



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE CABINET

DATE: MONDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2003
TIME: 5:00 pm
PLACE: COMMITTEE ROOMS 2 & 3, 'B' BLOCK, NEW WALK CENTRE, KING STREET, LEICESTER

Members of the Committee

Councillor Roger Blackmore (Chair)
Councillor Scuplak (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Coles, Coley, Hunt, Johnson, Metcalfe, Mugglestone and Suleman

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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Committee Services, Town Clerk's Department
Leicester City Council
New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG
(Tel: 0116 252 6028 / 6022 Fax: 0116 247 1181)*

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 Services on (0116) 252 6028/22 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 4 August 2003, have been circulated to Members and the Cabinet is asked to approve them as a correct record.

4. MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

5. REVITALISING NEIGHBOURHOODS

Appendix A

Councillor Blackmore submits a report presenting a range of options for the Cabinet's consideration on those aspects of Revitalising Neighbourhoods selected for review. The Cabinet is asked to note the options presented in the report and to seek the views of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee.

6. RESEARCH INTO 'AFFORDABLE HOUSING MORATORIUM'

Appendix B

Councillors Hunt and Metcalfe submit a joint report which presents the research into the 'moratorium' for affordable housing in three parts of the City area. The report contains two parts; the report which was submitted to the Strategic Planning and Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Committees, and a covering report which provides recommendations for Cabinet. The Cabinet is asked to, note the current position, note the comments of the Strategic Planning & Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Committees and agree a way forward.

The relevant minutes extract of the Strategic Planning and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 7 August 2003 is attached to the report.

The relevant minutes extract of the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 21 August 2003 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

7. PLAY AREA AND KICKABOUT AREA IMPROVEMENTS 2003-2004

Appendix C

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report outlining the approved capital funding available for children's playgrounds and kickabout areas and presenting proposals for the refurbishment of existing play areas. It also proposes that a detailed assessment of kickabout areas is carried out in preparation for a subsequent review. The Cabinet is asked to approve the refurbishment of six play areas at a cost of £55,000 from the 2003/04 Capital Programme and note that a further report will be submitted presenting findings of the kickabout area assessment and making recommendations for refurbishment and development works.

8. SPINNEY HILL PARK - PROPOSED SITE FOR POLICE STATION Appendix D

Councillor Coley submits a report outlining the current position and background with regard to the proposal to construct a Local Policing Unit on Spinney Hill Park and its impact on the availability of potential lottery funding. The Cabinet is asked to consider whether to continue to negotiate terms for disposal of the land; withdraw from negotiations and retain the land as public park or undertake a public consultation exercise to seek the views of the community with regard to the proposals.

9. MEMORIAL SAFETY - WELFORD ROAD CEMETERY Appendix E

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report informing the Cabinet that, for health and safety reasons, the Corporate Director of Cultural Services and Neighbourhood Renewal has utilised an exception clause under Contract Procedure Rules of the City Council in order to enable essential safety works to be carried out at Welford Road Cemetery as a matter of urgency. The Clause allows exemption from the normal process of seeking tenders. The Cabinet is asked to note the action taken by the Corporate Director.

10. SAFFRON HILL CEMETERY - CHILDREN'S SECTION Appendix F

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report seeking approval for expenditure of £63,000 from the 2003/04 Capital Programme to complete the development of the existing burial land for the interment of young children and babies at Saffron Hill Cemetery.

11. COLLECTION OF WATER CHARGES Appendix G

Councillor Metcalfe submits a report asking the Cabinet to determine whether or not to continue with the collection of water rates and sewerage charges from Council tenants on behalf of Severn Trent Water.

The relevant minutes extract of the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 21 August 2003 will be circulated as soon as it is available.

12. BEST VALUE OF E GOVERNMENT - SCOPE Appendix H

Councillor Coley submits a report seeking the Cabinet's approval to the scope

of the e-government Best Value review.

13. MEMBERS' ACCOMMODATION

Appendix I

Councillor Coley submits a report which asks the Cabinet to determine changes to the allocated Members' accommodation within the Members' Services Offices in New Walk Centre.

14. 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.

Paragraph 7

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

Paragraph 12

Advice received, information obtained or action to be taken in connection with the determination of any matter affecting the authority.

Performing Arts Centre Issues

15. PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE ISSUES

Appendix B1

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report.