



Council Offices, Almada Street
Hamilton, ML3 0AA

Dear Councillor

South Lanarkshire Council

The Members listed below are requested to attend a meeting of the Council to be held as follows:-

Date: Wednesday, 13 March 2019
Time: 11:30 (or immediately following the Executive Committee, whichever is the later)
Venue: Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0AA

The business to be considered at the meeting is listed overleaf.

Members are reminded to bring their fully charged tablets to the meeting

Yours sincerely

Lindsay Freeland
Chief Executive

Members

Ian McAllan (Provost), Collette Stevenson (Depute), Alex Allison, John Anderson, John Bradley, Walter Brogan, Robert Brown, Archie Buchanan, Jackie Burns, Janine Calikes, Stephanie Callaghan, Graeme Campbell, Andy Carmichael, Maureen Chalmers, Gerry Convery, Margaret Cooper, Poppy Corbett, Margaret Cowie, Peter Craig, Maureen Devlin, Mary Donnelly, Isobel Dorman, Fiona Dryburgh, Joe Fagan, Allan Falconer, Alistair Fulton, Geri Gray, George Greenshields, Lynsey Hamilton, Ian Harrow, Eric Holford, Graeme Horne, Mark Horsham, Martin Grant Hose, Ann Le Blond, Martin Lennon, Richard Lockhart, Eileen Logan, Katy Loudon, Joe Lowe, Hugh Macdonald, Julia Marrs, Monique McAdams, Catherine McClymont, Kenny McCreary, Colin McGavigan, Mark McGeever, Jim McGuigan, Davie McLachlan, Gladys Miller, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson, Carol Nugent, Mo Razzaq, John Ross, Graham Scott, David Shearer, Bert Thomson, Margaret B Walker, Jim Wardhaugh, Sheena Wardhaugh, Jared Wark, David Watson, Josh Wilson

BUSINESS

- 1 Sederunt and Declaration of Interests**
- 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting** 3 - 12
Minutes of the meeting of South Lanarkshire Council held on 19 December 2018 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)
- 3 Minutes of Special Meeting - 20 February 2019** 13 - 14
Minutes of the special meeting of South Lanarkshire Council held on 20 February 2019 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)
- 4 Minutes of Special Meeting - 27 February 2019** 15 - 24
Minutes of the special meeting of South Lanarkshire Council held on 27 February 2019 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)
- 5 Minutes of Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee** 25 - 28
Minutes of the meeting of the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee held on 14 November 2018 submitted for noting. (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Decision

- 6 South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board – Appointment of Chair** 29 - 30
Report dated 20 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources). (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Noting

- 7 2019/2020 Revenue Budget Update - Approved Budget** 31 - 34
Report dated 1 March 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources). (Copy attached)

Urgent Business

- 8 Urgent Business**
Any other items of business which the Provost decides are urgent.

For further information, please contact:-

Clerk Name: Susan Somerville

Clerk Telephone: 01698 454197

Clerk Email: susan.somerville@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 19 December 2018

Chair:

Provost Ian McAllan

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Archie Buchanan, Councillor Jackie Burns, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Graeme Campbell, Councillor Andy Carmichael, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Poppy Corbett, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Mary Donnelly, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Fiona Dryburgh, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Alistair Fulton, Councillor Geri Gray, Councillor George Greenshields, Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Ian Harrow, Councillor Eric Holford, Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Mark Horsham, Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Richard Lockhart, Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor Julia Marrs, Councillor Catherine McClymont, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Colin McGavigan, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Carol Nugent, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor John Ross, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Collette Stevenson (Depute), Councillor Bert Thomson, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Sheena Wardhaugh, Councillor Jared Wark, Councillor David Watson, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillor's Apology:

Councillor Monique McAdams

Attending:**Chief Executive's Service**

L Freeland, Chief Executive

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director

Education Resources

T McDaid, Executive Director

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; G Bow, Administration Manager; G McCann, Head of Administration and Legal Services; S Somerville, Administration Manager

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

V de Souza, Director, Health and Social Care

1 Declaration of Interests

The following interest was declared:-

Councillor(s)

Stevenson

Item(s)

Notice of Motion – Investment by Local Government Pension Funds

Nature of Interest(s)

Chair of the Strathclyde Pension Board

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the South Lanarkshire Council held on 26 September 2018 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Council decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Minutes of the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee held on 18 September 2018 were submitted for noting.

The Council decided: that the minutes be noted.

4 Modern Day Slavery Charter

A report dated 21 November 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the proposed adoption of a Modern Day Slavery Charter.

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 required commercial organisations with a turnover greater than £36 million to develop a slavery and human trafficking statement each year. This would apply to companies which contracted with the Council. The statement, to be published on the organisation's website, must set out what steps had been taken during the financial year to ensure that modern slavery was not occurring in both the organisation and its supply chain. If an organisation failed to produce a slavery and human trafficking statement for a particular financial year, the Secretary of State might seek an injunction to ensure compliance.

Currently, the Council took a number of steps to limit the potential for human exploitation in the supply chain and to improve the employment conditions for those employed by suppliers. A Modern Slavery Act Declaration was included in all tenders which required contractors to produce an annual slavery and trafficking statement and to acknowledge that the Council would be entitled to terminate the contract and to recover the amount of any associated loss resulting from such termination if the company failed to comply with the requirements of the Act. In addition, the Council's terms and conditions of contract placed a statutory obligation on contractors to comply with the standards and all applicable law in performing its obligations under the contract.

The Co-operative Party had launched a Modern Day Slavery Charter and was seeking to roll it out across all UK councils. It was proposed that the Council adopt its own Charter, as outlined in paragraph 5.2 of the report. Details of how the commitments of the Charter would be implemented were provided in Appendix 1 to the report.

In response to a comment from Councillor Lennon in terms of the wording of the Charter and how the Council could, perhaps, be more robust, the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) highlighted that, while the Council fully supported the objectives of the Charter, there was a requirement for a reasoned approach to ensure compliance with procurement legislation.

Councillor McGuigan intimated that he hoped that the Charter would help to address the issue of forced marriages as human trafficking often involved females.

The Council decided:

- (1) that adoption of the Modern Day Slavery Charter, as detailed in paragraph 5.2 of the report, be approved; and

- (2) that the approach to be taken by the Council in relation to the Charter, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.

5 Amendments to Memberships of Committees, Forums and Joint Boards/Outside Bodies

A report dated 26 November 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on proposed amendments to the elected member representation on committees, forums and joint boards/outside bodies following a change in the political composition of the Council.

Prior to considering the report, the Head of Administration and Legal Services advised that there was a typographical error in relation to membership of the Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board and that there would be no change to the Council's political representation on the Board.

While there was no statutory requirement placed on the Council in terms of membership places, the Council endeavoured to reflect the overall political balance in the membership of its committees, forums and outside bodies insofar as was reasonably practicable. As a consequence of a change in the political composition of the Council, it was proposed that the composition of committees be as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report. In respect of joint boards and partnership/outside bodies, it was proposed that changes to certain memberships be as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report.

