



AGENDA

For a meeting of the

COUNCIL

to be held on

THURSDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2004

at

2.00 PM

in the

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, ST. PETER'S HILL,
GRANTHAM**

Duncan Kerr, Chief Executive

Members of the Council are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed below.

1. Public Open Forum

The public open forum will commence at **2.00 p.m.** and the following formal business of the Council will commence at **2.30 p.m.** or whenever the public open forum ends, if earlier.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interests in matters for consideration at the meeting.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2004. (Enclosure)

5. Communications (including Chairman's Announcements) (Enclosure)

**6. Notices of Motion given under Council Procedure Rule 12
(1) by Councillor Linda Neal**

This Council declares that the decision of some members of the non-administration group to return to a situation where the important scrutiny function is exercised in part through a "Shadow Cabinet" with an overtly political agenda has profound implications for the progress of the authority and is to be regretted.

The Council reminds members who have chosen to go down this route that the CPA report, which they along with the whole Council, accepted in January stated that the presence of a Shadow Cabinet had led to a situation where "the skills and commitment of Councillors is not harnessed for the benefit of local people"

(para 57). The same report also highlighted the limited capacity amongst some members (para 59).

The Council declares that the reforming of a Shadow Cabinet, with an overtly political agenda, can only further dilute member capacity to the detriment of service to our residents. In order to minimise this danger the Council resolves that with immediate effect:

Clr M Taylor replaces Clr John Hurst as Chairman of the Communications and Engagements DSP with Clr Nadarajah becoming the Vice Chairman.

Clr Fines replaces Clr Kerr as Vice-Chairman of the Development Control Committee.

In this way the Council can ensure that the member appointed to serve the community of South Kesteven in undertaking these important functions have both the capacity and the confidence of residents in their willingness to place their duty to the public ahead of their political aspirations.

The Council also asks that if the “Shadow Cabinet” continues then with immediate effect it extends to all other members the courtesy of confirming positions and membership, the constitution and remit, methods by which members were appointed, and how it intends to resolve the fundamental obstacles to effective scrutiny outside the Council’s constitution that were identified by the CPA report.

(2) by Councillor Maureen Jalili

That this Council resolves that an additional sum of £60,000 be allocated for advice services in the financial year 2005/06 .

(3) by Councillor Stephen O'Hare

This Council believes in relation to CAB in South Kesteven that

- (1) This Council should state precisely what, if anything, it is seeking from South Kesteven CAB;
- (2) There should be a willingness by SKDC to negotiate openly, honestly and realistically with South Kesteven CAB;
- (3) An active and effective CAB is and will continue to be of benefit to the people we represent;
- (4) An enhanced CAB will be of even greater benefit;
- (5) It will be easier both for this Council and South Kesteven CAB, to plan for the future if there is in place an agreement dealing with the future (and thereby providing stability and mutual commitment);
- (6) A clear agreement between SKDC and South Kesteven CAB with both knowing what is expected of them by the other is to be encouraged;

- (7) If need be the funding allocation of £50,000 for advice services in 2005 /06 be treated as an interim payment pending agreement being reached between SKDC and South Kesteven CAB as to the future; AND
- (8) Strongly urges and requests the Cabinet having taken these points into account to, as far as need be, amend or rescind any previous Cabinet decisions which if left unaltered would prevent or impede progress towards the aims stated above.

(4) by Councillor Stephen O'Hare

That this Council believes in local democracy and so endorses and totally supports the right of any individual Councillor to bring to this Council for debate and decision any issue affecting the district or any part of it and especially an issue affecting the people of the area represented by that local Councillor.

(5) by Councillor John Wilks

This Council wishes to make it clear to all, that it believes in the benefits being provided to residents of the district, consequent upon the continued existence of the South Kesteven Citizens Advice Bureau.

7. Local Public Service Agreement: Round 2

Report number FIN214 by the Director of Finance & Strategic Resources.
(Enclosure)

8. Local Government Settlement 2005/2006

The Director of Finance & Strategic Resources to report. **(Enclosure)**

9. Statement of Licensing Policy

Report number ENV224 by the Head of Environmental Health & Licensing.
(Enclosure)

10. Freedom of Information Policy & Procedure

Report number DLS11 by the Corporate Manager, Democratic & Legal Services.
(Enclosure)

11. Customer Services and Modernisation Programme, Customer Service Standards, and IEG4

Report number DOS261 by the Director of Operational Services.
(Enclosure)

12. Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Procedure

Report number DRS12 by the Director of Regulatory Services.
(Enclosure)

13. Independent Remuneration Report: Members' Allowances

Report number FIN211 by the Director of Finance & Strategic Resources.
(Enclosure)

14. Representation on Stamford Vision

Report number DLS13 by the Corporate Manager, Democratic & Legal Services.

(Enclosure)

15. Constitution and Accounts Committee: Membership

The Chief Executive to report on the resignation of Councillor George Waterhouse from the Constitution and Accounts Committee. Accordingly, the Council is asked to :

- (1) Nominate a new member to serve on this committee;
- (2) To appoint a Vice-Chairman.

16. Questions without Discussion.