

TAYSIDE JOINT POLICE BOARD

MINUTE of MEETING of the **FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE TAYSIDE JOINT POLICE BOARD** held in Conference Room 1, Tayside Police Headquarters, West Bell Street, Dundee on Thursday 24 March 2005 at 10.00 am.

Present: Councillor COLIN YOUNG, RON SCRIMGEOUR, ALISTAIR BARR, JACK GIBB and CHRISTINA ROBERTS.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Depute Lord Provost CHARLES FARQUHAR and BAILIE NEIL I C POWRIE.

Councillor YOUNG, Convener, in the chair

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee of 14 December 2004 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

3. REVENUE MONITORING STATEMENT AND PROVISIONAL OUTTURN

With reference to Article 3 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 14 December 2004, there was submitted Joint Report No. PB 14/05 by the Chief Constable and Treasurer detailing the actual revenue expenditure incurred and income received for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 January 2005. The Report also detailed the projected position as at 31 March 2005.

Overall, the net expenditure incurred by the Force over the ten month period was satisfactory. Close monitoring of the expenditure and income position would continue throughout the year to ensure that the most advantageous financial position for the Board was achieved at year end, and agreement was sought in principle to carry forward any underspend subject to the total requisition being no greater than budgeted for in 2004/2005. A further report would be submitted to the Board once the year end position was finalised detailing proposals on how to use any working balances to support the objective of enhancing service delivery.

The Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to delegate authority to the Chief Constable and the Treasurer to ensure the most advantageous financial position for the Board at the year end (but without detrimental financial impact on the constituent authorities).

4. CAPITAL MONITORING STATEMENT

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Sub-Committee of 14 December 2004, there was submitted Joint Report No PB 15/05 by the Chief Constable and Treasurer advising members of the actual capital expenditure incurred for the period from 1 April 2004 – 31 January 2005 and measuring projected capital expenditure for the year against the budgeted provision for the year.

Capital expenditure would continue to be managed and steps taken to ensure capital expenditure levels at the end of the financial year were within the authorised limits of the

issued capital grants and the capital receipts available in order to maximise the Board's capital expenditure position in 2004/2005, and to ensure that there were no unused consents or capital receipts as at 31 March 2005.

The accompanying monitoring statement indicated that most of the projects prioritised by the Board would be completed within the current financial year.

The Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the position as at 31 January 2005 as per the monitoring statement;
- (ii) to note that projections of the year end position would be ongoing and brought forward on a regular basis to the Board;
- (iii) to note the Board had secured additional capital grants totalling £132,000 from the Scottish Executive which was to be used to purchase DNA equipment; and
- (iv) to delegate authority to the Chief Constable and the Treasurer to bring about the most advantageous capital expenditure position to the Board at the financial year end by utilisation of capital grants and available capital receipts.

5. FINANCIAL PLAN - 2005/2006 TO 2007/2008

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 26 January 2004, there was submitted Joint Report No PB 16/05 by the Chief Constable and Treasurer which informed members of the level of capital grants allocated to the Board for 2005/2006 and indicative allocations for 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 and provided details of the proposed capital projects to be undertaken in each of those years.

The Report indicated that notification had been received from the Scottish Executive that Tayside Police were to receive a capital grant allocation of £2,576,000 in 2005/2006. Based on indicative figures provided by Forces to the Scottish Executive, projected capital grant allocations of £1,889,000 for 2006/2007 and £2,022,000 for 2007/2008 had been included within the Financial Plan.

The Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Financial Plan covering the period 2005/2006 to 2007/2008 as prepared by the Chief Constable in consultation with the Treasurer;
- (ii) to arrange for the regular monitoring of capital expenditure to bring about the most advantageous capital expenditure position to the Board at the end of the financial year end by utilisation of the capital grants and capital receipts; and
- (iii) to note that revised Capital Estimates for 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 would be prepared by the Chief Constable in consultation with the Treasurer and presented to the Board following announcement of the capital grant figures for the relevant financial years.

6. MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS - DEBT WRITE OFF

There was submitted Joint Report No PB 17/05 by the Chief Constable and Treasurer which detailed miscellaneous accounts, which were recommended for write-off.

The Report indicated that debt recovery procedures were carried out on behalf of the Board, under the terms of the Service Level Agreement, by Dundee City Council. Almost all invoices recommended for write-off referred to those issued as re-charges for the securing of premises. Due to the nature of the invoices, they were historically difficult to collect, normally because the debtor became untraceable, with the correspondence often returned marked by the postal services as "gone away". Six of the invoices referred to the charges for services of Police Officers at football matches and the Board were reassured that steps had been taken to avoid a similar situation happening in the future.

The Sub-Committee agreed that the accounts, detailed in Appendix I of the Report, amounting to £33,344.26 be written off as unlikely to be recovered.

7. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT 2005/2006

There was submitted Report No PB 18/05 by the Treasurer apprising members of the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for Tayside Joint Police Board for 2005/2006.

The Report indicated that the production of a Treasury Management Strategy Statement was a requirement of the Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy in 2001. Angus Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement, which incorporated Treasury Management activities of the Board, had been prepared by the Council's Director of Finance (who was also the Board's Treasurer) for adoption and approval by the Board. A copy of the Statement was attached to the Report.

The Sub-Committee approved the Treasury Management Strategy Statement for the Board for 2005/2006.