



MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL

# Communities and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Date: Tuesday 11 January 2011

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Committee Room 11, Level 1, Town Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

## Membership of the Committee

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### **Councillors -**

K Barnes, S Bracegirdle, B Curley, J Flanagan (Chair), W Helsby, J Hennigan, P Karney, V Kirkpatrick, N Lewis, M Loughman, P Morrison, E Newman, D O'Connor, J L Pritchard, B Ryan, L Williams

# Agenda

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	<b>Page</b>
<b>1 Urgent business</b> To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.	
<b>2 Appeals</b> To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.	
<b>3 Interests</b> To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that interest at the start of the item under consideration. If members also have a prejudicial interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.	
<b>4 Minutes</b> To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2010 (enclosed).	1
<b>5 Information and Overview Report</b> (Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit)	9
<b>6 [2:00 – 2:45] Call in: Section 123(1), (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 Disposal of open space land adjacent to existing bowls and croquet facility at Heaton Park, Blackley</b>	27

The decision of the Chief Executive on 7 December 2010 has been called in by Councillors Ashley, Bethell, Firth, Glover and Ramsbottom in accordance with paragraph 13 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

The terms of the call in are that:

1. Almost 2,000 residents objected to the original proposals to sell off this land to a private company. This is a controversial proposal and needs to be considered in a public and transparent way.

2. 32 residents made objections to the sale after the advertisement appeared, and 6 issues not previously considered through the planning process were raised. There has previously been no public scrutiny around these six issues.

3. Complaints have been made to the Local Government Ombudsmen regarding whether the Council has followed due process in this case. We would like to investigate whether these complains are valid.

The report of the Head of Corporate Property and City Solicitor that was considered by the Chief Executive and the decision notice are attached.

Members of the Committee are asked to consider whether or not they will refer the decision back to the decision maker for reconsideration.

- 7 **[2:45 – 3:15] Impact of the Financial Settlement on areas within the Committee’s Remit** 39  
(Oral report by the City Treasurer)

The City Treasurer will provide an oral report on the impact of the financial settlement on areas within the Committee’s remit. A report which was considered by the Executive on the 22 December 2010 on the Provisional Local Government Settlement is included for information.

The Committee is requested to select business plans for scrutiny at its meeting in February on the basis of this report.

- 8 **[3:15 – 3:45] Private Sector Rented Housing** 45  
(Report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services)

This report provides an overview of private rented sector housing in the city and considers the impact of recent changes in national policy and legislation.

- 9 **[3:45 – 4:00] Visit to Longley Lane Facility, Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority** 56  
(Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit)

This report provides a summary of the Committee’s visit to the waste disposal site at Longley Lane in Sharston. A representative from Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority will be attending the meeting to answer questions arising from the visit.

- 10 **[4:00 – 4:15] Newton Heath Market** -  
(Oral Report by the Director of Commercial Services)

The Director of Commercial Services will provide an oral report on the closure of Newton Heath Market.

## Information about the Committee

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Overview and Scrutiny Committees represent the interests of local people about important issues that affect them. They look at how the decisions, policies and services of the Council and other key public agencies impact on the city and its residents. Overview and Scrutiny Committees do not take decisions but can make recommendations to decision-makers about how they are delivering the Community Strategy, an agreed vision for a better Manchester that is shared by public agencies across the city.

The Communities and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee has responsibility for looking at how the Council and its partners create neighbourhoods that meet the aspirations of Manchester's citizens.

The Council wants to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions that affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair. Groups of people will usually be asked to nominate a spokesperson. The Council wants its meetings to be as open as possible but occasionally there will be some confidential business. Brief reasons for confidentiality will be shown on the agenda sheet.

Agenda, reports and minutes of all Council Committees can be found on the Council's website [www.manchester.gov.uk](http://www.manchester.gov.uk)

Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Sir Howard Bernstein  
Chief Executive  
Town Hall, Albert Square  
Manchester, M60 2LA

## Further Information

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For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee

Officer: **Eleanor Fort**  
Tel: 0161 234 4997  
Fax: 0161 274 7017  
Email: [e.fort@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:e.fort@manchester.gov.uk)

This agenda was issued on **31 December 2010** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester, M60 2LA.