The Council decided:

- (1) that, to reflect the current political composition of the Council:-
- ◆ amendments to the committee memberships, as detailed in Appendix 2, be approved
 - ◆ amendments to the membership of certain joint boards/outside bodies, as detailed in Appendix 4, be approved; and
- (2) that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leaders of the political/independent groups and independent member, to finalise memberships.

6 Notice of Motion – Enhanced Support for Veterans

In terms of Standing Order No 19, a motion proposed by Councillor McGeever, seconded by Councillor Nailon, was submitted as follows:-

“On the occasion of its first meeting since the centenary of the 1918 armistice, South Lanarkshire Council notes:-

- ◆ That while most veterans successfully transition from military service to civilian life, doing so has historically been a challenge and remains a source of considerable difficulties for many;
- ◆ That working age veterans have been found to be up to twice as likely to be unemployed as their non-veteran contemporaries;
- ◆ That differences between civilian and military qualifications, career structures, application processes, and experiences can disadvantage veterans seeking employment; and

- ♦ That where skilled and experienced veterans are deterred or disadvantaged by civilian application processes, employers can miss out on candidates who would excel at interview.

Therefore, in accordance with its sincere commitment to military families and the Armed Forces Covenant, its desire to provide enhanced support to those returning to civilian life in South Lanarkshire, seeking to ensure it does not lose out on people who would be valuable members of staff, and as a fitting addition to the area's commemorations of the First World War, this Council:-

- 1) Resolves to create a guaranteed interview scheme for ex-armed forces personnel who apply for vacancies with the authority and meet the essential criteria for the post.
- 2) Instructs the chief executive to consult Lanarkshire Firm Base Group, the Career Transition Partnership, and other appropriate external organisations, regarding how such a scheme could provide greatest benefit; and
- 3) Requires that a report detailing options available for the implementation and operation of such a scheme be presented to the full Council at its meeting in March 2019, for members to select from and approve."

In moving the motion, Councillor McGeever referred to the fact that Remembrance events united all political groups and emphasised the Council's commitment to make a difference to the lives of ex-armed forces personnel who were returning to civilian life but faced difficulties in securing employment. Councillor Nailon seconded the motion.

Councillor Horsham, as the Council's Spokesperson for Veterans, intimated that he welcomed the motion and stated how the Council had shown its continued commitment to supporting armed forces personnel by re-signing the original Armed Forces Covenant put in place a number of years ago. He acknowledged the contribution made by former councillor, the late Jim Handibode, who had ensured, as Spokesperson for Veterans at that time, that the Council acted in compliance with the original Covenant. He referred to the main barriers faced by ex-armed forces personnel and highlighted the qualities they could bring to the workplace. Councillor Thomson, as Labour Group spokesperson for veterans, also indicated his support for the motion.

Councillor Brown, while welcoming the motion, suggested the following wording be added as an addendum:-

"The Council further notes the high incidence of post traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues suffered by ex-service personnel and welcomes the work of Veterans First Point in Lanarkshire, a service developed by veterans for veterans, to provide practical and mental health support in the community by veterans' peer support staff working with a small psychology team."

Councillor McGeever and Councillor Nailon agreed to the addendum subject to the word 'some' being added prior to 'ex-service personnel'. This was unanimously accepted by the Council. In concluding, Councillor McGeever acknowledged the work of Councillor Horsham in his role as Spokesperson for Veterans.

The Council decided:

- (1) that a guaranteed interview scheme be introduced for ex-armed forces personnel who applied for vacancies with the Council and met the essential criteria for the post;

- (2) that the Chief Executive consult with Lanarkshire Firm Base Group, the Career Transition Partnership, and other appropriate external organisations, regarding how such a scheme could provide greatest benefit;
- (3) that a report, detailing options available for the implementation and operation of such a scheme, be presented to the full Council at its meeting in March 2019 for members' consideration; and
- (4) to note the high incidence of post traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues suffered by some ex-service personnel and welcome the work of Veterans First Point in Lanarkshire, a service developed by veterans for veterans, to provide practical and mental health support in the community by veterans' peer support staff working with a small psychology team.

7 Notice of Motion – Suspension of Testing Primary 1 Pupils

In terms of Standing Order No 19, a motion proposed by Councillor Nelson, seconded by Councillor Hose, was submitted as follows:-

“South Lanarkshire Council acknowledges the Scottish Parliament’s vote of 19 September to call on the Scottish Government to halt testing of children in their first year of primary school. Council notes that the parliamentary motion was informed by feedback from parents, children and the EIS teaching union in support of more play based learning.

While recognising that good-quality assessment is essential to raising educational standards, this Council understands the high levels of concern raised by teachers, other education professionals, parents and elected representatives regarding the introduction and delivery of new testing arrangements for primary one pupils. Council believes that formal standardised testing is essential in primary four and primary seven but cannot deliver the same meaningful results in primary one, and so should not be conducted at that stage.

Therefore, the chief executive is instructed to ascertain the options available to South Lanarkshire Council as an education authority, in relation to suspension of testing of primary one pupils, and to provide a report for consideration at the next meeting of the full council.”

In moving the motion, Councillor Nelson outlined his concerns in relation to the impact on teaching time and referred to research in terms of play based learning and to the fact that, in Finland, children did not start school until 7 years of age. Councillor Hose seconded the motion.

Councillor Cooper advised that the use of the word ‘testing’ was unfortunate as primary one assessments had always been the standard to which education authorities operated in order to establish a baseline. She further advised that there was no pass mark for the assessment and that there was no set timescale for delivery, the decision being at the discretion of the teacher within the primary one year. She considered the process acted as an early warning system to identify potential issues, particularly for children from deprived backgrounds.

Councillor Loudon intimated that no-one had raised any concerns with her on the matter in her capacity as Chair of the Education Resources Committee.

In response to a member’s question in relation to the assessments, the Executive Director (Education Resources) advised that no formal issues had been identified.

Following a full and frank discussion, Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Loudon, moved the following amendment:-

“South Lanarkshire Council acknowledges the Scottish Parliament’s vote of 19 September to call on the Scottish Government to halt assessments of children in their first year of primary school. Council notes that the Scottish Government has, in light of this vote, introduced an independent, evidence-led review, the outcome of which is expected in May 2019. Council therefore awaits the outcome of the review before making any further decision.”

Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Lennon, moved a further amendment that the following sentence be removed from the original motion:-

“Council believes that formal standardised testing is essential in primary four and primary seven but cannot deliver the same meaningful results in primary one, and so should not be conducted at that stage.”

Following a request from Councillor Fagan, Councillor Nelson agreed to amend his motion to reflect the removal of the sentence as proposed as an amendment by Councillor Hamilton. Councillor Hose concurred with this.

On a vote being taken by a show of hands, 31 members voted for the amendment and 31 for the motion (as amended). On the casting vote of the Provost, the amendment was declared carried.

The Council decided: to await the outcome of the independent, evidence-led review of assessments for children in their first year of primary school, which was anticipated to be concluded by May 2019, prior to making any formal decision on the matter.

