



DATE: 30 June 2015
MY REF: MIS/Council
PLEASE ASK FOR: Mr. M. I. Seedat
DIRECT DIALLING: (0116) 305 6037
E-MAIL: mo.seedat@leics.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

I summon you to the MEETING of the LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL to be held at COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD on WEDNESDAY, 8 JULY 2015 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 20 May 2015. (Pages 5 - 22)
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) Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015-16. (Pages 23 - 50)



7. Report of the Scrutiny Commission.
 - (a) Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2014-15. (Pages 51 - 62)
8. Joint Report of the Employment Committee and Constitution Committee.
 - (a) Proposed Amendment to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules. (Pages 63 - 68)
9. Report of the Constitution Committee.
 - (a) Review and Revision of the Constitution. (Pages 69 - 72)
 - (b) Electoral Review of Leicestershire County Council. (Pages 73 - 76)
10. To consider the following notice/s of motion:
 - (a) Midland Mainline - Mr. Max Hunt CC
 1. That this Council:-
 - (a) Notes with deep concern the Secretary of State for Transport's statement to the House of Commons on 25 June when he announced that the electrification of the Midland Mainline between Bedford and Sheffield project be 'paused';
 - (b) Expresses disappointment that any delay will undoubtedly affect the local economy across Leicestershire;
 - (c) Is pleased that the Secretary of State confirmed that Network Rail's project to straighten the line and improve disabled access at Market Harborough station is not affected and will go ahead and therefore asks the Department for Transport for confirmation that the project is fully funded and will therefore progress without any delay;
 - (d) Asks the Secretary of State to begin an urgent review of Network Rail's planning of the Midland Mainline electrification project so it can be quickly resumed to meet the original 2020 completion date.
 2. This Council therefore resolves to work with other East Midlands transport authorities, members of parliament and council leaders representing communities across Leicester and Leicestershire to campaign for the reinstatement of the Midland Mainline electrification project.

(b) Grass Cutting - Mr. S. L. Bray CC

This Council notes the increasing amount of public concern over the poor state of grass verges across the County and therefore calls on Cabinet to review the decision to reduce the frequency of the grass cutting service.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2015**

PRESENT

Mr. G. A. Boulter CC (in the Chair)

Mr. I. E. G. Bentley CC, Mr. D. C. Bill MBE CC, Mr. R. Blunt CC, Mr. S. L. Bray CC, Mrs. R. Camamile CC, Mr. M. H. Charlesworth CC, Mr. J. G. Coxon CC, Mrs. J. A. Dickinson CC, Dr. T. Eynon CC, Dr. R. K. A. Feltham CC, Mrs. J. Fox CC, Mr. S. J. Galton CC, Mr. D. A. Gamble CC, Mr. S. J. Hampson CC, Mr. G. A. Hart CC, Dr. S. Hill CC, Mr. Dave Houseman MBE, CC, Mr. Max Hunt CC, Mr. D. Jennings CC, Mr. J. Kaufman CC, Mr. A. M. Kershaw CC, Ms. K. J. Knaggs CC, Mr. P. G. Lewis CC, Mr. W. Liquorish JP CC, Mrs. H. E. Loydall CC, Mr. K. W. P. Lynch CC, Mr. J. Miah CC, Ms. Betty Newton CC, Mr. L. J. P. O'Shea CC, Mr. J. T. Orson JP CC, Mr. P. C. Osborne CC, Mr. I. D. Ould CC, Mrs. R. Page CC, Mr. B. L. Pain CC, Mr. T. J. Pendleton CC, Mrs. P. Posnett CC, Mrs. C. M. Radford CC, Mr. J. B. Rhodes CC, Mr. T. J. Richardson CC, Mrs. J. Richards CC, Mr. N. J. Rushton CC, Mr. R. Sharp CC, Mr. S. D. Sheahan CC, Mr. R. J. Shepherd CC, Mr. E. D. Snartt CC, Mr. L. Spence CC, Mr. D. A. Sprason CC, Mr. G. Welsh CC, Mr. E. F. White CC, Miss. H. Worman CC, Mr. M. B. Wyatt CC and Mr. L. E. Yates CC

1. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN.

It was moved by Mr Rushton, seconded by Mr Galton and carried:-

“That Mr David Snartt be elected Chairman for the period until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.”

Mr Snartt read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed and signed by the Chief Executive.

Mr Snartt took the Chair and thanked his proposer and seconder and members of the Council for electing him.

The Chairman thanked Mr Boulter for his services to the County during his period of office as Chairman. Mr Rushton, Mr Galton and Mr Hunt each joined the Chairman in associating their Groups with the thanks to Mr Boulter. Mr Boulter thanked members for their generous remarks.

2. TO APPOINT A VICE - CHAIRMAN.

It was moved by Mr Rushton, seconded by Mr Galton and carried:-

“That Mr Bill Liquorish be appointed Vice-Chairman for the period until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.”

Mr Liquorish read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed and signed by the Chief Executive.

Mr Liquorish thanked his proposer and seconder for their generous remarks

and members of the Council for appointing him as Vice-Chairman.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Professor Robert Pritchard

The Chairman reported the sad death on 12th April, 2015, of former County Councillor, Professor Robert Pritchard.

Professor Pritchard had been elected to the County Council in 1989 and served until 1997 representing the East Knighton Electoral Division in Leicester City. He had been Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group from 1993 to 1997 and had served on the Policy and Resources Committee, the Resources Committee and the Social Services Committee.

Mr George Farnham DL

The Chairman reported the sad death on 2nd May, 2015, of former County Councillor, Mr George Farnham.

Mr Farnham had been elected to the County Council in 1958 and served until 1985. He had held the office of Chairman of the County Council from 1977 to 1980, and was also a Deputy Lieutenant of Leicestershire.

Those present joined the Chairman in standing in silent tribute to the memory of Professor Robert Pritchard and Mr George Farnham.

Mr David Morgan

The Chairman reminded members that this would be the last meeting before David Morgan retired.

David had been County Solicitor since October 2011. He had joined the Council in May 1985 as an Assistant Solicitor, progressing to Principal Solicitor and then Head of Legal Services in 1997. He had also been instrumental in establishing and shaping the Council's scrutiny function having been appointed as Head of Scrutiny.

The County Council had a great deal to thank David for. The fact that the County Council had a reputation for good governance and high standards of conduct was a result of his hard work, professionalism and integrity.

The Chairman expressed, on behalf of himself and his predecessors as Chairmen since 1997, sincere thanks to David for his sound advice on the conduct of meetings and generally calming presence beside them.

Members of the Council joined the Chairman in wishing David a long and happy retirement.

Armed Forces Day

The Chairman reminded members that they had been invited to a special service to be held on Saturday, 4th July at Leicester Cathedral to mark Armed

Forces Day. The service would be held jointly with the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Lord-Lieutenant and would be followed by a parade of Standards, service personnel, veterans and cadets through the streets of Leicester, behind the pipes and drums of the Seaforth Highlanders. All members were encouraged to attend.

Chairman's Reception – Beaumanor Hall

The Chairman was pleased to inform members that he would be holding a Reception at Beaumanor Hall on Thursday, 23rd July at 6.30pm. All members of the County Council would be receiving invitations in due course.

County Service

The Chairman asked members to note that the County Service this year would be held at Leicester Cathedral on Sunday, 18th October. The Bishop of Leicester would be preaching and the Service would be followed by a Reception. Invitations would be issued to all members in due course and he hoped that members would support the annual service.

Visitors

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting all visitors and guests of members and anyone who was viewing the meeting via the webcast.

4. REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER.

The Chief Executive presented the report of the Returning Officer on the election of a County Councillor for the Narborough and Whetstone Division on 7th May 2015.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Terry Richardson CC to the Council.

5. MINUTES.

It was moved by the Chairman, seconded by the Vice- Chairman and carried:-

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25th March 2015, copies of which have been circulated to members, be taken as read, confirmed and signed.”

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

The Chairman invited members who wished to do so to make declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda for the meeting.

No such declarations were made.

7. QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(1)(2) AND (5).

No questions had been received.

8. POSITION STATEMENTS UNDER STANDING ORDER 8.

The Leader presented a position statement on the following matters:-

- Election Results;
- Cities Devolution Bill;
- Boundary Review;
- Strategic Direction;
- Great Central Railway;
- Multi Agency Traveller Unit.

A copy of the position statement is filed with these minutes.

9. REPORTS OF THE CABINET:-

(a) Dates of Council Meetings 2015/16 and 2016/17.

It was moved by Mr Rushton, seconded by Mr Osborne and carried:-

“That Council meetings in 2015/16 and 2016/17 be held on the following dates:-

Wednesday 8 July 2015
 Wednesday 23 September 2015
 Wednesday 2 December 2015
 Wednesday 17 February 2016 (Budget Meeting)
 Wednesday 16 March 2016
 Wednesday 18 May 2016 (Annual Meeting)
 Wednesday 13 July 2016
 Wednesday 21 September 2016
 Wednesday 7 December 2016
 Wednesday 22 February 2017 (Budget Meeting)
 Wednesday 22 March 2017
 Wednesday 17 May 2017 (Annual Meeting).”

10. TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEMS 11 AND 12 OF STANDING ORDER 4.

(a) To appoint the Leader;

It was moved by Mr Rhodes, seconded by Mr Osborne and carried:-

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

(b) **To note any changes to the membership of the Cabinet made by the Leader;**

It was moved by Mr Rushton, seconded by Mr Rhodes and carried:-

"That it be noted that the Leader proposes to appoint the members named on list 'A' attached to the Order Paper as members of the Cabinet."

A copy of List 'A' is filed with these minutes.

11. TO APPOINT CABINET SUPPORT MEMBERS AS THE COUNCIL CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE;

It was moved by Mr Rushton, seconded by Mr Rhodes and carried:-

"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 G A Hart
Mr P G Lewis
Mrs R Page."

The motion was put and carried.

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

It was moved by Mr Osborne, seconded by Mr Charlesworth and carried:-

"That the membership of the Scrutiny Commission, Boards and Committees as set out in List 'B' attached to the Order Paper be approved."

A copy of List 'B' is filed with these minutes.

Spokesmen

Mr Osborne named the members shown in the second column of List 'S' as Conservative Spokesmen of the bodies as shown.

Mr Hunt named the members shown in the third column of List 'S' as Labour Spokesmen of the bodies as shown.

Mr Charlesworth named the members shown in the fourth column of List 'S' as Liberal Democrat Spokesmen of the bodies as shown.

A copy of List 'S' is filed with these minutes.

Substitutes

It was moved by Mr Osborne, seconded by Mr Charlesworth and carried:-

"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 'B' to the Group giving one day's notice to the Chief Executive of its wishes."

2.30 pm – 3.43 pm
20 May 2015

CHAIRMAN

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH MAY 2015
LEADER'S POSITION STATEMENT

Election Results

7th May 2015 is a date that not only saw the return of the first majority Conservative government since 1992, but the Conservatives becoming the largest party in local government on the back of excellent local election results, retaking control of the Local Government Association from Labour.

I would like to put on record my congratulations to all Leicestershire's MPs who were re-elected and to the newly elected MPs, Edward Argar in Charnwood and Alberto Costa in South Leicestershire.

I would also like to congratulate Sir Peter Soulsby upon his re-election as Mayor in Leicester City, and the new Conservative administration under Mike Hall taking over at Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

I commiserate with all those who were not successful at these elections and thank them for their public service to Leicestershire.

Cities Devolution Bill

Chancellor George Osborne is planning to set out the new Government's plans to devolve sweeping powers and funding in his Cities Devolution Bill, in the Queen's Speech. Whilst I welcome this, I do not want upper tier authorities to get left behind. County Councils need to enjoy the same benefits of this legislation as intended for the Cities. To this end, I have written to the new Communities and Local Government Secretary Greg Clark MP, seeking an early meeting with him to discuss our plans for a Combined Authority with the City of Leicester. Mr Clark is aware from his previous visit of the excellent working relationships between the two authorities. I would expect any Combined Authority should have devolved powers and funding over such areas as transport, skills, job creation, strategic planning and housing, policing and economic development. I know Mr Clark will be an excellent champion for local government around the Cabinet table and I shall be lobbying our MPs for their support in trying to achieve a fairer deal for Leicestershire.

Boundary Review

We are now half way through the current term of office and that means our thoughts will soon be turning to County elections in 2017.

