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**FIRM FOUNDATIONS: THE FUTURE OF HOUSING IN SCOTLAND – WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL’S RESPONSE**

A report was submitted by the Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services) informing on the recently published Discussion Document “Firm Foundations: The Future of Housing in Scotland” and seeking approval to submit a response, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report, to the Scottish Government by 25 January 2008.

After discussion and having heard the Manager of Strategy in answer to Members’ questions, Councillor Craig McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Finn, moved:-

That the report be continued to the next meeting of the Council in order to allow Members to submit their views on either an individual or group basis, and that a request for an extension of time be made to the Scottish Government in this respect.

As an amendment, Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Casey, moved:-

That the report be considered at this meeting of the Committee as it was considered appropriate for Members’ views to be taken into account, prior to the deadline date for consultation, and it was neither acceptable, nor satisfactory, to continue it to the Council meeting, as there would not be the same opportunity for debate.

On a vote being taken, 5 Members voted for the amendment and 5 for the motion. There being an equality of voting, the Chair exercised his casting vote in favour of the motion which was accordingly declared carried.

In relation to a point raised by the Chair, Councillor Hendrie, it was agreed that the officer response to the Discussion Document would be subject to some minor adjustment, in view of the comments made on the use of abbreviations.

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