



**ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 17TH MARCH 2004 AT 6.00PM
IN COMMITTEE ROOM 3, SOUTHFIELDS, LOUGHBOROUGH**

To: Councillors Bryant (Chair), Fryer, Gay, Green, Hampson, Harley, Harris,
Houseman, Noon (Vice-chair), Rodgers and Yardley

Reserves : Councillors Bava, Blanchard, Campbell, Edwards
and Lewis
(for attention)

All other members of the Council
(for information)

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES
2. MINUTES
3. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTERESTS
4. DECLARATIONS – THE PARTY WHIP

PART 2 (DELEGATED)

5. [TRANSPORTATION – QUALITY BUS INITIATIVE](#)

On 24th September 2003, the Committee had included Quality Bus Partnerships in its work programme to be scrutinised through the select committee approach. On 17th December 2003 the Committee had considered a list of potential stakeholders to be invited to participate. A report of the Head of Planning Services is attached at page 5.

6. [REVENUE MONITORING 2003/04](#)

A report of the Head of Financial Services setting out details of actual expenditure and income in respect of services within the Committee's overview and scrutiny remit compared with the budget profile at the end of January 2004 is attached at page 8.

7. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL – PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

In accordance with the Committee's work programme, a report of the Head of Planning Services containing performance information in respect of Development Control is attached at page 11.

8. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

The current Forward Plan was published on 16th February 2004. An extract from the Plan detailing items within the Committee's overview and scrutiny remit is attached at page 17. The Committee may wish to review those issues to decide whether any of them should be included in the Committee's work programme.

The two matters included were added to the Committee's work programme at the last meeting of the Committee.

9. SCRUTINY COMMISSION – FEEDBACK

This item is included on the agenda to enable feedback from the last meeting of the Scrutiny Commission to be given.

10. CABINET – CURRENT/RECENT ISSUES CONSIDERED AND RESPONSES TO REPORTS/COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Details of items within the Committee's overview and scrutiny remit which the Cabinet has considered since the last meeting are listed below to enable the Committee to identify whether any of the issues should be included within its work programme.

12th February 2005

- Budget 2004/05 (minute 238)
- Council Tax Levy (minute 240)
- Development Control Performance (minute 241)
- Historic Building Grant Scheme (minute 243)

26th February 2005

- Draft Local Development Scheme (minute 251)
- Consultation on Draft Planning Policy Statement 6 – Planning for Town Centres (minute 252)
- Shakespeare Street, Loughborough Environmental Improvements - Tenders (minute 264)
- Issues Referred from Scrutiny Committees (minute 265)
- * Planning On-line (minute 266B)

11. [WORK PROGRAMME](#)

The current position with the Committee's work programme is attached at page 18. The Committee is asked to review the programme, any amendments and additions it might wish to make and business for future meetings. This will enable planning for the next two or three meetings to be undertaken, for relevant background information to be prepared and for the attendance of officers and/or others to be arranged.

At its meeting on 10th February 2004, the Scrutiny Commission agreed that it be suggested to the Community Development Committee and this Committee that the Loughborough Town Centre Strategy and the Parks, Open Spaces and Wildlife Strategy could be considered more effectively by the Committees jointly on 26th May 2004, the date of the Environment Scrutiny Committee's programmed meeting.

The Committee's remit is as follows:

- (i) The Council's strategic aim "Sustainable communities".
- (ii) Town and Country Planning.
- (iii) Highways (agency).
- (iv) Transportation.
- (v) Car parking strategy.
- (vi) Car park provision and operation.
- (vii) Environmental Charter and Local Agenda 21.
- (viii) Sustainable development strategies.
- (ix) Matters which in the opinion of the Chief Executive are allied to those above.

Future meetings of the Committee are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, 26th May 2004
Wednesday, 7th July 2004
Wednesday, 15th September 2004
Wednesday, 3rd November 2004
Wednesday, 15th December 2004
*Wednesday, 12th January 2005
Wednesday, 2nd February 2005
Wednesday, 9th March 2005

*Provisionally agreed for consideration of Budget report.

Scrutiny Check-list

- What is the current approach, policy, practice, etc.?
- What are the strengths?
- What are the weaknesses?
- What improvements could be achieved by changing it?
- What examples of good practice exist elsewhere?
- Should the views of other interested parties be sought?
- What are the financial and other resource implications?
- Overall, would there be an advantage in changing the approach?
- How would such a change sit with other policies, practices, etc.?
- What proposals should be made to the Cabinet, if any?

ES\