



Leicester  
City Council

## **MEETING OF THE CABINET**

**DATE: MONDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 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.**

*Officer contact :Frances Wake / Matthew Reeves  
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 3 November 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. REVIEW OF REVITALISING NEIGHBOURHOODS: Appendix A OUTLINE DECISIONS ON AREA COMMITTEES**

Councillor Blackmore submits a report advising the Cabinet of the outcome of the review of Revitalising Neighbourhoods undertaken by the Procedures Working Party. Cabinet is asked to make a number of decisions with regard to the review, for recommendation to Council.

**The relevant minutes extract from the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee on 4 September 2003 is attached to the report.**

#### **6. LEICESTER WEST TRANSPORT SCHEME Appendix B PROPOSAL**

Councillor Hunt submits a report presenting to Cabinet the findings of the re-assessment of potential site for a Park & Ride facility in the south of the City. Cabinet is asked to make several decisions with regard to the site of the Park & Ride facility.

**The relevant minutes extract from the Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee on 29 October 2003 is attached to the report.**

#### **7. CLOSURE OF PARKFIELD NURSERY Appendix C**

Councillor Johnson presents a report seeking Cabinet approval for the publication of formal notices proposing the closure of Parkfield Nursery at the end of the Spring Term 2004. Cabinet is also asked to authorise that the ring fencing and redeployment of savings arising from the closure during 2003/04

be earmarked for developments for pre-school pupils with Special Educational Needs.

**8. PROPOSED LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETION ON COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS** **Appendix D**

Councillor Coley submits a report proposing a policy on the use of new discretions to vary the current council tax discounts received on second homes and long term empty properties. Cabinet is asked to adopted the proposed policy in principle for a period of consultation with a view to recommending the policy to Council for implementation in April 2004.

**9. 2004/05 TO 2006/07 CORPORATE REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY** **Appendix E**

Councillor Coley submits a report informing Cabinet of the progress made in developing a new corporate revenue budget strategy for the period 2004/05 to 2006/07. Cabinet is asked to note the draft corporate revenue strategy.

**10. CAPITAL PROGRAMME ISSUES 2004/05 AND THE PRUDENTIAL FRAMEWORK** **Appendix F**

Councillor Coley submits a report recommending a process for setting the 2004/05 corporate capital programme and to inform Cabinet of the new Prudential Framework for capital finance. Cabinet is asked to note the implications of the Prudential Framework, recommend the completion of the current 3 year capital programme and agree to develop a new capital strategy over the autumn / winter 2003/04.

**11. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE: ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2002/03** **Appendix G**

Councillor Coley submits a report which enables compliance with the requirements of the Council's Corporate Governance Code by carrying out an Annual Review of Corporate Governance arrangements for the year 2002/03, and to enable the Chief Executive to sign a Corporate Assurance Statement. Cabinet is asked to note the position in respect of complaints to the ombudsman and authorise the Town Clerk to finalise a Corporate Assurance Statement to be signed by the Chief Executive and Leader on behalf of the Authority.

**The relevant minutes extract from the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee on 8 October 2003 is attached to the report.**

**12. FRAMEWORK FOR TREASURY DECISIONS** **Appendix H**

Councillor Coley submits a report proposing the updating of democratic and managerial controls by which the Councils borrowing and investments are governed, so as to reflect current best practice. Cabinet is asked to

recommend to Council a Treasury Management Policy.

**13. LEGAL SERVICES BEST VALUE REVIEW - SELF ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS** **Appendix I**

Councillor Coley submits a report which follows the self assessment stage of the Legal Services Best Value Review and summarises emerging issues and improvement options. Cabinet is asked to make a number of decisions with regard to the review.

**The full review report is attached for members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained either from the Council's website [www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk) or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.**

**14. CONSULATATION RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT GREEN PAPER 'EVERY CHILD MATTERS'** **Appendix J**

Councillor Coles submits a report informing Cabinet of the consultation response to the governments' Green Paper 'Every Child Matters'. It also summarises the key recommendations within the paper. Cabinet is asked to note the consultation responses and consider any further response they may wish to make.

