

MINUTES EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2002 at 5.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Blackmore - Chair
Councillor Mrs. Middleton - Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Connelly - Labour Spokesperson

Councillor Coley Councillor Gajjar
Councillor Soulsby

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Patel – Cabinet Lead Member for Finance and Resources

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62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare any interests that they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Act 1992 applied to them.

No declarations were made.

73. DRAFT REVENUE STRATEGY FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

The Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer submitted a joint report seeking the views of the Scrutiny Committee on the draft revenue strategy for the Chief Executive's Office.

Gary Garner (Unison) spoke on the item and was present for its consideration. The Committee noted Unison's concern that funding for a full time officer to liaise with the Unions regarding best value reviews was being withdrawn. This post had been the single point of contact for the unions on all best value reviews. The Committee were informed that this post had been set up when the best value review process was new, and specific funding had been allocated for the position. This funding had now run out, and the continuation of the post was no longer possible.

The Committee noted that the African Caribbean Forum were seeking funding

of £137,000 for ongoing support. It was explained that last year the Forum had submitted a request which was late for the budget process and were given one off funding of £40,000. This year a business plan had been submitted in time for the budget process.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report be noted and
- (2) That consideration be given by the Cabinet to how the two policy officer posts required to support the scrutiny process will be funded.