



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 2004 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Bhatti - Chair

Councillor Mrs. Middleton - Conservative Spokesperson

Councillor Karim – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Draycott
Councillor Garrity

Councillor Fitch (for Cllr Renold)
Councillor Willmott

83. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare any interests they might have in the business to be discussed, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them

No such declarations were made at this time.

95. NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND PROGRAMME 2004/06

The Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture submitted a report which explained the process for developing a programme of activity for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF) in the City for the period 2004/2006.

The report also detailed the Government rationale behind the regime, and the key criteria and targets that applied to its use.

The author of the report was not present at the meeting.

The report explained that the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund had been introduced in 2000, with 88 Local Authority areas allocated varying yearly amounts, based on the number of people living within City wards which fell within the top 10% most deprived in the UK, based on the Index of Deprivation.

All areas in receipt of NRF funding had to develop a local strategic partnership (LSP), and have it accredited by the regional government office. Leicester's

LSP was called the Leicester Partnership, involving membership from the public and private sector, plus the voluntary and community sector.

The Leicester Partnership had considered a proposed programme of work, containing notes and action points, which were attached at Appendix A to the report.

Councillor Willmott and Councillor Draycott voiced their concerns over the first item included in the summary of decisions at Appendix A, detailing support for the Partnership Infrastructure and Capacity Programme projects which amounted to £1,140,784.

This was supported unanimously by the Scrutiny Committee.

They asked that Cabinet's attention be drawn to these concerns, and that such a large amount of money had been allocated to administrative support for the Partnership; further information was also sought on a breakdown of these costs.

RESOLVED :

that the information contained in the report be noted, and the concerns of the Scrutiny Committee be passed on to the Cabinet.