



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCRUTINY
COMMISSION

Held: THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST 2015 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T:

Councillor Dawood (Chair)
Councillor Gugnani (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Corral
Councillor Halford

Councillor Hunter
Councillor Khote

In Attendance:

Sir Peter Soulsby, City Mayor
Councillor Clair, Assistant City Mayor - Culture, Leisure and Sport
Councillor Master, Assistant City Mayor - Neighbourhood Services
Councillor Sood, Assistant City Mayor - Communities & Equalities

Also Present:

Councillor Aqbany
Councillor Dr Chowdhury
Councillor Kitterick
Councillor Malik

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cutkelvin.

Apologies for absence also were received from Councillor Waddington, Assistant City Mayor with responsibility for Jobs and Skills, who although not a member of the Commission would usually attend its meetings.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Although not a member of the Commission, Councillor Sood, Assistant City Mayor with responsibility for Communities and Equalities, declared an Other

Disclosable Interest in the general business of the meeting, in that she was Chair of the Leicester Council of Faiths.

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, this interest was not considered so significant that it was likely to prejudice Councillor Sood's judgement of the public interest. She was not, therefore, required to withdraw from the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission held on 9 March 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

4. PETITIONS

The Monitoring Officer reported that no petitions had been received.

5. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

The Monitoring Officer reported that no questions, representations or statements of case had been received.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE

NOTED:

The Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION 2015/16

The Chair reminded the Commission that, in addition to the listed members, there also was a vacancy for a non-grouped Member on the Commission.

NOTED:

The membership of the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission for 2015/16.

8. DATES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS 2015/16

NOTED:

The dates of meetings for the Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission for the 2015/16 municipal year.

9. CALL-IN OF CITY MAYOR DECISION - HIGHFIELDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The following decision had been called-in and was referred to this Commission for consideration under Council Procedure Rule 12(f), Part 4D of the Council's

Constitution:

Decision by the City Mayor:-

- 1) To make no retrospective payment to the HCA in relation to 2014/15 on the basis that agreement on funding could not be reached; and
- 2) To cease engagement with HCA in respect of Neighbourhood Services funding.

The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

The Chair noted that the meeting was being filmed from the public gallery, so in accordance with Council policy, he invited anyone who did not wish to be filmed to so indicate. No objections were made.

The Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services introduced the decision that had been called in. It was noted that, as indicated in the report setting out the reasons for the decision, it was felt that events since 2014 had resulted in an irretrievable breakdown in the working relationship between the two organisations.

The building used by the HCA and the staff employed by it had been transferred to the HCA in 2010, in response to pressure from the HCA to do so. This was an unprecedented action by the Council, which involved a substantial physical asset, a staff team and a three-year funding agreement.

This funding agreement had ended in December 2013. Discussions were held on how the HCA could become financially self-sustainable, in accordance with the original agreement, but it was considered that the initial business plan provided by the HCA was not robust enough to enable this to happen. As such, three months' transitional funding was provided in December 2013 and in the spring of 2014 a further one year's funding was offered on condition that the HCA strengthened its business case.

By January 2015, the HCA had not agreed terms and conditions for the funding, which the Council considered to be standard to funding agreements, (for example, in relation to safeguarding and the right of the Council to visit the premises). Serious concerns also had arisen by this time about the action taken by the HCA on the pensions of the staff transferred to the Association. As a result of these various concerns, the decision was taken to make no retrospective payment and cease engagement with the HCA regarding Neighbourhood Services funding.

At the invitation of the Chair, Priya Thamotheram, the Head of the Highfields Centre, addressed the Commission. He also tabled some notes on his comments, a copy of which is attached at the end of these minutes for information.