**The relevant minutes extract of the Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee held on 29 October 2003 is attached to the report.**

**The full consultation response is attached for members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained either from the Council's website [www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk) or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.**

**15. FINAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL CARE STANDARDS COMMISSION INSPECTION OF LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL FOSTERING SERVICE** **Appendix K**

Councillor Coles submits a report informing Cabinet of the outcome of the National Care Standards Commission Inspection of the Leicester City Council Fostering Service which took place in May 2003. Cabinet is asked to note the final report of the National Care Standards Inspection and note the statutory requirements identified in the report, which have been acted upon and the good practice recommendation which have been implemented or are in progress.

**The relevant minutes extract of the Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee held on 29 October 2003 is attached to the report.**

**The full National Care Standards Commission inspection report is attached for members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained either from the Council's website**

[www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk) or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.

**16. ADOPTION TEAM ANNUAL REPORT 2003 Appendix L**

Councillor Coles submits a report presenting the Adoption Team Annual Report. Cabinet is asked to note the Annual Report.

**The relevant minutes extract of the Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee held on 29 October 2003 is attached to the report.**

**The full annual report is attached for members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained either from the Council's website [www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk) or by phoning Committee Services on (0116) 252 6022.**

**17. ESTABLISHING A CHILDRENS TRUST PATHFINDER IN LEICESTER Appendix M**

Councillor Coles submits a report that informs Cabinet about the progress of Leicester's Children's Trust Pathfinder, The Leicester Federation of Children's Services. Cabinet is asked to make a number of decisions with regard to the Children's Trust Pathfinder.

**The relevant minutes extract of the Social Services and Personal Health Scrutiny Committee to be held on 20 November 2003 will be circulated once they are available.**

**18. ACHIEVEMENT OF AND FUTURE PLANS FOR IMPROVING CONSTRUCTION PROCUREMENT Appendix N**

Councillor Hunt presents a report informing Cabinet of the plans for 'Improving Construction Procurement', in line with modern best practice and seeks Cabinet approval for a pilot Framework Partnership Agreement. Cabinet is asked to endorse the work taking place to improve construction procurement practices and make a number of decisions regarding pilot Framework Partnering arrangements.

**19. LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL'S SERVICE PLAN FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION 2003/2004 Appendix O**

Councillor Coley submits a report presenting the 2003/04 Service Plan for Consumer Protection. Cabinet is asked to endorse the plan.

**The relevant minutes extract from the Arts, Leisure and Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 1 October 2003 is attached to the report.**

**The full service plan is attached for members of the Cabinet only. Copies of this document can be obtained either from the Council's website [www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk) or by phoning Committee Services on**

**(0116) 252 6022.**

**20. INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATIONS SERVICE REVIEW Appendix P**

Councillor Coley submits a report presenting a series of proposals and options for the future configuration and delivery of Interpretation and Translation Service to enable improvements to be made to service performance. Cabinet is asked to make several decisions regarding the review.

**21. ECO-PROCUREMENT: EU LIFE - ENVIRONMENT FUNDING (LEAP) Appendix Q**

Councillor Hunt submits a report informing Cabinet that the City Council has been invited to lead an eco-procurement project worth £2.15 million, supported by the EU – LIFE – Environment Fund. Cabinet is asked to approve Leicester City Council as the accountable body and beneficiary of the project.

**22. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

**23. 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 particular person

(other than the authority)

National Space Centre – Request for Funding

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.

Property Disposal

**24. NATIONAL SPACE CENTRE - REQUEST FOR FUNDING** **Appendix B1**

Councillor Coley submits a report.

**25. PROPERTY DISPOSAL** **Appendix B2**

Councillor Coley submits a report.