

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Report to Clackmannanshire Council of 14th August 2008

Subject: Referendum on Scottish Independence

Prepared by: Councillor D Balsillie

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1. An issue, regularly raised when discussing the constitutional future of Scotland is that of who should determine what the future arrangements should be. This paper sets out the view that it should be the people of Scotland.
- 1.2. If we are to let the people of Scotland decide their constitutional future then a referendum is needed.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council supports the position that the people of Clackmannanshire be allowed to vote in a referendum to determine the political future of Scotland by supporting the petition 'Let Scotland Decide' (appendix 1).

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The Scottish Independence Convention (S.I.C.) is an umbrella organisation working to unite and encourage all who want Independence for Scotland to meet on common ground and have their say in the growing debate on Scotland's constitutional future.
- 3.2. One of the issues which is regularly raised when discussing the constitutional future of Scotland is "who should determine what the future arrangements should be". The S.I.C. has a clear view on that. It believes that the people of Scotland should decide their own future, and it should not be left up to a small number of politicians to determine the constitutional decisions for Scotland.
- 3.3. Although the objective of the Convention is to further Independence for Scotland, it also believes that we should further democracy, in Scotland, by ensuring that any decisions on our future are offered to the people by way of a referendum.
- 3.4. It is also aware that many people who are opponents of Independence are still strongly in favour of a full debate on the issue and the opportunity to have a

vote on their future. It is therefore in all our interests to ensure the Scottish Government allows a referendum on this issue.

- 3.5 By supporting the petition "Let Scotland decide" this Council will not necessarily be advocating Independence, rather supporting the rights of the people in our area to have a say in their future.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1. Council is asked to support the petition on an independence referendum for Scotland.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. None

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. None

6.2. Declarations

- (1) The recommendations contained within this report support or implement Corporate Priorities, Council Policies and/or the Community Plan:

- **Corporate Priorities (Key Themes)** (Please tick)

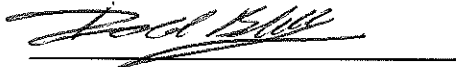
- Achieving Potential
- Maximising Quality of Life
- Securing Prosperity
- Enhancing the Environment
- Maintaining an Effective Organisation

- **Council Policies** (Please detail)

- **Community Plan (Themes)** (Please tick)

- Community Safety
- Economic Development
- Environment and Sustainability
- Health Improvement

- (2) In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. (Please tick)
- (3) The full financial implications of the recommendations contained in this report are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. (Please tick)



Councillor Donald Balsillie

Report to Council

To accompany all Reports to Council

To: Head of Administration And Legal Services

Author: Councillor D Balsillie

Date: 9 June 2008

Service: Chief Executive's Service

Date of Meeting: 14th August 2008

Title of Report: Referendum on Scottish Independence

Recommendation that the attached report be:

1. Given unrestricted circulation

(tick appropriate box)

2. Taken in private

By virtue of paragraph ____ of schedule 7A, Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

Appendices attached to this report (if none, state "none")

1. Let Scotland Decide
- 2.
- 3.

List of Background Papers (if none, state "none")

1. None
- 2.
- 3.

Note: All documents specified must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of the meeting at which the report is considered.

