

THE MORAY COUNCIL

THURSDAY 2 JULY, 1998

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of **THE MORAY COUNCIL** is to be held within the Council Chambers, Council Headquarters, High Street, Elgin on Thursday 2 July, 1998 at 10.00 a.m.

Karen B. Williams
Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services)

25 June 1998

Presentation

Prior to the commencement of business, there will be a Presentation of approximately 20 minutes by Councillor Irene Oldfather, Chair of the COSLA EMU Task Group.

BUSINESS

1. Consider, and if so decide, adopt the following resolution:-

“That under Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting for Items 20 to 21 of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant Paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act”, as shown against each Item.

2. The Moray Council - Minute of Meeting dated 28 May, 1998 [Page Nos 1561 - 1569]

3. Social Work Committee
 - (a) Minute of Meeting dated 4 June, 1998 [Page Nos 1570 -1576]
 - (b) Minute of Children's Sub-Committee dated 4 June, 1998 [Page No 1577]–
TO FOLLOW
4. Housing Committee
 - (a) Minute of Meeting dated 2 June, 1998 [Page Nos 1578 -1582]
 - (b) Minute of Special Meeting dated 24 June, 1998 [Page No 1583]– **TO FOLLOW**
5. Economic Development and Planning Committee
 - (a) Minute of Meeting dated 9 June, 1998 [Page Nos 1584 -1594]
 - (b) Minute of Meeting of Services Committee dated 26 May, 1998 [Page Nos 1595 –1602]
6. Licensing Committee - Minute of Meeting dated 11 June, 1998 [Page Nos 1603 - 1605]
7. Technical and Leisure Services Committee - Minute of Meeting dated 18 June, 1998 [Page Nos 1606 - 1612]
8. Education Committee
 - (a) Minute of Meeting dated 23 June, 1998 – TO FOLLOW
 - (b) Minute of General Services Sub-Committee dated 23 June, 1998 – TO FOLLOW
9. Policy and Resources Committee - Minute of Meeting dated 25 June, 1998 - TO FOLLOW
10. Notice of Motion - Consider the terms of the following Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Keith, seconded by Councillor Farquharson and supported by Councillor Mann:-

“This Council notes with concern the Conveners apparent disregard for the democratic processes of the Council. Remarks made by the Convener at a Public Meeting in Dufftown on 19.5.98 indicating that the Community Centre would remain open are at odds with a previous Moray Council decision on 5.3.98 and Standing Order 27. This has resulted in public confusion and concern.

Immediate clarification on the future of the Dufftown Community Centre is now required.”
11. Draft Moray Council Annual Accounts for 1997/98- Report by Depute Chief Executive (Finance & I.T.)

12. Draft DLO/DSO Annual Accounts for 1997/98 - Report by Depute Chief Executive (Finance & IT.)
13. The Moray Council –1996/98 Members’ Report - Report by Depute Chief Executive (Finance & I.T.) – **TO FOLLOW**
14. Local Public Holidays 1999 – Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services)
15. Strategic Defence Review – Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve - Representations from Perth & Kinross Council- Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services)
16. Meeting the Childcare Challenge; A Childcare Strategy for Scotland: Scottish Office Consultation - Report by the Director of Education
17. Tree Preservation Orders: Roseisle and Beil’s Brae, Urquhart – Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning
18. Remembrance Day Services and Parades: Sunday, 8 November, 1998 – Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services)
19. Welfare Reform Consultation Paper – Consultative Workshop – Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services)

Items which the Council may wish to discuss with the media and press excluded

20. Minute of Waiver in Respect of Private Feus at Findochty – Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning [Para 6, 8 & 93
21. Community Development Service Staffing Structure – Report by the Director of Technical and Leisure Services [Paras 1 & 11]– **TO FOLLOW**
22. Elgin Central Redevelopment Sites - Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning [Paras 8, 9 & 10] – **TO FOLLOW**

- NB
- Paragraph 1 - Information relating to staffing matters
 - Paragraph 6 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person(s)
 - Paragraphs 8 and 9 - Information on proposed terms and/or expenditure to be incurred by the Authority
 - Paragraph 10 - Information relating to the identity of the Authority as the person offering any particular tender for a contract
 - Paragraph 11 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations

CONTACT PERSON:	Alistair Fanning
Tel. No.	01343 563014
Room No.	117

THE MORAY COUNCIL

SEDERUNT

COUNCILLOR G. McDonald (Convener)
COUNCILLOR H.M. Cumiskie (Vice Convener)
COIINCILLOR E. Aldridge
COUNCILLOR M. Anderson
COUNCILLOR D. Crawford
COUNCILLOR A. Farquharson
COUNCILLOR M.C. Howe
COUNCILLOR T.A. Howe
COUNCILLOR W. Jappy
COUNCILLOR A. Keith
COUNCILLOR R. J. Laing
COUNCILLOR P. Mann
COUNCILLOR H. McDonald
COUNCILLOR R. Patterson
COUNCILLOR C.D. Scaife
COUNCILLOR A. Scott
COUNCILLOR J. Shaw
COUNCILLOR J. Stewart

CLERK TO THE MEETING - MR. A. FANNING

Tel. 01343 563014 Room No. 117

THE MORAY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY COUNCIL

28 MAY, 1998

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors G. McDonald (Convener), E. Aldridge, M. Anderson, D. Crawford, A. Farquharson, M. C. Howe, T. A. Howe, W. Jappy, A. Keith, R. J. Laing, H. McDonald, P. Mann, R.L. Patterson, C. D. Scaife, A. M. Scott, J. M. Shaw and J. Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services), the Depute Chief Executive (Finance & I.T.), the Director of Community Services, the Director of Technical and Leisure Services, the Legal and Administration Services Manager, the Development Manager, Mr D. Duncan, Principal Planning Officer, the Corporate Liaison Officer and the Principal Administration Officer, Clerk to the Meeting.

APOLOGY

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor H. M. Cumiskie (Vice-Convener).

1. CHAIR

The Chair was taken by the Convener, Councillor G McDonald.

2. BEST VALUE SUBMISSION

The Convener intimated that The Scottish Office had agreed the Council's Best Value Implementation Plan and Service Review Schedule and in so doing had confirmed that the Council would be given a further one year exemption from CCT to 1st July, 1999.

The Convener expressed on behalf of Members, his thanks to Council Staff for their co-operation towards the Council achieving Best Value.

3. RESIGNATION OF CORPORATE LIAISON OFFICER

The Convener advised that Mrs Barbara Smith, Corporate Liaison Officer was attending her last meeting of the Council prior to her leaving the employment of the Authority.

The Convener paid tribute to Mrs Smith for the manner in which she had undertaken her duties and wished her every success for the future.

The Meeting concurred with the sentiments expressed by the Convener.

4. ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS

The Convener advised that Agenda Items 26. (Refurbishment of Council Chamber) and 26(a). (Office Accommodation - Corporate Services Department) had been deferred and that Item 28. (Interim Arrangements for Appointment of Returning Officer) had been withdrawn.

5. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

In terms of the relevant Standing Order, the Meeting agreed to accept as an Additional Item of Business to be transacted at the Meeting, consideration of a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) in regard to attendance at a forthcoming COSLA Seminar to be held in Edinburgh on 17th June, 1998 on the theme

“The Information Revolution” on the Convener certifying that, in his opinion, it required to be considered on the grounds of urgency having regard to the date of the Seminar.

6. VISIT OF DANISH CULTURAL INSTITUTE

There was circulated to Members for noting, copy letter from the Director, The Danish Cultural Institute thanking the Council for the warm welcome extended to a group of Danish Chief Executives from the County of Ribe during their visit to Elgin of Thursday 7th May, 1998.

7. EMERGENCY NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed Changes to Blood Transfusion Service

The Meeting agreed to accept as an Emergency Notice of Motion, the following Motion by Councillor Jappy, seconded by Councillor Scaife:-

“In view of the announcement by The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service to consult on proposed changes to the structure of The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service which would, under the proposals, see the processing and testing of all blood products to be concentrated in Edinburgh and Glasgow and the facilities in Aberdeen, Inverness and Dundee discontinued, it was imperative that notwithstanding that COSLA would be consulted on this matter, the Moray Council should undertake its own consultations with Local GPs, the Health Trust, the Trade Unions and other interested organisations before determining its response to the Consultation Document”.

Following consideration the Meeting approved the terms of the foregoing Motion.

8. VISIT TO BAVARIA – STATEMENT BY THE VICE-CONVENER, COUNCILLOR CUMISKIE

Councillor Crawford read out a statement on behalf of the Vice- Convener, Councillor Cumiskie, who was unable to attend the Meeting due to other commitments, in regard to her visit to Bavaria at the beginning of May when she was accompanied by the Director of Economic Development and Planning, Mr Robert McBain and Aileen Innes of the Keith Kilt School and Piper, Sandy Gerrard.

In her statement Councillor Cumiskie indicated that during her visit she had visited the County of Kronach which first developed links with Banffshire some twenty-five years ago and Hersbruck which had even longer links with the Town of Lossiemouth.

Councillor Crawford thereafter presented to the Convener on behalf of the Vice- Convener, a Charter of Partnership and a gift of the Kronach Flag.

The Convener accepted the gifts on behalf of the Council and expressed his thanks to Councillor Cumiskie and the other representatives for undertaking the visit and developing Moray's links with Bavaria.

9. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A(4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the Items of Business appearing at the relevant Paragraphs of this Minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

<u>Para. No. of Minute</u>	<u>Pat-a. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
37	6.8 & 9
38	8 & 9
39	8 & 9

10. PRIOR MINUTES

(i) Minute of Meeting of Council dated 23rd April, 1998

There was submitted the Minute of the Meeting of The Moray Council dated 23rd April, 1998.

The Meeting agreed that subject to paragraph 9. (i) (Minute of Meeting of Social Work Committee dated 26th March, 1998) being amended to record that the Chairman had requested Councillor Keith to retract a statement which he had made personally attacking Councillor T. A. Howe, the Minute be otherwise approved,

(ii) Minute of Special Meeting dated 23rd April, 1998

The Minute of Special Meeting of The Moray Council dated 23rd April, 1998 was submitted and approved

11. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF HOUSING COMMITTEE

(i) Minute of Meeting dated 28th April, 1998

The Minute of Meeting of the Housing Committee dated 28th April, 1998 was submitted.

The Meeting agreed that subject to the deletion of the word "informal" on line 9 of paragraph 16. (Strategic Agreement with Scottish Homes: Review of Projects 1997/98), the Minute be otherwise approved.

(ii) Minute of Meeting of the Sub-Committee dated 28th April, 1998

The Minute of Meeting of the Housing Sub-Committee dated 28th April, 1998 was submitted and approved.

12. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

(i) Minute of Meeting of the Services Committee dated 21st April, 1998

The Minute of Meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Services Committee dated 21st April, 1998 was submitted and approved.

(ii) Minute of Meeting dated 5th May, 1998

The Minute of Meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee dated 5th May, 1998 was submitted and approved subject to the deletion of Paragraph 13 (iii) (Railway Transport Working Party).

13. MINUTE OF MEETING OF LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee dated 7th May, 1993 was submitted and approved

14. MINUTE OF MEETING OF TECHNICAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

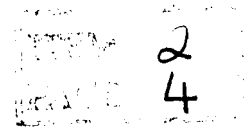
The Minute of Meeting of the Technical and Leisure Services dated 14th May, 1998 was submitted and approved.

15. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(i) Minute of Meeting dated 19th May, 1998.

The Minute of Meeting of the Education Committee dated 19th May, 1998 was submitted

The Meeting agreed that subject to the deletion of the fifth paragraph of Paragraph 5. (Proposal to Educate S3 and S4 Pupils at Tomitoul on the Speyside High School Site), the Minute be otherwise approved.



(ii) Minute of Meeting of General Purposes Sub-Committee dated 23rd May, 1998.

The Minute of Meeting of the Education General Purposes Sub-Committee dated 23rd April, 1998 was submitted and approved.

16. MINUTE OF MEETING OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 21st May, 1998 was submitted,

The Meeting agreed that subject to the following amendments, the Minute be otherwise approved:-

Paragraph 11. (Concessionary Rail Travel for the Visually Impaired) – the final paragraph thereof being amended to include the registered blind in addition to those registered as visually impaired.

Paragraph 2 I. (Public/Local Holidays for Employees) being amended by the addition after "Option 1" of the words "as recommended at 8.1 (ii) of the Report".

Paragraph 36. (Additional Business)

Councillor T. A. Howe, seconded by Councillor G. McDonald, moved that the Minute be amended to record that Councillor Farquharson had been advised by the Chairman of the Committee to submit a written Notice of Motion if he wished the matter to be considered by the Full Council.

As an amendment, Councillor Farquharson moved that the Minute was correct to the extent that the Chairman of the Committee had advised him that he could raise the matter at the Full Council.

On a division of Members present at the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on 21st May, 1998 and entitled to vote, there voted:-

For the Motion (5)

Councillors T.A. Howe, G. McDonald, D. Crawford, M.C. Howe, J. Stewart.

For the Amendment (3)

Councillors E. Aldridge, A. Farquharson, W. Jappy.

Abstentions (0)

The Motion became the finding of the Meeting and it was agreed to amend the Minute accordingly.

The said Minute was otherwise approved.

17. MINUTE OF MEETING OF WARRANT SALES SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minute of the Meeting of the Warrant Sales Sub-Committee dated 23rd April, 1998 was submitted and approved.

18. THE MORAY COUNCIL – ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1996 TO 31ST MARCH, 1997

There was submitted and noted the Annual Report and Financial Statement for The Moray Council for the period 1st April, 1996 to 31st March, 1997.

19. THE MORAY COUNCIL – 1996/97 DLO/DSO AUDITED FINAL ACCOUNTS

There was submitted and noted the Annual Report and Financial Statement for the Direct Labour Organisation (DLO) and Direct Services Organisation (DSO) for the period 1st April, 1996 to 31st March, 1997.

20. PROPOSAL TO EDUCATE S3 AND S4 PUPILS AT TOMINTOUL ON THE SPEYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL SITE

There was submitted a Report by the HSA (Depute) Planning and Resources inviting the Council to consider a proposal recommended by the Education Committee to educate Tomintoul Pupils at S3 and S4 on the Speyside High School Site with a revised staffing and curriculum model being introduced for S1 and S2 at Tomintoul which would provide equity of access to the curriculum thereby ensuring that Tomintoul S1 and S2 Pupils would share the same opportunities at that stage as their fellow pupils in Speyside High School; that the Director of Education be instructed to undertake an early review of proposed transport arrangements with a view to reducing time pupils spent away from home; and to seek the approval of the Secretary of State to proceed with the implementation of the proposal to educate Tomintoul S3 and S4 pupils on the Speyside High School Site.

Following discussion Councillor M. C. Howe, seconded by Councillor Crawford, moved that the recommendations of the Education Committee be approved.

As an amendment Councillor Farquharson, seconded by Councillor Keith, moved for the retention of the status quo.

On a division, there voted:-

For the Motion(9)

Councillors G. McDonald Anderson, Crawford, M. C. Howe, T. A. Howe, Laing, H. McDonald, Patterson and Stewart.

For the Amendment(6)

Councillors E. Aldridge, A. Farquharson, W. Jappy, A. Keith, P. Mann and D. Scaife

Abstentions (2)

Councillors Scott and Shaw

Accordingly the Motion became the finding of the Meeting and it was resolved to educate Tomintoul S3 and S4 pupils on the Speyside High School Site with revised staffing and curriculum model being introduced for S1 and S2 which would provide equity of access to the curriculum thereby ensuring that Tomintoul S1 and S2 pupils would share the same opportunities at that stage as their fellow pupils in Speyside High School; that the Director of Education be instructed to undertake an early review of proposed transport arrangements with a view to reducing time pupils spent away from home; and to seek the approval of the Secretary of State to proceed with the implementation of the proposal to educate Tomintoul S3 and S4 pupils on the Speyside High School Site.

21. NHS REFORMS

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Community Services advising the Meeting of further information which had been made available by the Grampian Health Board in respect of a number of matters which had arisen following a presentation by representatives of the Health Board to a meeting of the Full Council on 19th April, 1998 in regard to the reconfiguration of Health Services within Grampian.

There was also submitted for approval a draft response to the Health Board's proposals which had been prepared in consultation with the Leaders of the Groups on the Council.

The Meeting noted that Grampian Health Board had indicated in its Consultation Paper that it would guarantee to continue to fund services provided by Dr Gray's Hospital and it was agreed to seek clarification from the Health Board as to the nature of services which would be provided by Dr Gray's Hospital under the proposed reforms.

Following consideration the Meeting approved the Council's submission to Grampian Health Board in response to its proposals for the reconfiguration of Health Services within the Grampian Area.

22. CANCER AND PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES IN MORAY

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Community Services advising the Meeting of a recent Report published by Grampian Health Board in regard to the provision of Cancer and Palliative Care Services in Moray.

The Meeting noted that Grampian Health Board had commissioned Scottish Health Feedback to undertake a user based needs assessment exercise for Moray to determine from the perspective of service users, providers and relative interest groups what the key issues were in relation to cancer and palliative care in the Community in Moray and how these issues were currently being addressed from the various perspectives and identifying any gaps which existed.

The Meeting noted that the Social Work Committee at its meeting on 19th February, 1998 had affirmed its support for the Hospice in Moray Campaign and expressed a desire to assist the Campaign with their objective of achieving a Day Hospice in Moray to compliment and enhance the existing provision for Cancer and Palliative Care Services.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to note the Scottish Health Feedback Report published by Grampian Health Board and agreed to seek further discussions with the Health Board as regards the improvement of Cancer and Palliative Care Services in Moray.

23. NEW DEAL: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MORAY COUNCIL

There was submitted a Joint Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning and the Director of Technical and Leisure Services regarding the Council's participation in conjunction with Moray Training in the Welfare to Work – New Deal Initiative (Environmental Option) and recommending the Council to agree in principle to become involved in the New Deal Employer Option on a trial basis subject to discussion with the Trade Unions.

The Report also advised of progress in regard to establishment of a Environmental Task Force under the New Deal Arrangements.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to note the progress being made in the establishment of a Environmental Task Force and to agree in principle to become involved in the New Deal – Employer Option on a trial basis, subject to discussion with the Trade Unions and subject also to a further detailed Report being submitted to the Council for consideration.

24. GRAMPIAN JAPAN TRUST – APPOINTMENT OF NAMED SUBSTITUTE

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider appointing a Member to act as a Substitute to attend meetings of the Grampian Japan Trust in the absence of the Council's nominated representatives.

Following consideration the Committee approved the appointment of Councillor Stewart as a Substitute Member to attend meetings of the Grampian Japan Trust.

25. RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION STEERING GROUP CONSULTATION ON HOW THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT SHOULD WORK

There was submitted a Report by the Corporate Liaison Officer recommending approval of a Draft Response to a Scottish Office Constitution Group Consultation Paper on how the Scottish Parliament might operate.

Following consideration the Meeting approved the Draft Response for submission to the Scottish Office and copied to COSLA for its information.

26. CHILDREN'S SERVICES STRATEGY GROUP: REMIT, PRIORITIES AND CYCLE OF MEETINGS

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider the recommendations of the Children's Services Strategy Group to amend its Remit and to approve a set of Priorities and Cycle of Meetings.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed that the Remit of the Children's Services Strategy Group be revised as follows:-

- (i) to promote and co-ordinate Council policies and strategies which deal with the needs of children and young people;
- (ii) to advise the relevant Committees of the Council on matters related to provision for children and young people; and
- (iii) to identify ways in which the Council could meet the demands of children and young people and make recommendations thereon to the relevant Council Committees.

The Meeting also agreed to approve the following Priorities of the Group in line with the proposed new Remit:-

- (a) to monitor and evaluate implementation of the Children's Plan and identify information required for this purpose;
- (b) to consider the outcome of consultative meetings with young people and undertake the production of a Youth Strategy for the Council;
- (c) to identify the implications for children and young people arising from Service Plans and recommend action which requires to be taken to ensure the interests of children are protected;
- (d) to consider reports on policy issues which affect children and young people and make recommendations to the relevant Committees on dealing with these;
- (e) to consider issues relating to the implementation of the Children Act; and
- (f) to consider issues relevant to the Pre-5s and Under 8s.

The Meeting also agreed to note that future meetings of the Group would be scheduled for the Tuesday (pm) on the week following scheduled meetings of the Social Work Committee.

27. CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL-NOTICE OF MOTION

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider a request from Castlereagh Borough Council, Northern Ireland to support a Motion approved by that Council urging the Government to formally and officially recognise the presence of Gulf War Syndrome.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to support the Motion by Castlereagh Borough Council in its efforts to persuade the Government to formally and officially recognise the presence of Gulf War Syndrome.

28. FORESTRY IN THE NORTH EAST OF SCOTLAND – STUDY TOURS

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider an invitation from the Forestry Contracting Association Limited to attend a One-Day Study Tour being arranged by the Association on either 16th or 17th June, 1998.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed that the invitation from Forestry Contracting Association Limited to participate in the One-Day Study Tour be open to all Members.

