



## **Meeting of the Council**

**Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 at 6.00pm**

**in the Council Chamber at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the numbered agenda items listed below.

### **Agenda - Public Session**

(Meeting open to the public and press)

Prayers.

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.
3. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 as correct records.
4. Mayor's Announcements.
5. To receive reports from meetings as follows:

Meeting of the Cabinet held on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2015:

Councillor P Lowe to move:

- (a) Capital Programme Monitoring (Pages 1 to 7).

Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

Councillor D Tyler to move:

- (b) Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board 2014/15 (Pages 8 to 14)

6. Notice of Motion

To consider the following notice of motion received from Councillor D Perks on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2015:

“That the Council makes provision in the municipal calendar for 2015/16 onwards to book the Council Chamber for three or four sessions per municipal year for the sole purpose of open non partisan debates. Councillors can register items for debate given a suitable notice period. Examples of possible topical issues for debate are the Hippodrome and the Combined Authority.

This will not only demonstrate clear transparency and democratic process but will act as an informative measure for elected members. There need not be a vote following the debates, but the relevant members and officers should be present for clarification and advice.


It is our job as elected members to be the conduit between the Council and the people we represent. The proposed debates will be a mechanism to improve this. It will also help progress with all members having an input into debated subjects allowing more opinions and ideas to be put forward. These debates will not be formal Council meetings and therefore Council Procedure Rules will not apply. The Strategic Director (Resources and Transformation) will be asked to develop informal protocols to assist in the smooth organisation and operation of the proposed debates.

The debates will provide a mechanism for more members to be engaged and informed on future policy development and give their opinions on future items being reported to the Cabinet and Council. If no items arise, then the pre booked dates can be cancelled by agreement with the Group Leaders.”

7. To answer questions under Council Procedure Rule 11.

*Questions on the Minutes of the Cabinet and Committees, Community Forums and the Delegated Decision Summaries – these are contained in the separate book circulated to Members of the Council.*

8. To consider any business not on the agenda which by reason of special circumstances the Mayor is of the opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1972.



**Strategic Director (Resources and Transformation)**

**Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015**

## **Distribution: All Members of the Council**

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- If you (or anyone you know) is attending the meeting and requires assistance to access the venue and/or its facilities, please contact the officer below in advance and we will do our best to help you.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website [www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)
- The Democratic Services contact officer for this meeting is Steve Griffiths, Telephone 01384 815235 or E-mail [steve.griffiths@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:steve.griffiths@dudley.gov.uk)