## Agenda Item 92.

## REPORTS FROM MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2016/17

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Name of Organisation	Age UK Berkshire	
Name of Member	Andy Croy	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	3	
Number of Meetings attended	1	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Pressure of work	

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Age UK Berkshire (AUKB) provides a variety of services in support of elderly residents and their families. In particular, AUKB works to promote inclusion, foster independent living and improve the resilience of residents.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Mike Allen and I met. Mike took some time to explain the scope of the service provided by AUKB and also the financial challenges faced with the loss of tax-payer funding. At regular intervals AUKB has provided me with briefings, minutes and other documents which allow me to better understand the operation of the Charity and the challenging environment in which it operates.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

AUKB continues to provide services to which contribute to the lives of residents.

With continued underfunding of NHS and Social Services the work of Age UK Berkshire is essential.

It cannot pick up anything like all the pieces but I am convinced of the valuable role AUKB plays. It seems to me it is an 'essential' rather than a 'nice to have'.

It is clear the ongoing austerity agenda is providing a challenging financial environment for the charity.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	ies

### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Increasingly, and funding allowing, AUKB will be an essential provider of services to residents. Many of these services should conceivably be provided by WBC and it is right that a WBC member should be exposed to the 'sharp end' of social care provision.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful AUKB continues to provide services to which contribute to the lives of vulnerable residents.

To some extent this is in spite of the WBC rather than with WBC support. In particular, WBC's refusal to pay AUKB anything remotely resembling the cost to AUKB for Financial and Personal Support Services has led AUKB to declining to renew its contract with WBC. WBC refused to increase the fee from £550 per person per annum. West Berks and Reading Councils both agreed £740 ppa which is closer to the average cost of the current service.

**Councillor:** Andy Croy **Dated:** 9 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) Local Liaison Group	
Name of Member	Barrie Patman	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member	
Number of meetings called to attend	4	
Number of Meetings attended	4	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A	

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

This is a group of members representing Local Authorities who are adjacent to the Aldermaston and Burghfield AWE sites and includes Parish District and Borough Councils

The main role of the Group is to receive and discuss information received from AWE regarding safety aspects of the sites and their impact on local communities. They also provide an overview of some of their working practices and their support for local organisations.

The Government have been re-considering the size of the emergency planning zones surrounding both sites and as a result have decreased the size of the Aldermaston zone we expect to hear from them in the summer regarding Burghfield.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

The Constitution was recently reviewed after requests from some Authorities to include some local groups. It was thought that this would not help the group's activities and was rejected. There has been ample provision of information regarding the role of AWE and the Group.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

This body does not contribute directly to the Council's Vision but it could be seen to contribute to the concept of safe rand stronger communities.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful The Burghfield emergency safety zone is close to the site being considered for 15,000

houses near Grazeley. If the zone is extended any further then it could have an impact on the ability to site houses there.

Councillor: Barrie Patman Dated: 7 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	
Name of Member	Richard Dolinski	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Governor	
Number of meetings called to attend	Council of Governors: 5 Locality: 4 Joint Board: 1 Board: 1	
Number of Meetings attended	Council of Governors: 4 Locality: 3 Joint Board: 1 Board: 1	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clashes with WBC Meetings	

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

**Quality activities:** internal quality monitoring inspections of services conducted by members Executive Directors, Non-Executive Directors and Governors. Structured around; the service users, the 'ward', the service and the team. Recurring observations and discussions points, recruitment and retention of staff, safeguarding, risk assessment, patient experience.

**Executive:** Care Quality Commission (GQC) developments, Secretary of State for Health announcement that NHS England (NHSE) and NHS Improvement (NHSi) are to consider a series of measures which may be taken in particularly distressed systems. This will include working with the CQC on rapid re-inspection where there are restrictions on community health and social care bed capacity. Also, where there are restrictions on admission, potential to increase capacity including A&E. Challenges include; staff absence through illness, agency and 'bank' staffing levels, recruitment and retention. Executive focus on the Equality and Inclusion Strategy; to provide accessible, safe clinically effective services. There is a continued drive to improve patient experience and outcomes of care.

**Performance indicators:** the Trust has reported an improvement on the NHSi's total +£1.5M, forecast +£2M net surplus driven by the take up of £750K incentive fund offered by NHSi, matched against a non-recurrent improvement of £750K by the Trust.

Other key indicators include, user safety, people (staff), NHS improvement (non-financial) & (financial), service efficiency & effectiveness, and contractual performance.

**Strategy:** the Trust is rated as good by CQC and is in NHSi segment 1. However, the Board is ambitious and has tendered for a strategic partner to achieve 'outstanding'. The focus is on reducing waste, rapid improvement (technique to increase change), methodology to support evidence based on change, help staff find their personal way forward built on an organisational development programme.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

The constitution, aims and objectives are explicitly referred to in documents provide by the Trust. Agendas and supporting papers to **all meetings** including Board, Joint Board, Committee, Council of Governors and Locality meetings are made available in both hard and electronic copy.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is a strategic healthcare partner with Children Services and Adult Social Care. For example, Intermediate Care Wokingham service is run by a multi-disciplinary team that includes employees from Berkshire Healthcare and from Wokingham Borough Council. There is a single point of access that mainly takes health service related referrals. However the coordinators will take the details if the referral comes to them instead of Wokingham Borough Council and will pass it on to the appropriate service.

## Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is a partner stakeholder providing community healthcare with Wokingham Borough Council.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful Recent developments include, BHFT mental health team working in A&E Royal Berkshire Hospital.

BHFT have produced a paper that summarises the work programme and engagement with the Oxford Academic Health Science Network (AHSN). Focused work has included Medicines Optimisation and on Children's network contributions to the wider public health of children through its immunisation programme. Although not directly involved BHFT have contributed clinical expertise and good practice examples and also benefited from the support of the AHSN Clinical Networks including Dementia. Relevant activity; 'Young People With Dementia' (YPWD) service is co-located with Berkshire Healthcare at Wokingham Hospital.

