



Leicester  
City Council

## **MEETING OF THE CABINET**

**DATE: MONDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2002**  
**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 Patel (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Bhatti, Draycott, Getliffe, Holden, Kavia, Osman, Roberts 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.**

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Leicester City Council  
New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG  
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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, 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. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 7 November 2002 have been circulated to Members and the Cabinet is asked to approve them as a correct record.

### **4. ITEMS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

### **5. REVITALISING NEIGHBOURHOODS - GUIDELINES AND BOUNDARIES FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS** **Appendix A**

Councillor Willmott submits a report which details the consultations that have been undertaken on the previously agreed proposal to develop 10 neighbourhood forums as part of the Revitalising Neighbourhoods Project. The report also recommends guidance and boundaries for the forums which have been informed by the consultation. The Cabinet is asked to note the findings of the consultation on neighbourhood forums, and ask Council to approve the 'Guidance for Neighbourhood Forums in Leicester', approve the boundaries for 10 new forums subject to final confirmation of new ward boundaries and amend Part 3 of the Council's constitution to include the guidelines on objectives for neighbourhood forums, in line with Article 10.01 of the Council's constitution. The Organisations Working Party is also considering this report, their views will be reported as soon as they are available.

### **6. FORUM FOR OLDER PEOPLE - OVERVIEW AND PROGRESS REPORT** **Appendix B**

Councillor Getliffe submits a report detailing the work of both the Forum for Older People Steering Group and Consultative Group since their inaugural meetings in August 2001. The Cabinet is asked to note that the Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee congratulated the work of the Forum for Older People, supported the formation of an Older People's Partnership Board and the requirement of Directorates to specifically address the needs of older people / people on low incomes in all aspects of policy and as part of the corporate report format. The Cabinet is also asked to note the contents of the

report and consider any matters it would wish to follow up and receive further reports on.

The relevant minutes extract of the Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee held on 16 September 2002 are attached to the report.

**7. SUPPORTING PEOPLE SHADOW STRATEGY AND ANNUAL PLAN 2003/04** **Appendix C**

Councillor Getliffe and Councillor Draycott submit a joint report presenting the 2003/4 Supporting People Shadow Strategy, as agreed by the Supporting People Commissioning Body made up of the Local Authority, Leicestershire and Rutland Probation Service and both Leicester City Primary Care Trusts. The Supporting People Programme places new responsibilities on local authorities to manage and plan local housing related support services. The Cabinet is asked to approve the Supporting People Shadow Strategy for 2003/4 for recommendation to Council

**Copies of the Shadow Strategy have been attached for Members of the Cabinet only, copies of this document can be obtained from the Council's Website ([www.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.leicester.gov.uk)) following the link to Council meetings or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.**

**8. THE HOMELESSNESS ACT 2002** **Appendix D**

Councillor Draycott submits a report explaining the recent Homelessness Act 2002 and how it affects the Council's Allocation Policy and where policy decisions are needed. The Homelessness Act gives more rights to homeless people and promotes choice in Council and Housing Association homes for all applicants. The Cabinet is asked to agree that the Council continues to maintain a homelessness register, note the new duties and powers outlined in the report and the minor changes made to the Housing Allocation Policy to ensure compliance with the act, adopt a simplified allocation scheme following consultation and consult on whether the Council should pursue a 'Choice Based' letting scheme.

**9. PROVISION OF MORE AGE DESIGNATED ONE BEDROOM ACCOMMODATION** **Appendix E**

Councillor Draycott submits a report seeking to extend the scheme for Age Designated one bedroom accommodation following the success of the current pilot schemes across the City. The Cabinet is asked to extend Age designated one bedroom accommodation to the locations shown in Appendix A to the report and to agree that if there is no demand from applicants aged over 45 years then the age limit will be reduced in ten year bandings, until an application is found.

**10. CITY COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2002/3 ENVIRONMENTAL AND HIGHWAY WORKS** **Appendix F**

Councillor Bhatti submits a report seeking the Cabinet's approval for expenditure from the City Council's Capital Programme 2002/03 for environmental and highway works. The Cabinet is asked to approve the expenditure of £300,000 on Local Environmental Works and £100,000 on Highway Maintenance, as detailed in the report.