Mr Thamotheram drew particular attention to the following points:-

- Records of the meetings with senior officers referred to under paragraph

1.3 of the notes were available;

- There was no formal agreement that the HCA would be financially independent within three years. The HCA had challenged the Council to provide a record of this, but none had been produced;
- A business plan had been prepared by the HCA with the assistance of a national body. This gave three different scenarios for the future of the HCA;
- Other agencies had been consulted about the terms and conditions that the Council said were standard. These agencies had said that those terms and conditions had not been applied to them;
- It initially had been thought that the HCA would need to reduce its funding by 40% in 2014, but it was realised that a reduction of 80% would be needed. The Trustees had to respond to this through a range of measures. One of these was the introduction of a new pension scheme, which was agreed with staff;
- The Local Government Pension Scheme had agreed a settlement for the pension deficit and had absolved the Council of future responsibility for the pensions of HCA staff;
- Meetings had been sought with Council officers in recent months regarding room hire charges, as the HCA wanted to formalise the room hire arrangements, due to other problems arising. A meeting had been arranged for early June, but this was cancelled at short notice;
- The HCA had been asked to respond to the Council's proposals for room hire charges in less than 24 hours. However, the HCA had sought an independent valuation of the accommodation, so could not respond within that timescale;
- The HCA's reserves had been built up over 30 years, to enable it to continue to provide services and take responsibility for the refurbishment of the Highfields Centre;
- The HCA service highlights listed on the notes tabled at the meeting had been included to show why the HCA was a successful organisation, partnered by a lot of agencies in the city and appointed the lead partner in a major project supported with European funding; and
- The HCA had not wanted its relationship with the Council to take the course it had, but it felt that service users were being victimised in relation to services in the Highfields area.

Councillor Kitterick then addressed the Commission at the invitation of the Chair:-

- He expressed concern about what had happened to the service users since the Neighbourhood Services funding had been withdrawn from the Highfields Centre, especially those attending the pre-school group.

Response from the Head of Service Early Help Targeted Services

There had been 13 children receiving Early Years day care when the service was withdrawn.

When it was known that the service was being withdrawn from the Highfields Centre, the families of those affected were advised of two days when officers would be available to discuss, with language support, alternative provision. Only four families used this facility and all were offered alternative provision. Attempts had been made to contact the other families by telephone, but it was not known if they had now found alternative provision. Councillor Kitterick asked if this information could be made available to Members.

- Further concern was expressed that four members of staff had been given less than two weeks' notice of the proposed changes to their conditions of service.

Response from the Head of Service Early Help Targeted Services

The four members of staff were fully engaged in considering the options for their relocation. Further discussions would be held on 26 August 2015, the staff having initially been told of the changes in late June / early July 2015.

- Two copies of a letter to the members of staff referred to above had been passed to the Chair of the Commission, one of which stated that the staff concerned would be relocated to the Thurnby Lodge Children, Young People and Family Centre.

Response from the Head of Service Early Help Targeted Services

Relocation to the Thurnby Lodge Centre was one of the options being discussed with staff, not the only one.

The first letter, referring to staff relocating to Thurnby Lodge, was a draft letter that had been prepared in advance of discussions, in accordance with good practice. The second letter was the one that had been used and did not refer to Thurnby Lodge.

- How many adult education classes and learners had there been at the HCA?

Response from the Head of Adult Skills and Learning Services

In 2014/15, there were 52 courses, 231 learners and, due to people enrolling on more than one course, 529 enrolments. Alternative provision had been made for these courses and learners. Many had moved to the African Caribbean Centre, while some had gone to St

Peters Church Hall and the community wing at Spinney Hills Primary School. Members were welcome to visit to scrutinise arrangements.

- Why had the HCA had not been included in the Transforming Neighbourhood Services review that had been undertaken?

Response from the City Mayor

This reflected the fact that the HCA was not a direct provider of Council services, but was a unique Centre, with self-governance and transitional funding in preparation for it achieving self-sustainability.

- Clarification of the response to the above question was sought, as it had been stated that the on-going review of community facilities would consider such facilities, irrespective of whether the Council funded them.

Response from the City Mayor

A decision on future Neighbourhood Services funding of the HCA could not wait until the review of community facilities reached that part of the city. When the review did reach that part of the city, it would include provision by the HCA and other suppliers in the area, but this was not scheduled for the immediate future..

- It was queried whether the funding withdrawn would be ring-fenced for use in Highfields.