Councillor: Richard Dolinski Dated: 19 February 2017

_	1		
Name of Organisation	Berkshire Maestros		
Name of Member	Bill Soane		
Capacity appointed,			
e.g. trustee, director,	Trustee		
observer etc			
Number of meetings	4		
called to attend	4		
Number of Meetings	1		
attended	'		
Reasons for not			
attending, if	Meetings clashed with Town or Bo	rough Meetings	
appropriate			
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the past Municipal Year.			
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Councillor: Bill Soane Dated: 4 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Berkshire Museum of Aviation	
Name of Member	Gary Cowan	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Borough Council Representative	
Number of meetings called to attend	None	
Number of Meetings attended	None Unable to attend the last meeting of the 4th of February due to other commitments.	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Next meeting scheduled for the 25/3/17 with the AGM on the 24th of May which I shall be attending	

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The Museum goes from strength to strength while remaining financially stable. The muse aim is to provide a safe and enjoyable historical aviation experience for visitors and gr The museum sees its role to preserve the place of Berkshire in the tapestry of aviation hi The shop is self-sufficient and its engineering projects are proving to be very succe thanks to the volunteers and support the museum has from its 118 members. 21 g visited the museum last year mainly Wokingham Borough schools, which is a achievement.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Considerable email communication

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

A very positive contribution to the Borough's visions and priorities

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative It delivers an excellent nationally first rate facility with historical connections

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful A hidden treasure which Wokingham Borough Council should be proud of and well worth a visit

Councillor: Gary Cowan Dated: 7 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel	
Name of Member	Rob Stanton	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Appointed as Trustee	
Number of meetings called to attend	22	
Number of Meetings attended	19	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	In Hospital (RBH)	

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund operates a Defined Benefit Pension Scheme for all employees of the 6 Unitary Authorities together with about 200 admitted bodies like the support staff for Academies and the Berkshire Fire Authority. In total, there are about 65,000 members. I am the representative for Wokingham on the advisory panel.

I also sit on the Investment advisory panel which monitors investment as well as agrees new potential investments.

The Fund Panel is managed by the RBWM with the support of one Advisory Panel Member from each Unitary Authority and I am the member for Wokingham. Five other key employers representing Trade Unions and Admitted bodies are also members as is the Berkshire Fire Brigade. This body sets the strategy which is then implemented by an Investment Working Group of Councillors and external advisors.

At the triennial Review on 31 March 2016 the Fund had assets of £1.645bn and future liabilities of £2.242bn, a funding level of 73%. In common with other Defined Benefit Schemes the shortfall in funding is the result of the extremely low interest rates that have prevailed since the crash of 2008. The fund however has an extremely long time horizon for example a typical 20 year old employee is now earning a pension that will still be being paid in 70 years' time! There will be varying periods of high and low returns over the next 70 years and the fund's investment strategy is to earn a long-term return of RPI plus 6.5%.

Recent investments have included agricultural land in New Zealand, oil wells in North America, seeding the British Innovation Fund and rented housing in Wokingham.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

There is lots of briefing on an ongoing basis and a massive information flow.

There is a high number of meetings (between the two panels) and on average once a

month and is a big commitment.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Our immediate concern is a decision by Central Government to force Local Government Pension Funds to transfer their investments into about 6 funds. The original reason was to tap these pools for infrastructure projects (like HS2) but the primary motive now appears to be the belief that this would lead to greater efficiency.

## Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

It's essential to have a representative on this panel as the responsibility is vast for such a large investment level and millions paid out in Pensions.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

**Councillor:** Rob Stanton **Dated:** 13 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Bracknell and Wokingham College	
Name of Member	Rob Stanton	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Governor	
Number of meetings called to attend	12	
Number of Meetings attended	10	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Other duties or holiday.	

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The College is going through a lot of change much directed by Government Legislation on further education and Apprenticeships in particular. It currently enjoys a good OFSTED report, albeit a new inspection is expected this year as it is now 4 years since the last one.

The Government are currently encouraging the College to merge due to costs and in some cases not enough students. It is clear further education is getting to be a much more competitive business with new academies, and technical colleges providing competition and greater choice.

The proposals have been to merge the College with East Berks college and Strobes college in Egham, under a programme called Area Based Reviews but I am not convinced it is the answer at this time. In fact, East Berks and Strobes have merged, renamed as Windsor Forest College Group. Bracknell and Wokingham College do have an option to join that group at a later date but not sure how the Windsor name would go down in Bracknell or Wokingham. We need to see what advantage that has if any.

The College is well placed and keen to provide a new service in support of the Government's strategy announced in the budget to provide a good quality Technical Education – so called T level. Finance has for some years been a challenge and the lower adult learner start since January has put further pressure on. The college has recently sold its Wick Hill area for housing but still awaits the cash.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Yes, very much so the briefing from the Principal is excellent on an ongoing basis. I also sit on the audit committee of the college and able to influence financial decisions.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

It has been successful as it has had its best exam results for many years, certainly one of the highest achievers in the college industry. It has targeted Apprenticeship and been successful at that, albeit the rate of uptake is slower than one would wish, due, no doubt, to the wish of parents in Wokingham to encourage their children to go to University.

That is changing but it has a way to go. The college has a number of areas of expertise on which it will focus on including electrical qualification. It is very good at talking to local business to help it plan its future programmes and does focus on employability skills in conjunction with business.

#### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

It's essential to be fully represented on the governing body as this college has hundreds of Wokingham's young people attending. While it is a college of further education (16 – 19 year olds) it also has many part time courses as well as evening classes cross a wide range of subjects. The Local Authority provides many of the students and we need to be able to monitor key results.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

I think this gives a balanced situation report from the college

Councillor: Rob Stanton Dated: 13 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Citizens Advice Wokingham	
Name of Member	Councillor Parry Batth	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Trustee and Director	
Number of meetings called to attend	10	
Number of Meetings attended	5	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Mayoral and other council business	

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Citizens Advice Wokingham is an independent registered charity employing 10 people part time in 2 offices in Wokingham Borough. They have around 95 people that volunteer for them.

