

Time commenced - 4.30 pm

Time finished - 5.40 pm

## **SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION 1 SEPTEMBER 2008**

Present: Councillor Graves (in the Chair)  
Councillors Hird, Hussain, F Khan and Webb

In attendance Councillors Care, Carr and Latham

### **41/08 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Batey, Bolton and Poulter

### **42/08 Late items introduced by the Chair**

There were no late items.

### **43/08 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of Interest.

## **Items for Discussion**

### **44/08 New Ways of Working and Accommodation Strategy**

The Commission considered a report on New Ways of Working and Accommodation Strategy which would be considered by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 2 September 2008.

The Commission made the following comments

1. The refurbished Council House should be seen as an 'environmental flagship' for the whole City. SMC members considered that when they approved the proposals for New Ways of Working and the Accommodation Strategy, the Council Cabinet should have full regard for the Council's green agenda. SMC members were also of the opinion that Cabinet should give consideration to incorporating all practicable environmental options in the refurbishment, that the relevant standards should be identified and clearly defined, and that ultimately, decisions should not be made just on the basis of the lowest cost.
2. All members of the City Council should be informed of the choices that were available and wherever possible the opinions of members on those choices should be sought.
3. Consultation should be carried out with the Disabled People's Diversity Forum at all stages of the process and that wherever appropriate the views of the Forum should be taken into account.

4. That 'best practice' methods should be employed wherever this is feasible.
5. That emphasis should be give to resolving existing IT issues before the decant of staff is commenced.

**Resolved to recommend that throughout the life of the project the Council Cabinet should provide an update report on progress with New Ways of Working and the Accommodation Strategy to each meeting of the Commission.**

## **45/08 Growth Point – Refresh of Programme of Development for Derby Housing Market Area**

The Commission considered a report which stated that the Government designated the Three Cities and Three Counties (6Cs) area as a Growth Point in 2006. The 6 Cs encompasses the sub regional Housing Market Areas (HMAs) of Leicester Nottingham and Derby, the Derby HMA covering the City, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley. As a Growth Point the area will undergo additional housing development, consistent with regional plan targets, and is eligible for resources to support this from the Government's Growth Fund. The report set out the priorities for potential Growth Funding to be included in the refreshed Growth Point Programme of Development for the Derby Housing Market Area.

The Commission were asked to consider and comment on the priorities for potential Growth Funding.

Individual members of the Commission made the following comments:

1. Green wedges should not be concreted over for Park and Ride.
2. There was concern about schooling in the south of the city in the light of the major planning applications for housing in South Derbyshire. These had been through public inquiry, there were section 106 agreements in place covering school provision and contributions and education and planning officers had been involved in the discussions leading up to these.
3. There were concerns about the timescale for improvements to Alvaston district centre, there had been complaints about the time taken for similar improvements to Allenton and the same should not happen to Alvaston. The works needed to be completed in the shortest possible time.
4. It was felt that the Littleover/Blagreaves City Park was not necessary - there was a need to upgrade existing parks before creating any new ones.
5. Bass's Recreation Ground should have some priority in view of its role as the main City Centre park.
6. Improvements at Markeaton Park were supported in view of its City wide role.

It was noted that a report would be presented to Council Cabinet on 30 September 2008.

**Resolved to include the Commissions comments in the report to Council Cabinet.**

#### **46/08      Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved

“that under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information”

#### **47/08      New Ways of Working and Accommodation Strategy**

The Commission considered exempt information relating to New Ways of Working and Accommodation Strategy.

**Resolved to note the report**

MINUTE END