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INTERIM.EXEC1995M

Motherwell, 9th May, 1995 at 4 pm. At a Meeting of the
INTERIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESENT: Councillor H. McGuigan, Chair; Councillors Craig, Craigie, Gray, Logue, Lyle, McCabe, McCulloch, McKendrick, Mathieson, Moran, G. Murray, Pentland, Shaw, Sullivan and Wallace.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Heberton, Lafferty and R. McKenna.

ATTENDING: Chief Executive and Interim Clerk.

Chief Executive

27. Prior to the commencement of the business, the Chairman introduced and welcomed A.I. Cowe, Chief Executive, to his first meeting of the Committee. Mr. Cowe suitably replied.

Public Consultation Exercise

28. As an initial response to members' express wish to undertake early public consultation, the Chief Executive suggested that the Council produce an 8-page newspaper to be delivered to all premises within the North Lanarkshire area, the aim of which would be to advise the public, as far as possible, on the various changes anticipated to arise from local government re-organisation and, by way of a questionnaire, to seek the views of all age groups on a wide range of issues. He further suggested that consideration also be given to the organisation of meetings with various local interest groups such as Community Councils, Tenants Associations, School Boards etc., at which both officials and local members would be in attendance.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee (1) agreed that the general thrust of the Chief Executive's proposals be accepted, and (2) otherwise continued consideration of the detailed arrangements pending a further report by him, in consultation with the Chairman.

Induction/Training Courses for Elected Members

29. The Chief Executive advised that he had contacted the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities regarding the organisation of general

training courses for elected members, and that he proposed to send a questionnaire to all Councillors with a view to ascertaining their needs and the type/subject of training course which they would wish to be organised. He further indicated that he would shortly be arranging a briefing meeting solely for new elected members.

Following discussion, the Committee noted the position meantime, and otherwise continued consideration pending a further report by him.

North Lanarkshire Council - Date of Next Meeting

30. With reference to paragraph 24, the Committee agreed that the next meeting of the North Lanarkshire Council be held on Thursday, 25th May, 1995, at 5 pm.

E X C L U D E D I T E M S

Exclusion of Public

42. The Committee resolved that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business (taken at the start of the meeting) on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Outline Senior Officer Structure

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*@M7

43. With reference to paragraph 13, there was submitted a Note (tabled) by the Chief Executive, outlining his initial proposals for a Departmental senior staff structure and salary levels. The Chief Executive, having explained his proposals and answered questions, further suggested (1) that the key posts detailed in the Appendix hereto be advertised as soon as possible; (2) that no action be taken meantime with regard to the remaining senior posts identified in his report until he and each appropriate Director, when appointed, had considered the matter further, and (3) that the initial salary levels be subject to early review by the Council.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed (1) that the Chief Executive's outline proposals be approved; (2) that, as a matter of urgency, appointments be made to the key posts identified in the Appendix hereto, and (3) that it be left with the Chief Executive to

advertise the posts in accordance with the guidance contained in the Staff Commission's Circular 3/95 entitled "Advice for New Councils". (Councillor McCabe left the meeting during consideration of the foregoing item of business.)

Interview Arrangements

*@M7

44. Arising from consideration of the item of business contained within the immediately preceding paragraph, the Committee agreed that, with the exception of the social evening, the procedure followed in the appointment of the Chief Executive be adopted in the next stage of senior officer appointments, i.e. at Director level.