

Motherwell, 8 June 2000 at 1.30 pm.

A Meeting of the **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor Brooks, Convener; Councillor Curran, Vice-Convener; Councillors Burns, Cameron, Connelly, Donnelly, Homer, Love, Lyle, McElroy, H. McGuigan, Morgan, Pentland, Saunders, Selfridge and Valentine.

CHAIR

Councillor Brooks (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Committee Services Officer and the Economic Development Manager.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Jones and McCabe.

PRESENTATION - THE WEST OF SCOTLAND EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM (WSEC)

1. The Convener welcomed Councillor Alex McGhee, Chair of the West of Scotland European Consortium who provided background to the formation and composition of The West of Scotland European Consortium and to its facilities and operations on behalf of Member Authorities in Europe and, in turn, introduced Mr. Malcolm Leitch, European Monitoring Officer for the Consortium who addressed the Committee on the activities of WSEC and provided an overview of the wide range of activities in which it was engaged, including negotiations on behalf of member Authorities following the review of structural funds on the delivery of support programmes for Councils.

There then followed a question/answer session at the conclusion of which the Convener thanked Councillor McGhee and Mr. Leitch for their presentation.

REMIT FROM HOUSING AND PROPERTY SERVICES (PROPERTY) SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 MAY 2000 - INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL LEASES

2. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Minute of the meeting of the Housing and Property Services (Property) Sub-Committee held on 24 May 2000, there was submitted a report dated 28 April 2000 by the Acting Director of Housing and Property Services detailing, in an Appendix to the report, industrial and commercial property lets which had been approved during the period from 1 June 1999 to 31 April 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

**BUSINESS/TRAINING BUSINESS PROGRAMMES - QUARTERLY REPORTS - PERIOD
1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2000**

(1) BOOST FOR BUSINESS START-UP

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report dated 11 April 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment providing details of applications received and considered under the Council's BOOST for Business Start-Up Scheme during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

(2) BUSINESS LOANS FUND - APPROVALS UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

4. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 18 April 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment providing details of applications received and approved under delegated authority in terms of the Council's Business Loans Fund Scheme during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

(3) EMPLOYMENT GRANTS SCHEME

5. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report dated 20 April 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment providing details of applications received and considered under the Council's Employment Grants Scheme during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

(4) TRAINING ASSISTANCE GRANT SCHEME

6. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report dated 5 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment providing details of (1) applications received and approved under the Council's Training Assistance Grant Scheme during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000, and (2) the performance of the Scheme during the period from 1 April 1999 to March 2000.

Decided:

- (1) that a further report on the performance of the Training Assistance Grant Scheme be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

(5) YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING INITIATIVE 1999

7. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 11 April 2000 by the Director of Planning and
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Environment providing details of applications received and approved under the Council's Youth Employment and Training Initiative during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

(6) MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TRAINING GRANT SCHEME

8. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 11 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment providing details of applications received and approved under the Council's Management and Technology Training Grant Scheme during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

(7) ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE

9. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 9 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) providing details of progress made in respect of the implementation of the Environment Task Force in Lanarkshire for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2000, and (2) enclosing, as Appendices, statistical information relative to the performance of the Environment Task Force in Lanarkshire for the period from 1 August 1998 to 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

EMPLOYMENT GRANTS SCHEME PERFORMANCE REPORT 1996-2000

10. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 15 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment detailing the overall performance of the Employment Grants Scheme for the period from 1 April 1996 to the cessation of the Programme on 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

REDUNDANCY SUPPORT PROVISION

11. With reference to paragraph 14 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 3 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reminding the Committee that the Council had adopted procedures in relation to Redundancy Support Provision; (2) advising that, during the period from 8 March until 8 June 2000, the Council had received notification of one large scale redundancy at TDG Logistics plc, Cumbernauld; (3) detailing the progress which had been made in respect of redundancies previously reported at (a) HM Prison Longriggend Young Offenders Institution, Longriggend; (b) Organon Laboratories Limited, Newhouse; (c) Volex Powercard plc, Cumbernauld; (d) Daks Simpson Limited, Larkhall; (e) Philips plc, Hamilton; (f) Corus Construction and Industrial, Motherwell, and (e) Levi Strauss plc, Whitburn and Bellshill (4) intimating (a) that the Chief Executive had now received the final report on Partnership Action for Continuing Employment together with a letter seeking details of local arrangements for redundancy support provision, and (b) that a meeting of representatives from North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire, The Employment Service and The Benefits Agency had been arranged to provide the information

