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Motherwell, 23rd June, 1995 at 3 pm. At a Meeting of the  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors Craigie, Lafferty, R. McKenna, Murphy, Shaw and  
Wallace.

ATTENDING: Chief Executive and Director of Finance.

Approval of Previous Minutes

108. There were submitted and signed minutes of meetings of the  
Committee held on 2nd, 4th, 9th and 11th May, 1995.

Interim Budget Statement for 1995-96

109. With reference to paragraph 46, there was submitted note  
(circulated) by Interim Finance Officer, advising that for the  
period  
to 30th June, funding of \$286,650 had been received of which  
\$118,375 had been expended, as detailed in the report.

Following discussion, having heard the Director of Finance in  
supplement, the Committee noted the contents of the report and  
otherwise continued consideration.

Consultative Documents

(1) Strathclyde Combined Police Area Amalgamation Scheme

110. With reference to paragraph 55, there was submitted letter (in  
part) (circulated) of 25th May from Chief Executive, Strathclyde  
Regional Council, enclosing a report by the Clerk to the Police  
and  
Fire Committee, giving details of the Draft Amalgamation and  
Administration Schemes for Police and Fire functions.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the  
Committee authorised him to reply to the Scottish Office in  
appropriate terms and, in particular, to suggest that  
representation  
on the Police and Fire Joint Boards be related more closely to  
population or expenditure.

(2) Mid and South Western Combined Fire Services Area Administration  
Scheme

111. With reference to paragraph 56, there were submitted letters (1) of 25th May (in part) (circulated) from the Chief Executive, Strathclyde Regional Council, enclosing a report by the Clerk to the Police and Fire Committee, commenting on the Draft Amalgamation and Administration Schemes for Police and Fire Functions, and (2) of 31st May (circulated) from the Firemaster, Strathclyde Fire Brigade, enclosing copies of (a) his comments on the Chief Executive's report, and (b) his response to the Draft Administration Scheme which had been submitted to the Scottish Office.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee authorised him to reply to the Scottish Office in the same terms as the immediately preceding paragraph.

(3) Glasgow and Clyde Area Tourist Board Scheme Order 1995

112. With reference to paragraph 57, there were submitted letters (circulated) (1) of 16th May from the Scottish Tourist Board, (a) referring to the Scottish Office's invitation to the North Lanarkshire Council to submit nominations for the new Area Tourist Board, and (b) suggesting that, as far as possible, representatives on the Area Steering Group should carry on to the new Board, and (2) of 17th May from Lanarkshire Economic Forum, (a) indicating their intention to submit formal objections

to

the Glasgow and the Clyde Area Tourist Board Scheme Order 1995 and to suggest that the draft Statutory Instruments be amended to form two separate Orders, and (b) proposing that the Lanarkshire position would be given additional weight if the

North

and South Lanarkshire Shadow Authorities also provided a response which supported this view.

Following discussion, having heard from the Chief Executive that representations had been submitted supporting the retention of

the

Clyde Valley Tourist Board, the Committee resolved that the Scottish Tourist Board be advised of the Council's position.

(4) Urban Regeneration Policy Statement - "Programme for Partnership"

113. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 18th May from the Scottish Office, Industry Department, (1) referring to the Urban Regeneration Policy Statement "Programme for Partnership" published by the Government in January which set out the conclusions of a review of urban regeneration policy in Scotland; (2) enclosing copies of (a) a paper which presented the results

of

the Scottish Office Central Research Unit's Deprivation Analysis

on

the basis of the new unitary council boundaries, and (b) a Consultation Paper on the detailed arrangements for implementing the new proposals, and (3) seeking the Council's observations on

the Consultation Paper by 17th July, 1995.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee authorised him, following consultation with the Chairman, to reply to the Scottish Office in appropriate terms.

