

Report

3

Report to:	Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum
Date of Meeting:	11 November 2010
Report by:	Archibald Strang, Chief Executive

Subject:	Information Requested from Resources
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ present information received from Resources in response to issues raised at the last meeting of the Forum held on 30 September 2010.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the responses received from Resources be considered.

3. Background

3.1. At the meeting of the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum held on 30 September 2010, variances across Resources and the explanation for those variances were considered. Information in relation to the issues highlighted was to be provided to this meeting of the Forum

4. Information Requested from Resources

4.1. *Community Resources – Concierge Services*

4.1.1. In relation to Community Resources, a query was raised with regards to the overtime incurred within Facilities and Cultural Services and the level of income due to the same Service for Concierge Services.

4.1.2. Details were requested seeking explanation of the relationship between overtime experienced at the higher level due to additional service requests and an under recovery of income due to reduced levels of service provision.

4.2. *Community Resources – Trading Services*

4.2.1. In relation to Community Resources Trading Operations' Operational Report, a number of queries were raised regarding the statistics included in the paper as follows:

- The paper stated that Janitors' absence levels in April 2010 were 6.9%. Can Community Resources please provide an explanation as to the reasons behind the increase in absence levels?
- Can community Resources provide any statistics or other evidence as to the impact being made by the introduction of healthier eating initiatives in schools?
- A Member asked after the use of more efficient pool cars and whether Community Resources could provide information on the impact of spend as a result of this change. Can Community Resources provide an update on the pool car pilot?

4.2.2. Details were requested that would address the queries as raised in 4.2.1. above.

4.3. Community Resources – Fixed Play Areas

4.3.1. In relation to Community Resources, a query was raised with regards capital expenditure items re fixed Play Areas, including Strathaven Fixed Play Area.

4.3.2. Details were requested seeking clarification on the relationship between these items of expenditure and those being considered by The Fixed Play Review Group.

4.4. Footway Capital Project, Millford Road, East Kilbride

4.4.1. In relation to Enterprise Resources, and specifically Roads' Projects, a query was raised with regards to the Footway Project in Milford, East Kilbride.

4.4.2. The status of the project is 'held' and a details were requested as to why this is the case.

4.5. Payments to Other Bodies

4.5.1. A further query was raised in response to the paper issued in respect of the Payments to Other Bodies made by the Council which are greater than £10,000. Members asked for analysis of these payments between Statutory / Non Statutory and Contractual / Non Contractual.

4.5.2. The response to this query is the subject of a paper to be issued separately.

5. Employee Implications

5.1. None.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. None.

7. Other Implications

7.1. None.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

8.1. There is no requirement to undertake an equality impact assessment or consultation in respect of the content of this report.

Archibald Strang
Chief Executive

25 October 2010

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values

- ◆ Efficient and effective use of resources
- ◆ Accountable, effective and efficient

Previous References

Minutes of 30 September 2010

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, Head of Finance Services

Ext: 4532 (Tel: 01698 454532)

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



Community Resources
Executive Director **Norrie Anderson**
Support Services

Memo

To: Paul Manning
Head of Finance Services

Our ref: NA/
Your ref: LO'H – Memo 116

cc:

If calling ask for: Craig Fergusson

From: Alistair McKinnon
Head of Support Services
(Community Resources)

Phone: 01698 455295
Date: 22 October 2010

Subject: Finance Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Concierge Services

I refer to your recent correspondence on the above, dated 7 October, and would respond as follows.

The 'overtime experienced at the higher level due to additional service requests' relates mainly to the Halls Service. This additional demand has resulted in a corresponding over recovery of income.

The 'under recovery of income due to reduced levels of service provision' relates mainly to the Concierge Service where an area of service provision is no longer required and this is offset by an underspend in basic pay. The remainder of the underspend in basic pay relates to vacancies and offsets the additional expenditure on overtime required to maintain service delivery.

Please contact me should you require any further information.

Many thanks

Alistair McKinnon
Head of Support Services



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IN PEOPLE**



**Healthy
Working
Lives**



Community Resources
Executive Director **Norrie Anderson**
Facilities, Fleet and Grounds Services

Memo

To:	Paul Manning Head of Finance Services	Our ref:	SK/BR
cc:	Norrie Anderson Executive Director (Community Resources)	Your ref:	LO'H – Memo 117
From:	Stephen Kelly Head of Facilities, Fleet and Grounds Services	If calling ask for:	Stephen Kelly
		Phone:	01698 454705
		Date:	14 October 2010

Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Community Resources' Trading Services

I refer to recent correspondence on the above, dated 7 October 2010, and would respond accordingly.

1. Janitors absence level (6.9% in April 2010)

Contributory factor within this absence was the level of long term absence (12 janitors) which equated to 183 days. The following absence period, May 2010, saw the level of absence reduce to 4.54% which was realised by a return to work of 6 of the janitors who were on long term absence.

