

## Minutes of the Meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Held: THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2009 at 5.30pm

## PRESENT

Councillor Grant (Chair) Councillor Bhatti (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Glover Councillor Joshi Councillor Potter Councillor Hall Councillor Newcombe Councillor Senior

## Also In Attendance

Councillor Osman

Councillor Westley Jaskaran Bhimber Dilone Arilal Councillor Naylor Cabinet Lead for Frontline Services, Improvement and Neighbourhoods Cabinet Lead for Housing Rushey Mead School City of Leicester School

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## 100. JOINT REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT AND CULTURE AND LEISURE TASK GROUP - FINAL REPORT - THE FUTURE OF LEICESTER MARKET

Councillor Newcombe submitted a report that provided the Board with the findings of the Joint Task Group review into the future of Leicester Market.

Councillor Newcombe stated that the vision for improving the area would require extensive investment and planning, and it would impact on a wide variety of services. He thanked the previous Chairs of the Task Groups and the Head of Markets and other officers who had been involved, for their work on the review.

Members stated that they welcomed the work that had been done by the Task Groups.

Jaskaran Bhimber asked why the existing waste disposal system was deemed to be unsuitable, and it was noted that, as exemplified by other markets, the compactor system would make the market more attractive. In response to Members' queries, it was reported that specific costings were not yet available due to the wide impacts of the proposals. It was felt that the report showed that there was scope to improve the environment, revitalise nearby shops and allow for better loading and unloading.

Dilone Arilal asked what the impact would be for vegetarians if the meat, fish and vegetable stalls were integrated. It was reported that vegetable sections could be incorporated in the design. The current food hall was not suitable for modern use.

It was reported that there would be better opportunities for partnerships between the market and the NHS, schools and other organisations. A recently-appointed Development Officer would create these links.

It was reported that the Task Groups' visits to other markets had shown the potential to develop Leicester Market and improve its viability. The offer of food tasters, methods of waste disposal and mix of stalls were highlighted.

Concern was raised that accessibility and mobility were hindered by the current transport infrastructure of the city centre. It was reported that greater signage was proposed, and the use of the cycle delivery scheme and the use of eco-cabs could alleviate some issues.

RESOLVED:

That the Board receives the report and agrees to its submission to Cabinet.