



*Meeting:* **Scrutiny Commission**

*Date/Time:* **Wednesday, 30 April 2014 at 2.00 pm**

*Location:* **Sparkenhoe Committee Room, County Hall, Glenfield**

*Contact:* **Mr. S. J. Weston (Tel: 0116 305 6226)**

*Email:* **sam.weston@leics.gov.uk**

### Membership

Mr. S. J. Galton CC (Chairman)

Mrs. R. Camamile CC    Mr. A. M. Kershaw CC  
Dr. R. K. A. Feltham CC    Mr. P. G. Lewis CC  
Mr. S. J. Hampson CC    Mr. K. W. P. Lynch CC  
Dr. S. Hill CC    Mr. R. J. Shepherd CC  
Mr. Max Hunt CC    Mr. L. Spence CC

**Please note: this meeting will be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's web site at <http://www.leics.gov.uk/webcast> – Notices will be on display at the meeting explaining the arrangements.**

### AGENDA

<u>Item</u>	<u>Report by</u>
1. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2014.	(Pages 5 - 10)
2. Question Time.	
3. Questions asked by members under Standing Order 7(3) and 7(5).	
4. To advise of any other items which the Chairman has decided to take as urgent elsewhere on the agenda.	
5. Declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.	
6. Declarations of the Party Whip in accordance	



with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16.

7. Presentation of Petition: Request for children to be allowed to continue their education at their local County Catchment Secondary School with transport costs provided where this falls outside the 3 mile distance.

A petition signed by 1385 residents is to be presented by Mr. L. Yates CC as local member for Glenfields.

8. Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan 2014-18. Chief Executive

A copy of the Cabinet report to which this matter relates will be circulated to Commission members when it becomes available on 24 April 2014.

The Deputy Leader, Mr. J. B. Rhodes CC, has been invited to attend for this item.

9. County Council Transformation Programme. Director of Corporate Resources (Pages 11 - 36)

The Deputy Leader, Mr. J. B. Rhodes CC, has been invited to attend for this item.

The Director of Corporate Resources will deliver a brief presentation under this item.

10. Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Director of Children and Family Services (Pages 37 - 64)

The Cabinet Lead Member for Community Safety, Mr. J. T. Orson JP CC, has been invited to the meeting for this item.

11. Home to School Transport Policy. Director of Environment and Transport

A copy of the related documentation for the further round of consultation on Home to School Transport Policy will be circulated to members of the Commission when it becomes available ahead of the meeting.

12. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled to take place on 4 June 2014.

13. Any other items which the Chairman has decided to take as urgent.

## **QUESTIONING BY MEMBERS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

Members serving on Overview and Scrutiny have a key role in providing constructive yet robust challenge to proposals put forward by the Cabinet and Officers. One of the most important skills is the ability to extract information by means of questions so that it can help inform comments and recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny bodies.

Members clearly cannot be expected to be experts in every topic under scrutiny and nor is there an expectation that they so be. Asking questions of 'experts' can be difficult and intimidating but often posing questions from a lay perspective would allow members to obtain a better perspective and understanding of the issue at hand.

Set out below are some key questions members may consider asking when considering reports on particular issues. The list of questions is not intended as a comprehensive list but as a general guide. Depending on the issue under consideration there may be specific questions members may wish to ask.

### **Key Questions:**

- Why are we doing this?
- Why do we have to offer this service?
- How does this fit in with the Council's priorities?
- Which of our key partners are involved? Do they share the objectives and is the service to be joined up?
- Who is providing this service and why have we chosen this approach? What other options were considered and why were these discarded?
- Who has been consulted and what has the response been? How, if at all, have their views been taken into account in this proposal?

### **If it is a new service:**

- Who are the main beneficiaries of the service? (could be a particular group or an area)
- What difference will providing this service make to them – What will be different and how will we know if we have succeeded?
- How much will it cost and how is it to be funded?
- What are the risks to the successful delivery of the service?

### **If it is a reduction in an existing service:**

- Which groups are affected? Is the impact greater on any particular group and, if so, which group and what plans do you have to help mitigate the impact?
- When are the proposals to be implemented and do you have any transitional arrangements for those who will no longer receive the service?
- What savings do you expect to generate and what was expected in the budget? Are there any redundancies?
- What are the risks of not delivering as intended? If this happens, what contingency measures have you in place?