29. CITIZENS ADVICE SCOTLAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

8

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider attendance at the Annual Conference of Citizens Advice Scotland to be held in the Strathclyde University, Glasgow on 2nd and 3rd September, 1998.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to authorise the attendance at the Annual Conference of one of the two Council Appointees to the Moray Citizens Advice Bureau Board of Management, Councillor H. McDonald or Councillor Patterson.

30. UNISON FUEL POVERTY CONFERENCE – GLASGOW

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider attendance at a Conference on Fuel Poverty being arranged by UNISON in Glasgow on 26th June, 1998.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed not to be represented at the Conference.

31. ELECTION OF COSLA VICE PRESIDENT

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider nominating a Member for election to the post of Vice-President of COSLA following the recent resignation of Councillor Peter Peacock of Highland Council.

Following consideration Councillor G McDonald, seconded by Councillor Crawford, moved that the Council support the nomination of Councillor R. Murray, Angus Council.

As an amendment, Councillor Farquharson, seconded by Councillor Keith, moved that the Council take no action.

On a division, there voted:-

For the Motion (10)

Councillors G. McDonald, Anderson, Crawford, M. C. Howe, T. A. Howe, Laing, H. McDonald, Patterson, Scott, Stewart.

For the Amendment (3)

Councillors Farquharson, Keith, Mann.

Abstentions (4)

Councillors Aldridge, Jappy, Scaife, Shaw.

Accordingly the Motion became the finding of the Meeting and it was resolved to support the nomination of Councillor R. Murray, Angus Council for the office of Vice-President of COSLA.

32. CENTRE FOR SCOTTISH PUBLIC POLICY: THE NEW SCOTLAND

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider attendance at a Discussion about the Cultural, National, Political and Social possibilities for Scotland with a Parliament of its own, being organised by the Centre for Scottish Public Policy in Glasgow on 29th-31st May, 1998.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed not to be represented at the Event

33. DEVELOPING AN ENTREPRENEURIAL SOCIETY

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider attendance at a Conference entitled Developing an Entrepreneurial Society being held in Glasgow on 11th June, 1998.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed not to be represented at the Conference.

34. CONFERENCE: CHILDREN'S SERVICES-THE WAY AHEAD

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider attendance at a One-Day Conference organised jointly by Children in Scotland, COSLA and the City of Edinburgh Council to be held in Edinburgh on 5th June, 1998 entitled Childrens Services – The Way Ahead.

Following consideration the Meeting authorised the attendance of an Officer at the Conference

35. SCOTTISH OFFICE/COSLA SEMINAR – “HIGHER STILL – PARTNERSHIP IN IMPLEMENTATION”

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider appointing delegates to attend a Joint Scottish Office/COSLA Seminar to be held in Edinburgh on 12th June, 1998 on the theme “Higher Still-Partnership in Implementation”.

Following consideration the Meeting approved the attendance of the Chair of the Education Committee

36. COSLA SEMINAR: THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Meeting to consider attendance at a COSLA Seminar to be held in Edinburgh on 17th June, 1998 on the theme “The Information Revolution”.

Following consideration the Meeting authorised the attendance of an Officer at the Seminar

37. ELGIN CENTRAL RE-DEVELOPMENT SITE: ANALYSIS OF INITIAL SUBMISSIONS

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning detailing an analysis of initial submissions received from Developers in response to the Council's Guidelines on Initial Submissions for the development of the Elgin Central Redevelopment Site and recommending approval of a short list of four Companies which should be invited to respond to a Development Brief.

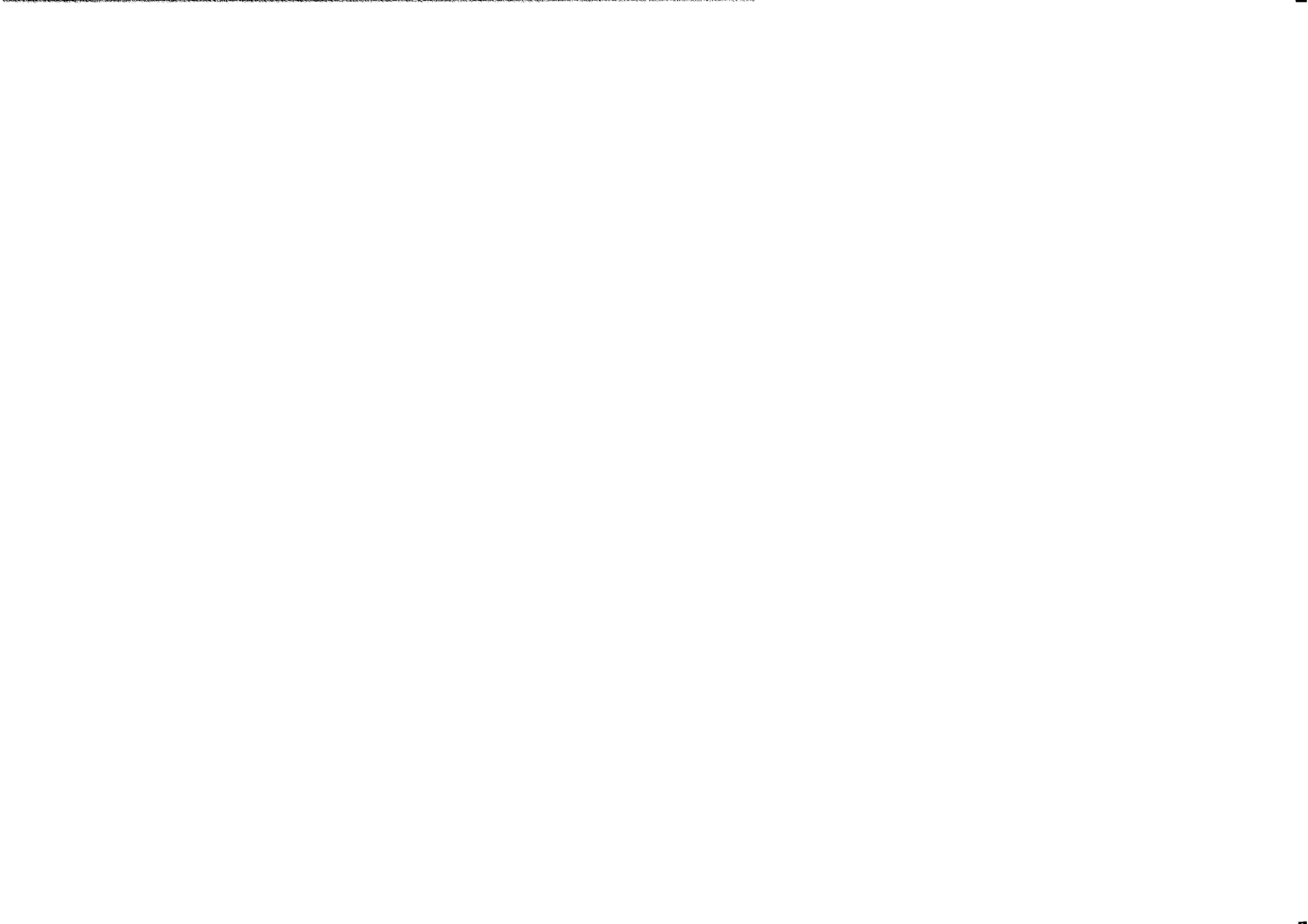
The Report also recommended that the Legal and Administration Services Manager be authorised to proceed with a Petition to the Court of Session concerning land held in Trust and for the common good.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to invite the four Companies recommended in the Report to submit responses to a Development Brief for the Site and to authorise the Legal and Administration Services Manager to proceed with a Petition to the Court of Session concerning land held in Trust and on the Common Good.

38. REFURBISHMENT OF ACADEMY STREET OFFICES ELGIN

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning regarding proposals for the refurbishment of the Council's Academy Street Office, Elgin in the light of the transfer of Roads Department staff from Highfield House to Academy Street.

Following consideration the Meeting approved the refurbishment proposals for the Academy Street Offices, Elgin, to accommodate Roads Department staff.



THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

4 JUNE, 1998

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors J. Stewart (Chairman), R.L. Patterson (Vice-Chairman). D. Crawford. H.M. Cumiskie, M.C. Howe. W. Jappy, A. Keith. G. McDonald and P. Mann.

IN ATTENDANCE

Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services), Assistant Chief Social Work Officer, Social Work Manager (Community Care). Social Work Manager (Criminal Justice Service), the Development and Resources Manager, Principal Solicitor (Litigation & Licensing), L. Graham, Joint Commissioning Officer, the Assistant Public Relations Officer and R. Wilson. Administration Officer as Clerk to the Committee.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors H. McDonald and J.M. Shaw

Welcome to Pupils of Knockando Primary School

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Members joined the Chair in welcoming a party of pupils and teachers from Knockando Primary School who were on an educational tour of Council Headquarters.

1. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Council agreed in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the classes described.

<u>Para. No.</u>	<u>Para. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
16	1
17	1 & 8
18	3

1. DELIVERY & CO-ORDINATION OF SOCIAL WORK TRAINING BY THE PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The meeting noted that this item had been withdrawn from the Agenda and that a report thereon would be submitted to the Policy & Resources Committee on 25 June. 19%.

2. FRAMEWORK FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SCOTLAND

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of progress in Moray regarding arrangements to review mental health services as part of the implementation of the Governruncnt's Framework for Mental Health Services in Scotland.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the Moray Draft Framework for Mental Health Services as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report:

- (ii) To approve the ongoing arrangements of the review in Moray including the continued secondment of the Senior Social worker, Community Mental Health Team;
- (iii) To note the continued intention to fully involve service users and carers in the review;
- (iv) Arrangements for the completion of the service review and the necessary implementation plan (June 98):
- (v) To note the requirement to produce a 6 year implementation plan for Mental Health Services and negotiate this with the Scottish Office by the end of June, 1998; and
- (vi) To note and approve the bids submitted jointly on behalf of the Moray Council and Moray Health Services Trust for development funding as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

3. FORRES LOCAL CARE PARTNERSHIPS SCHEME PROPOSAL

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the application submitted to the Scottish Office under the Local Care Partnerships Scheme for the funding of a Locality Commissioning Pilot in Forres. The report also sought approval for the continued development of this pilot proposal pending the success of the application.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the application made to the Scottish Office for funding under the Local Care Partnership Scheme detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) To approve the implementation of the Pilot Project. as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, pending a successful outcome of the Local Care Partnership Scheme application;
- (iii) To approve the delegation of powers to the Chair of Social Work Committee, the Director of Community Services and the Personnel Service Manager to make the detailed arrangements for temporary secondments of up to 6 months within the approved budget and based on the needs of the project at each stage:
- (iv) To approve the funding of the 'Pilot Manager', and the flexible staff resource through the LCPS budget, as identified in Appendix 1 of the report, and the management of the budget through the Joint Commissioning Unit with support from The Moray Council Finance Department;
- (v) To establish a 0.5 post of Clerical Assistant for a period of two years to support the project subject to the successful outcome of this application;
- (vi) To the reporting arrangements for the LCPS pilot initiative and the Pilot Manager should be to the Joint Committee Community Care and that appropriate management arrangements are developing pending a successful of the LCPS application;
- (vii) To refer this report to the Policy & Resources Committee; and
- (viii) To note that further progress reports will be presented to the Social Work Committee when the outcome of the application is known.

4. INDEPENDENT LIVING SCHEME FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the outcome of the pilot Independent Living Scheme and sought approval for the proposed development of the scheme. established through Moray Voluntary Service organisation (MVSO).

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To approve the continuation and development of the Independent Living Scheme currently managed by MVSO:
- (ii) To approve the arrangements to further promote the Independent Living Scheme's three elements to ten people in the first instance subject to review:
- (iii) To the principle of enabling individuals to manage their own care packages, with the guidance and monitoring arrangement through MVSO. including the arrangements for Direct Debits:
- (iv) That a condition of accepting either Direct Payments or Personal Support payments will be a requirement to participate in the Independent Living Scheme:
- (v) The arrangements to promote the Independent Living Scheme through MVSO and the Council's Care Management Service:
- (vi) The arrangements to continue to promote the use of the Independent Living Funds and plan to target individuals who are currently inappropriately located in hospital or residential placements; and
- (vii) To note that a monitoring report will be presented at a future Social Work Committee

5. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & FUNDING SOURCES: SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the progress made in identifying funding sources for project developments in relation to services for people with disabilities and sought approval for further projects which may be eligible for European funding.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the progress made in relation to project development and the identification of funding sources for services for people with disabilities;
- (ii) To approve the setting up of the Access project and the submission of the Needlepoint project application to Leader II as detailed in the report with no additional funding being required:
- (iii) To establish a temporary post of Information Officer to be reviewed in the light of continued European funding;
- (iv) To refer this report to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (v) To approve the continued development of projects and applications for funding, where matching funding and support can be met out of existing resources.

6. ADOPTION ALLOWANCES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the introduction by The Moray Council of a new scheme for the payment of adoption allowances under the Adoption Allowance (Scotland) Regulations 1996.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the revised scheme for the payment of adoption allowances under the Adoption Allowance (Scotland) Regulations 1996, with immediate effect.

7. PROVISION OF DAY SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES IN ELGIN AND FORRES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking the Committee's agreement to the extension of the arrangements for the provision of day services to residents of 14 I-143 Edgar Road and for the support arrangements for a resident at 12, Wellside Court, Forres.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To approve the continuation of the posts detailed in the report on a temporary basis until 31 March, 1999 funded through resource transfer from Grampian Health Board;
- (ii) To note that future funding for this service will form part of the discussions between Moray Council and the Grampian Health Board on the ongoing level of resource transfer relating to the re-settlement of patients from Ladysbridge or Woodlands Hospital; and
- (iii) To note that a further report on the outcomes of discussions on the ongoing level of resource transfer will be provided to Committee prior to the 31 March, 1999.

8. COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TEAM FOR THE ELDERLY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking the approval of the Committee for the continuation of social work/care management input to the multi-disciplinary Community Mental Health Team for the Elderly in Moray, funded through resource transfer from Grampian Health Board.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To approve the continuation of Social Work/Care Management input to the Community Mental Health Team for the Elderly, funded through recurring resource transfer from Grampian Health Board;
- (ii) To note the proposals to further develop community mental health services in Moray, which are currently the subject of discussion with Grampian Health Board and the Scottish Office;
- (iii) To note that the Community Mental Health Team for the Elderly is subject to comprehensive monitoring and evaluation and that a report will be provided for a future meeting of the Social Work Committee; and
- (iv) To refer this report to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration

9. PERFORMANCE MONITORING SUMMARY REPORT 1997-98

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the performance Monitoring of Social Work Services for 1997-98. This report gives summary information and analysis of occupancy and activity levels of all social work services.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) The contents of the report;
- (ii) That regular exception reporting continues;
- (iii) That Quality Monitoring continues to ensure user involvement and continuous improvement of services;

- (iv) That Performance and Quality Monitoring be used by managers to review and develop their services in line with Best Value recommendations;
- (v) That a system be established with support from senior managers. to ensure that Performance Monitoring information is completed and returned on time; and
- (vi) That a review of the waiting times for assessments be undertaken and action taken. as deemed appropriate. to alleviate any undue delays.

10. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE: ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of complaints received under the Complaints Procedure during the period 1 April, 1997 to 31 March, 1998.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the contents of this report; and
- (ii) To approve the production of the public document and its distribution to all Social Work and Housing Offices and Access Points within Moray.

11. PLATELAYERS COFFEE SHOP, MORAY RESOURCE CENTRE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the operation of the Platelayers Café Training facility at Moray Resource Centre and invited the Committee consider the establishment of a Supported Employment post of part-time Cook.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) That the Committee establish a supported Employment post of part-time Cook at the Platelayers Café, Moray Resource Centre, Maisondieu Road, Elgin; and
- (ii) That the report be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee For approval.

12. ROYAL COMMISSION ON LONG TERM CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee that the Royal Commission on Long Term Care for the Elderly has now been established and that evidence is currently being sought from interest parties. The report also invited the Committee to consider the submission of evidence on behalf of The Moray Council.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the establishment of The Royal Commission on Long Term Care for the Elderly and the request for evidence to be submitted for consideration by the Commission. by organisations interested in the care of older people;
- (ii) To note that the Convener of The Moray Council has written to the Commission inviting them to Moray as part of the proposed programme of site visits; and
- (iii) That the Working Party on Services for Older People draft evidence for consideration by a future meeting of this Committee prior to submission of the evidence to the Commission.

13. "MOVING FORWARD IN SCOTLAND" CONVENTION

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the forthcoming United Kingdom Home Care Association Annual Scottish Convention, taking place at The Swallow Hotel, Glasgow on 10 June, 1998.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to be represented at the Convention by an Officer.

14. CONFERENCE: "CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS"

There was submitted a report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager advising the Committee of the forthcoming Save the Children Fund conference taking place at the Apex Hotel, Grassmarket, Edinburgh on Friday, 19 June, 1998.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to authorise the attendance of the Chair, whom failing, plus one Officer at the conference.

15. OPERATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE MORAY COUNCIL, REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION UNIT (Para. 1)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the progress of the Advisory Committee, The Moray Council, Registration and Inspection Unit.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the content of the seventh meeting of the Advisory Committee;
- (ii) To note the withdrawal of representatives of Service Users and Service Providers from the Advisory Committee; and
- (iii) To approve the following appointments as representatives of Service Users and Service Providers on the Advisory Committee:-

 Service User, Older People – W. Stewart
 Service User, Mental Health – G. McIntosh
 Service Provider, Voluntary Sector – S. Campbell
- (iv) To note that no nominations had been received for the vacancy for a Service user, Child Care representative: and
- (v) Not to have specified representation from the Health Board on the Advisory Committee.

16. CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES IN MORAY 1998-99 (Paras. 1 & 8)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the level of 100% funding from the Scottish Office for the financial year 1998/99.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:-

- (i) To note the broad responsibilities of The Moray Council in relation to Criminal Justice Social Work Services as detailed in the report;
- (ii) To note the Scottish Office grant of £346,086 for the year 1998/99, to 100% fund Criminal Justice Services in Moray and the deficit of approximately £ 19,000 in the current financial year;
- (iii) To note the budgetary savings that are being investigated and allow time for a more full report to be submitted after consultation with the Scottish Office;
- (iv) That the Committee's appreciation and recognition of the work of the Justice Service in Moray be conveyed to those concerned: and
- (v) To note the potential impact any reduction of funding may have on staffing resources,

17. COMPLAINTS REVIEW COMMITTEE – CASE NO. 2/98 (Para. 3)

There was submitted a report by the Legal & Administration Services Manager inviting the Committee to consider the recommendations of the Complaints Review Committee in respect of Case No. 2/98 and decide what action to take in respect of the complaint.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the recommendations of the Complaints Review Committee with regard to Case No. 2/98.

THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE

2 JUNE, 1998

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors R.J. Laing (Chairman), M.C. Howe (Vice-Chairman), M. Anderson, D. Crawford, H.M. Cumiskie, A. Farquharson, T.A. Howe, W. Jappy, P. Mann, J.M. Shaw, J. Stewart and G. McDonald (es-officio)

IN ATTENDANCE

The Depute Chief Executive (Finance and IT), the Director of Community Services, the Chief Housing Officer, the Senior Area Housing Manager, the Development and Resources Manager, the Capital Programme Manager, the Depute Chief Finance Officer, the Assistant Public Relations Officer, the Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing) and Mrs M. Patrick, Senior Administration Officer who acted as Clerk to the Committee.

1. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Meeting agreed, in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, that the public and media representatives be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the Items of Business appearing at the relative paragraphs of this Minute as specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraph of part I of schedule 7A of the Act.

<u>Para. No.</u>	<u>Para. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
14	8 and 9
15	6 and 9
16	and 9

2. MONITORING REPORT: CAPITAL CONTRACTS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Housing Committee of the current capital funded Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Contracts awarded for the upgrading and maintenance of the Council's housing stock and on the progress of existing and future contracts.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

3. MONITORING REPORT: REVENUE CONTRACTS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Housing Committee of the current revenue funded HRA Contracts awarded for the upgrading and maintenance of the Council's housing stock and on the progress of existing and future contracts. The report also sought the Committee's approval for a new list of addresses for kitchen upgrading which will be used for the final part of the 1998/99 programme and the start of the 1999/2000 programme.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) approve the new kitchen upgrading list to be used for the final part of the 1998/99 programme and the start of the 1999/2000 programme.

4. REVIEW OF HRA LOAN CHARGES

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Finance & IT) detailing the results of the review of the loan charges provided for on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and which identified additional Revenue Funding of £4.5m.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

5. ADDITIONAL REVENUE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 1998/9

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services setting out for the Committee's approval the programme of improvements to the Moray Council's Housing stock to be carried out by 31 March, 2000 from the additional revenue funding identified in the report by the Depute Chief Executive (Finance and IT) on the review of HRA loan charges (para. 4 of this Minute refers). The report also asked the Committee to note the need to employ additional temporary staff in order to ensure the smooth delivery of the proposed programme of improvements.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) approve the additional revenue expenditure programme for 1998/99 and 1999/2000 as identified in the report; and
- (ii) note that the need for additional staffing as detailed in the report being subject to approval by the Policy and Resources Committee.

6. WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking the Committee's approval of the methodology used to prioritise the remaining houses on the Council's stock for replacement double glazing.

Following discussion, Councillor R.J. Laing, seconded by Councillor M. Howe, moved approval of the recommendations contained in the report.

As an amendment, Councillor A. Farquharson, seconded by Councillor P. Mann, moved that the replacement of windows be carried in age order.

On a division, there voted:-

For the motion (8) Councillors R.J. Laing, M. Howe, M. Anderson, D. Crawford, H.M. Cumiskie, T. Howe, W. Jappy and J. Stewart

For the amendment (3) Councillors A. Farquharson, P. Mann and J.M. Shaw

Abstentions (0)

The Chairman declared the motion carried and it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the replacement of windows without double glazing in the following order:-
 - (a) the windows identified as being in poor/average condition identified during the Property Services survey along with any similar window types in the street as detailed in appendix 3 of the report:
 - (b) the remaining houses which have not been double glazed be replaced on an age first basis: and
 - (c) the additional programme for 1998/99 shown in appendix 4 of the report.

4 (a)
3

7. EMPTY HOMES RESEARCH: RESULTS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the outcome of the Empty Homes Research commissioned by The Moray Council from Aberdeen University using Empty Homes Initiative funding from the Scottish Office.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

8. ANNUAL REPORT ON RESPONSE, PLANNED AND CAPITAL MAINTENANCE: 1997/98

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services identifying the levels of activity that were carried out during the last financial year to maintain and improve the Council's housing stock.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) all staff involved being congratulated for their tremendous efforts in relation to response maintenance following the recent flood disaster.

9. ANNUAL REPORT – AREA TEAMS –1997/8

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services outlining the performance of the Area Housing Teams to 31 March, 1998.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) the next quarterly report including information regarding the number of Notices of Proceedings raised and at which stage each is at.

10. TENANT PARTICIPATION STRATEGY – PROGRESS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee on the progress made in implementing a Tenant Participation Strategy.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) a further report on feedback and progress gained from the Tenant's Participation Strategy being reported to this Committee in approximately 6 months time.

11. PROVISION OF CONTENTS INSURANCE SCHEME FOR MORAY COUNCIL TENANTS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the outcome of the tendering process for a Tenants' Insurance Scheme for Moray Council tenants and making recommendations for the selection of the final provider.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) the Moray Council entering into an agreement with AON Risk Services Limited and General Accident to provide a Tenants' Contents Insurance Scheme;
- (ii) any agreement entered into being subject to the Legal Services Manager's satisfaction with the terms of any binding agreement prior to it being signed; and

- (iii) note that a progress report will be brought to the Housing Committee on an annual basis on the scheme.

12. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE: ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of complaints received under the Complaints Procedure during the period 1 April, 1997 to 31 March, 1998 and seeking the Committee's approval for the production of a public document to be made available at all Housing and Social Work offices and Access Points throughout Moray.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) approve the production of a public document and its distribution to all Social Work and Housing offices and Access Points within Moray.

13. SERVICED PLOTS FOR SALE: DISCOUNTS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES MEETING THE NEEDS OF A DISABLED PERSON: AMENDMENTS TO SCHEME

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services asking the Committee to consider amendment to the principles of the scheme to allow individuals and families who are looking to provide accommodation for a person with a disability in the owner/occupied market a discount on service plots sold by The Moray Council.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) approve the amendment to the scheme to allow three way agreement between The Moray Council, the provider of the mortgage and individual building the house as one of the options within the scheme; and
- (ii) note that the scheme will be reviewed in December, 1998 to evaluate its success.

14. HOUSE CONDITION SURVEYS 1998 (Pat-as. 8 and 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking the Committee's approval to appoint surveyors to carry out a house condition survey in both the public and private sectors. As a result of the previous decision taken by this Committee to extend the House Condition Survey to cover all of the Authorities HRA Housing Stock (para.5 of this Minute refers) the Committee was also asked to consider granting delegated authority to officers to negotiate with the successful tenderer for the additional work.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) approve the appointment of Adamsons Surveyors to carry out the house condition surveys and the supply of hardware and software at a total cost of £63,800; and
- (ii) grant delegated authority to officers to negotiate with the successful tenderer as a result of the Committee's previous decision taken to extend the House Condition Survey to cover all of the Authorities HRA Housing Stock (para.5 of this Minute refers).

15. REQUEST TO PURCHASE GROUND ADJACENT TO THE FRONT OF 1 CHURCH TERRACE, RAFFORD (Pat-as. 6 and 9)

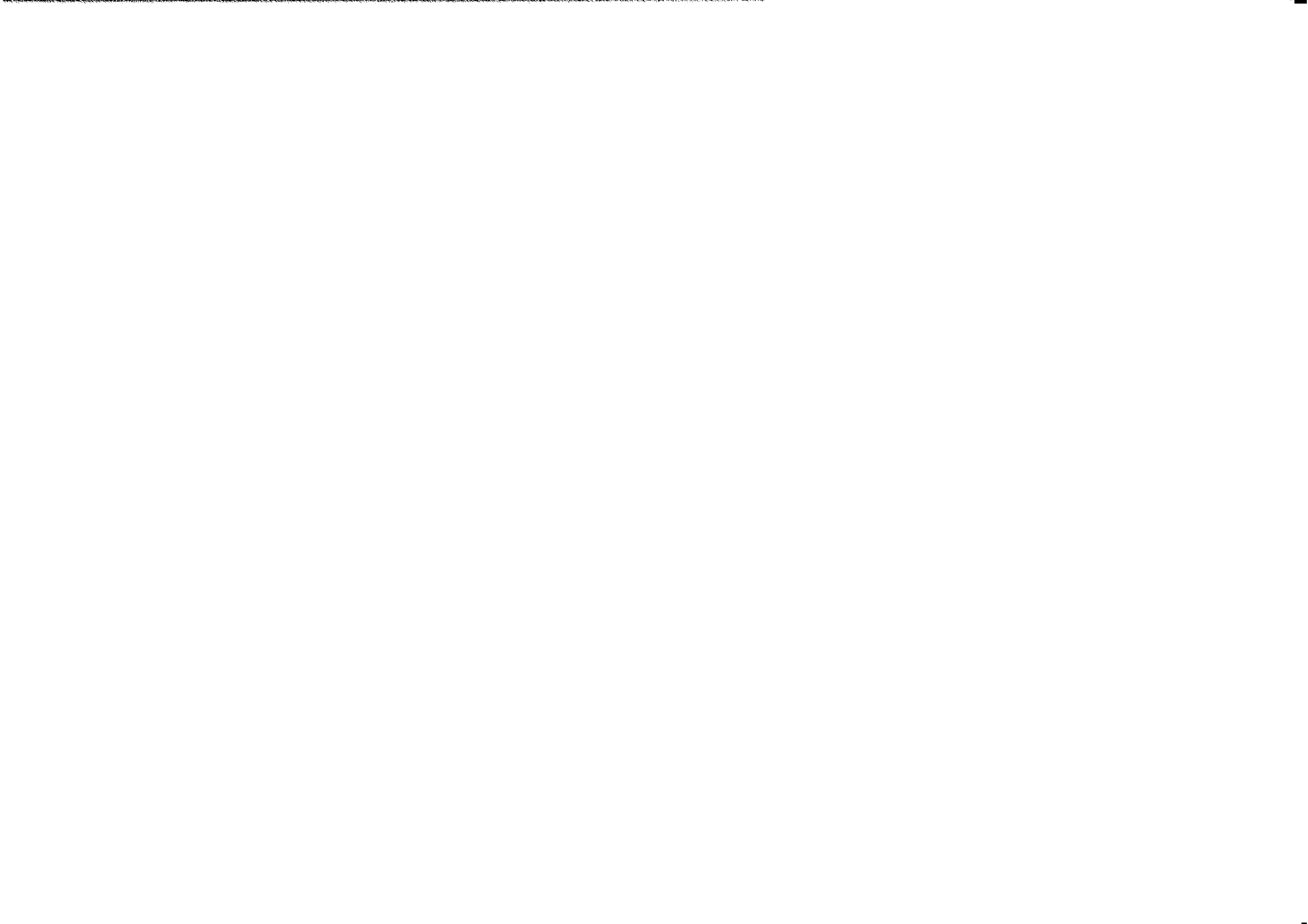
There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning asking Committee to approve the sale of an area of ground extending to approximately 260 square metres fronting 1 Church Terrace, Rafford to the proprietor of the house.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to defer consideration of the report to the Policy and Resources Committee in order for further information regarding the access path adjacent to the front of 1 Church Terrace, Rafford being made available to Members.

16. RIGHT OF ACCESS FOR 33 LESMURDIE ROAD, ELGIN (Paras. 6 and 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning asking the Committee to approve a right of access to the rear of a property at 33 Lesmurdie Road, Elgin to proprietors of that property.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the terms for granting a right of access and thereafter remit the matter to the Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing) to formalise the agreement.



THE MORAY COUNCIL**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

9 JUNE, 1998

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors G. McDonald (Chairman). H. McDonald (Vice-Chairman). E. Aldridge, M. Anderson. M.C. Howe, T.A. Howe, W. Jappy, A. Keith, P. Mann. R.L. Patterson. A.M. Scott and J. Stewart

ALSO PRESENT BY INVITATION

Dr. R. McDonald. Grampian Area Manager. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
M. Ferguson, Cairngorms Project Manager

IN ATTENDANCE

The Director of Economic Development and Planning, the Control Services Manager, the Forward Planning Manager, the Development Manager, the Chief Development Control Officer, the Chief Roads Officer, the Principal Building Control Officer, the Principal Economic Development Officer, the Principal Estates Suneyor, the Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing), the Public Transport Unit Manager, the Senior Research and Information Officer, Inspector Philips, Grampian Police, the Assistant Public Relations Officer and R. Ritchie, Senior Administration Officer who acted as Clerk to the Meeting.

APOLOGY

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor H.M. Cumiskie (ex officio)

1. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

In terms of the relevant Standing Order the meeting agreed to accept as additional items of business to be transacted at the meeting, the undernoted matters on the Chairman certifying that, in his opinion, they required to be considered on the grounds of urgency having regard to the timescales involved:-

- (i) Beef Production Seminar – Report by Director of Economic Development and Planning
- (ii) Conference: Developing and Managing Intranets – Report by Director of Economic Development and Planning
- (iii) Proposed Purchase of Former Bank Premises, Pultney Street, Portknockie – Report by Director of Economic Development and Planning
- (iv) Enforcement: Letterfourie House, Letterfourie – Oral Report by Director of Economic Development and Planning

2. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Meeting agreed, in terms of Section 50A(4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, that the public and media representatives be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the Items of Business appearing at the relative paragraphs of this Minute as specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.

<u>Para No. of Minute</u>	<u>Para No. of Schedule 7A</u>
18	9
19	9
20	13
21	9
22	13

3. PRESENTATION BY SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE (SNH)

The Chairman welcomed Dr. McDonald, SNH Grampian Area Manager, and M. Ferguson, Cairngorms Project Manager, who proceeded to give a brief presentation on proposals for the development of National Parks in Scotland, as part of consultation process on the issues being carried out by SNH, and in particular to the issues relating to the establishment of a Cairngorm National Park.

At the conclusion of their presentation Members had the opportunity of putting questions in relation to a number of issues pertinent to the proposed provision of National Parks in Scotland.

In conclusion the Chairman thanked Dr. McDonald and Mr. Ferguson for their attendance.

4. BUILDING (SCOTLAND) ACTS: APPLICATIONS FOR BUILDING WARRANTS

(i) Applications for Building Warrants and Letters of Comfort Approved Under Delegated Powers

There was submitted a report by the Control Services Manager advising that 134 applications for Building Warrants and 30 Letters of Comfort had been determined in powers delegated to him since his last report to Committee on 5 May, 1998.

The meeting noted the report.

(ii) Applications for Relaxations/Recommendations

There was submitted a report by the Control Services Manager making recommendations in regard to the following application for relaxation in terms of the Building Regulations (Relaxation by Local Authorities) (Scotland) Regulations 1991.

- | | | |
|----|--------------|---|
| 1) | 98/00018/REL | Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse at Newton of Letterfourie, Drybridge, Buckie for Mr. J. Robertson, 6 Garden Lane, Portgordon |
| 1) | | Regulation 9(S2.9):
Requirements with regard to the number of steps in a flight of stairs. |

Recommendation:-

That relaxation be refused

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve the recommendations subject, where appropriate, to consultation with the Firemaster and the Health and Safety Executive.

5. LIST OF PLANNING APPEALS FOR NOTING

There was submitted and noted a report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager advising the Committee of the current position relating to planning appeals for the period 25 April to 29 May, 1998.

6. CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**CENTRAL WEST – NO 4 WARD**

- (a) 97/02100/FUL & Planning and Listed Building Consent to erect a canopy to shopfront at
97/02101/LBC 137 High Street Elgin Moray IV30 IBW for Sonya Womans Designer
Wear

Under reference to para. 4 (g) and (h) of the Minute of this Committee dated 5 May. 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee that. following discussions with the applicant in regard to the style and design of the canopy to be erected, the applicant had intimated that she wished the application to be determined as submitted and accordingly as previously intimated. the Director recommended that. for reasons detailed in the report. planning and listed building consent be refused.

Following consideration and on the motion by Councillor H. McDonald, seconded by Councillor Anderson the meeting agreed that. given the proposed canopy would. in their opinion. enhance the appearance of the High Street. planning permission be granted as submitted.

FORRES – NO. 5 WARD

- (b) 97/01446/FUL Renewal of temporary consent siting of caravan as temporary office
accommodation at Cluny Hill College St. Leonards Road Forres Moray
IV36 ORD for Appropriate Energy Systems

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending that. subject to conditions as detailed in the report, planning permission be granted for the renewal of a temporary consent in respect of the siting of a caravan as temporary office accommodation at Cluny Hill College. St. Leonards Road. Forres for Appropriate Energy Systems.

The meeting noted that a site visit had been undertaken by Members of the Committee on S June. 1998.

Following consideration the meeting agreed that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

1. The approval hereby granted is only for a limited period expiring on 1 May 1999.
2. The approval hereby granted relates only to the use of the caravan as office accommodation and for no other use or purpose without the approval of this Council, as Planning Authority.
3. Unless otherwise agreed with the Council, as Planning Authority. the development hereby approved shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans and conditions.

Reasons:

1. In order that the Planning Authority may retain control over the use of the site and to ensure that further consideration can be given to the operation. effects and impact of the use approved herewith on the amenity and character of the area.
2. In order to return Local Authority control over the use of the site and to ensure that further consideration can be given to the effects and impact of uses other than that approved herewith.
3. In order to ensure that there are no unauthorised departures from the approved plans which could adversely affect the development or character and amenity of the surrounding properties and area.

- (c) 97/02010/FUL Relaxation of a condition of permission for development ref. 96/01110/FUL at The Park, Findhorn. Forres. Moray for Eco-Village Limited And The Findhorn Foundation

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending that, subject to conditions as detailed in the report, planning permission be granted in respect of a relaxation of a condition of permission for a development (96/01110/FUL) at The Park, Findhorn. Forres for Eco-Village Limited and The Findhorn Foundation.

The Chief Development Control Officer reported orally that amended plans had been received showing a minor amendment to the location of the soakaway and accordingly should the application be approved the conditions would require to be amended to accommodate these minor alterations.

Following consideration the meeting agreed that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions which take into account the necessary amendments to reflect the amendments to the original plan submitted:-

1. The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of five years beginning with the date on which this permission is granted.
2. Unless otherwise agreed with the Council, as Planning Authority, the development hereby approved shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans and conditions.
3. The permission hereby granted provides for alternative arrangements for the disposal of effluent from the development approved under formal decision notice 96/01110/FUL dated 8 May 1998, namely the disposal of effluent from that development to the 'Living Machine' and thereafter disposal to a soakaway.
4. The permission hereby granted is related to and forms part of developments approved under formal decision notices 96/01110/FUL and 98/00633/FUL dated 8 May 1997 and *** June 1998 respectively and the conditions attached thereto are hereby re-iterated in so far as they relate to the development.
5. No part of the development approved under formal decision notice 96/01110/FUL shall commence until the development approved under formal decision notice 98/00633/FUL has been completed in order to effect the disconnection of the 'Living Machine' from the public sewerage system and the provision of alternative arrangements for the disposal of treated effluent to the proposed soakaway.
6. No part of the permission hereby granted relates to the soakaway, as marked 'A' on Drawing No 102.
7. Prior to development works first commencing details regarding the design and installation of the proposed soakaway shall be submitted to and approved by the Council, in consultation with the relevant drainage authorities, together with the proposed arrangements for the restoration of the ground following the construction of the soakaway.
8. The permission hereby granted is for a temporary period only expiring upon receipt of confirmation from NOSWA that sufficient capacity is available at the Kinloss Sewage Treatment Works to accommodate the existing and proposed areas of development at Findhorn Foundation (as defined on Drawing No 102) and upon receipt of such confirmation, the arrangements for the disposal of effluent from the existing and proposed development areas at the Foundation, including the 'Living Machine' shall revert back, and be re-connected into the public mains sewerage system in accordance with details of the arrangements for re-connection, including time-scale which shall previously have been submitted to and approved by the Council, as planning authority.

Reasons:

1. The time limit condition is imposed in order to comply with the requirements of Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.
 2. In order to ensure that there are no unauthorised departures from the approved plans which could adversely 'affect the development or character and amenity of the surrounding properties and area.
 3. To ensure a satisfactory form of development. in drainage terms.
 4. To ensure a satisfactory form of development whereby the proposal provides solely for alternative arrangements for the proposed disposal of effluent from 'The Park' development.
 5. To ensure a satisfactory form of development, in drainage terms.
 6. Notwithstanding a satisfactory porosity test received to demonstrate the suitability of ground conditions. the position of the soakaway is unacceptable having regard to its proximity to housing (letter from agent dated 14 May 1998 refers).
 7. To ensure a satisfactory form of development in drainage terms and in the interests of the amenities and appearance of the locality.
 8. In accordance with the applicants submitted particulars and to ensure a satisfactory form of development. in drainage terms.
- (d) 98/00633/FUL Amendment of condition of discharge for 'living machine' to allow for temporary disconnection from public sewer at The Park Findhorn Forres Moray for Findhom Foundation

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending that. subject to conditions as detailed in the report. planning permission be granted in regard to an amendment of condition of discharge for a "living machine" to allow for temporary disconnection from the public sewer at The Park, Findhom for Findhorn Foundation.

The Chief Development Control Officer reported orally that amended plans had been received showing a minor amendment to the location of the soakaway and accordingly should the application be approved the conditions would require to be amended to accommodate these minor alterations.

Following consideration the meeting agreed that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions which take into account the necessary amendments to reflect the amendments to the original plan submitted:-

1. The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of five years beginning with the date on which this permission is granted.
2. Unless otherwise agreed with the Council. as Planning Authority. the development hereby approved shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans and conditions.
3. The permission hereby granted shall provide for :-
 - (a) the continued disposal of effluent to the public sewerage system from the 'West Central' and 'Caravan Park' areas of the Foundation the areas as identified on the submitted Drawing No 102.
 - (b) the connection of the 'East Central', 'Pineridge' and 'The Park' areas of the Foundation to the 'Living Machine' (all areas as identified on Drawing No 102 and the latter ie 'The Park' as approved under formal decision notice 96/0 110/FUL dated 8 May 1997).
 - (c) the disconnection of the 'Living Machine' from the public sewerage system (including associated pipework arrangements as shown on Drawing No 102).
 - (d) the disposal of treated waste water from the 'Living Machine' to a soakaway (as shown on Drawing No 102).

The permission hereby granted is related to and forms part of an earlier development approved under formal decision 95/00907/FUL dated 22 October 1995 and the conditions attached thereto are hereby x-iterated in so far as they relate to that development.

5. No part of the permission hereby granted relates to the soakaway, as marked 'A' on Drawing No 102.
6. Prior to development works first commencing details regarding the design and installation of the proposed soakaway shall be submitted to and approved by the Council, in consultation with the relevant drainage authorities, together with the proposed arrangements for the restoration of the ground following the construction of the soakaway.

The permission hereby granted is for a temporary period only expiring upon receipt of confirmation from NOSWA that sufficient capacity is available at the Kinloss Sewage Treatment Works to accommodate the existing and proposed areas of development at Findhorn Foundation (as defined on Drawing No 102) and upon receipt of such confirmation, the arrangements for the disposal of effluent from the existing and proposed development areas at the Foundation, including the 'Living Machine' shall revert back, and be re-connected into the public mains sewerage system in accordance with details of the arrangements for re-connection, including time-scale which shall previously have been submitted to and approved by the Council, as planning authority.

