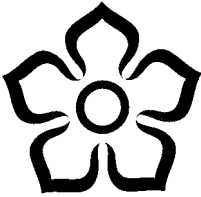


# ISSUES RAISED AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEES



Leicester  
City Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the STRATEGIC PLANNING AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2002 at 5.30pm

### P R E S E N T :

Councillor Hunt - Chair  
Councillor Soulsby - Labour Spokesperson

Councillor Blackmore (for Cllr. Henry)    Councillor Sood  
Councillor Hunter                                    Councillor Thomas

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were 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 applied to them.

There were no declarations made.

#### **7. THE FORMATION OF A HISTORIC BUILDINGS TRUST IN LEICESTER**

The Service Director, Planning and Sustainable Development submitted a report informing members of an initiative presently being undertaken to try to generate interest in a Building Preservation Trust actively restoring historic buildings in Leicester.

Members of the Committee were supportive of the idea of a Historic Buildings Trust and were keen to assist in its promotion. It was felt that a body such as this would be more able than the Council to bring historic buildings back in to use. It was also felt there were numerous examples of buildings that were suitable for a project to be

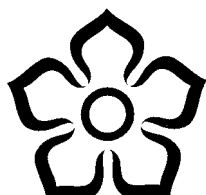
undertaken by a Trust.

The Committee agreed with the Officers views that the best way forward would be to publicise the work of the existing Leicestershire Historic Buildings Trust, to encourage more people to become involved and for the Trust to take on new projects within the City.

The Committee then requested the Cabinet initiate a publicity campaign to promote the work of the existing Trust to encourage more people to become involved. Officers also commented that the Trust had already identified a suitable building within the City on which to pursue a renovation project.

**RESOLVED:**

that Cabinet be requested to instruct officers to initiate a publicity campaign to publicise the work of the Leicestershire Historic Buildings Trust.



Leicester  
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PERSONAL HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2002 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Gajjar - Chair  
Councillor Coles - Liberal Democrat Spokesperson  
Councillor O'Brien - Conservative Spokesperson

Councillor Blackmore                      Councillor Nasim  
Councillor Nurse

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mr John Scruton – Voluntary Sector  
Mr Eric Hudson – Voluntary Sector

\* \* \* \* \*

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Getliffe – Cabinet Lead Member for Social Services and Personal Health

\* \* \* \* \*

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Act applied to them.

Mr John Scruton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 6 (Petition referred from Council regarding the Mayflower Club), as the Executive Director of Age Concern. He agreed to leave the meeting during the consideration of this item.

**9. REVENUE BUDGET**

The Service Director - Resources, submitted a report that informed the Scrutiny Committee of the provisional 2001/02 outturn, progress with the 2002/03 budget, and provided information on central support service costs charged to the Department.

In response to Members' queries, the Head of Finance reported that a report on central support charges had been commissioned by the Chief Executive. The Scrutiny Committee asked that if this report was not completed by September 2002, that the Chief Financial Officer be asked to attend the October 2002 meeting of the Committee.

The Scrutiny Committee felt strongly that further representations needed to be made to Government about the increasingly difficult Social Services budget situation. It was felt that cross-party representation on this issue would be the most effective means of lobbying the Government.

The Corporate Director of Social Care and Health stated that he had asked the District Auditors if they could offer any advice on how the Department's budget management could be improved and the District Auditor had subsequently audited all the Departments budgetary processes. He also reported that the Chief Financial Officer would be reporting to Cabinet on a fair funding formula for Leicester and it was hoped this would lead to a better settlement from Central Government next year.

Members' queried the increase in Project Work costs outlined in Appendix A of the report. The Head of Finance reported that this was largely due to an increase in I.T. support costs. These costs were a result of the implementation of the Carefirst Information System.

The Scrutiny Committee asked that Cabinet consider how Persons From Abroad would be funded this year as no provision had been made in the Social

Services budget.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the report be noted.

(2) that Cabinet be asked to consider how Persons From Abroad will be funded this year as no provision had been made in the Social Services budget.

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