LEADERSHIP PANEL (SPECIAL).

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, on 21st May 2012 at 3.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Bill McIntosh (Chair), Bill Grant, John McDowall, Rita Miller,

Robin Reid, Philip Saxton and Margaret Toner.

Attending: L. Bloomer - Executive Director - Development and Environment; M. Newall,

Head of Planning and Enterprise; M. Hastings, Enterprise Manager; T. Baulk, Chief Accounting Officer; C. Bradshaw, Assistant Public Communications Officer;

and D. Knight, Democratic Services Administrator.

Chair's Remark's.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Leadership Panel and in particular welcomed

- (1) the new members of the Panel being Councillors Bill Grant, John McDowall, Rita Miller, Philip Saxton; and
- (2) Councillors Robin Reid and Margaret Toner to their second term as members of the Panel.

1. Exclusion of press and public.

The Panel resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act

Development and the Environment - Economic Development, Tourism and Leisure.

2. West of Scotland Loan Fund Ltd.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 15th May 2012 by the Executive Director – Development and Environment seeking approval to award a loan from the Council's funds held in the West of Scotland Loan Fund Ltd.

Questions were raised by Members of the Panel in relation to the financial implications of the loan and which Officers had assessed the application and the relevant Officers responded accordingly.

<u>Decided</u>: that the application for funding from the West of Scotland Loan Fund Ltd. be

approved and that the applicants be offered a loan of £100,000 repayable over sixty months at 5% interest and that this loan would be conditional on

satisfactory securities being agreed.