Those elections are likely to be fought under new boundaries. I am grateful to officers and members of the Boundary Review Working Group who have worked hard to produce draft proposals to put before the Local Government Boundary Commission. Let me assure Members they will have every opportunity to feed into this process, as will parish councils and members of the public, during the planned period of consultation. There has been a high level of agreement thus far between the political parties for which I am grateful.

Strategic Direction

The new Government has set out its priorities for the nation, including an In/Out referendum on our EU membership, eliminating the deficit and working towards full employment.

We know that the funding arrangements for local government will continue to be difficult given that the budgets for overseas aid, health and education will continue to be protected by this Government.

Whilst the County Council has achieved much in delivering the efficiency savings required of it, transforming the way it does business, driving economic growth, investing in infrastructure, protecting services to the most vulnerable people and is regarded as a vanguard authority with the Supporting Leicestershire Families programme, we know more austerity is to come.

I have asked Byron Rhodes to continue with his Transformation process and ensure every department of this Council meets its fiscal requirements. I hope that Mr Sharp, the new Labour Leader, will reconsider his Group's position and re-join the Transformation Board. Nothing is more important than targeting our finite resources towards those services we value the most. Without financial discipline, no service is safe. I shall not rest until this new Government delivers a fairer funding deal for Leicestershire. Success is achievable (as Ivan Ould proved with fair funding for schools via f40) but we must be united in our approach to Government. I will once again be briefing our MPs as to the dire state of Leicestershire's funding and seeking their and this Council's support to get a better deal.

Great Central Railway

This morning I was pleased to be at the announcement of the opening of a new railway heritage museum which will have national significance and be built adjacent to the Great Central Railway's Leicester North Station near Birstall. I have said to the City Mayor that he and the GCR can count on the full support of the County Council to ensure the success of the venture.

Multi Agency Traveller Unit (MATU)

Members will be aware that the MATU was formed in 2009 and brought together a number of County and City Council staff with various disciplines and specialisms. The unit also includes a dedicated police officer.

The Unit has been instrumental in improving understanding between the traveller and settled communities through a programme of education and information. The unit has helped support the traveller communities and in particular ensured that Gypsy and Traveller children have the same opportunities for education as the rest of the wider community. The Unit has also dealt with unauthorised encampments on public land in a firm but fair manner.

It is extremely pleasing to report that the work of the Unit is receiving the recognition it richly deserves. The awards, it has received to date include:

- 2012 Leicestershire Chief Superintendents Commendation of Outstanding Work dealing in Partnership with Gypsy and Traveller issues
- 2014 Douglas McMillan Award for introducing the charity to the Gypsy and Traveller Community
- 2015 High Sheriffs Award in recognition of “great and valuable services to the community.”

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THE LEADER

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL: Mr. N. J. Rushton

THE CABINET

The Leader (elect) has given notice that he proposes to appoint the following members to serve on the Cabinet.

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL: Mr. J. B. Rhodes

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CABINET:-

1. Mr. R. Blunt
2. Mr. D. W. Houseman MBE (Lead Member for Adult Social Care)
3. Mr. J. T. Orson
4. Mr. P. C. Osborne
5. Mr. I. D. Ould (Lead Member for Children's Services)
6. Mr. B. L. Pain
7. Mrs. P. Posnett
8. Mr. E. F. White

Cabinet Support Members

Mrs R. Page

Mr G. A Hart

Mr P. G. Lewis

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MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**SCRUTINY COMMISSION (11)****Conservative (6)**

- 1 Mr R. J. Shepherd CC
- 2 Dr R. K. A. Feltham CC
- 3 Mrs R. Camamile CC
- 4 Mr D. Jennings CC
- 5 Mrs C. M. Radford CC
- 6 Mrs J. A. Dickinson CC

Labour (2)

- 1 Mr R. Sharp CC
- 2 Mr L. Spence CC

Liberal Democrat (3)

- 1 Mr S. J. Galton CC
- 2 Dr S. Hill CC
- 3 Mr K. W. P. Lynch CC

(To include Leader of the Opposition as Chairman, 3 Commissioners (2 Administration and 1 minority Opposition), 4 Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees (on the basis of 2 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Liberal Democrat) and 3 other members for political balance (2 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat.))

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES (9)**A. ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES (9)****Conservative (5)**

- 1 Mrs R. Camamile CC
- 2 Mr T. J. Richardson CC
- 3 Mr S. Hampson CC
- 4 Mr D. Jennings CC
- 5 Mr A. E. Pearson CC

Labour (2)

- 1 Mr S. D. Sheahan CC
- 2 Ms M. E. Newton CC

Liberal Democrat (2)

- 1 Mr M. Charlesworth CC
- 2 Mr M. T. Mullaney CC

B. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (9)**Conservative (5)**

- 1 Mrs C. M. Radford CC
- 2 Mrs J. A. Dickinson CC
- 3 Mr T. J. Pendleton CC
- 4 Mr O. O'Shea CC
- 5 Mr A. M. Kershaw CC

Labour (2)

- 1 Mr L. Spence CC
- 2 Miss H. Worman

Liberal Democrat (2)

- 1 Mr G. Welsh CC
- 2 Mr J. Kaufman CC

C. ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT (9)**Conservative (5)**

- 1 Mr D. Jennings CC
- 2 Mr I. E. G. Bentley CC
- 3 Mr J. G. Coxon CC
- 4 Mr S. J. Hampson CC
- 5 Mrs J. Richards CC

Labour (1)

- 1 Mr M. J. Hunt CC

Liberal Democrat (2)

- 1 Mr D. C. Bill CC
- 2 Mr B. Boulter CC

UKIP (1)

- Mr L. Yates CC

D. HEALTH (9)**Conservative (5)**

- 1 Mrs J. A. Dickinson CC
- 2 Dr R. K. A. Feltham CC
- 3 Mr W. Liquorish CC
- 4 Mrs R. Camamile CC
- 5 Mr A. E. Pearson CC

Labour (2)

- 1 Dr T. Eynon CC
- 2 Mr J. Miah CC

Liberal Democrat (2)

- 1 Dr S. Hill CC
- 2 Mr J. Kaufman CC

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND REGULATORY BOARD (13)**Conservative (7)**

- 1 Mr T. J. Pendleton CC
- 2 Mrs Camamile CC
- 3 Mr J. G. Coxon CC
- 4 Mrs J. A. Dickinson CC
- 5 Mr W. Liquorish CC
- 6 Mr O. O'Shea CC
- 7 Mrs C. M. Radford CC

Labour (2)

- 1 Mr J. Miah CC
- 2 Ms K. Knaggs CC

Liberal Democrat (3)

- 1 Mrs H. E. Loydall CC
- 2 Mr D. C. Bill CC
- 3 Mr M. H. Charlesworth CC

UKIP (1)

- Mr D. A. Sprason CC

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE (5)**Conservative (3)**

- 1 Mr N. J. Rushton CC
- 2 Mr J. B. Rhodes CC
- 3 Dr R. K. A. Feltham CC

Labour (1)

- 1 Mr R. Sharp CC

Liberal Democrat (1)

- 1 Mr S. J. Galton CC

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (7)**Conservative (4)**

- 1 Mr J.B. Rhodes CC
- 2 Mr D. Jennings CC
- 3 Mr R. J. Shepherd CC
- 4 Mr W. Liquorish CC

Labour (1)

- 1 Mrs J. Fox CC

Liberal Democrat (2)

- 1 Mr G. A. Boulter CC
- 2 Mrs H. E. Loydall CC

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE (5)**Conservative (3)**

- 1 Mr G. A. Hart CC
- 2 Mr S. J. Hampson CC
- 3 Mr P. C. Osborne CC

Labour (1)

- 1 Mr M. J. Hunt CC

Liberal Democrat (1)

- 1 Mr K. W. P. Lynch CC

INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE (of the Pension Fund Committee) (3)**Conservative (2)**

- 1 Mr G. A. Hart CC
- 2 Mr P. C. Osborne CC

Labour (0)**Liberal Democrat (1)**

- 1 Mr K. W. P. Lynch CC

LOCAL PENSIONS BOARD (3)

(2 members appointed by the County Council and 1 member appointed by Leicester City Council)

Conservative (2)

- 1 Mr D. Jennings CC
- 2 Mr A. M. Kershaw CC

Labour (0)**Liberal Democrat (0)****CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (7)****Conservative (4)**

- 1 Mr A. M. Kershaw CC
- 2 Mr R. J. Shepherd CC
- 3 Mr G. A. Hart CC
- 4 Mr T. G. Richardson CC

Labour (1)

- 1 Mr S. D. Sheahan CC

Liberal Democrat (2)

- 1 Mr G. A. Boulter CC
- 2 Mr K. W. P. Lynch CC

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LIST 'S'

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMEN AND GROUP SPOKESMEN/SPOKEPERSONS

<u>Committee/Subcommittee</u>	<u>Conservative Spokesman</u>	<u>Labour Spokesperson</u>	<u>Liberal Democrat Spokesman</u>
<u>THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION</u>	Mr R. J. Shepherd CC Dr R. K. A Feltham CC	Mr R. Sharp CC	Mr S. J. Galton CC (Chairman)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES:-

A. Adults and Communities	Mrs R. Camamile CC (Chairman elect)	Mr. S. D. Sheahan CC	Mr. M. H. Charlesworth CC
B Children and Family Services	Mrs C. M. Radford CC	Mr L. Spence CC (Chairman elect)	Mr G. Welsh CC
C. Environment and Transport	Mr D. Jennings CC (Chairman elect)	Mr M. J. Hunt CC	Mr D. C. Bill CC
D. Health	Mrs J. A. Dickinson CC	Dr T. Eynon CC	Dr S. Hill CC (Chairman elect)

REGULATORY BODIES:-

Development Control and Regulatory Board	Mr T. Pendleton CC (Chairman elect)	Mr J. Miah CC	Mrs H. E. Loydall CC
Constitution Committee	Mr N. J. Rushton CC (Chairman elect)	Mr. R. Sharp CC	Mr S. J. Galton CC
Employment Committee	Mr J. B. Rhodes CC (Chairman elect)	Mrs J. Fox CC	Mr G. A. Boulter CC
Pension Fund Management Board	Mr G. A. Hart CC (Chairman elect)	Mr M. Hunt CC	Mr K. W. P. Lynch CC
Corporate Governance Committee	Mr A. M. Kershaw CC (Chairman elect)	Mr S. D. Sheahan CC	Mr G. A. Boulter CC

Chairmanships

The Council's Constitution makes provision for the leader of the largest opposition party to be ex officio the Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission.

The membership of the Scrutiny Commission includes the Chairmen of the four Scrutiny Committees.

The remaining appointments of Chairman and Deputy Chairman are matters to be determined by the bodies themselves, but the nominations are usually reported to the Council (shown as "Chairman elect").

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REPORT OF THE CABINET

A. YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2015/16

Introduction

1. This report concerns the proposed Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2015/16.

Background

2. The Youth Justice Strategic Plan is identified in the Constitution as forming part of the Policy Framework and therefore requires the approval of the County Council.
3. Youth Justice Plans have been produced on an annual basis since the Youth Offending Service was established in April 2000. The County Council has a statutory duty under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to prepare and submit an annual Youth Justice Plan to the Youth Justice Board (YJB).
4. There is a requirement for the Plan to be approved by the statutory partners that make up the Youth Offending Service (YOS) partnership. The draft Plan was approved for consultation by the Youth Offending Service's Management Board on 15th February 2015. The draft Plan was then submitted to the Scrutiny Commission on 22nd April as part of the consultation process.
5. The draft of the Plan was considered again by the Youth Offending Service Management Board on 22nd May when it was agreed that the Plan would benefit from additional information on how the Service dealt with the voice of the child, resettlement and disproportionality.

The Plan

6. The Plan highlights the continuing high performance of the YOS in 2014/15 and sets out the priorities and objectives for the Service in 2015/16. Performance against national indicators remains good compared to regional and national trends.
7. The work of the YOS over the last 3 years is set against reduced funding from the YJB, partner agencies, and through the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). During 2014/15 the YOS underwent an action plan to meet the £350,000 MTFS savings requirements. Reductions in staff were balanced across a number of functions to preserve the services linked to preventative work with young people on the cusp of offending.

Resource Implications

8. Section 5 and 6 of the draft Plan sets out the resourcing and funding arrangements for the Youth Offending Service. In 2014/15 there was a

£350,000 reduction in the County Council element of funding to the YOS. The 2015/16 budget represents a standstill. The County Council remains the major funding partner.

Equality and Human Rights Implications

9. Inequality is inherent within the criminal justice system. An Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) has been completed in the light of the MTFS changes. The EHRIA on the Plan highlights no adverse impacts.