requested by the Scottish Executive, and (5) enclosing, as Appendices, (a) the Executive Summary of the Scottish Executive's final report on Partnership Action for Continuing Employment, and (b) a letter received by the Director of Administration from the Managing Director of Corus Construction and Industrial detailing that company's position in relation to redundancies.

Decided:

- (1) that a further report on Partnership Action for Continuing Employment be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee;
- (2) that the Director of Administration be requested to write to Members of Parliament and Members of the Scottish Parliament representing constituencies within North Lanarkshire detailing the Committee's concerns about the possible economic impact on local industries arising from the comparative low value of other currencies against sterling, and
- (3) that the report be otherwise noted.

ENTERPRISE NETWORKS REVIEW

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 2 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) advising that the Scottish Executive's Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Department had recently published a consultation paper entitled "Enterprise Networks Review"; (2) containing details on the content of the consultation document, and his observations thereon, and (3) enclosing a copy of the response which he had sent to the Scottish Executive in relation to the Review.

Decided:

- (1) that the action taken by the Director of Planning and Environment in responding to the consultation document entitled "Enterprise Networks Review" by the Scottish Executive's Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Department be homologated, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

LANARKSHIRE KEY FUND - UPDATE

13. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 27 January 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 12 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) regarding the establishment of the Lanarkshire Key Fund which aimed to increase employment opportunities for local people and develop local and community based businesses; (2) detailing progress made in relation to the operation of the Lanarkshire Key Fund for the period from 27 January to 8 June 2000, and (3) intimating that, while the Key Fund was in receipt of the financial contributions of the three Funding Partners, viz:- (a) North Lanarkshire Council; (b) South Lanarkshire Council, and (c) Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire, it was anticipated that match funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) would be released by the Scottish Executive in the near future, and (4) enclosing, as Appendices, the Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors of Lanarkshire Key Fund Limited held on 22 February and 5 April 2000.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that progress reports on the Lanarkshire Key Fund would be submitted to the Committee on a quarterly basis, and
 - (2) that the report be otherwise noted.
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INTERNATIONAL TRADE UPDATE - FOURTH QUARTER 1999/2000

14. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 27 January 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 27 April 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) summarising assistance afforded to companies in North Lanarkshire through the West of Scotland Partnership International Trade Programme for the fourth quarter of 1999/2000, and (2) enclosing, as an Appendix, a list of companies within North Lanarkshire which had received support to participate in International Trade events during that period.

Decided: that the report be noted.

LOCAL AREA ENTERPRISE TRUST - PERFORMANCE 1999/2000 AND TARGETS 2000/2001

15. With reference to paragraph 16 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 9 June 1999, there was submitted a report dated 11 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reminding the Committee that funding had been approved for Enterprise Trusts to deliver specific Programmes on behalf of North Lanarkshire Council to their client base; (2) stating that specific targets had been given to Enterprise Trusts to deliver appropriate programmes on behalf of the Council with each of the three Enterprise Trusts entering into an agreement to achieve their targets within the financial year in order to maximise the funding available to them; (3) indicating that, as part of the conditions for this funding, the Enterprise Trusts submitted quarterly monitoring reports containing details of performance against target; (4) containing details of performance against the target for the year 1999/2000, and (5) reporting that, following discussion with each of the Enterprise Trusts, targets for the year 2000/2001 had been set with their level of funding being linked to performance over the year.