2. Evidence on the impact of healthy eating initiatives

The Council implemented Hungry for Success in the primary schools in 2004, the secondary estate two years later. The overarching intent behind the provision of nutritionally balanced school meals is to first of all educate the pupils as to the value behind such healthy meals and, secondly, to provide meals that are high in nutritional value. In the very long term the National Health Service may see a reduction in the level of obesity, diabetes and heart disease and it is reasonable to presume that the education of pupils through the Hungry for Success programme may have contributed, modestly, to a reduction or level of pressure on the National Health Service in years to come.

From a purely pupil perspective it is clear that pupils leaving primary and who are joining secondary schools are expecting to see the same healthy range of menu items. One example is the "build a baguette" initiative where pupils can choose from a wide range of healthy fillings and salads. The average uptake of this menu item amounts to 1,200 per day within the Council's secondary estate. Finally the provision of this service is available to all pupils.

3. **Update on Pool Car initiative**

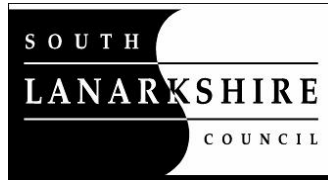
The pilot involving the Council's Pool Car initiative remains in its infancy. Around 30 pool cars are currently available (situated at strategic locations throughout the Authority) with the level of utilisation varying. Early "teething" problems within the pilot have been removed.

In financial terms the cost per mile reduces from 40p paid to employees to 10p per mile in fuel costs. Acknowledging the environmental benefits of using the pool car fleet, which lies in the lowest band of CO², a contribution (in comparison to vehicles used previously by employees) in carbon saving will be made. I would add that the carbon emissions formula calculates that pool cars produce 48% less CO² than grey fleet cars.

For a full report on the impact of the pool car initiative it is recommended that a separate response be provided once the initiative has had further time to develop.

I trust this is of value.





Community Resources
Executive Director **Norrie Anderson**
Facilities, Fleet and Grounds Services

Memo

To: Paul Manning
Head of Finance Services

Our ref: SK/BR

cc: Norrie Anderson
Executive Director
(Community Resources)
Alistair McKinnon
Head of Support Services
(Community Resources)

Your ref: LO'H Memo 118

If calling ask for: Stephen Kelly

Phone: 01698 454705

From: Stephen Kelly
Head of Facilities, Fleet and
Grounds Services

Date: 15 October 2010

Subject: Financial Services Scrutiny Forum Query – Fixed Play Areas

I refer to recent correspondence of 11 October 2010, where Members were looking for clarification as to the relationship between the capital items of expenditure and the Fixed Play Area Review. For clarification I assume the projects under consideration to be: -

- ◆ Law Community Play Park
- ◆ Strathaven Park Toddler Area
- ◆ Grange Terrace, Pettinain
- ◆ Haghalm Road, Cleghorn
- ◆ Loch Park, Carluke

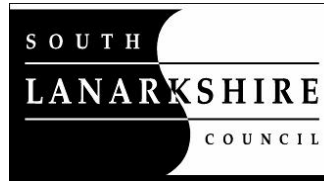
The proposed facilities at Law Community and Strathaven Park are being financed through funds raised by local groups. On the other hand the facilities at Grange Terrace and Haghalm Road are being financed through developer contributions (planning gain). Finally, Loch Park, Carluke is being provided as a replacement for the fixed play area which was originally situated at Lock Park Stadium.

Whilst the Member/Officer working group on Fixed Play is underway there is no impediment to the above projects proceeding. These projects have started prior to the commencement of the Member/Officer working group and in most cases the only Council expenditure relates to staff time i.e. design/tendering and project management.

I trust this is of value.

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Email: stephen.kelly@southlanarkshire.gsx.gov.uk





Finance and Information Technology Resources
Executive Director **Linda Hardie**
Finance Services

Memo

To: Financial Resources Scrutiny forum **Our ref:**
Your ref: LO'H Memo 119
cc: **If calling ask for:** Paul Manning
Phone: 01698 454532
From: Paul Manning **Date:** 7 October 2010
Head of Finance

Subject: Financial Services Scrutiny Forum Query – Footway Capital Project, Milford, East Kilbride

At the Financial Resources Scrutiny forum meeting of 30 September 2010, an agenda item looked at the Council's Capital Projects and their physical progress. In relation to Enterprise Resources, and specifically Roads' Projects, a query was raised with regards to the Footway Project in Milford, East Kilbride.

The status of the project is 'held' and a query was raised, through the Chair of the Forum, as to why this was the case.

In response, information received from Housing and Technical Resources explained that the Milford footway project was temporarily held pending the financial outturn of other projects in the programme. This exercise is now complete and the project has now been programmed to be undertaken during November, weather permitting.

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