Consideration by Cabinet and Scrutiny

10. The Plan was considered by the Scrutiny Commission on 22nd April and its comments are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
11. The Cabinet considered this matter at its meeting on 16th June and was advised of changes to the risk register and that work was nearing completion on addressing the concerns raised at the Youth Offending Service Management Board on 22nd May. The Cabinet noted this and agreed as follows:-
 - 'a) That subject to (b) below the draft Youth Justice Plan 2015/16 be submitted to the County Council meeting on 8th July for approval;
 - b) That the Director of Children and Family Services, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead member for Safer Communities and Cabinet Lead Member for Children and Families, be authorised to make amendments to the Plan arising from consideration by the Cabinet prior to its presentation to the Council.'
12. A copy of the revised Plan which now reflects the changes to the risk register and which addresses the issues identified in paragraph 5 above, is attached as Appendix 2 to this report.

(Motion to be moved:-

That the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015/16, attached as Appendix 2 to this report, be approved.)

16th June 2015

**Mr N. J. Rushton CC
Chairman**

Background Papers

Reports on the Youth Justice Strategic Plan considered at the meetings of the Scrutiny Commission on 22nd April, the Youth Offending Service Management Board on 22nd May and the Cabinet on 16th June 2015.

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 22 APRIL 2015Draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015/16DRAFT MINUTE EXTRACT

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Children and Family Services concerning the Draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015/16. The comments of the Commission were being sought ahead of its consideration at the Cabinet meeting on 11 May and prior to full approval at the County Council meeting on 8 July. Arising from a discussion, the following points were noted:

- The table set out at the bottom of page 6 of the Plan showed a large increase from -45.7% to 3.21 in first time entrants into the criminal justice system. This was largely as a result of a change in legislation and the way in which had been expected. Despite this increase, the County Council sat well when compared with the performance of other local authorities in this area of work;
- The re-offending rate was set at a national level by using a cohort of young people, which in Leicestershire this was around 60 to 70 per quarter. Two indexes were used to measure the progress of the cohort: the amount who commits an offence and the average re-offending rate. As the Plan was required to be approved in July, it was noted that the final time period on the table did not represent a full year. It was therefore expected that the reduction of re-offending rate was likely to be at around 1.06, slightly higher than the previous year's 1.04;
- The percentage of young people who receiving a conviction in court who were sentenced to custody stood at 3.9%, ahead of the 5% target that had been set. This was felt to be as a result of the Council's multi-agency approach which hoped to provide the courts with a greater amount of confidence in some of the alternative measures they could use as a means of rehabilitating offenders;
- The use of the key set out on page 29 was in line with the Children and Family Service's risk measuring system. Members asked that an explanatory note be circulated giving further detail as to why "Residual Likelihood" was set at 1 (high risk) and why "Residual Impact" was set at 2 (slightly lower
- Given the complex nature of the Plan, it was felt that it would be helpful in future years to make a greater use of the covering report to provide greater context, an explanation of the key performance indicators and a national perspective on where Leicestershire's performance sat when compared with that of other authorities.

RESOLVED:

That the comments of the Commission be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 11 May.

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Leicestershire
Youth Justice Strategic Plan
2015 - 2016

DRAFT

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1. Role and Purpose

The principal aim of the youth justice system is to prevent offending by children and young people (Crime and Disorder Act 1998). Leicestershire Youth Offending Service (YOS) coordinates the provision of youth justice services to both Leicestershire and Rutland.

Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on local authorities and certain named partners to co-operate to improve children and young people's well-being. The local authority Lead Member for children's services has a statutory role to "lead, promote and create opportunities for co-operation with local partners (for example, health, police, schools, youth justice, probation).

The YOS is a co-located multi agency team including staff from Leicestershire County Council (LCC), Leicestershire Police, the National Probation Service (NPS), CAHMS, and Connections.

The YOS works in partnership to achieve the national Youth Justice strategic objectives which are to:

- prevent offending
- reduce reoffending
- increase victim and public confidence
- ensure the safe and effective use of custody.

We contribute both to improving community safety and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and in particular protecting them from significant harm. Working Together to Safeguard Children highlights the need for Youth Offending Services to work jointly with other agencies, professionals, and volunteers. This is to ensure that young people are protected from harm, and that young people achieve their potential through linking work to their health and wellbeing. Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 requires local authorities and other named statutory partners to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are discharged with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The Lead Member for children's services has a statutory to ensure that there are clear and effective arrangements in place to protect children and young people from harm.

Many of the young people involved with the YOS are the most vulnerable children and are at greatest risk of social exclusion. Our multi-agency approach and plan to meeting the needs of young people should be read in conjunction with a range of other partnership strategies, notably around Safeguarding, Health and Wellbeing, Supporting Leicestershire Families, the Police and Crime plan, locality plans, and single agency strategies, linked to improving the wellbeing of young people across Leicestershire and Rutland.

2. Governance

Leicestershire Youth Offending Service (YOS) is located within Leicestershire County Council's Children and Family Services department. The LYOS is overseen by a multi agency Management Board.

The YOS Management Board (YOSMB) meets four times a year and is chaired by the Chief Executive of Leicestershire County Council. There is high level partnership representation on the Board from Leicestershire County Council, Rutland County Council, East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG, West Leicestershire CCG, Leicestershire Partnership Trust, the National Probation Service, Office of the Police and Police Crime Commissioner, Courts, Housing and the voluntary sector. There are good working relationships with all partners that ensure effective, integrated strategic planning, and delivery of youth justice services.

The vision of the YOSMB:-

“It is committed to work in partnership, sharing responsibilities and providing the necessary resources, to provide effective strategic oversight and direction to the Leicestershire Youth Offending Service (YOS). Its direction will ensure that the YOS is a high performing organisation that uses the principle of effective practice to provide high quality services to children, young people, and their families, with the principal aim of preventing and reducing offending, thereby making a significant contribution to safer communities”.

The Board is committed to achieving this vision by:

“Ensuring the co-operation of the mainstream services of the partner agencies through adequate resourcing, joint planning, shared objectives, and a commitment to work together to achieve better outcomes for children and young people.”

To assist the YOSMB in its oversight function an annual reporting cycle has been introduced. The Board meets quarterly and the cycle is designed to enable the Board to scrutinise all aspects of YOS activity linked to expenditure of the budget and progress against national performance indicators during the year. The Board receives progress reports in relation to financial expenditure and performance at each meeting, and is presented with reports on significant national and local youth justice developments likely to affect YOS performance and service delivery. Additionally reports on all other aspects of YOS work are provided to the Board under the structured cyclical arrangement, to support the oversight function.

- Quarter 1 - post court interventions, (including drugs, accommodation, bail support) and the Quality assurance process.
- Quarter 2 – Statutory interventions (Referral, Reparation, and Youth Rehabilitation Order performance) and non statutory provisions (including the work of volunteers and group work programmes).
- Quarter 3 – Specialist services (including Intensive supervision, transition from children to adult services)
- Quarter 4 – Pre court performance and YOS prevention programmes (including out of court disposal performance, IMPACT project, Youth Inclusion Support Programme and partnership projects).

3. Partnership Arrangements

Since inception in 2002 partnership working has been the cornerstone of the YOS delivery. Leicestershire YOS priorities are reflected in the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board priorities and Children and Family Services departmental Plan and links have been established with the Health and Well Being and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership Boards.

From April 2015, and in order to further strengthen compliance with the statutory responsibilities of the Lead Member for children's services, a quarterly progress report will also be made to a joint meeting between the Lead Member for children's services and the LCC Cabinet Lead Member for community safety.

The performance framework for the Rutland Community Safety Strategy includes a key objective to reduce re-offending through the improved management of offenders.

The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Reducing Re-offending Board has a sub-regional Reducing Re-offending Strategy and Plan which reflects priorities for reducing re-offending by young people.

The YOS engages at sub-regional level with the Strategic Partnership Board, the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPAs), and Prevent Steering Group. At county level the YOS are engaged with the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board, the Rutland Children's Trust Board, the Leicestershire Substance Misuse Board, the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB), and local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). YOS priorities are reflected in these strategic arrangements and plans.

The YOS is fully engaged with the Supporting Leicestershire Families and Rutland Changing Lives programme that seeks to provide intervention to those families across Leicestershire and Rutland assessed to have multiple and complex needs in line with the national troubled families criteria.

4. Key Objectives and Targets for 2014 - 15

Ministry of Justice Indicators 2014/15

The MOJ has three indicators relating to Youth Justice:-

- Reduce first time entrants to the justice system (10-17 year olds receiving Youth cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions)
- Reduce re-offending (frequency and rate of re-offending)
- Reduce the use of custody

In addition to this Leicestershire Youth Offending Service Management Board has adopted the following local education target:

- The number of young people known to the Youth Offending Service engaged in Education, Training and Employment at the end of their order.

Leicestershire Youth Offending Service Objectives

In addition we aim to:

- Minimise the risk of harm posed by children and young people.
- Ensure children and young people are protected from harm and are helped to achieve more.
- Improve victim satisfaction and public confidence.

Summary of Performance 2011/12 - 2014/15

Performance against the MOJ Indicators and the Local YOS indicator for 2011/12 to 2014/15 to date:-

National Indicator	Target 11/12	Apr to Mar 2011/12	April to Mar 2012/13	April to March 2013/14	April to Dec 2014/15
Reduction in First time Entrants	Year on year reduction	21% reduction	24.1% increase	-45.7% reduction	3.21% increase
Reduce the proven rate of re-offending	1.13	0.91	1.01	1.04	0.79
Custodial Sentences	<5%	2.3%	1.9%	2.4%	3.9%
Number of young people in suitable Education, Training and Employment	80%	74.3%	76.6%	74.1%	73.3%

First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System

In 2014/15 to date there were 161 First Time Entrants representing a 3.21% slight increase against the same period in 2013/14. Over the last two years 2011/12 to 2013/14 there has been a 32.6% reduction in FTE's, and over the last five years a 63% reduction (2008/09 to 2013/14). In comparison to our baseline target of 1285 young people, there is an overall reduction in FTEs of 83% (221) between 2005/06 and 2013/14. Leicestershire FTE's per 1,000 population compares favorably with both regional and national performance.

Rate of proven re-offending by young people in the Youth Justice System

Since 2011/12, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) has provided data on proven reoffending rates using the Police National Computer (PNC) data. The MOJ data on re-offending is published quarterly and the latest data available is for the period October 2011 to September 2012 when there were 661 young people from Leicestershire in the cohort. The MOJ reports re-offending performance on three measures:

- i. The percentage of young people re-offending after 12 months was 30.6%, an increase of 1.8% compared to the period in 2010/11.
- ii. the average number of re-offences per young person in the cohort after 12 months, i.e. the frequency rate, was 0.89, compared to 0.76 in the period 2010/11;
- iii. The average number of offences per young person who has re-offended was 2.91 compared to 2.64 in 2010/11.

Comparative data shows that the percentage of young people reoffending in Leicestershire (30.6%) was ahead of regional (31.4%) and national (35.4%) performance. Leicestershire's re-offending frequency rate (0.89) is slightly higher than regional (0.87) and ahead of national (1.03) performance.

Local Performance for the 2014/15 cohort to date was 0.79 which remains ahead of the baseline performance of 1.13 and exceeds the 1.07 target for 2010/11.

The percentage of young people receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody

The use of custody in 2014/15 to date is 3.9% ahead of the 5% target set by the YJB. Information on the custody rate per 1,000 of the 10-17 year old population in Leicestershire is made available by the MOJ. The performance for April 2014 to September 2014 was 0.05 per 1,000. This is slightly higher than the same period the previous year of 0.03, however is well ahead of Regional (0.16) and National (0.22) performance.

Young offenders in full time education employment or training (EET)

During 2014/15 to date 73.3% (240/176) of young people known to the YOS were in EET, slightly higher than the 2013/14 performance of 73.1% (175/128) but still below the 80% target.

5. Resources

Over the last three years resources available to the Youth Offending Service have reduced. In 2013/14, there was a net reduction of £114k in the Youth Justice Grant, no reduction for 2014/15 and a 7.6% net reduction of £47k to the Youth Justice Grant for 2015/16. Partners have confirmed a standstill budget for 2015/16. In relation to the additional LCC funding to the YOS budget, Phase 4 of the service review has resulted in £350k savings through Leicestershire County Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2015/16, with a further £200k of savings for the YOS between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Progress towards the total savings requirements for MTFs of £550k between 2015/16 and 2017/18 has been achieved to date through reduction to the IMPACT budget, reduction in case management and programmes team and removal of contributions to the Police ICSB. There is an opportunity to minimize the impact of these savings as a result of the YOS integration into the new Children and Families Service.

