

Housing Services Committee
29 January 1996

Irvine, 29 January 1996 - At a Special Meeting of the Housing Services Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m.

Present

Samuel Taylor, Thomas Barr, Patrick Browne, James Clements, John Donn, David Gallagher, Jane Gorman, Irene Oldfather, Robert Rae and George Steven.

In Attendance

The Chief Executive, the Directors of Housing Services and Financial Services, the Head of Property Services (Housing Services), the Head of Customer Services (Housing Services) and a Principal Officer (Policy/Administration).

Chair

Mr. Taylor in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Gena Seales, Thomas Dickie, Margaret Munn and Samuel Taylor.

1. Revenue Budget 1996/97: Housing Revenue Account

Submitted report by the Director of Financial Services on the Draft Housing Revenue Account Budget for 1996/97. Copies of the report had previously been circulated.

The Budget for 1996/97 shows an increase in gross expenditure from £26.128m in 1995/96 to £27.383m in 1996/97, an increase of 4.8%. The Budget has been prepared with an inflation rate of 3% per annum applied to both payroll and non-payroll costs. The Payroll Budget has been prepared on the basis of the approved Staffing Structure with other Budget Heads being prepared on the basis of maintaining the existing level of services provision. The probable outturn for 1995/96 shows an estimated surplus of £1.12m.

The Committee stated their commitment to providing the same high level of service to tenants of North Ayrshire Council as that provided to tenants of Cunninghame District Council. They thereafter discussed the level of surplus to be applied to 1996/97 and the effect this would have on any rent increase.

After discussion, Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Gallagher, moved that the surplus to be applied to the Budget for 1996/97 be £0.748m giving a rent increase of £1.49.

As an amendment, Mr. Barr, seconded by Mr. Steven, moved that a surplus of £0.623m be applied to 1996/97 giving a rent increase of £1.63.

On a division, there voted for the amendment 3, and for the motion 6, and the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly the Committee agreed to recommend to the Special Meeting of the Corporate Strategy Committee to be held on 7 February 1996, that the Gross Housing Revenue Account for 1996/97 be fixed at £27.383m and that the average rent be set at £28.86 per week, an increase of £1.49 per week (5.4%).

The Meeting ended at 10.35 p.m.