

## FC96. REGULATION OF DISPLAY OF ELECTION POSTERS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 22 February 2010 by the Director of Development Services (a) advising that local authorities, in addition to their specific duties in terms of election law, are also involved in election preparation in their respective capacities as Roads and Planning authorities particularly in relation to display of election material by or on behalf of candidates and/or the political parties they represent; (b) summarising the relevant parts of both The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements)(Scotland) Regulations 1984 and the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 which deal with the display of election posters; (c) outlining the options available with regard to the display of election posters on Council properties, and (d) attaching as an Appendix to the Report, a copy of the proposed guidelines for the display of election posters on street furniture.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Patrick moved that:–

“Council agrees to amend the guidelines on display of election campaign publicity materials to prohibit display of such material on any Council property, including lighting columns, traffic sign poles and street furniture.”

By way of an Amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Coleman moved that:-

“Council notes with surprise that despite the fact turn out at elections is declining New Labour wish to abolish one of the high profile campaigning tools available to local political parties.

Council believes this is due to the haemorrhaging of active members, as reported in the national press, matched by the decline in electoral fortunes of New Labour, and the refusal of the few remaining activists to work for two discredited MP’s at the centre of the expenses scandal.

Council therefore reiterates its commitment to encourage as many people as possible to exercise their democratic right to campaign within the political process and believes that all legitimate means of campaigning be allowed including the display of election posters on lampposts and to adopt the guidelines attached as an Appendix to the Report.”

On a division 17 Members voted for the Motion and 13 voted for the Amendment.

Accordingly, **AGREED** to amend the guidelines on display of election campaign publicity materials to prohibit display of such material on any Council property, including lighting columns, traffic sign poles and street furniture.