



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 4 APRIL 2019 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Singh (Chair)
Councillor Govind (Vice Chair)

Councillor Bajaj

Councillor Khote

Also present:

Sir Peter Soulsby

City Mayor

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86. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cleaver, Cutkelvin, Dawood and Westley.

87. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

88. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair did not make any announcements.

89. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

AGREED:

that the minutes of the meeting of the Overview Select Committee held 7 February 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

90. PROGRESS ON ACTIONS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETING

The Chair reported on progress on the actions that were agreed at the previous meeting:

1. It had been agreed that the details of the timeline for the Local Plan would be sent to all Councillors.

This information was included in the Member's Bulletin early in March 2019.

2. It had been agreed that the report on Brexit that was considered at the Audit and Risk Committee would be sent to Members of the Overview Select Committee.

This report was emailed to the Committee Members on 27 February 2019.

3. It had been agreed that the findings of the Housing Tenancy Agreement Consultation be brought to the Overview Select Committee.

The Director of Finance reported that the closing date of the consultation coincided with the date of the previous meeting of the Overview Select Committee. A Member had previously raised a concern that paper copies had not been available in the libraries, but the Director confirmed that hard copies of the consultation had been made available in all the City Council libraries. The responses to the consultation had been positive and a report would be sent to the Housing Scrutiny Commission. The Director added that the Chair of the Housing Scrutiny would be able to provide the Overview Select Committee with an update if Members so wished.

91. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

The Monitoring Officer reported that there were no questions, representations or statements of case.

92. PETITIONS

The Monitoring Officer reported that there were no petitions.

93. TRACKING OF PETITIONS - MONITORING REPORT

The Chair referred to an update of the Tracking of Petitions Monitoring Report which was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached to the back of these minutes. It was noted that none of the petitions were flagged as 'red'

AGREED:

that the Tracking of Petitions Monitoring Report be noted, and the petitions marked 'petitions process complete' namely 3/10/2018, 4/12/2018 and 8/01/2019 be removed from the Monitoring Report.

Action	By
That petitions marked as 'petitions process complete' namely 3/10/2018, 4/12/2018 and 8/01/2019 be removed from the Monitoring Report.	The Democratic Support Officer

94. QUESTIONS FOR THE CITY MAYOR

Disabled parking bays.

Councillor Khote said that some people had been waiting several months to have a disabled parking bay put outside their home. She added that she was referring to proper bays rather than 'H' marking and there were people in desperate need for a parking bay to be put in place. Councillor Khote had heard that Highways were undertaking a review relating to those disabled bays and she asked if the City Mayor knew when the review would be concluded.

The City Mayor responded that he was not aware that a review was being undertaken, but the query would be investigated, and a response would be sent to Councillor Khote.

Action	By
To check whether a review was taking place relating to disabled parking bays outside domestic homes and if so, when the review would be concluded. A response to be sent to Councillor Khote.	Director of Planning, Development and Transportation.

Pathway to the Market

Councillor Bajaj asked the City Mayor if he knew when the new pathway to the market would be opened and if there was a reason for the delay in finalising the work in the Market Square. It had been questioned as to whether the area would be ready for the Christmas Market.

The City Mayor explained that there were two pieces of work taking place. One was the completion of the screen wall behind the Corn Exchange building. This work was nearly finished.

The other big scheme was the demolition through to the Town Hall Square which involved making good the existing buildings and the construction of a new wall at the back of the remaining building to take on some of the weight bearing load. The City Mayor added that he believed that both schemes were progressing well, and he would ask for a full response to be sent to Councillor Bajaj.

Action	By
For information on the status of the work being undertaken in the market to be sent to Councillor Bajaj.	Director of Capital Projects.

95. REPORT OF THE FINANCE TASK GROUP

The Chair introduced the Report of the Finance Task Group, which had met on 21 March 2019 to consider the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Reports for Period 9, 2018/19.

Revenue Budget Monitoring - Period 9, 2018/19.

A member referred to the overspend in the Coronial Services. The Member commented that the Government had said that still born babies needed to be examined and she queried whether the Government would fund this because the Coronial Services were already under financial pressures.

The Director of Finance responded that the overspend in Coronial Services had been discussed at the Finance Task Group. The overspend was partly due to the increased cost in testing. It was however a national issue and Local Government bodies were putting pressure on the Minister of Justice for increased funding.

The Director of Finance asked Members to note that the Council needed to publish their accounts by the end of May 2019; however, the first meeting of the Overview Select Committee in the new municipal year was expected to take place in June 2019. Due to the timing, the decisions normally included in the outturn reports that effect the Annual Accounts would need to be taken before the next meeting, but the Director said that if the new membership of the Overview Select Committee was known in time, she would be very happy to consult with the Chair prior to the decision being taken.

There were no further questions or comments on the minutes of the Finance Task Group or Budget Monitoring Reports.

AGREED:

that the report of the Finance Task Group and the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Reports Period 9, 2018/19 be noted.

96. OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Chair thanked the Members of the Overview Select Committee for their input into the scrutiny process and commented that their contributions to the work of the Committee had been very well made.

The Chair also thanked the City Mayor, Executive Members, Directors and officers for their work in supporting the scrutiny process. He added that the Committee had discharged its duty well.

97. PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

The Chair urged Members to be mindful of items on the Plan of Key Decisions. The Chair added that if Members wanted to consider reports prior to a decision being taken by the Executive, it was the duty of the Chair to request that the

report be brought to scrutiny at an early stage.

98. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Vote of thanks for the Chair

The City Mayor took the opportunity to thank the Chair, Councillor Singh, on behalf of himself and the Executive for his Chairmanship on the Overview Select Committee, and for the way business of the Committee had been conducted. The scrutiny carried out by the Committee had played an important part in making sure that the Council was properly governed and that the Executive were held to account.

The City Mayor added that although it seemed that Councillor Singh would not be returning to that role in the immediate future, he wished him well and felt sure that it would not be long before he was back.

The Chair thanked the City Mayor and responded that effective scrutiny was a two way process and he commended the City Mayor for his leadership.

99. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 5.52 pm.

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UPDATE ON THE PETITIONS MONITORING REPORT

The details of the following petitions have now changed since the report was published with the agenda:-

PETITION Date Received	LEAD PETITIONER	SUBJECT	NEW STATUS	REASON
5/11/2018	Jessica Adams / Nick Thompson	Petition calling for the Council to reconsider the seven permanent speed reduction refuges on Shanklin Drive	GREEN from Red	Proforma returned by the Scrutiny Chair.
28/9/2018	Mr Jitu Gosai	Petition to double lane the eastbound stretch of A563 Glenfrith Way between Hallgate Drive junction and Anstey Lane Roundabout	GREEN	Proforma returned by the Scrutiny Chair

