

Lothian Valuation Joint Board

Edinburgh, 4 February 2005

Present:-

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillors Fitzpatrick (Convener), Aldridge, Berry, Harrold (substituting for Councillor Marshall), Henderson, Lowrie, Scobbie and Wilson.

East Lothian Council – Councillors Jarvie (substituting for Councillor Innes) and O'Donnell (substituting for Councillor Grant).

Midlothian Council – Councillors Aitchison (substituting for Councillor Russell) and Chalmers.

West Lothian Council – Councillor Thomas.

1 Councillor Bill Russell

The Convener spoke of the recent sudden death of Councillor Bill Russell. He had represented Midlothian Council on the Joint Board since June 2003 and would be greatly missed by his colleagues. The Board agreed that the Convener send condolences to his widow.

2 Minutes

Decision

- 1) To note the minute of the Lothian Valuation Joint Board Appointments Committee of 22 November 2004.
- 2) To approve the minute of the Lothian Valuation Joint Board of 29 November 2004 as a correct record.

3 Revenue Budget 2005/06 – 2007/08

The Joint Board's three-year Revenue Budget for 2005/06 to 2007/08 was presented. Approval was sought for the proposed 2005/06 budget and the indicative budgets for 2006/07 and 2007/08.

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The Assessor gave details of the functions carried out within her department. Attention was drawn to significant budget pressures relating to year 2007/08, namely a proposed change to the way of conducting the Electoral Registration canvas and the impending Council Tax revaluation.

Details of the local government finance settlement and the proposed base budget for the three year period were given by the Treasurer together with a proposed Reserves strategy.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Revenue Budget for 2005/06 and authorise the Treasurer to requisition constituent Councils for amounts as follows:

Constituent Council	Requisition 2005/06
	£
City of Edinburgh	3,621,876
Midlothian	516,334
East Lothian	625,280
West Lothian	<u>1,031,510</u>
Total	<u>5,795,000</u>

- 2) To approve the indicative budgets for 2006/07 and 2007/08 as detailed in Appendices 3 to 5 of the Treasurer's report.

(References – report by the Assessor February 2005 and the Treasurer 27 January 2005, submitted.)

4 Auditor's Report on the 2003/04 Final Accounts

The Board had noted the Audited Report and Accounts for 2003/04. The Auditor's report on the Board's final accounts for 2003/04 was presented.

Decision

To note the Auditor's Report for 2003/04.

(Reference – Lothian Valuation Joint Board 29 November 2005 (item 3); report by the Treasurer 22 December 2004, submitted.)