

4 BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND

(b) APPOINTMENT (AN502-2003)

Reference is made to Article I of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 9th June, 2003.

Starting in 2001/02 Dundee City Council was provided with £9 million over a three year period from the Scottish Executive via the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund.

This investment was split almost equally between two programmes, Support for Young People and Co-ordinated Neighbourhood Management.

The broad themes of the latter programme being to deliver better services, improve the local environment, enhance community engagement and promote community safety.

An important condition of the funding is that an effective external evaluation must be carried out. The Committee on 9th June, 2003 approved the appointment of Scottish Economic Research, University of Abertay as the external evaluator. As a key element of the evaluation process BNSF now seeks to appoint T L Dempster to carry out the necessary household re-survey of residents within Kirkton and Hilltown. It is proposed to have T L Dempster undertake this work because they undertook the original baseline research for SIP in 2001/02. The resultant findings forming the baseline figures against which the success of BNSF will be measured.

Their appointment will ensure a high level of continuity/familiarity with the subject matter. T L Dempster have offered to undertake this work at a cost of £15,500 excluding VAT and this offer is in line with the original SIP research costs.

It is recommended that the Committee accept the offer.