

**POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 5 FEBRUARY 2008**

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**Policy & Resources Committee**

**Tuesday 5 February 2008 at 3.00 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Ferguson, McCabe, Dorrian (for McIlwee), McKenzie, MacLeod, Moran and Wilson.

**Chair:** Councillor McCabe presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education and Social Care, Corporate Director Environment and Community Protection, Corporate Director Improvement and Performance, Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal and Administration, Head of ICT and Business Transformation, Head of Performance Management and Procurement, Head of Organisational Development and Human Resources, Head of Property Resources and Facilities Management, Head of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs and Legal Services Manager (Procurement, District Court and Administration).

**Apologies:** Councillor Fyfe and McIlwee.

**The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.**

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|-----------|---|-----------|
| <b>86</b> | <b>Revenue Budget 2007/08 - Period 8</b>  | <b>86</b> |
|           | <p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Director Improvement and Performance and Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources on the position of the 2007/08 Revenue Budget as at Period 8 (30 November 2007) which is projecting an underspend of £720,000.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>   |           |
| <b>87</b> | <b>General Fund Revenue Budget 2007/08 - Period 8</b>   | <b>87</b> |
|           | <p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the current position of the 2007/08 General Fund Revenue Budget as at Period 8 (30 November 2007) and (2) providing an update on the position of the earmarked reserves.</p> <p>During the course of discussion on this item, the Corporate Director Environment and Community Protection advised that a report on the position with regard to the Community Investment Fund would be submitted to the next meeting of the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> |           |
| <b>88</b> | <b>Capital Programme 2007/08</b>  | <b>88</b> |
|           | <p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the current position of the one year Capital Programme 2007/08 and (2) advising of any significant matters.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b> that the Committee note the current position of the 2007/08 Capital Programme and that a Capital Programme for 2008/09 will be agreed as part of the imminent budget process.</p>  |           |

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- 89 Treasury Management Monitoring Report 2007/08 - Quarter 3 89**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer summarising the Council's treasury management position and activities during quarter 3 2007/08 as required under the terms of Treasury Management Practice 6 ("TMP6") on "Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements". The report also explained the treasury management activities undertaken by the Council in relation to Housing Stock Transfer.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Treasury Management Monitoring Report for quarter 3 2007/08 be noted;
  - (2) that the actions taken in undertaking debt restructuring and in the short term breaches in Policy Limits and Prudential Indicators be noted;
  - (3) that the upper limit for fixed rate borrowing maturing in 10 years and beyond for Prudential Indicator 13 be amended from 95% to 100%; and
  - (4) that it be noted that the Treasury Management Strategy for 2008/09 with associated Prudential Indicators will be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 90 ICT Capital Programme Update 90**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement and Performance on the current position with regard to the 2005/08 ICT Capital Programme.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the improved position and progress with the ICT Capital Programme.
- 91 Modernisation and Efficiency Programme - Progress Report 91**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement and Performance on progress made in implementing the Council's Modernisation and Efficiency Programme.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the good progress being made with the implementation of the Council's Modernisation and Efficiency Programme; and
  - (2) that a further report on the Modernisation and Efficiency Programme be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 92 Corporate Performance Report 92**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement and Performance appending the Corporate Performance Report for November/December 2007 which complements existing Directorate performance reporting arrangements to Committee and is a key component of the Council's overall Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee endorse the performance information contained in the Corporate Performance Report; and
  - (2) that it be noted that further reports on corporate performance will be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.
- 93 Improvement and Performance Directorate Performance Report 93**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement and Performance



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highlighting the key non-financial issues arising from the recently agreed Concordat between the COSLA Presidential Team and the Scottish Government.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the key issues arising from the Concordat between COSLA and the Scottish Government; and
- (2) that a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee outlining progress made in the preparation of the Council's Single Outcome Agreement.

**98 Consultation on Proportionality on COSLA Convention 98**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement and Performance appending a proposed response to the consultation paper issued by COSLA regarding proportionality on the COSLA Convention.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note that the current delegation from Inverclyde Council to the COSLA Convention reflects the guidance issued by COSLA on proportionality; and
- (2) that approval be given to the response to the consultation paper set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

**99 Single Status: Application of Protection Arrangements for New Employees 99**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development and Human Resources requesting the Committee to agree the application of protection arrangements in respect of Single Status for new Council employees.

