



Leicester  
City Council

## **MEETING OF THE CABINET**

**DATE: MONDAY, 1 MARCH 2004**

**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 Johnson (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Coles, Coley, Hunt, Metcalfe, Mugglestone, Scuplak 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 ordinary meeting of Cabinet held on 2 February 2004 and the special meeting of Cabinet held on 23 February 2004, have been circulated to Members and the Cabinet is asked to approve them as a correct record.

#### **4. MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

**Appendix A**

Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee – 22 January 2004

##### **Revenue Budget Monitoring 2003/04 – Period 7**

A full minute extract is attached at Appendix A

RESOLVED:

that the Cabinet be asked to look at achieving any in year savings in the Cultural Services and Neighbourhood Renewal Department.

**Councillor Mugglestone to respond.**

#### **5. LEICESTER WEST TRANSPORT SCHEME**

**Appendix B**

Councillor Hunt submits a report seeking approval to submit the Leicester West Transport Scheme bid for funding to the Department of Transport. The Cabinet is asked to authorise the submission of the bid jointly with Leicestershire County Council, authorise the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture, in consultation with the Head of Legal Services to settle the form and nature of the application and agree any necessary joint management or implementation agreement and related planning application and construction contracts, to note that a further report will be submitted to Cabinet when full cost and timetable information is available and agree that no 'call-in' of the decisions be allowed on the grounds of urgency.

**The relevant minute extract from the Highways and Transportation**

**Scrutiny Committee held on 26 February 2004 will be circulated as soon as it is available.**

**The Appendices to this report are 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.**

**6. CREMATORIUM PROVISION IN LEICESTER Appendix C**

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report seeking guidance from the Cabinet on future crematorium provision in Leicester. The Cabinet is asked, to indicate whether a new crematorium should be developed to meet the requirements of Leicester's communities. If support is agreed, agree option 3 of the report as the most appropriate way forward and to confirm the current arrangements for the disposal of cremated remains.

**Members are asked to note that as part of this report, financial information relating to the land is attached. These papers are marked 'NOT FOR PUBLICATION' . The information in these papers is exempt as defined in paragraph 9 of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. The information therefore must not be disclosed or discussed at the meeting. Should Members wish to refer to any of these details it is recommended that the meeting move into the private session.**

**The relevant minutes extract from the Arts, Leisure and Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 3 December 2003 are attached to the report.**

**7. NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING Appendix D**

Councillor Blackmore submits a report seeking agreement for how to provide new affordable housing in Leicester. The Cabinet is asked to approve the creation of a 'not for profit' company to create new affordable housing in Leicester, subject to the Corporate Director of Housing and Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Link Member for Housing, agreeing that a viable business case exists and that the detailed legal framework can be set up to so as to properly safeguard the Councils and tenants interests; that a 'well being' grant of up to £10,000 be provided to NewCo Homes for setting up the company and that the Corporate Director of Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Link Member for Housing, be authorised to sell property at less than market value and apply capital receipts, generated from the sale of properties, for investment in the Housing Capital Programme, where the law allows or Government consent has been given.

**The relevant minutes extract from the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 12 February 2004 are attached to the report.**

**8. CRIME AND DISORDER BEST VALUE Appendix E  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Councillor Hunt submits a report presenting an Improvement Plan to strengthen the City Council's contribution to crime reduction in Leicester. The Cabinet is asked to support the Best Value Improvement Plan appended to the report, note the corporate policy, adopted since 2001, of allocating £100,000 annual revenue growth to crime and disorder activities and agree in principle to continue to recommend this to Council and to consider the needs of the Best Value Improvement Plan when allocating the £100,000 noting the improvement plan is dependent on this for resources.

**The relevant minute extract from the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 15 January 2004 will be circulated as soon as it is available.**

**9. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2003/04 PLAYGROUND AND KICKABOUT AREAS Appendix F**

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report requesting approval for the reallocation of Capital Funding already allocated for the development and refurbishment of kickabout areas to other areas of work identified in the report.

**10. THE BALANCE OF FUNDING: A COMBINATION OPTION Appendix G**

Councillor Coley submits a report informing the Cabinet of the Local Government Association's recent discussion document 'The balance of funding: a combination option' and requests consideration whether the Council supports the proposals contained within the document. The Cabinet is asked to note the report, and decide whether it wishes to write to the Local Government Association offering support for the principle of the combination option.

**11. THE EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY - COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF VARIOUS HOUSES 2004 Appendix H**

Councillor Blackmore submits a report recommending that Compulsory Purchase Orders are sought of a number of properties under the City Council's Empty Homes Strategy in order to secure their improvement, proper management and occupation as residential dwellings.

**Members are asked to note that as part of this report, financial information relating to the properties is attached. These papers are marked 'NOT FOR PUBLICATION' . The information in these papers is exempt as defined in paragraphs 7 and 8 of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. The information therefore must not be disclosed or discussed at the meeting. Should Members wish to refer to any of these details it is recommended that the meeting move into the private session.**

**12. ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2002/3 Appendix I**

Councillor Coley submits a report introducing the Annual Audit Letter for 2002/03. The Cabinet is asked to note the report and to refer it to the Finance,

Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee for comments.

**13. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

**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.

OLD TOWN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

PROVISION OF DOCTOR'S SURGERY AND LIBRARY AT HAMILTON DISTRICT CENTRE

Paragraph 7

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

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 12

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

PERFORMING ARTS AND CONVENTION CENTRE – PROJECT PROGRESS AND KEY DECISIONS

**15. OLD TOWN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP** **Appendix B1**

Councillor Coley submits a report.

**16. PROVISION OF A DOCTOR'S SURGERY AND LIBRARY AT HAMILTON DISTRICT CENTRE** **Appendix B2**

Councillor Coley submits a report.

**17. PERFORMING ARTS AND CONVENTION CENTRE (PACC) PROJECT PROGRESS AND KEY DECISIONS** **Appendix B3**

Councillor Mugglestone submits a report.