Response from the City Mayor

Funding had not been withdrawn, it had ceased in 2013 and so what was in question was additional funding. As such, there were no funds to ring-fence.

The City Mayor addressed the Commission at the invitation of the Chair, explaining that before any decision was made on ceasing the provision of childcare at the HCA, a check had been made that there was “sufficiency of provision” in the Highfields area. From this, it had been found that there was an over-supply of children’s pre-school groups in that area of the city.

Members expressed some unease that services were being taken away from the Highfields Centre, but noted that a business plan had not been provided as requested. Priya Thamotheram reminded Members that a business plan, prepared with the assistance of a national body, had been submitted in June 2014.

The Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services reiterated that a business plan had been received, but the Council considered that it was not sufficiently robust. Any decision on whether to provide future funding had not been made, to give the HCA time to strengthen the business plan and help to do this was offered by the Council. However, by May 2015 a revised business plan had not been received.

Members suggested that the comment made at 4.3 in the notes tabled by the

HCA was a bit severe. Priya Thamotheram replied that this referred to remarks made over the previous 18 months and a clause in the lease agreement for the Highfields Centre that if the HCA ceased to function the Council would have first call on the premises.

In reply to a question from the Commission, Priya Thamotheram explained that rent paid by the Council for use of the Centre was calculated on the basis of a formula and was capped at just under £100,000. This included payment towards insurance and heating costs. The rent proposed for future use was based on the same formula.

The Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services noted that the Council was changing its usage requirements for the future, due to the changing needs of Adult Learning and Early Years services. This represented a reduction in space required of approximately 50%, but the rent proposed by the HCA had increased by 40% to approximately £140,000.

Priya Thamotheram confirmed that the HCA would have been willing to negotiate rent levels with the Council if more time had been made available. However, the City Mayor noted that the issue of rental of space by the Council at HCA was a separate one to that called-in.

Councillors requested information on what measures the HCA had taken to ensure that children were safeguarded. Priya Thamotheram advised that, as a responsible employer, the HCA had undertaken its own registrations with the former Criminal Records Bureau and with the Disclosure and Barring Service that replaced it. This was done for every member of staff and every volunteer engaged to deliver a service at the centre.

AGREED:

- 1) That the Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services be asked to provide information about the services offered to all 13 children affected by the ending of the service at the Highfields Centre and to track those children to find out what play provision they will be attending in September 2015;
- 2) That concern is expressed about the future employment options of four early years staff affected by the above decision and the need for them to be offered appropriate other employment within the city;
- 3) That the Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services be asked to:-
 - a) Provide members of the Commission with information about the successor provision for the adult education services relocated from the Highfields Centre, including numbers of students, courses and education locations; and
 - b) Invite Members to scrutinise the new arrangements identified

under a) above, notifying Commission members and signatories of the 'call in' of where the enrolment will be undertaken and enabling them to attend the enrolment days.

10. CURRENT CONSULTATIONS ON LICENSING MATTERS

The Director of Local Services and Enforcement submitted information on three current licensing consultations. The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control advised the Commission that all three consultations ended on 16 August 2015.

a) Taxi Licensing

The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control introduced this consultation, drawing attention to the four areas of taxi licensing that were being consulted on, namely:-

- i) The introduction of longer duration driver licences of up to three years;
- ii) The introduction of a Penalty Points scheme for driver misconduct;
- iii) Proposed awareness training in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation; and
- iv) A review of the existing vehicle age policy for taxis.

It was noted that it was proposed that one of the criteria for issuing a three year taxi driver licence would be that the driver had no serious criminal convictions. Members asked what constituted "serious" criminal convictions and expressed concern that someone could commit a serious offence very soon after receiving a three year licence and the Council could be unaware of this.

The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control explained that a serious conviction would be for offences such as assault, violence or dishonesty. Each driver had to have a criminal records check every three years, but it was hoped that the Council would be advised of any serious offences as they arose. However, there currently was no system that guaranteed that this would happen. Under the proposed Penalty Points scheme for driver misconduct, a driver would receive three Penalty Points for failing to notify the licensing authority of a conviction.