Citizens Advice Wokingham provides a free, confidential, impartial and independent service of problem solving information, advice, mediation, representation and support for all members of the community regardless of race, gender, age, sexuality or disability. They help people with their problems in welfare benefits, debt, consumer issues, employment, housing, legal, relationship, tax, utilities, community Care, education, health and immigration.

Their aim is to ensure that individuals do not suffer through lack of knowledge of their rights and responsibilities or of the services available to them, or through an inability to express their needs effectively, and equally to exercise a responsible influence on the development of social policies and services both locally and nationally.

The aims of the Citizens Advice service are:

- to provide the advice people need for the problems they face
- to improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives
- In the year 2016-17 they expect to see around 4,200 new unique clients with around 3,400 of them living within Wokingham Borough. They expect that the 3,400 people from Wokingham will need help with around 7,800 new problems.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I have been a trustee and director for 2½ years and was fully briefed by the Chief Executive when I started on the board. Since then I have attended a number of board meetings, where amongst other things, there is a current briefing from the Chief Executive on all aspects of the organisation.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate

### your reply?

I think Wokingham CAB is very effective indeed in helping to resolve many issues for the Wokingham residents. The organisation is funded by WBC and serves the local Wokingham Community very well. The advice given is very well defined on the organisation's website – <a href="https://www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk">www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk</a>.

## <u>Increasing the vibrancy, strength and sustainability of the borough's local communities</u>

The key indicators related to increasing the vibrancy, strength and sustainability of local communities are Welfare Benefits, Employment, Debt, Relationships and Housing.

These are the latest released figures - for the 6 months (Apr – Sep 16), - which will be updated in April/May 2017- are:

	No. in period	%	% change from same period in 2015
Benefits	1,277	29.9%	+3.7%
Debt	666	15.6%	-3.7%
Employment	491	11.5%	-0.1%
Housing	445	10.4%	-0.5%
Relationship	420	10.1%	-0.6%

The total number of problems in the half year increased by 358, the overall numbers for the five indicators also increased - by 235 issues. Problems with welfare benefits are still the number one problem and still increasing. This is not surprising because of all the recent on-going changes.

Some outcomes in the 12 months to 30 Sept 2016:

- 51 families kept their homes because of our help.
- 9 people had DROs
- 6 people went bankrupt with our help.
- 5 people had full and final settlement negotiations
- 7 people had their debts written off

Many others had payment plans agreed

## To work with local residents, volunteers and partner agencies to improve the health, wellbeing and quality of life of local residents

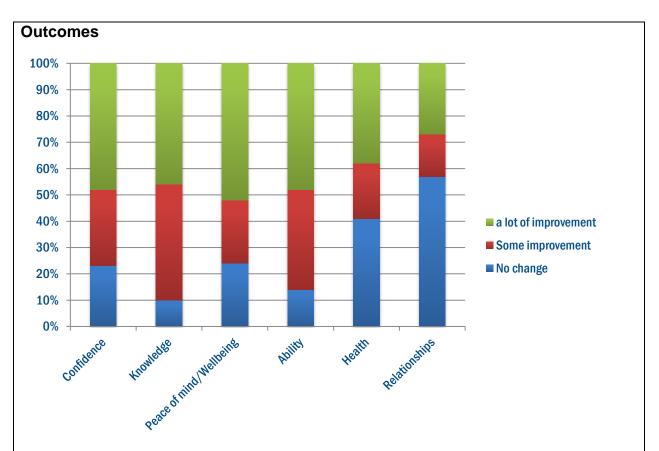
There are currently have 95 local residents volunteering in various roles, including advisers, assessors, admin and reception staff and Trustees.

During the year they have closely worked with Transform Housing in order to provide personalized help and advice for their clients. They also work with the local food banks and have, this year, seen a dramatic increase in referrals.

They also have a home visiting team, who visit clients that cannot travel, or are housebound, to help them with any issue. This is mainly with disability benefit issues.

They have also gathered evidence and helped Citizens Advice campaign on the unfairness of the current disability benefits assessment system.

They are currently gathering evidence on Homelessness and work closely with Wokingham Borough Councils Housing Needs Team. They are also monitoring how Personal Independence Payments claimants are doing.



### **Client satisfaction**

Access to service	98% satisfied
Opening Times	97% satisfied
Waiting Time	96% satisfied
Advice Time	100% satisfied
Advice given	99% satisfied
Overall Service	99% satisfied
Use Again	100%
Would recommend	99%

## To help local residents to access the full range of council services and improve their customer experience

### Referrals to WBC services in the 6 months

Housing	31
HB/CTB Office	18
Council Tax	8
Social Services	16
<b>Environmental Health</b>	2
Other	14
Children's Services	15
Education	5
Planning	2

Neighbourhood Office	16
Trading Standards	20
	147

## To support vulnerable members of the community to maintain or increase their independence, and to help them become self-sufficient and self-reliant.

This is a summary of vulnerable members of the community that were helped in the 6 months.

Age		
Aged under 25	126	5.9%
Aged over 64	381	18.1%

73 clients (3.5%) did not divulge their age.

Disability		
Disabled	160	7.6%
Long term health condition	405	19.3%

258 clients (12.3%) did not divulge if they had a disability or not.

Housing Types		
Staying with relative/friends	147	7.0%
Homeless (inc B&B)	18	0.9%
Hostel	6	0.3%
Prison	0	0.0%

392 clients (18.7%) gave no information on their housing.

Occupation		
Unemployed	167	7.9%
Sick/disabled	98	4.7%
Carer	38	1.8%

692 clients (32.9%) did not divulge their occupation.

Low income households (pcm)		
Single parent <£1,500	186	8.9%
Single person <£600	129	6.1%
Couple parents <£1,500	151	7.2%
Couple <£1,000	38	1.8%
	504	24.0%

1,041 clients (49.5%) did not divulge their household income.

