

LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

COMMITTEE DECISION SHEET

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - THURSDAY, 13 JUNE 2013

Please let the Committee Officer know as soon as possible if you do not agree with any action proposed in this decision sheet. These are decisions of the Committee and there is an expectation that action will be taken. If for any reason it is apparent that you will not be able to act on these instructions in full or in part or that there will be a delay, please let the Committee Officer know as it may be necessary to advise the Committee or seek further instructions from the Committee.

	Item Title	Committee Decision	PBB Option Affected	Services Required to take action	Officer to Action
1.1	<u>Members are requested to determine that any exempt business be considered with the press and public excluded</u>	The Committee resolved to consider items 9.1 to 10.4 with the press and public excluded.			
2.1	<u>None received at this stage</u>				
3.1	<u>Minute of Previous Meeting of 25 April 2013</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:-</u> (i) to approve the minute as an accurate record; and (ii) in relation to article 27, resolution (iii), to note the oral update in relation to the Monitoring Officer's investigation into the leaking of the exempt report.			
3.2	<u>Minute of the Diamond Jubilee Working Group of 2 May 2013</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:-</u> (i) to agree that the name and remit of the Diamond Jubilee Working Group be adjusted to the following: Diamond Jubilee Commonwealth Travel Bursary Working Group To receive and determine applications to the Diamond Jubilee Commonwealth		OCE	C Monaghan (D Gavin – for information)

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3.4	<u>Motions List</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>(i) in relation to motion 1 (Motion by Councillor Greig – Commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee and Queen's Reign), to note that the minute of the Diamond Jubilee Working Group had been considered earlier on today's agenda and to delete the motion;</p> <p>(ii) in relation to motion 2 (Motion by Councillor McCaig – BRIS), to note the oral update and further to a vote, to:</p> <p>(a) note the previous decision of the Committee;</p> <p>(b) note and commend the policy of Aberdeen City Council to maintain Council Tax at its present level from 2008 until at least 2016;</p> <p>(c) note with regret the Scottish Government's under-funding of the Council Tax freeze which has seen Aberdeen lose £2.1million after taking account of inflation over the same period;</p> <p>(d) express concern that the Scottish Government continues to fail to deliver the funding it has promised Aberdeen by ignoring the 85% floor which will cost Aberdeen City £12.1 million in 2013/2014 alone;</p> <p>(e) express dismay at the Scottish Government's abandonment of its commitment to honour payments under the Business Rates Incentivisation Scheme which will see Aberdeen City lose £3million in 2013/2014; and</p>		Committee Services	A Swanson

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		(f) notes the total amount of funding due to Aberdeen, but lost through Scottish Government back-tracking and broken promises is estimated to be £17.2 million.			
4.1	<u>Motion by Councillor Greig - Policing Museum</u> “That this Council works with Grampian Police, its two successor divisions, Aberdeenshire Council and the Moray Council to set up a policing museum for the North East and that all possible funding sources and sponsorship opportunities are sought.”	The Committee resolved to request officers to hold discussions with the organisations named in the motion, as well as the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and any other relevant organisations, regarding the terms of the motion, and the possibility of the creation of a regional museum which would include a public protection section.		Communities, Culture and Sport	P Cassidy
5.1	<u>There are no items under this section.</u>				
6.1	<u>Council Revenue Budget Financial Monitoring - Year End 2012-2013</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:-</u> (i) to note the positive year end Revenue Budget position for the financial year 2012/13; (ii) to note that the draft Statement of Accounts for 2012/13 would be presented to Council at its meeting of 26 June 2013 prior to being sent, as required by statute, to Audit Scotland before 30 June 2013; and (iii) to note that the audited Statement of Accounts would be presented to the Audit and Risk Committee, along with the external auditor's report to Elected Members in the Autumn, and thereafter would be presented to Council.		Finance	J Belford

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6.2	<u>Small Financial Assistance Grants</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>(i) to agree to award the following grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doors Open Day - £300; • Queens Cross Church for Lajee Centre Visit - £500; and • Aberdeen Student Charities Campaign – up to value of £2,500 inclusive of VAT towards the total 2013 cost of traffic management and barriers; and <p>(ii) to request officers to write to Celebrate Aberdeen and invite them to submit a request for financial assistance towards the cost of traffic management and barriers for its parade held on 1 June 2013.</p>		Finance	J Belford
6.3	<u>Treasury Management Policy and Strategy</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>to recommend that Council –</p> <p>(a) note the Treasury Management activities undertaken in 2012/13 as detailed in the report, and</p> <p>(b) approve the revised Counterparty list as detailed at Appendix 1.</p>		Finance M Orchard – for info referral to Council)	J Belford/N Stewart
6.4	<u>Annual Housing and Council Tax Benefit Report</u>	The Committee resolved to note the content of the report and that an annual report advising of Housing and Council Tax Benefit service performance would be presented to the Committee.		Finance	J Belford/H Moir
6.5	<u>Financial Contribution to Aberdeenshire Council for North Sea Conference 2014</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>(i) to agree that a total of £20,000 cash contribution (noting that £5000 had already been allocated by the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee) be</p>		Economic/Business Development	Y Ratnayeke

