

MINUTE

B - Public

Development Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Monday 18 August 2014 at 2.00pm

Present:

A Cooper	T Smith
M Burgess	B Fox
A Manson	G Robinson
M Stout	A Westlake

Apologies

R Henderson	F Robertson
-------------	-------------

In Attendance (Officers):

J Gray, Executive Manager – Finance
D Irvine, Executive Manager – Economic Development
K Marshall, Solicitor
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Chair:

Mr A Cooper, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

None.

33/14 **Management Accounts for Development Committee: 2014/15 – Projected Outturn for Quarter 1**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Manager – Finance (F-043-F), which enabled the review of financial performance of services within its remit.

The Executive Manager – Finance summarised the main terms of the report. Members noted the projected outturn position of £554,000 underspend at year end, and the main variances as outlined in the appendices to the report.

In making reference to the reported underspend, the Chair advised on the anticipated uptake on economic development grant schemes when the ESF funding streams reopen later this year. The Executive Manager – Economic Development advised on the process whereby the Council, as the lead partner for the LEADER Action Group, is to demonstrate the match funding element of £2m by the end of August 2014. Match funding will also be needed to cover the ESF, European Fisheries Fund and other funding streams. He added that, compared to this time last year, there has been a small increase in uptake of economic grant schemes, however that uptake is still less than projected due to the current economic climate.

Decision:

The Development Committee **RESOLVED** to:

- review the Management Accounts showing the projected outturn position at Quarter 1.

34/14 **Development Services Directorate Performance Report
3 Month/1st Quarter 2014/15**

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Development Services (DV036-F), which presented the activity and performance of the Development Services Directorate for the reporting period April to June 2014.

The Executive Manager – Economic Development introduced the report.

In response to a comment relating to the Action Plan at Appendix 1, the Executive Manager – Economic Development advised that where no officer or service has been attributed for responsibility to progress the priority, this would rest with the Directorate and all senior managers.

Decision:

The Development Committee **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report.

35/14 **Committee Business Programme 2014/15**

A report by the Team Leader – Administration (GL-13-14-F), which informed of the planned business to be presented to Committee over the remaining quarters of the current financial year to 31 March 2015, allowing for discussion with Officers regarding any changes or additions required to that Programme.

The Committee Officer introduced the report.

In response to a question relating to the “Review of Community Grants” report as included in the list of business still be scheduled, the Executive Manager – Economic Development advised that the focus for the report is on community planning and development grants.

Decision:

The Committee noted the business planned for the remaining quarters of the current financial year up to 31 March 2015.

Shetland Islands Council as Trustee of Shetland Development Trust

In order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, Mr Cooper moved, Mr Stout seconded, and the Committee agreed to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following item of business.

36/14 **Economic Development Investment Update**

The Committee considered a report by the Project Manager, which provided an update on recent activities concerning specific commercial investments and initiatives which are of a confidential nature.

The Executive Manager – Economic Development summarised the main terms of the report, and responded to questions from Members.

Decision:

The Development Committee **RESOLVED:**

- That the Executive Manager – Economic Development and the staff of the Economic Development Service continue to act on behalf of the Council accordingly regarding current and future commercial lending activities.

The meeting concluded at 2.30pm.

.....
Chair