Reasons:

1. The time limit condition is imposed in order to comply with the requirements of Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.
2. In order to ensure that there are no unauthorised departures from the approved plans which could adversely affect the development or character and amenity of the surrounding properties and area.
3. To ensure a satisfactory form of development regarding the drainage arrangements for existing and proposed developments at Findhorn Foundation.
4. To ensure a satisfactory form of development, the proposal provides solely for alternative arrangements for the disposal of waste water from the 'Living Machine'.
5. Notwithstanding a satisfactory porosity test received to demonstrate the suitability of ground conditions, the position of the soakaway is unacceptable having regard to its proximity to housing (letter from agent dated 14 May 1998 refers).
6. To ensure a satisfactory form of development in drainage terms and in the interests of the amenities and appearance of the locality.
7. In accordance with the applicants submitted particulars and to ensure a satisfactory form of development, in drainage terms.

KEITH NO. 15 WARD

- (e) 98/00386/FUL Alterations to form first floor accommodation at House Off 77 Land Street Keith Banffshire AB553AN for Mr Neil Howie

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending that, subject to conditions as detailed in the report, planning permission be granted in regard to alterations to form first floor accommodation at a house off 77 Land Street, Keith for Mr. Neil Howie.

The meeting noted that a site visit had been undertaken by Members of the Committee on 8 June, 1998.

Following consideration the meeting agreed that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of five years beginning with the date on which this permission is granted.

Unless otherwise agreed with the Council, as Planning Authority, the development hereby approved shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans and conditions.

Prior to the commencement of works 2 copies of a drawing (to scale) showing the rear elevation, position and size of the new velux rooflights shall be submitted for approval and no work shall commence until approval has been obtained for the drawing from the Control Services Manager.

The time limit condition is imposed in order to comply with the requirements of Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

In order to ensure that there are no unauthorised departures from the approved plans which could adversely affect the development or character and amenity of the surrounding properties and area.

To allow full consideration to the detail, location and size of these rooflights.

7. MORAY ECONOMIC STRATEGY: WORKSHOPS

Under reference to para. 12 of the meeting of this Committee dated 31 March, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee on the outcome of the Economic Strategy Workshops held as part of the Seminar at Elgin Town Hall on 1 May, 1998 and seeking the Committee's approval of a proposed timescale for the preparation of an Economic Strategy.

Following discussion the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to note the outcome from the Economic Strategy Workshops; and
- (ii) to approve the timescale for the preparation of an Economic Strategy as follows:-
 - Draft Strategy - end of June, 1998
 - Targeted consultation - end of August, 1998
 - The finalisation of Strategy - end of September, 1998

8. REVIEW OF TRAVEL TO WORK AREA BOUNDARIES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee of the new Travel to Work Area (TTWA) boundaries that have been produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

The meeting noted that the ONS will introduce unemployment rates for the new TTWAs as from July, 1998 and will backdate rates for those areas to January, 1997. Rates for the old TTWAs will continue to be available up to May, 1999.

There was also tabled at the meeting a sketch plan of the Moray Area showing the existing and new TTWAs for comparison purposes.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to note the changes to the travel to work areas in Moray and in light of concerns expressed to write to ONS with a view to trying to secure the status quo.

9. KEITH, **OLDTOWN**– ONE WAY PROPOSALS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending approval of a proposed one way traffic order for Oldtown, Keith between Union Street and the old railway bridge near Tesco car park.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendation in regard to the introduction of a one way traffic order for Oldtown, Keith to prevent traffic travelling eastbound;
- (ii) that appropriate advance signage be erected;
- (iii) and to instruct the Director of Economic Development and Planning and the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) to proceed with the statutory process.

10. N.E. SCOTLAND LOCAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN STEERING GROUP: PROJECT OFFICER

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider making a financial contribution towards the appointment of a Project Officer for the North East Scotland Local Biodiversity Action Plan Steering Group.

The meeting noted that in order to progress the North-East pilot project there was a need to appoint a dedicated Project Officer and that the proposed contribution of £1,500 from the Moray Council towards the total cost of £25,000 could be made from the Aberdeenshire and East Moray Conservation Project.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to approve a contribution of £1,500 in the current financial year from the Aberdeenshire and East Moray Conservation Project budget towards the appointment; and
- (ii) to note that funding in respect of the appointment of a Local Biodiversity Action Plan Project Officer was for this year only.

11. TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS **ROSEISLE** AND **BEIL'S BRAE**, URQUHART

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider recommending that The Moray Council confirm Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) at Roseisle and Beil's Brae, Urquhart in light of the responses from the respective landowners and the consultation process.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to recommend that The Moray Council confirm TPOs at Roseisle and Beil's Brae, Urquhart.

12. LOCAL BUS SERVICES REVISIONS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider proposals by Bluebird Buses to revise a number of journeys which are currently supported under Contract ML1 (Elgin-Burghead) and contract ML6 (Elgin City Service) in conjunction with the Company's proposed revisions to commercial journeys. details of which were appended to the report.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to:-

- (i) approve Bluebird Buses request that supported journeys on service 330 and service 331 be revised as detailed in the report and the appendix;
- (ii) note the proposed revisions to commercial journeys as detailed in the report and the appendix;

- (iii) note that the reinstatement of withdrawn journeys cannot be accommodated in the 1998/99 budget for public transport support: and
- (iv) no reinstatement of any of the withdrawn journeys by the Council at the present time.

13. MORAY FIRTH PARTNERSHIP

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider a request from the Moray Firth Partnership to commit staff resources to two projects as Moray's contribution to the Moray Firth Partnership Programme.

The meeting noted that Aberdeenshire and Highland Councils who, along with Moray, make up the Morayfirth Partnership, had each pledged £5,000 and that it was proposed that Moray's contribution be in the form of a commitment of staff resources for the publication of the Partnership's Newsletter and to host a Web Site for the Partnership.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) in principle, to undertake the publication of the Moray Firth Partnership newsletter and to host a Web Site for the Partnership as the Council's contribution subject to the availability to staff time for the newsletter preparation being met from within existing staffing resources; and
- (ii) to note that the Web Site project is of a high profile within the area and that the Council's participation in its development will further increase the profile of this Authority's expertise in this field.

14. RURAL POST OFFICES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee of the discussions which took place between Post Office Counters. The Moray Council, Highland Council and Perth and Kinross Council at a meeting on 14 May, 1998 in Inverness on the subject of Rural Post Offices.

During consideration the meeting noted that subsequent to the preparation of the report Post Office Counters Ltd. had advised that the provision of technological equipment will be financed by the PFI

Following discussion the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to investigate the possibility of setting up a scheme for rural shops and Post Offices with the preparation of business plans and general business advice;
- (ii) investigate the possibility of sharing the scheme with other Local Authorities which attended the meeting on 14 May, 1998:
- (iii) to assist in the training in the use of technological equipment:
- (iv) to investigate the use of IT applications with a view to providing the Moray Council information at rural Post Offices; and
- (iv) to write to the DTI in regard to concerns relating to the commercial targets in light of the role of rural Post Offices.

15. SCOTTISH OFFICE RURAL TRANSPORT FUND

Under reference to para.15 (2) of the Minute of the Economic Development and Planning Services Committee dated 21 April, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee on developments in the provision of additional Scottish Office funding for the development of rural public transport services.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to note and welcome the allocation of £97,000 from the Scottish Office's Rural Transport fund to assist with the development of rural public transport services in Moray;
- (ii) that it be remitted to officers to draw up a programme of proposed initiatives to be supported with the additional funding in consultation with Community Councils, internal Departments, local operators and other relevant parties as appropriate, and to report to a future meeting with detailed proposals: and
- (iii) to seek clarification from the Scottish Office in regard to the formula and criteria applied to calculate the Council's allocation.

16. BEEF PRODUCTION SEMINAR

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider an invitation for the Council to be represented at a Seminar being organised by Highland Council to be held in Dingwall on 17 June, 1998 on the subject of "Beef Production – What's Ahead?".

The meeting agreed to be represented at the Conference by Councillor J. Stewart.

17. CONFERENCE: DEVELOPING AND MANAGING INTRANETS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking approval for representation at a Conference entitled "Developing and Managing Intranets in Local Authorities" to be held in London on 25 June, 1998.

The meeting noted that the Council's Senior Telematics Executive had been invited to Chair and participate in the Conference and that the fee and expenses for his attendance would be covered by the Conference organisers.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to approve the attendance of the Senior Telematics Executive and authorise the attendance of the Chairman, whom failing and a supporting officer from the Telematics Unit at the Conference; and Chairman, whom failing,
- (ii) that the Committee's appreciation and recognition of the work of the Telematics team be conveyed to the staff concerned.

18. ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME (Pat-a. 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking the Committee's approval of provisional terms agreed with the landowner for the acquisition of land required in connection with road improvement schemes on the A95 Ordens – Keith – Grantown Road and the B9008 Delnashaugh – Auchbreck – Tomintoul Road.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to continue consideration of this matter for further information and relevant location maps.

19. OFFICES: HIGHFIELD HOUSE, SOUTH STREET, ELGIN (Para. 9)

Under reference to para. 17 of the Minute of this Committee dated 24 February, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning on offers received for the purchase of Highfield House, South Street, Elgin.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee that the highest offer be accepted.

ITEM 5(a)
11

20. PROPOSED TREE PRESERVATION ORDER (Paw. 13)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider designating a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at "Woodside". Seafield Avenue. Keith.

The meeting noted that Policy ENV10 of the Moray District Local Plan states that the Council will serve Tree Preservation Orders on potentially valuable trees in towns, villages and rural communities and that these will only be served on trees which are of amenity value to the community as a whole.

Following consideration the meeting agreed not to approve a Tree Preservation Order for the trees at Woodside. Seafield Avenue, Keith on the grounds that the trees are not considered to be of significant amenity to the whole community.

21. PROPOSED PURCHASE OF FORMER BANK PREMISES, PULTNEY STREET, PORTKNOCKIE (Para.9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee that the former bank premises at Pultney Street, Portknockie are to be exposed to public auction on 24 June, 1998 and seeking approval to submit a bid for the purchase of the premises.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to instruct the Property Manager to carry out an inspection of the Town Hall and Bank premises and, if they are found to be in good order to instruct the Principal Estate Surveyor to bid for the purchase of the premises to a maximum figure of £7,500; and
- (ii) that a report be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee on 25 June, 1998 seeking homologation of the action taken in the event of the Council's bid being successful.

22. ENFORCEMENT: LETTERFOURIE HOUSE (Para. 13)

The Director of Economic Development and Planning reported orally in regard to the current position relating to obtaining unhindered access to Letterfourie House. Letterfourie for the purposes of carrying out inspections for Listed Building, Planning and Building Control purposes in terms of the relevant legislation.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to note the current position and agreed that it be remitted to the Director of Economic Development and Planning in consultation with the Legal and Administration Services Manager to take action as deemed appropriate in order to obtain access to carry out the inspection.



THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SERVICES
COMMITTEE

26 MAY, 1998

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors G. McDonald (Chairman). H. McDonald (Vice-Chairman). E. Aldridge. M. Anderson. M.C. Howe. T.A. Howe. W. Jappy. A. Keith, P. Mann. R.L. Patterson. A.M. Scott and J. Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Director of Economic Development and Planning, the Control Services Manager, the Chief Roads Officer, the Chief Building Control Officer, the Chief Development Control Officer, the Chief Officer Development Planning and Strategy, the Principal Economic Development Officer, the Principal Engineer (Maintenance), the Principal Estate Surveyor, the Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing), the Assistant Public Relations Officer and R. Ritchie, Senior Administration Officer who acted as Clerk to the Meeting.

APOLOGY

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor H.M. Cumiskie (ex-officio).

PLANNING APPLICATION **97/00508/EIA**: STRATEGIC BUSINESS PARK AT TARRAS. FORRES

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting the Committee noted the terms of a letter from the Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland advising that after consideration of information already available in regard to the Council's consideration and decision in regard to the proposed Strategic Business Park at Tarras the Commissioner did not find it necessary to make written enquiries to the Council in regard to a complaint received from Mr. I. Lawson, Easter Califer, Forres.

1. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Meeting agreed that in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1977, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the Items of Business appearing at the relative paragraphs of this Minute as specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.

<u>Para No. of Minute</u>	<u>Para No. of Schedule 7A</u>
17	4
18	8
19	13
20	9

2. SCOTTISH OFFICE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AUDIT OF DEVELOPMENT
CONTROL: AUDIT REVIEW REPORT APRIL, 1998

Under reference to para. 4 of the Minute of this Committee dated 12 August, 1997 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee of the Scottish Office Development Department Review of their audit of Development Control in Moray, carried out in March/April, 1997 which examined action taken in Moray to implement audit recommendations since 1997.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to note the report

3. CONTROL SERVICES STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND RETURN

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee of performance in Control Services since the reorganisation of Local Government. The meeting noted that all Planning Authorities are required by the Accounts Commission to submit performance indicators showing, amongst other things, performance in dealing with planning applications and a schedule of the Control Services performance indicators was appended to the report together with guidance notes provided by the Accounts Commission in respect of their indicators.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to note the report.

4. BUCKIE ECONOMIC STUDY

Under reference to para.5 of the Minute of this Committee dated 3 February, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee of actions taken since the submission of the interim report and recommending the establishment of a Buckie Initiative and the recruitment of a Projects Executive on a short-term basis with a budget of £15,000 to be met from the Assistance to Industry budget.

In regard to the budget allocation the meeting noted that this would be matched by a £15,000 PESCA grant making a total budget of £30,000 for a Project Executive over no longer than a two year period and that the Initiative would be established along similar lines to that of the Keith Initiative with representation being agreed in consultation with the Local Enterprise Company.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve:-

- (i) the establishment of a Buckie Initiative;
- (ii) the recruitment of a Project Executive on a short-term basis; and
- (iii) a Project Executive budget of £15,000 to be met from the Economic Development Assistance to Industry Budget.

5. MORAY COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMPETITION 1998

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider the promotion of a Moray Community Environment Competition open to the general community with a single prize of £1,000 to be awarded to the winning entrant, the format being the same as that for the 1997 competition.

It was noted that entries would be accepted from 1 August with a closing date of 9 October, 1998; that judging would be carried out by officials of the Moray Local Agenda 21 Team and an elected member and that whilst the Local Enterprise Company had been formally approached with a view to jointly funding the prize money it had declined to support the venture claiming that it did not fit with their priorities.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to promote an environmental competition open to the community with a single prize of £1,000 to be met from the Economic Development and Planning Department budget with further investigations being undertaken to identify potential external finance;
- (ii) to appoint Councillor T.A. Howe to participate in the judging of the competition and the presentation of the awards at the end of October, 1998;
- (iii) not to hold an environmental exhibition in 1998; and
- (iv) that on receipt of projects for consideration the possibility of sponsorship and the involvement of the Local Enterprise Company in progressing schemes be investigated,

6. NEW DEAL: ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE

Under reference to para.18 of the Minute of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 27 November, 1997 there was submitted a joint report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning and the Director of Technical and Leisure Services advising the Committee of the progress in delivering the Environment Task Force (ETF) option as part of the Government's New Deal Initiative and indicated the type of projects being considered for inclusion in the initiative.

The report also advised of the criteria for assessing projects as detailed in appendix 1 of the report and sought approval, in principle, for projects, as detailed in appendix 2 of the report, to be considered by the ETF which related specifically to Council land, property or other resources.

During consideration the meeting noted that the project relating to ranger service assistance would be suitable for clients in all coastal towns/villages in Moray and that the proposed rose garden in Buckie would be an extension of the existing rose garden located on the former putting green and not at the location referred to in the report.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress of the ETF option within Moray and the assessment criteria and initial projects identified in appendices 1 and 2 of the report;
- (ii) to agree, in principle, to the undemoted projects being submitted for possible action by ETF:-
 - Assistance to Speyside Way and Coastal Ranger Services
 - Elgin Aviary
 - Community Environment Flying Squad
 - Access Strategy
 - New Rose Garden, Buckie
 - St Ruffus Gardens, Keith
- (iii) that any other projects which are considered to meet the assessment criteria be brought to the attention of the Development Planning Manager with a view to consideration being given to these being implemented in a flexible timescale.

7. STRATEGIC BUSINESS PARK, TARRAS, FORRES

The meeting noted that this report inviting the Committee to consider a request from Moray, Badenoch and Strathspey Enterprise that the Council changes the name of the Forres Business Park so that the name could be applied to the new strategic development site at Tarras had been withdrawn from the Agenda at the request of the Local Enterprise Company.

8. REVENUE BUDGET 1998/99 – ROAD MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 1998/99 - RESURFACING

Under reference to para. 1 of the Minute of the Special Meeting of the Full Council dated 5 March, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking the Committee's approval of the detailed expenditure of funds allocated to the Revenue Budget 1998/99 Roads Maintenance and the Capital Budget 1998/99 Resurfacing as detailed in the schedule previously circulated to Members.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve the detailed expenditure of funds under the various headings allocated to the Revenue Budget 1998/99 Roads Maintenance and the Capital Budget 1998/99 Resurfacing as detailed in the report.

9. ROADS CAPITAL BUDGET: STRENGTHENING OF FORESTRY ROADS

Under reference to para.11 of the Minute of the meeting of the Technical and Leisure Services Committee dated 25 April, 1996 and para.1 of the Special Meeting of the Full Council dated 5 March, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking the Committee's approval of the strengthening of forestry road schemes to be constructed to permit extraction of timber.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to approve the strengthening of the C4L Bogmurchals, U10H Inchcorsie and U33E Braehead to approved route status in 1998/99 to be funded from the approved Capital Budget allocation: and
- (ii) to approve the strengthening of the C 17H Beatshaugh and U59H Blairrock in following years or earlier if suitable funding can be provided.

10. BRIDGE ASSESSMENT AND STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME 1998/99

Under reference to para.35 of the Technical and Leisure Services Committee dated 9 January, 1997 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee in regard to the Council's bridge assessment programme, its present status and future commitments and sought approval of a bridge assessment and strengthening programme for 1998/99, as detailed in the appendix to the report, and the methodology applied to devise the programme. The Committee's approval was also sought for the estimated cost for bridges identified in the report requiring strengthening and to authorise the Chief Roads Officer to carry out the works.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Capital Budget for bridge assessment and strengthening 1998/99 as detailed in the appendix involving assessment and repairs to weak bridges and that details within the appendix, which identifies specific bridges for repair, be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval: and
- (ii) that a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee relating to Railtrack and British Rail Property Board bridges once consultations have been completed with a view to seeking approval to enter into a joint venture agreement.

11. KEITH - DUFFTOWN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee in regard to the current position of the Keith-Dufftown Railway Association and inviting the Committee to consider a request from the Board of the Keith-Dufftown Railway Association regarding the maintenance of bridges and engineering services.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) that The Moray Council acts as Bridge Authority in respect of Highway Structures for an interim period to allow the Light Railway Order to be processed:
- (ii) that The Moray Council carries out all accident response maintenance work and that the cost of repairs are charged to the Keith-Dufftown Railway Association, for which the Association would carry insurance to cover any unclaimed costs or alternatively repay the Council at an agreed maximum monthly payment:
- (iii) to note that the Association will continue with refurbishment works with the intention of operating over the full length from Dufftown to Keith within three years:
- (iv) to note that the Association will endeavour to develop facilities at Drummuir and in this regard the Association's proposals be clarified and the Local Member, Councillor Patterson advised;

- (v) to note that the Association will actively promote the railway to increase the tourist profile of the area with the railway being a significant tourist attraction;
- (vi) that The Moray Council recognises the Keith-Dufftown Railway Association as an established going concern and will acknowledge the facility in future Development Plans; and
- (vii) that The Moray Council's Roads Service acts as Engineer to the Association.

12. ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCE: WHITE PAPER ON INTEGRATED TRANSPORT – IMPLICATIONS FOR N.E. SCOTLAND

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider an invitation for the Council to be represented at a Conference entitled “White Paper on Integrated Transport: Implications for N.E. Scotland” being held at the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen on 19 June, 1998.

Following consideration the meeting agreed the Council be represented by Councillors T.A. Howe, A.M. Scott, C.D. Scaife, E. Aldridge and P. Mann.

13. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE: WORKING PARTIES

Under reference to para. 12 of the Minute of the meeting of the Full Council dated 12 February, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Committee to review the membership and remit of its Working Parties.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) that the Grampian Country Park and Economic Development Working Parties be discontinued and those relating to Tourism, Development Plan and Flood Prevention be continued with the existing remits; and
- (ii) to note that Councillor J. Stewart's name had been included in the membership of the Flood Prevention Working Party in error.

