



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CABINET

Held: MONDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2009 at 1:00 pm

P R E S E N T:

Councillor Willmott - Chair
Councillor Dempster- Vice-Chair

Councillor Connelly
Councillor Dempster
Councillor Osman
Councillor Patel
Councillor Westley

Councillor Dawood
Councillor Kitterick
Councillor Palmer
Councillor Russell
Councillor Willmott

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Grant

Conservative Group

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107. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received,

108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

Councillor Dawood declared that in respect of item 8, Leicester Integrated Youth Support Strategy, he had a personal and prejudicial interest because he was employed by Connexions. Councillor Dawood undertook to leave the meeting for the consideration of this item.

109. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Willmott announced that earlier in the day, he and Councillor Russell had planted the 5,000th tree, as part of the Leicester City Council's 10,000 tree pledge. A tree had been planted next to an existing 500 year old tree, in Monks Rest Garden.

110. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meetings of Cabinet held on 9 November 2009 and 23 November 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

111. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COMMITTEES

There were no matters referred from Committees.

112. PROPOSAL FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO KITCHENS AND DINING FACILITIES IN SEVERAL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Councillor Dempster submitted a report that requested approval for the addition of kitchen and dining refurbishment projects to the Capital Programme. Councillor Dempster explained that funding in excess of £3m had been received from the Government, which would allow the City Council to continue to improve school kitchens and dining facilities, to enable a better uptake of school meals.

It was noted that the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 26 November and had noted the report and endorsed the recommendations for Cabinet. The Committee had also requested that a report be submitted to them on the condition of kitchens and dining rooms in schools across the City, and Councillor Dempster confirmed that this report would be submitted as requested.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet authorises:

1. The proposed capital kitchen improvement works and approves the addition of schemes relating to Block C of the Council's Capital Programme detailed within paragraph 4.9 and Table 3 of the report.
2. Approves the release of the £0.5m of funding within Block C of the Children and Young People's Services capital programme, approved by Cabinet and Council in March 2009.
3. Approves the addition of the additional associated funding to the Capital Programme – being £2.58m of Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) grant; £1.125 of Building Schools for the Future (BSF) match funding; and £0.205m to be contributed by schools from their Devolved Formula Capital allocations; and
4. Notes that a further report will be brought concerning the scheme(s) to be funded from the remaining DCSF grant of £0.0688m.

113. TRANSFORMING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (TLE) PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND BUDGET

Councillor Dempster submitted a report that proposed changes to the existing Children and Young People's Services (CYPS) Property Services Team and Building Schools for the Future (BSF) team to deliver the Council's capital programme for children and young people. Councillor Dempster explained that it was intended to put together one team to deal with capital projects to ensure an integrated strategy to obtain best value. It was noted that at one time the use of consultants had been necessary, but such work was now able to be carried out by Officers.

It was noted that the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 26 November 2009 and had noted the report and endorsed the recommendations for Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

1. Approves the proposed Transforming the Learning Environment (TLE) Division structure as set out at Appendix A of the report.
2. Approves the TLE Programme budgeted expenditure for 2009/10 and 2010/11 as set out at Appendix B of the report.
3. Approves in principle the TLE Programme budgeted expenditure for 2011/12 to 2013/14 which will be subject to further Cabinet approval nearer the time (Appendix B).
4. Approves the application of the funding identified at Appendix B, subject to a review and further approval for 2011/12 onwards nearer the time.
5. Supports the creation of a TLE earmarked reserve, to which the one-off funding would be credited and on which interest would be paid annually; and
6. Approves the capitalisation and addition of £1,169,000 of BSF development costs to the 2009/10 capital programmes, funded by Dedicated Schools Grant.

114. LEICESTER INTEGRATED YOUTH SUPPORT STRATEGY

Councillor Dawood, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

Councillor Dempster submitted a report that set out proposals for an Integrated Youth-Support strategy (IYSS) for Leicester. The strategy would enable the establishment of facilities and co-ordination of support for young people and would also address issues relating to NEET (not in education, employment or

training).

Councillor Dempster added that efforts were being made to locate a suitable, under used building to provide a placement in the south division. One such possibility was Southfields Library.

It was noted that the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 26 November 2009 and had noted the report and endorsed the recommendations for Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves:

1. The proposals for locality working bringing together Integrated Service Hubs and proposals for Integrated Youth Support.
2. The proposals for management arrangements and co location of 13–19 services.
3. The proposals for using Youth Service funds and additional resources for positive activities to balance provision against need and population.
4. The proposals for developing a 3 year commissioning strategy for the local youth offer.
5. Further work with Connexions Leicester Shire to explore the integration of processes and back office functions across services as a means of achieving greater efficiency; and
6. Of the efforts being made to locate a suitable placement in the south division.

Councillor Dawood returned to the meeting at the conclusion of this item.

115. CITY WARDEN SERVICE

Councillor Russell submitted a report that provided an update on the work of the City Warden Service during its first year of operation and outlined the proposals for the city-wide roll-out of the service.

Members commented that the scheme had proved to be very successful where the pilot schemes had taken place.

It was noted that the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 26 November 2009 and had noted the report and endorsed the recommendations for Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet notes the progress made during the first year of

operation and endorses the proposals for the city-wide roll out of the service, as presented in the report.

116. SERVICE PLAN FOR FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT 2009/2010

Councillor Russell submitted a report that was produced to meet the requirements of the Food Standards Agency's Framework Agreement and Service Planning Guidance.

