

**MINUTE OF MEETING of the
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held within
the Council Chamber, Greenfield,
Alloa, on THURSDAY 28th AUGUST
2008**

PRESENT

Councillor Donald Balsillie (Convener)
Councillor Gary Womersley (Vice Convener)
Councillor John Biggam
Councillor Alastair Campbell
Councillor Mark English
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor Harry McLaren
Provost Derek Stewart

IN ATTENDANCE

Jeni Graham, Director of Corporate
Development Services
Garry Dallas, Director of Development
and Environmental Services
Deirdre Cilliers, Head of Social Services
Barry Dickson, Head of Business
Improvement and Technology Services
John Gillespie, Head of Housing
Jim Goodall, Head of Education
Aileen Littlejohn, Support Services
Manager, Chief Executive's Service
Muir Wilson, Head of Finance

The start of the Scrutiny Committee meeting was delayed until 11.00 am following the conclusion of the Special Meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council.

SC(08)91 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were no apologies or substitutions.

SC(08)92 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

SC(08)93 MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 19 JUNE 2008

There was submitted a minute of the meeting held on Thursday 19 June 2008, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Moved by Provost Stewart. Seconded by Councillor Biggam.

The minute of the meeting held on Thursday 19 June 2008 was agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

SC(08)94 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE LIST OF ONGOING ACTIONS

There was submitted a list of Scrutiny Committee ongoing actions from 01/01/08 to 31/12/08, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

SID: 1951 (HMIE Report and Action Plan for Lornshill Academy) - report to be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee of 09/10/08.

SID: 2031 (General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring 2007/08) - Committee noted that the Convener and Leader of the Council have written to CoSLA to raise the issue of funding for residential schools and secure placements. Action to be marked 'completed'.

Action: Jeni Graham, Director of Corporate Development Services

SC(08)95 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETINGS TIMETABLE - AUGUST 2008-FEBRUARY 2009

There was submitted a timetable of Scrutiny Committee meetings from August 2008 to February 2009, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

The Committee agreed to note that a revised timetable would be circulated to committee members.

Action: Jeni Graham, Director of Corporate Development Services

SC(08)96 COUNCIL PERFORMANCE QUARTER 1 2008/09

There was submitted a report by Stuart Crickmar, Business Improvement Manager, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Councillor Womersley moved the report. Seconded by Councillor Biggam.

The Committee agreed to note the key issues set out in paragraph 4.0 of the report and to note performance and agree management actions as set out in Appendix A of the report.

During debate, the Committee provided feedback on the effectiveness and presentation of measures.

SC(08)97 STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2007/08

There was submitted a report by Judith Richardson and Stuart Crickmar, Business Improvement, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Councillor Campbell moved the report. Seconded by Councillor McLaren.

The Committee agreed to note the information set out in the report and to consider areas of performance for corrective action.

The Committee agreed that the current Annual Report for Trading Standards be circulated to Scrutiny Committee members for information only.

Action: Garry Dallas, Director of Development & Environmental Services

SC(08)98 BEST VALUE REVIEW OF HOUSING REPAIRS

There was submitted a report by John Gillespie, Head of Housing, and Gordon Stewart, Head of Property Services, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Councillor Balsillie moved the report. Seconded by Councillor Holden.

The Committee agreed to endorse recommendation 2.1 of the report and agreed that recommendations 2.1 and 2.2 are remitted to Council for decision.

Action: Dave Jones, Chief Executive

- Councillor English withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings

SC(08)99 HOUSING SERVICES INSPECTION IMPROVEMENT PLAN

There was submitted a report by Francine Abercromby, Performance and Information Manager, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

The report was moved by Councillor McLaren. Seconded by Councillor Womersley.

The Committee agreed to note the information set out in the report which provided an update on progress of the Housing Service's Improvement Plan following Communities Scotland Inspection subject to the following actions:

- (1) Moved by Councillor Womersley. Seconded by Councillor Biggam.

- Head of Housing to consider the Lothian rental model and to investigate options in terms of engagement with the private sector to assist with additional housing provision in the context of an acute housing shortage locally.

(2) Moved by Councillor Holden. Seconded by Councillor Balsillie.

- Head of Housing to consider how best members can be informed of annual programme of dispersal tenancies.

(3) Moved by Councillor Holden. Seconded by Councillor Womersley

- (Ref. Hom5) Officers to provide committee with a report which details what actions and decisions are taken to ensure consistency of appeals information and decisions to improve quality of casework.

Action: Dave Jones, Chief Executive

**SC(08)100 SCOTTISH PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN
INVESTIGATION REPORT - COMPLAINT AGAINST
CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL**

There was submitted a report by Rod Richardson, Principal Administration Officer, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

The report was moved by Councillor Balsillie. Seconded by Councillor Campbell.

The Committee agreed to note the information set out in the report.

The meeting concluded at 12.55 pm