



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2020 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Cassidy (Chair)
Councillor Joel (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Dawood	Councillor Kitterick
Councillor Govind (sub for Councillor Khote)	Councillor March (sub for Councillor Joshi)
Councillor Halford	Councillor Porter

In Attendance:

Sir Peter Soulsby – City Mayor

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55. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Joshi, Khote, Waddington and Westley.

Councillor March was present as the appointed substitute for Councillor Joshi and Councillor Govind was present as the appointed substitute for Councillor Khote. Councillor Sandhu was appointed as substitute for Councillor Waddington, but submitted apologies for absence.

56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Halford declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 11, "Housing Revenue Account Budget (Including Capital Programme) 2020/21", in that she was a Council tenant. Councillor Halford remained in the meeting during consideration of this item, but took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

67. DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21

The Director of Finance submitted the draft Capital Programme 2020/21, which would be considered at the meeting of Council on 19 February 2020.

While introducing the report, the Director explained that the capital programme previously had been agreed for two years, as it had been expected that the system of local government funding would change during that period. However, due to other national political priorities, this review had been deferred and would be implemented from 2021/22 at the earliest. Consequently, it was proposed that a one-year capital programme be agreed for 2020/21, although it was recognised that some schemes would run beyond that period.

In response to a Member query, the City Mayor confirmed that the provision for the Reuse Shop at the Gypsum Close Household Waste Recycling site was to finance an expansion of the shop. This was proposed due to the success of the shop, as it could no longer store all of the items for sale within its premises.

In reply to a further Member enquiry, the Director of Finance explained that the Touchdown project was a pilot workspace project. Council-managed buildings outside of the city centre were being assessed to identify where space was available that could be used by Council staff working in a mobile way. For example, staff undertaking visits to various locations could use Touchdown space for a short time between visits. This could include locations such as office space above libraries, or at sports centres, which would avoid staff having to travel in and out of the city centre so often.

The Committee noted that the largest project in the capital programme appeared to be the work to the Jewry Wall Museum. It therefore requested that a report on the project be submitted to the Overview Select Committee, to enable it to gain a full picture of what was being planned. The City Mayor advised the Committee that he would welcome its input on this major initiative.

AGREED:

- 1) That, in view of the scale of the investment being made in to the project, the Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment be asked to submit a report to the Overview Select Committee on the work to the Jewry Wall Museum, to enable the Committee to gain an overview of this project and provide input as appropriate;
- 2) That this Committee supports the recommendations set out in the report in relation to the Capital Programme 2020/21.

Councillor Porter left the meeting during consideration of this item