

Lothian Valuation Joint Board

Local Joint Consultative Group

Edinburgh, 5 February 2010

Present:-

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillors McIvor and Edie.

East Lothian Council – Councillors Bell and Knox.

Midlothian Council – Councillors Beattie (Vice-Convener) and Russell.

Representing the Employees

UNISON – James Hood

1 Revenue Budget 2010/11 to 2012/13

The Joint Board's three year revenue budget for the period 2010/11 to 2012/13 was presented.

A detailed risk analysis had been undertaken as part of the 2010-2013 budget process which had identified a number of potential risks inherent in the process, not all of which could be quantified. The three year revenue budget was due to be considered by the Lothian Valuation Joint Board following this meeting.

James Hood, UNISON expressed concern that the proposed level of budget cuts would adversely impact on both staff levels and the level of service provided. He expressed particular concern about the indicative savings targets for the period 2011/12 and 2012/13 and indicated that UNISON could not identify how such significant savings could be achieved without impacting on staff levels or service delivery.

In response to the comments from UNISON, the Assessor indicated that, in anticipation of the requirement to plan for the level of savings identified, a process of service review had commenced. This process would seek to protect front-line services, while delivering efficiency savings required by the Board.

Decision

To note the report by the Treasurer and the views expressed by UNISON.

(Reference – report by the Treasurer 28 January 2010, submitted.)