

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF

### GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014, IN THE DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Terence Slowey  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr Seamus Ó Domhnaill  
Cllr. Enda Bonner  
Cllr. Mícheál Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Garry Martin CPFA – Director of Finance, Information Systems & Emergency Services  
Paul McGill - Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services  
Brendan McFadden – S.E.E Area Manager, Roads & Transportation  
Michael Rowsome - SSO Corporate Services

**APOLOGIES:** Micheal Heaney- Director of Community Culture & Planning

#### GMD 36/14

#### DRAFT GLENTIES MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2015

##### 36.1

The Committee discussed the draft budgetary plan for the Glenties Municipal District circulated with the agenda and presented by the Director of Finance.

The Director of Finance informed Members that:

- Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended by Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014) requires the Chief Executive in the preparation of a draft local authority budget to consult and prepare a draft budgetary plan for the Municipal District.
- Statutory Instrument 226 of 2014 (Local Government Financial Audit Procedures Regulations 2014) requires a draft budgetary plan to be prepared for each Municipal District setting out the general municipal allocation and its proposed application for the forthcoming local financial year.
- Each Municipal District will be allocated an initial global sum of €100,000 as a General Municipal Allocation for 2015.

- Following completion of the Statutory Budget process, a further task on a per directorate basis would be carried out to access available levels of discretionary funding for consideration by Municipal Districts as part of annual work programme reviews for 2015.
- A draft budgetary plan provided by DOECLG was circulated with the agenda to highlight potential areas of discretionary expenditure for Members consideration.

### 36.2

On completion of the presentation by the Director of Finance, the Committee highlighted the necessity of the following provisions for consideration by the Chief Executive in the preparation of the draft local authority budget:

- An enhanced Housing Maintenance budget to expedite the letting of casual vacancies and the ring fencing of housing income in this regard.
- A Road Maintenance Budget with the capacity to service the extensive road network in the Glenties Municipal District and the promotion of Local Improvement Schemes.
- An Islands Programme Fund to match anticipated allocations from An Roinn.  
Cllr. Gallagher seconded a proposal from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh that the Glenties Municipal District Committee meet Minister McHugh in this regard to determine Departmental Allocations.
- Street Cleaning Funding to complement the work of Community Groups.
- Tourism Development Funding to maximise opportunities arising from the 'Wild Atlantic Way' Programme.
- A breakdown of Municipal wage costs by service.

Cllr O Domhnaill expressed dissatisfaction at the inability of Members to access Planners.

Members stressed their difficulties in discussing a Draft Budget in the absence of any indicative figures and uncertainty surrounding proposals for establishment of a new organisational structure.

### 36.3

In response to queries from the Committee regarding the distribution of income accruing from both commercial rates and local property taxes, the Director of Finance clarified that fairness and equity will be at the core of any income distribution model, across the Municipal Districts.

The Director of Finance also clarified budgetary allocations in respect of major Countywide infrastructural assets and highlighted the necessity to establish an Economic Development Fund to leverage European Funding.

**36.4**

On the proposal of Cllr. Bonner seconded by Cllr. Gallagher the Committee adopted the draft budgetary plan and initial General Municipal Allocations in the sum of €100,000.

**GMD 37/14**

**DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE**

In response to concerns expressed by Cllr. Bonner regarding the provision of office accommodation for Members, the Corporate & Housing Manager assured the Committee that suitable facilities will be available in the near future.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**