

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

**SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
2 FEBRUARY 2010**

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

**PRESENT:**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**APOLOGIES:** - None.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 14 January 2010 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Deterioration in Council's Forecast Actual Penny Product (APP):** The Director of Support Services tabled letter from Land & Property Services (LPS) dated 29 January 2010 which highlighted a deterioration in Limavady Borough Councils forecast Actual Penny Product (APP) outcome for 2009/10 between September 2009 and December 2009. The withdrawal of a large rate bill for McCaul Joinery and the fact that two MOD bases in the borough had been declared vacant for 1 July 2008 had an adverse effect of £525k.

However, Council's APP improved by £235k through rate assessments being raised as a result of the vacancy inspection exercise. The net adverse adjustment to the APP for the period September 2009 to December 2009 was £290k. The more immediate effect of these developments was a reduction in Councils Estimated Penny Produce (EPP) for 2010/11 from £274,590 to £265,250 resulting in an increase in rates for 2010/11 of 3.7% above that previously discussed at the Support Services meeting on 14 January 2010.

**Car Ferry:** A member voiced unhappiness at how the debate on the car ferry had been reflected in the minutes of the meeting dated 14 January 2010. The Chief Executive clarified that it had been agreed in the past that the minute would only reflect a flavour of what had been discussed. However, members were at liberty to suggest amendments before the minutes were officially adopted by Council.

**PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:**

The payment of accounts for the month of December 2009 were tabled and noted.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:**

**Human Resource Report: IN COMMITTEE** on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

The Director of Support Services presented the Human Resource Report dated 2 February 2010 which detailed recruitment & selection, absenteeism, analysis of cause of long term absence, issues relating to Investors in People and carry over of annual leave. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Carten subject to the following:

**IIP Award:** The Director of Support Services tabled copy of report from the Department for Employment and Learning which outlined key findings from the assessment process and future priorities for Council from the Investors in People assessment of Limavady Borough Council.

After discussion on the previous agreement to hold a Civic Reception for technical services staff for their work during the heavy snowfall, Councillor Cubitt agreed to consider a suggestion from the Chief Executive that the Senior Management Team would hold a joint event to celebrate both the achievement of IIP and the good work done by technical services staff.

**CAR FERRY - VERBAL UPDATE:**

Members were advised that following a joint meeting of the Ferry Service Working Group, negotiations had taken place with the Ferry Company for delivery of the ferry service. The Lough Foyle Ferry Company would be willing to continue the service if both Donegal and Limavady Borough Council committed €100/£91k for a one year period.

The Director of Support Services explained that the tender would be for one year commencing 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 and if the application to INTERREG was successful, the service for would be retendered for the period April 2011 to September 2013.

Councillor Butcher proposed that Council provide 100k euro funding to the Lough Foyle Car Ferry Company towards the running of the service for the year commencing 1 April 2010. This was seconded by Councillor McElhinney.

A recorded vote was requested on the proposal and on being put to the meeting was declared carried, 9 for, namely Councillor Carten, Alderman Coyle, Councillor Mullan, Councillor Chivers, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Brolly, Councillor Ó hOisín, Councillor McElhinney and Councillor Donaghy. Councillor Douglas, Councillor Stevenson, Alderman Rankin, Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Robinson and Alderman Robinson, 6 voted against.

**OUT OF COMMITTEE** on the proposal of Councillor Ó hOisín, seconded by Councillor Butcher.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** - None.

**NEXT MEETING:** - 2 March 2010.

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8.10 PM**

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