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		<p>allocated to Aberdeenshire Council towards the hosting of the North Sea Conference in June 2014, subject to the main conference plenary sessions being held at the AECC and that all conference publications must carry the Aberdeen City Council logo as a conference sponsor;</p> <p>(ii) to approve the hosting of a dinner, subject to the dinner being held at AECC or Beach Ballroom; and</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Director of Corporate Governance and the Senior Partnerships, Performance and Funding Officer, to identify a source of funding for the costs of the dinner, plus the additional £15,000 cash contribution.</p>			
7.1	<u>Low Carbon Regions in the North Sea (LOWCAP) Final Conference Travel Request</u>	The Committee resolved to approve the attendance of the Leader of the Council and one other elected member to attend the LOWCAP final conference to be held in Brussels on 26 June 2013.		Economic/Business Development	Y Ratnayeke/C Kedslie
7.2	<u>Fees for Citizenship Ceremonies and Nationality Checking Service</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>(a) to agree to increase the fee charged for individual citizenship ceremonies to £50;</p> <p>(b) to approve the following a fee structure for a nationality checking service – Single adult - £75 Single person under 18 - £40 Couples - £120 Family - £180</p> <p>(c) to agree to delegate authority to the Heads of Finance and Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Convener of the Finance and</p>		Democratic Services	V Cuthbert

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		Resources (or equivalent) Committee, to review these fees annually and make adjustments if deemed necessary.			
7.3	<u>Nativity Scene Infrastructure Costs</u>	The Committee resolved to refer the report simpliciter to Council.		Economic/Business Development M Orchard – for info referral to Council)	K Luke
7.4	<u>Haudagain Upgrade - A Way Forward (Middlefield)</u>	<p><u>Further to a vote, the Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>(i) to note the words of Keith Brown, Minister for Transport and Veterans, who stated in the Scottish parliament on 22nd May “We have stated on a number of occasions our commitment to funding the design and construction of the road improvement, which will include associated land and compensation costs for the delivery of the Haudagain scheme. As is the case with all of our schemes, landowners, including the local authority, will be compensated for any land or property that is required to enable the construction of the road improvement”</p> <p>(ii) to note paragraph 7.1 of the report which states “There is as yet no detailed information from government on the financial arrangements to be made to purchase assets required to deliver the Haudagain junction improvements” and therefore to instruct officers to enter into negotiations with the Scottish Government within the next 30 days with a view to</p>		Regeneration and Housing Investment M Orchard – for info referral to Council)	J Quinn

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		<p>agreeing a legally binding contract as soon as possible ensuring the Council and other land owners were suitably and properly compensated for the land or property that was required to enable the construction on the road improvements with a view to starting work on the Haudagain roundabout within the next two years rather than in 2018/2019 as proposed by the SNP;</p> <p>(iii) to note with complete disappointment the decision to postpone the arranged meeting between the Council and Transport Scotland on 27 May 2013, and reschedule the meeting until 28 June 2013, a clear sign that the Haudagain roundabout improvements were not a key priority for the Scottish Government;</p> <p>(iv) to note the speed in which the Scottish Government were prepared to compensate landowners, including building a brand new International School in Cults, long before the AWPR work had started and questions the Scottish Government's resolve to fully compensate the people and residents of Middlefield which was the most deprives area of the city in terms of employment, health, income, education and training quickly and efficiently as they did in the most prosperous area of the city; and</p> <p>(v) to suspend standing order 3(4)(a) and to instruct officers to bring a report to an additional meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on 25 July 2013 on the meeting with Transport Scotland, including detailed information from the Government on the financial</p>			

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		<p>arrangements to be made to purchase assets required to deliver the Haudagain junction improvements and setting out the Council's objectives to start this project within the next two years; and</p> <p>(vi) to request officers to advise all members, by email, whether a further Equality Human Rights Impact Assessment was required in light of the proposal to shorten the project timescales.</p> <p>In terms of Standing Order 36(3), this matter was referred to full Council in order for a final decision to be taken.</p>			
7.5	<u>Service Review of Legal Services</u>	The Committee resolved to refer the report simpliciter to Council.		<p>Legal Services</p> <p>M Orchard – for info referral to Council)</p>	J MacEachran
8.1	<u>Tender Acceptance Report - Scotland Excel, Government Procurement Service and Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation Framework Agreements</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:-</u></p> <p>(i) to approve the use of the Scotland Excel, Government Procurement Service and Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation Framework Agreements for the purchase of the commodities shown in Appendix 1; and</p> <p>(ii) approve the estimated expenditure for each of the commodities listed in appendix 1.</p>		Procurement	C Innes/T Johnson
8.2	<u>Request for Approval of Expenditure for Destruction of Confidential Waste Tender</u>	The Committee resolved to approve the estimated expenditure of £43,804 per annum for a period of four years on the destruction of		Procurement	C Innes/T Johnson

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		confidential waste, in accordance with SO1(3) of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts and Procurement.			
9.1	<u>Review of Commercial Car Parks</u>	The Committee resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the exempt report.		Asset Management and Operations	H Murdoch/P Thatcher
10.1	<u>Property - Vacant and Surplus Assets June 2013</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:-</u> (i) to approve the recommendations contained in the exempt report; and (ii) to note the oral updates by the Property Estates Manager.		Asset Management and Operations	H Murdoch/S Booth/N Strachan
10.2	<u>Property Sales</u>	The Committee resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the exempt report.		Asset Management and Operations	H Murdoch/S Booth/I Harris
10.3	<u>Property Sales - 0.62 Ha Site, Tarbothill Road, Balgownie</u>	The Committee resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the exempt report.		Asset Management and Operations	H Murdoch/S Booth/J Sanders
10.4	<u>Asset Appraisal of 11/13 and 15/17 Belmont Street</u>	The Committee resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the exempt report.		Asset Management and Operations	H Murdoch/P Thatcher

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Allison Swanson, tel. (52)2822 or email aswanson@aberdeencity.gov.uk