**11. LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND THE ADOPTION OF VEHICLE EMISSION CONTROL POWERS** **Appendix G**

Councillor Holden submits a report updating the Cabinet on the direction of Local Air Quality Management in respect of proposed controls on vehicle emissions and linked initiatives. The Cabinet is asked to approve the proposed arrangements for progressing the Air Quality Review and assessment, and the adoption of the powers contained in the *Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty)(England) Regulations 2002*, by application to the Department for Transport, and their delegation to the Corporate Director.

**12. REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION** **Appendix H**

Councillor Willmott submits a report enabling the Cabinet to consider changes to its portfolios. The Cabinet is asked to approve the proposed changes to the Cabinet portfolios as shown in Appendix 1 of the report and consider any other changes recommended by the Organisations Working Party at its meeting on 13 November 2002. The views of the Working Party will be reported as soon as they are available.

**13. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000** **Appendix I**

Councillor Patel submits a report on the Council's progress in meeting its legal obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and to seek guidance in key areas. The Cabinet is asked to support the proposed consultation programme, support the proposed method of charging, consider the proposed Best Practice ideas, approve the draft Publication Scheme, delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the political group leaders, to finalise the Publication Scheme for submission to the Information Commissioner and support the proposed response to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister consultation paper.

**14. CRIME AND DISORDER BEST VALUE REVIEW: INTERIM REPORT** **Appendix J**

Councillor Westley submits a report summarising the interim findings of the Best Value Review of Crime and Disorder services. The report also recommends a way forward to the next stage of the Review. The Cabinet is asked to approve that the Performance Management route is the appropriate way forward for the review of services that contribute to a reduction in Domestic Burglaries and Anti-Social Behaviour, and approve that the internal coordination of the City Council's Crime and Disorder services, the conduct of the Council's responsibilities under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act

and the future role of the corporate Community Safety Team are subject to a detailed service assessment. The Council is also asked to note the findings of the Interim Report on Crime and Disorder services, and, in particular, concerns about the present reliance on time limited external funding to resource important aspects of these services.

Copies of the Interim Report have been attached for Members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained from the Council's website ([www.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.leicester.gov.uk)) following the link to Council meetings or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.

**15. FORMER JOHN ELLIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE - Appendix K  
UPDATE**

Councillor Patel submits a report advising the Cabinet on the outcome of the public consultation undertaken as a requirement of the Department for Education and Skills for the disposal of the site following closure of the Community College last year. The Cabinet is asked to note the outcome of the public consultation, comment on views received and to request Officers to market the site in 2003 once the Site Development Guidance is completed and Department for Education and Skills approval for disposing of the site is obtained.

**16. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

**17. 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 7

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (other than the authority).

Paragraph 8

The amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the authority under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services.

THE EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF VARIOUS HOUSES (REPORT NUMBER 2)

CULTURAL QUARTER – ESTABLISHING A DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT

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.

TENDER FOR PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS AND OTHER STREET FURNITURE

PROPOSED LONG LEASEHOLD DISPOSAL OF WESTERN PARK HOUSE AND PAVILION, WESTERN PARK, LEICESTER  
FREEHOLD SALE OF PART OF THE FORMER GRANBY HALLS SITE, WELFORD ROAD, LEICESTER

SALE OF LAND, BURSOM BUSINESS PARK, LEICESTER

SALE OF LEICESTER PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

- 18. THE EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF VARIOUS HOUSES (REPORT NUMBER 2) Appendix B1**

Councillor Draycott submits a report.

- 19. CULTURAL QUARTER - ESTABLISHING A DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT Appendix B2**

Councillor Holden submits a report.

- 20. TENDER FOR PROVISION OF BUS SHELTERS AND OTHER STREET FURNITURE Appendix B3**

Councillor Bhatti submits a report.

- 21. PROPOSED LONG LEASHOLD DISPOSAL OF WESTERN PARK HOUSE AND PAVILION, WESTERN PARK, LEICESTER** **Appendix B4**

Councillor Patel submits a report.

- 22. FREEHOLD SALE OF PART OF THE FORMER GRANBY HALLS SITE, WELFORD ROAD, LEICESTER** **Appendix B5**

Councillor Patel submits a report.

- 23. SALE OF LAND, BURSOM BUSINESS PARK, LEICESTER** **Appendix B6**

Councillor Patel submits a report.

- 24. LEICESTER PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY** **Appendix B7**

Councillor Patel submits a report.