



Leicester  
City Council

**MINUTE  
EXTRACT**

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2006 at 5.00pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Farmer - Chair  
Councillor Kitterick – Labour Spokesperson  
Councillor Renold – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson  
Councillor Porter – Conservative Spokesperson

Councillor Clair                      Councillor Saleh  
Councillor Willmott (for Cllr. Bhatti)

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**70. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

There were no declarations.

**82. LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER - STRONG AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES**

The Service Director, Regeneration, Highways and Transportation submitted a report providing the Committee with an overview of the main proposals contained within the Local Government White Paper that related to the business of the committee and identifying implications for Leicester.

A member of the Committee queried whether the White Paper would actually deliver benefits for the city. Officers commented that the key issue to delivering regeneration was the level of governance at which it was delivered. Certain issues made sense on a neighbourhood basis, other issues needed a county-wide approach.

Members of the Committee felt that it was disappointing that the White Paper didn't consider the issue of changing the boundaries of governance of local authorities. It was also felt disappointing that the White Paper didn't go into detail about the level at which particular services should be delivered. Officers commented that the White Paper wasn't detailed in this area. It was however noted that there was the 'call to co-operate' aspect which called on relevant

partner agencies to work together to address a particular issue. It was noted that there was no definition of 'partners' which meant that a wide interpretation of this aspect of the White Paper could be considered. It was also noted by one Member of the Committee that discussions they had with Ministers prior to the White Paper's publication had indicated that it was never likely to consider this matter. Members of the Committee felt that ways in which local authorities in the county could work together in a closer way should be explored further.

**RESOLVED:**

that the Cabinet be requested to look into ways in which a 'Greater Leicester' partnership could be delivered to improve closer working with neighbouring authorities.