Decided:

- (1) that funding up to a maximum of (a) £31,050 be awarded to Motherwell Area Enterprise; (b) £21,500 be awarded to Monklands Enterprise Development Company, and (c) £21,500 be awarded to Cumbernauld Area Enterprise, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

TOWN CENTRE INITIATIVES - PROGRESS REPORT

16. With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 5 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) detailing progress made by Town Centre Initiatives Limited relative to the Council's Service Level Agreement with that Company for 1999/2000, and (2) enclosing, as Appendices, (a) the Minute of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 3 February 2000; (b) the Town Centre Initiatives Manager's Summary Report on progress against the 1999/2000 Operating Plan, and (c) the Operating Plan for 2000/2001, as approved by the Town Centre Initiatives Board at its meeting on 4 May 2000, which will serve as the basis of a Service Level Agreement between the Council and Town Centre Initiatives for 2000/2001.

Decided: that the report be noted.

GRANT SUPPORT FOR CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION - 2000/2001 STRATHCLYDE POLICE CHALLENGE FUND

17. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 20 April 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 8 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reporting that the Strathclyde Police Joint Board had approved an allocation in the sum of £525,310 from its Revenue Budget to assist local authorities' in meeting revenue costs and its commitments for Closed Circuit Television Systems during the financial year 2000/2001; (2) containing details of the eligibility criteria for grant assistance from the Chief Constable's Challenge Fund; (3) advising (a) that for the reasons detailed therein, Directors of all relevant Council Departments had been asked to liaise with North Lanarkshire Closed Circuit Television Limited in order that a composite submission could be made to the Chief Constable's Challenge Fund, and (b) that ,subsequently, North Lanarkshire Closed Circuit Television Limited had been appointed as the body responsible for the co-ordination and submission of a bid to the Chief Constable's Challenge Fund on behalf of the Department of Housing and Property Services, and (3) enclosing, as an Appendix, details of the submission referred to at (3)(b) above

Decided:

- (1) that the level of revenue funding support made available for local authorities Closed Circuit Television Initiatives through the Chief Constable's Challenge Fund 2000/2001 be noted, and
- (2) that the appointment of North Lanarkshire Closed Circuit Television Limited as the body responsible for the co-ordination and submission of a bid on behalf of the Council to the Chief Constable's Challenge Fund be homologated.

SCOTTISH TRADE INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY DOCUMENT - LANARKSHIRE EXPORT PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE

18. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 20 April 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 15 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reminding the Committee that the Council along with South Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire was a member of the Lanarkshire Export Partnership which offered a range of services to assist Companies to enter international markets; (2) advising that the Lanarkshire Export Partnership had received from Scottish Trade International its progress report against its five year Export Development Strategy for consultation and comment; (3) intimating that responses to the document and the issues raised therein had been considered by all three partners within the Lanarkshire Export Partnership, in consultation with the number of Lanarkshire companies which had received assistance through the Lanarkshire Enterprise Partnership or Scottish Trade International, and (4) enclosing, as Appendices, (a) a copy of the progress report, and (b) the response issued by Lanarkshire Export Partnership.

Decided: that the report be noted.

INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF CHANGING EMPLOYMENT PATTERNS IN RURAL SCOTLAND

19. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 9 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) advising that the Rural Affairs Committee within the Scottish Executive had recently published a consultation document entitled "Impact into Changing Employment Patterns in Rural Scotland"; (2) containing details on the content of the consultation document which identified employment, poverty and housing in rural areas as priorities and advising that an inquiry had been launched into the impact of changing employment patters in rural Scotland and outlining his observations thereon, and (3) enclosing a synopsis of a response which he had sent to the Scottish Executive in relation to the consultation document.

Decided:

- (1) that the action taken by the Director of Planning and Environment in responding to the consultation document published by the Scottish Executive entitled "Inquiry into the Impact of Changing Employment Patterns in Rural Scotland" be homologated, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND RESIDER II PROJECT - "COMMUNITY ECONOMIC REGENERATION SUPPORT"

20. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 7 October 1999, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 12 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reminding the Committee that the Community Economic Regeneration Support Programme aimed to provide business development support to community based organisations in those areas of North Lanarkshire covered by the European Social Fund Resider II Project; (2) summarising the progress made by the Community Economic Regeneration Support Project during the period from 1 January to 31 December 1999; (3) detailing the organisations which had participated in the Project's 1999 Programme, and the Programme budgetary provision for 1999 of £34,110, of which this Authority provided £18,426 and Resider II funding of £15,075; (4) providing statistics on project targets and outputs in relation to Training Courses also, numbers of participants, number of new jobs created amongst other matters, and (5) intimating that EKOS Limited had been appointed to conduct an external evaluation of the Community Economic Regeneration Support Programme.

