



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CABINET

Held: MONDAY, 5 JANUARY 2009 at 1.00 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Willmott- Chair
Councillor Osman - Vice-Chair

Councillor Aqbany	Councillor Bhatti
Councillor Connelly	Councillor Cooke
Councillor Dempster	Councillor Draycott
Councillor Kitterick	Councillor Wann

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Russell – Leader of the Regeneration and Transport Task Group

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153. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda and/or declare that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them. No such declarations were made.

155. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Willmott congratulated Councillor Draycott, on behalf of the Cabinet, on her achieving the honour of MBE.

Councillor Willmott announced the sad passing of former Councillor Janet Setchfield. He stated that Cabinet hoped to hold a memorial service in her memory and in recognition of the tremendous contribution she had made to the city.

156. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet, held on 8 December

2008, be confirmed as a correct record.

157. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COMMITTEES

The Monitoring Officer stated that there were no matters referred from Committees.

158. REPORT OF THE REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY TASK GROUP - REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS AND OPERATION OF THE STAR TRAK REAL TIME BUS INFORMATION SYSTEM

Councillor Russell, leader of the Regeneration and Transport Task Group, submitted a report that presented the findings of the Task Group review of the operational effectiveness of the star trak real time bus timetable information system in Leicester.

Councillor Kitterick welcomed the report, and stated that the issue was to do with the poor use of the equipment by the bus companies, as the technology itself worked well. He stated that the Council had no powers to enforce its use, and that the issue would be taken up by the Council, with the Minister for Transport and the Local Government Association.

Councillor Willmott thanked the Task Group for the work they had done on the matter, and stated that it was important to improve the quality of the experience of using buses. He suggested an additional recommendation, that the Council should express its concern to the Minister for Transport and the Local Government Association about the lack of co-operation over the installation and operation of the system from the participating bus companies.

RESOLVED:

- 1) that Cabinet approves the recommendations set out in the report of the Regeneration and Transport Task Group, and
- 2) that Cabinet agrees that the City Council expresses its concern to the Minister for Transport and the Local Government Association about the lack of co-operation over the installation and operations of the star trak real time bus information system from the participating bus companies.

159. HUMBERSTONE INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL BUILDING WORK

Councillor Dempster submitted a report that provided an update on the consultation with Humberstone Infant and Junior School, and requested approval for the building project to commence.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

- 1) Agrees the decision to proceed with the building project as outlined, and

- 2) Approves that the project is added to the capital programme.

160. PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT DAY PROVISION FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Councillor Dempster submitted a report that sought approval for the establishment of a permanent day care facility for the Children's Hospital School on the campus of Eyres Monsell Primary School and sought approval for the school organisation changes and capital works required to implement the proposal.

Councillor Willmott thanked Councillor Dempster and officers for the creative solution that they had proposed. He recognised the need for such a provision.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

- 1) Agrees to the establishment of a 40 place day school for the Children's Hospital School (CHS), to be established on the campus of Eyres Monsell Primary School;
- 2) Agrees that the planned admission number of Eyres Monsell primary school should be reduced from 45 to 30 from September 2009, effectively reducing the size of the school by 1/3rd, subject to the approval of the Schools' Adjudicator;
- 3) Authorises the addition of £257,000 to the Schools' Capital Programme in respect of the initial works necessary to release accommodation for the CHS, to be funded from Basic Need monies pending inclusion within the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme;
- 4) Authorises the addition of £2.957m to the Schools' Capital Programme in respect of refurbishment works to Eyres Monsell Primary School, to be funded by Primary Capital Programme monies and other grants (which together with Devolved Formula Capital, makes a total scheme value of £2.957m, as set out in the report);
- 5) Authorises the agreement of a building lease between LCC and the CHS for the 'Infant Block' at Eyres Monsell Primary school (subject to agreement with the DCSF);
- 6) Notes that Cabinet will receive a subsequent report on the proposed BSF Phase 2, which is expected to include proposals to refurbish the Children's Hospital School accommodation at EMPS; and
- 7) Notes that the CHS will require an increase in its delegated

budget to meet the running costs of the premises at EMPS, and that some corresponding savings may arise in the EMPS budget. Any net cost will be met from the Dedicated Schools Grant, together with any other cost increases occasioned by the moves.

161. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE - PHASE 2

Councillor Dempster submitted a report that advised Members of the current status of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Project, outlined the further work required to progress the project, recommended the schools to be included in the next phase of BSF, and sought authorisation to commence Phase 2.

