



Leicester
City Council

DRAFT

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY, 6 APRIL 2005 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Shelton – Chair – Cultural Services Stream
Councillor Mrs. Maw – Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Sandringham – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Thompson – Chair – Highways and Transportation Stream
Councillor Panchbhaya – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson
Councillor Hall – Labour Spokesperson

Councillor Allen
Councillor Green
Councillor Vincent

Councillor J Blackmore
Councillor Mugglestone
Councillor Wann

Also in attendance:

Councillor Connelly - Cabinet Member for Leisure
Councillor Corrall - Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Environment
Councillor Kitterick - Cabinet Member for Transport

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**77. ECO-MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SCHEME (EMAS) PROGRESS FOR
2003/04, PROPOSED ACTION FOR 2005/06**

The Service Director, Environment, submitted an annual report which provided information on the Council's progress towards the corporate environmental improvement targets. He stated that performance was generally good, although some areas were not as successful. Two areas which needed more attention were use of Council vehicles and recycled paper. It was noted that the second part of the report contained suggested amendments to the targets.

A Member drew attention to the Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Code and congratulated officers and Members on introducing this. With regard to purchasing cleaning products that had not been tested on animals, she asked how effective this policy was. In response it was advised that implementation was patchy as regular purchasers may have been aware of the policy whereas others may not. Members were also informed that the Council was currently receiving funding for leading the LIFE-funded European Eco-procurement project, which encouraged green and local purchasing. It was, however, stated

that not all eco-friendly products were as effective so it was not always practical to use them.

Councillor Sandringham, seconded by Councillor Hall, proposed the following suggested recommendation:

"That Cabinet be asked to look at implementing the Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Code by ensuring that:

- 1) ESPO products purchased are not tested on animals;
- 2) The ISS criteria is met for purchases;
- 3) this is mentioned at staff induction and appraisal;
- 4) the BUAT award is researched and achieved."

A Member felt that the use of products not tested on animals should be investigated but that the cost implications should be taken into account. In response it was suggested that whilst using environmentally friendly products may have a cost implication, using animal friendly products did not.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was CARRIED.

Concern was expressed about the amount of paper that was used in the authority, and it was suggested that the Council should look at more environmentally friendly ways of disseminating information to Members. However, some Members felt that modern technology was not reliable enough to be able to do this, and that there would still be resource implications. It was stated that 97% recycled paper was used in the authority and also that it was quicker and more cost effective for papers to be printed collectively by the Council's reprographics section than for each individual to print off their own copy from their PC.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet be asked to look at implementing the Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Code by ensuring that:

- 1) ESPO products purchased are not tested on animals;
- 2) The ISS criteria is met for purchases;
- 3) this is mentioned at staff induction and appraisal;
- 4) the BUAT award is researched and achieved.

