



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CABINET

Held: MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2003 at 5.00pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Willmott - Chair
Councillor Patel - Vice-Chair

Councillor Bhatti
Councillor Draycott
Councillor Getliffe
Councillor Holden

Councillor Kavia
Councillor Osman
Councillor Roberts
Councillor Westley

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184. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were 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 applied to them.

There were no declarations.

185. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader asked Councillor Osman to explain the Council's recent success in being selected as one of the Authorities out of 75 that applied for the Government's Pathfinder scheme. The Council had been awarded £285,000 for additional work on community cohesion with voluntary sector groups.

Councillor Willmott extended congratulations to all those involved in securing this award.

186. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2003, having been circulated to Members, be taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record subject to Minute 160 being amended to show that it was Councillor Draycott who responded to the Revitalising Neighbourhoods item raised by the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee.

187. MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY

There were no matters referred from Scrutiny.

188. SUPPORTING PEOPLE - INTERIM CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Draycott submitted a report requesting the Cabinet's approval of the 'Supporting People' Interim Contract Arrangements and the related authority for signing such contracts. It was noted that the 'Supporting People Grant' created the need to contract with a number of providers for the provision of housing related support services which were currently funded from various sources. It was hoped the government would provide a suitable level of funding to meet the needs of fulfilling the 'Supporting People' contract.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the 'Supporting People' Interim Contract arrangements be approved;
- (2) that Contract Procedure rules 5, 6, 8.2, 10 & 11.5 be waived as described in Appendix A (2) of the report;
- (3) that the Corporate Director of Housing be authorised to negotiate and let interim Contracts for the purposes of the "Supporting People" grant as detailed in Appendix A, 3. (a) of the report;
- (4) that Council be recommended to add the following to the Cabinet Portfolio for Social Care & Health:

"12 to exercise the Council's functions in relation to grants for welfare services."

189. IMPLEMENTING FAIRER CHARGING (HOME CARE)

Councillor Getliffe submitted a report informing the Cabinet of the impact of a proposed increase in the maximum charge for the Home Care Service. It was noted these represented an increase in charging; however there would be few people paying the maximum charge and the increased revenue would be able to continue to fund other services which would avoid service reductions.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that option 3 of the proposals described in the Supporting Information of the report, be approved which would increase the maximum charge to 75% of the minimum charge for residential care which would equate to a new weekly maximum charge for Home Care of £175;
- (2) that only service users receiving more that 40 hours care per week and having disposable (ie non-property) capital in excess of £19,500 would ever reach the maximum

threshold;

- (3) that the maximum charge be made to all new service users assessed to pay it with effect from April 2003, and for existing service users after a notice period of 6 months, from 1 October 2003.

190. COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT DRAFT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Councillor Willmott submitted a report presenting the outcome of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment and subsequent requirements and action plans arising from it.

Councillor Willmott noted this was a 'signpost' for work that the Council needed to undertake and confirmed the Council's performance, strengths and weaknesses.

Councillor Draycott and Councillor Willmott thanked all those Officers and Councillors involved in assistance with the assessment that took place over two weeks in June 2002.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the results of the Corporate Performance Assessment, the proposed inspection programme and the annual refreshment of scores, be noted; and
- (2) that the Improvement Plan, the Best Value Review Programme and the Scrutiny of progress of the Improvement be approved.

191. BRAUNSTONE LEISURE CENTRE

Councillor Holden submitted a report seeking the the Cabinet's approval to the arrangements for the selection of the preferred contractor for the Braunstone Leisure Centre and to authorise the project to proceed to the construction stage in accordance with the City Council's Project Management Standards.

Councillor Holden thanked the Braunstone Community Association, Sport England and Council Officers for their work in relation to the Leisure Centre.

Members of the Cabinet also agreed to a minor amendment to the text of recommendation a. of the report to read 'economic and advantageous' in order to more clearly reflect the need for issues of quality to be taken into account as well as cost, when considering awarding the contract.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the Corporate Director of Cultural Services and Neighbourhood Renewal, in consultation with the Cabinet Members' Working Group, be authorised to approve the

selection of the main contractor for the construction of the Braunstone Leisure Centre, on the basis of the most economic and advantageous tender, provided confirmation has been received from the Braunstone Community Association, Sport England and Sure Start with regard to their financial contribution to the project;

- (2) that the revised funding package as outlined in the financial implications of the report, be approved;
- (3) that the Corporate Director of Cultural Services and Neighbourhood Renewal be authorised to approve the date/ arrangements for the selected contractor to take legal possession of the site;
- (4) that the Head of Legal Services be authorised to enter into contracts for the main contractor and to formalise the legal agreements to secure funding with the Braunstone Community Association, Sport England and Sure Start; and
- (5) that the progression to the Project Construction phase in accordance with the City Council's Project Management Standards, be approved.

192. CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2002/2003 - PERIOD 8

Councillor Patel submitted a report updating the Cabinet on the progress of the Capital Programme for 2002/03 up to the end of November 2002.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the projected outturn for 2002/03 of £65.937m, be noted;
- (2) that the spend at Period 8 of £30.653 million, representing 46.5% of the revised forecast outturn for 2002/03, compared to 50% after the same period in 2001/02, be noted;
- (3) that a projected overspend of £78,000 in respect of repairs to the Canal Street bridge, to be funded by savings of £19,000 elsewhere in the capital programme, and a transfer of resources from the Highways Maintenance scheme to cover the remaining £59,000 overspend, be approved;
- (4) that additional funding, be noted as follows:-
 - i) £16,000 in respect of contaminated land investigations at Thurmaston Boulevard;

- ii) a grant of £21,788 toward vehicle emissions road side testing;
- iii) £19,406 for St George's Public Realm improvements;
- iv) £100,00 to tackle Small Retail Crime in Deprived Areas; and

(5) that progress on specific schemes be noted.

193. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2002/2003 - PERIOD 8

Councillor Patel submitted a report showing a summary position which compared expenditure with the previously agreed budget at the period 8 position.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the spend to date and the forecast outturn be noted;
- (2) that the action proposed, as set out in the appendix to the report, to ensure that spending is contained within departmental budgets, be noted; and
- (3) that the budget virements, as detailed in the appendices attached to the report, be approved.

194. AGENDA NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING

The Chair asked the Cabinet to agree to the moving of the Annual Council Meeting for May 2003 to allow for Political Group processes to take place after the City Council elections on 1 May 2003.

RESOLVED:

that the amendment of the Annual Council meeting in May 2003 to 22 May 2003, be approved.

195. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 5.22pm.