The figures are based on the CPAG poverty indicators

BME groups		
Asian	140	6.7%
Black	76	3.6%

17

Other	45	2.1%
Mixed	70	3.3%
	331	15.8%

### Other includes:

Any other Other – Arab

White Irish

White Gypsy or Irish Traveller

118 clients (5.6%) did not divulge their ethnicity.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	162

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative To allow WBC to have a voice at Citizens Advice Wokingham and monitor the organisation's activities to ensure fair play.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful N/A

Councillor: Parry Batth Dated: 14 February 2017

Name of Organisation	Keep Mobile
Name of Member	Alison Swaddle
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	WBC representative
Number of meetings called to attend	11
Number of Meetings attended	8
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with borough or town council meetings and also family issues.

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Oversight of the management and finances of a service which enables residents with reduced mobility to have door to door transport.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I joined the management committee in May 2015 when I was given a folder of useful information and the Chairman Fred Rule explained the aims and operations to me. I have been able to email any queries and receive prompt responses in between meetings.

I have also been out with a driver to gain insight to the service and meet passengers. I recently helped with staff appraisal interviews and have been involved with fundraising days at the Wokingham Winter Carnival and the Woodley Extravaganza.

I have also written to staff passing their probationary period to praise and thank them.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

An invaluable service is provided for the vulnerable; those with less mobility and the elderly enabling them to escape their own four walls and so have improved well-being and quality of life.

The buses are used for regular transport to day centres, for dial ride to be able to for example: visit friends and family, for hospital, clinic or GP appointments, to attend club meetings, to go to church, to sports fixtures or to work. Additionally an extensive range of interesting day trips is offered.

Work is currently undertaken work for Local Authorities and voluntary organisations, Social Services and the Health Authority and this may be for transport to regular meetings or one off outings to a venue.

Passengers receive an excellent and affordable door to door service looked after by

well-trained drivers and assistants who ensure that every individual is treated with the highest respect and care.

## Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

### Please state the rationale FOR having a representative

To ensure that the services provided meet the high standard expected by the Council, to provide strong support to the volunteers who form the management committee and to help with communication and co-ordination.

## Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful This year Keep Mobile celebrates 25 years of service!

In Dec 2016 Keep Mobile was received an Investors in People award.

With 12 customised accessible buses, it is necessary to purchase a replacement every nine months just to maintain the fleet to the current standard. These buses cost approximately £60,000 to put into service.

30% of the funds needed for Keep Mobile are provided through fundraising and a dedicated volunteer team of those who appreciate the service for their family members or friends run coffee mornings, car boot sales, a balloon race, fete stalls etc to do this. Part-time paid and voluntary non-PSV mini-bus drivers are desperately needed to join the team to drive our fully accessible 16 seat minibuses taking elderly and disabled people from the Bracknell and Wokingham area wherever they need to go using the dial-a-ride, shopping and excursion services.

And anyone early retired with time on their hands who likes meeting and helping people on a day out would enjoy working or volunteering as a passenger assistant.

**Councillor**: Alison Swaddle **Dated**: 7 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Local Government Association General Assembly
Name of Member	Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Representative
Number of meetings called to attend	1
Number of Meetings attended	1
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The Assembly looked at housing numbers, the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Highway Construction

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I was provided with the Housing White Paper proposals and the latest proposals changing Planning Regulations.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Yes, it helped me understand how housing numbers are calculated.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	165

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative It helps me understand how the Government is planning changes to local Government funding.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

Councillor: Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey Dated: 9 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Mid and West Berks Local Access Forum
Name of Member	Councillor Angus Ross
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Appointed WBC Member
Number of meetings called to attend	4
Number of Meetings attended	4
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

- Review of progress with Rights of Way Improvement Plans (ROWIPs) across the three councils.
- Finding new Members
- Finding ways to improve access to Public Rights of Way (PROW) (Stiles into kissing gates etc)
- Advising on issues of access, wrong vehicles using PROW, how to contribute to planning applications and local and neighbourhood plans.
- Selling our Greenways and Loddon Path initiatives

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I have worked closely with our Public Rights of Way officer and the Chairman of the LAF

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Not directly related to our Vision but aims to enhance the outdoor off-road access and linkages to built-up areas, country parks etc.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative Joint approach in area on PROW.

Savings by three councils sharing the support costs

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N/A}}$ 

Councillor: Angus Ross Dated: 6 March 2017

Name of Organisation	ReadiBus
Name of Member	Guy Grandison
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Trustee/director
Number of meetings called to attend	6
Number of Meetings attended	4
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Other Meetings & Paternity Leave

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

ReadiBus is the dial-a-ride bus service for people with restricted mobility in and around Reading. The bus service is for people of all ages who cannot make use of the mainstream bus services offered in the area. When ReadiBus started out, mainstream bus services and other forms of public transport were much more difficult for people with restricted mobility to use.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Before all Meetings, we receive additional information from the General Manager and other Trustees as to the operational capacity and financial stability of ReadiBus. This information is highly detailed and informative and should further information be required then all that is needed to be done is ask the General Manager for further information either before or during a meeting.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Readibus has some challenges moving forward due to the changing financial nature of its core operational funding due to continued budget cuts on local authorities. They are however, rising up to these challenges and are already in the process of moving forward with restructure and re-assessment of certain areas of the service.

In the last year there had been changes to the charges for using ReadiBus in order to make it more streamlined with number of fare bands being cut by half.

Due to the changes in operational funding some buses have been stood down from active duty and rotation and certain routes have been discontinued in order to provide a more sustainable service In the long run.

In most cases users have been able to move to other ReadiBus services. As a result the number of complaints in the last year has dropped and punctuality has improved again. The number of miles travelled per bus has decreased but the efficiency of passengers carried per mile has increased.

Readibus is doing reasonably well in this increasingly uncertain financial times but there is only so much that can be cut before it effects services and they are looking into future funding areas from an operational point of view.

They are for example taking part in the Berkshire "a life less lonely" campaign to encourage users to take friendship trips. Having been on the buses there is a great community atmosphere between users and all are felt welcome during trips.