Decided:

- (1) that a further report on the future development activity of the Community Economic Regeneration Support Programme and the outcome of an external evaluation of the Programme by EKOS Limited be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

SCOTTISH LEARNING NETWORK - REVENUE EXPENDITURE

21. With reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 27 January 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 15 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reminding the Committee that the Scottish Learning Network was a national Project implemented by a Partnership comprising of the Scottish and Highlands and Island Enterprise Networks and the private sector which aimed to establish a web-based platform and gateway for all potential learners in Scotland by providing "first-stop shops" for learning and guidance, (2) advising that the target groups were short term unemployed and employees with low skill levels; and (3) indicating (a) that the total funding available from Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire for the three Scottish Learning Network sites located at (A) Plains, (B) Kirkshaws, and (C) Glenboig was £11,587 and was conditional on the Council providing revenue expenditure to cover the cost of on-line charges incurred, and (b) that the anticipated revenue expenditure relating to on-line charges for the three Scottish Learning Network sites referred to above was £3,000 which could be met from within the Department of Planning and Environment's existing revenue budgets.

Decided:

(1) that the provision of £3,000 from the Department of Planning and Environment's existing revenue budgets to meet on-line charges incurred by the three Scottish Learning Network sites in North Lanarkshire be approved, and

(2) that the report be otherwise noted.

SUPPORT WORKER (LOCAL TRAINING SUPPORT CENTRE) - TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF CONTRACT

22. With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 25 November 1999, there was submitted a report dated 15 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) reminding the Committee (a) that the Council, in partnership with Community representatives, had developed four Local Training Support Centres at (A) Kirkshaws, Coatbridge; (B) Glenboig; (C) Whinhall, Airdrie, and (D) Plains, and (b) that the purpose of the Local Training Support Centres Project was to provide accessible local facilities and services for unemployed residents seeking access to information and resources to assist them with training and employment, and (2) advising (a) that while Objective 3 finance for the project ceased on 9 May 2000, it was his intention to apply for further Objective 3 funding for the Project, the results of which would be known 2/3 months later, and to extend the provision of support to the Local Training Support Centres, and (b) that, in view of the possible extension of the Project, the Head of Personnel Services had recently approved a temporary extension of the Support Workers' contract for a period of four months until September 2000.

Decided:

(1) that the temporary extension of the contract for the Support Worker (Local Training Support Centres) for a period of four months until September 2000, as detailed in the report, be homologated;

(2) that the report be remitted to the Personnel Services Committee for its interest, and

(3) that the report be otherwise noted.

REVIEW OF THE TRAINING ASSISTANCE GRANT (T.A.G.) PROGRAMME - REPORT FROM JOINT LOCAL AUTHORITY WORKING GROUP

23. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 12 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) advising that a review of the Training Assistance Grant Programme had been carried out by a Working Group comprising of Officers from North Lanarkshire Council and South Lanarkshire Council, and (2) enclosing, as an Appendix, a copy of the Executive Summary which had accompanied the Working Group's report on the review and which detailed the remit of the Working Group, its main conclusions, and containing recommendations for the future operation of the Programme.

Decided:

(1) that the recommendations for the future operation of the Training Assistance Grant Scheme arising from a Joint Review by a Working Group be approved;

(2) that the Director of Planning and Environment be authorised to take the appropriate action in relation to the implementation of the recommendations contained within the report, and

(3) that the report be otherwise noted.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT SERVICE REVIEW - PROGRESS REPORT

24. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 27 January 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 19 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) summarising progress which had been made to date by the Economic Development Unit relative to the implementation of its Service Improvement Plan which had been concluded as a result of a review of services within the Unit, and (2) providing details of the three specific areas and the action points which had been identified as requiring attention.

Decided: that the report be noted.

