



DATE: 16 September 2014
MY REF: MIS/BS
PLEASE ASK FOR: Mr. M. I. Seedat
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Dear Sir/Madam

I summon you to the MEETING of the LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL to be held at COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD on WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2014 at 2.30 p.m. for the transaction of the business set out in the agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Announcements.
2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 2 July 2014. (Pages 5 - 18)
3. To receive declarations by members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.
4. To answer questions asked under Standing Order 7(1)(2) and (5).
5. To receive position statements under Standing Order 8.

To consider reports of the Cabinet, Scrutiny Commission, Scrutiny Committees and other bodies:

6. Report of the Cabinet:-
 - (a) Medium Term Financial Strategy Update. (Pages 19 - 36)



7. Report of the Constitution Committee:

(a) Review and Revision of the Constitution.

(Pages 37 - 52)

8. To consider the following notice/s of motion:

(a) School Place Planning and School Improvement –
Mr. S. J. Galton

“That this Council:-

- (a) Congratulates the Rt. Hon. Nicky Morgan MP on her appointment as Secretary of State for Education and looks forward to working together in partnership to ensure that Leicestershire children receive the highest standards in education;
- (b) Believes that local authorities can contribute further to this partnership, particularly in areas such as school place planning and school improvement, were their powers extended in the relevant areas.
- (c) Therefore calls on the Government to:-
 - i) give local authorities oversight of age range and catchment area changes, enabling them to ensure such changes to local schools are made in consideration of impacts to the wider area;
 - ii) reduce restrictions on local authorities when establishing new schools in their area, providing them with the freedom to make decisions that are right for their area;
 - iii) allow local authorities to challenge the establishment of free schools in areas with surplus places, so that resources can be focused in areas of need;
 - iv) provide local authorities with guidance on school improvement, to set out what the role should involve and confirm what is expected from them, in order to meet expectations set out in Ofsted framework;
 - v) abolish the unelected regional school commissioners and hand all middle tier responsibilities to local authorities that are democratically accountable to their residents;
- (d) Further calls upon all parties drawing up manifestos for the General Election to give these points consideration.”

(b) Committee System - Mr. L. Yates

"a) That this Council notes that:

- i) the Localism Act 2011 permits councils to change from one form of governance to another, including a return to a non-cabinet committee system;
- ii) committees are the most democratic form of decision making and enable all councillors to be involved; and
- iii) other councils have reverted to a committee system which has ensured both democracy and accountability for all councillors and therefore all electors.

b) That this Council believes that:

- i) due to the leader/cabinet system too many elected members of all parties have been insufficiently involved in the decision making process; and
- ii) due to the current Cabinet system ordinary councillors of all parties have been denied the right to a public vote on many important decision, and that this is fundamentally undemocratic.

c) This Council therefore urges the Council to change to a committee system at the earliest opportunity and request the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to submit a report to the Constitution Committee explaining, in detail, how the committee system could be re-introduced at Leicestershire County Council with a view to a recommendation being made to the County Council by the Constitution Committee at the earliest opportunity."