Councillor McLachlan left the meeting following this item of business

8 Notice of Motion – Early Learning and Childcare (ELC)

In terms of Standing Order No 19, a motion proposed by Councillor S Wardhaugh, seconded by Councillor Burns, was submitted as follows:-

“The Independent Group congratulates the Scottish Government on its commitment to Early Years Education (now entitled ELC), and on the expansion of ELC to 1140 hours by 2020 however regrets that it is not as effective as it could be because of “birthday discrimination” by which the date of a child’s birthday affects when that child can access ELC without fees – as is the case according to current South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) policy.

To help in closing the attainment gap and giving our children the best possible start ELC must be accessed as soon as a child is three.

To remove the barrier of “birthday discrimination” the Independent Group:-

- 1 calls on the SNP Administration to negotiate with the Scottish Government to achieve ring-fenced funding to allow children in South Lanarkshire to access ELC as soon as they are three;

- 2 until this negotiation is successful, calls on SLC to facilitate access to ELC as soon as a child is three within the SLC budget, as is the case in other nearby local authorities, and to change the admission policy to reflect this.

Change should take effect at the beginning of the 2019/2020 school session.

Report on progress to be given to the Council meeting in March.”

The Head of Administration and Legal Services advised that Point 1 of the motion was not competent as the Council could not compel a political group to negotiate with the Scottish Government.

Councillor Brown intimated that, as no figures were provided on the costs involved in implementing the terms of the motion, he considered that it would be prudent to delay consideration of the matter until discussions were held as part of the budget process.

The Chief Executive advised that officers had discussed the terms of the motion with the Independent Group in terms of competence. He further advised that the Council was not in a position to make a financial commitment of approximately £2 million as it had only just received, and was currently assessing, its draft settlement, with the final settlement not due to be received until February 2019.

In response to an elected member’s request for his opinion on the matter, the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) reiterated that the Council was not yet in a position to make a financial commitment due to the uncertainty of its final grant settlement.

Councillor Cooper indicated her Group’s agreement to amend the motion at Points 1 and 2 to change ‘SNP Administration’ to ‘the Council’ and replace ‘negotiate/negotiation’ with ‘lobby/lobbying’.

Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Chalmers, moved as an amendment that Point 1 be replaced with the following wording and that Point 2 and the remaining paragraphs be deleted:-

- “1 calls upon the Council to instruct the Chief Executive to review the financial and other implications of the Council changing its admission policy to make funded ELC available from each child’s third birthday effective from the beginning of the 2019/2020 school session and to report his findings, including the budgetary requirement, back to Council for consideration by the Council as part of the 2019/2020 budget setting approval process.”

Councillor Allison, seconded by Councillor Le Blond, moved as a further amendment that the Council lobby the Scottish Government in relation to ring-fenced funding to allow children to access ELC at age 3 (from 3rd birthday). If this was not successful, officers to find options on how the Council would fund and facilitate this to allow consideration as part of the 2019/2020 budget process to allow implementation in time for the 2019/2020 school session.

Having heard Councillor Allison’s proposed amendment, Councillor Craig agreed to withdraw his own. Councillor Chalmers concurred with this.

On a vote being taken by roll call, members voted as follows:-

Motion – (1) calls on the Council to lobby the Scottish Government to achieve ring-fenced funding to allow children in South Lanarkshire to access ELC as soon as they are three; (2) until this lobbying is successful, calls on SLC to facilitate access to ELC as soon as a child is three within the SLC budget, as is the case in other nearby local authorities, and to change the admission policy to reflect this. Change to take effect at the beginning of the 2019/2020 school session. Report on progress to be given to the Council meeting in March.

Walter Brogan, Jackie Burns, Andy Carmichael, Gerry Convery, Margaret Cooper, Margaret Cowie, Maureen Devlin, Fiona Dryburgh, Joe Fagan, Allan Falconer, George Greenshields, Lynsey Hamilton, Martin Lennon, Eileen Logan, Joe Lowe, Catherine McClymont, Mo Razzaq, Graham Scott, Bert Thomson, Margaret B Walker, Jim Wardhaugh, Sheena Wardhaugh, David Watson

Amendment – calls on the Council to lobby the Scottish Government in relation to ring-fenced funding to allow children to access ELC at age 3 (from 3rd birthday). If this was not successful, officers to find options on how the Council would fund and facilitate this to allow consideration as part of the 2019/2020 budget process to allow implementation in time for the 2019/2020 school session.

Alex Allison, John Anderson, John Bradley, Robert Brown, Archie Buchanan, Janine Calikes, Stephanie Callaghan, Maureen Chalmers, Poppy Corbett, Peter Craig, Mary Donnelly, Isobel Dorman, Alistair Fulton, Geri Gray, Ian Harrow, Eric Holford, Graeme Horne, Mark Horsham, Martin Grant Hose, Ann Le Blond, Richard Lockhart, Katy Loudon, Ian McAllan, Kenny McCreary, Hugh Macdonald, Colin McGavigan, Mark McGeever, Jim McGuigan, Julia Marrs, Gladys Miller, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson, Carol Nugent, John Ross, David Shearer, Collette Stevenson, Jared Wark, Josh Wilson

38 members voted for the amendment and 23 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

The Council decided: to lobby the Scottish Government in relation to ring-fenced funding to allow children to access Early Learning and Childcare at age 3 (from 3rd birthday), however, should this not be successful, officers to find options on how the Council would fund and facilitate this to allow consideration as part of the 2019/2020 budget process to enable implementation in time for the 2019/2020 school session.

Councillor Campbell left the meeting during this item of business and prior to the vote

9 Notice of Motion – Investment by Local Government Pension Funds

In terms of Standing Order No 19, a motion proposed by Councillor Fagan, seconded by Councillor Devlin, was submitted as follows:-

“That the Council asserts the importance of ethical, sustainable and socially responsible investment by local government pension funds; believes that local government pension funds such as the Strathclyde Pension Fund should seek to promote ethical and responsible behaviour among investees and in the wider economy through its investments, and to that end calls on Strathclyde Pension Fund to halt investment in:-

- (1) risky fossil fuels such as fracking;

- (2) the arms trade; and
- (3) companies benefiting from human rights abuses.”

The Head of Administration and Legal Services responded to a Point of Order raised by Councillor Horne in respect of the legal perspective for Board members. She confirmed the motion was competent and it was for members of the Strathclyde Pension Fund Board to determine whether they had a conflict of interest.

Councillor Horne, seconded by Councillor Calikes, moved as an amendment that the wording of the original motion be changed from ‘calls on Strathclyde Pension Fund to halt investment in’ to ‘calls on Strathclyde Pension Fund to keep its investments under continuous review’ and that points (1), (2) and (3) be deleted.

Prior to moving to the vote, the Depute Provost confirmed she would not be taking part in the vote as she considered it was a conflict of interest in terms of her role on the Strathclyde Pension Fund Board.

On a vote being taken by a show of hands, 37 members voted for the amendment and 22 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

The Council decided: to call on Strathclyde Pension Fund to keep its investments under continuous review in order to promote ethical and responsible behaviour among investees and in the wider economy.

Councillor Watson left the meeting during this item of business and prior to the vote

10 Notice of Motion – Unison Ethical Care Charter

In terms of Standing Order No 19, a motion proposed by Councillor Dryburgh, seconded by Councillor Fagan, was submitted as follows:-

“We call upon South Lanarkshire Council to adopt the Unison Ethical Care Charter.

