

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE OF DUNGANNON AND SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9 DECEMBER 2013 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, CIRCULAR ROAD, DUNGANNON**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** In the Chair, Councillor Monteith (Chair)
- Councillors Ashton, Brush, F Burton, R Burton, Cavanagh, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Daly, Donnelly, Gildernew, Gillespie, McGonnell, McGuigan, Molloy, Mulligan, O'Neill, Robinson, Varsani
- APOLOGY:** Councillor Reid
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** A Burke, Chief Executive (CE)  
B Currie, Human Resources Advisor (HRA)  
E Girvan, Health & Safety Officer (HSO)  
P Kerr, Director of Finance (DF)  
J McClelland, Director of Building Services (DBS)  
F McCements, Acting Director of Environmental Services (ADEH)  
G Smith, Council Business Manager (CBM)

The meeting commenced at 8.10 pm

## **1 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility with regard to any declaration of conflict of interest.

## **2 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The report (appendix 1) of the Director of Finance was presented reference being made to the following:

### **PROGRESS**

#### **2.1 Exceptions and Breaches**

The DoF stated that the Local Government Auditor has asked that a more detailed meaningful explanation be provided and going forward this would be the case.

## **2.2 Capital Budget 2014/15**

The DoF advised of a late item to be included in list as set out below:

Rural Village Paint & Environmental Improvement Screening Scheme £60k, with 50 per cent funding.

In response to query in relation to 100 per cent funded project being included in the list the DoF stated that have to look at not just money but resources and management of schemes therefore important that all listed.

Councillor McGonnell left 8.22 pm.

During discussion concern was expressed with proposal for BMX Track, Drumcoo and Innovation Centre included on list as Committee had not been given opportunity to discuss the full extent of the developments and agree options on way forward following which it was

**Resolved** That for budget purposes all projects on list, including additional project and similar amounts as this year for legacy fund and sports fund be included and that a special meeting of the Development Committee be held to fully discuss projects within the capital budget.

Councillor Brush left at 8.36 pm.

## **2.3 Adoption of Report**

Proposed by Councillor McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor Daly and

**Resolved** That the report of the Director of Finance be adopted and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing, be approved.

DoF, ADEH and DBS left at 8.45 pm.

## **3 PERSONNEL MATTERS**

The report (appendix 2) of the Human Resources Advisor was presented reference being made to the following:

### **3.1 Staff Development (item 1.1)**

Member referred to email circulated in relation to charge for non-attendance at booked training events and asked if this had been an issue. The HRA stated that had been issue in the past but courses now geared to individual development and there was more onus on staff to attend.

### **3.2 Adoption of Report**

Proposed by Councillor O'Neill  
Seconded by Councillor Daly and

**Resolved** That the report of the Human Resources Advisor be adopted and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing, be approved.

## **4 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

### **4.1 Statutory Transition Committee Budget up to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

The CE presented letter dated 4 December 2013 from Simmons, Meglaughlin & Orr advising that The Local Government (Statutory Transition Committee) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 imposes a mandatory duty on predecessor councils to meet any cost incurred by the Statutory Transition Committee in carrying out its functions, but only insofar as such cost is reasonable.

Following discussion, and no member identifying any unreasonable costs within budget figures presented to committee on 27 November 2013, it was

**Resolved** That Statutory Transition Committee Budget up to 19 June 2014, as presented to committee on 27 November 2013, be approved.

H&SO left at 8.52 pm.

### **4.2 Change Management Office: Mid Ulster Transition Project**

HRA stated that at the last meeting proposal to recruit full-time clerical/admin support at Scale 6 had been held, subject to approval of budget. Now that budget had been agreed recommended that recruitment process be proceeded with.

**Resolved** That recommendation is adopted.

### **4.3 Appointment of Chief Executive in New Mid Ulster Council**

Agreed that this item be taken in Committee.

The CE left the meeting at 8.53 pm.

The HRA stated that following agreement of Council he had referred letter dated 26 October 2013 from the Minister to Simmons, Meglaughlin & Orr and presented letter dated 4 December 2013 received from same setting out legal advice.

The HRA recommended that proceed as set out in the letter.

Councillor O'Neill left at 8.59 pm.

Lengthy discussion ensued during which concern was expressed with the make-up of the STC's selection panel and need for STC to take its own legal advice following which it was

**Resolved** That letter be circulated to members and that Council follow legal advice as set out in letter dated 4 December 2013.

#### **4.4 Additional Remuneration for Increased Workload as a result of the LG Reform Programme**

Agreed that this item be taken in Committee.

HRA submitted report from Joint Negotiating Committee for CEs in Northern Ireland (JNC) in respect of additional remuneration for increased workload as a result of the LG Reform Programme. The HRA stated that the Council in 1995 had agreed that all recommendations from the JNC would be automatically applied.

Members expressed concern that such an important document should have been tabled on the night following which it was

**Resolved** That document be circulated to members and full details be on report for January committee meeting.

### **5 DURATION OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 8.10 pm and concluded at 9.30 pm.

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

CHIEF EXECUTIVE \_\_\_\_\_