(5) Structure Plan Areas

114. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 31st May from the Scottish Office, Environment Department, (1) enclosing a summary of the responses received to the Consultation Paper issued to existing local authorities and other consultees in December, 1994 on the Government's proposals for the establishment of structure plan areas, and (2) seeking the Council's observations on the establishment of structure plan areas by 7th July, 1995.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee authorised him, following consultation with the Director of Planning, to submit comments to the Scottish Office based on the proposed structure plan area on the understanding that the Council reserved the right to have the position reviewed at a later date.

(6) Community Education and Local Authorities

115. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 30th May from the Secretary General, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, (1) advising that they had recently published a report by a working party on Community Education and Local Authorities which was in the form of a discussion paper; (2) indicating that responses had been invited from existing Councils, and (3) welcoming any comments that the North Lanarkshire Council wished to make by 16th June, 1995.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee noted the contents of the letter.

(7) Section 55 of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 - Major Financial Transactions

116. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 19th May from the Scottish Office, Environment Department, (1) explaining that in the course of the passage of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 through Parliament, Ministers had indicated that they would consult interested parties before setting the date or dates after which existing local authorities must gain the agreement of their successors before committing themselves to major financial transactions; (2) advising that the Secretary of State proposed to designate 1st August, 1995 and 14 days after the relevant Police Amalgamation or Fire Administration Scheme came into force as

of the dates after which local authorities must gain the agreement their successors, as detailed in the letter, and (3) seeking the Council's comments on the proposed dates by 16th June, 1995.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee continued consideration. (Councillor Mathieson left the meeting following consideration of the foregoing item of business.)

#### Advice to New Councils - Decentralisation

117. There was submitted Advice Note 5 (circulated) from Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, (1) containing advice to be taken into account when considering decentralisation, and (2) indicating that a further Advice Note giving more detailed consideration to the issues and key tasks involved in the decentralisation process at a practitioner level would be issued later in the year.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee noted the position.

#### Non-Housing Capital Consent - Accommodation and Information Technology Bids 1995-96

118. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 5th June from the Scottish Office, Local Government Finance Group, (1) inviting shadow authorities to submit bids in respect of any capital expenditure requirements they might have in 1995-96; (2) explaining that as not all shadow authorities would be in a position to submit detailed bids immediately, the bids would be considered in two rounds; (3) pointing out that the closing date for the first round was 30th June, and that second round bids required to be submitted by 30th September, and (4) giving details of the information required in support of these bids.

Following discussion, having heard the Director of Finance, the Committee agreed that a bid for capital expenditure requirements along the lines of the discussion be submitted by the deadline of 30th June, 1995.

#### Local Government (Direct Service Organisations) (Competition) (Amendment) Regulations 1995

119. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 1st June from Scottish Office, Environment Department, (1) explaining that Section 9 of the Local Government Act 1992 empowered the Secretary of State to make regulations governing the conduct of compulsory

had competitive tendering, (2) indicating that the first regulations been made on 24th March, 1993 and had covered such matters as the timings of the tender process, preparation and devaluation of bids, and allowable and prospective costs, and (3) enclosing a copy of amended regulations, together with a briefing note outlining the purpose of each regulation.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee noted the contents of the letter.

#### Guidance on Chief Social Work Officers

120. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 18th May from the Scottish Office, Social Work Services Inspectorate, (1) explaining that Section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 (as amended) required new authorities to appoint Chief Social Work Officers for the purposes of their functions under this Act, and (2) enclosing a copy of a circular approved by the Secretary of State providing guidance in relation to the appointment of Chief Social Work Officers.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee noted the contents of the letter.

#### Guidance on Education Provisions

121. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 24th May from Scottish Office, Education Department, (1) explaining that only a few sections of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 related specifically to education as the duties and powers of education authorities were laid down predominantly in legislation specific to education, and (2) giving guidance to the unitary authorities on education legislation generally; the sections in the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 which relate specifically to education, and to certain other aspects of education provision.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee noted the contents of the letter.

#### Local Authorities (Staff Transfer) (Scotland) Order 1995

122. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 23rd May from the Scottish Office, Environment Department, (1) advising that following consideration of the comments received in response to the recent consultation exercise, the Local Authorities (Staff Transfer) (Scotland) Order 1995 had been laid before the House of Commons; (2) indicating that the Order came into force on 15th June, 1995, and (3) enclosing a copy of the Minister's Statement, the Order and an accompanying commentary note.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the

Committee noted the contents of the letter.