The Charter sets minimum standards to protect the dignity and quality of life for people who need homecare.

It commits South Lanarkshire Council to the full implementation of the Charter for all South Lanarkshire Council employees and to the implementation of stage 1 with a plan to implementing stages 2 and 3 for home care contractors procured by the Council.

It is hoped that adopting the Charter will help improve staffing levels and enable care workers to build a sustainable career within the sector.

Making this commitment to decent employment conditions for care workers is all about improving the quality of life for the people they care for.

- ◆ Give workers the freedom to provide appropriate care and the time to talk to their clients;
- ◆ Allocate clients the same homecare worker(s) wherever possible;
- ◆ Schedule visits so that homecare workers are not forced to rush their time with clients or leave their clients early to get to the next one on time.”

An amended version of the motion was tabled and moved by Councillor Dryburgh, seconded by Councillor Fagan, which changed paragraph 3 to read as follows:-

‘It commits South Lanarkshire Council to the full implementation of the Charter for all South Lanarkshire Council employees and to progress the objectives of stages 1, 2 and 3 for home care contracts procured by the Council.’

In response to a request from an elected member, the Director of Health and Social Care intimated that she welcomed the terms of the motion and, although some time had elapsed since the Charter had been produced, the Council supported its aims, particularly in terms of the Living Wage, and regularly met with its 22 contract care providers.

The Council decided: to adopt the terms of the Unison Ethical Care Charter for all its employees and to progress the objectives of stages 1, 2 and 3 for home care contracts procured by the Council.

11 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

Provost’s Closing Remarks

The Provost extended the compliments of the season to all members and officials present.

Minutes of special meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 20 February 2019

Chair:

Provost Ian McAllan

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Archie Buchanan, Councillor Jackie Burns, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Graeme Campbell, Councillor Andy Carmichael, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Poppy Corbett, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Mary Donnelly, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Fiona Dryburgh, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Alistair Fulton, Councillor Geri Gray, Councillor George Greenshields, Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Ian Harrow, Councillor Eric Holford, Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Mark Horsham, Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Richard Lockhart, Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor Catherine McClymont, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Colin McGavigan, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Carol Nugent, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor John Ross, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor Collette Stevenson (Depute), Councillor Bert Thomson, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jared Wark, Councillor David Watson, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Julia Marrs, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Sheena Wardhaugh

Attending:

Chief Executive's Service

L Freeland, Chief Executive

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; G Bow, Administration Manager; G McCann, Head of Administration and Legal Services; S Somerville, Administration Manager

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

V de Souza, Director

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Recommendations Referred by Executive Committee – Housing Revenue and Capital Account Budget 2019/2020

A report dated 13 February 2019 by the Chief Executive was submitted on recommendations referred to the Council by the Executive Committee of 13 February 2019. The recommendations were as follows:-

- ◆ **Housing Revenue and Capital Account Budget 2019/2020**
 - ◆ that the Revenue Estimate proposals for the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2019/2020 be approved;
 - ◆ that the rent increase of 3.95% for Council houses, travelling persons' sites, lockups and garage sites be approved;
 - ◆ that the proposal to progress the next stage of rent harmonisation be approved; and
 - ◆ that, based on the proposed rent increase of 3.95% and taking account of the recommendation from the special Housing and Technical Resources Committee of 6 February 2019, the updated 2019/2020 Housing Capital Programme, totalling £61.945 million, be approved.

Councillor Allison stated that, while he accepted the recommendations, he did not fully concur with rent harmonisation as properties differed in age and condition and the additional revenue did not contribute significantly to the Housing Capital Programme.

The Council decided: that the recommendations of the Executive Committee of 13 February 2019 in relation to the Housing Revenue and Capital Account Budget 2019/2020 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 13 February 2019 (Paragraph 10)]

3 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

Minutes of special meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 27 February 2019

Chair:

Provost Ian McAllan

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alex Allison, Councillor John Anderson, Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Archie Buchanan, Councillor Jackie Burns, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Graeme Campbell, Councillor Andy Carmichael, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Poppy Corbett, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Mary Donnelly, Councillor Isobel Dorman, Councillor Fiona Dryburgh, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Alistair Fulton, Councillor Geri Gray, Councillor George Greenshields, Councillor Lynsey Hamilton, Councillor Ian Harrow, Councillor Eric Holford, Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Mark Horsham, Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Richard Lockhart, Councillor Eileen Logan, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor Julia Marrs, Councillor Catherine McClymont, Councillor Colin McGavigan, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Gladys Miller, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Carol Nugent, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor John Ross, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor David Shearer, Councillor Collette Stevenson (Depute), Councillor Bert Thomson, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh, Councillor Sheena Wardhaugh, Councillor Jared Wark, Councillor David Watson, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Kenny McCreary

Attending:**Chief Executive's Service**

L Freeland, Chief Executive

Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director

Education Resources

T McDaid, Executive Director

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; G Bow, Administration Manager; G McCann, Head of Administration and Legal Services; S Somerville, Administration Manager

Housing and Technical Resources

D Lowe, Executive Director

Social Work Resources/Health and Social Care

L Purdie, Head of Children and Justice Services

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Overall Position of Budget 2019/2020, Savings Proposals and Council Tax

Prior to consideration of this item, the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) responded to a Point of Order raised by Councillor Allison in respect of the order of business and, in particular, at which point the level of Council Tax was being considered. The Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) clarified that Item 2 was for the Council to consider the level of Council Tax for 2019/2020, while Item 3 noted the position in respect of Council Tax and set the overall budget for individual Resources.

A report dated 19 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ the updated level of grant funding allocated to the Council for 2019/2020
- ◆ an updated package of savings proposals developed in preparation for the 2019/2020 budget
- ◆ the proposed level of Council Tax for 2019/2020

On 18 December 2018, the Scottish Government had notified the Council, via Finance Circular 8/2018, that its level of grant funding for 2019/2020 would be £564.744 million. Details were provided on the movement of grant in comparison to 2018/2019 and its impact on the Council's Revenue Budget Strategy.

At the Executive Committee on 21 November 2018, it was noted that a savings package of £13.181 million was required and it was advised that if Council Tax was increased by 3%, a balance of funds of £3.969 million would be available.

The Finance Minister had confirmed that councils would be given the flexibility to increase Council Tax by up to 4.79%. It was proposed, however, that the increase remain at 3% which would set the Council Tax for Band D properties at £1,168.

Stage 1 of the Scottish Budget Bill had been presented to the Scottish Parliament on 31 January 2019 for approval and laid out a number of proposals as follows:-

- ◆ an additional £90 million added to the Local Government Core Budget
- ◆ changes to assumption around the funding of the increase in teachers' pension employer contribution rate
- ◆ review of legislation on treatment of loans fund advance payments
- ◆ flexibility for councils to increase Council Tax by up to 4.79% rather than 3%
- ◆ the introduction of a Transient Visitors' Tax
- ◆ permission for a level of efficiency savings that could be taken from councils' contributions to Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Boards
- ◆ Workplace Parking Levy

The total benefit to the Council's Budget Strategy from the Stage 1 Bill was £9.270 million.