14. LISTS OF LEASES SUBMITTED FOR NOTING/APPROVAL

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to approve the terms of one lease and to note the terms of two leases and two rent reviews which have been dealt with under delegated powers.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve a lease and note the terms of two leases and two rent reviews as follows:-

<u>Tenant and Address</u>	<u>Length of Lease</u>	<u>Review Period</u>	<u>Rent</u>
(i) <u>Leases for Noting</u>			
Iain McKenzie, Yard 2 Newmill Road Ind. Est., Keith	3 years	—	£425
GUS Homeshopping Limited, Unit 1 Western Road Ind. Est., Keith	1 year	3 years	£2,100
(ii) <u>Lease for Approval</u>			
Bryan Bowic, t/a March Motors, Unit II March Road Ind. Est., Buckie	3 years	3 years	£5,765 p.a

(iii) Rent Reviews for Noting

Michael Grant. t/a MG Motor Services, Unit 3 Linkwood Road. Elgin	----	3 years	£4,485 p.a
No. 1 Building Services Limited. 4 Parade Spur North, Pinefield Industrial Estate. Elgin	----	5 years	£274 p.a

15. MORAY CRAFTS INITIATIVE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee of the current position and proposals for future support of the Craft Industry in Moray in light of a number of requests received from Moray craft workers seeking the Council's assistance to help identify a focal point from where their products could be adequately displayed.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) that a Crafts Open Day be held at Elgin Library on Sunday 12 July. 1998; and
- (ii) that a budget be allocated to cover general costs not exceeding £200 to be met from the Economic Development and Planning Department's Aid to Industry budget.

16. RAILTRACK NETWORK MANAGEMENT STATEMENT FOR SCOTLAND 1998

Under reference to para.11 of the Minute of this Committee dated 31 March, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking the Committee's approval of a draft response, a copy of which was appended to the report, to the consultation by Railtrack on the company's Network Management Statement for Scotland 1998.

The report was augmented by an oral report by the Director who suggested the need to look at the matter from a Moray perspective and in this regard there was a need to consider train timetables to allow ready travel from Moray stations to Inverness or Aberdeen and then south without an overlong intervening wait; a need to consider through availability of cheaper tickets without over restrictive conditions on travel; to emphasise at this stage that CCTV was a tool which needed the backup of staff or Police and should not be considered as a solution in itself.

Following consideration the meeting agreed:-

- (i) to approve the draft response as detailed in the appendix to the report subject to the inclusion of the concerns raised by the Director and the Committee in regard to passenger safety as the Council's response to the consultation on Railtrack's 1998 Network Management Statement for Scotland:
- (ii) that officers continue to lobby Railtrack for improvements to the rail network in North East Scotland and on the need for detailed consultation on Railtrack's investment criteria:
- (iii) that specific representation be made on the need for early enhancement of the Aberdeen-Inverness route in partnership with Aberdeen City Council. Aberdeenshire Council and Highland Council: and
- (iv) that the Director of Railtrack be invited to provide further detailed information on Railtrack's proposals for investment in enhancement of rail facilities in North East Scotland at a future meeting of the joint Rail Transport Working Party.

17. MORAY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SCHEME (Para. 4)**(i) Application 042**

Under reference to para. 19 of the Minute of the Economic Development and Planning Committee held on 13 January, 1998 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising the Committee in regard to a change in circumstances relating to an application in terms of the Moray Business Enterprise Scheme.

Suspension of Standing Orders

On the motion of the Chairman the meeting unanimously agreed to suspend Standing Orders and agreed that given the original applicant was no longer involved in the business there had been a relevant and material change in circumstances since submission of the original application and, in this instance, that the application be refused.

(ii) Application 058

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending approval of a grant in respect of application 058 for financial assistance in terms of the Moray Business Enterprise Scheme.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve the recommendations subject to assistance with equipment being by way of a loan as opposed to a grant.

(iii) Application 059

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning recommending approval of a grant in respect of application 059 for financial assistance in terms of the Moray Business Enterprise Scheme.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve the recommendations in regard to application 059.

18. CAPITAL PLAN 1998/99: USE OF PESCA MATCH FUNDING BUDGET (Para. 8)

The meeting noted that this item had been withdrawn from the Agenda given that the matter had been dealt with at the Policy and Resources Committee on 21 May, 1998 (para. xxx of the Minute refers).

**19. PROPOSED TREE PRESERVATION ORDER: KING GEORGE PLAYING FIELDS,
ROTHIEMAY (Para. 13)**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Committee to consider designating a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at King George Playing Fields, Rothiemay.

Following consideration the meeting agreed to approve the preparation of a Tree Preservation Order for the trees which line the perimeter of the playing fields.

20. PREMISES 135/143 MID STREET, KEITH (Para. 9)

Under reference to para. 29 of the Minute of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 27 February, 1997 there was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning advising of offers received for the surplus premises at 135/143 Mid Street, Keith.

The meeting noted that two offers had been received one being an option to purchase, the other being a proposal to develop the premises as a community business facility and youth centre.

Following consideration of the meeting agreed, in principle, to instruct the Principal Estate Surveyor to negotiate with the Keith Initiative/Keith Community Council group the terms of a Building Agreement and Lease for the premises subject to the following principal terms and conditions:-

- (i) the Building Agreement will grant the group possession of the premises and enable them to carry out their project
 - Building Agreement will commence as **soon as** possible and will last a maximum of 18 months
 - The group will immediately take over the Council's responsibility for the upkeep, maintenance and security of the building and will arrange their own building and public liability insurance
 - The group will obtain all necessary consents including planning permission and will complete the development in accordance with plans to be approved by the Council before the expiry of the Building Agreement period

- (i) on completion of the agreed development to the Council's satisfaction the Council will grant the group a long-term lease of the premises at a peppercorn rent subject to the approval of the Secretary of State to lease the premises for less than the market value.

THE MORAY COUNCIL**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE****11 JUNE, 1998****COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS****PRESENT**

Councillors A. Scott (Chair). H. M. Cumiskie (Vice-Chair). M. Anderson, R. Laing, H. McDonald, P. Mann, R. Patterson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Principal Solicitor (Litigation and Licensing), L. Rennie. Solicitor (Litigation and Licensing), and R. McKay Administration Officer who acted as clerk to the Meeting.

Also Present by Invitation

Chief Inspector L. Stewart. Chief Inspector J. McConnachie, and Constable K. Wallace representing Grampian Police. Mr Ross, Solicitor, Mr A. Russell. Solicitor and Mr Cumming. Solicitor.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors D. Scaife and J. M. Shaw

1. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Council agreed in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, to exclude the public and media representatives from the meeting during consideration of the Items of Business specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the classes described.

<u>Pam. No.</u>	<u>Pam. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
3	6
5	6
6	66

2. LICENSES DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administrative Services Manager informing the Committee of Licenses which had been dealt with under delegated powers.

The Committee noted the Report.

**3. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 -LICENSING OF STREET TRADERS
(ST/98/001)**

Under reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the Committee dated 8th May, 1998 there was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Committee to consider an application for a street traders license by applicant number ST/98/001 to permit street trading by means of a wheelie bin cleaning service within Moray in light of a letter of observation submitted on behalf of the Chief Constable.

The Meeting noted the following appearances:-

- i. Chief Inspector Stewart on behalf of the Chief Constable of Grampian Police: and
- ii. Mr Ross. legal representative on behalf of the applicant.

Chief Inspector Stewart addressed the Committee regarding the Chief Constable's letter of observation following which the applicant's representative addressed the Committee regarding the application and the letter of observation.

Following consideration the Committee agreed that the application be granted for a period of six months during which the service be monitored.

**4. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 – LICENSING OF STREET TRADERS
(ST/98/002)**

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the Committee dated 7th May, 1998 there was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Committee to consider an application for a street traders license by applicant number ST/98/002 to permit street trading by means of a wheelie bin cleaning service.

The Meeting noted that the applicant was not present and no correspondence in support of his application had been received.

Following consideration the Committee agreed that the application be refused on the grounds that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a license.

**5. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 -APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY TAXI
DRIVER LICENSE (CASE NO. TD/98/006)**

There was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Committee to consider an application for a temporary Taxi Driver's License by applicant number TD/98/006 in light of a letter of observation submitted on behalf of the Chief Constable.

The Meeting noted the following appearances:-

- i. Chief Inspector McConnachie on behalf of the Chief Constable Grampian Police; and
- ii. Mr A. Russell on behalf of the applicant.

Chief Inspector McConnachie addressed the Committee regarding the Chief Constable's letter of observation following which the applicant's legal representative addressed the Committee regarding the application and the letter of observation.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed that the application be refused on the grounds that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a license and that the Committee's reasons be conveyed to the applicant on advising of the decision.

**6. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 -LICENSING OF LATE HOURS CATERING
(CASE NO. LHC/98/002)**

There was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Committee to consider an application for a late hours catering license by applicant number LHC/98/002 to permit late hours catering from 11pm to 12 midnight each Sunday to Thursday and 11pm to 1.30 am each Friday and Saturday at 39, East Church Street, Buckie.

The Meeting noted the following appearances:-

- i. Chief Inspector Stewart on behalf of the Chief Constable, Grampian Police;
- ii. Mr Ross, the solicitor acting on behalf of the applicant; and
- iii. The solicitor who was nominated on behalf of the objectors.

There was also tabled at the Meeting copies of correspondence supportive of the objectors

Chief Inspector Stewart addressed the Committee regarding the Chief Constable's letter of observation following which the applicant's representative addressed the Committee regarding the application and the letter of observation. The Meeting also heard the case on behalf of the objectors.

After hearing the submissions from both the applicant's representative and the objectors' representative they then withdrew and the Committee considered the application.

Following consideration Councillor H. McDonald seconded by Councillor Anderson moved that the application be granted as applied for.

As an amendment Councillor Patterson seconded by Councillor Laing moved that the application be granted allowing the license to be extended to 11.00pm to 11.30pm on all seven days of the week only.

On a division there voted:-

For the Motion (4)

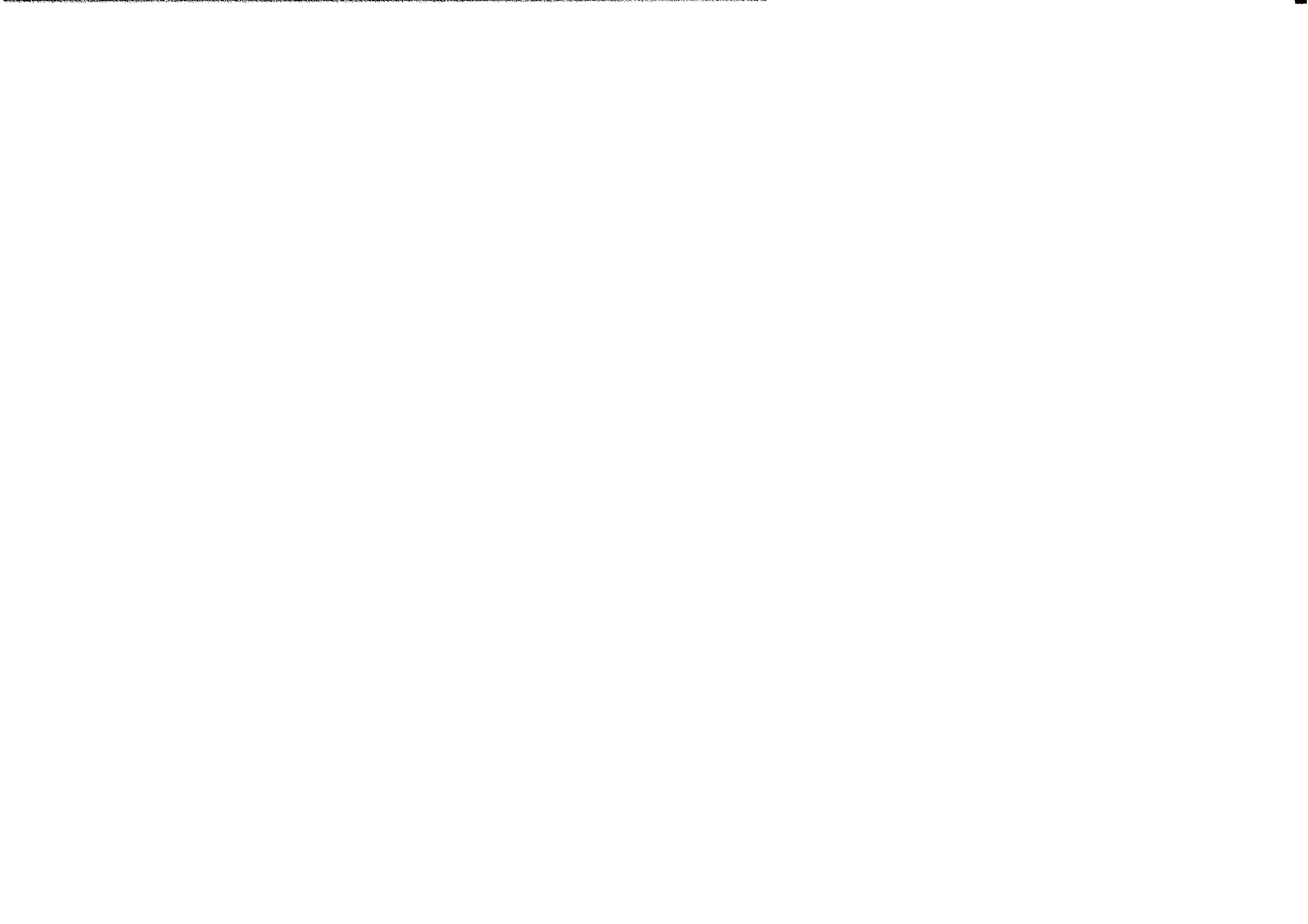
Councillors Scott. Anderson. H. McDonald and Mann.

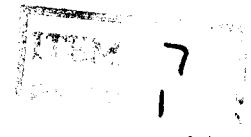
For the Amendment (2)

Councillors Laing and Patterson.

Abstentions (0)

Thereafter the Chairman declared that the motion was carried and it was agreed that the application be approved. The Meeting also agreed that the license be granted for one year, monitored and, should there be any objections the matter would be referred back to the Committee.





THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF TECHNICAL & LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

18 JUNE, 1998

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors D. Crawford (Vice-Chairman), E. Aldridge, A. Farquharson, T. Howe, R.J. Laing, R.L. Patterson, D. Scaife, A.M. Scott, J. M. Shaw and H Cumiskie (es-officio).

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Technical & Leisure Services, Chief Environmental Protection Officer, Chief Community Development Officer, Client Services Manager, Assistant Chief Financial Officer, Principal Estates Surveyor, Principal Solicitor (Commercial & Conveyancing), Moira Patrick, Senior Administration Officer as Clerk to the Committee and the Assistant Public Relations Officer.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors M Anderson and H McDonald.

1. CHAIR

In the absence of the Chairman, the Chair was taken by Councillor D Crawford, Vice-Chairman.

2. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Council agreed in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the classes described.

<u>Para. No.</u>	<u>Para. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
9	1
10	6
11	1
12	1
13	6 & 9
14	6 & 9
23	6 & 8
24	6 & 9

3. THE NATIONAL AIR QUALITY STRATEGY AND MORAY AIR QUALITY REVIEW STUDY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services asking the Committee to note that Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 has now come into force and Local Authorities are required by statute to review the air quality standards within their areas. The report further asked the Committee to note the recommendations made by Cordah Environmental Management Consultants who were engaged to carry out preliminary assessment work in this specialist area of expertise and sought the Committee's approval for a submission being made to the Scottish Office for capital expenditure to purchase air quality monitoring equipment.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Note the contents of the report and recommendations made by Cordah Environmental Management Consultants following their review of air quality in the area;

- (ii) A submission being made to the Scottish Office for additional capital expenditure to purchase air quality monitoring equipment;
- (iii) The Environmental Health Section commencing monitoring for NO₂ and SO₂; and
- (iv) Copies of the report being sent to SEPA and copies being made available in Moray Council Access Points, Libraries and Community Councils for information and comment by the public.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services informing the Committee of action taken in terms of delegated powers.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

5. LANDFILL TAX CREDIT SCHEME – SPEY BAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services advising the Committee of a progress report received from the Scottish Wildlife Trust on the Spey Bay Development Project part funded by The Moray Council through landfill tax credits.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the progress of the Landfill Tax funded project at Spey Bay in conjunction with the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

6. DALLACHY CIVIC AMENITY SITE

Under reference to Para. 10 of the Minute of the meeting of the Technical and Leisure Services Committee dated the 14 May, 1998, there was submitted an oral report by the Chief Environmental Protection Officer informing the Committee of the current position in relation to the issuing of a site licence by SEPA for the civic amenity site at Dallachy and improvements being made to the site in relation to security. The Committee was asked to note that SEPA had advised that the site licence was due to be issued within the next few weeks and that the conditions of the site licence are likely to remain similar to the draft conditions previously reported to this Committee at its meeting on the 14 May, 1998. The Committee was further asked to consider granting delegated powers to appropriate officers in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to submit an appeal to the Secretary of State once the licence had been issued by SEPA if the conditions were considered to be unacceptable.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Note the contents of the oral report. and.
- (ii) Grant delegated authority to appropriate officers, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to submit an appeal to the Secretary of State once the licence had been issued by SEPA if the conditions were considered to be unacceptable.

7. MORAY COUNCIL CONTRACTS: ASHGROVE DEPOT DEVELOPMENT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services informing the Committee of the revised timescale for the relocation of the Vehicle Maintenance Workshop to Ashgrove Depot. Elgin which had previously been reported to a meeting of the Technical & Leisure Services Committee on 19 June, 1997 (para. 9 of the Minute refers).

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note that the revised timescale for the relocation of workshop facilities to Ashgrove Depot has predicted completion within this financial year.

8. THE SPEYSIDE WAY: POPINE BRIDGE, CRAIGELLACHIE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services asking the Committee to note the demolition of the Popine Bridge, Craigellachie and to authorise the granting of a 'right of servitude' across the Speyside Way to the owners of the Popine Mills site.

Following consideration the Cotnmittee agreed to:-

- (i) Note the demolition of tite Popine Bridge at Craigellachie; and
- (ii) Authorise the granting of a 'right of servitude' for any new bridge constructed over the Speyside Way at the Popine Mills site and remit the matter to the Principal Solicitor (Commercial & Conveyancing) to fortnalisc the agreetment.

9. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES (Pat-a. 1)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services asking the Committee to consider representations made by Community Groups to re-open public conveniences at Cnigellachie and Cummingston and to homologate the Department's decision to accept the offer from the Fochabers Playing Field Association to operate the East Street Toilets. Fochabers.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Refer to the Policy and Resources Committee consideration of the proposals frotn the Craigellachie Village Council in relation to the Fiddich Park facility, the re-opening of the Victoria Bridge facility and the partnership arrangement for cleaning of the Victoria Bridge facility;
- (ii) Accept the offer frotn the Burghead, Cummingston and Roseisle Community Council to clean the Cummingston toilets with the annual materials, repair and energy costs of £350 being tnet by The Moray Council; and,
- (iii) Accept the Fochabers Playing Field Association's commitment to continue operating the East Street toilets on a permanent basis under a formal agreetment at no cost to the Council.

10. 1998/99 CAPITAL PLAN – COVER MATERIAL (Para.6)

There was submitted a repot-t by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services asking the Committee to approve part expenditure of the Department's 1998/99 Landfill Site Cover Material and Landfill Site Restoration Capital Budget allocation and to accept free supply and delivery of overburden material for site restoration works at Newtyle and for cover at Dallachy.

The Chief Environmental Protection Officer further advised the Cotnmittee of an offer for the Council to accept free of charge cover material frotn an excavation site in Keith and asked the Committee to consider granting delegated authority to appropriate officers, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to accept any future offers of free of charge cover material and the paytment of any subsequent Landfill Tax.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Accept free supply and delivery of overburden material for site restoration works at Newtyle and for cover at Dallachy; and
- (ii) Fund the Landfill Tax of approximately £20,000 and possible additional labour costs of £2,000 frotn the 1998/99 Capital Budget.
- (iii) Grant delegated authority to appropriate officers, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to accept any future offers of free of charge cover material and the payment of any subsequent Landfill Tax.

11. TRAINING DELIVERY – CONSULTANTS (Para. 1)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services on the use of a consultant to deliver specialist training for Moray Training which had been requested by the Technical & Leisure Services Cotttmittee at its tneeting on 14 May, 1998 (para. 13 of the Minute refers).

Following consideration the Cotnmittee agreed to note the report and the use of a consultant to provide training for Moray Training for Lady Returner Courses.

12. RELIEF PEST CONTROL OFFICER (Para. 1)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services asking the Committee to authorise the employment of a former employee to carry out Pest Control duties whilst the Pest Control Officer is on annual leave in accordance with current policy.

Following consideration the Committee agreed in principle, to the temporary engagement for the period of one week of a former employee who retired early to allow the Pest Control Service to operate whilst the permanent Officer is on annual summer leave for 1998 subject to the approval of the Policy and Resources Committee.

13. REQUEST TO PURCHASE GROUND ADJACENT TO 35 CAMERON ROAD, ELGIN (Paras. 6 & 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development & Planning asking the Committee to approve the sale of an area of ground extending to approximately 55m² adjacent to 35 Cameron Road, Elgin to the owner of the house, Miss Wendy Jack.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Approve the provisional terms of sale as detailed in the report; and
- (ii) Thereafter remit the matter to the Principal Solicitor (Commercial & Conveyancing) to formalise the agreement.

