

FC28. SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

With reference to the Minute of Meeting held on 14 March 2012 (Paragraph FC98 refers), there was submitted report (circulated) dated 4 June 2012 by the Chief Executive (a) summarising the services currently available for veterans; (b) proposing a role description for the position of Veterans' Champion; (c) setting out options with regard to spending the £50,000 allocated for supporting veterans in the area, and (d) recommending that the funding be allocated to two projects – Armed Services Advice Project (ASAP) and the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

Depute Provost Patrick, seconded by Councillor C MacDonald, moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Spears, seconded by Councillor Turner moved that:-

“Council should honour the request that was made when we decided to award £50,000 to handling Veterans' affairs by the creation of a central office where Veterans can receive help and assistance locally”.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 32 Members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the Motion (17) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Councillors Black, Blackwood, Buchanan, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol, Nimmo and Paterson.

For the Amendment (14) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

Abstention (1) – Councillor Coleman.

Accordingly, **AGREED**:-

- (1) to adopt the role description as outlined at 2.6 of the report for the Falkirk Council Veterans' Champion;
- (2) to allocate funding of £20,000 to Citizen's Advice locally for a Falkirk ASAP project, as outlined at section 3 of the report, and
- (3) that an Armed Forces Covenant as outlined at section 4 of the report should be developed for the Falkirk Council area and that this will be led by Veterans Scotland to which the Council will award £30,000.