals Volume (Report 163/08);
- (vi) to approve the budget savings for Corporate Services totalling £145,000;
- (vii) to approve the revised budget net expenditure for Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Other Services resulting from (ii) to (vi) above and recommend accordingly to the Council at the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (viii) to note and agree to submit to the Council Tax setting meeting that: the provision for Surplus Local Tax Income be £0.050 million; the provision for Pay Inflation be £3.268 million; the revenue contribution to capital expenditure be £0.700 million; previously ring-fenced grants now included in the Finance Settlement totalling £16.759 million to be added to departmental budgets as detailed in Report 161/08 (Appendix 2); and the provision for unidentified burdens within the local government finance settlement be £0.200 million (all of which were shown on page 3 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume - Report 162/08);
- (ix) to note that the provision in respect of Capital Financing Costs (Loan Charges) would be considered at the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (x) to note and approve the Provisional Common Good Fund budgets for 2008/09 which incorporated the bids detailed in Report 161/08 (Appendix 5) as detailed in pages 110 to 115 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 162/08);
- (xi) to approve the provisional capital budget for 2008/09 for Finance, Information Technology and Property as contained in pages 11 and 12, 13 to 16 and 19 to 25 respectively of the Provisional Capital Budget Volume (Report 164/08);
- (xii) to note the provisional base revenue budget submissions (excluding Loan Charges) for 2008/09 of the three Joint Boards for Tayside, namely Valuation (Assessors) £0.831 million, Fire £5.307 million and Police £20.837 million as shown on page 109 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 162/08);
- (xiii) to note that these finalised budget submissions for 2008/09 of the Tayside Valuation, Tayside Fire and Tayside Police Joint Boards had been agreed at meetings of the respective Boards in January 2008;
- (xiv) to submit the finalised budget requisitions for the Joint Boards to the Council Tax setting meeting;
- (xv) to note the provisional base revenue budget submission for 2008/09 of the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement being £145,000 (Surplus) as shown on page 109 of the Provisional Revenue Budget Volume (Report 162/08);
- (xvi) to note that the 2008/09 budget estimate for the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement had yet to be formally approved by the Joint Committee; and
- (xvii) to submit the provisional budget position for the Tayside Contracts Joint Arrangement to the Council Tax setting meeting.