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ECONOMIC.DEV1995M

Motherwell, 5 March 1996 at 9.35 am.

A Special Meeting of the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor Curran, Chair; Councillor Connelly, Vice-Chair; Councillors  
Gray,  
H. McGuigan, Mathieson, G. Murray, Shaw and Stocks.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Director of Administration, Director of Planning and Development,  
Head  
of Central Services and Head of Accounting Services.

APOLOGIES

Councillor Beekman, McElroy and Sullivan.

REVENUE BUDGET 1996-97

1. There was submitted a report dated 27 February 1996 by the  
Director of Finance (1) referring to the Stage 1 Budget which had  
been noted by Committee at its meeting on 5 December; (2)  
advising that further adjustment to the Stage 1 Budget had been  
made in recognition of new and updated information including  
issues raised as a consequence of re-organisation shortfalls and  
new legislative requirements; (3) providing: (a) In Appendix 1 a  
summary of the Departmental budget excluding approved savings,  
provision for pay award, turnover savings, revised central  
administrative costs and new accommodation costs; (b) In  
Appendix 2 details of approved or unavoidable increases to the  
1995/96 notional budget; (c) In Appendix 3 details of adjustments  
as a result of reorganisation shortfall, new legislation etc; (d)  
In  
Appendix 4 details of expenditure outwith capping; (e) In  
Appendix  
5 details of the effect of inter-Departmental movements, and (f)  
In  
Appendix 6 options for savings, and (4) requesting that the  
Council approve, from the options for savings identified in  
Appendix 6, savings measures to contribute to the Council's  
overall  
net expenditure reduction.

Decided:

- (1) that the Departmental budget summarised in Appendix 1  
of the Director of Finance's report showing a net  
expenditure amounting to \$2,190,000, be approved

subject to reduction thereof to reflect the following savings:-

- (a) Increased rental income from properties - \$245,000
  - (b) Reduce payments to outside bodies and agencies - \$180,000
  - (c) Reduce level of site maintenance (open spaces) - \$110,000
  - (d) Reduce "open space" grounds maintenance in industrial estates - \$100,000
  - (e) Efficiency savings in business development projects - \$40,000
  - (f) Reduce repairs to commercial/industrial properties - \$30,000
  - (g) Reduction in administration, training, conferences, etc. - \$10,000
- (2) that the Council approve an additional provision for a 1996/97 pay award;
  - (3) that no further inflationary increase be provided;
  - (4) that an appropriate reduction in employee costs be applied sufficient to provide, across all Departments, a saving of \$1 m in financial year 1996/97;
  - (5) that the Director of Finance be authorised to further revise central administrative costs in light of budgetary decision;
  - (6) that the Director of Finance be authorised to further revise accommodation costs in light of Departmental requirement, and
  - (7) that the Director of Finance in conjunction with the Directors of the other relevant Departments be authorised to realign resources between expenditure headings, and in some cases between Departments, to the extent necessary.