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Motherwell, 6 March 1997 at 11 am.

A Special Meeting of the SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor W. Martin, Convener; Councillors McElroy, Vice-Convener; Councillors Beekman, Chadha, Connelly, Cox, Coyle, Craig, Gordon, Griffin, Leitch, Lunny, McCulloch, H. McGuigan, J. McGuigan, McLaughlin, Macleod, Maginnis, J. Martin, Murphy, V. Murray, Nolan, Robertson, Russell, Scott and Shaw.

CHAIR

Councillor W. Martin (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Head of Central Services, Director of Social Work, Director of Finance and Head of Accounting Services.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Brooks, Lucas, Provost Mathieson, Ross, Saunders and Sullivan.

REVENUE BUDGET 1997/98

1. C There was submitted a report dated 26 February 1997 (docketed) by the Director of Finance (1) referring to the 1997/98 departmental base estimates for the Social Work Department and Sheltered Workshops which have previously been noted by the Committee; (2) advising that it has been necessary to review the base estimates to take account of new and updated information including a likely pay award in 1997/98; (3) indicating that the Council's decision to adjust its method of accounting for loan debt repayment from a straight line method to an annuity basis has resulted generally in a reduction in loan charges, and that the effect of that adjustment together with the effect of changes in central administration charges and in certain levels of specific grant on the revenue estimates for the Social Work Department and Sheltered Workshops are detailed in the Appendices 1 to the report; (4) providing (a) in the Appendices 2 to the report details of agreed adjustments to maintain services at their current level; (b) in the Appendices 3 to the report details of departmental budget realignments, and (c) in the Appendices 4 to the report details of other adjustments including provision for a 1997/98 pay award; (5) proposing in relation to the Social Work Department

budget a range of departmental savings and expenditure recommended for capitalising as detailed in the relevant Appendices 5, 6 and 7 to the report and in respect of Sheltered Workshops, proposing a range of corporate savings as detailed in the relevant Appendix 5 to the report, and (6) recommending that the Committee approve the 1997/98 budgets for the Social Work Department and Sheltered Workshops as summarised in the relevant Appendices 1 to the report at a net expenditure level of \$57,055,510 and \$157,960 respectively.

Councillor W. Martin, seconded by Councillor McElroy, moved that the Committee:-

- (1) note the need to review the base estimates which have previously been noted by Committee;
- (2) note the effect on the level of net expenditure of the adjustment in the Council's method for accounting for loan debt repayment, of changes in the central administration recharges and of changes in certain levels of specific grant as detailed in the Appendices 1 to the report;
- (3) approve, for its interest, adjustments to maintain services at their current level as detailed in the Appendices 2 to the report;
- (4) approve, for its interest, budgetary realignments in relation to the Social Work Department as detailed in the relevant Appendix 3 to the report;
- (5) approve, for its interest, other adjustments including provision for a 1997/98 pay award as detailed in the Appendices 4 to the report;
- (6) approve in relation to each service the corporate savings detailed in the Appendices 5, and, in relation to the Social Work Departmental budget, the departmental savings detailed in Appendix 6 and the capitalisation of equipment, repairs etc. as detailed in Appendix 7 to the report;
- (7) that the Director of Finance in conjunction with the Directors of the other relevant Departments be authorised to realign resources between Departments and in some cases within Departments to the extent necessary, and
- (8) approve the 1997/98 Revenue Budget for the Social Work Department and the Sheltered Workshops as summarised in Appendices 1 to the report at a net expenditure level of \$57,055,510 and \$157,960 respectively.

Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Cox, moved as an amendment that consideration of the matter be continued simpliciter to the Council

On a vote being taken, 2 Members voted for the amendment and 22 Members voted for the motion. The motion was accordingly declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the need to review the base estimates for the Social Work Department and Sheltered Workshops which have previously been noted by the Committee be noted;
- (2) that the effect on the level of net expenditure of the adjustment of the Council's method for accounting for loan debt repayments, of changes to central administration recharges and of changes of certain levels of specific grant as detailed in the Appendices 1 to the report by the Director of Finance be noted;
- (3) that the Committee, for its interest, approve adjustments to maintain services at their current level as detailed in the Appendices 2 to the report;
- (4) that the Committee, for its interest, approve budgetary realignments in relation to the Social Work Department as detailed in the relevant Appendix 3 to the report;
- (5) that the Committee, for its interest, approve other budgetary adjustments including provision for a 1997/98 pay award as detailed in the Appendices 4 to the report;
- (6) that the Committee, for its interest, approve in relation to each service the corporate savings detailed in the Appendices 5 and, in relation to the budget for the Social Work Department, the departmental savings detailed in Appendix 6 and the expenditure recommended for capitalising as detailed in Appendix 7 to the report;
- (7) that the Director of Finance in conjunction with the Directors of the other relevant Departments be authorised to realign resources between Departments and in some cases within Departments to the extent necessary, and
- (8) that the Committee approve, for its interest, the 1997/98 Revenue Budget for the Social Work Department and Sheltered Workshops as summarised in Appendices 1 to the report at a net expenditure level of \$57,055,510 and \$157,960 respectively.