Cabinet were informed by the Solicitor and Monitoring Officer that Council can, if required, be recommended to delegate such decisions in future.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet notes the Service Plan for Food Law Enforcement 2009/10 and refers this to Council for approval.

117. ECO MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SCHEME (EMAS) ANNUAL REPORT: REVIEW OF AUDIT FINDINGS, PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGETS AND PROPOSED ACTION

Councillor Russell submitted a report that provided Cabinet with information on the Council's annual environmental progress through the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

1. Notes progress towards the EMAS targets during 2008/09 as detailed in appendix 1.
2. Agrees new targets and amendments to existing corporate targets, as detailed in appendix 4.
3. Agrees the implementation of the proposed 2009/10 action programme, as detailed in appendix 3).
4. Agrees the draft text for the 12th EMAS Public Statement as detailed in appendix 2; and
5. Agrees the management review of EMAS as detailed in appendix 5.

118. CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2009- 2010

Councillor Willmott submitted a report, which sought the agreement and support of Cabinet for the revised Risk Management Strategy and Risk Management Policy Statement as contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet:

1. Approves the Corporate Risk Management Policy Statement as detailed in Appendix 1.
2. Approves the Risk Management Strategy as detailed in Appendix 11; and
3. Approves the Action Plan detailing the actions arising from this paper necessary to integrate an acceptable Risk culture within the Council as detailed in Appendix 111.

119. COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF EMPTY HOMES

Councillor Westley submitted a report that proposed for compulsory purchases orders to be made on ten long-standing empty homes. Councillor Willmott explained that the report had been divided into public and private sections, in order that as much of it as possible could be heard in public.

Councillor Westley informed Cabinet that the empty properties had fallen into disrepair and the owners had not responded to requests to repair the properties and bring them back into use. Cabinet heard that the compulsory purchase of the houses would not only provide homes but would also improve the environment as a derelict house had a detrimental impact on the street.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet agrees to:

1. Make Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) under s17 Housing Act 1985 on the land and dwellings as outlined in Appendix D, and as listed below in order to secure their improvement, proper management and occupation as residential dwellings:

48 The Newry	161 Uppingham Road
64 Keightley Road	26 Fastnet Road
5 Worcester Road	107 Warwick Street
171 Anstey Lane	28 Meadhurst Road
106 St Margaret's Way	88 Kimberley Road

2. Authorises the necessary capital expenditure from the Housing Capital Programme.

120. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Leader agreed to accept the following items of urgent business under Cabinet Procedure Rule 7d as the reports were considered urgent on the grounds that a decision was required by Cabinet on 30 November 2009 in order for the process to continue in a timely matter, otherwise it was likely to lead to a delay in implementation and subsequent costs to the Council.

SINGLE STATUS

REVIEW OF PAY STRUCTURES IN HIGHWAYS, PARKS, OPERATIONAL TRANSPORT AND CLEANSING.

121. PRIVATE SESSION

Members of Cabinet considered the reasons for considering the following reports in private, on the basis that they contained information relating to the business affairs of the Authority. They felt that it was in the public interest to maintain the exemption, to protect the Council's business affairs. No objection was raised to this.

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 involved the likely disclosure of 'exempt' information, as defined in the Paragraph 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 3

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

62-64 NEW WALK.

Paragraph 3

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

RE-HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES – NHS CAMPUS RE-PROVISION PROGRAMME (HEALTH HOMES).

Paragraph 3

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

Paragraph 4

Information relating to consultations/negotiations in connection with labour relations matters.

Paragraph 5

Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

SINGLE STATUS

Paragraph 3

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

Paragraph 4

Information relating to consultations/negotiations in connection with labour relations matters.

Paragraph 5

Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

REVIEW OF PAY STRUCTURES IN HIGHWAYS, PARKS, OPERATIONAL TRANSPORT AND CLEANSING.

122. 62-64 NEW WALK

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that outlined the current position with the proposed buyback of 62-64 New Walk. Members were asked to note that there were additional recommendations as distributed in the third Cabinet Despatch.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet agrees:

1. That this matter is urgent on the grounds that any call in would prevent making an out of court settlement, and that, according to Cabinet Procedure Rule 12(d) of the Constitution no call in may be made of the Cabinet's decision; and
2. To approve the recommendations contained within Paragraph 3 of the original report and the additional recommendation Number 2, as detailed in the third Cabinet Despatch.

123. RE-HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES - NHS CAMPUS RE-PROVISION PROGRAMME (HEALTH HOMES)

Councillor Palmer submitted a report which sought agreement from Members on the approach to be taken to progress the NHS Campus Re-provision, known as the Health Homes Programme.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves the recommendations set out in Paragraph 3 of the report.

124. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

SINGLE STATUS

Councillor Patel submitted a report that considered and evaluated proposals on implementing Single Status at Leicester City Council and that sought Members' decisions on strategic issues prior to commencing negotiations with the relevant Trade Unions.

An updated report was circulated at the meeting, which included further details regarding financial implications.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves the recommendations set out in Paragraph 3 of the report.

REVIEW OF PAY STRUCTURES IN HIGHWAYS, PARKS, OPERATIONAL TRANSPORT AND CLEANSING

Councillor Patel submitted a report that addressed issues concerning the review of pay structures within the Highways, Parks, Operational Transport and Cleansing sections and to authorise the Director of Human Resources and service managers to negotiate with the trade unions on the basis set out in the report.

RESOLVED:

that Cabinet approves the recommendations set out in Paragraph 3 of the report.

125. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.55 pm