It was suggested that, rather than having variable length licences, they all should be for the same length, for example either one or three years, but the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control Current explained that current legislation required the Council to extend licences beyond one year unless there was good reason not to. By varying the length of licences, drivers could be seen more regularly if the Council had any concerns about their conduct.

Members queried whether any other licensing authorities used the Penalty Points scheme for driver misconduct and, if they did, how successful they found it. It was acknowledged that the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency already operated a penalty points system for drivers committing driving offences and asked whether this would be a sufficient means by which to assess drivers' suitability for a three year licence.

The recommendation that all drivers should be provided with Child Sexual Exploitation awareness training had been made as the Council wanted the drivers to be the “ears and eyes” of the city and report concerns they had. This was fully supported by the Commission.

Councillor Clair, Assistant City Mayor – Culture, Leisure and Sport, addressed the Commission at the invitation of the Chair, explaining that:

- The Council had regular dialogue with the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers, so its members were aware of the changes being proposed in these consultations;
- It was proposed that the Penalty Points scheme for driver misconduct initially would be introduced for a trial period of 12 months. During this time, discussions could be held to ensure that the scheme of points was appropriate;
- The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control would manage the Penalty Points scheme for driver misconduct. All drivers would have a right of appeal against any points awarded under this system before a final decision was made;
- Drivers had indicated that they were happy to undertake the Child Sexual Exploitation awareness training; and
- A report on the final recommendations arising from these consultations would be presented to the Executive. That report also could be presented to this Commission for scrutiny.

In response to questions from Members, the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control explained that documentary evidence would need to be provided to substantiate a complaint of driver misconduct. The driver could challenge this evidence.

The length of a driver’s licence would be reduced when that driver had accumulated 12 points. To reach this level, repeated misconduct must have occurred. A report would be made to the Council’s Licensing Enforcement Sub-Committee for a decision to be made on whether the driver’s licence should be revoked or suspended. If this was done, the driver could appeal to a magistrate’s court and the revocation or suspension would not come in to effect until the appeal had been heard.

Members enquired whether exceptions to the upper age limit for vehicles could be made, (for example if the Council’s taxi testing station confirmed that a vehicle was in good order). However, the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control advised that this could become rather arbitrary. Also, with the age limit set at 11 years, the fleet renewed more quickly than with an age limit of, for example, 15 years and newer vehicles tended to be more efficient, creating less pollution.

AGREED:

- 1) That the Scrutiny Policy Officer be asked to pass the Commission's comments on the consultation on taxi licensing to the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control as follows:-
 - a) A clear definition of what is meant by a serious criminal offence committed by a licensed hackney or private hire driver is needed;
 - b) Licences for hackney or private hire drivers should be for a standard term of either one or three years;
 - c) There should be a formal agreement with partner agents, including the police, under which the Council is informed directly of any relevant convictions of, or offences by, licence-holders;
 - d) Further consideration should be given to the Council's proposed Penalty Points system for driver misconduct. This should include ensuring that there is a fair and effective way of managing it and that what constitutes an offence is clearly stated;
 - e) If the Penalty Points system for driver misconduct is introduced, the Assistant City Mayor – Culture, Leisure and Sport be asked to present the report of the review of its operation in 12 months' time to this Commission for scrutiny; and
 - f) The requirement to attend child sexual exploitation awareness training is fully supported; and
- 2) That the Assistant City Mayor – Culture, Leisure and Sport be asked to submit a report in 12 months' time on the review of the trial period of operation of the penalty points scheme to be scrutinised by this Commission.

b) Licensing Act Policy

The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control explained that the Council was required to review its Licensing Act Policy every five years. This was the purpose of the current consultation.

Members expressed some concern at the recommendation that off-licenses in areas associated with problem street drinking should not sell high alcohol content drinks. This could result in customers going to other outlets in the area to buy these drinks, which would be detrimental to the trade of off-licenses.

In reply, the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control explained that the restriction would apply to all licences in areas that had problems with street

drinking. This already was used in some parts of the city, such as London Road, and had led to a reduction in problems being experienced with street drinking.

