

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

**SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
01 FEBRUARY 2011**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.00 pm on the above date.

**PRESENT:**

Aldermen J Rankin and M Coyle. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, G Mullan, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk, Director of Support Services and the Chief Executive.

**APOLOGIES:** - Alderman Robinson and Councillor McElhinney.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 11 January 2011 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

**MATTERS ARISING:** - None.

**PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:**

The Director of Support Services answered queries put to him by members on payment of accounts for December 2010 which were then approved by Council.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:**

**IN COMMITTEE** on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Robinson.

**Human Resource Report:** The Director of Support Services presented the Human Resource Report for February 2011 which detailed recruitment & selection, absenteeism, investors in people and requests for carry over of annual leave. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Chivers subject to the following:

**Leavers:** A member praised the work of the Project/Business Support Officer on the Rural Development Programme and requested that best wishes be forwarded to him on his new position.

**Water Quality Management Unit:** The Director of Support Services informed members that due to cutbacks by the NIEA, the Western Group had advised that administration staff within the group were at risk of redundancy. He said that Limavady Borough Council were the direct employer of a member of administration supporting the Water Quality Team and that initial discussions had been held with this employee regarding the potential redundancy. It was agreed that Council would be kept informed on any further development with regard to this matter.

**Tender for the Provision of Seasonal Recruitment Services:** It was agreed that following evaluation that the tender submitted by Riada Resourcing to provide seasonal recruitment for Council in the sum of £7,821.36 would be accepted.

**Local Government Composite Advertisement – Pilot Project:** Members were advised that the Local Government ICE Programme had identified that composite advertising across local government could deliver significant service improvement and efficiency gains in terms costs, quality and standards. Currently each Council places recruitment advertisements in regional and local newspapers, however a costing exercise undertaken using seven council jobs advertised in the Belfast Telegraph, the Irish News and Newsletter identified potential savings totalling £11,202.13. It was agreed that Limavady Borough Council would take part in the pilot project and review its effectiveness after six months. **OUT OF COMMITTEE** on the proposal of Councillor Ó hOisín, seconded by Councillor Brolly.

**CONSULTATION ON DRAFT REGULATIONS TO BE MADE UNDER PART 3 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE BILL – PAYMENTS TO COUNCILLORS:**

The Director of Support Services explained that the Department were seeking the view of Council by 24 February on:

1. the draft Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (NI) 2011 which the Department proposes to make under the powers conferred by section 31(1), (3) and (4) of the forthcoming Local Government Finance Act (NI) and
2. the draft Local Government (Councillors’ Remuneration Panel) Regulations (NI) 2011 proposed under powers conferred by section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act.

Council agreed with all the recommendations and therefore would answer yes to questions 1 – 7 in the consultation document.

It was suggested that payments to panel members were unnecessary as there was no need for this exercise. Noted.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Retirement:** The Chair thanked the Director of Support Services for his help in setting the rates over the years and on the occasion of his retirement said his contribution would be badly missed.

**NEXT MEETING:** - 1 March 2011.

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 7.25 PM**

**Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_