Since the last report on the Budget Strategy to the Executive Committee in November 2018, the 2018/2019 probable outturn was now complete and an improved position was forecast. It was, therefore, proposed that a further £1.000 million be used to support the 2019/2020 Budget.

A summary of the Council's revised Strategy position was provided at Table 3 within the report which showed a revised balance of funds of £5.462 million. It was proposed that this balance of funds be used as follows:-

- ◆ to reduce the level of savings by £1.836 million
- ◆ to implement the remaining savings package of £11.345 million

- ◆ to allocate £1.500 million to fund the Children and Families pressures
- ◆ to allocate £1.766 million to extend the current Free School Meals Policy to include those primary school pupils in Primary 4 and 5
- ◆ to allocate £0.360 million to increase the value of school clothing grants by £30 to £130
- ◆ to implement 'Free at 3' in 2020/2021, with provision made in the 2020/2021 Revenue Budget Strategy

The allocation of General Capital Grant for 2019/2020, totalling £27.137 million, had been confirmed. The approved Capital Budget for 2019/2020 had been based on an estimate of £24.000 million, therefore, there was an additional £3.137 million of General Capital Grant for use in 2019/2020. In addition to the core 2019/2020 allocation, funding totalling £5.805 million was also confirmed for the postponed 2016/2017 General Capital Grant. This meant that, in total, there was an additional £8.942 million of General Capital Grant for use in 2019/2020 and it was proposed that this be used to contribute towards Early Learning and Childcare requirements. Furthermore, specific capital grant, totalling £8.2 million, had been allocated to the Council for Early Years, vacant and derelict land and Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets.

A separate report had been issued to all members summarising the outcome of a wide-ranging consultation exercise carried out.

The Provost, seconded by the Depute Provost, moved the recommendations in the report.

Councillor Allison advised that his Group did not concur with some of the proposals but recognised that a level of compromise had to be reached. He referred to reductions in the Roads budget, issues in relation to South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited and the Free at 3 initiative. He considered that, despite additional tax revenue, the Scottish Government had imposed cuts on councils and the proposed introduction of a car parking tax could affect up to 20,000 residents in South Lanarkshire who travelled for work to Edinburgh and Glasgow. He, therefore, indicated his Group's intention to support alternative proposals.

Councillor Fagan, seconded by Councillor S Wardhaugh, moved the following amendment:-

“1. Proposed Amendment

This amendment is proposed to the Overall Position of Budget 2019/2020, Savings, Proposals and Council Tax presented to South Lanarkshire Council in the paper of 27 February 2019.

The net impact of this amendment on the budget strategy would be a cost of **£0.215 million**. It is proposed that the amendment detailed in sections 2 to 4 (and summarised in section 5), is adopted by the Council.

2. Savings Removed

The proposal is that £2.417 million of savings be removed from the savings package, rather than £1.836 million as proposed in the Council paper (section 11.3).

This is made up of:

- ◆ Additional Savings to be removed (Table 1a below) – Cost of £0.430 million
- ◆ Full Savings to be removed (Table 1b below) – Cost of £0.151 million

These changes would result in a total cost to the budget of £0.581 million (10.46 FTE).

Table 1a – Additional savings to be removed

Ref.	Description	FTE	Value £m
CER22	Council officer provision within principal offices including access to council HQ	-6.9	-0.210
EDR09	Teachers in Early Learning and Childcare	0	-0.112
SLL05	James Hamilton Heritage Park Water Sport Centre Opening Hours	-	-0.008
SLL11	Rationalisation of Staffing Structures	-3.32	-0.080
SLL13	Stewartfield Community Centre Open in term time only	-0.24	-0.020
	TOTAL	-10.46	-0.430

Table 1b – Full savings to be removed

Ref.	Description	Proposed Value Removed £m	FTE Impact	Impact on Budget £m
EDR02	Realignment of Property Costs, Supplies and Services, and Administration Costs Budgets – full saving removed	£0.337	0	-0.151
Total			0	-0.151

3. Removal of Investments

The proposal is that £1.766 million of investments proposed in the Council report (sections 12 to 15) are removed as detailed in Table 2 below. **These changes would result in a total reduction in cost to the budget of £1.766 million.**

Table 2 – Removal of investments

	Impact on Budget £m
Extension of Free School Meals to P4 and P5 who do not currently qualify	1.766
TOTAL	1.766

4. Additional Investments

The proposal is that £1.4 million of additional investments are proposed as detailed in Table 3 below. **These changes would result in a total additional cost to the budget of £1.4 million.**

Table 3 – Additional Investments:

	£m
Add : Free at 3	-1.300
Eligibility for funded childcare from the age of 3 – not enrolment date. Introduce policy from August onwards.	
Add : Environmental Initiatives	-0.100
Up to £100,000 should be made available to support anti-littering, anti-fly-tipping and anti-dog fouling initiatives to help clean up South Lanarkshire.	
Total	-1.400

5. Transfer to Roads Capital Programme

As a supplement to planned investment in roads in 2019/2020, this amendment includes a proposed one-off transfer from reserves of **£0.720 million** to the capital budget for roads.

6. Budget Responsibility and Flexibility

In addition to the revenue budget, this amendment requires the Council to take forward the following measures:-

- ♦ **Cross Party Working Group on Tackling Poverty** – to improve scrutiny of existing anti-poverty initiatives and make evidence-based recommendations on Council policy relating to poverty prevention and poverty reduction, a Cross Party Working Group on Tackling Poverty should be established
- ♦ **Payment of School Clothing Grant** – to improve support to families in receipt of the School Clothing Grant and help 'poverty proof' the school day, the Council should seek to bring forward the date on which the grant is paid
- ♦ **Enhanced Monitoring of Workforce and Vacancies** – to improve workforce monitoring, reports on vacancies should be included in relevant Workforce Monitoring items to committees
- ♦ **Management Restructuring** – to help protect frontline jobs and services from future savings, suitable proposals for management restructuring should be considered as part of future savings exercise
- ♦ **Cross Party Working Group on Leisure and Culture** – to consider the relationship between the Council and South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Trust, the financial position and governance of the Trust, the findings of recent independent reports into the Trust and the way forward for leisure and cultural services in South Lanarkshire, a Cross Party Working Group on Leisure and Culture should be established

7. Summary of Amendment

The impact of the proposed amendment on revenue budgets, as detailed in sections 2 to 4, is summarised in Table 4, and results in **an additional revenue cost to the Council of £0.215 million**.

This is as a consequence of adding £1.981 million of expenditure (being £0.581 million of further savings to be removed (Section 2) and additional investments of £1.400 million (Section 4)), offset by removing the proposal to introduce Free School Meals to Primaries 4 and 5 (£1.766 million from Section 3).

This amendment proposes that **the balance of £0.215m is funded from Reserves**. The amendment also proposes a **transfer from Reserves of £0.720 million** to the Capital Programme for Roads Investment.