AGREED:

That the Scrutiny Policy Officer be asked to advise the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control that this Commission comments on the consultation on the Council's Licensing Act Policy as follows:-

The Commission welcomes the consultation, but considers that the policy of banning some stores from selling high alcohol content drinks while others are allowed to sell such drinks is anti-competitive and may lead to smaller local businesses losing trade.

c) Gambling Policy Review

The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control drew Members' attention to the proposal that area profiles would be drawn up for all parts of the city. Members welcomed this, but noted that this could not be done until guidance was received from the Gambling Commission on what could be included.

Members raised concern that currently there was no limit to bets that could be placed through fixed-odds betting machines and suggested that a limit of £2 should be applied. The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control noted these concerns and advised the Commission that the Council previously had lobbied the government for such a limit to be introduced, but without success.

Concern also was raised about the number of betting shops that could be located in one street. The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control confirmed that this was a concern nationally, but the Gambling Act did not include any power to limit the number of betting shops in one area. Instead, the government was proposing that planning restrictions could be used to limit numbers.

Councillor Sood, Assistant City Mayor – Communities and Equalities, addressed the Commission at the invitation of the Chair. She reminded Members of her declaration of interest, (see minute 2, "Declarations of Interest", above), noting that Leicester was a very diverse city, with many different places of worship. However, betting shops were opening near places of worship, which was of concern to residents and worshippers. To help avoid this, it would be useful to include information on places of worship in the area profiles to be prepared.

The Commission concurred with this and suggested that a definition of what constituted a place of worship should be included in the area profiles. The Head of Licensing and Pollution Control advised that this was the sort of issue that it was hoped could be included in area profiles, but this could not be assured until guidance on completion of the profiles was received from the Gambling Commission.

It was suggested that indices of deprivation could be used to help create area profiles, which could help identify any correlation between the locations of betting shops and deprivation.

Councillor Master, Assistant City Mayor - Neighbourhood Services, addressed the Commission at the invitation of the Chair, suggesting that the location of betting shops could be plotted on the map of the locations of places of worship previously compiled by the Council.

AGREED:

That the Scrutiny Policy Officer be asked to pass the Commission's comments on the consultation on the Gambling Policy review to the Head of Licensing and Pollution Control as follows:-

- a) It is recommended that area profiles of the city should be prepared as soon as advice on what can be included is received from the Gambling Commission, to allow gambling licence applications to be judged on their local and cumulative impact on the local communities, especially in terms of pre-existing deprivation within those communities and including the impact on local places of worship; and
- b) It is recommended that the council continues to support the campaign for a reduction in the maximum bet which can be made in fixed-odds betting machines to £2.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES PORTFOLIO

The Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services, Director of Finance and Director of Local Services and Enforcement submitted a report providing an overview of the key areas and services relating to the Neighbourhoods element of this Scrutiny Commission's work.

The Director of Culture and Neighbourhood Services introduced the report, explaining that it aimed to illustrate the wide extent of the portfolio and help Members decide what they wished to scrutinise.

AGREED:

- 1) That the report be noted; and
- 2) That all directors be asked to ensure that all reports submitted to the Commission contain recommendations on the action being sought from the Commission.

12. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PORTFOLIO

The Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance submitted a report providing an overview of the key areas and services relating to the Community Involvement element of this Scrutiny Commission's work.

The Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance introduced the report, drawing Members' attention to the wide range of services involved in Community Involvement.

AGREED:

- 1) That the report be noted; and
- 2) That all directors be asked to ensure that all reports submitted to the Commission contain recommendations on the action being sought from the Commission.

13. WORK PROGRAMME

The Commission received the draft Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission Work Programme for 2015/16.

The Chair explained that this would evolve over the coming year, so members of the Commission were welcome to suggest areas of work that could be scrutinised. It was anticipated that no more than two major reviews would be done each year, which could be led by members of the commission other than the Chair if wished.

AGREED:

That members of the Commission e-mail the Chair to suggest areas of work to be scrutinised over the coming year.

