FC105. REVIEW OF BUSINESS SUPPORT DELIVERY STRUCTURES

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called into Council by Councillors Alexander and Kenna.

There was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 13 January 2009, and (b) Report (circulated) by the Director of Community Services proposing a revised business support delivery model for local businesses.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Fry, moved the recommendations in the report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor A MacDonald seconded by Councillor Coleman moved that Council:-

- (1) "approves the creation of a single business support organisation through the "merging" of FEAT and FDBP and the transferring of property back to the Council;
- (2) authorises the Director of Community Services to progress the establishment of the new model on suitable terms including 2 elected members, one of which must be a member of the opposition, and 2 officers of Falkirk Council, with the Directors of Law & Administration, Finance and Development Services and the boards of FEAT and FDBP;
- (3) refers the overseeing of the establishment, future operations and performance of the new business support arrangements to the Economic Strategy and Development Committee; and
- (4) notes the small minimal investment made by Falkirk Council in business support areas and calls for a report back to the Economic Strategy and Development Committee on how this can be supplemented".

On a division 16 members voted for the motion and 12 voted for the amendment.

Accordingly, AGREED to:-

- (1) approve the creation of a single business support organisation through the "merging" of FEAT and FDBP and the transferring of property back to the Council;
- (2) authorise the Director of Community Services to progress the establishment of the new model, on suitable terms, in consultation with the Directors of Law & Administration, of Finance and of Development Services and the boards of FEAT and FDBP; and
- (3) refer the overseeing of the establishment, future operations and performance of the new business support arrangements to the Economic Strategy and Development Committee.