LANARKSHIRE ENTERPRISE ZONE - UPDATE

25. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) advising that the Lanarkshire Enterprise Zone had been designated in February 1993 and comprised nine separate sites across Lanarkshire; (2) summarising the performance of (a) the Lanarkshire Enterprise Zone for the period from 31 March 1999 to 31 March 2000; (b) the Eurocentral site located at Newhouse, and (c) the General Enterprise Zone located at Mossend; (3) detailing the companies currently committed to or located in the Enterprise Zone, and (4) enclosing, as an Appendix, (a) a summary of the development on the Lanarkshire Enterprise Zone as at 31 March 2000, and (b) a summary of available land on the Lanarkshire Enterprise Zone as at 31 March 2000.

Decided: that the report be noted.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ENTERPRISE AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE: INQUIRY INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES IN SCOTLAND

26. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 27 January 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 16 May 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) advising that the Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Committee of the Scottish Parliament had now published its final report on its "Inquiry into the Delivery of Economic Development Services in Scotland"; (2) containing details on the content of the final report which identified difficulties associated with duplication and confusion in service delivery, and (3) enclosing, as an Appendix, a summary of the issues contained within the final report together with recommendations for future service delivery.

Decided: that a special meeting of the Committee be convened to discuss the implementations for delivery of the economic development service in Scotland.

CONFERENCES

(1) EQUAL - THE NEW COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

27. There was submitted an invitation from the University of Bradford to be represented at its conference entitled "Equal - The New Community Initiative" which had been held in Peterborough on 5 May 2000.

Decided: that it be noted that the Council had not been represented at this conference.

(2) EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND - NEW PRIORITIES 2000/2006

28. There was submitted an invitation from the University of Bradford to be represented at its conference entitled "European Social Fund - New Priorities 2000/2006" which had been held in Peterborough on 3 and 4 May 2000.

Decided: that it be noted that the Council had not been represented at this conference.

(3) A REGIONAL APPROACH TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - THE TENTH ANNUAL LEDIS CONFERENCE

29. There was submitted an invitation by The Planning Exchange to be represented at its conference entitled "A Regional Approach to Economic Development - The Tenth Annual Ledis Conference" which had been held in Newcastle on 8 and 9 June 2000.

Decided: that it be noted that the Council had not been represented at this conference.

(4) NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL - TAKING FORWARD THE GOVERNMENT'S AGENDA

30. There was submitted an invitation by QMW Public Policy Seminars to be represented at its conference entitled "Neighbourhood Renewal - Taking Forward the Government's Agenda" to be held in London on 23 June 2000.

Decided: that no attendance at this conference be authorised.

The Convener being of the opinion that the following items of business were relevant, competent and urgent authorised their consideration.

THE FRANCONEA SHOW 2000 - UFRA AT SCHWEINFURT

31. There was submitted a report dated 6 June 2000 by the Director of Planning and Environment (1) intimating that the Provost had received an invitation for the Council to be represented at the Franconea Show 2000 - UFRA in Schweinfurt, Germany in September 2000, and (2) recommending, that for the reasons detailed therein, the invitation be declined.

Decided: that the invitation to the Provost for the Council to be represented at the Franconea Show 2000 - UFRA in Schweinfurt, Germany in September 2000 be declined.

REMIT FROM SOCIAL INCLUSION COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 JUNE 2000 - "REVIVING OUR RURAL AREA - A FRAMEWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN LANARKSHIRE"

32. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Inclusion Committee held on 8 June 2000, there was submitted a report dated 12 May 2000 by the Chief Executive relative to a consultative draft framework for rural development in North Lanarkshire entitled "Changing Gear - Reviving our Rural Areas".

Decided: that it be noted that the Social Inclusion Committee had:-

- (1) requested that the framework document be amended to include (a) a requirement to review the definition of a "rural area"; (b) the need for improved transport links between different communities in North Lanarkshire and between communities in North Lanarkshire and those

in neighbouring Councils and had authorised the Chief Executive to advise Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire of same, and

- (2) given approval to the consultative framework document, subject to inclusion of the aforementioned amendments, and
- (3) had agreed that it be adopted on behalf of North Lanarkshire Council.