

ANGUS COUNCIL

RESOURCES AND CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

17 JUNE 2004

SUBJECT: WATER SERVICES BILLING & COLLECTION ORDER CONSULTATION

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Abstract: This Report advises the Committee of the response returned to the Scottish Executive by the deadline of 16 June 2004 in respect of Water Services Billing & Collection Order Consultation.

1 RECOMMENDATION

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee –

- i. note the Consultation document issued by the Scottish Executive;
- ii. note the response returned to the Scottish Executive by the deadline of 16 June 2004; and
- iii. agree to homologate the decision of the Director of Finance to return the response.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Local Authorities have a duty to collect water and waste water charges on behalf of Scottish Water from dwellings connected to the public water and waste water systems as laid down in the Water Services Charges (Billing & Collection) Order 2002.

2.2 This Order expires on 31 March 2005 and the Scottish Executive has issued the attached [Consultation document](#) asking in what form the Order should be renewed.

2.3 The main issues covered in the Consultation Paper are:-

- the duration of the new Order
- the duty of Local Authorities to collect
- the way in which the amounts of revenue to be transferred from Local Authorities to Scottish Water should be calculated
- payments made by Scottish Water for the billing & collection service
- access to management information associated with accounts and records

2.4 The Scottish Executive intends two further consultations relating to water issues. These include:

- the size of the investment programme required for the period 2006 to 2014 and
- the principles, which underpin how charges are shared between the various customer groups

- 2.5 The closing date for Billing and Collection Order Consultation was 16 June 2004.
- 2.6 The Committee is asked to note the attached response returned to the Scottish Executive.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications to the Council as a result of this Report.

4 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no Human Rights implications arising as a result of this Report.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Chief Executive and the Director of Law & Administration have been consulted on the contents of this report.

NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

DSS/DW/FC
2 June 2004

David S. Sawers
Director of Finance