

**CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL**

**MINUTE OF MEETING of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held within the Council Chamber,  
Greenfield, Alloa, on THURSDAY 8 APRIL 2010 at 9.30 am.**

**PRESENT**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Angela Leitch, Chief Executive  
Councillor Janet Cadenhead (from 11.05)  
Garry Dallas, Director of Services to Communities  
Deirdre Cilliers, Head of Social Policy  
Jim Goodall, Head of Education  
John Gillespie, Head of Community and Regulatory Services  
Elaine McPherson, Head of Strategy and Customer Services  
Jim Burke, Senior Manager, Child Care  
Martin Dunsmore, Accounting & Budgeting Manager  
Aileen Littlejohn, Business Support Manager (Clerk to the Committee)

**SC(10)234      APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark English.

**SC(10)235      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**SC(10)236      MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2010**

A minute of the Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 25 February 2010 was submitted for approval by the Committee.

**Motion**

To approve the minute as a correct record of proceedings.

Moved by Councillor Gary Womersley. Seconded by Councillor John Biggam.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute of the meeting held on 25 February 2010 as a correct record of proceedings.

The minute of the meeting was signed by the Convener.

**SC(10)237 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN**

A list of ongoing actions from the Scrutiny Committee meetings was submitted for information. The Committee agreed to note the following actions:

**SID 2182: End of Year Balanced Scorecard 2009/10**

As there will be a presentation by Stuart Crickmar, Business Improvement Manager, at the Focus Group meeting after today's Committee meeting, this action will be marked complete and removed from Action plan.

**SC(10)238 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2009/10**

A report presenting the latest General Fund revenue spend for the current financial year 2009/10 based on actual spend to date and detailed discussions with Service Managers on likely forecasts was submitted by the Finance Manager.

The report attachments highlighted the revised estimate for each service area, including the use of earmarked reserves brought forward from 2008/09, and records the probable variances from these budgets as a result of the current assessment of projected out-turn spend.

**Motion**

That the Committee notes the information set out in the report.

Moved by Provost Derek Stewart. Seconded by Councillor Gary Womersley.

**Decision**

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

**SC(10)239 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2009/10 BUDGET MONITORING**

A paper which reported on the projected out-turn of the Housing Revenue Account for the Financial Year 2009/10, based on the financial position at 31 January, 2010, was submitted by the Finance Manager.

**Motion**

That the Committee notes the contents of this report.

Moved by Councillor Gary Womersley. Seconded by Councillor Harry McLaren

**Decision**

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

**SC(10)240 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/10 TO 2014/15 MONITORING REPORT**

A third financial monitoring for the General Services Capital Programme this financial year which presented the latest anticipated out-turns for this year based on current review with project managers was submitted by the Finance Manager. This was an update report highlighting variances from the November position that was reported to the Scrutiny Committee at its previous meeting.

### **Motion**

The Committee notes the information set out in the update report subject to a proviso that within a six months members of the Committee to receive a briefing note on Capital Expenditure accounting practices.

Moved by Councillor John Biggam. Seconded by Councillor Alastair Campbell.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the report. They also requested that within a six month timescale members of the Scrutiny Committee receive a briefing note on the Capital expenditure accounting practices.

### **Action**

Chief Executive.

### **SC(10)241 HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/10 TO 2014/15 MONITORING REPORT**

A report presenting the projected out-turn of the Housing Capital Programme for the financial year 2009/10 and a summary of budgets for 2010/11 to 2014/15 was submitted by the Finance Manager. Based on the current review of the programme an updated report detailing variations from budgets approved by Council in March 2009, including carry forward of unspent budgets from 2008/09 and the final review in the run up to the year end, indicates that, despite considerable procurement issues, the Service has made considerable progress in the last few months in its objective to deliver the SHQS and "Clackmannanshire Standard".

### **Motion**

That Committee notes the information set out in the report.

Moved by Provost Derek Stewart. Seconded by Councillor Gary Womersley.

