



The Unit for the Study of Government in Scotland
at
The University of Edinburgh

and

The Scotsman

present

a national public seminar

on

**RE-ORGANISATION AND OTHER
MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS**

The fourth seminar in a series of five:

'Wheatley To What?'

on the re-organisation of Scottish local government

on

Thursday, 28th September 1995

9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

at

New Senate Hall, Old College

Edinburgh University

South Bridge, Edinburgh



THE SCOTSMAN

FOR DISCUSSION AT THE FOURTH SEMINAR

Re-organisation will not take place in a vacuum. It can be expected to be affected by - and to affect - other major concurrent developments. Six of these have been selected for examination and discussion:-

(1) Inter-agency Co-ordination

The Complex Case of Community Care e.g. sustaining over re-organisation councils' lead role in co-ordinating planning and delivery of services involving several council departments, together with health, housing, and voluntary and private sector bodies; implications of changing management structures for Social Work in new councils.

(2) Information, Technology And Strategy

e.g. new councils' information needs; developing new information strategies; disaggregating/aggregating existing databases, systems and networks; compatibilities; interim and joint arrangements; investment in IS/IT; new opportunities for IS/IT to support corporate and service planning in the new councils.

(3) Decentralisation

e.g. objectives for decentralisation; physical, managerial and political decentralisation/ devolved responsibilities and decision-making; impact on communities, staff and members; rural/urban issues; preparing statutory draft decentralisation schemes.

(4) Compulsory Competitive Tendering

e.g. experiences to date of 'blue collar' CCT; TUPE; extension of CCT to 'white collar' activities - anticipated impact on finance, personnel, information technology; service quality; planning for CCT extension and re-organisation; CCT and joint arrangements.

(5) Private Sector Investment in Local Services

e.g. experience of private investment to date; the Private Finance Initiative - aims and achievements; private finance - an addition or a substitute to council public investment?; incentives/disincentives for private investors and councils; strategic capacity of new councils for partnership.

(6) Scottish Councils And The European Union

e.g. experiences in promoting economic and social development; lobbying for structural funds for urban/rural re-generation and for grants for community projects; role of the Committee of the Regions; developing council-wide EU strategies; strategic capacity of new councils to lobby effectively; cross-council liaison and role of COSLA; prospects for new councils.

PROGRAMME Each speaker will give a presentation for 15-20 minutes. There will be an opportunity for questions and comments at the end of each of the six sessions.

MORNING

- 9.30 Registration and coffee
- 9.45 - 9.50 Introduction/Chair : Stewart Black, USGS, Edinburgh University
- 9.50 - 10.40 (1) **Inter-Agency Co-ordination In Community Care**
David Walker, Principal Planning Officer,
Strathclyde Regional Council Social Work Department
Professor Alison Petch, Nuffield Centre for Community
Care Studies, Glasgow University
- 10.40 - 11.30 (2) **Information, Technology And Strategy**
Nicki Baker, Head of Research & Information Services,
Development & Planning Services, Central Regional
Council
Catherine McAllister, Assistant Chief Planning Officer,
Glasgow District Council
- 11.30 - 12.20 (3) **Decentralisation**
Robert Stevenson, Principal Policy Officer,
Ross & Cromarty District Council
Danny Cepok, Decentralisation Officer,
Chief Executive's Services, Central Regional Council
- 12.20 - 1.15 LUNCH (Provided)

AFTERNOON Chair - David Scott, The Scotsman

- 1.15 - 2.05 (4) **Compulsory Competitive Tendering**
George Thomson, Assistant Secretary,
Environment Department, Scottish Office
Jon Harris, Assistant Secretary,
Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
- 2.05 - 2.55 (5) **Private Sector Investment In Local Services**
David Crawley, Director, Private Finance Unit,
Finance Group, Scottish Office
Ronnie Hinds, Depute Director of Finance,
Lothian Regional Council
- 2.55 - 3.10 TEA
- 3.10 - 4.00 (6) **Scottish Councils and The European Union**
Jon Jordan, European Liaison Officer,
Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
Andrew Scott, Senior Lecturer, Europa Institute,
Edinburgh University (to be confirmed)

WHAT IS THE USGS/SCOTSMAN SEMINAR SERIES?

The Unit for the Study of Government in Scotland, Edinburgh University, is organising a major series of national public seminars to consider the implications of local government re-organisation in Scotland. The series is sponsored by **The Scotsman** newspaper.

There are to be five seminars, to be held between March and December 1995. The themes involved are: -

- (1) The Political and Constitutional Impact of Re-organisation (23 March)
- (2) The Impact of Re-organisation on Particular Services (28 April)
- (3) Future Roles of Councillors and Senior Managers (22 June)
- (4) Re-organisation and Other Major Developments (28 September)
- (5) An Overview Assessment of the Re-organisation (November/December)

FOR WHOM ARE THE SEMINARS INTENDED?

The seminars are national (all-Scotland) public events. The programme for each seminar and for the series as a whole has been designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the main aspects of the re-organisation. The series should therefore have a wide appeal.

The seminars will be of particular interest to the elected members and staff of local authorities; the Scottish Office; statutory, voluntary, commercial and other bodies; university teachers and students; the readers of **The Scotsman** - and of course the general public as users of, and taxpayers for, the public services involved.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS

The organiser of the seminars is Stewart Black (Unit for the Study of Government, Edinburgh University). For further information and to arrange bookings, please contact the Secretary to the Unit (0131 650 2456) or write to USGS, Chisholm House, 1 Surgeon Square, High School Yards, Edinburgh, EH1 1LZ.

NB A separate flyer is available from the Unit describing the seminar series as a whole.

A detached booking form, providing full details of costs and booking arrangements, is enclosed with this flyer. Please use this when making bookings.

USGS/SCOTSMAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT SEMINARS

BOOKING FORM: SEMINAR 4 - Thursday, 28 September 1995

I/We wish to reserve places at the seminar as follows:

*Total number of places required

* Name(s)

* Title(s)

* Organisation

* Address

* Telephone number

* Special dietary requirements

*NB A buffet lunch and refreshments are provided, inclusive of attendance fee.

ATTENDANCE FEES:	full fee (single seminar):	£75
	concession fee (single seminar):	£25

[concessions apply to members of the general public, individual subscribers to Scottish Affairs, students, the unwaged, and OAPs]

***Total fee enclosed**

***Please invoice me at:**

NB all places must be reserved in advance. Closing date for bookings for seminar 4 is **Monday, 25 September 1995**

Please make payment to 'USGS' and send to The Secretary, Unit for the Study of Government in Scotland, Chisholm House, 1 Surgeon Square, High School Yards, Edinburgh, EH1 1LZ (0131 650 2456)