

REPORT

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	Subject: STRATHCLYDE DEFENCE INDUSTRIES WORKING PARTY (SDIWP) - APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES	
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 25 July, 1996	Ref: MT/KM	

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Members will recall that at its meeting on 14 March 1996, the Committee considered a letter received on 12 February 1996 from the Scottish Trade Union Congress requesting that the Council agree to participate in the Strathclyde Defence Industries Working Party (SDIWP) following reorganisation on 1 April 1996. The invitation was subsequently approved.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to seek the appointment of one Member and one Officer to serve on the Working Party.

2 COMPOSITION OF STRATHCLYDE DEFENCE INDUSTRIES WORKING PARTY (SDIWP)

- 2.1 Formed in 1991, as a local response to the accelerating decline in Defence employment, and the publication of the Government Paper 'Options for Change' which indicated that the decline in Defence Industries was likely to continue throughout the 1990's, the Working Party hopes to continue to engage the interest of the widest possible range of new Unitary Councils.
- 2.2 The Working Party currently comprises workforce representatives from Defence Industries and MoD establishments together with local authority Members and Officers, representatives of the Arms Conversion Project and of Scottish Enterprise and the LEC Network as appropriate.
- 2.3 Apart from research and lobbying activities, the Working Party has, in the past, worked to quantify local defence dependency; has made input to relevant select Committee enquiries; promotes National and European Initiatives to the Company Base; and is currently undertaking a survey of redundant Defence workers with a view to assessing both the impact on the local economy and the perception of available advice and counselling services. The Group has a particular interest in diversification strategies and has discussed Company plans with many of the large contractors in the former Strathclyde Region.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee agree to appoint one Member and one Officer to serve as the Council's representatives on Strathclyde Defence Industries Working Party (SDIWP) and that the Director of Administration be authorised to advise the STUC accordingly.

Director of Administration

