



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE CABINET

DATE: MONDAY, 24 JANUARY 2005

TIME: 5:00 pm

**PLACE: COMMITTEE ROOMS 2 & 3, 'B' BLOCK, NEW WALK
CENTRE, KING STREET, LEICESTER**

Members of the Committee

Councillor Willmott (Chair)

Councillor Draycott (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Bhatti, Connelly, Corrall, Getliffe, Kitterick, and Waddington

Members of the Cabinet are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

for Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

**YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS.
HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE MEETING.**

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INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND MEETINGS

You have the right to attend Cabinet to hear decisions being made. You can also attend Scrutiny Committees, as well as meetings of the full Council. You can ask questions and make representations to Scrutiny Committees and Council. You also have the right to see copies of agendas and minutes. Dates of meetings are available at the Customer Service Centre. There are, however, certain occasions when the Council's meetings may need to discuss issues in private session. The reasons for dealing with matters in private session are set down in law.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

The Committee Rooms at New Walk Centre are all accessible to wheelchair users. If wheelchair access is required for Council meetings, which are held at the Town Hall, please contact Charles Poole on 252 7015 or call in at the Customer Service Centre.

BRAILLE/AUDIO TAPE

If there are any particular reports that you would like translating into Braille or providing on audio tape, the Committee Administrator can provide this for you (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

General Enquiries - if you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact Frances Wake/Roanne Dearing, Committee Services on (0116) 252 6028/7154 or call in at the Customer Service Centre.

Press Enquiries - please phone the Communications Unit on 252 6081

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

2. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2004 and the special meeting held on 11 January 2005, have been circulated to Members and the Cabinet is asked to approve them as a correct record.

4. MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Appendix A

Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee – 8 December 2004

The following was agreed at the above meeting. The full minute extract and an Officer response are attached as appendix A.

Social Care and Health Performance 2003/2004

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the contents of the Annual Review Meeting letter be noted and referred to Cabinet for their consideration.

Councillor Getliffe to respond

5. SPECIAL SCHOOLS REVIEW - INTERIM SOLUTION

Appendix B

Councillor Waddington submits a report informing the Cabinet of budgetary issues relating to special schools currently under review and seeks views on a possible interim solution prior to considering the longer term future of special schools in the City. Cabinet is recommended to note the current financial difficulties faced by special schools currently under review, note the comments regarding a preferred option for an interim measure resolving these difficulties and express an opinion on a preferred option for an interim solution to secure sustainable special school places, prior to considering longer term options for realigning special schools within the City.

The relevant minute extract from the Education and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 11 January 2005 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

6. ITEM WITHDRAWN

7. REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF LEICESTER HOUSING'S STOCK OPTIONS APPRAISAL **Appendix D**

Councillor Bhatti submits a report informing Cabinet of the outcome of the Housing Stock Options Appraisal. The Cabinet is recommended to consider the report and any comments from the Housing Scrutiny Committee and make its recommendations to Council.

The relevant minute extract from the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 20 January 2005 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

8. HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05 AND 2005/08 **Appendix E**

Councillor Bhatti submits a report advising the Cabinet on the position at period 7 on this years capital programme, revises the forecast for the 2004/05 out-turn and proposes a three year housing capital strategy for 2005-08. The Cabinet is recommended to consider the comments of the Housing Scrutiny Committee and consider a number of recommendations outlined in the report.

The relevant minute extract from the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 20 January 2005 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

9. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT - BUDGET 2005/06 **Appendix F**

Councillor Bhatti submits a report summarising the financial position of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2004/05 and 2005/06 and seeks the approval of Members to setting rents for 2005/06, again based on the Government's formula rents. Cabinet is recommended to consider the report and any comments from the Housing Scrutiny Committee and consider a number of recommendations set out in the report.

The relevant minute extract from the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 20 January 2005 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

10. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004 - IMPLICATIONS OF NETWORK MANAGEMENT DUTY **Appendix G**

Councillor Kitterick submits a report outlining the implications for the City Council of the provisions of Part 2 of the of the Traffic Management Act 2004, which places a duty on authorities to manage highway networks effectively to keep traffic flowing. Cabinet is recommended to note that the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture will determine which existing member of staff would be best suited to being designated Traffic manager for the purposes of the Act, agree the financial implications of the Act and agree to receive further reports when other secondary legislation is introduced.

The relevant minute extract of the Leisure and Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 2 December 2004 is attached.

11. INSPECTION OF OLDER PEOPLE'S SERVICES Appendix H

Councillor Getliffe submits a report outlining the format and preparations for the forthcoming review of Older People's Services. Cabinet is recommended to note the new format for the inspection outlined in the report and note the actions taken to prepare for the inspection.

