

**Shetland Islands Council**  
**Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick**  
**Wednesday 25 February 2015 at 2.00pm**

**Present:**

M Bell	M Burgess
P Campbell	G Cleaver
S Coutts	A Duncan
B Fox	R Henderson
A Manson	F Robertson
G Robinson	D Sandison
C Smith	G Smith
T Smith	M Stout
A Westlake	A Wishart
V Wishart	

**Apologies**

A Cooper	D Ratter
J Wills	

**In Attendance (Officers):**

M Boden, Chief Executive  
H Budge, Director of Children's Services  
C Ferguson, Director of Corporate Services  
J Belford, Executive Manager - Finance  
J Riise, Executive Manager – Governance and Law  
R Sinclair, Executive Manager – Capital Programme  
S Whyte, Executive Manager – Finance  
A Cogle, Team Leader – Administration  
C Anderson, Communications Officer  
L Gair, Committee Officer

**Chair:**

Mr M Bell, Convener of the Council, presided.

**Circular:**

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

The Chair ruled that due to special circumstances, namely due to the timescales involved, the following item of business is to be considered at this meeting as a matter of urgency in terms of paragraph 3.2.2 of the Council's Standing Orders for Meetings.

Exempt Agenda Item 4: Financial Settlement

**Declarations of Interest**

None

13/15

**Overall SIC Management Accounts – Quarter 3**

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Finance (F-012-F) which enabled the monitoring of the financial performance of all Council services to

ensure that Members are aware of the forecast income and expenditure and the impact that this will have with regard to delivering the approved budget.

The Executive Manager – Finance (J Belford) introduced the report and highlighted the areas of positive under spend on the General Fund and commented on the non use of contingencies, stating that financially the Council is in the right position going forward. In terms of the Harbour Account the Executive Manager – Finance advised that there was additional income paid into the reserves, the Council House Sales would see less money going to pay for contributions and the spend to save position meant there would be £1.6m unaudited finances available into the future. He also advised that the majority of the under spend of £2.4m on the Capital Fund would be carried forward into 2015/16 in order to complete specific works.

A Member sought an explanation for the difference between the anticipated under spends reported in quarter 2 and 3. The Executive Manager – Finance (J Belford) advised that as the situation progresses through the year the decisions taken and the impacts on services become more concrete. He explained that at three quarters of the way through the year more information is available. The Executive Manager - Finance advised that there had been staffing and one off savings being achieved through a number of initiatives but he did not have the specific detail to hand. He said that at the year end there will again be more detailed information available to Officers and Members.

In response to a question from a Member, the Executive Manager – Finance (J Belford) confirmed that he would bring information on one-off and recurring savings to the next cycle of performance committee meetings.

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**Decision:**

The Council **RESOLVED** to review the Management Accounts showing the projected outturn position at Quarter 3.

14/15

**Progress Report – Asset Investment Plan**

The Council noted a report by the Executive Manager – Capital Programme (CPS-06-15-F) which advised on the progress on the projects contained in the AIP.

The Executive Manager – Capital Programme Services introduced the report and explained that there were only minor changes to the information provided since the last report was presented. He explained that some items listed were now complete but remained on the list until the recharges and payment of monies had taken place.

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**Decision:**

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the progress on the projects within in the AIP.

15/15

**Shetland Islands Council Business Programme 2015/16**

The Council considered a report by the Team Leader – Administration (GL-08-15-F) which informed of the planned business to be presented to Council for the financial year to 31 March 2016 and sought discussion with Officers regarding any changes or additions required to that Programme.

Mr C Smith moved that the Council approve the recommendations contained in the report, seconded by Mr Robinson.

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**Decision:**

The Council considered its planned business for the financial year to 31 March 2016 and **RESOLVED** to approve any changes or additions to the Business Programme.

**In order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, Mr Bell moved, Mr C Smith seconded, and the Council RESOLVED to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following items of business.**

*(Mr Burgess attended the meeting)*

16/15     **Financial Settlement**

The Council noted a report by the Chief Executive that advised Members on the use of emergency powers to agree an offer from the Scottish Government on the basis of the finance settlement for 2015/16.

The Chief Executive introduced the report and responded to Member's questions.

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**Decision:**

The Council RESOLVED to note the action taken by the Chief Executive to accept the proposal from the Scottish Government in relation to the finance settlement for 2015/16, with all the conditions.

The meeting adjourned at 3pm.

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Convener