14. REQUEST TO PURCHASE GROUND AT 2 COULARDHILL, LOSSIEMOUTH (Paras. 6 & 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Economic Development & Planning asking the Committee to approve the sale of an area of ground extending to 56m² or thereby adjacent to 2 Coularhill, Lossiemouth to the proprietors of that house Mr. & Mrs. George Campbell.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Approve the provisional terms of sale as detailed in the report; and
- (ii) Thereafter remit the matter to the Principal Solicitor (Commercial & Conveyancing) to formalise the agreement.

15. 1998/99 CAPITAL PROGRAMME – COULARDBANK PAVILION, LOSSIEMOUTH

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services bringing to the Committee's attention serious structural problems affecting the Coularbank Pavilion, Lossiemouth and seeking the Committee's views on five possible options for action.

Following consideration Councillor Farquharson, seconded by Councillor Aldridge, moved approval of Option 4. to demolish the entire building to provide a new facility on the existing site.

As an amendment, Councillor Crawford, seconded by Councillor Patterson moved to continue consideration of the options to a future meeting of this Committee until clarification had been sought from the Policy and Resources Committee on the availability of additional Capital funding.

On a division there voted:-

For the Motion (4) Councillors Aldridge, Farquharson, Scaife and Shaw

For the Amendment(S) Councillors Crawford, T.A. Howe, Laing, Patterson and Scott

Abstentions (0) Nil

The Chairman declared the Amendment carried and thereafter it was agreed to continue consideration of the options to a future meeting of this Committee until clarification had been sought from the Policy and Resources Committee on the availability of any additional Capital funding.

16. PLAYScheme GRANTS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services seeking the Committee's approval for the allocation of funding to independent playschemes.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Approve the proposals for funding to playschemes as follows:-

<u>Name of Group</u>	<u>Request 98/99</u>	<u>Award</u>
Hi Jinx Forres House	£400	£400
Pilmuir Summer	200	200
Portessie Summer	420	136
Cullen Summer	422	189
Buckie Summer	211	211
Findochty Summer	419	152
Buckie Teenage Support	172	105
Portgordon Summer	458	216
Lossie Christian Fellowship	290	290
Keith Adventure Group	517	114
Keith Rural	333	155
Roths Summer	20	20
Dufftown Summer	110	110
Plainstones Summer	1,800	455
Portknockie	172	172
Hopeman	270	218
Burghead	20	20
Lossie Adventure Camp	240	195
Lossie Sports Weeks	198	218
Totals	£6,672	£3,576

- (ii) The balance of the budget being used to encourage the development of playschemes during the extended October school holiday period.

17. GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (NATIONAL/MORAY WIDE)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services presenting to the Committee proposals for the allocation of grant funding to Voluntary Organisations (National and Moray Wide) for 1998/99.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Award grants of £730 and £972 to Moray Area Scout Council and the Scottish Community Education Council respectively: and
- (ii) Note that further applications are likely to be received from groups who previously received financial support from the Council which will be the subject of a further report.

18. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: CATEGORY 'B' GRANTS – SPORTS/ARTS CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services asking the Committee to consider the applications for financial assistance from the Category 'B' for Sports/Arts Clubs and Organisations.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to award grants on the Category 'B' budget as follows:-

1	63 Car Club (Elgin) – Speyside Stages Rally	Guarantee against loss of up to £2,000
2.	Hopeman and District Bowling and Social	£480

	Club	
3.	Cooper Park Bowling Club	£219

19. QUEST- U.K. QUALITY SCHEME FOR SPORT AND LEISURE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services advising the Committee of the success of the Sport and Leisure DSO in gaining registration under the 'QUEST' Quality Assurance Scheme for the Swimming Pools at Buckie, Fortes and Keith.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Note the success of the Sport and Leisure DSO in achieving Quality Assurance accreditation; and.
- (ii) All Officers and Staff being congratulated for their hard work and the quality of their work which has led to the achievement of this accreditation.

20. PUBLIC LIBRARY NETWORKING REPORT: COMMENTS ON THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services seeking homologation of The Moray Council's comments on the Government's Response to the Public Library networking report 'New Library: The People's Network'.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Approve The Moray Council's comments on the Government's Response to the Public Library networking report 'New Library': The People's Network as detailed in the Appendix to the report;
- (ii) Homologate the decision taken in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair to forward the comments to the Scottish Office prior to the closing date of 15 June, 1998; and
- (iii) Note that further reports will be put to the Committee in respect of the implementation of the People's Network as more information becomes available.

21. MUSEUMS SERVICE COLLECTING AND DISPOSAL POLICY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services inviting the Committee to formally adopt the revised Museums Service Collecting and Disposal Policy.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) The revised Collecting and Disposal Policy serving as the basis for collecting and disposal by The Moray Council's Museums Service for a period of no greater than the next five years; and
- (ii) Formally adopt the revised Collecting and Disposal Policy as an essential element of re-registration under the Museums and Galleries Registration Scheme, Phase Two.

22. INVITATION TO CONFERENCE -SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF LEISURE SERVICES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services inviting the Committee to consider attendance at the Annual Conference of the Scottish Association of Directors of Leisure Services to be held in Dunkeld from 18 to 20 August. 1998.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to the attendance of one officer only at the Annual conference of the Scottish Association of Directors of Leisure Services to be held in Dunkeld from 18 to 20 August. 1998.

23. OPERATION OF OUTDOOR SEASONAL FACILITIES: PUTTING FACILITY AT GRANT PARK, FORRES (Paras. 6 & 8)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services seeking the Committee's approval for the operation of the putting facility at Grant Park, Forres being undertaken by a local businessman.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

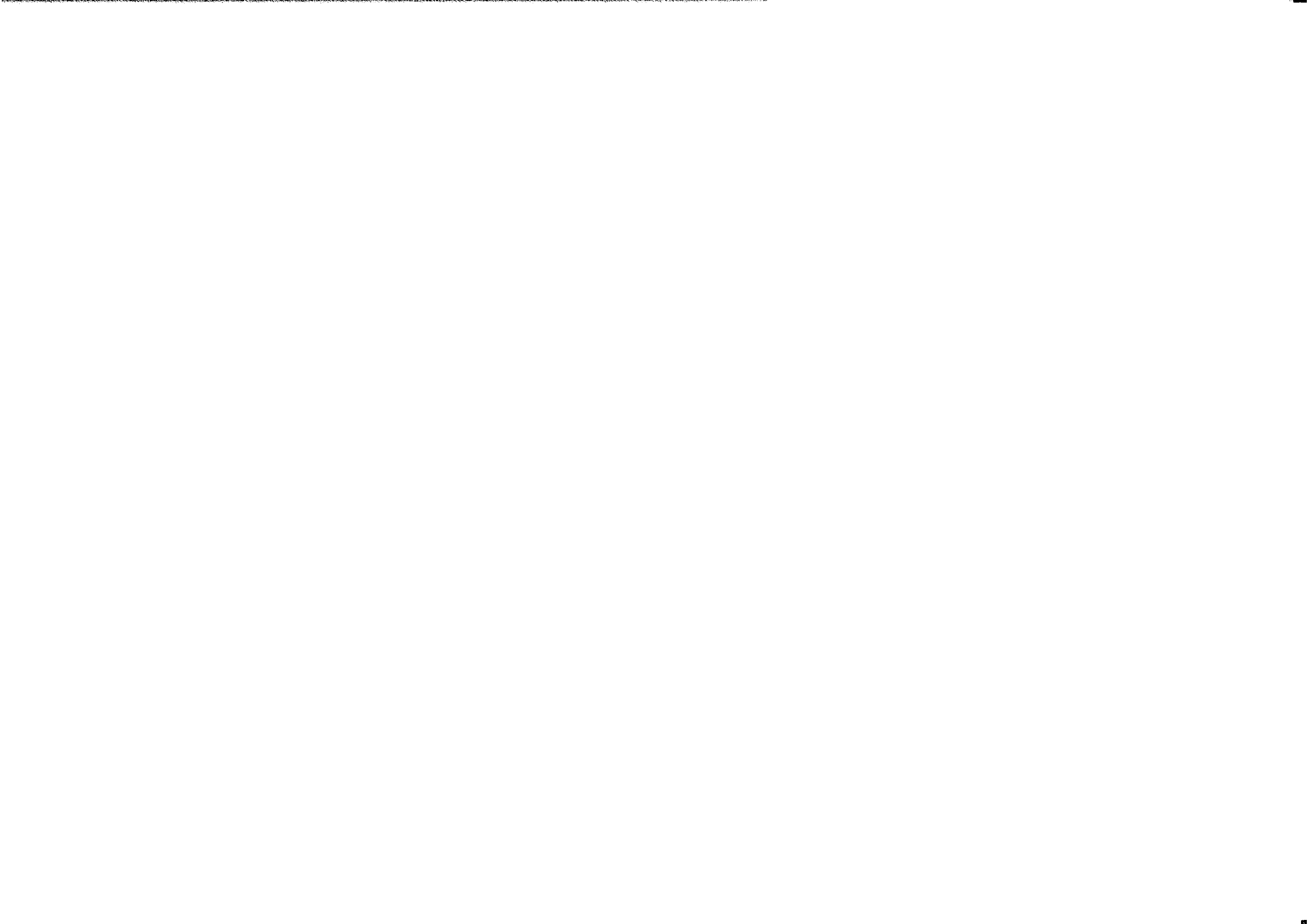
- (i) Mr. Carlo Mielc being offered the concession for the putting facility at Grant Park, Forres, for the 1998 Summer season: and
- (ii) Officers being granted delegated authority to conclude negotiations with Mr. Miele over the terms and conditions of the concession.
- (iii) Note Councillor Cumiskie's concerns that any future matters relating to the Forres Common Good Fund be carefully monitored.

24. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES: AWARD OF CONCESSIONS (Pat-as. 6 & 9)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Technical & Leisure Services seeking to update Members on the position regarding the award of the concession for the operation of the Forres Swimming Pool Cafe. The report further sought the Committee's agreement to award the concessions for the operation of seasonal facilities within Cooper Park, Elgin and the boating operation on Cooper Park Pond.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) Note the award of the Forres Pool Cafe concession to Mr. C. Miele;
- (ii) Award the concession for the operation of the Cooper Park Seasonal Facilities to Mr. A. Cooper:
- (iii) The concession of the Cooper Park Seasonal Facilities being valued upon Mr. Cooper's revised offer which is a fee of £1,000 per annum plus 25% of profit for the period between Good Friday and 30 June each year;
- (iv) Award the concession for the operation of boating upon Cooper Park Pond to Mr. C. McKenzie for a 3 year period at a cost of £1000 for the 1998 summer season with delegated authority being granted to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local Member to review the cost of the concession annually thereafter.

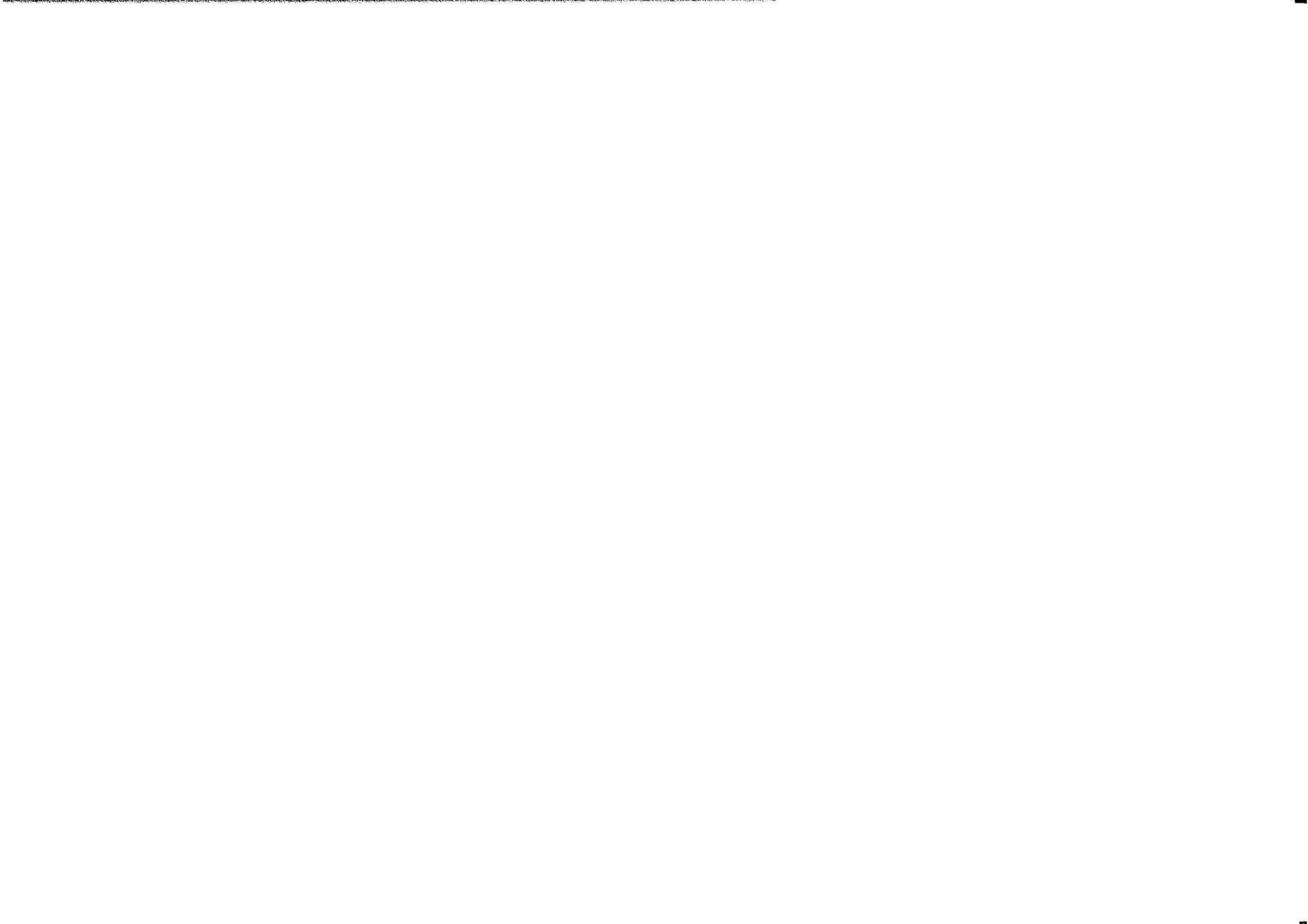


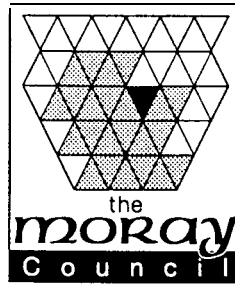
NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes with concern the Conveners apparent disregard for the democratic processes of the Council. Remarks made by the Convener at a Public Meeting in Dufftown on 19.5.98 indicating that the Community Centre would remain open are at odds with a previous Moray Council decision on 5.3.98 and Standing Order 27 . This has resulted in public confusion and concern.

Immediate clarification on the future of the Dufftown Community Centre is now required.

Signed Sandy Keith Proposer
A. G. A. G. Seconder
Patricia Mann.





REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2ND JULY, 1998

SUBJECT: DRAFT MORAY COUNCIL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 1997/98

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (FINANCE AND I.T.)

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To formally submit to the Council the draft Accounts of the Moray Council for the year to 31st March, 1998.

2. Report

2.1 Under para. 4 of the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1985, a local authority is required to submit an Abstract of Accounts to the Controller of Audit by 30th June in the next financial year.

2.2 The Council has met its statutory obligation in this regard and in due course a copy of the audited Accounts, together with a copy of the External Auditors Report shall be laid before a meeting of the Council as required by para.6(1) of the same Regulation.

2.3 The draft Accounts are attached as an **APPENDIX** to this Report.


3. Financial, Staffing and Environmental Implications

3.1 There are no financial, staffing or environmental implications in this Report.

4. Recommendations

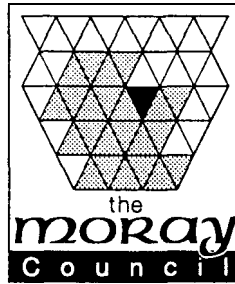
4.1 **It is recommended that the draft Accounts of the Moray Council for the year to 31st March, 1998, be duly noted.**

Author of Report: Carolyn Williamson, Assistant Chief Financial Officer - Ext. 3 102
Background Papers: The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1985
Ref: CW/MJT/302

Signature


Designation: Depute Chief Executive

Name: Alastair Keddie



REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2ND JULY, 1998

SUBJECT: DRAFT DLO/DSO ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 1997/98

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (FINANCE AND I.T.)

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To formally submit to the Council the draft DLO/DSO Accounts of the Moray Council for the year to 31st March, 1998.

2. Report

2.1 Under the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980 and the Local Government Act 1988, local authorities are required to account separately for services undertaken by its Direct Labour Organisations and Direct Service Organisations respectively.

2.2 Under para. 1(7) of the Local Government Act 1988, local authorities are required to prepare an Annual Report in the next financial year, a copy of which shall be sent to the Secretary of State and the External Auditor not later than 30th June.

2.3 The Council has met its statutory obligations in this regard and in due course a copy of the audited Accounts, together with any External Auditors Report thereon, shall be laid before a meeting of the Council.

2.4 The draft Accounts are available in the Members' Library from which it will be seen that all the DLOs/DSOs, except the Catering DSO, have met their statutory obligation to break-even.

2.5 The Catering DSO made a loss of £116,945 which has been charged to the General Fund Reserve; they failed to achieve the financial objective.

2.6 This is the first year that the Catering DSO has been operated by the Moray Council following the break-up of a Joint Arrangement by the previous Grampian Region. Following a budget cut made by the Council, which removed school meal subsidies, the demand for school meals fell at a number of establishments. Steps were taken during the year to down-size the operation. This exercise is continuing in 1998/99 to ensure compliance with the legislative requirement to break-even.

2.7 In early course a Policy and Resources Sub-Committee is to be arranged to consider the DLO/DSO operations.

3. **Financial. Staffing and Environmental Implications**

3.1 There are no financial, staffing or environmental implications in this Report.

4. **Recommendations**

4.1 It is recommended that the draft DLO/DSO Accounts of the Moray Council for the year to 31st March, 1998, be duly noted.

4.2 It is further recommended that the Moray Council agree to hold a meeting in early course to consider the DLO/DSO operations.

Author of Report: Carolyn Williamson, Assistant Chief Financial Officer - Ext. 3 102

Background Papers: Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980 and Local Government Act 1988

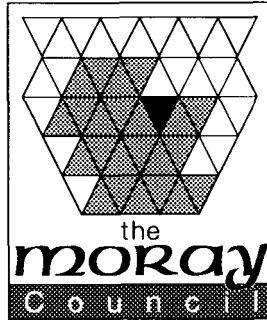
Ref: CW/MJT/302

Signature:



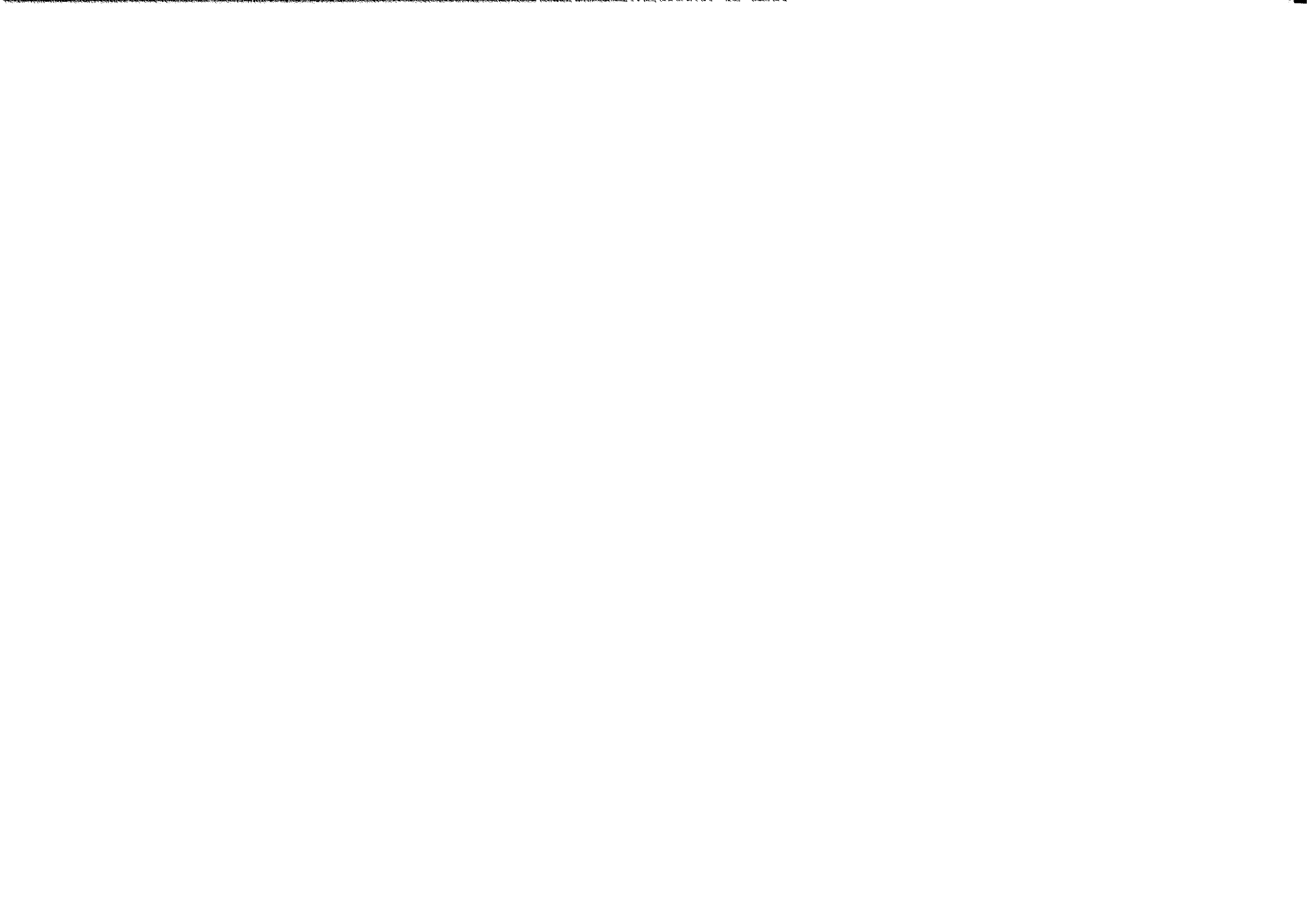
Designation: Depute Chief Executive

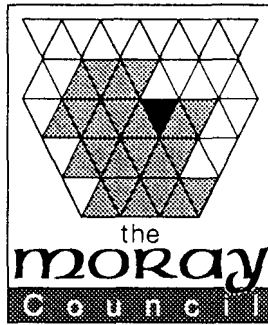
Name: Alastair Keddie



The Moray Council – 1996/98 Members’ Report –
Report by Depute Chief Executive (Finance & I.T.)

