

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council to be held at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley on Monday, 19th April, 2004 at 6.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the agenda below.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6th April, 2004

AGENDA

PRAYERS

1. MINUTES

TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8TH MARCH, 2004 (PAGES CL/85 - CL/93).

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT.

3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES.

4. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS:

	<u>PAGES</u>	
	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Meeting of the Executive held on 17th March, 2004:		
Councillor Caunt to move:		
(a) Capital Programme Monitoring	1	9
Councillor J Woodall to move:		
(b) Transport Capital Settlement and Proposed Highways Capital Programme for 2004/05	22	31

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From To

Councillor Jones to move:

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| (c) | The Revised Deposit Unitary Development Plan – Inspector’s Report | 32 | 106 |
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5. NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) To consider further the following Notice of Motion received from Councillor Burt on 22nd September 2003 which was seconded by Councillor Sheppard at the meeting of the Council held on 19th January, 2004, together with the amendment thereto moved by Councillor Lomax and seconded by Councillor Sparks at that meeting of the Council, and which were partly debated at the meeting but not disposed of:

Motion

“The present method of funding local government services does not give adequate levels of grant to Dudley MBC. The present system also exaggerates the impact of grant shortfall on Council Tax payers who have to make up the difference. A 1% shortfall in Government grant requires on average a 4% increase in Council Tax or equivalent cuts in services. In order to be fairer to Council Tax payers Dudley Council calls on the Government:

1. To change the balance of funding with a new system for funding local services so that shortfall in central Government grant does not result in disproportionate rises in local Council Tax.
2. To replace Council Tax with a fair tax related to the ability to pay.”

Amendment

“That the motion be amended by the deletion of the words "2. To replace Council Tax with a fair tax related to the ability to pay".”

To consider the following Notice of Motion, received from Councillor Cotterill on 29th March, 2004:

“That Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council calls on the government to bring back a system of regulated bus services similar to the one operating in London, which will allow Passenger Transport Authorities/Executives to:

1. Specify the routes, timetables and fares of bus services, emphasising the social, environmental and economic importance of bus services rather than the profit motive;
 2. Remove the wasteful 'on the road' competition which eats up resources better deployed on improving services;
 3. Operate a bus service 'of last resort' where commercial bus operators cannot or will not operate a service;
 4. Make sure public finance and subsidies are used in the most cost effective manner; and
 5. Lease buses to smaller bus companies.
6. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING SELECT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS:
- (a) Select Committee on the Environment (Pages 107 - 117)
 - (b) Select Committee on Community Safety (Pages 118 – 123)
7. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11.
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 SECTION 100(B)(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.