RESOLVED;

That Cabinet:

- 1) Notes the current status of the BSF project and the requirement to submit a revised Strategy for Change;
- 2) Confirms the schools / centres to be included in the next Phase of the Programme (Phase 2);
- 3) Notes the urgent requirement to authorise the start of design work on two fast track schools (Crown Hills and Rushey Mead); and two further Phase 2 schools for whom the design development stage will be more protracted (St Paul's and City of Leicester) and two further smaller projects (Cherryleas Assessment Centre and The Children's Hospital School) and
- 4) Confirms the action of the Interim Corporate Director, taken in consultation with the Lead Member to move forward under the terms of the SPA ahead of the issuing of a New Project Request for the two fast track schools.

162. CENTRAL LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2006 TO 2011 CAPITAL PROGRAMMES 2008 TO 2011

Councillor Kitterick submitted a report that sought approval to the proposed Local Transport Plan Capital Programmes.

Members noted and supported the comments from the Regeneration and Transport Task Group. It was noted that the recommendation for black bands to be put on lighting columns was already taking place, and it was anticipated that this would be rolled out across street furniture throughout the city.

RESOLVED:

- 1) that Cabinet recommends to Council the programmes of works, as set out in Appendices A and B of the report;

- 2) that Cabinet supports the recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, through the Regeneration and Transport Task Group.

163. CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that presented a Corporate Risk Register for Cabinet's approval and sought to obtain agreement for a process for monitoring the risks and associated agreed actions contained therein. He thanked Members and officers for the work done to produce the register.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

- 1) Adopts Appendix 1 of the report as its Corporate Risk Register, and
- 2) Adopts the outline process as set out in the report and requests the Corporate Directors' Board to monitor and report back to the Cabinet on progress made in implementing risk mitigation measures set out in the register.

164. CORPORATE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AND PROCUREMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that enabled Cabinet to monitor implementation of the Improvement Plan shown in the report.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet notes and approves the implementation of the Improvement Plan.

165. COUNCIL TAX - TAXBASE

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that detailed the recommended taxbase for the financial year 2009/10.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet endorses a taxbase for 2009/2010 of 78,299 properties expressed as the equivalent number of "Band D" properties.

166. 2008/09 CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING – PERIOD 7

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that updated Members on the progress of spending on the capital programme for 2008/09 up to the end of October, and the forecast spend to the end of the year.

It was noted that there was a drop in capital receipts due to the economic downturn, so the capital programme had to be amended accordingly. Future work would be done to identify how further capital receipts could be released to support future plans.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

- 1) Approves a revised level of programmed expenditure of £122.5 million;
- 2) Notes the level of expenditure to the end of October 2008 of £61.2 million;
- 3) Notes that the forecast capital programme performance is to spend 94% of the approved programme compared with a target of 90%. This is a very early forecast, and progress on schemes can change resulting in slippage;
- 4) Approves an additional sum of £220,000 for Accommodation Strategy to be released from the original approval of £29.676 million;
- 5) Notes the position relating to capital receipts; and
- 6) Notes the prudential indicators for 2008/09.

167. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2008/09 – PERIOD 7

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that showed a summary position of spending with the budget.

RESOLVED;

that Cabinet:

- 1) Notes the changes made to the original approved budget for 2008/09;
- 2) Notes the expenditure to date and the budgetary issues which have emerged so far this year;
- 3) Notes the proposals put forward to ensure that spending is contained within the Departments' budgets;
- 4) Notes the progress made so far towards achieving the efficiency target;
- 5) Requests Council to increase the budget for costs of energy, as described in paragraph 3.3, and authorises the Chief Finance Officer to allocate this sum to departments in

proportion to the impact of cost increases.

168. COLLECTION FUND SURPLUSES

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that identified the estimated financial position of the Collection Fund Account as at 31 March 2009.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

- 1) Approves the estimated collection fund surplus figure of £1m and
- 2) Approves the estimated shares payable to the Police Authority, Fire Authority and the City Council as follows:

Precepting Authority	£'000
City share	855
Police share	125
Fire share	38
Total	1,018

169. PRIVATE SESSION

RESOLVED:

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 and taking all the circumstances into account, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Paragraph 1

Information relating to any individual

Paragraph 2

Information that is likely to reveal the identity of an individual

Paragraph 3

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

ASHTON GREEN

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE
RECOMMISSIONING

170. HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES (LAND DISPOSAL)

Councillor Aqbandy submitted a report that made recommendations regarding the land disposal of housing for people with learning disabilities.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves the recommendations as set out in the report.

171. ASHTON GREEN

Councillor Kitterick submitted a report that advised Cabinet of progress with the delivery of Ashton Green and to seek approval of the next steps.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves the recommendations as set out in the report.

172. VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMISSIONING

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that updated Cabinet on the infrastructure requirements to support the Voluntary and Community Sector arising from the development of the Multi Area Agreement and the resulting impact on the market for delivering these services.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves the recommendations as set out in the report.

173. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.39pm.