Youth Offending Service Budget for 2015/16

Core Funding

Pooled Budget				
Agency	Staffing Costs	Payments in Kind	Other Delegated Funds	Total
Police	£91,847		£91,687	£183,534
Probation	£117,326	£132,523	£67,067	£316,916
Health	£70,945		£48,151	£119,096
Local Authority: Chief Executives C&FS Rutland	£391,064		£298,303 £265,000 £70,000	£1,024,367
YJ Grant PCC			£567,071 £57,600	£624,671
Total	£671,182	£132,523	£1,464,879	£2,268,584

Additional Funding

Additional Funding	
Youth Inclusion Support Panels (formerly Early Intervention Grant)	£116,980
LCC	
Youth Crime Prevention	£133,900
IMPACT	£330,000
Total	£580,880

Total YOS Budget	£2,849,464
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6. Structure and Outline of the Service

The YOS is structured to manage both prevention and pre court work with young people and to manage and supervise statutory criminal justice outcomes. As a result of an internal review in 2013 the YOS realigned and introduced multi skilled teams under a locality focused YOS manager and supporting senior practitioner. The locality based teams cover the north area, (Melton and Charnwood), the south area (Rutland, Harborough, Blaby, Oadby and Wigston), and west area (North West Leicestershire and Hinckley and Bosworth). Each of the teams contains prevention, pre court and post court YOS Workers, qualified YOS staff, probation officers, police officers and a number of specialist staff each allocated to one of the locality teams (CAMHS, accommodation, prospects, substance misuse and education workers). The Bail Support Service and Integrated Resettlement and Intensive Support Project are also located in the locality operational teams.

The service also has a centrally managed Programmes Team that supports the work delivered by the locality operational staff. This team includes the IMPACT project (a team focused on street based work in ASB hot spot areas), restorative justice team (Reparation and Victims workers), volunteer co-ordination, health pathfinder project, group work and Participation co-ordination, community engagement and ASB work. The service is also supported by a Quality Assurance and Development Manager and a Business Support Team.

The structure outlined at appendix A, benefits from locality alignment. The approach enables YOS workers to form effective working links with other frontline workers based in localities. A development during 2014 involved YOS integration into the LCC Early Help Services, aligning the YOS with other services focused on early intervention with children, youth work, and families. During 2014/15 frontline staff arrangements across Early Help were restructured, moving staff into multi-disciplined locality teams. This will enable the development of support arrangements to young people and their families through the delivery of Early Help Services with partners within localities.

7. Priorities

In order to meet the National and Local Targets and deliver the key objectives of the YOS the following areas will be a priority for the YOS in 2015/16:-

Reduce Re-offending

The YJB have introduced reducing reoffending nationally as a priority within their 3 year business plan. National statistics indicate that while the number of first time entrants is falling, the offending rate of those young people who enter the criminal justice system has been steadily rising since 2000. The YJB acknowledge that the demographic of the offending cohort has changed considerably during this period. The 2013/14 national cohort has more than halved in size (from 139,326 to 65,618 young people) due to the substantial decrease in the number of first time entrants. As such, the cohort is now comprised of offenders with more complex needs and whose characteristics mean that they are more likely to re-offend than

those in the 2000 cohort. The national picture is also reflected in Leicestershire where the number of young people in the cohort has fallen from 488 in 2005, to 134 in 2013/14.

Due to the complex needs of the young people most likely to reoffend the YJB reoffending strategy is based on improving assessment as a lead into developing longer term solutions in relation to reoffending. During 2014/15 the YOS locally prioritised building a greater understanding of young people at highest risk of reoffending. Research into the top 10 most prolific reoffenders in Leicestershire in both the 2013 and 2014 reoffending cohorts highlighted a number of common themes. Notably a significant percentage of the young people were or had been Looked After Children, had ongoing relationship problems with their family, had statements of special educational needs, were NEET, and were actively misusing substances. Most of these themes reflected national issues and as a result of their complexity, the YOS is developing a series of responses to reoffending with both internal and external partners.

During 2014 the YJB has introduced a reoffending toolkit, which provides the capability for YOS's to analyse data on repeat offenders. The local YOS are one of a few services nationally that have developed a "live" element to the toolkit. Factors linked to the risk of young people reoffending can be monitored on a weekly basis enabling the YOS to more quickly identify emerging risks, and in turn will enable the YOS to conduct more responsive and timely reviews in relation to the intervention work being undertaken with young people who go onto reoffend.

To support introduction of the toolkit the YOS is developing the IRIS project, which focuses on the management of high risk young offenders. During 2015/16 this will lead to a review of the resources and services linked to supporting young offenders, and the current interventions being provided to them.

Developing work with partner agencies both internally within the LCC and externally will also be a priority during 2015/16. Currently there are a number of work streams which include working with the police to introduce a YOS worker within the IOM team, working with the NPS to improve transition arrangement for young offenders into adult services, and developing links and standards with the newly formed East Midlands Resettlement Consortia project which is focused on improving support arrangements around young people leaving youth custody.

Internally with Children's Social Care information and problem solving links are being developed with frontline workers involved with Looked After Children, and work is being developed to link young offenders needs into the commissioning arrangements around accommodation for offenders aged between 16 and 18 years of age.

Resettlement

In 2014/15 the East Midlands youth offending services linked with the YJB and introduced a regional resettlement consortium. The objectives of the project are to reduce reoffending rates, and improve opportunities for young people leaving custody. It is anticipated that the consortium will manage and co-ordinate best practice across the region. A priority for Leicestershire YOS will be to effectively link with the data sharing protocols and operational

best practice emerging from the consortium approach, and to thread this work into the reoffending strategy

Priority 1: Review arrangements linked to introducing the live reoffending toolkit, including a review of the IRIS project.

Priority 2: Develop arrangements to monitor and review Interventions used in relation to young people who go onto reoffend.

Restorative Justice

Through working with partner agencies and focusing on the needs of victims, the YOS has been committed to developing restorative justice arrangements. A significant development in 2015 is the devolvement of the victims and witness funds from the Ministry of Justice to local Police and Crime Commissioners. This provides an opportunity for better co-ordination of victim related issues across local agencies, and opportunities to develop restorative approaches for victims. LYOS has a strong track record in delivering quality restorative justice. Over the last 2 years 42% of all victims have participated in the restorative process, which is well above the national average of 25% in relation to young people related crime.

To support restorative approaches, in the past year the YOS has developed a number of areas of work, which has included training staff in children's homes and schools, as well as regularly training new Police Officers and PCSO's. This year saw the service take on Unpaid Work for 17 years olds and provision has been made for these cases.

All young people who complete Reparation or Unpaid work are invited to complete a Youth Achievement Award which recognises the work they have done in a nationally recognised award, and a number of young people have utilised this opportunity.

The YOS has one accredited Restorative practitioner and during 2014/15 applied for the Restorative Justice Quality Mark. This initial application was unsuccessful but the YOS were commended on the range and quality of restorative work available in the service. The one area recommended for improvement was the full Restorative Conferencing training for all Community Panel Members. The plans are now in place to deliver this training. The accreditation linked to achieving the restorative justice charter would be a significant development, as it would lead to enhanced opportunities for funding to develop restorative justice further in relation to offences committed by young people.

Priority 3 : The YOS to progress towards obtaining the Restorative Justice Quality Mark to enable continued restorative justice development.

Asset Plus

Asset plus is the new case management system that has been developed by the YJB to replace the Asset system. The system provides a holistic end-to-end assessment and

intervention plan allowing one record to follow a young person throughout their time in youth justice system. There will be renewed focus on professional judgment of practitioners which will enable better more focused intervention plans to provide improved outcomes for young people dealt with by the service. Asset plus will amalgamate the current four assessment and intervention plans into one document. The new programme allows for a more integrated assessment, and is more dynamic in its use of data to manage risk. The YJB have a project team to support services nationally in the roll out of the new system and Leicestershire is in the first tranche of this programme, with an expected implementation date of August 2015.

There is a training plan in place for the implementation, which will involve training staff in both technical issues and assessment skills. There are a number of significant changes in the new assessment documents, including the removal of the scoring of each area, and a combined risk document.

The implementation of Asset plus across the East midlands has been co-ordinated by the YJB to occur at the same time. This should assist plans to mitigate the risk related to transferring cases between YOS's when the new system becomes operational. The training implications for managers, frontline case practitioners and business support staff is significant and effective implementation will be crucial in ensuring there is little or no impact on the work with young people under YOS supervision.

Priority 4 : Introducing and monitoring an Asset Plus implementation plan Quality and Assessment

During 2013 the YOS introduced a Quality assessment management post to co-ordinate continuous improvement across the service. During February 2014 the HMIP undertook a Short Quality Screening (SQS) assessment of local YOS case management, and later in the year the YJB co-ordinated a review of the level of local compliance with national standards in relation to the level of contact required with young offenders. The YOS has met requirements of the inspections, however both highlighted areas where the YOS can develop.

During 2014/15 the YOS introduced a continuous improvement cycle, managed through a quality and assessment plan, which included regular frontline case practitioner learning sessions, and formal case management discussion and problem solving sessions for managers. The approach during 2015/16 will be to integrate these sessions into operational practice in order to imbed a culture of continuance improvement across the YOS. To complement this approach the plan is for the Quality and Assessment manager to co-ordinate regular light touch thematic inspections against standards along with a plan to conduct SQS assessments at intervals during the year.

User voice and equality impact assessment

A further area of development linked to the continuous improvement cycle concerns the influence of the user voice and user experience, in developing YOS service delivery. In January 2015 the YOS took part in a national led user voice (viewpoint) survey involving the co-ordination of feedback from a large proportion of local young people supervised by the

service. The relevant learning from the survey will be fed back into the continuous improvement cycle. Additionally the ethnic and gender make up of young people receiving criminal justice disposals is also monitored through the improvement cycle, to identify and understand any emerging trends to support the YOS providing an equitable service.

Priority 5 : During 2015/16 co-ordinate case practitioner and manager learning sessions within a structured Quality assurance framework.

Priority 6: To ensure any relevant learning from the user voice survey and equality monitoring is linked to the continuous improvement cycle.

Child Sexual Exploitation

Joint planning to develop multi agency responses to CSE picked up pace across Leicestershire and Rutland during 2014/15. The joint Leicestershire, Leicester City, and Rutland trafficking and children safeguarding board sub group, co-ordinated the introduction of a joint police, LCC, CSE hub. Work is progressing through the sub group to extend the hub across Leicester City and other agencies.

During the year the YOS have been formally linked into the CSE hub. Currently the YOS have seconded one full-time Social Worker Post and a minimum of one day of Management time a month. The Hub and the associated processes are in their infancy. Assisted by integration into the hub the YOS has focused work on improving working practices and processes with partners such as the Police to respond to this growing concern. For example during the current year the YOS has broadened it's service offer around young people who go missing from home. Missing young people are frequently at higher risk of CSE, and through the hub it has been identified that YOS workers may be the most appropriate person working with a young person to undertake return home interviews after periods of absconding.

The coming year will focus on the growth of the YOS with the CSE Hub in relation to information and intelligence sharing, again, within a multi-agency response. This will also include integrating into the Early Help Strategy for CSE and Missing young people. A CSE Champion will be identified within the YOS to support this. Further integration will include building appropriate links with CSE and missing from home strategy meetings, monitoring return to home interviews, and introducing measures to collect quantitative data in relation to YOS young people who are victims, or suspected to be victims of CSE.

Priority 7 : Continue to focus on effective interventions develop learning from the introduction of the multi-agency CSE team.

Training

The YOS has continued to provide training for staff to enable them to provide high quality interventions to young people and families, complete high quality assessments and manage risk. This year this has included training on analysis of offending, and all staff have completed the YJILS programme on assessment, planning, supervision and intervention. In addition to

that a number of staff have attended suitable specialist training relevant to their role. This has included training on legal highs, mental health training and managing anger. During the coming year training is planned to be delivered on signs of safety, which will enable all staff to work with young people using the principles utilised by social care staff. In addition staff will be receiving follow up cognitive behavioral training and further training on assessment. As the service is currently undergoing a service review a number of staff will be receiving bespoke training that will enable them to take on the new roles and responsibilities of the job role in the new structure. A further priority during 2015/16 will be to co-ordinate the regular practice development sessions for case practitioners and case discussions and problem solving sessions for managers, linking training to the continuous improvement cycle across the service.

