

MEETING OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2024 AT 2.00 P.M.

ORDER PAPER

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of having to evacuate officers will be able to advise and be on hand to assist any disabled persons.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1
TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN

DR FELTHAM will invite nominations.

MR RUSHTON will move and MR MULLANEY will second:

“That MR JOE ORSON be elected Chairman for the period until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.”

On being elected the Chairman will read out and sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which will be witnessed and signed by the Chief Executive.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2
TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN

THE CHAIRMAN will invite nominations.

MR RUSHTON will move and MR MULLANEY will second:

“That MR RICHARD SHEPHERD be elected Vice Chairman for the period until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.”

On being elected, the Vice-Chairman will read out and sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which will be witnessed and signed by the Chief Executive.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3
CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The CHAIRMAN will make his announcements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4
REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

(Pages 3 – 4)

The CHIEF EXECUTIVE will present the report of the Returning Officer on the election of MR BARRY RICHARD WALKER to the County Council at the election held on 2 May 2024.

The CHAIRMAN will welcome MR WALKER.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

MINUTES

(Pages 7 - 20)

The CHAIRMAN will move and MR SHEPHERD will second:

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 21st February 2024, copies of which have been circulated to members, be taken as read, confirmed and signed.”

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The CHAIRMAN will invite members who wish to do so to make declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(1) (2) & (5)

(A) Question by MR HUNT

- “1. At the last Council Meeting the Cabinet proposed and Council duly accepted, in light of the Council’s financial position, the proposal to revise the Council’s net zero targets for its own operations, from 2030 to 2035. How has this affected the budget and how will it affect the actions that Council recently agreed?”
2. At the last Council Meeting the Cabinet proposed and Council duly accepted, in light of the Council’s financial position, the proposal to revise the Council’s net zero targets for the wider County, from 2045 to 2050. How has this affected the budget and how will it affect the actions that Council recently agreed?”

Reply by MR PAIN

- “1. During the preparation of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2024-2028, it was established that additional funding would be required each year to progress the Council’s ambitions in relation to net zero and the wider environment. The Council’s financial position however, meant this additional funding was not available and it was, therefore, agreed by the County Council that the net zero target for the Council’s own operations would be revised from 2030 to 2035 to reflect the existing budget. The published MTFS, as approved by the County Council on 21 February 2024, has not been affected by this decision.

Officers are currently reviewing the 2030 Net Zero Council Action Plan to take into account the revised target and consider what actions can be

prioritised for delivery within the staff and financial resources available.

2. During the preparation of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2024-2028, it was established that additional funding would be required each year to progress the Council's ambitions in relation to net zero and the wider environment. The Council's financial position however, meant this additional funding was not available and it was, therefore, agreed by the County Council that the net zero target for the wider county would be revised from 2045 to 2050 to reflect the existing budget. The published MTFS, as approved by the County Council on 21 February 2024, has not been affected by this decision.

Officers are currently reviewing the Net Zero Leicestershire Action Plan to take into account the revised target and consider what actions can be prioritised for delivery within the staff and financial resources available."

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

TO RECEIVE POSITION STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

(Note: Standing Order 8 provides as follows: -

- (a) A position statement may give rise to an informal discussion by the Council.
- (b) At the conclusion of the discussion a formal motion may be moved to the effect that a particular issue relevant to the statement be referred to the Cabinet, the Commission, a Board or a Committee for consideration. This shall be moved and seconded formally and put without discussion. No other motion or amendment may be moved.
- (c) The discussion of any position statement shall not exceed 20 minutes but the Chairman may permit an extension to this period.)

LEADER

The Leader will make his statement.

LEAD MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, SAFER COMMUNITIES AND REGULATORY SERVICES

The Lead Member will make her statement.

TO CONSIDER REPORTS OF THE CABINET, SCRUTINY COMMISSION, SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, AND OTHER BODIES

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

REPORT OF THE CABINET

(Pages 17 – 18)

Principal Speakers:
Mover of motion (as appropriate)
Leader of the Opposition (Mr M T Mullaney)

(A) DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024/25 AND 2025/26

MR RUSHTON will move and MR BRECKON will second:

“That Council meetings in 2024/25 and 2025/26 be held on the following dates: -

- Wednesday 3 July 2024
- Wednesday 25 September 2024
- Wednesday 4 December 2024
- Wednesday 19 February 2025 (to consider the budget)
- Wednesday 14 May 2025 (Annual Meeting)
- Wednesday 2 July 2025
- Wednesday 24 September 2025
- Wednesday 3 December 2025
- Wednesday 18 February 2026 (to consider the budget)
- Wednesday 13 May 2026 (Annual Meeting).”

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

(Pages 19 – 30)

Principal Speakers:
Chairman (Mr N J Rushton)
Liberal Democrat Spokesman (Mr M T Mullaney)

(A) REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL ON MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

MR RUSHTON will move and MRS TAYLOR will second:

- “(a) That the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances be increased by the equivalent percentage increase awarded to Spinal Column Point 43 of Grade 15, for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. The increase be implemented as soon as practicable after the employee pay award is agreed and be back dated to 1st April;
- (b) That the arrangement for indexation of Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances continue until 31st March 2028 based upon the equivalent percentage increase on SCP 43, Grade 15, of the County Council’s pay spine. The increase will be implemented when the employee pay award is agreed for each year and backdated to 1st April of that year;

- (c) That the current levels of Travel and Subsistence allowances remain unchanged;
- (d) That those Members who submitted an Annual Report be thanked for doing so;
- (e) That the submission of Annual Reports continues for the next four years;
- (f) That those Members who did not submit a report in 2022/23 submit one for the municipal year 2023/24.”

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11
APPOINTMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEMS 11 AND 12 OF STANDING
ORDER 4

(A) TO APPOINT THE LEADER

Motion 1

MRS TAYLOR will move and MR POLAND will second:

“That Mr N J Rushton be appointed Leader of the Council for the period until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.”

Motion 2

MR RUSHTON will move and MRS TAYLOR will second: -

“That it be noted that the Leader proposes to appoint the members named on List ‘1’ attached to the Order Paper as members of the Cabinet.”

(B) TO APPOINT CABINET SUPPORT MEMBERS AS THE COUNCIL CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE

MR RUSHTON will move and MRS TAYLOR will second: -

“That the following members be appointed as Cabinet Support Members until the next Annual Meeting of the County Council, as provided for in Article 7 of the Council’s Constitution: -

Mr. R. Ashman CC
 Mr. T. Parton CC
 Mr. C. Smith CC
 Mrs. M. Wright CC”

(C) TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (INCLUDING THE NAMING OF SPOKESMEN/ SPOKESPERSONS

Motion 1

MR POLAND will move and MR BRAY will second:

“That the membership of the Scrutiny Commission, Boards and Committees as set out in List ‘2’ and the Chairmen Elect and Spokespersons named in List ‘3’ attached to the Order Paper be approved.”

Motion 2

MR POLAND will move and MR BRAY will second:

“That the Chief Executive be authorised to make and terminate appointments to the Commission, committees, boards and other County Council bodies (not including the Cabinet) in accordance with the wishes of the Political Groups to whom the seat in question has been allocated, subject in the case of those bodies set out in List ‘2’ to the Group giving one day’s notice to the Chief Executive of its wishes.”