

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
RESOURCES TASK GROUP**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011

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**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
RESOURCES TASK GROUP**

Minutes of Resources Task Group Meeting No 38 held in the McKinley Room, Riada House on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 2.00 pm.

**IN THE CHAIR** Alderman F Campbell (Chair)

**PRESENT:**

**Aldermen**  
H Connolly

**Councillors**  
J Finlay  
E Robinson

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Chief Executive  
Director of Borough Services  
Director of Central & Leisure Services  
Head of Corporate & Development Services

**APOLOGIES**

**Councillors**  
A Cavlan  
T McKeown

**38.1 MINUTES - MEETING NO 37 – 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011**

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Campbell and **AGREED:**

*that the minutes of Meeting No 37 – 26<sup>th</sup> September, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**38.2 REVISED VARIANCE REPORT FOR 2010/11**

A revised copy was circulated, taking account of changes in accounts, ie the £400K transferred from the district fund to the capital fund and minor changes relating to split of community services costs between two Directors for community buildings and Good Relations. It was noted this has led to deficit on services at year end. The Director of Central & Leisure Services advised that the revised district fund balance was £373,589 with landfill provision of £2,188,264 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

\* **Councillor Finlay joined the meeting at 2.20 p.m. during discussion on the above item.**

Councillor Finlay commented on the authority to transfer £400K without specific consideration and approval by Council and the Chief Executive explained the requirement to

comply with the international financial reporting standards. The level of provision had been raised by Local Government Auditor and having taken advice from the Director of Central & Leisure Services and having regard to his role as Council's Chief Financial Officer, he had no option but to conform so that accounts properly reflected the financial position of the Council. The Director of Central & Leisure Services outlined the accounting and audit regulations which Council must comply with and which requires any material changes to the accounts to be reported to Council at the next available opportunity. The accounts were signed off on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011.

She explained, in relation to the provision, that if a reasonable estimate is available the cost needs to be accounted for. In this case the estimate was £2.3M and the accounts as submitted in June 2011 did not reflect a true and fair financial position in the light of the new information regarding the A26 road works, hence the requirement for the change to be made.

### **38.3 ABSENTEEISM STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING 2010/11**

Report 2010/11 with comparative figures for 2008/09 and 2009/10, were circulated and discussed. The Director of Central & Leisure Services reported that the Local Government Auditor previously gathered this information and produced an annual report, but as this was resource intensive, he would not, on grounds of efficiency, be producing the report in 2010/11 or future years. She responded to queries regarding long term and short term absences and the operation and management of flexi leave and lieu time.

Members welcomed the improvement compared to the previous year and also the increase in the number of employees without absence.

### **38.4 VACANT POSTS**

Two Assistant Managers in Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre and two Finance Assistants in Finance Department:

CMT **RECOMMENDS** that a consultant is engaged to review the staffing structure in both areas with a view to reducing costs, cost for which to be met from savings made this year.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED**:

***to recommend that a consultant be engaged to review the staffing structures in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre and the Finance Department with a view to reducing costs, the cost to be met from in-year savings.***

The Director advised that the review of the catering operation would be reported at a future meeting.

**The meeting closed at 3.10 p.m.**