

FC62. Referral from Executive – 27 November 2018
Revenue Budget/Medium Term Financial Plan [MTFP]

Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which provided an update on savings options identified by officers. Information was provided on the projected budget gap. The estimated gap for 2019/20 had increased from £14m to £18m which was primarily attributable to the UK Treasury's triannual valuation of the teachers' pension scheme.

A breakdown of the savings options for each of the Council's three Services was appended to the report. Falkirk Community Trust and the Integration Joint Board required to take their savings options/business plans through their own governance processes. The business plans for Falkirk Community Trust and the Integration Joint Board were included in another item on the agenda.

Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Bouse, moved that Council notes:-

- (1) the overall position set out in the report, and
- (2) that Services will identify further savings options in advance of the budget meeting in February.

As an amendment, in substitution for the motion, Councillor Goldie, moved that Council:-

- (1) notes the unprecedented levels of concern and anxiety among pupils, parents and school staff across the district caused by the proposals for cuts in school budgets.
- (2) accepts that the ultimate political responsibility for the actions of the Council lies with the Leader of the Council, Cllr Meiklejohn.
- (3) accordingly calls upon Cllr Meiklejohn to issue a full apology to all the staff, parents and pupils in Falkirk for the anxiety caused.

Council adjourned at 2.35pm to allow members to consider the terms of the motion and the amendment and reconvened at 3.10pm with all members present as per the sederunt.

Councillor Bissett then seconded the amendment.

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), the vote was taken by roll call, there being 28 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (17) – Depute Provost Ritchie, and Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Binnie, Bouse, Coleman, Collie, Garner, Grant, Harris, Hughes, McCue, Meiklejohn, Munro, Murtagh, Patrick and Spears.

For the amendment (11) – Provost Buchanan, and Councillors Aitchison, Bissett, Black, Blackwood, Coombes, Goldie, Kerr, McLuckie, Nimmo and Reid.

Decision

Council agreed the motion.