



Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman Area Committee

RECORD OF MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 11 April 2006 at St. Hugh's Church, Sturdee Road, Eyres Monsell, Leicester

Present

Councillor Mark Farmer (Chair)

Councillor Barbara Chambers, Aylestone;
Councillor Dale Keeling, Freeman;
Councillor Nigel Porter, Aylestone;

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98. Declaration of interests

Councillor Mrs Chambers declared that she sat on the Council's Development Control Committee and therefore would not take part in the discussions on the Saffron Lane Sports Stadium because this item would be brought before the Committee for decision and she had to remain impartial.

102. Local Area Agreement

Adam Archer, Project Manager for the Leicester Local Area Agreement (LAA) gave the meeting an introduction to the LAA and how this would affect Leicester. He explained that the LAA would simplify how funding streams were managed, setting a single set of requirements for funding. It would also set national and local priorities and targets about what would be achieved within Leicester, making savings in bureaucracy.

David Taylor, Landlord Services Manager from the City Councils Housing Department was also in attendance at the meeting to describe the Neighbourhood Management role of the LAA. He explained that it was hoped that the LAA would improve management and co ordination of services in the most deprived areas of Leicester. It would not be about bringing in money to spend but it would help bring agencies together to reduce duplication and spend the money better.

In Saffron there would be a Neighbourhood Manager appointed as well as a Neighbourhood Board set up which would have a delivery plan to tackle services. It was believed that this would make a difference to improve the standard of living for the most deprived areas.

Residents raised concerns about where the money was coming from to fund this project and it was explained that the funding would be administered by the City Council as part of the Local Area Agreement and three of the Neighbourhood Managers would be funded by the Housing Department.

Concerns were also raised about additional resources for the Saffron area as part of Neighbourhood Management. Residents were disappointed that money would not be available for Eyres Monsell and Aylestone. They felt that they had missed out in having funds spent on improving their areas in the past.

Councillors explained that they understood the concerns of residents but commented that the money had to be spent on the most deprived areas of the city. Councillors and residents also raised concerns about the potential administration costs involved with employing Neighbourhood Managers. It was explained that it was unknown how much money would be spent on the administration of Neighbourhood Management and a detailed budget had not yet been agreed.

The Chair proposed that a referral be made to the Strategic Planning and Regeneration Committee as well as Cabinet, that the Area Committee was concerned about the lack of regeneration funds for Aylestone and Eyres Monsell and that there should be regeneration proposals for the south side of the city. The Committee was also concerned about the potential amount of funding to be spent on the administration of Neighbourhood Managers.

RESOLVED:

that the following be referred to Cabinet and the Strategic Planning and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee:

- (1) that the Committee expresses its concerns about the lack of regeneration funding to the Eyres Monsell and Aylestone area;
- (2) that proposals be brought forward for community regeneration of the Southern side of the city; and
- (3) that the Committee expresses its concerns about the proportion of money being spent on administration as part of Neighbourhood Management.