TO FOLLOW





ITEM: 14

PAGE: I

REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2nd JULY, 1998

SUBJECT: LOCAL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 1999

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE SERVICES)

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To invite the Council to consider determining the dates of Local Public Holidays for 1999.

2. Background

- 2.1 Local Public Holidays have, in the past, been determined by the Council following consultations with Community Councils and in areas where no Community Councils have been established, appropriate Community Associations.
- 2.2 Community Councils and certain Community Associations have been consulted on a basis that the established pattern of local public holidays would obtain for 1999.

3. Proposal

- 3.1 That the Council determine the Local Public Holidays for 1999 in the light of the responses received to the consultations with Community Councils and, where appropriate, Community Associations as detailed in Section 5 below.
- 3.2 On the basis that the Council would wish to follow the established pattern of Local Public Holidays for 1999, the dates as shown on the attached APPENDIX would apply.

4. Financial, Staffing and Environmental Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial, staffing or environmental implications arising from this Report.


5. Consultations

- 5.1 The proposed dates were circulated to all Community Councils and Community Associations, where appropriate, and given six weeks in which to respond to the proposed dates.
- 5.2 Heldon Community Council are of the view that local holidays should be abandoned in favour of Scottish Bank Holidays or alternatively an individual employer arrangement whereby four occasional days holidays are allowed.
- 5.3 Dyke Landward Community Council comment only that the August 2nd date falls in the middle of the School summer holiday period.
- 5.4 Keith Community Council are agreeable to the proposed dates for Keith
- 5.5 Portknockie Community Council are in agreement with the proposed dates

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 **The Council is invited to consider determining the Local Public Holidays for 1999 in the light of the responses to the consultations with Community Councils and appropriate Community Associations.**

Author of Report: Alistair Fanning, Principal Administration Officer
Background Papers: Letters of responses.
Ref:

Signature: 

Designation: Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) Name: Karen B. Williams

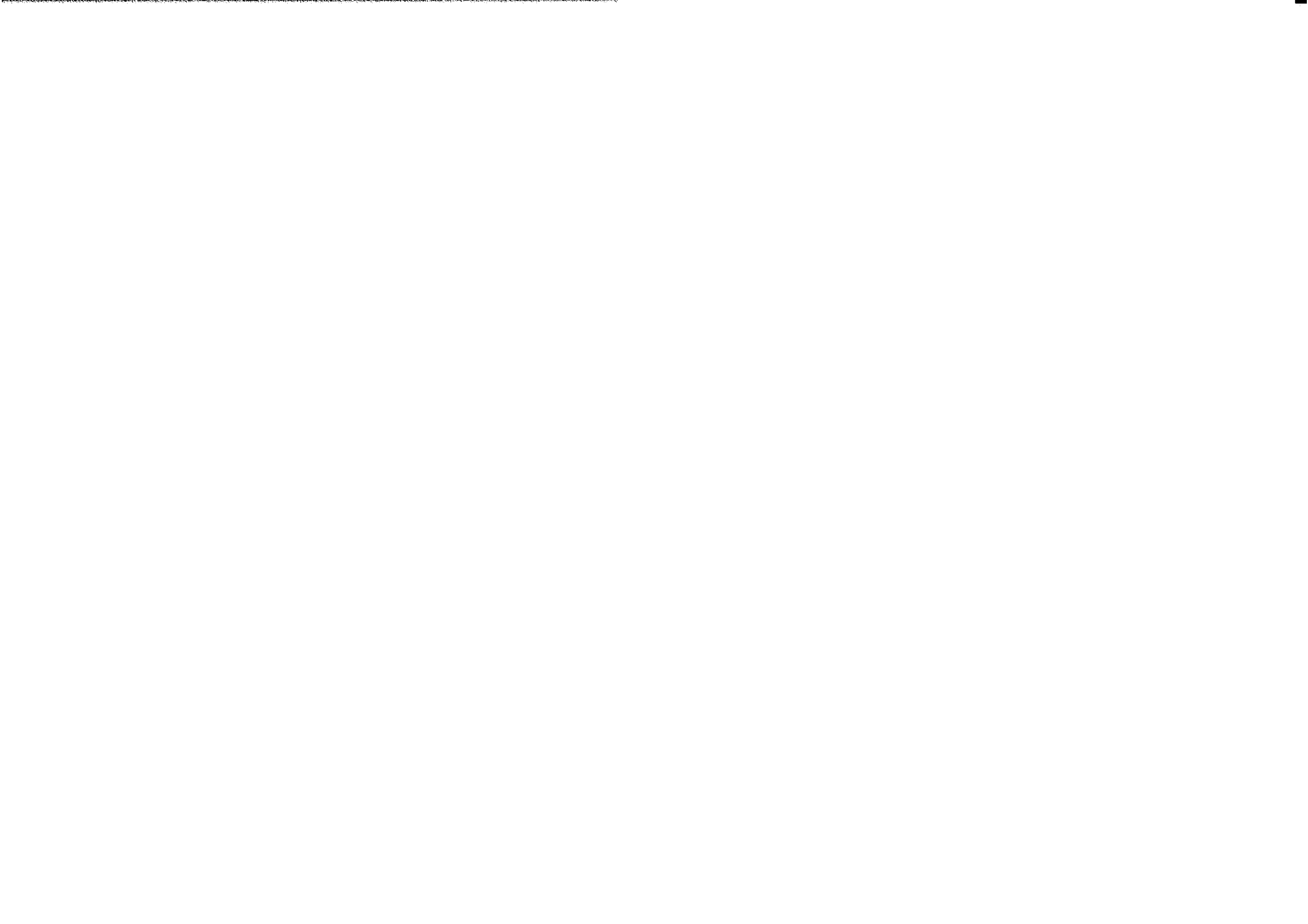
THE MORAY COUNCIL

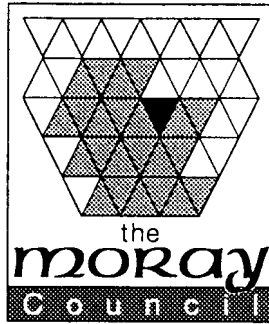
LOCAL HOLIDAYS 1999

ABERLOUR CRAIGELLACHIE KNOCKANDO TOMINTOUL	April 5	June 7	August 2	September 20
BUCKIE	April 5 October 18	June 14	July 36	September 13
CULLEN	April 5 October 18	June 14	July 26	September 13
DUFFTOWN	April 5	June 7	August 9	September 20
ELGIN	April 12	June 28	September 6	October 18
LHANBRYDE	April 12	June 28	September 6	October 18
FINDOCHTY	April 5 October 18	June 14	July 26	September 13
FOCHABERS GARMOUTH KINGSTON MOSSTODLOCH SPEY BAY URQUHART	April 12	June 28	September 6	October 18
KEITH	April 5	June 7	August 16	October 18
PORTKNOCKIE	April 5 October 18	June 14	July 26	September 13
BURGHEAD HOPEMAN LOSSIEMOUTH	April 5	June 7	August 16	September 20
FORRES	April 19 October 18	June 7	August 2	September 20
ROTH ES	April 5	June 7	August 2	September 20

MAY DAY

The May Day Holiday will fall to be observed on Monday 3 May, 1999





ITEM: 15

PAGE: I

REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2nd JULY, 1998

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DEFENCE REVIEW – TERRITORIAL ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE SERVICES)

1. **Reason for Report**

- 1.1 To consider the Council's response to representations received from Perth and Kinross Council calling upon all Scottish Local Authorities to campaign both individually and through COSLA for the retention of the Scottish Territorial Army at it's present level.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 Perth and Kinross Council understand that the Government is in the process of conducting a Strategic Defence Review and it is feared that in re-enforcing the regular Army, a significant reduction may result in the strength of the Territorial Army and have called upon the Government to ensure that their Strategic Defence Review results in the maintenance of the Scottish Territorial Army as an essential military component of Scotland's defences now and in the future.

- 2.2 A copy of the letter form the Head of Committee and Administration Services, Perth and Kinross Council is attached to this Report as an **APPENDLX**.

3. **Proposal**

- 3 1 To consider it's response to representations from Perth and Kinross Council to campaign both individually and through COSLA for the retention of Scottish Territorial Army at it's present level

4. **Financial Implications**

- 4 I There are no financial implications arising from this Report

5. Staffing/Environmental Implications

5.1 There are no staffing or environmental implications arising from this Report

6.1 Consultations

6.1 None.

7. Recommendations

7.1 **It is recommended that the Council consider it's response to representations from Perth and Kinross Council to campaign for the retention of the Scottish Territorial Army at it's present level.**

Author of Report: Alistair Fanning, Principal Administration Officer
Background Papers: Letter from the Head of Committee and Administration Services,
Perth and Kinross Council dated 1 9th May, 1998.
Ref: AF/

Signature: 

Designation: Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) Name: Karen B Williams



**PERTH &
KINROSS
COUNCIL**

Law & Administration

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PAGE 3

Chief Executive
All Scottish Local Authorities

20 MAY 1998

TO	FROM	DATE	TIME	STATUS	COPIES

Comments:

PO Box 77 2 High Street Perth PH1 5PH
Tel 01738 475000 Fax 01738 475710

Contact Charlotte Irons Ext 5120
Direct Dial (01738) 475120

Our ref C/I/I CI/LMcC

Your ref

Date 19 May 1998

Dear Sir

STRATEGIC DEFENCE REVIEW -TERRITORIAL ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

I understand that the Government is in the process of conducting a Strategic Defence Review and it is feared that in re-inforcing the regular Army a significant reduction may result in the strength of the Territorial Army.

This matter was considered by this Authority at a Council Meeting on 6 May 1998 and the following decision was taken:

- (i) The Council call upon the Government to:
 - (a) recognise the potential economic and social damage which a reduction in Territorial Army strength could inflict on the area of Perth and Kinross and, in particular, the rural economy of the area;
 - (b) accept that the Territorial Army can play a significant part in assisting the civil authorities in carrying out engineering and other projects thus contributing to the community and participating in valuable training;
 - (c) acknowledge the vital role played by the Territorial Army during natural disasters such as the 1993 Perthshire floods and to note the Council's deep concern at the prospect of not being in a position to call upon that help in future civil emergencies;
 - (d) realise the reduction in the flexibility of the armed forces which would result from an inability to reinforce them quickly from the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve;
 - (e) in the light of (a), (b), (c) and (d) above to ensure that their Strategic Defence Review results in the maintenance of the Scottish Territorial Army as an essential military component of Scotland's defences now and in the future.


(ii)/

Ronald W Jackson

- (ii) The Council further call upon all Scottish Local Authorities to campaign both individually and through CoSLA for the retention of the Scottish Territorial Army at its present level.

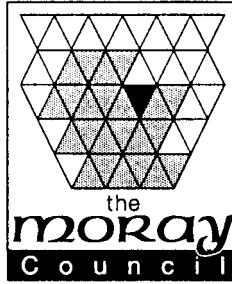
It is hoped that all local authorities will take action to help retain the Territorial Army in Scotland at its present level.

Yours faithfully


Head of Committee and Administrative Services
CI

LMC CHARLOTT\LETTERS\CHIEF.DOC
190512

CMC CHARLOTT\LETTERS\COSLA.DOC
190512



REPORT TO: FULL COUNCIL ON 2 JULY 1998

SUBJECT: MEETING THE CHILDCARE CHALLENGE: A CHILDCARE STRATEGY FOR SCOTLAND:SCOTTISH OFFICE CONSULTATION

BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

1. Reason for Report

1. The issue of the Government Green Paper "Meeting the Childcare Challenge: A Childcare Strategy for Scotland" which was published on 19 May 1998 was considered at Education Committee on 23 June 1998. This report seeks the agreement of Council on the response to the consultation questions raised in the Scottish Office consultation document.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scottish Office consultation document outlines Government commitment to supporting families and children through a number of measures including initiatives in pre-school education, child benefit and helping parents back to work through the "New Deal". The Scottish Office childcare strategy document is a further component of the Government's proposals to take work in this area further forward (copies in the Members Library).
- 2.2 The consultation document identifies problems associated with current childcare provision, including those relating to quality, cost, availability and accessibility in regard to both pre-5 sector and after-school care for 0-5 year olds.
- 2.3 The Council has already expressed its broad support for the major principles within the consultation document including:
 - Raising the quality of care available;
 - Making more childcare places available;
 - The need to capitalise on partnerships and diversity of provision.

- 2.4 In addition to proposals for management and organisational arrangements at local and national level, the advice from the Scottish Office indicated that there would be £3.8M available for local authorities across Scotland for the remainder of financial year 1998/99. This funding is to initiate and sustain projects and to undertake administrative and management arrangements for the establishment of childcare forums as well as infrastructure matters such as information and help lines.
- 2.5 A further indication was given that £25M of New Opportunities funding through the National Lottery would be made available in the years 1999-2003. Further clarification from the Scottish Office indicates that this funding is to be spread over four years and not on a per annum basis. For The Moray Council this will involve entitlement in the order of some £80,000 per annum. However, the rules for actual disbursement of Lottery funding have not yet been made explicit.
- 2.6 It is vital that the significance of the provisions of the Government proposals are recognised in as much that the proposals relate not only to the pre-5 sector but also to a potentially extensive after-school care provision for 0-5 year olds.
- 2.7 The Education Committee paper of 23 June 1998 rehearsed a number of implications and considerations for the Moray Council, which have been incorporated in the consultation response document attached for approval.

3. **The Proposals**

- 3.1 It is proposed that Council consider the consultation response with a view to its release to the Scottish Office.

4. **Financial, Staffing and Environmental Implications**

- 4.1 The financial, staffing and environmental implications are not clear at this stage. Greater clarity may be obtained with further Scottish Office information with respect to the disposition of Lottery funding for financial years 1999-2003.
- 4.2 For the immediate future the financial elements awarded to the Council to take forward the proposals outlined in the consultation document are £27,448 for the initiation and sustaining of childcare projects and £44,480 for the administrative infrastructure to establish provision (total £71,930).

5. **Staffing Implications**

- 5.1 The demands of the proposed timetable for implementation of Scottish Office proposals are such that there is the requirement to second officers and possibly seek the involvement of voluntary organisation staff to co-ordinate the administrative and organisational arrangements to bring about necessary consolidation and expansion of daycare provision.

6. **Environmental Implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct environmental implications, although the capacity for the Government's initiative on childcare to assist the delivery of sustainable employment in Moray is potentially considerable.

7. Consultations

- 7.1 There have been no wide consultations on this document because of the necessity to make an early response to central Government. In addition to the views expressed at Education Committee and the Children's Services Strategy Group, the interdepartmental working group, which involves representatives from the voluntary sector, have constructed the proposed consultation response. In addition, Council representatives at the Scottish Office childcare conference may have input perspectives to further inform the response document.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 It is recommended that Council consider the consultation response with a view to its submission to the Scottish Office.

Author of Report: Director of Education

Background Papers:

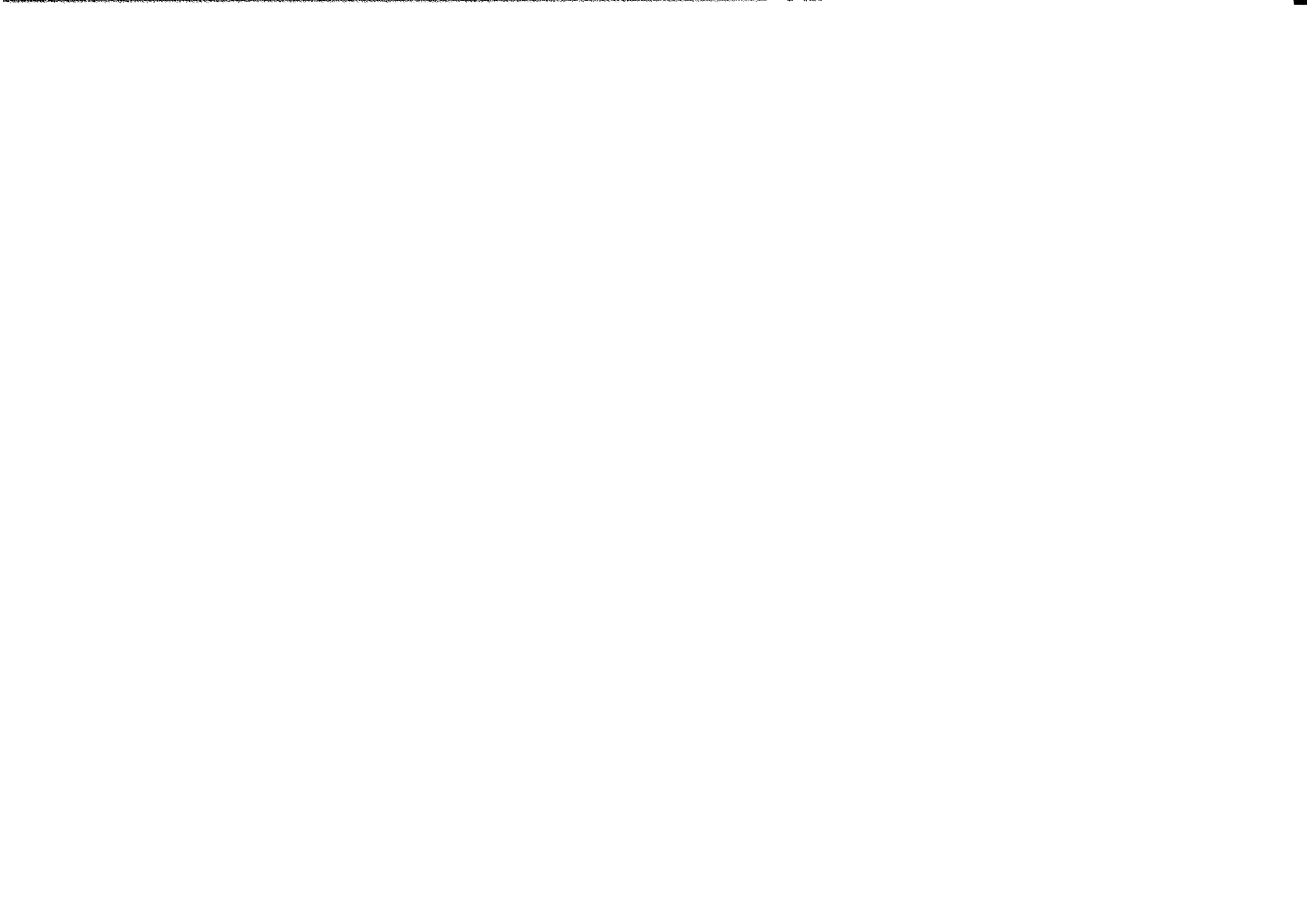
Ref: KGG/LCH/Reports/Full Council/2 July 1998/childcare strategy

Signature :



Designation: Director of Education

Name: Kevin Gavin



Consultation Response of The Moray Council to the Scottish Office document '(Meeting the Childcare Challenge: A Childcare Strategy for Scotland'

1. Introduction

1.1 The Moray Council welcomes the Government's proposals to undertake an expansion and consolidation of daycare services for parents and children. In particular the Council commends the Government initiative principles:

- Better quality of childcare;
- Improved affordability and availability of childcare;
- Support for diversity of models of provision;
- Enhanced accessibility to childcare in terms of providing more places and improved information for users;
- Support for partnership approaches wherever possible to provide sustainable daycare provision.