The most significant training element that will be undertaken in 2015/16 will be the Asset plus training. It is anticipated that this will be a large training commitment for all YOS's with all case management staff needing three days training, and specialist staff also needing appropriate training. This will take up a lot of the training resources up until the 'go live date' in August.

Priority 8 : To introduce a YOS training plan for 2015/16 and including an implementation plan for Asset Plus across the service.

Parenting

Child on parent violence has been identified as an emerging issue nationally. During 2013 the Director of Public prosecutions referring to the high level of prosecutions (850) of 14 to 17 year olds in London for violence in the home, highlighted that teenage violence within the home was a relatively hidden aspect of domestic violence. Initial research undertaken by Leicestershire YOS in 2014 indicated that around 15% of the young people being worked with by the service were exhibiting behavior linked to child on parent violence. The relationship between family members and young people referred to the YOS often being an important element in reducing risk of reoffending and harm to others.

During 2014/15 there were significant developments in the delivery arrangements around YOS parenting provision. The YOS began the process of integrating its high end parenting provision with Supporting Leicestershire Families. In order to continue to boost the support for parents who need support, the YOS recruited volunteers to provide short term parenting support. Additionally a number YOS staff have been trained to provide family mediation. There will be need to be further work during 2015/16 to ensure that the connections between the YOS and Early Help parenting provision remains strong after the significant changes with the Children and Family Services.

Priority 9 : To conduct research to evaluate needs in relation to parenting support required across the YOS, to effectively assist work and interventions with offenders or young people at risk of offending.

YOS engagement with the national Troubled Families Programme

The introduction of Supporting Leicestershire Families (SLF) and Rutland Changing lives programmes has led to developments in the services available to young offenders or those at risk of offending. The SLF/Changing lives programmes are frequently working with families with young people who have complex problems. Experience has shown that these young people are often offenders or young people at risk of offending, and are known to the YOS. A joint referral process has been developed across the District locality hubs which enable families with young people at risk of offending to be signposted to the most appropriate service. Additionally experience has also shown that SLF frontline staff are working with a number of families with young offenders with more complex problems, enabling the YOS to link into this family support.

As nationally the Troubled Family project and Youth Offending service share similar objectives there is considerable overlap between work. A snapshot of YOS cases during 2014 highlighted that around 10% of all YOS statutory and non statutory prevention cases were open SLF cases. An area of focus for the coming year involves the development of joint assessment, planning and data sharing, where both YOS and SLF are working with families. These issues were picked up in a national thematic HMIP inspection of YOS's contribution to the Troubled Families programme, and reflect some of the issues and required developments in relation to joint working across Leicestershire.

Priority 10 : During 2015/16 the LYOS and SLF/Changing lives programme to develop assessment, planning, and data sharing protocols in line with the findings from the HMIP 2015 thematic inspection.

Transforming Rehabilitation

In April 2014 the Ministry of Justice Plans to transform the adult rehabilitation system were introduced. The MOJ plan involved replacing Probation Trusts nationally with privately owned Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs), and reforming and re-introducing a National Probation Service (NPS). Alongside this restructure one of the most significant changes is the arrangement to extend probation supervision to cases where offenders are sentenced to periods of less than 12 months custody.

The MOJ plan has been to take a staged approach to the reforms involving the separation of the CRC and NPS, the transfer of cases, and governance arrangements for the CRC taking place at different points during 2014/15. Under the new provisions high risk cases will be dealt with by the NPS, with the greater proportion of cases being dealt with by the CRC on a broad basis of payments by results. The new arrangements provide opportunities for offender supervision be to be undertaken in new and innovative ways, but also introduce a significant risk if the provisions around transferring young people from youth to adult services (Transition) are not developed between the YOS, CRC, and NPS. Currently a review of Transition arrangements across the region is being co-ordinated by the multi-agency Reducing Re-offending Board, a sub group of the Strategic Partnership Board. Both the county and city YOS are involved in this review.

Priority 11: To ensure that the LYOS is linked into and influences the development of Transition arrangements during 2015/16, associated with the reforms to adult rehabilitation across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.

8. Risk Management

The Risk Management Plan identifies and priorities the most critical risks to the LYOS's ability to work with partner agencies to meet national and local objectives.

The YOSMB will receive appropriate updates in regarding the services progress to in relation to the Youth Justice and Risk Management Plan during 2015/16.

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Risk Management

Risk management is a critical element in ensuring the delivery of key priorities and outcomes. Risk management will be active and incorporated into the performance management framework.

*Key - Impact and likelihood receiving a score between 1 and 3 with 1 representing the higher level of risk

Risk	Causes (s)	Consequences (s)	Risk Owner	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Score	List of current controls	Further Actions / Additional Controls	Residual Impact	Residual Likelihood	Residual Score
The numbers of First Time Entrants (FTEs) each year will level off or increase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A significant decrease in 14/15 FTE some attributable to introduction of LASBO changes * Reduction in prevention funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Increase in the number of young people entering the CJS * Additional stress on already limited resources *Reductions in FTEs could result in higher re-offending rates, as those young people who do enter the youth justice system do so at a more serious level and are therefore more likely to re-offend than previously 	Head of Service	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Monitor numbers of FTEs on a quarterly basis. * Identify areas of poorer performance and resolve issues identified in conjunction with partners. *Maintain YISP case management of YP on cusp of offending *Extend Restorative justice training across partner agencies 	Introduction of the new Youth Cautions may further reduce the risk of FTEs increasing	2	3	5

Risk	Causes (s)	Consequences (s)	Risk Owner	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Score	List of current controls	Further Actions / Additional Controls	Residual Impact	Residual Likelihood	Residual Risk Score
Loss of funding leading to reduction of resources to support young people *Interventions not targeted effectively	*Current national economic climate *Reduction in funding to the YOS	*Impact on offending and reoffending rates *Young people not receiving the support to help them achieve better outcomes	Head of Service	2	2	4	*Ensure service reductions balance reviewing inefficient working practices & reducing resources *Maintenance of effective prevention service *Integrate findings from social return on investment research into service reductions	Ensure that resources are effectively targeted to minimise any potential impact.	2	3	5

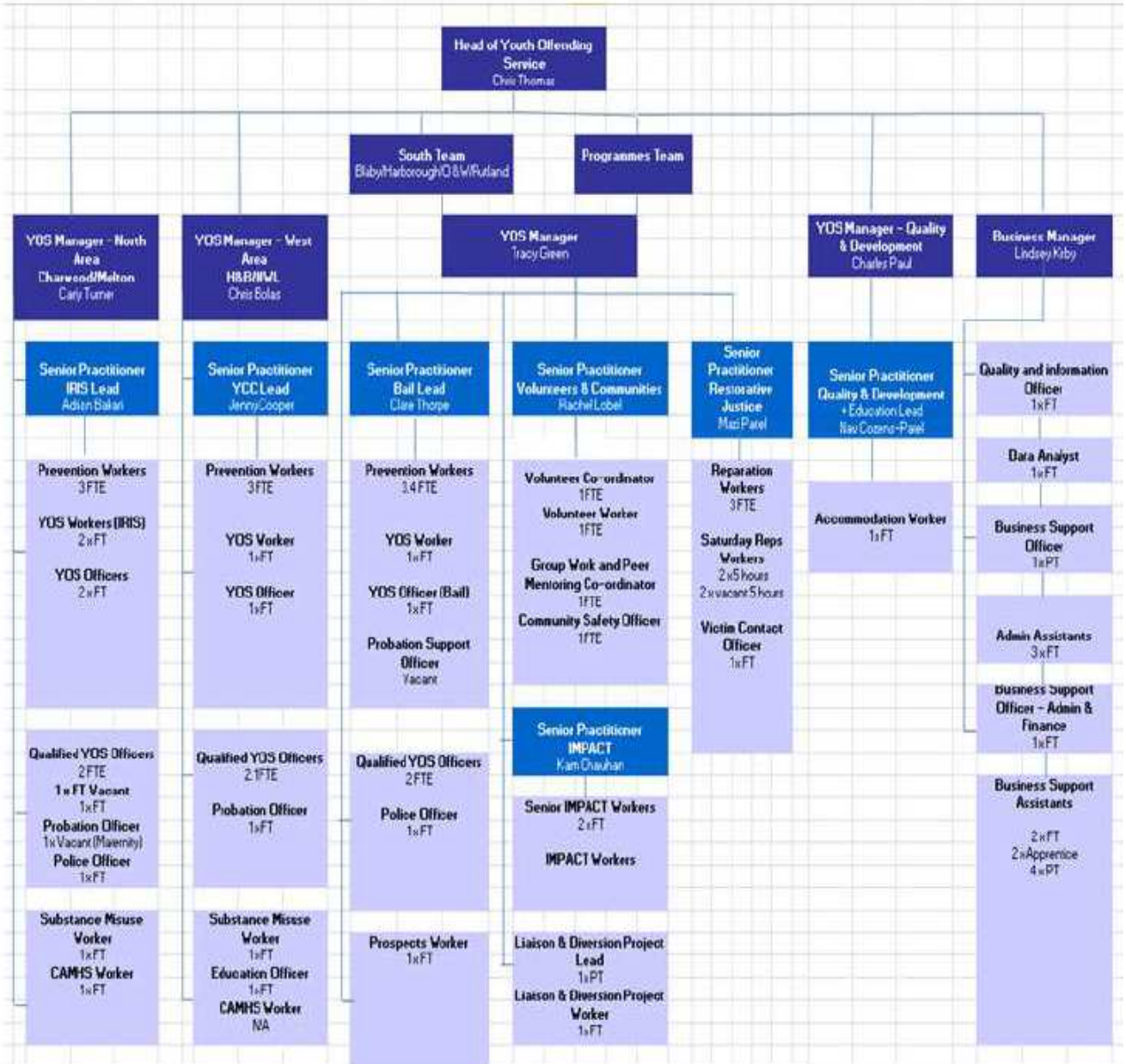
Risk	Causes (s)	Consequences (s)	Risk Owner	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Score	List of current controls	Further Actions / Additional Controls	Residual Impact	Residual Likelihood	Residual Risk Score
Low level use of remand and custody not maintained	*spike in number young people committing serious offences *increase in the number young people persistently breaching court orders	*increase cost to Local Authority to fund remand beds *Impact on YOS and resources across other sections of Children and Family Services linked to working with young people in custody	Head of Service	2	2	4	Maintain current management strategies • Close liaison with the court *Maintain bail management team • Good use of YRO sentencing options • Ensure reducing reoffending in high risk group of YP a strategic priority * Joint work across Children and Family Services to minimise the impact, including enhancing the provision of alternatives to remand and custody, and improving alternative accommodation	Ensure that resources are effectively targeted to minimise any potential impact.	2	3	5

Risk	Causes (s)	Consequences (s)	Risk Owner	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Score	List of current controls	Further Actions / Additional Controls	Residual Impact	Residual Likelihood	Residual Risk Score
							arrangements				

DRAFT

Risk	Causes (s)	Consequences (s)	Risk Owner	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Score	List of current controls	Further Actions / Additional Controls	Residual Impact	Residual Likelihood	Residual Risk Score
Risk of Harm posed by or to young people not effectively identified or managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Careworks inability to provide adequate management information on high risk of harm cases. *Information not shared effectively between agencies *Risk not effectively managed by practitioners *assessments not effectively overseen and verified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Young person commits a serious offence *A serious incident receives significant negative media coverage *impact on victim satisfaction and public confidence 	Head of Service	1	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Maintaining an effective quality assurance process *Effective management process to monitor risk of harm and vulnerability processes to ensure delivery is maintained at a high standard. *Ensure lessons from national and local inspections, and serious incidents are taken forward * Ensure annual training priorities & plan are linked to lessons learnt process 	Ensure that resources are effectively targeted to minimise any potential impact.	2	3	5

Appendix 1
Leicestershire Youth Offending Service Organisational Chart



Partner Sign Off

	Name Of Chief Officer	Signature	Date
Chief Executive, Leicestershire County Council	J Sinnott		
Director of Children and Family Services, Leicestershire County Council	L Hagger		
Chief Constable, Leicestershire Police	S Cole		
Head of Leicestershire and Rutland National Probation Service	C Maclean		
Chief Executive, East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group	D Briggs		
Chief Executive, West Leicestershire Commissioning Group	T Sanders		
Chief Executive, Rutland County Council	H Briggs		
Justice's Clerk – Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Rutland and Northamptonshire for Her Majesty's Courts Service	N Watson		

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REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

A. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Introduction

1. The Constitution requires that the Scrutiny Commission and Overview and Scrutiny Committees submit an Annual Report to the Council (or the Scrutiny Commission in a single report on their behalf) on their workings. The report may make recommendations about future work programmes and changes in working methods.