### **Decision**

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

### **SC(10)242 SHARED RISK ASSESSMENT FOR THE AUDIT AND INSPECTION OF COUNCIL SERVICES**

A report to advise Scrutiny Committee of Audit Scotland's new approach for planning and co-ordinating the programme of audit and inspection over the next three years was submitted by the Head of Strategy and Customer Services.

### **Motion**

That Committee considers and comments on the approach to developing the Shared Risk Assessment for the Council.

Moved by Councillor Harry McLaren. Seconded by Councillor Gary Womersley.

### **Decision**

The Committee considered and commented on the approach to developing the Shared Risk Assessment for the Council.

**SC(10)243 BUSINESS PLANS 2010/11**

A report to update Scrutiny Committee on progress made with Business Plans for the year 2010/11 was submitted by Head of Strategy and Customer Services.

**Motion**

That the Committee considers progress made with business plans that services have developed for the year commencing 1 April, 2010.

Moved by Councillor Alastair Campbell. Seconded by Councillor Harry McLaren

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to consider the progress made with the business plans, but would welcome proposals from the Chief Executive detailing opportunities for Elected Member input.

**Action**

Chief Executive.

**SC(10)244 STREET LIGHTING PERFORMANCE INDICATOR**

A report explaining the variation in the Statutory Performance Indicator (SPI) for "Percentage of Street Lighting Repairs completed within 7 Days" between 2006/07 and 2007/08 was submitted by the Director of Services to Communities.

**Motion**

That the Committee notes the explanation given in the report.

Moved by Provost Derek Stewart. Seconded by Councillor John Biggam.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to note the explanation given in the report.

**SC(10)245 2010 RATING VALUATION**

A report regarding the five yearly (Quinquennial) revaluation of Scottish Non-Domestic Properties which comes into effect on 1 April, 2010 was presented by Director of Services to Communities. The report sets out the procedures which will be employed by the Council in scrutinising, lodging and progressing appeals as appropriate.

**Motion**

That the Committee notes the proposals for dealing with the appeals, following receipt of the Assessor's valuation notices with effect from 1 April 2010.

Moved by Councillor Alastair Campbell. Seconded by Councillor John Biggam.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to note the proposals in the report. An action was agreed that Property Services will investigate the best way to proceed with the tender, including examination of proposing a performance related fee.

### **Action**

Director of Services to Communities.

### **SC(10)246 ANNUAL UPDATE OF CORPORATE PARENTING ACTION PLAN**

A report which updated the Committee on the progress of the Corporate Parenting Strategy which was approved by Council in June 2009 was submitted by the Head of Social Policy. As well as presenting the strategy, a commitment had been given to provide an update of progress to the Council on an annual basis.

### **Motion**

That Committee notes the information set out in the report and invites the Regeneration Portfolio holder (Councillor Sam Ovens) to attend the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee Focus Group (20 May 2010) to consider how actions can be monitored by the Scrutiny Committee.

Moved by Councillor Donald Balsillie. Seconded by Councillor John Biggam.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to note the information set out in the report and agreed that the Regeneration Portfolio Holder be invited to attend the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee Focus Group on 20 May 2010.

### **Action**

Councillor Donald Balsillie (Convener)

### **SC(10)247 CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORTS OF FOSTER CARE SERVICES, ADOPTION SERVICES AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES IN CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL, SOCIAL SERVICES**

A report which updated Committee on the outcome of recent Care Commission inspections of Clackmannanshire's Fostering and Adoption Service which took place in September 2009 and was published in November 2009, was submitted by the Head of Social Policy.

The report also highlighted that the Care Commission had recently undertaken an unannounced inspection of Woodside Residential Unit for young people which was completed on 1 February, 2010. Their report has recently been sent to the Council but, as yet, has not been published on the Care Commission website. The results of this inspection were also made available for the Scrutiny Committee.

### **Motion**

That the Committee notes the information set out in the report.

Moved by Provost Derek Stewart. Seconded by Councillor John Biggam

### **Decision**

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

ENDS 12.10pm

