

MEETING OF THE CABINET

DATE: MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2002

TIME: 5:00 pm

PLACE: COMMITTEE ROOM 1, 'B' BLOCK, NEW WALK CENTRE,

KING STREET, LEICESTER

Members of the Committee

Councillor Willmott (Chair)
Councillor Patel (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Draycott, Getliffe, Holden, Kavia, Osman, Roberts, Subedar and Westley.

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.

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, Committee Administrator on (0116) 252 6028 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. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 3 December 2001 and the special meeting held on 10 December 2001 have been circulated to Members and the Cabinet is asked to confirm them as a correct record.

3. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. YEAR 2 & 3 NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND Appendix A PRIORITIES AND PROCESS

Councillor Draycott submits a report suggesting a framework for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) for years Two and Three. The Cabinet is asked to; approve the strategic resource allocation and priorities, criteria for schemes, the process and timetable; agree to consult with other partners within the framework of the Leicester Partnership and its sub partnerships; and agree to consult with the Leicester Strategic Partnership, its sub partnerships and request that the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Sub Group provides a score card to assess schemes.

5. THE TRANSPORT OF SERVICE USERS WITH SOCIAL Appendix B CARE NEEDS

Councillor Getliffe submits a report outlining proposals for improved management and greater consistency of decision making in respect of commissioning and providing transport for service users with social care needs. The Cabinet is asked to; note the Childrens Transport Policy and Revised Eligibility Criteria for the provision of transport to those with social care needs; note the arrangements to strengthen the commissioning function within Social Services; consider the options for the future provision and procurement of transport within the changes arising from "Revitalising Neighbourhoods"; and commission a review of the charging policy for transport.

The Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee have also considered this report, at their meeting on 17 December 2001, their views will be reported at the meeting and the minute circulated.

6. LIBRARIES REVIEW 2000 ACHIEVING INCLUSION Appendix C SIX MONTHS REPORT APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2001

Councillor Roberts submits a report seeking Members approval of the progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Libraries Review 2000 report "Achieving Inclusion". The Cabinet is asked to approve the six monthly report, noting progress to date; and to delegate to the Director of Arts and Leisure to approve any amendments to the report.

A copy of the minute from the Education and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 1 November 2001 is also attached to the report.

7. ANNUAL LIBRARY PLAN 2001

Appendix D

Councillor Roberts submits a report seeking the Cabinet's approval of the draft Annual Library Plan for Leicester, required by Government to be submitted to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. The Cabinet is asked to; approve the draft Annual Library Plan for 2001; and to delegate to the Director of Arts & Leisure, to approve any final amendments to the Plan.

A copy of the minute from the Education and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 1 November 2001 is attached to the report.

8. BEST VALUE REVIEWS - IMPROVEMENT PLANS Appendix E

Councillor Westley submits a report seeking the Cabinet's approval to the improvement plans from three Best Value Reviews. The Cabinet is asked to consider the individual reports on the agenda and any recommendations contained within. The Cabinet is also asked to consider whether those proposed improvement plans meet the requirements of Best Value. The following Best Value Review improvement plans are attached to the agenda in the supporting information:-

Financial Management – E1
Services to Homeless People – E2
Libraries and Information Services – E3

9. COUNCIL TAX - TAXBASE

Appendix F

Councillor Patel submits a report which notes the Council's requirement to set a "taxbase" for the purposes of setting its Council Tax and for the Police Authority to set its Council Tax. The report also details the recommended taxbase for 2002/2003. The Cabinet is asked to endorse the report and propose a taxbase to Council.

10. COLLECTION FUND SURPLUSES

Appendix G

Councillor Patel submits a report identifying the estimated financial position of the Collection Fund Account as at 31 March 2002. The Cabinet is asked to approve the estimated collection fund surplus and to approve the estimated shares payable to the Police Authority as detailed in the report.

11. ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT POLICY

Appendix H

Councillor Osman submits a report informing Cabinet of the new policy and to seek approval for implementation. The Cabinet is requested to endorse the Attendance Management Policy enabling implementation following appropriate notice to all employees and to note the identified changes in the new policy compared to the previous policy.

12. DISTRICT AUDIT MANAGMENT LETTER 1999/2000 - Appendix I PROGRESS REPORT

Councillor Patel submits a report on the actions taken or being taken to implement the Key recommendations arising from the District Audit Management Letter for 1999/2000. The Cabinet is asked to note the progress being made and the key recommendations contained within the 1999/2000 District Audit Management Letter, be considered to have been completed.

13. TRANSFER OF REGULATORY FUNCTIONS CARE Appendix J STANDARDS ACT 2000

Councillor Getliffe submits a report informing the Cabinet of the implications of the Care Standards Act 2000, in terms of the transfer of regulatory functions provided by the Council and Local Authority Provision which will be regulated and inspected externally from April 2002. The Cabinet is asked to note the contents of the report and to receive further reports on the financial implications of registration fees, work proposed to meet the new National Standards and the implications of the enforcement powers of the National Care Standards Commission as they might be applied after April 2002.

14. SURE START SAFFRON, LINWOOD CENTRE, SOUTHFIELDS LIBRARY, KINGFISHER YOUTH CENTRE, SAFFRON, LEICESTER

Appendix K

Councillor Patel submits a report which sets out a proposal to partly lease two properties and one site in the Saffron area to enable the implementation of the Sure Start III initiative. The Cabinet is asked to approve that the City Council enter in to three separate leases with Barnados on the terms outlined in the report.

15. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

16. 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.

FOMER AVALON CENTRE, DUXBURY ROAD

17. FORMER AVALON CENTRE, DUXBURY ROAD

Councillor Patel submits a report.