1.2 The Moray Council is also supportive of the Government view that there should be the promotion of:

- Better outcomes for children in respect of readiness to learn by the time they reach schools and enjoyable, developmental activities out of school hours;
- More opportunity for parents to take up work, education or training.

2. General Issues

2.1 Whilst welcoming proposals in principle the Moray Council has identified a number of important issues which require greater clarification and guidance.

2.2 Funding

The funding is outlined in the accompanying documentation to the consultation document and indicates that some £3.8M will be available for Scottish authorities in the period to March 1999 and that thereafter there will be the opportunity to bid for a share of Lottery funding under the New Opportunities Fund arrangements. In this financial year the funding made available to the Moray Council is £71,930. The funding levels thereafter are not specified as the criteria for award, have not yet been declared. The Government has indicated that the initial funding is to be split with the targeting of funding of the initiation of new or support for existing childcare projects with the balance to be provided for the provision of planning and administrative arrangements for the establishment of childcare forums, provision of information services and general administrative supports.

The consultation document makes it plain that all projects funded under NOF funding should meet specific criteria, and whilst these are acceptable, the indication that they must be self sustaining thereafter is potentially problematic, since the long-term sustainability of childcare provision is a very important factor in maintaining security of employment and care into the future.

As the basis for the allocation of Lottery funding has not yet been specified it is not clear whether or not there will be equal geographical spread of Lottery funds, or if there will be a weighting on available funding in the early years of the initiative. These factors mean that the effectiveness of forward planning is very much constrained.

In addition, with the level of funding for Moray under an equal share principle working out at around £80,000 per annum, the figure available equates to roughly 70 part time nursery education places and as such is **wholly inadequate** for the major expansion of childcare services envisaged by the consultation document. In addition, there appears to be no account taken of sustaining administrative costs into the future.

The above issues raise a number of related concerns:

- That expectations are being raised when the funding basis for development is not at all clear or secure;
- The funding arrangements at this stage take no account of the requirement to meet sustainable costs in respect of administration and management and training;
- The requirement to charge for childcare whilst implied within the document has been given insufficient focus and has led to evidence already that there is an expectation of a high level of central/local cost bearing for families in all circumstances.

2.3 Management Arrangements

The consultation paper indicates an enhanced role for Early Years Forums outlined in the expansion of education places for four year olds. The Moray Council has already indicated its intentions and plans for such forums but the basis of the new childcare forums is somewhat different to that for the Early Year Forums. Under the recommendations of the consultation document it is proposed that childcare forums undertake specific responsibilities with regard to auditing and identifying childcare needs in an area as well as bringing forward a childcare strategy document. This process will certainly involve a number of administrative costs associated with auditing on an annual basis and the co-ordination of information and support for parent body at large, employers and the forums themselves.

As well as concern that administrative costs will detract from the much needed expansion of daycare places there is also concern that the sustaining of the infrastructures necessary for taking initiatives into the future requires further consideration. Central to this will be the establishment and maintenance of quality assurance strategies and structures. Implicit in this consideration is a review of existing local authority approaches to achieve a more holistic approach which links childcare and education.

2.4 Timing

The timetable indicated to put the Government initiative into place is extremely short. Despite earlier indications that plans were to be brought forward, the detail emerging at this point indicates significant implications for budgets and service plans which have already been set. There are also significant implications for smaller authorities in putting in pre-5 education expansion as well as undertaking daycare initiatives where particular rural requirements will have to be taken account of.

2.5 Partners

For the Moray Council the provision of daycare will certainly involve significant partnerships with both the private and voluntary sector and further development with employers with regard to both funding and direct provision.

For all the partners involved, including the Council, the element of long-term sustainability is vitally important. The arrangements as described in the consultation document have little to offer either parents or Councils in terms of long-term security and continuity.

2.6 Pre-5 Provision in the round

The appearance of the Government's strategy for pre-5 provision has been somewhat piecemeal. The Moray Council is appreciative of the development overall and the circumstances surrounding the need to bring forward elements of the overarching initiative as advice becomes available. However, it is important to note that the fragmented announcement of initiatives over a very short period of time, which involves fairly significant shifts in organisational arrangements is not helpful to the confidence of parents and the maintenance of effective planning and information service. It is therefore critical that the government's intentions for three year olds in the future are declared early so that any further adjustments to authority working can be put in place without requiring the dismantling or amendment of previously established structures and processes.

The consultation paper does focus very much on "new deal" recommendations and it is important that the Scottish Office does not lose sight of the needs of the children in terms of education and care at the expense of enhancing employment. Further, the document makes reference to carers who choose to care for children at home but does not really develop the support mechanisms that will help to put this in place. This area requires further consideration.

Overall, the paper still leaves a lingering doubt that the financial rewards for engaging in the childcare sector will remain low. If a truly professional approach is to be taken a more obvious flagging up of the value for childcare workers should be given in terms of salaries and other rewards.

Finally, there is something of a lack of clarity in the document relating to the position of 15 year olds in terms of their need for adult supervision within after-school care facilities.

3. Consultation Responses

3.1 Q.1 *Should there be a single national recognition scheme for childcare arrangements which meet certain specified standards?*

Yes. The definition of standards at an early stage is vitally important to both parental confidence in the quality of care available and the establishment of quality services. In addition, such security of knowledge should by implication allow greater flexibility in the labour market movements with parents being able to move to different geographical areas, both locally and nationally, secure in the knowledge that the quality of provision is similar.

However, there is the need to take account of local circumstances. In the case of Moray the rural situation is particularly important and the necessary type of initiative with the associated, often higher, costs required in such circumstances should be more clearly identified within the consultation document. For example, provision of easily accessible care centres in more remote communities would not be a route to be followed without incurring very high staffing, accommodation and administrative costs.

Alternative routes such as the training of cohorts of rural childminders, local to communities, might be a better way forward although this would also involve initially very high costs.

Present registration and inspection procedures as well as quality assurance procedures in schools may form the basis of ensuring specific standards but there will be additional costs in establishing new provision in daycare and in sustaining it into the future.

Q.2 *Has this Charter (Chapter 2) covered all the main ways in which the supply and recruitment of childcare workers can be increased?*

The document is comprehensive in its coverage of recruitment strategies with the encouragement for parents returning to work being particularly welcome and especially the aspect of encouraging parents to work within the childcare sector in the future. It is perhaps worth acknowledging that other adults as well as those who have children of their own can be well placed to become engaged in care activities.

The document could perhaps give more focus on young people at school with an emphasis to the possibility of partnership arrangements between childcare providers and schools, particularly in respect of work experience placements and careers advice. One perspective which appears to be missing from the document is that of involving older members of the community, particularly those who have retired from main employment. Indeed, the document is perhaps lacking in encouragement for the voluntary aspect of childcare provision which is in danger of being squeezed out by an apparently "professional" type of service.

The recruitment of males might be enhanced if salaries were at a better level, although this question of the valuing of childcare workers is one which generally requires further consideration.

Q.3 What action is needed to gain acceptance in use of a coherent training and qualification structure?

It is important for the negotiations with existing training establishments and the SQA to be carried through to their conclusions. Such a structure is vital and there should be a work based route within any training on offer.

There are particular implications for communication with interested candidates and it is plain that a strategy to undertake this, together with associated financial support will be critical to the success of the initiative in the long-term. Similarly, communication with employers is subject to similar opportunities and constraints. Childcare support for those individuals undertaking training is also an important element to support any training strategy.

4.4 How can we assist in strengthening the quality of care provided through the informal sector?

The quality of care in the informal sector can certainly be strengthened by the development of effective information systems which involve care partnerships and agencies. A major element of this development would have to be the provision of advice through both the formal structures of Council departments and other agencies, together with informal network support. For example, networks of childminders, utilising ICT communications systems to allow communities to access information, advice and training.

It would also be important that training to be offered is customised to suit the particular constraints and opportunities in the informal childcare setting. Too often the training and resource offered is set in the circumstances of the "average" situation. In some authorities the particular circumstances of communities demand the customisation of materials. In this case a plea would be made for particular account to be taken of the needs of rural and remote communities.

It would also be very important for informal carers to have easy access and involvement in the "lifelong learning ladder" and for Community Development Services within authorities to promote both training and networking opportunities.

Q.5 Are there groups of families other than those described in this chapter who merit help with childcare costs?

In this respect the circumstances of families in rural situations must be an important consideration for an authority such as Moray. Problems with remote location and the availability of dependable, quality childcare are vital elements in achieving the Scottish Office objectives. In this respect transport issues and associated costs are a significant factor.

Within Moray there are particular circumstances affecting substantial elements within our population including those relating to the families of HM Forces whose deployment and working patterns often give rise to particular circumstances with regard to child care. In addition to the particular social circumstances affecting minority groups such as children of from deprived social circumstances, prisoners serving sentences and families with youngsters of special educational needs require somewhat greater focus.

Further, children with disabilities and/or behavioural problems may require more costly care and greater account needs to be taken of this factor. This circumstance is often exacerbated by the need for additional care in holiday periods.

Q.6 Are there types of childcare, localities or groups that particularly require attention under the strategy?

See question 5 for comments on specific families. The support required through trained cohorts of childminders in more remote locations are high cost factors, at least in the initial stages of training.

The issue of transport for families and children to access the provision in rural circumstances is also a matter for particular concern.

Further consideration of special educational needs children and their families would be useful at this stage.

Q.7 How should good quality childcare information services be funded and managed?

The central importance of effective communications/information systems in today's world is seen as paramount by all effective organisations. Within the allowance for central Government funding an identified element for childcare provision should be agreed. Whether this agreement take the form of national guidance with scope for innovation at the margins and for development of information systems or be specific funding with the local Government annual awards, would be a matter for Scottish Office consideration.

In respect of centralisation of information services co-ordinated by local authorities, greater thought should be given to the availability of funding for the engagement of agencies specialising in this type of exercise, or for forming partnerships of such agencies with local authorities or voluntary groups.

A key element within this sort of development would be the willingness of some groups to diversify to provide more specialist elements of service other than simply the daycare service itself. Similarly, the Moray Childcare Strategy adopted by the Moray Council allows scope for this sort of development.

Q.8 What areas should be covered by the proposed minimum standards for information?

Parents –

Advice on what to expect;

Range of types of provision broadly available in the local area, including schools, voluntary and private providers;

Financial support available for childcare;

Guidance on accessing national and local advice and guidance systems.

Employers –

Local services available to employers;

Investment opportunities for employers in terms of diversification of business opportunity;

Advice on guidance and good practice with associated exemplars for both service delivery and service support;

Links to supporting opportunities, e.g. through local enterprise companies and other providers.

Prospective Providers/Professionals/Volunteer –

Advice on training opportunities available locally;

Advice on business and enterprise strategies;

Opportunities for voluntary support from the community and employment possibilities,

Public at Large –

A childcare forum advice and arrangements;

Complaints/feedback procedures;

Access to national advice/information systems.

Q.9 What childcare information is best offered at national level?

It is vitally important that there is easy access to national standards information. Perhaps a simplification of the “How Good is Our School” type document approach would be useful. Other areas where national advice is best offered include:

- Entitlements regarding funding;
- The national training frameworks;
- General advice on entitlements (where possible with links to local service reference points and advice centres);
- Advice on quality – what parents might expect.

Q. 10 How can the effectiveness of childcare partnerships at local level be maximised?

Support with administration and expenses is required at local level to maximise effectiveness of partnerships. In addition the provision of effective information services locally and nationally will be fundamentally important to encourage effective participation of the community in defining not only childcare needs but the meeting of those needs.

There are substantial implications for authorities with regard to the type of childcare forum which is established. For an authority such as Moray there will be the requirement to balance the extent of local organisation by areas, with the substantial management and organisational tasks outlined for childcare forums. The implication of this consideration is that there may be the need to reduce the frequency of local area meetings and the establishment of a Moray wide structure which takes local soundings.

Q.11 Does this chapter (Chapter 5) set out correctly what should be done to improve national and local data on childcare?

This chapter gives wide ranging encouragement to national and local data organisation and together with the Moray Council response at Q.8 should provide sufficient coverage.

Q.12 Have the tasks at local level been identified correctly?

In broad terms the identification as outlined in the consultation document is appropriate. However, the complexity of the task has not been fully thought through, particularly in terms of the management arrangements and the infrastructures required to support that. Unfortunately, this calls into question the sustainability of the development. Not least in this consideration of sustainability is the appropriateness of funding arrangements and the guarantee of funding into the future.

Q.13 What are the barriers to employers, including small and medium sized companies, becoming or developing family friendly practices, including help with childcare, and how can employers be encouraged to recognise the benefits?

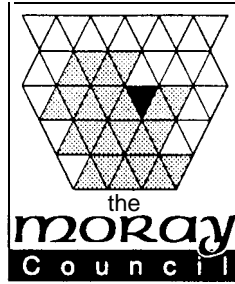
The barriers are perhaps more easily identified than the solutions and would include:

- Costs – especially for the establishment of work place provision;
- Information – access to appropriate and relevant information;
- Staffing levels – need for partnership arrangements and co-operation to be made explicit.

There will certainly be the need for employers in local areas to enter into arrangements, either with the local authority to provide work place support or to establish clear links with other providers, both educational and daycare, within their communities. In this respect there is the need for a high profile, national initiative and recognising the benefits of supporting the childcare initiatives as opposed to simply identifying the costs involved.

Within this initiative thought should be given to:

- Advertising, including perhaps new partnerships awards which could be facilitated by both national and local government;
- Training and information – as part of investors in people programmes and staff development initiatives;
- Consideration of further tax incentives for employers developing a family friendly approach.



REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2 JULY 1998

SUBJECT: TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS : ROSEISLE and BEIL'S BRAE, URQUHART

BY: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This report invites the Council to consider approving the enactment of Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) at Roseisle and Beil's Brae, Urquhart, in light of the responses from the respective landowners and the consultation process, as recommended by the Economic Development & Planning Committee.

2. Backwound

2.1 The Council have recently served provisional TPO's at Roseisle and Beil's Brae, Urquhart (see **attached maps**) on the respective landowners. Adverts were also placed in the local press inviting representations.

2.2 Following the serving of the provisional TPO in regard to the trees at Roseisle on 3rd March 1998 a meeting was held on site with the owner and after explaining how the Tree Preservation Order operates he indicated his support for the Order.

2.3 Seven letters of support for the TPO from local residents have also been received.

2.4 In regard to the provisional TPO served in respect of the trees at Beil's Brae, Urquhart on 24 February 1998 no objections have been received.

2.5 At the Economic Development & Planning Committee meeting on 9 June 1998 it was agreed to recommend to the Council the enactment of the TPO's referred to above.

3. The Proposals

3.1 That the Council approves the enactment of the TPO's at Roseisle and Beil's Brae, Urquhart.

4. Financial and Staffing Implications

4.1 There are no financial or staffing implications arising from this matter.

5. **Environmental Implications**

5.1 Confirmation of these TPO's will maintain the high quality landscape and environment of these areas.

6. **Consultations**

6.1 Councillors C.D Scaife and J.Stewart were consulted in regard to the TPO at Roseisle and Councillor J.M Shaw in respect of the one at Urquhart and all are in agreement with the recommendation of the Economic Development & Planning Committee.

6.2 Jim Brown, Horticultural Officer and Raymond O'Brien, Solicitor have also been consulted and agree with the Committee's recommendation.

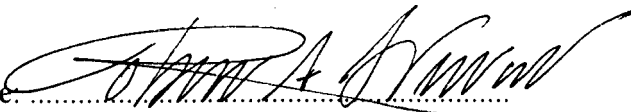
7. **Recommendations**

7.1 **That the Council approves the enactment of TPO's at Roseisle and Beil's Brae, Urquhart as recommended by the Economic Development & Planning Committee.**

Author of Report: Gary Templeton, Planning Officer Ext: 3470

Background Papers: Report to and decision of Economic Development & Planning Committee dated 9 June 1998

Ref: GST/dhj

Signature: 

Designation: Director of Economic Development & Planning

Name: Robert A. Stewart

This is the Plan referred to in the foregoing The Moray Council (Roseisle) Tree Preservation Order 1998 dated Third March, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-eight.

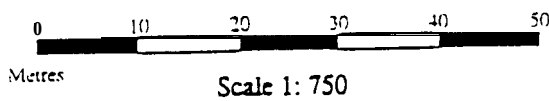
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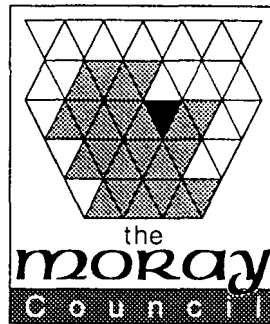
ROSEISLE
Area of TPO



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A north arrow pointing upwards and a logo for MORC (Moray Council) in the bottom right corner.



REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2 JULY, 1998

SUBJECT: REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES AND PARADES: SUNDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1998

BY: THE DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE SERVICES)

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To consider the arrangements for the observance of Remembrance Sunday on Sunday 8th November, 1998 for each of the war memorials located in Moray and maintained by The Moray Council in general and the war memorial at the Plainstones, Elgin in particular. Any arrangements agreed upon will require to be in hand by September, 1997, particularly to allow sufficient time for wreaths to be ordered.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council has a unique involvement in organising the service and parade held in Elgin. This involves liaising with the various organisations and officials who take part in Elgin's parade, co-ordinating the responses with the local Territorial Army Battallion who draw up the Parade Orders and placing advertisements in the local press prior to the event.
- 2.2 With the exception of the Remembrance Day Service and Parade held in Elgin, all other communities in Moray organise their own Remembrance Day Services and Parades. The Moray Council's involvement in the Remembrance Day Ceremony and Parade is restricted to the ordering of the required number of poppy wreaths and arranging for appropriate messages to be placed on each wreath and distributed to appropriate Councillors.
- 2.3 The current list detailing the War Memorials within each individual Members' Ward will be forward to Members for confirmation. The War Memorials are all maintained by the Department of Technical and Leisure Services.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Council consider the arrangements for the observance of Remembrance Sunday on Sunday 8th November, 1998 for each of the war

memorials located in Moray and maintained by The Moray Council in general and the war memorial at the Plainstones, Elgin in particular.

4. **Financial Implications**

4.1 The cost to the Council for the arrangements for the observance of Remembrance Sunday is as follows:-

- the required number of wreaths - approximately £750.00; and
- the insertion of an advertisement in the "Northern Scot".

5. **Staffing Implications**

5.1 Staff will be ordering the poppy wreaths and arranging for appropriate messages to be placed on each wreath and distributed.

5.2 The Printing Section will be involved in printing and the fixing of backing sheets for the wreaths.

6. **Environmental Implications**

6.1 There are no environmental implications.

7. **Consultations**

7.1 None

6. **Recommendations**

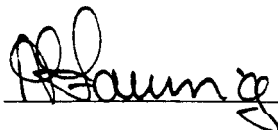
6.1 **It is recommended that the Council consider the arrangements for the observance of Remembrance Sunday on Sunday 8th November, 1998 for each of the war memorials located in Moray and maintained by The Moray Council in general and the war memorial at the Plainstones, Elgin in particular.**

Author of Report: Ron McKay, Administration Officer

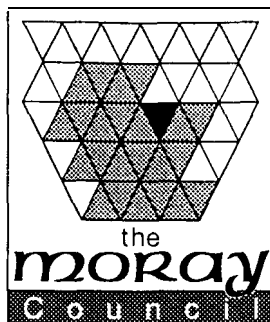
Background Papers:

Ref: RM/BR

Signature:



Designation: Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) Name: Karen B. Williams



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REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 2 JULY, 1998

SUBJECT: WELFARE REFORM CONSULTATION PAPER – CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE SERVICES)

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To invite the Council to consider attendance at a Consultative Workshop being arranged by COSLA on 27 July, 1998 in order to co-ordinate its response to the Welfare Reform Consultation Paper.

2 Background

- 2.1 A Consultative Workshop has been organised which will focus on discussing the broad issues of the new welfare contract, the eight key principles which the Government has set out to guide the reforms, and the links with the Government's policies on social inclusion and a healthier Scotland.
- 2.2 Issues raised at the Workshop will be used to inform COSLA's response and "The Poverty Alliance" have agreed to facilitate the debate.

3 Proposal

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Council consider its attendance at the Consultative Workshop on Monday 27 July, 1998.

4 Financial, Staffing and Environmental Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial, staffing or environmental implications arising from this Report.

5 **Recommendation**

- 5.1 **It is recommended that the Council consider attendance at the Consultative Workshop being arranged by COSLA to co-ordinate its response to the Government's Welfare Reform Consultative Paper.**

Author of Report: Alistair Fanning, Principal Administration Officer
Background Papers: Letter from COSLA dated 18 June, 1998
Ref:

Signature: Karen B Williams

Designation: Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) Name: Karen B. Williams