#### Preparation and Agreement of Transfer Schemes

123. There was submitted letter (in part) (circulated) of 5th June from the Local Government Staff Commission (Scotland), (1) enclosing a draft circular relating to the preparation and agreement of transfer schemes which it was intended would supplement the general framework which had been set in place by the Secretary of State by means of the Local Authorities (Staff Transfer) (Scotland) Order 1995, and (2) seeking the Council's comments on the draft circular by 23rd June, 1995. The Chief Executive then advised that no comments had been submitted to the Staff Commission due to the timescale involved and that, if necessary, the Chairman of the Staff Commission would be advised of any matters of concern.

Following discussion, the Committee noted the position.

#### Secretarial and Other Support Staff to Shadow Councils

124. There was submitted letter (in part) (circulated) of 5th June from the Local Government Staff Commission (Scotland), (1) enclosing a draft circular relating to selection procedures for secretarial and other support staff to shadow councils and, (2) seeking the Council's comments on the draft circular by Friday, 23rd June, 1995.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee authorised him, if necessary, to contact the Chairman of the Staff Commission regarding any matters of concern.

#### Next Stage Appointments

125. The Chief Executive (1) indicated that following the recess in July secretarial assistance would be required by the Leader of the Council and himself; (2) proposed that posts of Assistant Chief Executive be established and appropriate arrangements made for their appointment, and (3) suggested that, following consultation with the Director of Planning and Development, the post of Head of Economic Development and Estates also be filled.

Following discussion, the Committee recommended that it be left with the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman to make the appropriate arrangements to fill these posts.

#### Appointments to Existing Authorities During Shadow Year

126. There was submitted letter (in part) (circulated) of 5th June from the Local Government Staff Commission (Scotland), (1) enclosing a draft circular giving further advice on appointments to existing authorities during the shadow year, and (2) seeking the Council's comments on the draft circular by 23rd June, 1995.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee authorised him, if necessary, to contact the Chairman of the Staff Commission regarding any matters of concern and agreed that the contents of this circular be drawn to the attention of the existing District and Regional Councils within the North Lanarkshire area.

#### Children's Panel Advisory Committee - Nominations

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127. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 25th May from Assistant Chief Executive (Personal Services), Strathclyde Regional Council, (1) explaining that Children's Panel Advisory Committees were formed in terms of Schedule 3(3) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 as reaffirmed in Schedule 1 of the Children's (Scotland) Bill and were charged with the following remit (a) to submit names of possible Children's Panel Members to the Secretary of State for Scotland; (b) to advise the Secretary of State, as required, of the suitability of persons referred to him as possible members, and (c) to advise the Secretary of State on such matters relating to the general administration of panels as he may refer to the Committee; (2) advising that the Secretary of State would shortly be issuing formal notification of the establishment of the North Lanarkshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee which it was intended would work in tandem with the current regional Advisory Committee in the latter part of 1995; (3) indicating that the Advisory Committee would consist of 5 members, 3 appointed directly by the Secretary of State and 2 to be nominated by the North Lanarkshire Council, and (4) seeking the Council's co-operation in speeding up the formation of a Children's Panel Advisory Committee for the North Lanarkshire Area.

Following discussion, having heard the Chief Executive, the Committee continued consideration to the next meeting of the Council.

#### Training Course - "Local Government for Sustainability"

128. There was submitted letter (circulated) of 31st May from the Environment Officer, Central Regional Council, inviting the Council

to be represented at a one day course for elected members on sustainability and its relevance to their work, due to be held in Stirling on 7th September, 1995.

Following discussion, the Committee continued consideration.

#### Dates and Times of Future Meetings

129. With reference to paragraph 63, the Committee resumed consideration of this item of business.

Following discussion, the Committee further continued consideration to the next meeting of the Council.