Table 4 – Summary of Amendment

Proposal as per 27 February 2019 paper			Amendment Proposed to Budget Paper			Amendment impact on Budget
Savings Removed	As per Council paper Report 27 Feb (Section 11.3)	£1.836m	Amendment	As detailed in Section 2	£2.417m	-£0.581m
Children and Families	As per Council paper Report 27 Feb (Section 11.3)	£1.500m	No Change		£1.500m	-
Free School Meals for P4 and P5	As per Council paper Report 27 Feb (Section 11.3)	£1.766m	Amendment	As detailed in Section 3	£0	£1.766m
Footwear and clothing grant	As per Council paper Report 27 Feb (Section 11.3)	£0.360m	No Change		£0.360m	-
Free @ Three		£0	Amendment	As detailed in Section 4	£1.300m	-£1.300m
Environmentals		£0	Amendment	As detailed in Section 4	£0.100m	-£0.100m
			Total impact of amendment			-£0.215m

Councillor Brown referred to cuts to non ring-fenced funding for councils. He considered that councillors were at the hard edge of politics and witnessed families who were struggling. He intimated that a balance had to be struck and there was an onus on councillors to reach agreement across the board. In his opinion, the ruling Administration had attempted to do that. He further referred to areas of concern he had in relation to grounds maintenance, gritting near schools, renewable energy and the remit of Area Committees.

Councillor Loudon, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved the following as a further amendment:-

“This is a counter amendment to the previous amendment presented by Councillor Joe Fagan, to the Overall Position of Budget 2019/2020, Savings, Proposals and Council Tax presented to South Lanarkshire Council in the paper of 27 February 2019.

It is proposed that section 2 (Savings Removed) of Councillor Fagan’s amendment be agreed and incorporated into the motion.

In agreeing section 2, I am aware that there would be a net cost to the budget position of £0.581 million (being those savings detailed at section 2 of Councillor Fagan’s amendment).

I am not accepting the removal of investment in Free School Meals for primary 4 and 5 (as per section 3 of Councillor Fagan's amendment). I would propose that this investment is retained within the Council's budget for 2019/2020.

Also, I do not accept the additional investments included at Section 4 of Councillor Fagan's amendment of Free at Three and Environmentals. We will commit to introduce Free at Three at the earliest opportunity in 2020.

In summary, as Councillor Fagan has already proposed using reserves of £0.215 million, after discussions with the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), it is proposed that a further £0.366 million of reserves are used to balance the budget (being £0.581 million of additional costs, less the £0.215 million reserves already proposed). The total reserves used would be £0.581 million."

The Provost and Depute Provost agreed to amend their motion to incorporate the amendment by Councillor Loudon and Councillor Wilson.

A full and frank discussion then took place.

In response to a question from Councillor Brown on whether the motion, as amended, accepted or rejected parts 5 and 6 of Councillor Fagan's amendment, it was confirmed that parts 5 and 6 would not form part of the motion (as amended).

On a vote being taken by roll call, members voted as follows:-

Motion – as per recommendations in report, incorporating tabled amendment by Councillor Loudon and Councillor Wilson and including the rejection of parts 5 and 6 of Councillor Fagan's amendment (as detailed above)

John Anderson, John Bradley, Archie Buchanan, Janine Calikes, Stephanie Callaghan, Maureen Chalmers, Peter Craig, Mary Donnelly, Isobel Dorman, Alistair Fulton, Geri Gray, Graeme Horne, Mark Horsham, Katy Loudon, Ian McAllan, Hugh Macdonald, Jim McGuigan, Julia Marrs, Gladys Miller, Carol Nugent, John Ross, David Shearer, Collette Stevenson, Josh Wilson

Amendment – as per tabled copy and detailed above

Alex Allison, Walter Brogan, Jackie Burns, Graeme Campbell, Andy Carmichael, Gerry Convery, Poppy Corbett, Margaret Cowie, Maureen Devlin, Fiona Dryburgh, Joe Fagan, Allan Falconer, George Greenshields, Lynsey Hamilton, Ian Harrow, Eric Holford, Martin Grant Hose, Martin Lennon, Richard Lockhart, Eileen Logan, Joe Lowe, Catherine McClymont, Colin McGavigan, Mark McGeever, Davie McLachlan, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson, Mo Razzaq, Graham Scott, Bert Thomson, Margaret B Walker, Jim Wardhaugh, Sheena Wardhaugh, Jared Wark, David Watson

Abstained

Robert Brown

35 members voted for the amendment and 24 for the motion. The amendment was declared carried.

The Council decided:

- (1) that the original grant settlement for 2019/2020, the additional costs facing the Council, and impact on the Council's Revenue Budget Strategy be noted;
- (2) that the increase to Council Tax of 3%, which would set the Council Tax for Band D properties at £1,168, be approved;

- (3) that the additional funding allocated as part of the Stage 1 Budget Bill be noted;
- (4) that additional budget identified as part of the 2018/2019 probable outturn be included as part of the budget solutions for 2019/2020;
- (5) that the reduction in savings of £2.417 million, as detailed above, be approved;
- (6) that the remaining savings, totalling £10.764 million, be approved;
- (7) that the £1.500 million allocation to Children and Families be approved;
- (8) that the £0.360 million allocation to increase School Clothing Grants by £30 to £130 be approved;
- (9) that additional investment of £1.3 million to support the Free at 3 initiative from August 2019 be approved;
- (10) that additional investment of £0.1 million to support environmental initiatives be approved;
- (11) that, as a supplement to planned investment in roads in 2019/2020, a one-off transfer from reserves of £0.720 million to the Roads capital budget be approved;
- (12) that a cross party working group on tackling poverty be established;
- (13) that, to improve support to families in receipt of the School Clothing Grant, the date on which the grant was paid be brought forward;
- (14) that, to improve workforce monitoring, reports on vacancies be included in future Workforce Monitoring items to committees;
- (15) that, to help protect frontline jobs and services from future savings, suitable proposals for management restructuring be considered as part of future savings exercises;
- (16) that a cross party working group on leisure and culture be established; and
- (17) that the additional General Capital Grant of £8.942 million be noted and that this Grant be used to contribute towards projects identified in the Council's Capital Strategy, namely Early Learning and Childcare: 1140 hours' requirements.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 21 November 2018 (Paragraph 8)]

3 Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2019/2020

A report dated 19 February 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ the outcome of the budget process and the content of the Revenue Budget for 2019/2020
- ◆ the revenue budget for 2019/2020 and the base budget allocation to Resources
- ◆ the level of Council Tax for 2019/2020

The Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) advised that a further report would be submitted to a future meeting to reflect any changes as a result of the decisions taken at the previous item.

Councillor Holford referred to the fact that the agreed increase in Council Tax of 3% was above the rate of inflation and, he considered, unfair to South Lanarkshire residents. He suggested that, in future years, deciding on the level of Council Tax should be a discrete item prior to the setting of the overall revenue budget. The Head of Administration and Legal Services advised of the correct process for taking this proposal forward.

