



DATE: 9 May 2023
MY REF: RW/CCouncil
PLEASE ASK FOR: Mrs. R. Whitelaw
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Dear Sir/Madam

I summon you to the MEETING of the LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL to be held at COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD on WEDNESDAY, 17 MAY 2023 at 2.00 p.m. for the transaction of the business set out in the agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. To elect a Chairman.
2. To elect a Vice Chairman.
3. Chairman's Announcements.
4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 February 2023. (Pages 5 - 26)
5. To receive declarations by members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.
6. To answer questions asked under Standing Order 7(1)(2) and (5).
7. To receive position statements under Standing Order 8.

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

8. Reports of the Cabinet.



- (a) Youth Justice Plan 2023 - 27. (Pages 27 - 74)
 - (b) Dates of Council Meetings. (Pages 75 - 76)
9. To make the following appointments in accordance with items 11 and 12 of Standing Order 4:
- (a) To appoint the Leader (and to note the members which the Leader proposes to appoint to the Cabinet);
 - (b) To appoint such Cabinet Support Members as the Council considers appropriate;
 - (c) To appoint members of the Scrutiny Commission, Boards and Committees.
10. To consider the following notice of motion:
- (a) Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Mr Max Hunt CC.
 - (a) Leicestershire County Council acknowledges that an increasing number of pupils are requiring a place within a special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) setting or with support in mainstream education.
 - (b) The Council acknowledges the financial challenge, which is adversely affecting the delivery of SEND education and transport at the present time and notes that:
 - (i) Demand for SEND in Leicestershire is higher than most other comparison authority areas;
 - (ii) Leicestershire's geography, the location of existing SEND places, and reliance on independent sector providers contribute to the constant budget pressures in SEND provision despite significant capital investment delivering c600 new places;
 - (iii) The limited funding historically for mainstream education placed additional pressure on the SEND budget, with many Leicestershire primary and secondary schools being on the funding floor;
 - (iv) The law stipulates that processing Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCP) for a SEND pupil should last no more than 20 weeks. This target is often not met, which creates additional pressure and stress for SEND pupils, their parents, and carers;
 - (v) Some Leicestershire households with SEND pupils are

not receiving the level of support that we aspire to deliver;

- (vi) The Council has been working with Newton Europe – an operational improvement consultant - to develop a plan to manage the financial challenge of the increased demand for SEND in Leicestershire.

(c) This Council remains concerned that:

- (i) Leicestershire places high numbers of SEND children in the independent sector and is unable to provide enough places within local authority provision;
- (ii) Managing costs within the current level of grant funding is not possible given the current levels of demand and deficits on the SEND budget will grow in the current MTFS;
- (iii) The wider picture is concerning. SEND budget deficits across English local authorities now exceed £3 billion.

(d) The Council, therefore, resolves to:

- (i) Write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer to highlight the urgent need to review SEND funding, both in terms of the provision of additional school places and the funding allocation per student;
- (ii) Request emergency funding to support the processing of SEND applications to meet the 20-week target.