



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Held: THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2009 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Hall

Councillor Corral	Councillor Hall
Councillor Glover (for Cllr Westley)	Councillor Naylor
Councillor Russell	Councillor Manish Sood (for Cllr J. Blackmore)

Co-opted Members

Mr Mohammed Alauddin Al-Azad – Parent Governor
Mr Edward Hayes – Roman Catholic Diocese

Also In Attendance

Councillor Dempster Cabinet Lead Member for Children,
and Schools.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Blackmore, Follett, Joshi, Mugglestone and Westley, Jess Evans, Rebecca Barrow and Michael Asquith, Church of England Diocese.

2. 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 applies to them.

Cllr Allen declared a non-prejudicial interest in Appendix F, Leicester Carers' Strategy 2009-2013 as he was a carer.

11. LEICESTER CARERS' STRATEGY 2009-2013

The Corporate Director, Adults and Housing, submitted a report that presented a revised draft of the Leicester Carers Strategy following the consultation period, for approval and adoption by the council.

A minute extract from the Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 1 April 2009 had been circulated to members.

The Service Director, Older People introduced the paper and emphasised that the strategy related to unpaid home carers. She stated that nearly 10% of the population of Leicester had care responsibilities.

Members were informed that a second period of consultation on the strategy took place at the end of 2008, and feedback had been received which suggested that the process had been very inclusive. Following the consultation, it was explained that ten action themes had been established that provided the structure for more detailed action plans during the life of this strategy, and that these included supporting carers to stay healthy, the economic well being of carers and providing earlier and better intervention for carers. A detailed implementation plan was to be created.

Councillor Allen reported that he had recently attended a meeting that considered issues around dementia. He stated that it was predicted that 1.4million people in Britain would suffer with dementia by 2037. Councillor Allen was of the view that many carers did not receive support, including assessments of need, at an early enough stage. He also stated that the Health Scrutiny Committee were hoping to arrange an open day for carers to raise awareness of the various support mechanisms available to them. In response to these points, Ruth acknowledges that many people did not see themselves as carers and consequently did not receive the support that they were entitle to.

In response to a question from a Member of a Board, Ruth confirmed that the Council provided a comprehensive range of materials for people who suddenly found themselves becoming a carer.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that the recommendations of the Health Scrutiny be endorsed.