ReadiBus has some challenges ahead and is rising to meet them and they deserve the continued support of Wokingham Borough Council as they perform a vital community service to local residents and there is more that WBC can do to support them beyond the purely financial side.

It is a fantastically run organisation both in terms of passion and belief in what is being done and has been running in the reading area for over 35 years now.

Long may it continue.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative They provide a vital community service for thousands of WBC residents.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful Date & Location of AGM to be confirmed for July

**Representative:** Guy Grandison **Dated:** 6 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Royal Berkshire Fire Authority
Name of Member	Pauline Helliar-Symons (Vice chairman of the Fire Authority, and Champion for Organisational Development) Angus Ross (Lead member for Strategic Asset Management) Philip Mirfin Alistair Auty.
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	WBC representatives, along with representatives from the other five Unitary Authorities
Number of meetings called to attend	Not possible to give a number: it depends on the person's role, but varies between an average of one a week to an average one a month – but it changes throughout the year, depending on the volume of business happening at the time, e.g.; more meetings at budget time or strategic planning time. Many of these meetings are of working groups or individual meetings informally with officers.
Number of Meetings attended	Again, not possible to count, but most of us attend most of the meetings we are called to.
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Other meetings that clash.

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

This has been an extremely busy and productive year for members, including the four Wokingham Borough Council members, with a number of big initiatives being progressed.

There has been quite a significant turnaround in senior staff this year, as Andy Fry, the Chief Fire officer, and Paul Southern, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, have both retired, and another Director has moved on in her career. However, the training and organisational development that has been put in place for middle managers has enabled continuity. We have appointed Trevor Ferguson, the Deputy Chief Fire Officer as the new CFO – Trevor has been very instrumental in working with members to develop our Vision 2019 – and are about to appoint a new DCFO and ACFO.

We have just had an LGA peer review, to check on our progress over the last three years and they reported that this has been "huge".

With the move from a committee to a Lead Member organisation, Angus Ross has adopted the Strategic Asset Investment Framework 2016/20 (SAIF), updated last month, which provides for the planning for investment in new Fire Stations or refurbishments, mostly as collaborative projects with other Blue Light Services and putting Fire Stations in the heart of communities, with local access and better identification of the community roles the Fire Stations provide. The SAIF also plans for investment in Fire Appliances and Support Vehicles, and also IT, as well as supporting the ground breaking Thames Valley Fire Control Service for Berks Bucks & Oxon, located and run for the three counties by RBFRS in their HQ in Calcot.

A new Fire Station is planned outside Theale to replace Station 3 in Tilehurst, the old HQ site which will be sold off for housing once the Fire Station can relocate to Theale. We are also planning a redevelopment of the Whitley Wood station which also houses most of the Training support for RBFRS. Other station improvements are also planned. These are all essential development's to ensure a 'fit for purpose' modern complement of stations, appliances and support, funded by Reserves, Capital Receipts and some borrowing. A new Property Development task and finish group has been set up under the Lead Member which meets quarterly, and which Philip Mirfin also sits on, to identify areas for member support with regard to the property capital programme.

Prevention work continues as a priority, and the Fire Service has worked with Local Authorities to share information on where vulnerable people live and to make their homes safer. The (very few) fire deaths in the County this last year have been in homes where such people were not identified by anyone, and it continues to be a challenge to find out where these people are. But we have carried out over 10,000 home fire safety checks this year throughout the County, fitting such things as smoke alarms and handrails. Work with young people, especially those at risk of setting fires, has continued to develop.

We have also addressed the rationalisation of fire engine response times: in the past different fire stations measured this in different ways, but now all response times are measured from the moment when a resident makes an emergency call to the moment when the first fire engine arrives, so that performance is measured in a consistent way across the whole service

Recruitment of new fire fighters has been very successful with about two dozen new fire fighters having joined the service this year, with two very successful passing out parades — this recruitment is essential as so many are reaching retirement age. Recruitment of retained fire fighters, however, remains a challenge in this area where so many residents are also commuters and do not work near their local fire station. It would also be helpful if more local employers were willing to allow their employees to be released on the rare occasion that they might need to attend an incident during their working hours.

Co-responding has continued at Hungerford, Wargrave and Wokingham fire stations, and has attended many emergency medical calls and undoubtedly saved lives. It is still to be seen whether the Fire Brigades Union nationally will agree to this pilot being continued, but we understand that it is popular with the fire fighters themselves all over the country, so we sincerely hope they will agree and that we can expand this in other parts of Berkshire.

The biggest challenge has been the need to cut the budget. Officers have worked hard to bring about a 10% cut in costs across every department, and we have increased the local tax by 1.99% - in reality this amounts to only 2.5p a week increase on an average home, a total of just £1.20 a week that residents are paying towards their fire and rescue service – we are still the lowest precepting Fire Authority in the country. The work on collaboration with other blue light services and local Authorities has also assisted the savings. But this still leaves a short fall of £1.4m a year – the resetting of the Business rates alone will cost us £135K - and we have had a very successful consultation on how to redesign the whole service, with over 700 responses from fire fighters, residents and local Authorities to our seven options put forward to save this money; this has included the production of a video by the Chief Fire officer and

Chairman (which 3,500 people have logged into), and a visit from the Chief Fire Officer and a colleague to our own Overview and Scrutiny committee, to explain the different options. There will be some difficult decisions for members to make.

On a lighter note, 'Smokey Paws', a not for profit organisation, has donated pet oxygen masks to all fire engines across the country that fit pets from large dogs to hamsters! It fits round their snout and provides concentrated oxygen to help save people's pets' lives in a fire.

The Fire Service has also recently returned to the Home Office; there is a view in Government that PCCs might take on governance of Fire Authorities if local conditions need it, but we are firmly of the view that they are quite different services, and that this move should be resisted in Berkshire, since we have a very good Fire Service already, and collaboration is working effectively as our relations with the Police as well as the Ambulance Service continue to strengthen.

