



Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED**  
All Wards

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:**  
Cabinet

**1 September 2003**

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**Members' Accommodation**

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**Report of the Service Director (Democratic Services)**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. To consider, and determine as appropriate, changes to the allocated Members' accommodation within the Members' Services Section.

**2. Report**

- 2.1. Accommodation within the Members' Services area on floor B1, New Walk Centre, is utilised, as appropriate, for both the Elected Members and the officers within Members' Services Section.
- 2.2. Detailed space allocation is determined through discussion with the Group Whips, with decisions (because of the associated expenditure involved) being taken by the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity in consultation with the three Group Whips. As happens with such items which utilise the Whips Meetings, when an all party consensus cannot be reached, being an executive issue the matter is passed to Cabinet for determination.
- 2.3. Following on from current proposals relating to Member policy support (for both Cabinet and Scrutiny) to ensure that there are readily to hand work bases for such Policy Support officers to utilise when working directly with Members, Councillor Scuplak, Deputy Leader, has identified that he can reduce his office space requirements, although he does still require a smaller office for individual work.
- 2.4. In allocating office space for Members' use, other than a political group room for each of the three political groups, the past methodology for allocating the remaining space has been on the basis of facilitating the Executive (i.e. Cabinet), certain Council appointed functions (e.g. Licensing Sub-Committee) along with the majority party Chief Whip.
- 2.5. After the appointment of the new Administration at the Annual General Meeting, with discussion at the Whips Meeting, the Group Rooms utilised by the Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups were swapped over. In addition, the outgoing Leader removed from the Leader's Office the paperwork associated with his term of office and transferred it to Members Office 1 for further action. Members Office is currently occupied by

Councillors Willmott and Draycott and is also made available by them to other members of the Labour Group to hold private meetings.

- 2.6. Bearing in mind the proposed reduction in space requirement by the Deputy Leader and the utilisation of that vacated space by the Policy support staff, it would be necessary for a Members Office to be vacated for use by the Deputy Leader.
- 2.7. If the rationale used previously were re-applied, this would require the vacation of Members Office 1 from its current use. The allocation of the remaining rooms would remain unchanged.
- 2.8. The views of the Cabinet are, therefore, requested on the future allocation of Members' accommodation.

**3. Recommendations**

- 3.1. It is recommended that Members determine the future allocation of Members' Accommodation within the Members' Area on floor B1.

**4. Financial and Legal Implications**

- 4.1. There are neither financial implications nor legal implications associated with this report (Andy Morley/Peter Nicholls).

**5. Other Implications**

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph References Within Supporting information
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	

**5. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972**

None.

**7. Consultations**

As indicated in the report, the Group Whips were consulted regarding this matter but there was no unanimity regarding the way forward.

**8. Report Author/Officer to contact:**

Charles Poole, Service Director (Democratic Services), extn. 7015

**DECISION STATUS**

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Reason</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Appeared in Forward Plan</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Executive or Council Decision</b>	<b>Executive (Cabinet)</b>