

J7

HOUSING1995M

Motherwell, 5 March 1996 at 10.15 am.

A Special Meeting of the HOUSING COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor McLaughlin, Chair; Councillors A. Burns, Chadha, Clarke, Connelly, Cox, Foley, Gormill, Griffin, Hogg, Logue, Lyle, McAlorum, McCabe, H. McGuigan, Mathieson, Moran, G. Murray, V. Murray, Robertson and Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Director of Administration, Director of Housing, Director of Finance,
Head of Central Services and Head of Accounting Services.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Craigie, Beekman, Leitch and McElroy.

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 separately in respect of
of
the Housing Non Housing Revenue Account Expenditure and in respect of Housing Benefits Expenditure: (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 in respect of Housing Non Housing Revenue Account expenditure amounting to \$3,030,000 and in respect of Housing Benefits Expenditure \$3,687,000 be approved subject to reduction thereof to reflect the following savings:-

Housing Non Housing Revenue Account Expenditure

- (a) Homelessness - economies of scale and administration costs - \$21,000
- (b) Travelling persons site - increased site charges agreed by Housing Committee - \$7,000.

Housing Benefits Expenditure

Economies of scale in administration costs - \$72,000

- (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.