Finally, we still wish it was mandatory for all Councils to require developers to put sprinklers into all new homes: the cost is very little and can often benefit a resident's insurance costs. They undoubtedly save a fire from becoming a serious risk to life.

All four of us have been active and have striven to keep WBC officers and members aware of how we as a Council can help the needs of the Fire Service and vice versa, in the interests of rationalising all our resources.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

We as members, along with officers, have jointly put together the strategic aims and objectives of the RBFRS, and there is a printed constitution which everyone receives. Therefore we are all fully briefed – indeed make the brief, the budget and the plans for the future.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Absolutely. It safeguards the people of Berkshire and saves their lives. It does a great deal of work on preventing fires and identifying, with Local Authorities, where vulnerable people live to advise and help them on how to keep safer, cutting road casualties out of vehicles that have been in collisions, and dealing with floods and other emergencies. This contributes to many of the Council's priorities, but notably offering excellent value for council tax, looking after the vulnerable, improving health, wellbeing and quality of life, and delivering quality in all we do.

## Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

It is vital that the Fire Service is driven by members who work in the interests of residents. In fact it is statutory that we have representatives on this body, as part of the Combined Fire Service of the County of Berkshire.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

N/A

**Councillor**: Pauline Helliar-Symons **Dated**: 7 March 2017

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Name of Organisation	Royal Berkshire Hospital Foundation Trust Board of Governors
Name of Member	Richard Dolinski
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Governor
Number of meetings called to attend	Council of Governors: 5 Joint Board: 2 Board: 1 Open day: 2 Ward inspection: 1
Number of Meetings attended	Council of Governors: 3 Joint: 2 Open day: 1 Ward inspection: 1
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clashes with WBC meetings.

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

**Recruitment of new CEO:** following the retirement of Jean O'Callaghan Staff, Board members and Governors were involved in the interview process for the Trust's new Chief Executive. Three candidates were shortlisted and interviewed in September 2016. The Council of Governors approved the appointment of Steve McManus as the new CEO as from January 2017.

**Financial outlook:** the control total has not been achieved, but is in line with Q2F expectation. There is a £0.72M Sustainability and Transformation Fund (STF) included in month of December of £2.17M in Q3. Cost savings are being tracked and currently stand at £19.7m.

**Clinical priorities:** Screening patients for sepsis on arrival to the Emergency Department and administering antibiotics where indicated within 1 hour, a Trust Quality Account priority for 2016-17. The Emergency Department along with the Trust sepsis leads have significantly improved since April 2016.

The Referral to Treatment (RTT) incomplete standard continues to be achieved at around 93% compared to the 92.0% target. However, the Trust has not achieved the Emergency Access standard in December with 91.8% of patients being seen, treated, admitted or discharged within 4 hours against a target of 95%. The Trust continues to drive internal improvements through the patient flow programme, including opening a new Emergency Department (ED) extension last November.

In addition, the two week standard for suspected cancer and the symptomatic breast

pathways were achieved in November seeing 97.1% and 99.4% of patients within 14 days. The Trust is projecting continued compliance of these standards in December and for Quarter 3.

The Trust's Referral to Treatment (RTT) performance is compliant for the incomplete pathways standard at over 92%. In September the national Friends and Family survey results show that the Trust was the top-performing non-specialist acute trust in the country with 99% of the inpatients stating that they would recommend the RBH to their friends and family.

**Strategy highlights:** RBH has introduced the role of Guardian of safe working (GSW). It will give an update of the current scenarios in relation to working hours of junior doctors on new contracts, and outline the strategy to assure safe working through the next phases of the contract implementation. Recruitment and retention of staff, safeguarding, risk assessment and patient experience remain a priority.

The Council of Governors: has set objectives for achievement reflecting a combination of statutory duties that the Council is likely to be asked in the coming year, along with membership and other activities which the Council sets as priorities. These include, the review of annual reports and accounts, monitor the Trust's progress on achieving strategic imperatives and implementation of the Operational Strategic Plan.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

The constitution, aims and objectives are explicitly referred to in documents provide by the Trust. Agendas and supporting papers to Board, Joint Board, Committee, and Council of Governors meetings are made available in both hard and electronic copy. In addition, a monthly CEO Blog is published.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust is a strategic healthcare partner with Children Services and Adult Social Care. Amongst its activities the Trust has provided paediatric Health Assessments for Wokingham Borough Looked After Children and Young People. Also, the Trust has made presentations to the WBC Corporate Parenting Board.

Do you think the Council should continue to be
represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

#### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust is a partner stakeholder providing community healthcare with Wokingham Borough Council.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful In November 2017 the Trust announced the closure of the Hydrotherapy Pool but has since deferred the decision to June 2017. The Trust is in consultation with service users and partners with the hope of securing a Hydrotherapy Service in the Reading area.

The Council of Governors is undertaking a membership engagement programme comprising of:

- A health seminar in each of the five area constituencies.
- An annual open day in September.
- Annual Trust Members meeting.
- One attendance each month by a Governor at a community based event.
- Produced four editions of Pulse (format under review) within 12 months.
- Seek feedback and engaging with Trust Members on RBH strategy.

Councillor: Richard Dolinski Dated: 19 February 2017

Name of Organisation	Sonning and District Education and Welfare Trust
Name of Member	Mike Haines
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Councillor Representative
Number of meetings called to attend	2
Number of Meetings attended	1 (The second hasn't been held yet)
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The Sonning and District Education and Welfare Trust maintain a modest trust fund with a base of around £60,000. Residents in the area, which include parts of South Oxfordshire, are eligible to apply for an award from the fund if they find themselves in difficult circumstances. The awards are for tangible items, for example a Washing Machine or to fund an educational school trip

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I sat with the Chair and the Treasurer on appointment and ran through the processes and aims of the group. This was sufficient.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

The Trust has provided small awards for families in dire need, for example purchasing a Washing Machine for a single mother with children and some tools to allow a local resident to tend their garden.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	165

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful The fund has been a little more active this year with several applications – one was rejected because the statutes do not allow monies from the fund to be used for debt repayments, although the scale is limited, if any members know of deserving cases in the Sonning / Charvil / Sonning Common area please encourage them to apply.