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.18 pm

Minute Item 9

Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement (NCSI) Scrutiny Commission – 13.08.2015

Highfields Community Association (HCA) / Highfields Centre (HC)

1.0 Introduction:

- 1.1 Presentation - Priya Thamotheram (Head of Centre) & Furzana Khalifa (HCA GB part time staff rep.)
- 1.2 Thanks to the sponsors of the call-in for the opportunity for this matter to be considered at NCSI.
- 1.3 Regrettable that positive discussions with officers about the renewal contract have been negated over last 18 months.
- 1.4 Decision to not provide any LCC funding for Arts, Sports, Advice and Community services at HC and to remove excellent and well-established pre-school and adult learning from HC is already having seriously detrimental impact on both service users and service delivery staff.

2.0 Issues raised by LCC

- 2.1 Financial Independence within 3 years but no formal/informal agreement
- 2.2 No Business Plan (BP) but 4 year BP was provided in April 2014 & updated BP delayed due to LCC's failure to provide information and car park license termination, funding & room hire decisions.
- 2.3 Funding Contractual Clauses not agreed but HCA agreed this in January 2015, albeit under duress as these contractual conditions were not being required of other equivalent agencies the Council funded.
- 2.4 No Comparable Pension provided but given projected 42% cut, subsequently actualised to 80% cut, HCA staff unanimously agreed new pension scheme.
- 2.5 Pension Deficit Payment – HCA's initial settlement agreement with Local Government Pension Scheme not agreed by LCC, so HCA agreed new settlement with LGPS which removed LCC's guarantor role.
- 2.6 Excessive room hire charges – meeting finally arranged to discuss new rental agreement cancelled at short notice and instead, less than a week given for HCA to provide an offer and less than 24 hours given for HCA to reconsider that offer!
- 2.7 High level of reserves - HCA's reserves is largely designated, with £250,000 for Asset Replacement Fund, £40,000 for programme support work and the balance providing the recommended six months operational costs.

3.0 HCA Service Highlights (2011 – 2014)

- 3.1 Turnover has increased by 360% & LCC's share of HCA's income has reduced from 95% to 48%
- 3.2 Expenditure has increased by 494 % (inclusive of a one-off pension deficit payment)
- 3.3 Staff team has increased by 40%
- 3.4 Over 400,000 users in 4 years (2011 – 2014) & exceeded all contractual targets
- 3.5 Open to the public 7 days per week over 326 days per year
- 3.6 Provided 5000 activity sessions in 2014, averaging 16 people per session
- 3.7 Member of 5 successful, externally funded service consortiums and raised over £600,000 in last 4 years from European Union and Big Lottery for new and additional services
- 3.8 Highfields Centre's pioneering community cohesion work resulted in it championing 'Celebrating Diversity and Unity in the Community' long before it became common parlance in both local and national discourse and reflected in both its staffing and usage figures, with HCA staff comprising last year of 59% Asian, 21% African/Caribbean, 12% White and 8% Other and reflected in its people usage pattern, with 73% Asian, 16% African/Caribbean, 4% White and 7% Other
- 3.9 91% of our users said HCA's services were excellent to good
- 3.10 98% of our users said they would continue to use HCA's services
- 3.11 97% of our users said they'd recommend our services to their friends, family, etc
- 3.12 Gained national accreditation through the achievement of the Social Enterprise Mark, Investors in People, Matrix, Advice Quality Standard and other national kite marks
- 3.13 Successful lead applicant for Highfields Our Place

4.0 In Lieu of a Conclusion

- 4.1 Just a fraction of the above service highlights would suggest a remarkable set of achievements to be celebrated & utilised as a benchmark for equivalent developments to be effected elsewhere in this city
- 4.2 It's been said that a week is a long time in politics and as for the last year, it's taken up much of our creative energies to ward off LCC's determined and unmerited attacks on our Centre.
- 4.3 In a blatant quest to bankrupt Highfields Community Association, the increasingly disadvantaged and predominantly racial minority communities in Highfields are being victimised through LCC's actions on several service related developments