The Leader of the Council made a statement:-

- ◆ providing an update on the previous year's initiatives, including Free Breakfast Clubs and Holiday Clubs
- ◆ highlighting the importance of forward planning and the provision of 2 years' funding for all the initiatives undertaken in the last financial year
- ◆ highlighting the importance of free schools meals and footwear and clothing grants as more than 1 in 5 children were living in poverty
- ◆ referring to the reasons for the Administration's proposal to roll out "Free at 3" in 2020/2021 rather than 2019/2020
- ◆ advising of the successful recruitment of 33 teachers and 33 classroom assistants as well as Modern Apprentices in the social care and Early Years' sectors
- ◆ thanking staff for the preparation of the 2019/2020 budget
- ◆ thanking the JTUC for its input to the budget process
- ◆ advising that some councils had raised the level of Council Tax by 4.79% and, therefore, he considered a rise of 3% was fair
- ◆ referring to the Council's relationship with third sector partners
- ◆ intimating that the Council had a theme of long-term planning, such as capital investment in schools, roads and care homes
- ◆ advising that, as a minority Administration, he recognised the need for compromise and had tried to reach consensus with other groups and would continue to do so

The Council decided:

- (1) that the revenue budget 2019/2020 be approved and that a further report, identifying any impact to the base budget allocated to each Resource as a result of the decisions taken in the previous item, be submitted to a future meeting for noting;
- (2) that, on the basis that the budget was conditional on the receipt of the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2019, a report be submitted to a future meeting confirming such receipt to allow the condition to be purified;
- (3) to note that the Band D Council Tax for 2019/2020 be set as £1,168;
- (4) that governance arrangements, incorporating the Performance and Review Scrutiny Forum, the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee and the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum, be continued; and
- (5) that the continued work required to finalise the detailed revenue budget of the Council for 2019/2020, as outlined in Section 12 of the report, be approved.

Councillor Burns left the meeting following this item of business

4 Recommendation Referred by Executive Committee - Prudential Code Indicators, Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy 2019/2020

A report dated 27 February 2019 by the Chief Executive was submitted on a recommendation referred to the Council by the Executive Committee of 27 February 2019. The recommendation was that the Prudential Code Indicators for 2019/2020 to 2020/2021, Treasury Management Strategy for 2019/2020 and the Annual Investment Strategy for 2019/2020 be approved.

The Council decided: that the recommendation of the Executive Committee of 27 February 2019 in relation to Prudential Code Indicators for 2019/2020 to 2020/2021, Treasury Management Strategy for 2019/2020 and Annual Investment Strategy for 2019/2020 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 27 February 2019 (Paragraph 2)]

5 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

RISK AND AUDIT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 2, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 14 November 2018

Chair:

Councillor Graeme Campbell

Councillors Present:

Councillor Poppy Corbett, Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Mary Donnelly, Councillor Mark Horsham, Councillor Julia Marrs

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Carol Nugent, Councillor Margaret B Walker, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh

Attending:

Finance and Corporate Resources

P Manning, Executive Director; Y Douglas, Audit and Compliance Manager; S Dunsmore, Insurance and Risk Manager; T Little, Head of Corporate Communications and Strategy; T Slater, Administration Officer; J Taylor, Head of Finance (Strategy)

Also Attending:

Audit Scotland

B Gillespie and D Richardson, External Auditors

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee held on 18 September 2018 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Committee decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Internal Audit Activity as at 24 October 2018

A report dated 24 October 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on work completed by Internal Audit during the period 30 August to 24 October 2018.

Details were given on the progress of audit assignments and the performance of Internal Audit which highlighted that:-

- ◆ 68% of assignments had been delivered within budget against a target of 80%
- ◆ 80% of draft reports had been delivered on time against a target of 80%
- ◆ 75% of the 2018/2019 Internal Audit Plan had commenced
- ◆ 88% of audit assignments had been concluded to a signed action plan within 4 weeks of the issue of a draft report against a target of 80%

- ◆ 89% of internal audit recommendations had been delivered on time against a target of 90%

The findings from assignments completed in the period 30 August to 24 October 2018 were detailed in Appendix 2 to the report. Significant assignments completed in the period were detailed in Appendices 3 and 4 to the report.

Updates were given on the following areas of work:-

- ◆ progress against the audit strategy
- ◆ Internal Audit Plan
- ◆ National Fraud Initiative

As part of the 2019/2020 Internal Audit Plan consultation process, the Committee would be asked for ideas and suggestions for inclusion in the 2019/2020 Plan. Those should focus on specific areas where there were known control weaknesses.

Audit Scotland had recommended that public bodies participating in the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) self-appraise their involvement prior to and during the exercise. To facilitate the self-appraisal, Audit Scotland had developed a checklist which included areas where the Audit Committee should obtain assurance around the organisation's approach to the NFI exercise. The checklist and suggested responses to each of the self-assessment questions were detailed in Appendix 5 to the report.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report. In response to a member's suggestion, consideration would be given to arranging an awareness session in relation to the NFI exercise.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 18 September 2018 (Paragraph 5)]

4 2017/2018 Year End Risk Management Report

A report dated 2 October 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ progress in delivering actions to control the Council's top risks
- ◆ Resource compliance with the Risk Management Strategy

Risk Sponsors were required, on an annual basis, to assess and provide evidence of their Resource's compliance with the Risk Management Strategy. The end of year compliance statement, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, showed that Resources continued to demonstrate full compliance with the Strategy.

Performance in completing actions on the Council's top risk control plan was reported through IMPROVe, the Council's performance management system, on a quarterly basis. At 31 March 2018, 100% of actions relating to the Council's top risk register had been completed against a target of 80%.

Officers responded to members' questions on the position regarding insurance cover for members who represented the Council on outside bodies

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 11 November 2017 (Paragraph 6)]

5 2017/2018 Year End Insured Risks Report

A report dated 5 October 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the Council's insurance claims for the year to 31 March 2018 for the following main classes of insurance:-

- ◆ employer's liability
- ◆ public liability
- ◆ motor insurance
- ◆ property insurance and other miscellaneous risks

Appendix 1 provided annual comparisons of the numbers and values of claims by Resource for the years 2013/2014 to 2017/2018. Claim numbers for 2017/2018 were in line with the average for the previous 4 years, while the estimated value of claims for 2017/2018 was below the previous 4 year average.

Appendix 2 compared claim numbers and costs for 2017/2018 with the equivalent position for 2016/2017. This showed an increase of 251 claims (25%) compared with the numbers reported in 2016/2017 and an increase in the cost of claims from £1.662 million in 2016/2017 to £1.963 million in 2017/2018.

Details were given on measures in place and mitigating actions proposed to manage insurance hotspots.

Officers responded to members' questions on various aspects of the report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 11 November 2017 (Paragraph 5)]

Councillor Devlin left the meeting following consideration of this item of business

6 Audit Scotland Report: Challenges And Performance 2018

A report dated 5 November 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the Audit Scotland report 'Challenges and Performance 2018'.

Audit Scotland published an overview report each year, on behalf of the Accounts Commission, covering key areas of current and future activity relative to local government and providing an opinion on how those were, or should be, managed.

The Audit Scotland report was divided into the following 3 parts:-

- ◆ Part 1 The challenges for councils
- ◆ Part 2 Councils' responses to the challenges
- ◆ Part 3 The impact on council services

A number of key messages arising from the report were outlined, including recommendations for councils. Details of the recommendations were provided, together with an assessment of the position in this Council. In addition, the report was accompanied by a scrutiny tool for Councillors which included example questions which would aid Councillors in performing their role. Those questions were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

In response to a point raised regarding training for elected members, officers advised that options to make training more accessible to members would be explored.

