

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

Minutes of special meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 11 February 2010

Chair:

Provost Russell Clearie

Councillors Present:

Alex Allison, David Baillie, Eileen Baxendale, Archie Buchanan, Jackie Burns, John Cairney, Andy Carmichael, Gordon Clark, Pam Clearie, Gerry Convery, Peter Craig, Maureen Devlin, Jim Docherty, Barry Douglas, Hugh Dunsmuir, Douglas Edwards, Lynn Filshie, Beith Forrest (Depute), Bev Gauld, Tommy Gilligan, Ian Gray, Jim Handibode, Anne Higgins, Bill Holman, Graeme Home, Bobby Lawson, Eileen Logan, Joe Lowe, Anne Maggs, James Malloy, Archie Manson, Edward McAvoy, Brian McCaig, Michael McCann, Clare McColl, Lesley McDonald, Jim McGuigan, Alex McInnes, Brian McKenna, Denis McKenna, Jean McKeown, Davie McLachlan, John McNamee, Mary McNeill, Danny Meikle, Alice Marie Mitchell, Henry Mitchell, John Murray, Graham Scott, David Shearer, Graham Simpson, Mary Smith, Hamish Stewart, George Sutherland, Chris Thompson, Bert Thomson, Richard Tullett, Jim Wardhaugh, Sheena Wardhaugh, David Watson, Pat Watters

Councillors' Apologies:

John Anderson, Walter Brogan, Graeme Campbell, Allan Falconer, Patrick Ross-Taylor

Attending:

Chief Executive's Service

A Strang, Chief Executive

Community Resources

N Anderson, Executive Director

Corporate Resources

R McIlwain, Executive Director; R Lake, Administration Manager; S Somerville, Administration Adviser; D Wilson, Head of Administration Services

Education Resources

L Forde, Executive Director

Enterprise Resources

C McDowall, Executive Director

Finance and Information Technology Resources

L Hardie, Executive Director and Depute Chief Executive

Housing and Technical Resources

J Hayton, Executive Director

Social Work Resources

H Stevenson, Executive Director

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Recommendations Referred by Executive Committee - Housing Revenue Account Budget and Capital Programme 2010/2011; and Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2010/2011

A report dated 11 February 2010 by the Chief Executive was tabled on recommendations referred to the Council by the Executive Committee (Special) of 11 February 2010. The recommendations were as follows:-

- ◆ **Housing Revenue Account Budget and Capital Programme 2010/2011**
that the recommendations of the Housing and Technical Resources Committee (Special) in relation to the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2010/2011 and Housing Capital Programme 2010/2011 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee (Special) of 11 February 2010 (Paragraph 3)]

- ◆ **Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2010/2011**
 - ◆ that the recommendation of the Finance and Information Technology Resources Committee (Special) and the Revenue Budget for 2010/2011 be approved;
 - ◆ that the re-allocation of budget in respect of Concordat commitments, as detailed in the report, including the allocation of £1.670 million to the Winter Maintenance Programme and £1.000 million to Teachers' Maternity Pay, be approved;
 - ◆ that the budget allocations for each Resource, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be approved;
 - ◆ that the Band D Council Tax for 2010/2011 be set at a figure of £1101;
 - ◆ that the actions required to finalise the Council's detailed Revenue Budget for 2010/2011 be approved; and
 - ◆ that, in line with good governance arrangements, the Council's policy objectives and performance continue to be reviewed at Service, Resource and corporate levels.

[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee (Special) of 11 February 2010 (Paragraph 4)]

Councillor McAvoy, seconded by Councillor McCann, moved that the recommendations detailed in the report be approved. Councillor Allison, seconded by Councillor Murray, moved as an amendment that the recommendation in relation to the re-allocation of budget in respect of Concordat commitments be not accepted on the grounds that Early Years' provision had more value than the reduction of class sizes. On a vote being taken by a show of hands, 6 members voted for the amendment and 56 for the motion which was declared carried.

Councillor McAvoy:-

- ◆ made a statement highlighting the priorities within the 2010/2011 Revenue Budget
- ◆ advised that, in light of the current economic climate, members' seminars would take place throughout the year to allow consideration of the potential difficulties to be faced by the Council in future years

Both the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition acknowledged the contribution of officers to the budget process and extended thanks to Councillor Watters, in his capacity as President of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), for his valuable input in relation to the budget negotiations at a national level.

The Council decided: that the recommendations of the Executive Committee (Special) of 11 February 2010 in relation to the following issues be approved:-

- ◆ Housing Revenue Account Budget 2010/2011 and Housing Capital Programme 2010/2011
- ◆ Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation 2010/2011

3 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.