**Decided:** that it be agreed:

- (1) where a salary detriment will apply to a new employee, the protection period of three years will not apply when the revised Pay and Grading Scheme is introduced;
- (2) where any change is made to the current terms and conditions as a result of the Single Status Agreement and where protection arrangements are put in place, these will not apply to any new employees;
- (3) where any new arrangements are introduced for atypical allowances, any protection period agreed will not apply to new employees;
- (4) the term "new employee" is for any new employee who will be appointed through an interview process or offered a contract of employment after the date of this Committee; and
- (5) new employees will work 37 fte hours from the date on which Single Status is implemented.

**100 Use of Powers Delegated to the Chief Executive 100**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources advising of the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive since the last ordinary meeting of the Committee for (1) amendment to the Council's Treasury Policy and utilisation of General Fund Reserves, (2) use of consultants for the Strategic Assessment of Safer Communities, (3) contractual arrangements relative to River Clyde Homes contract for kitchens, bathrooms and rewiring, (4) use of consultants for a Key Workers Audit (Workforce Plus) and (5) use of specialist companies for a Property Asset Management Information System.

**Noted**

**101 Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee Revenue Budget 2007/08 - Virement Request 101**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources requesting the Committee to consider a remit from the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee of 10 January 2008 for virement of £50,000 between Environmental Services Employee Costs and the Efficiency Target of £700,000.

**Decided:** that approval be given to virement of £50,000 between Environmental Services Employee Costs and the Efficiency Target of £700,000.

**102 Review of Key Leisure Sites****102**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources requesting the Committee to consider a remit from the Regeneration Committee of 17 January 2008 for approval of financial matters relating to proposals which have arisen from the review of key leisure sites in Inverclyde.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the financial matters relating to the proposals which have arisen from the review of key leisure sites detailed in the report submitted to the Regeneration Committee on 17 January 2008.

**It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item:-**

Item	Paragraph(s)
Debt Management Partner - New Contract	6, 8 and 9
Appendices 3, 4 and 5 relative to Agenda Item 15 on the Use of Powers Delegated to the Chief Executive	6
Approval to Seek Tenders from Consultants not on an Approved List: CDM Co-ordination Services	6 and 8
Strategic Regeneration Projects - Remit from Regeneration Committee	2, 6, 8 and 9
Asset Management Plan - Review of the Council's Property Portfolio - Remit from Regeneration Committee	6 and 9

**103 Debt Management Partner - New Contract****103**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer seeking approval to appoint a new Debt Management Partner following the expiry of the current contract in April 2008.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the appointment of George Walker & Company as the new Debt Management Partner for the period April 2008 to March 2011 on the basis set out in the report.

**104 Use of Powers Delegated to the Chief Executive - Appendices****104**

There were submitted Appendices 3, 4 and 5 relative to agenda item 15 on the use of powers delegated to the Chief Executive.

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**Noted**

- 105 Approval to Seek Tenders from Consultants not on an Approved List: CDM Co-ordination Services 105**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Property Resources and Facilities Management seeking approval to invite tenders for CDM Co-ordination Services from consultants not on an Approved List.
- Councillor Clocherty declared a financial interest in this matter due to his employer's association with one of the prospective tenderers. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business precluded his continued presence in the Chamber and his participation in the decision-making process. He therefore left the Chamber prior to consideration of the item.
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to seek tenders to provide CDM Co-ordination Services on a consultancy basis from the firms detailed in the report; and
- (2) that authority be granted to the appropriate Officers to accept the most favourable tender received.
- Councillor Clocherty returned to the meeting at this juncture.
- 106 Strategic Regeneration Projects - Remit from Regeneration Committee 106**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources on a remit from the Regeneration Committee of 17 January 2008 for approval of financial matters relating to a number of strategic regeneration projects.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the financial matters relating to the proposals in respect of the Kilmacolm New Community Centre Co Ltd (KNCCC Ltd), redevelopment of Campbell Street, Greenock, the transfer of assets to Riverside Inverclyde and matters arising therefrom, as detailed in the report submitted to the Regeneration Committee of 17 January 2008.
- 107 Asset Management Plan - Review of the Council's Property Portfolio - Remit from Regeneration Committee 107**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources on a remit from the Regeneration Committee of 17 January 2008 for an allocation of funding to assist with the preparation of detailed proposals and feasibility work to enable Option 2 as outlined in Hg Consulting's report on the review of the Council's Property Portfolio to be market tested where appropriate and for this to be included in the Capital Programme in future years.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the allocation of £200,000 from Modernising and Efficiency funding to assist with the preparation of detailed proposals and feasibility work to enable Option 2 to be market tested where appropriate and for this to be included in the Capital Programme in future years.