The Committee decided: that the key messages and recommendations detailed in the Audit Scotland report entitled 'Challenges and Performance 2018' be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 March 2018 (Paragraph 8)]

7 Efficiency Statement 2017/2018

A report dated 19 September 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the Council's Efficiency Statement for 2017/2018.

As part of the Scottish Government's efficiencies agenda, councils had been asked to return information on efficiencies generated in the year.

The level of efficiencies achieved by the Council in 2017/2018 was £19.653 million. This figure took account of the removal of any savings which were not considered to be efficiencies achieved in the year. The efficiency savings did, however, include efficiencies achieved through improved procurement practices and efficiencies identified by the Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board.

The Council continued to recognise the ongoing requirement to demonstrate efficiency, with continuous improvement remaining a key principle of Best Value.

The Efficiency Statement, which was attached as an appendix to the report, had been forwarded to COSLA by the due date of 17 August 2018.

The Committee decided: that the Efficiency Savings figure of £19.653 million for 2017/2018, which had been submitted to COSLA by the due date of 17 August 2018, be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 20 September 2018 (Paragraph 6)]

8 Forward Programme for Future Meetings

A report dated 25 October 2018 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the outline forward programme for the meeting of the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee to 14 June 2019.

As part of future arrangements, members were invited to suggest topics for inclusion in the Committee's forward programme.

The Committee decided: that the outline forward programme for the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Committee to 14 June 2019 be noted.

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

Report

6

Report to:	South Lanarkshire Council
Date of Meeting:	13 March 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board – Appointment of Chair
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ request approval of the appointment of the Chair to the South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board (IJB)

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Council is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that Councillor John Bradley be appointed as Chair of the South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board (IJB).

3. Background

- 3.1. The South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board at its meeting on 6 October 2015 approved the Integration Joint Board's Standing Orders. The Standing Orders are required by the Integration Joint Board under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Integration Joint Boards) (Scotland) Order 2014 (No 285).
- 3.2. The Standing Orders allow for the Council and NHS Lanarkshire to appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair of the IJB for a period of 3 years, after which responsibility for appointing the Chair and Deputy Chair will transfer to the other party.
- 3.3. Philip Campbell, Non Executive Director, NHS Lanarkshire is currently Chair of the IJB and the Deputy Chair is Councillor John Bradley. Those appointments will expire on 31 March 2019 and responsibility for appointing the Chair of the IJB will transfer to the Council.

4. Appointment of Chair of the South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board (IJB)

- 4.1. It is proposed that Councillor John Bradley be appointed as Chair of the South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board for a period of 3 years with effect from 1 April 2019.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. There are no risks to the Council in relation to the recommendation contained in this report.
- 7.2. There are no issues in terms of sustainability in relation to the recommendation contained in this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy nor recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

20 February 2019

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Values

- ◆ Fair, Open and Sustainable
- ◆ Accountable, Effective, Efficient and Transparent

Previous References

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Integration Joint Board 6 October 2015

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Standing Orders for the Integration Joint Board

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Joyce McDonald, Administration Adviser

Ext: 4521 (Tel: 01698 454521)

E-mail: joyce.mcdonald@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Report

7

Report to:	South Lanarkshire Council
Date of Meeting:	13 March 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	2019/2020 Revenue Budget Update - Approved Budget
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ to provide Elected Members with the approved 2019/2020 Revenue Budget position across Resources following the Council Meeting on 27 February 2019, including the approved amendments.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Council is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

(1) that the contents of this report be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. At the Council Meeting on 27 February 2019, the Overall Position of Budget 2019/2020, Savings Proposals and Council Tax paper was presented for approval.
- 3.2. Amendments to this budget were approved and the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) agreed to provide an update to Elected Members on the budgets contained in the Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2019/2020 report also presented to the Council, which incorporates the approved amendments.

4. Total Revenue Budget Summary

- 4.1. The total budget for 2019/2020, taking into account the amendments approved at the Council meeting on 27 February 2019 is now £720.363 million.
- 4.2. Appendix 1 of this report provides details of the approved budget across Resources and also across the different expenditure categories.
- 4.3. The revised funding package for the approved budget is detailed in Table 1 below:

Table 1: 2019/2020 Revenue Budget Funding

	£m
Government Grant	570.132
Assumed Government Funding - Teachers Pension Contribution Rate	5.709
Debt Flexibility Reserve	5.300
Capital Fund / Receipts Reserve	4.000
Use of 2018/2019 Underspend from Reserves	3.000
Use of Reserves	0.215
Council Tax	132.007
Total funding	720.363

5. Employee Implications

5.1. None.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. The financial implications are as detailed in the report.

7. Other Implications

7.1. There are no significant issues in terms of sustainability or risk arising from the recommendations in this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.

8.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

1 March 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

♦ Accountable, Effective, Efficient and Transparent

Previous References

♦ South Lanarkshire Council, 27 February 2019

List of Background Papers

♦ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Paul Manning, Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources

Ext: 4530 (Tel: 01698 454530)

E-mail: paul.manning@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

South Lanarkshire Council
2019/2020 Revenue Budget Summary

	2018/19 Base Budget	2019/20 Rollover	2019/20 Savings	2019/20 Proposed Base Budget
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Community and Enterprise Resources	115.294	3.990	(3.037)	116.247
Education Resources	316.598	28.058	(1.222)	343.434
Finance and Corporate Resources	36.908	(5.418)	(2.990)	28.500
Housing and Technical Resources	17.702	0.007	(1.218)	16.491
Social Work Resources	155.358	10.141	(0.602)	164.897
Joint Boards	2.363	(0.439)	0.000	1.924
Total of all Resources plus Joint Boards	644.223	36.339	(9.069)	671.493
Other Budget Items:				
Loan Charges	57.780	(3.471)	(0.224)	54.085
Corporate Items	4.292	3.020	(0.209)	7.103
Trading Services' Surpluses	(11.934)	0.878	(1.262)	(12.318)
Total Base Budget 2018/2019	694.361			
Total Proposed Budget 2019/2020		36.766	(10.764)	720.363

The 2018/19 base figures include budget adjustments approved during 2018/2019.

South Lanarkshire Council 2019/2020

Revenue Budget Summary

Budgetary Category	2018/2019 Base Budget £m	2019/2020 Proposed Base Budget £m
Employee Costs	415.346	435.012
Property Costs	49.848	48.964
Supplies and Services	33.338	33.207
Transport and Plant Costs	21.545	21.426
Administration Costs	10.814	10.385
Payments to Other Bodies	49.620	52.408
Payment to Contractors	179.210	186.090
Transfer Payments (Housing & Council Tax Benefit)	83.109	80.809
Financing Charges (Leasing Costs)	<u>2.056</u>	<u>1.918</u>
Total Expenditure	844.886	870.219
Total Income	<u>(200.663)</u>	<u>(198.726)</u>
Net Expenditure	644.223	671.493
Other Budget Items:		
Loan Charges	57.780	54.085
Corporate Items	4.292	7.103
Trading Services' Surpluses	<u>(11.934)</u>	<u>(12.318)</u>
Total Base Budget 2018/2019	<u>694.361</u>	
Total Proposed Budget 2019/2020		<u>720.363</u>