

meeting CROSS SERVICE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE

date 9 March 2005 agenda item number

Report of the Head of Scrutiny

<u>Proposed timetable for completion of the studies carried out by the</u> <u>Cross Service and External Affairs Select Committee</u>

1 Purpose of report

1.1 This report provides Members with a proposed timetable for completion of the two in-depth studies carried out by the Cross Service and External Affairs Select Committee; the timetable includes a presentation to this 9th March Select Committee meeting which will summarise the evidence gathered. It is proposed that the presentation will be followed by Member discussion and comment on the evidence gathered during the studies.

2. Background

2.1 Study of Regional Government

- **2.1.1** At their meeting on 14th July 2004 the Select Committee agreed to develop an evidence based study of Regional Government; the scope of the project was to examine the work of the key East Midlands regional agencies, current links with Nottinghamshire County Council and partners, including impact on partnership working, and potential future developments, including developments around Regional Government elsewhere in the country. A key objective of the study was to gather evidence to inform opinion, should a referendum on an elected Regional Assembly be carried out in the East Midlands region.
- **2.1.2** At the Select Committee's 22nd September meeting, a core Study Group of 6 Members was also set up to develop this study

2.2 Study of Robin Hood Airport Doncaster Sheffield

- **2.2.1** At their meeting on 14th July 2004 the Select Committee also agreed to develop an evidence based study of the new Robin Hood Airport Doncaster Sheffield. The scope of the project was to examine the impact of the airport on Nottinghamshire, particularly in relation to :
 - Highway and Transportation issues relating to the airport including access and public transport issues
 - Regeneration , economic development, job opportunities , and training issues
 - Impact on residents living near to the airport
 - Impact on Nottingham East Midlands Airport
 - Local investment , including impact on businesses and in-bound tourism
- **2.2.2** At the Select Committee's 14th July meeting it was agreed to set up a core Study Group of 7 Members to develop this study.

3. **Proposed timetable for completion of the studies**

- **3.1** Reports and presentations concerning issues in both these studies have been presented and discussed at Select Committee meetings since July 2004. A number of study visits have also been carried out, with reports back to the Select Committee.
- **3.2** Both Study Groups have met to discuss all the evidence gathered for these studies. The Head of Scrutiny and officers from Nottinghamshire County Council's Culture and Community Department have been requested to present a summary of this evidence to this Select Committee meeting, to enable all Members to comment on the evidence gathered and to suggest conclusions and recommendations from these studies.
- **3.3** It is proposed that, following Member comments at the 9th March meeting, reports detailing the findings and recommendations from both studies are then presented to the Select Committee meeting on 11th April 2005.
- **3.4** Once the Committee has agreed the findings and recommendations from the studies at their 11th April meeting, it is then proposed that the findings will be be referred to the Cabinet meeting on 27th April 2005 for consideration.

4 Recommendation

It is recommended that;

- Members endorse the proposed timetable for completion of both studies
- Members comment on issues arising from the evidence from both studies, which will be summarised in a presentation to the Select Committee.

5 Background papers available for inspection

All Agenda papers and Minutes of the Cross Service and External Affairs Select Committee:

2nd June 2004 14th July 2004 22nd September 2004 3rd November 2004 15th December 2004 26th January 2005

6 Electoral Division(s) affected

All

Lynn Senior Head of Scrutiny