

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services**

**Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee : 29 October 2008**

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### **Subject : Corporate Debt Policy**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the progress of developing a Corporate Debt Policy.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** The Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee in August 2008 noted that the draft Corporate Debt Policy was being reviewed by relevant stakeholders and that a further report would be submitted to Committee in October at the conclusion of the consultation process.

#### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** An inter-departmental working group has been formed to lead the consultation process. Representatives from the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Independent Resource Centre participated in the group.
- 3.2** There is a seminar for elected Members on 22 October to review the draft policy and Members not able to attend the seminar have been provided with the opportunity to submit written comments.
- 3.3** A verbal update will be provided to Committee regarding the outcome of the Members' seminar.

#### **4. Personnel Issues**

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1** The Council's ability to deliver services which meet the needs of its citizens depends heavily on its success in collecting revenues.

#### **6. Risk Analysis**

- 6.1** The Council has a fiduciary duty to collect all sums due to it. A corporate debt policy will seek to ensure the Council operates in a fair, equal and objective way when recovering debts.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1** The introduction of a corporate debt policy will seek to ensure the Council operates in a proper manner when recovering debts.

## **8. Recommendations**

- 8.1** Members are asked to note the progress to date and to receive a verbal update on the outcome of the Members' seminar

**Joyce White**  
**Executive Director of Corporate Services**  
**Date: October 2008**

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**Wards Affected:** All Wards

**Appendix:** None

**Background Papers:** No background papers

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