



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE CABINET

DATE: MONDAY, 10 MARCH 2003

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
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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 / Matthew Reeves, Committee Administrators on (0116) 252 6028/6022 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 held on 24 February 2003, have been circulated to Members and the Chair is asked to approve them as a correct record.

4. MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Appendix A

ARTS, LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12 FEBRUARY 2003

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2002/2003

The full minute is attached at Appendix A (i).

RESOLVED:

- (2) that the Committee's concerns regarding one-off festivals and events and the suggestion that a budget be provided to underwrite any possible future shortfalls be passed to Cabinet.

Councillor Patel to respond.

FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 19 FEBRUARY 2003

HEATING AND VENTILATION AT WELFORD HOUSE

A full minute is attached at Appendix A (ii).

RESOLVED:

that the Committee urge Cabinet to identify the future use of the building and allocate sufficient resources as a matter of urgency to enable the situation to be rectified so that the Council's responsibility as an employer can be met.

(iii) CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2002/2003 – PERIOD 8

The full meeting is attached at Appendix A(iii).

RESOLVED:

that the Committee ask the Cabinet to look again at the £19,000 savings from the highways maintenance to see if alternative ways of making up the shortfall could be found from elsewhere in the department.

Councillor Patel to respond.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2003/2004 Appendix B

Councillor Draycott submits a report summarising the proposed programme of environmental work in the previously declared Renewal Areas. The Cabinet is asked to approved the proposed environmental works in renewal areas as detailed in the report, the proposed programme of works for the Environment Task Force (New Deal Rear Wall Scheme) in North Belgrave Renewal Area Phase 2 and that all owners that benefit from the New Deal Rear Walls Scheme should make a flat rate contribution of £150 towards the overall cost of skips used and for the work cabins provided on site.

**6. PRIVATE HOUSING RENEWAL STRATEGY - Appendix C
REFORMS**

Councillor Draycott submits a report which details the new freedoms given to local authorities by the Government to develop local approaches to renovation grants, home repair grants, renewal areas and any other form of assistance to owners of private housing which will improve, repair or adapt their homes. The Cabinet is asked to continue with the existing broad area based strategy, approve the policy changes outlined in appendix 1 of the report, subject to consultation, agree that the Corporate Director, Housing be authorised to approve exceptional applications outside of the general policy, approve consultation with those listed in Appendix 2, approve any major changes to the policy to be confirmed by Cabinet and authorise the Corporate Director, Housing to make minor changes, request an annual monitoring report to be presented to the Housing Scrutiny Committee and to develop a common point of access and marketing strategy for assistance to homeowners with repairs, home energy, security and safety work.

The relevant minutes extract of the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 13 February 2003 are attached to the report.

**7. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE: SOUTH Appendix D
HIGHFIELDS CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER
STATEMENT**

Councillor Kavia submits a report detailing the South Highfields Conservation Area Character Statement and seeks Cabinet approval to adopt the Statement

as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the City of Leicester Local Plan.

8. A NEW STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT **Appendix E**

Councillor Kavia submits a report which sets out proposals for a new International Development Strategy and how this should be approached by the Council and its partners in the future. The Cabinet is asked to endorse the International Development Strategy.

The relevant minutes extract from the Strategic Planning and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 20 February 2003 are attached to the report.

9. HAMILTON DISTRICT CENTRE - PROVISION OF A COMMUNITY HALL AND LIBRARY **Appendix F**

Councillor Patel submits a report seeking Cabinet approval in principle to the funding and provision of a community hall and library at the Hamilton District Centre. The Cabinet is asked to agree that their preferred option is the GPI 'offer' so that officers can commence detailed negotiations, delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning in consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member for Education to agree the detailed terms of the construction of the community hall and library, agree that in the event of negotiations with GPI leading to an agreement being reached, then contract procedure rules 6 & 7 be waived, accept the principle of funding revenue costs through a combination of measures and request that the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member for Education, bring forward proposals to achieve a fully funded facility by the end of a two year transitional period.

10. LEICESTER PROMOTIONS LIMITED **Appendix G**

Councillor Patel submits a report which outlines the basis of a new contract between the Council and Leicester Promotions Ltd from 1 April 2003, the existing contract expiring at 31 March 2003. The Cabinet is asked to agree a move from a three year contract to a five year contract in line with the Visitor Development Strategy, the inclusion of indicative funding levels for those five years within the contract, a revised specification aligning the Council's expectations of Leicester Promotions more closely to the delivery of the agreed Visitor Development Strategy and to authorise the Head of Legal Services, in consultation with the Head of Communications, be authorised to finalise and enter into an appropriate contract with Leicester Promotions Ltd.

11. BEST VALUE REVIEW - HERITAGE SERVICES - FINAL REPORT **Appendix H**

Councillor Westley submits a report presenting the final report of a cross-thematic Best Value Review which looks at all Heritage Services strategically and the Museums Service in depth. The report summarises the findings of the

review and recommends strategic directions for both areas and a detailed improvement plan. The Cabinet is asked to agree a number of strategic principles which arise from the report and to agree to detailed implementation proposals as detailed in the supporting information.

Copies of the Final Report of the Heritage Services Best Value Review have been attached for Members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained from the Council's Website (www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk) or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.

12. BEST VALUE SERVICE REVIEW OF THE HOUSING MANAGEMENT SERVICE: SCOPING REPORT Appendix I

Councillor Westley submits a report setting out the proposals for the scoping of the Best Value Service Review of the Housing Management Service and detailing the preparations to be undertaken prior to the formal inspection in April 2004. The Cabinet is asked to agree the service areas to include in the Best Value Review and to agree to a performance management based approach to the review, both as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

13. TREASURY STRATEGY 2003/2004 Appendix J

Councillor Patel submits a report recommending a Treasury Strategy for 2003/2004. The Cabinet is asked to adopt the Strategy in respect of borrowing, investment, use of fund managers and consultants, leasing, debt rescheduling, and repayment as described in the Supporting Information, recommend to Council to adopt the borrowing limits as detailed in the report and to adopt the proposed lending list attached as appendix B of the report.

14. REVISED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2001/02 Appendix K

Councillor Patel submits a report presenting the report on changes made to the draft accounts following their audit by the District Auditor. The Cabinet is asked to note the revised Statement of Accounts for 2001/02.

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.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

PROVISION OF A DOCTORS SURGERY & COMMUNITY HALL / LIBRARY
AT HAMILTON DISTRICT CENTRE

Paragraph 7

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

GORSE HILL HOSPITAL AND NHS SOCIAL CARE HOMES REPROVISION
PROJECT

17. PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE Appendix B1

Councillor Holden submits a report.

18. PROVISION OF A DOCTORS SURGERY AT HAMILTON DISTRICT CENTRE Appendix B2

Councillor Patel submits a report.

19. GORSE HILL HOSPITAL AND NHS SOCIAL CARE HOMES REPROVISION PROJECT Appendix B3

Councillor Getliffe submits a report.

20. AOUB - BRAUNSTONE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE CENTRE

The Chair agreed to consider this item as urgent business.

The reason for urgency that a decision is required to ensure progression of the construction of the Health and Social Care centre to meet timescales agreed with the Braunstone Community Association, the Government Office for the East Midlands and the Primary Care Trust.

Councillor Patel submits a report.