



Leicester  
City Council

EXTRACT

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER 2006 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Allen- Chair  
Councillor Draycott(Labour Spokesperson)  
Councillor Metcalfe (Focus Team Spokesperson)

Councillor Dempster

Councillor Joshi

Councillor Panchbhaya

**43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

Members declared the following personal and prejudicial interests in the agenda:

Councillor Draycott father-in-law is tenant of a Council owned property  
Councillor Joshi sister is tenant of a Council owned property  
Councillor Metcalfe tenant of a Council owned property

**48. DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE PLANNING PROCESS**

The Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture submitted a report that reviewed the Council's existing arrangements for handling developer contributions and sought agreement to revised policies and procedures designed to improve the Council's corporate approach in dealing with developer contributions.

The Service Director, Planning and Policy, informed the meeting that this report reflected the work of the All Party Member/Officer Group that had been meeting since 2005 and that work had continued in readiness for a Cabinet decision. He It was also reported that the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee and the Planning and the Development Control Committee had considered the report. He said that both committees supported the work but

felt that affordable housing should have been more of a priority for the use of developer's contributions.

Members of the Committee were pleased with the work, and wished for it to continue. They also agreed with the suggestions made by the other committees around affordable housing being placed in a category of higher priority. Members maintained that those areas listed in priority 2 such as the provision of community facilities were also of extreme importance, but felt that affordable housing should have be listed under the same priority heading.

One further comment made by Members was that they welcomed the employment of a skilled officer to work solely in the area of development contributions.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the committee recommends there be a higher priority for affordable housing.
- (2) that the Committee supports the creation of a Development Contributions Officer post.