12. IMPROVING THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE - THE BEST VALUE REVIEW PROGRAMME 2005/06 Appendix I

Councillor Draycott submits a report seeking Cabinet approval to the Best Value Review Programme for 2005/06. Cabinet is recommended to note the comments of the Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee, agree that in light of the range of other improvement initiatives across the Council there is no requirement for a Best Value review programme for 2005/06, note that any review of a support service will be conducted within the Best Value principles focussing on outcome, note the strategic programme for improvement across the Council now in place and note that a further report will be produced in 12 months time.

The minute extract from the Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee held on 13 January 2005 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

13. COUNCIL TAX - TAXBASE Appendix J

Councillor Draycott submits a report detailing the recommended taxbase for the financial year 2005/06, Cabinet is recommended to recommend Council agree a taxbase for 2005/06 of 74,696 properties expressed as the equivalent number of Band D properties.

14. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2004/2005 - PERIOD 7 Appendix K

Councillor Draycott submits a report showing a summary position comparing spending with the budget for all General Fund Services. The report is the second in the regular cycle of reports showing budget issues which have surfaced so far. Cabinet is recommended to note the changes made to the original approved budget for 2004/05, note the expenditure to date and the budgetary issues which have emerged so far this year, note the proposals put forward for preventing departments from overspending, approve the change in status for specific traded services within the Regeneration and Culture department, and the necessary consequential virements and amendments to the determinations appended to Finance Procedure Rules, approve the establishment of the job evaluation earmarked reserve and the Butterwick House reserve as proposed in the report, approve virements specified in the report and consider what other action is necessary to prevent departments

from overspending.

15. 2004/05 CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - PERIOD 7 **Appendix L**

Councillor Draycott submits a report updating Cabinet on the progress of the capital programme for 2004/05 up to 5 November (period 7). Cabinet is recommended to approve various proposals outlined in the report.

16. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 **Appendix M**

Councillor Draycott submits a report informing Cabinet of the action taken to ensure the Authority meets the requirement of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and seeks decisions regarding charges to be made when providing information under the Act, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Cabinet is recommended to support the actions taken to date, decide the levels of fees (if any) to be raised for answering requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, reconsider the Data Protection Act 1998 charges, and decide on the level of charges to be raised under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

17. COLLECTION FUND SURPLUSES **Appendix N**

Councillor Draycott submits a report identifying the estimated financial position of the Collection Fund Account as at 31 March 2005. Cabinet is recommended to approve the estimated collection fund surplus figure of £2,000,000 and approve the estimated shares payable to the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and the City Council as detailed in the report.

18. VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR COMMISSION **Appendix O**

Councillor Willmott submits a report providing information regarding the process of setting up a Commission to examine the relationship between the City Council and the local Voluntary and Community Sector. Cabinet is recommended to confirm the commissioning of a report by the Chief Executive in the form of a thinkpiece to set out a model relationship between voluntary and public sectors in a multicultural City, and agree the setting up of an independently chaired Commission to examine the relationship between the City Council and the local Voluntary and Community Sector.

19. VOLUNTARY SECTOR BUDGET FRESH CONSULTATION **Appendix P**

Councillor Willmott submits a report setting out the background, process and findings of a fresh consultation exercise carried out with six voluntary sector organisations following the cessation or non renewal of their grant aid within the Corporate Budget Strategy 2004/05 to 2006/07 agreed by Council on 23 February 2004. Cabinet is recommended to consider various recommendations contained in the report concerning arrangements for future funding of these

organisations based upon the findings of the new consultation exercise.

20. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair has agreed to accept one item of urgent business 'Performing Arts Centre'. The decision is considered urgent in order for the project to be kept to timetable. The report is not available for despatch at the time of the agenda due to the need to make changes resulting from a special meeting of the Cabinet held on 11 January 2005.

The item will be taken in private session.

21. PRIVATE SESSION

AGENDA

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE

Under the law, the Cabinet is entitled to consider certain items in private. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

The Cabinet is recommended to consider the following reports in private on the grounds that they contain 'exempt' information as defined by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, and consequently that the Cabinet makes the following resolution:-

"that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following reports in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, because they involve the likely disclosure of 'exempt' information, as defined in the Paragraphs detailed below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act."

Paragraph 9

Any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services.

22. CASHIERS REVIEW

B1

Councillor Draycott submits a report.

23. SALE OF THE VELODROME AND LAND, PART OF SAFFRON LANE SPORTS CENTRE B2

Councillor Willmott submits a report.

24. PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE B3

Councillor Connelly submits a report.