

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 5TH AUGUST 2008

SUBJECT: EFFICIENCY STATEMENT FOR 2007/08

BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Committee with a copy of the Council's Annual Efficiency Statement for 2007/08.
- 1.2 This Report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section A (2) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to efficient use of Council resources and management of the Council's finances.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee note the Annual Efficiency Statement for 2007/08.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Annual Efficiency Statement for 2007/08 is attached to this Report (**Appendix 1**).
- 3.2 This is the second such statement produced by the Council and has been prepared in accordance with an agreement between COSLA and the Scottish Government for Local Authorities to demonstrate the efficiency gains achieved during the year.
- 3.3 A framework to assist Authorities in preparing these statements was prepared by a National Working Group involving: COSLA, Improvement Service, SOLACE and CIPFA Directors of Finance. The Council's statement is in line with that framework.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan

The Council has identified that efficiency savings are required to sustain existing services and enable the delivery of Council plans.

(b) Policy and Legal

At the Policy Committee on 13th June 2007, Members re-affirmed the Council's commitment to the following Policy Statement "The Council recognises that Efficient Government must underpin all activities to

ensure that maximum output can be delivered from the finite resources available and recognises Community Planning, Performance Management and Reporting and Efficient Government as the three key areas that will drive Council business in the years ahead.”

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

The Annual Efficiency Statement assists in sound management of Council resources.

(d) Consultations

All Departments have contributed to the implementation and reporting of efficiency gains achieved by the Council.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 As indicated in the Efficiency Statement, £1.45 million of efficiency gains have been identified in the statement and this is a significant sum in contributing to the Council’s ability to maintain and improve service levels at a time of financial constraint.

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Background Papers:
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