

AGENDA for a meeting of the ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE to be held in Committee Room B, County Hall, Hertford on Tuesday 18 March 2003 at 10.30 a.m.

MEMBER MEETINGS (FOR MEMBERS ONLY)

Conservative	3.00pm	13 March	Ashbourne Room
Opposition	12.00pm	10 March	Committee Room 'A'
Conservative	9.30am	18 March	Committee Room 'A'
Labour	9.30am	18 March	Labour Group Room
Liberal Democrat	9.30am	18 March	Room 111

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10) - QUORUM 3

J Anderson, S A Batson, M V Bayes (Vice-Chairman), N K Brook, R N Copping, D J Drake, S Jones, H M Saunders, C J White (Chairman), B A York

AGENDA

AUDIO SYSTEM

The Council Chamber has an audio system to assist those with hearing impairment. Anyone who wishes to use this should contact main (front) reception.

PART 1 (PUBLIC) AGENDA

Meetings of the Committee are open to the public (this includes the press) and attendance is welcomed. However, there may be occasions when the public are excluded from the meeting for particular items of business. Any such items are taken at the end of the public part of the meeting and are listed under "Part II ('closed') business".

MINUTES [SC.8]

To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 21 January 2003 (previously circulated).

PUBLIC PETITIONS [SC.11]

Any member of the public, (who is a resident in Hertfordshire or is on the electoral register for Hertfordshire) may present a petition to the Committee. An authorised representative of any Hertfordshire parish or town council subscribing to a parish charter approved by the County Council may also present a petition to the Committee in relation to matters within that parish. The subject of the petition must be appropriate for the Committee and must be signed by at least 100 residents or business ratepayers of Hertfordshire.

Notification of intent to present a petition must be given in writing to the County Secretary, (County Hall, Hertford, SG13 8DE) at least **fourteen clear days** before the meeting where an item relating to the subject matter of the petition does not appear on the agenda for the meeting and at least **three clear days** before where the item is the subject of a report.

If you have any queries about the procedure please contact Nicola Hayden, on telephone no. (01992) 555560.

1. Mrs Patricia Lees, a resident of Leggatts Ward, Watford will be presenting a petition regarding the need for a pedestrian crossing along either Leggatts Way or the Harebreaks, Watford – “Road safety in Watford is of paramount importance. In parts of Leggatts Ward crossing the road is hazardous for the elderly and children. At least one pedestrian crossing is urgently needed along either Leggatts Way or the Harebreaks, *because there is not a single crossing along the whole stretch from Longspring to Courtlands Drive*. We urge the Council to install a pedestrian crossing at a suitable point.”

QUESTIONS [SC.9(4)]

Members are able to question the Executive Member(s) on matters which are not the subject of reports on the agenda. A member who wishes to ask a question shall give written notice of it to the County Secretary at least **five clear working days** before the meeting, stating to whom the question is to be put. Written copies of the questions and answers shall be available at the meeting. Questions shall be answered orally at the meeting in the order in which notice has been received. The member asking the question may ask one supplementary question. The person responding may choose to answer such a supplementary question, or promise a written reply within seven days. The period of time allocated for questions shall not exceed **ten minutes**. Any questions remaining after that period has elapsed shall be answered in writing within seven days.

The Chairman may, however, accept questions without notice if satisfied they are urgent. Such questions shall not count towards the allocated time limit of ten minutes and shall be answered orally at the meeting or in writing within seven days.

Questions relating to matters on the agenda shall be asked when that matter is discussed and may be addressed to the Chairman or to an officer, who may answer orally or may undertake to provide a written reply within seven days.

The following questions had been received at the time of agenda despatch:

George Wenham will ask the Executive Member, **Iris Tarry**, the following question:

“Will the Executive Member for Environment join with me in welcoming changes to be made in April to Sovereign bus services, particularly those in Welwyn Hatfield, and specifically the Birchwood area, following the question which I posed to her at the Environment Scrutiny Committee last October highlighting lack of bus services for sections of Hatfield people, their being prevented from travelling to appointments at QE2 hospital, and, will she make sure that adequate publicity is given to these new services by her departments, if necessary adding to any provided by Interlink in Interchange booklets?”

Brian York will ask the Executive Member, **Iris Tarry**, the following question:

“Does the Executive Member agree with me that the continued failure of 24/Seven to restore electrical supply to street lights, which have been out for weeks and months across the county, is deplorable and has created dangers for the public? Will she authorise discussion of the matter in the Cabinet Transport Panel? Will she the County Council to sue all means, including possible sanctions against 24/Seven, to get some action out of the company? As the matter is of concern well beyond Hertfordshire, will she refer the matter for possible action by the LGA?”

The following reports are attached to this agenda: -

The Executive Member for these items is **Iris Tarry** unless stated otherwise.

Scrutiny Items

Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer

1. SCRUTINY UPDATE REPORT

Reports of the Director of Environment

2. FLY TIPPING AND DUMPING

3. REVIEW OF THE NORTH HERTS HIGHWAY PARTNERSHIP

4. MANAGING S106 AGREEMENTS

5. REVIEW OF WINTER MAINTENANCE – SALTING THE HIGHWAYS

6. WITHDRAWAL OF THE TRAFFIC WARDEN SERVICE IN HERTFORDSHIRE

7. SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE STRUCTURE PLAN

Report of the County Secretary

8. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2003

ITEM FOR REPORT TO THE COUNCIL [SC.7(2)]

At a committee meeting the Leader of the Opposition or a spokesman nominated by that Leader may require one identified item to be reported from that meeting to the Council.

PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There are no items of Part II (Confidential) business on this agenda but if items are notified the Chairman will move: -

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) ... of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act."

Please note that full papers have been despatched to Committee members only. All other members have been sent the front sheets of each report.

If you require a copy of any of the reports mentioned above or require further information about this agenda please contact Nicola Hayden, Committee Services, County Secretary's Department, on telephone no. (01992) 555560 or fax. 01992 555518