Annual Report

2. Attached as Appendix 1 to this report is a copy of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2014/15. It is not intended as a comprehensive review of all scrutiny activity undertaken during the year, but serves to highlight in a public friendly format some of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny and how it has had an impact.

Conclusions

3. In recognising the drastically reduced finances within which the Council now has to operate, the work of Overview and Scrutiny remains highly important in ensuring that, as the Council navigates its way through this period of financial austerity and implements service transformation and redesign, it continues to deliver high quality cost effective and responsive services.
4. Scrutiny resources will need to be focussed on areas that matter the most to the public and areas in which it feels will be of help the Council to work smarter and more efficiently.

(Motion to be moved:

That the information contained in the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2014/15, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, on its activities, be noted.)

Mr. S. J. Galton CC
Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission

Background Papers

Annual Report submitted to the meeting of the Scrutiny Commission on 3 June 2015 (attached).

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Overview & Scrutiny

Annual Report 2014/15



Introduction

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2014/15

What is Overview and Scrutiny...?

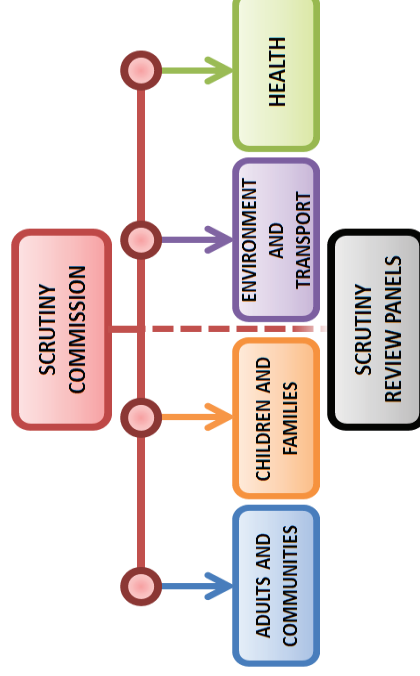
All local authorities operating a Cabinet and Scrutiny model have a Cabinet made up of the Leader of the Council and up to nine other members. All executive decisions (ie. those needed to implement the Policy Framework and Budget approved by the County Council) are taken by the Cabinet.

Overview and Scrutiny bodies are not “decision making” bodies but are bodies which monitor and influence those that are. The Overview and Scrutiny role, carried out by non-Cabinet members, is designed to support the work of the Council in the following ways:

- **Reviewing and scrutinising decisions taken by the Cabinet, also known as acting as a “critical friend”.**
- **Considering aspects of the Council’s performance.**
- **Assisting in research, policy review and development.**

- **Involving itself with external organisations operating in the County to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.**
- **Providing a means of involving the community in the Council’s work.**

The structure of the Overview and Scrutiny’s Committee structure at Leicestershire County Council is set out below:



Each Committee has a role in performance monitoring, enabling members to scrutinise detailed performance reports and service delivery.

The Scrutiny Commission reviews and scrutinises decisions made or actions proposed in connection with the remaining Council functions which are not within the scope of any of the above Committees, including that of budget monitoring. It

oversees and co-ordinates the work of all Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSC) and co-ordinates a response to the Cabinet’s budget proposals.

The Adults and Communities OSC, the Children and Families OSC and the Environment and Transport OSC scrutinise the Council’s functions in relation to their relevant departments. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutinises the activities of the Council’s Public Health function and NHS bodies, which have responsibility for commissioning and providing health care services.

Scrutiny Review Panels, made up of a small number of members (usually five), are appointed to look in depth at particular issues and their recommendations, which may suggest a change in policy or service provision, are submitted to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to consideration by the Cabinet.

Find out more...

...about the [Scrutiny Commission](#) and its [Chairman](#) and how [Overview and Scrutiny](#) works by accessing the [Overview and Scrutiny Guide](#).

Key outcomes from work undertaken this past year in our Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Scrutiny Commission

The Scrutiny Commission is the main Overview and Scrutiny body, looking at the Council's budget and performance as well as the Leicester and Leicestershire Economic Partnership (LLEP) which is responsible for the economy and strategic transport covering the County and Leicester City. The Commission also has a role to look at issues that cover the remit of more than one Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Communities Strategy

We have played an important role in the establishment of this Strategy, which aims to make the best use of the resources available to focus on helping communities to support individuals and families in most need, and enabling community groups to provide services for local people, including those that the Council can no longer afford to provide.

We were encouraged by the role "Community Champions" would play in bringing local communities together and helping in the recruitment of volunteers, though it would be particularly important to ensure that urban and

unparished areas received extra support in this area. Throughout the process we have continued to express the importance of engaging those communities that are considered to be the hardest to reach.

Empowering Volunteers

In September last year we learned of the pressure the Council's reducing budgets were having on the voluntary sector at a time when we were looking to increase engagement and recruit more volunteers. This equated to a reduction in funding for support to the sector of over £500,000 per year, some of which would be met by a reduction in funding for the Council's county infrastructure

organisation: Voluntary Action LeicesterShire (VAL). Despite the funding reduction, we were pleased to learn direct from VAL CEO Kevan Liles at a session in October last year that volunteer recruitment had increased from 200,000 to over 500,000 (an increase of over 130%). Notwithstanding this success, we stressed the importance of the ongoing monitoring of VAL's performance to ensure taxpayers were getting value for money and the provision of the best possible service to our volunteers at a time when we would increasingly be relying on them to deliver important services to communities.

Enabling Growth in Leicestershire

In March, we were joined by the Cabinet Lead Member for Economic Development, Blake Pain CC for a discussion on how we could

support the LLEP in its delivery of investment projects aimed to improve prosperity and growth. We particularly welcomed the long term ambition to create 45,000 jobs in Leicester and Leicestershire.

The Council's Broadband Strategy would be key to ensuring local businesses were connected, even those in the most remote areas of the County. Some concern was expressed at the lack of profile being given to environmental issues and we therefore stressed the need for a focus to remain on projects being carbon efficient. We have asked for a report back in September 2016.



The Budget

The process of agreeing the budget this year was set against the backdrop of the Cabinet's "Fairer Funding Campaign" which aimed to attract the attention of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and make a plea for Leicestershire to have financial parity with other local authorities of equivalent size.

In regard to the proposals brought forward by the Cabinet, we were keen to emphasise the role of traded services and how, with a more targeted approach towards potential customers, we could increase income and lessen the savings burden on the Council's valuable staff resource, thus hopefully providing a level of protection to some key services. Similarly, we stressed the importance ICT services could play in harnessing efficiencies. We were particularly keen to work with the Director of Corporate Resources on how the use of "cloud-based" technologies might be rolled out across the Council in the future to make remote working for staff simpler and therefore more efficient.

One significant area of concern we shared with the Cabinet was around the sustainability of Government funding for Universal Free Infant School Meals beyond the General Election. A loss in this funding would greatly impact the earnings of the School Food Service and this was acknowledged as a significant risk factor going forward and one which the Children and

Families OSC would need to continue to monitor.

More positive were plans for the County Hall campus, which aimed to reduce property running costs and through better consultation increase the space available for rental to external parties. An "out of hours" facility would enable staff to work at smaller buildings, achieving energy savings through the closure of the site's larger buildings.



Adults and Communities

This has been a difficult and challenging year for the Committee. The financial outlook for the County Council has been extremely

challenging and as a result some difficult and unpopular decisions have been referred to the Committee for consideration.

Snibston Museum

The Cabinet proposals for Snibston envisaged a revised offer focused on mining with a view to reducing the current subsidy of approximately £900,000. As part of the consultation the Cabinet invited other options, and as result, received a business plan from the "Friends of Snibston" (FOS).

We considered this matter in June, September and January of this year. This issue generated much local interest as well as extensive press coverage. We were keen to ensure that all parties, particularly the FOS, who had put a considerable amount of effort into producing a detailed business plan and the local MP and councillors were given the opportunity to put forward the case for Snibston. It was difficult to find a consensus on such a contentious issue but scrutiny enabled a more informed debate to take place. At the time of writing the decision of the Council was the subject of a Judicial Review.

See Scrutiny in action...

...by attending our meetings. Please visit [this page](#) for further details and guidance. Alternatively, our meetings are [webcast live](#).

Libraries

The second major issue considered was the issue of the future of the Libraries Service. The proposals for the Libraries Service envisaged the County Council continuing to operate the 16 major libraries based in the market towns and shopping centres and inviting local communities and groups to operate the remaining 36 community libraries.

Scrutiny played a critical role in developing the offer to support local communities in taking over the management of their local libraries, the details of which are referred to in the box to the right.

Through the scrutiny process we were able to assess the rationale for selecting the 16 main libraries and to ensure that the engagement process with local communities recognised differences and that a “one-size-fits-all” approach was not appropriate.

It is pleasing to note that to date we have had positive engagement from 20 communities and that discussions are ongoing with the remainder. The challenge ahead is to ensure the successful transfer of all community libraries to local communities and to harness the enthusiasm within communities to work alongside the Council in taking control of services and tailoring them to suit their needs.

Scrutiny Review:

Infrastructure Support for Community Partnership Libraries

With increased pressure on budgets and a greater emphasis on communities being empowered to run some of their local services, a consultation exercise was conducted between July and September on the future of the Leicestershire Library Service.

The consultation proposed that if a local community organised itself to provide the staffing resource (presumed to be through volunteers) the Council would offer a support package including a contribution towards the other infrastructure costs for an initial period of up to five years.

The Cabinet asked that a Review Panel look in greater detail at this support package and report back with its findings. Our Panel met three times under tight timescales and heard evidence from a number of stakeholders to understand their views on how things could be changed in a way that would help their local library.

In coming back with a revised package, the Panel proposed that a “one size fits all” approach would simply not be feasible and that each community would require a tailored approach to suit their needs. The Panel felt strongly that the financial support given to communities to take this work on would need to be tapered over seven years rather than five and that

premises should be provided to communities for a peppercorn rent and these arrangements should also be reviewed after 10 years (in line with the property lease) rather than the five years originally suggested.

It was felt that the revised support package, which received Cabinet approval in November, would provide communities with a positive footing on which they could confidently take on the running of libraries in their local area.



Services for the Homeless

The pressure on the Adult Social Care budget is well known and a key strategy for the Council is to develop services aimed at reducing demand by working with partners to address the root cause of problems. One such example was the decision to review our approach to services for homeless people. That approach was to recognise that the Council needed to work alongside its partners, particularly District Councils (who have statutory responsibilities for housing) so that the offer made to people who were homeless or at risk of being homeless was more joined up.



Change is always a difficult process and the proposals to target some of our limited resources away from building based provision to outreach caused some consternation. As a result of a 'call-in' a thorough review of the decisions was undertaken and this resulted in an amendment to the proposed balance of investment between building-based and outreach provision.

The financial challenges facing the Council and in particular Adult Social Care are recognised. As we move forward with implementing the Care Act, the Council will again be facing the challenge of not having sufficient resource to meet the demand of an ageing population. New and innovative ways of delivering services via close joint working with our health partners will be essential to ensure that we reduce demand.

Children and Families

The Committee has had a busy year not least with the ongoing active engagement of the public in our work, with a good amount of public questions answered and representations being made at our meetings.

Age Range Changes

Age range changes planned for schools in the Oadby area were felt by some to be likely to force local children into schools in other areas. Whilst hearing representations from interested parties, we were reassured that the Council would only support age range

changes when they presented an opportunity to improve outcomes for children. We were pleased that a consultation process was held giving local people the opportunity to submit their views.

The Committee has continued to improve its grasp of the Authority's changing role in regard to educational performance. The Council now has to make "arrangements" for school and academy improvement, but not "deliver" these in isolation. This being the case, we were encouraged to learn that the Council continued to maintain a positive dialogue with academies to ensure they were performing to a good standard.

Child Sexual Exploitation

With the publication of the "Jay" report in late 2014, highlighting the management failures that enabled child abuse to go unchallenged for years in Rotherham, we were quick to respond by requesting an update from the Director at our November meeting in regard to Leicestershire's position. We were reassured that a number of actions had already been taken to learn more about the expertise and resource required to manage this issue on an ongoing basis. We were also greatly encouraged that close working continued with Leicestershire Police, who had also conducted their own enquiry into allegations of non-recent child abuse. This issue remains our highest priority going

forward and one which we expect to hear more about at our meeting in June.

