



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

RECORD OF MEETING

Held: WEDNESDAY, 1 AUGUST 2007 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Mugglestone – Chair
Councillor J. Blackmore – Vice Chair

Councillor Follett
Councillor Naylor

Councillor Mayat
Councillor Newcombe

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mohammed Alauddin Al-Azad – Parent Governor Representative
Edward Hayes – Roman Catholic Diocese
Canon Peter Taylor – Church of England Diocese

* * * * *

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests that 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.

14. REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT TASK GROUP

Discussion then centred on funding the activities of scrutiny,. In this instance it related to the payment of consultants to undertake survey work, but it could also mean room hire and transport costs. Cllr. Russell stated that there wouldn't be departmental funding available to support the use of external consultants for this investigation, as it was additional work. It was queried whether there was a central budget available to support scrutiny activities. Other members felt that it was usual for Council departments to fund the activities of Scrutiny Committees. It was suggested that this issue should be considered as part of the review of the Scrutiny process. The Lead Officer to

the Committee undertook to find out whether there were any resources currently available to support this investigation. Board Members then discussed whether this matter should be raised with Cabinet this was agreed.

Queries were then raised regarding the use of consultants. It was noted that this was an emotive issue. Councillor Russell stated that she felt it was important to use experts in consultation to buy in their expertise to get a firm idea of the views of local people.

RESOLVED:

- (2) that Cabinet be requested to give urgent consideration to the allocation of funding for scrutiny activities.