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Motherwell, 4 July 1996 at 3 pm.

A Special Meeting of the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor Curran, Convener; Councillors Coyle, Lucas, Lunny, G. Murray, Pentland, Robertson and Stocks.

CHAIR

Councillor Curran (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Committee Services Officer, Assistant Chief Executive (Policy), Head of Planning and Transportation and T. Lavery, Economic Development Officer.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. A. Thomson, (EKOS) Consultants.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Barrie, Beekman, Connelly, R. McKenna and McKeown.

WELCOME TO COUNCILLOR THOMAS LUNNY

1. Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener extended a welcome to Councillor Thomas Lunny to this, his first meeting of the Economic Development Committee following his appointment to the Committee at the Council meeting on 27 June 1996.

LANARKSHIRE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE: FEASIBILITY STUDY

2. With reference to paragraph 27 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 13 June 1996, there was submitted a draft final report (docketed) dated April 1996 prepared by EKOS Limited (Economic Consultants) with regard to the proposed establishment of the Lanarkshire Information Technology Centre.

In that connection, the Convener advised the Committee that an invitation had been extended to EKOS Limited (Economic Consultants) to be represented at today's meeting to make a presentation on the matter, and that Mr. Alastair Thomson of that

Company was in attendance.

Thereafter, Mr. Thomson was introduced to the meeting and was heard in connection with the proposals for the establishment of the Centre.

A general discussion followed with an exchange of views at the conclusion of which Mr. Thomson was thanked for his presentation and attendance at the meeting.

Decided:

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- (1) that the Council agree to proceed to the next stage of investigation as set out in Section 6 of the Action Plan  
the Consultants draft final report;
  - (2) that a Working Group consisting of representatives of the Consultants, Officers and Outside Agencies be established to liaise in the production of the finalised feasibility  
study document, and
  - (3) that a report by the Working Group be submitted to the Committee for further consideration.