Transformation

We learned that the Council’s programme of Transformation would require 30% of the departmental budget, currently spent on non-statutory early help services, to be the focus of future savings in order to meet budget targets. With this in mind, we were delighted to be made aware of £4.7 million of funding that had been awarded to the Council by the Department for Education to roll out a new programme aimed at embedding an internationally recognised methodology for those that worked closest with children and families. We look forward to hearing more in the future about how this new way of working – known as “Signs of Safety” – has led to improved outcomes for our service users.



Environment and Transport

It has been a busy and challenging year, with austerity measures continuing to dominate the local government agenda. Despite this, we have worked to ensure that the Department maintains its delivery of key priorities in Leicestershire with considerable focus being paid to the transport projects ongoing around the County.

Stimulating Development and Growth in Leicestershire

Throughout the year the Committee has welcomed the Department’s commitment to stimulating economic growth in Leicestershire, such as the re-opening of Regent Street in Hinckley to through-traffic. This decision was made following consultation with local businesses and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and all parties agreed that this could provide vital income for the town, through better access to the street’s many local businesses.

The Committee has continued to monitor the ongoing work of the Local Transport Plan 3 with a focus on the work being undertaken in the Hinckley area. At our meeting in February 2015 the Committee and local members highly commended the consultation undertaken by officers in the Department to ensure that local members and residents had an impact on the project.

The Committee played a vital role in ensuring that the North West Leicester Transport Plan was fit for all local residents, particularly those in Glenfield. The passionate views put forward by Committee members at our meeting and during the consultation process meant that officers went away and came back to the



Committee with a revised plan based on local concerns. Following the comments we made, and the Plan's subsequent approval by the Cabinet, the City and County Councils can jointly proceed to make the City more accessible, thus contributing to Leicestershire's economic growth.

Continuing to Deliver Savings and a High-Quality Service

We have continued to support the financial and environmental commitments of the Council. At our meeting in September 2014 we recommended that the Department look into the conversion to LED street lighting, which would contribute to the long term financial savings required of the Department. It would also significantly reduce the County's carbon footprint.

In November 2014, the Committee was informed of the future options for the provision of recycling and household waste sites in the current financial climate, and is looking forward to receiving the outcome of the consultation and submitting its views later in the year.

Health

The challenges facing the health service, particularly performance of the urgent care system and hospital discharge, have been a constant theme for the Committee. These challenges, along with the ever increasing momentum behind the health and social care integration programme, have made it an

exciting year to be a part of the Committee's work.

Urgent Care

We have monitored performance across the urgent care system and were pleased to welcome the "whole system" approach to tackling the well-documented performance issues. A number of new initiatives such as the Older People's Unit at Loughborough Hospital and the Falls Service have emerged from the use of the Better Care Fund (a pooled budget across health and social care) and we look forward to seeing the impact of these as we continue to monitor performance of the urgent care system.

Learning Lessons to Improve Care

This was a significant investigation into the quality of care received by a particular cohort of patients which enabled wider system level issues to be identified. The Committee welcomed the openness across the NHS in making their findings public as well as the willingness to learn from previous mistakes. We identified some particular issues which we have asked for further assurance on relating to the quality of end of life care and communication between different parts of the system.

Scrutiny Review: Help to Live at Home

The recent focus on the timeliness of hospitals discharge, along with the ageing population in Leicestershire, has led to an increased pressure on domiciliary care services and the recognition that the current model is not fit for purpose.

Developing a new model of care, focused on improved outcomes for service users and a joined-up approach between health and social care, became a priority within the County Council's Transformation Programme. This was an ideal opportunity for Scrutiny to get involved and provide officers with a useful perspective to support them in writing the business case for the new service.

A Review Panel was established in the Autumn and has had a significant input in the development of the new Help to Live at Home service model, making recommendations which support the use of an outcomes-based model of care, stakeholder engagement, person-centred care and will ensure that the new service is commissioned from providers who are able to cater for people with a diverse range of needs.

The Final Report will be considered by the **Adults and Communities OSC** and the **Cabinet** in June.



Leicester.

healthwatch Leicestershire

Healthwatch

Our relationship with Healthwatch Leicestershire has continued to improve over the past year. Rick Moore, the Chairman of Healthwatch Leicestershire, is a regular participating observer at our meetings and has recently started to have his own slot on the agenda where he can update us on the fantastic work Healthwatch has been doing. This has included their work to find out the views of patients on issues that matter to them, such as accident and emergency services, and represent them to the highest levels of the relevant organisations. It is of enormous value to have the views of patients directly represented to us at our meetings.



New Congenital Heart Disease Review

We responded to the consultation on the national standards for the new service and we welcomed the standards though we did have concerns about how they would be implemented. It is now up to University Hospitals Leicester to demonstrate that it can achieve the required standards and thereby secure the future of children's heart surgery in

Get in touch with our Overview & Scrutiny team:

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In Summary...

This past year has been beset by ever reducing budgets and a refocusing of the way in which the Council conducts its business and provides its services to customers and this will continue in 2015/16.

The change in emphasis has also been felt in Overview and Scrutiny and has meant that we have been required to focus our efforts on areas where we can most make a tangible difference to the people of Leicestershire, whilst providing a robust check and balance to ensure that the services provided to the most vulnerable in our society are safeguarded as much as is possible.

Going forward, our emphasis will increasingly be placed on the delivery of the Council's Transformation agenda: a programme of 24 projects across all Council departments and services, aimed at improving delivery and identifying efficiency savings. We will need to keep these projects under review to ensure they not only deliver the savings required but do so in a timely fashion. It will be our role to understand how the outcomes of these projects will benefit the taxpayer beyond financial savings. We hope to make a valuable contribution to this process by being consulted at an early stage and making our views known to the Cabinet on ways that projects might be improved or enhanced.

Health and social care integration issues will continue to dominate the Health agenda for the coming year, as both the Better Care Fund and the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland wide Better Care Together five year strategy for health and social care move into implementation phases.

We expect to look at some challenging items, such as shifting health services out of acute settings into the community. We will ensure that the Health OSC remains focused on patient experience and the quality of services they receive, so that Leicestershire residents will get the best possible outcomes across the health and social care system.

Whilst Child Sexual Exploitation has already featured on the Children and Families OSC agenda this past year, we will need to continue to receive regular updates on the Council's efforts to ensure good quality services in this area.

We hope you will have found this document a valuable précis of our work and an insight into where we feel our focus should be in the coming Council year. We would like to thank our fellow members and those officers of the Council who have provided support and guidance in the work of Overview and Scrutiny this past year.



Kevin Feltham
Kevin Feltham



Simon Galton
Simon Galton



Max Hunt
Max Hunt



Richard Shepherd
Richard Shepherd

The Scrutiny Commissioners

JOINT REPORT OF THE EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE AND THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

A: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE RULES

Purpose

1. This report concerns new regulations which amend the rules and procedures for the dismissal of Head of the Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

Background

2. As part of the arrangements introduced in 2001, the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer were given statutory protection through the requirement to appoint a Designated Independent Person (DIP) to investigate any allegation of misconduct. The intention of this provision was to ensure that these officers could discharge their statutory responsibilities without any fear of being influenced by elected members and being dismissed without good reason.
3. The DIP would be appointed early in the process when it appeared to a Council that an allegation of misconduct by the relevant officer required investigation. No disciplinary action could be taken other than in accordance with the recommendations of the report of the DIP.

New Regulations

4. The Local Authorities (Standing Order) England (Amendment) Regulations 2015 were laid before Parliament on 25th March and came into effect on 11th May 2015. Local Authorities are required to make the necessary changes to their procedures as soon as possible after this date.
5. These new regulations remove the requirement to appoint a DIP. Instead the regulations require:-
 - a) the Council to establish a Panel to advise the Council on matters relating to the dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or Chief Financial Officer;
 - b) the full Council to approve a notice to dismiss these officers.
6. The Regulations provide that the Council must invite in accordance with the following priority order:-
 - i) an independent person who has been appointed by the Council and who is a local government elector;
 - ii) any other independent person who has been appointed by the Council;
 - iii) an independent person appointed by another authority.

with a view to appointing not less than two such people to the Panel.

7. The Council currently has three independent persons appointed to deal with member conduct issues. Whilst it would be possible to call upon these people to serve on any Panel, it would alter the basis of their appointment from advising on standards issues in the context of a regime with little in the way of sanctions to operating in the context of disciplinary action and employment law. It would therefore be appropriate to approach these persons to ascertain whether they would be willing to take on this additional responsibility. In the event that one or more of these persons indicate they are not willing to do so it will be necessary to start a recruitment process.

Appointment of an Independent Investigating Officer

8. The Employment Committee will need to start the disciplinary process against the officers covered by these regulations based on advice it receives. Given that the officers concerned are three of the most senior officers of the Council it would be somewhat difficult for a serving officer of the Council to be asked to investigate any alleged misconduct. Accordingly the proposed changes to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules contain a provision to enable the Employment Committee to appoint an Independent Investigating Officer to advise it on an appropriate course of action.

Additional Concerns regarding the new Regulations

9. Members should be aware that across the local government sector there are concerns relating to the implementation and operation of these regulations. The first of these relates to the requirement that a notice to dismiss must be approved by the full Council which then raises the question as to which members could then deal with any appeal against dismissal. The second relates to the dual role of the Independent Persons on the Panel. Such persons are to be drawn from persons appointed to deal with 'Standards related issues'. As such these persons will need to develop a close working relationship with the Monitoring Officer and it is these same persons who could then be asked to advise on disciplinary matters relating to the same Monitoring Officer. The third concerns the role of the Council meeting itself. The Council would be required to act in a quasi-judicial capacity, may need to consider evidence and representations and would need to meet in private. These and other concerns have been highlighted and it is hoped that at some point guidance will emerge on these points.

Revised Officer Employment Procedure Rules

10. Attached as Appendix 1 are proposed amendments to Part 4 H Rule 11 of the Officer Employment Procedure Rules to give effect to the new regulations.

Consideration by the Employment and Constitution Committees

11. The Employment Committee at its meeting on 18th June considered the report and noted the concerns outlined regarding the new regulations. The Committee approved the proposed changes to the officer employment procedure rules but asked that the Constitution Committee and Council be

advised of its concerns at the difficulties likely to be encountered in implementing the procedures.

12. The Constitution Committee on at its meeting on 25th June noted the concerns outlined in the report and those of the Employment Committee and agreed as follows:-
- a) That the proposed changes to Rule 11 of the Officer Employment Procedure Rules be approved and referred to the County Council for final approval;
 - b) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to discuss with the existing independent persons the implications of the new regulations and their willingness to take on this new responsibility;
 - c) That in the event that one or more of the existing independent members decline to undertake the new role the Monitoring Officer be authorised to undertake a recruitment exercise for new independent persons and report the outcome to the Council for approval.

(Motion to be moved:

That the revised Officer Employment Procedure Rules attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be approved.)

**Mr N. J. Rushton CC
Chairman of the
Constitution Committee
25th June 2015**

**Mr J. B Rhodes CC
Chairman of the
Employment Committee
18th June 2015**

Background Papers

Reports on the proposed changes to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules considered by the Employment Committee on 18th June and the Constitution Committee on 25th June 2015.

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APPENDIX 1**Suggested Revision to Part 4H of the Constitution
Rule 11 – Officer Employment Procedure Rules**

1. No action may be taken by the Employment Committee – except for suspension – relating to the dismissal of either the Head of the Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer other than in accordance with The Local Authorities (Standing Order) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015) and as set out below.
2. In respect of the proposed dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer, the Employment Committee may appoint an Independent Investigating Officer (IIO) to examine the circumstances of the case and to advise the Committee on any action to be taken.
3. Where consideration is being given to the dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer a Panel (comprising an Advisory Committee established under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972) will be set up which shall include at least two Independent Persons who have consented so to serve from amongst those previously appointed by the County Council or by another Council under Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 and which shall meet at least 20 working days before any meeting of the County Council at which any proposed dismissal is to be considered
4. The Employment Committee will, having considered the advice of any Independent Investigating Officer appointed, make a recommendation to the Council for consideration, including any terms for cessation of employment.
5. Any proposal to dismiss the Head of the Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer may only be taken by the Council following consideration of
 - a. any advice, views or recommendations from the Panel set up under paragraph 3 above
 - b. the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal : and
 - c. any representations from the officer concerned

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REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

A: REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Committee to submit proposed changes to the Meeting Procedure Rules (Standing Orders) and Articles of the Constitution to the County Council for approval.

Background

2. Article 15 of the County Council's Constitution gives the Chief Executive a duty to monitor and review the operation of the Constitution to ensure that the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect. It requires that changes to the document should only be approved by the full County Council after consideration of the proposal by the Chief Executive and the relevant Committee which, in the case of the Articles and Meeting Procedure Rules, is the Constitution Committee.
3. In the case of everything except the Meeting Procedure Rules the final decision on changes can be made at a single meeting of the County Council. However, in the case of the Meeting Procedure Rules any motion to add, to vary or revoke Standing Orders must, having been proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council. The proposed changes to the Standing Orders set out in this report cannot therefore take effect until after the County Council meeting in September 2015.

Review of Standing Orders

4. The Leaders of the three main Political Groups have discussed concerns raised by the Leader relating to the conduct of the Council budget meeting in February 2015 and the fact that a number of members had failed to speak to the matter before the Council and were speaking on behalf of other bodies, specifically district councils.
5. A further issue highlighted during the Council debate was that some members had not understood the how school finances work and in their speeches therefore misrepresented the position. A similar issue occurred in relation to the notice of motion on grammar schools moved at the March Council meeting. Currently there is no mechanism in place to enable another member to raise a point of information to correct a speaker from developing their arguments based on an incorrect understanding or incorrect information.

Proposals

6. In order to address the concerns set out above, it is proposed to make some amendments to the Standing Orders and a consequential amendment to the Articles. These are set out in Appendix 1 to this report. The proposed amendments are appended to the report and involve the following:-

- (i) Amending Standing Order 18 and Article 2.03 to clarify the role of a County Councillor. The amendments confirm that, whilst the overriding duty of County Councillors in their representative role is to the whole community, they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them. They should act in the capacity to which they were elected to the Council and should not speak on behalf of any other local authority. The amendment to Standing Order 18 also clarifies that any speech must be directly relevant to the matter under discussion.
- (ii) Amending Standing Order 22 by adding a provision to enable a member to raise a point of information so as to correct a speaker from developing their argument on incorrect facts.

Recommendations of the Constitution Committee

- 7. The recommendations of the Constitution Committee are contained in the motion which appears below.

(Motion to be moved:-

Motion 1

- (a) **That the proposed changes to the Constitution, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, other than those which relate to Standing Orders (the Meeting Procedure Rules), be approved;**

Motion 2 – Procedural Motion in accordance with Standing Order 37

- (b) **That the changes to Standing Orders (The Meeting Procedure Rules), as set out in Appendix 1 to the report of the Constitution Committee, be approved.”**

(NOTE Standing Order 37 requires that this procedural motion, having been moved and seconded, stands adjourned until the next ordinary meeting of the Council.)

STANDING ORDER 18***Length of speeches and conduct of members***

- (1) A member shall direct his or her speech to the question under discussion (i.e. it shall be directly relevant to the matter under discussion) or to a point of order or a point of personal explanation or information for the meeting, shall not impute motives or use offensive expressions to or about any other member and shall act in accordance with the role of a County Councillor as set out in Article 2.03 of the Constitution.

ARTICLE 2***Members of the County Council*****2.03 Roles and functions of all county councillors**

- (a) The overriding duty of county councillors in their representational role is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them.
- (b) **Key roles.** All county councillors will:
1. act in the capacity to which they were elected to the County Council and not speak on behalf of any other local authority whilst acting as a County Councillor;
 2. collectively be the ultimate policy-makers and carry out a number of strategic and corporate management functions;
 3. contribute to the good governance of the County and actively encourage community participation and citizen involvement in decision-making;
 4. represent their communities and bring the views of those communities into the County Council's decision-making process, i.e. become the advocate of and for their communities;
 5. deal with individual casework and act as an advocate for constituents in resolving particular concerns or grievances;
 6. balance different interests identified within the electoral division and represent the electoral division as a whole;
 7. respond to constituents' enquiries and representations, fairly and impartially;
 8. be available to represent the County Council on other bodies; and
 9. maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics.

STANDING ORDER 22 (A)***Points of Order***

1. A member may rise on a point of order and shall be entitled to be heard forthwith. A point of order shall relate only to an alleged breach of a Standing Order or statutory provision and the member shall specify the Standing Order

or statutory provision and the way in which he or she considers it has been broken.

2. The ruling of the Chairman on a point of order shall not be open to discussion.

STANDING ORDER 22 (B)

Points of Personal Explanation or Information for the meeting

1. A member may rise on a point of personal explanation or point for information for the Council and shall be heard forthwith.
2. A point of personal explanation shall be confined to some material part of the former speech by him or her which may have been misunderstood in the present debate.
3. A point of information for the meeting shall be confined to correcting a speaker developing their argument on incorrect facts or figures so as to avoid misleading the meeting.
4. The ruling of the Chairman on a point of personal explanation or point of information for the Council shall not be open for discussion.

B: ELECTORAL REVIEW OF LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Purpose

1. This report sets out a proposed scheme for new electoral divisions in response to an invitation from Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to interested parties to submit proposals.

Background

2. The LGBCE is responsible for conducting electoral reviews. Electoral reviews are undertaken when electoral variances become notable. The County Council and the LGBCE agreed that a review was required as one of the criteria for a review had been met, namely that 30% of electoral divisions now had an imbalance of more than 10%. The review process formally commenced in December 2014.

Statutory Rules

3. The LGBCE has to work within the legislative guidelines. Schedule 2 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 sets out the statutory criteria to which the LGBCE are required to have regard to in conducting electoral reviews and includes:
 - (i) the need to secure equality of representation;
 - (ii) the need to reflect the identities and interests of local communities; and
 - (iii) the need to secure effective and convenient local government.

There are a number of other criteria and factors the LGBCE must have regard to and these are set out in detail in the attached submission.

The Review Process

4. There are four main stages in the process for undertaking electoral reviews which are as follows:-

Stage 1	LGBCE to determine the Council size and agree electorate forecasts to 2021.
Stage 2	Invitation to interested persons to submit proposals for new electoral divisions (May 12 – July 21).
Stage 3	LGBCE to consider the proposals submitted and publish its draft recommendations for new electoral divisions consultation (October to December 2015)
Stage 4	LGBCE publishes its final recommendations on the new electoral divisions and an Order is laid in Parliament to give effect to this (March 2016).

Stage 1

5. The first stage of the process commenced in late 2014. This involved the preparation and agreement of electorate forecasts with the LGBCE. The agreed forecasts now form the basis on which the Council's and other interested parties proposals will be constructed. The electorate forecasts can

be found on the LGBCE website via the following link
<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/east-midlands/leicestershire/leicestershire-county-council>.

6. As part of this first stage, the LGBCE invited the County Council to submit proposals on Council size. The question of Council size is the starting point in any electoral review, since it will determine the optimum 'councillor:elector ratio' across all electoral areas against which levels of electoral imbalance can be measured. The County Council submitted its proposals on Council size in March 2015 and put a case forward to retain the Council size at its current level – 55 members. The LGBCE on 12th May indicated that it was minded to recommend a Council size of 55 members. Consequently, based on the forecasts and a council size of 55, each elected county councillor would represent 9,466 electors in 2014 rising to 9,984 in 2021. The Council's submission on Council size can be accessed via the following link
[http://politics.leics.gov.uk/Published/C00000134/M00004177/AI00043379/\\$ReportoftheConstitutionCommitteeAppendix1.docA.ps.pdf](http://politics.leics.gov.uk/Published/C00000134/M00004177/AI00043379/$ReportoftheConstitutionCommitteeAppendix1.docA.ps.pdf).

Stage 2

7. This report concerns the second stage of the process and sets out the County Council submission to the LGBCE for new electoral boundaries. To help prepare its scheme the County Council established a politically balanced Working Party comprising of members from the three main political groups to oversee all aspects of the review.
8. In drawing up its proposals the Working Party was mindful that the main reason that a review in Leicestershire was required was to improve electoral equality. The Working Party's approach has been that, wherever possible, existing electoral divisions should be retained and that it would only propose changes where these were required to rectify electoral inequality. By seeking to retain existing electoral divisions the Working Party was of the view that it would help retain existing community identities which are now well embedded following the implementation of last Periodic Electoral Review of Leicestershire in 2005. The initial proposals considered by the working party were circulated to political groups for consideration. The comments received from political groups can be found via this link:
www.leics.gov.uk/boundaryreview_disborproposals.htm.
 These initial proposals were subsequently amended by the Working Party and formed the public consultation document.

The County Council Proposal – Summary

9. The Scheme which is now being proposed for approval by the County Council is set out in a separate document which accompanies the Council report booklet. It proposes fifty three single member divisions and one two member division. Overall the proposed Scheme ensures that:-
- 121 out of the 151 district/borough wards across the County are wholly contained within an electoral division. This results in 80% co-terminosity across the county;
 - Significantly improves electoral equality as 50 of the 54 electoral divisions are within the +/- 10% tolerance. Only four divisions exceed the +/- 10% tolerance, 3 divisions are between +/- 11% -13% and one

is between +/- 14% - 15%. The attached submission provides a strong justification as to why these four electoral divisions should be established as proposed.

10. There was all party support at the Working Party for the proposed electoral division changes in the following District and Boroughs:-
 - Blaby
 - Charnwood
 - Harborough
 - Hinckley and Bosworth
11. The proposals put forward for Melton reflect the views of the Conservative Group. A proposal from the Labour Group to split the town of Melton into two divisions, Melton East and Melton West and make some marginal changes to the Asfordby division was not supported.
12. With regard to North West Leicestershire there were two areas of disagreement. The first centred on the town of Coalville and its immediate surrounds where a Labour party proposal for a Whitwick Division and a Coalville North and Coalville South Division was not supported. The second centred on Ashby Money Hill district ward, which was located in the proposed Valley electoral division. The Labour Group had argued for its inclusion in the Ashby de la Zouch division and for the Ashby Castle district ward to be in the Valley division.
13. With regard to the Oadby and Wigston there was broad support for the proposed scheme with the only exception being that the Liberal Democrat Group was in favour of a two member electoral division for the Oadby area.

Consultation responses

14. The County Council consulted on its draft proposals between 18th May and 29th May 2015. The attached submission sets out how the consultation was undertaken and acknowledges that was not ideal and very limited in scope. The consultation did provide as a means to get an initial view so as to provide a 'sense check' to the proposals put forward.
15. Fifty five responses were received to the online consultation, and two direct responses via email. Respondents were asked to comment about what they liked and/or disliked about the County Council's proposals, and whether they agreed with the proposed Electoral Division names and if they did not they were given an opportunity to propose alternative names. All the responses, as received, to the consultation can be found in the consultation response document via this link:
www.leics.gov.uk/boundaryreview_disborproposals.htm.
16. In the main the majority of respondents only commented about a specific district/borough. Twelve respondents made general comments. Of those twelve, eleven respondents supported the County Council proposals. For the remaining districts/borough within the County a brief summary is set out below:-

Blaby District – Three responses were received all of which either strongly agreed or tended to agree with the proposals.

Charnwood Borough – Four responses were received three strongly agreeing with the proposal and one strongly disagreeing.

Harborough District – No responses were received.

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough – Two responses were received both tending to agree with the proposals.

Melton Borough – Fifteen responses were received with nine strongly agreeing and four tending to agree with the proposal. Two respondents indicated that they tended to disagree or strongly disagreed with the proposals.

North West Leicestershire District – Seventeen responses were received. Three respondents strongly agreed with the County Council proposal and one tended to agree. Eleven disagreed with the proposals of which seven strongly disagreed and four tended to disagree. One respondent neither agreed nor disagreed with a further one respondent not indicating their preference.

Oadby and Wigston Borough – only two responses were received one strongly agreeing with the proposals and one tending to disagree.

17. The Member Working Party considered the outcomes of the consultation and noted that the comments in large part reflected the differences between the political parties as outlined in paragraphs 19 - 21 of this submission. However, the Working Party did make one change from its draft proposals. This was to move Ashby Money Hill from the Valley Division into the Ashby de la Zouch division and move the Ashby Castle district ward from Ashby de la Zouch Division to the Valley Division

Consideration by the Constitution Committees

18. The recommendations of the Constitution Committee are contained in the motion which appears below.

(Motion to be moved:

That the proposed County Council submission on new electoral divisions be approved.)

25th June 2015

**Mr N. J. Rushton CC
Chairman of the Constitution Committee**

Background Papers

Reports to the Constitution Committee on 25th June concerning:-

- The Electoral Review of Leicestershire County Council
- Review and Revision of the Constitution