Councillor: Mike Haines Dated: 18 February 2017

Name of Organisation	South East Employers
Name of Member	Alistair Auty & Stuart Munro Capacity
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	AA Member and, S M Member and Member of the Executive Board
Number of meetings called to attend	4
Number of Meetings attended	3
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash of Commitments

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

WBC's membership allows key offices in the council to ask for key employment data at any time; this could relate to pay or any other employment statistics. This allows comparison and benchmarking to be accurately researched.

The South East Employer Group (SEE) has completely restructured its operation, now settled into its new Winchester HQ all in the interests of better value for money.

It continues to do a lot of work around the current pay round and undertaken considerable benchmarking work on conditions of employment around the country. This data is available to us as part of the service and has been useful in the current staff re-structure, 21st Century and ongoing.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Full briefing information was given prior to AGM at the start of the Municipal year.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Their contribution continues to be valuable.

The work on the pay round is of particular value and some of the key member training has also been effective and well received.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative	
N/A	
Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful	

N/A

**Councillor:** Stuart Munro **Dated:** 3 March 2017

Name of Organisation	South East Reserve Forces and Cadet's Association (SERFCA)
Name of Member	Councillor (Col) David Sleight
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Local Authority representative.
Number of meetings called to attend	3
Number of Meetings attended	3
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Membership is actually of the Berkshire Committee of SERFCA where representation is invited from the 6 Berkshire unitary authorities. The Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire is also a member.

The role of the Reserve Forces and Cadet's Associations is evolving and, in addition to their traditional role in Reserve Forces recruitment, managing the Reserve Forces and Cadets' estate, they are now involved in a wider role including the promotion of the Armed Forces in the community, the promotion of the benefits of Reserve Forces service to employers and promoting the skills of servicemen leaving the Armed Forces to potential employers.

Within Wokingham Borough, SERFCA has had to find alternative accommodation for the Arborfield ACF Detachment and the former SPAR store (and before that the NAAFI store) is being converted for their use. In Wokingham, the Carnival Pool MSCP needed the site of the ACF Detachment and ATC Squadron huts and they are being relocated in a new build in the Norreys Ward that opens shortly.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Having served in the Army for some years and having experience of both (then) Territorial Army units and the RFCAs I can modestly claim to have an adequate background for this role.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

All the Armed Forces cadets' organisations do an excellent job in promoting good citizenship, self-confidence, skills, leadership and team spirit in young people which all contributes to making Wokingham Borough "a great place to live".

The contribution of our Armed Forces and the Reserve Forces to the defence of the nation must be supported and the evolving role in liaison with employers contributes to

the vision of "an even better place to do business".	

## Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Membership of the Berkshire Committee is not an onerous task but helps in liaising and communication with SERFCA and the Armed Forces. Therefore representation should continue: not to do so would suggest that Wokingham Borough did not support our Armed Forces and cadets' organisations.

Yes

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful SERFCA also hosts the Lord Lieutenant's Awards ceremony annually where, in addition to his awards, BEMs are awarded as well as various awards to Reserve personnel and cadets.

Councillor: David Sleight Dated: 4 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Standing Conference on Archives
Name of Member	Pauline Jorgensen
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member
Number of meetings called to attend	2
Number of Meetings attended	1 plus a private visit and an exhibition
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Chest infection

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The group covers the care and preservation of public and private archives in Berkshire. The largest new deposits (3.5 cubic metres) this year have come from the magistrates courts with the closure of Newbury Court, it included material from Hungerford and Lambourne courts. Archives were also received from Hemdean House School, Reading Cemeteries, Swallowfield Parish Council, Bearwood College and Wokingham Theatre. Some of these archives have been accompanied by grant funding.

A major exhibition 'Inside' was staged at Reading Prison and the archives service provided significant display material including photographs. They have started a Welcome trust funded project to repair damaged objects in the archive. Earlier in the year another prison themed exhibition was staged at the Archives detailing the story of Irish Internees after the Easter Rising.

The service has received a National Manuscripts Conservation Trust grant of £24k and has also entered into a contract with Ancestry to digitize the electoral registers collection for the period 1840-1965.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I was shown round the archives by the County Archivist and had an excellent briefing on their objectives and activities together with a review of some of their collection related to Earley and Wokingham in particular.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Good examples throughout the year of both protection and preservation of archives which were at risk of being lost. This is evidenced by significant grant funding from national bodies. The exhibitions have extended the reach of the archive service and enabled a wider range of people to see what they do.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative It's a shared service between Berkshire Councils	
Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful N/A	

Councillor: Pauline Jorgensen Dated: 14 February 2017

Name of Organisation	Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group (SASIG) of the Local Government Association
Name of Member	Cllr David Sleight
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Local authority representative
Number of meetings called to attend	3
Number of Meetings attended	3
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

SASIG, as the title implies, is a group of local authorities who are adjacent to or in the proximity of civil airports. The Group fully recognises the economic benefits of having good connectivity and the attraction of comprehensive air links in driving investment, employment and economic growth. But SASIG also recognises and seeks to mitigate the effects on congestion, air quality and aircraft noise resulting from proximity to airports.

Late last year Government confirmed its support for Heathrow Airport Ltd's NW runway scheme as recommended by the Airports Commission and followed this with the draft Airports National Policy Statement (NPS) in February this year. Concurrent with the consultation on the NPS, is a highly technical consultation on airspace change and we may rely on our membership of SASIG to respond on this on Wokingham borough's behalf.

SASIG is also lobbies for improved surface access to airports and I have attended meetings of a surface access sub group at SASIG. As far as Wokingham Borough Council is concerned this means links to Gatwick and to Heathrow. GWR's plans to double the frequency of the Gatwick Airport service from Wokingham in December 2017 and the progress with Western Rail Link to Heathrow are positive outcomes in line with SASIG's aims.

# What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Minutes of previous meetings and information on SASIG's vision and aims were available coupled with an interest in transport matters gave me adequate background knowledge.

## Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Proximity to our principal airports coupled with good transport links to them is fully consistent with the Council's vision. But that proximity means that the Borough is

overflown by aircraft using Heathrow which a significant number of our residents find to be intrusive.

The Civil Aviation Authority is considering changes to flight patterns and aircraft routing That could, potentially, impact adversely on our Borough. SASIG, through its Secretariat, publishes regular bulletins to keep member local authorities informed as well as forming a powerful and influential lobby group to ensure that the local authority voice is heard.

### Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

#### Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

The argument against continuing membership basically revolves round the subscription that Wokingham Borough Council pays to SASIG and the consequent value for money assessment.

The rationale in continuing membership is to support this Group which actively campaigns to ensure the local authority voice is heard with representations better informed and carrying more weight in consultation exercises than if Wokingham Borough were to respond (or not) on its own.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful The Secretariat of SASIG to now contracted to Northpoint Aviation which has given SASIG a sharper focus from a better informed base.

Councillor: David Sleight Dated: 5 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership and City Deal Joint Committee
Name of Member	Stuart Munro
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member of the Thames Valley Berkshire LEP Forum
Number of meetings called to attend	5
Number of Meetings attended	4
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

### Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The Local Enterprise partnership (LEP) is a Government body set up to promote the Economy in the Thames Valley area and is a partnership between private sector and Local Government. As such each unitary Council in Berkshire has one representative on the board which is known as the Forum. Thames Valley Berkshire LEP was endorsed by the government on 28 October 2010 and incorporated on 16 December 2011 as a company limited by guarantee.

Activity has been based on the decision by the Government to place all investment capital via the LEPS. Last year the 39 LEPs competitively bid for this investment capital. The TVB LEP successfully negotiated £160m which includes the full, pre-allocated transport funds as well as indicative transport funding from 2017/18 onwards.

In the past year the Forum has approved funds to Local Councils in Berkshire in support of infrastructure projects, including in Wokingham Borough Council. In addition, funds have been approved to support business which offer real growth opportunities in the area mostly based around high tech business. In addition it has made loan offer

The LEP has developed a Strategic Economic Plan that sets out the vision and business priorities for economic growth in Thames Valley Berkshire. This sets out a framework of delivery activity which is about to be implemented.

Other bodies that are associated with the LEP include the City Deal Joint Committee, Chaired by WBC, which continues to oversees the £2.4 million City Deal fund

The LEP is in the process of distribution £24m of EUSIF funding based on the frame work approved last year.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

A full briefing was given by the LEP CEO, and was comprehensive.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

It is essential that WBC plays a key role in the LEP Forum as much of central Government future investment will come through the LEP.

The priorities of the TV LEPs Strategic Economic Plan – Infrastructure, transport, communications and place shaping - Enterprise Innovation and business growth -Skills education and employment - and Inward investment, all have a strong synergy with the vision for Wokingham Borough "A great place to live, an even better place to do business".

business.	
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes
If No, please state why N/A	
Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful	

Councillor: Stuart Munro Dated: 23 February 2017

N/A

Name of Organisation	The Piggott Trust		
Name of Member	Dr John Halsall		
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Trustees		
Number of meetings called to attend	Two		
Number of Meetings attended	Two		
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A		
Please give a brief syn	Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during		
the past Municipal Year		, 3	
Piggott Trust is an educational trust is Wargrave. WBC is the education authority			
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?  All needed			
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?  N/A			
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?		Yes	
Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful N/A			

Councillor: John Halsall Dated: 1 March 2017

Name of Organisation	WADE – Wokingham & District Association for the Elderly
Name of Member	Dianne King
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	6
Number of Meetings attended	4
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with other meetings but Oliver Whittle, my deputy attended in my place

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

WADE runs a day centre for the elderly in Reading Road, providing lunch and activities. It also runs a Charity Shop which raises money to fund the centre. Additionally it runs fund raising events and organises entertainment for its members

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Details of its work and organisation and current funding

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

The organisation has met with Council officers to discuss its function There is a hardworking and committed management committee. It has its own catering staff and charges clients on a daily fee basis It also has a minibus and provides a service to and from the centre

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	res

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

The organisation provides services on behalf of the Council for some clients Liaison between the organisation and the Council is important

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful As well as items mentioned above the organisation events such as Christmas and Summer fares and other fund raising activities.

**Councillor:** Dianne King **Dated:** 9/03/17

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Borough Sports Council
Name of Member	Michael Firmager
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member
Number of meetings called to attend	8 (including the Annual General Meeting)
Number of Meetings attended	4 (including the Annual General Meeting)
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clashes with other meetings

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

To co-ordinate, promote and develop opportunities and facilities for sport in the Borough of Wokingham.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I was a member last year representing Wokingham Borough Council, in addition to representing Earley Town Council.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

It provides a forum to co-ordinate, promote and develop sports across the borough. It also organises the annual sports awards.

This is where different sports clubs and representatives can meet to share experiences, information and on occasions work together.

The Annual Sports Awards were held on 25th November 2016 at Bulmershe School. The awards were presented by Ben Fletcher, who represented Great Britain & Northern Ireland at the Rio Olympics and was a member of Pinewood Judo club. Ben also took part in a question and answer session.

The Sports Council is there for all ages.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	103

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative It is crucial for Wokingham Borough Council to have a representative on the Sports Council. This is to help support and encourage participation in sport across the borough, leading to healthier lifestyles and show the benefits of sport.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful Roland Mear, who has been involved with the Sports Council for about 25 years and the Chairman for about the last seven years, has decided to stand down. Roland led the Sports Council very well and will be a hard act to follow. After the approval of the AGM he was succeeded by Nigel King who was previously the Secretary. I wish Nigel well in his new role and I am sure he will be a success.

After much work and effort the website address has now gone back to the original one of:-

www.wokinghamboroughsportscouncil.org. The website provides links to local sports clubs.

Reading Rugby Club advised walking rugby has been launched where there are no rolling mauls or scrums. It sets out to attract players up to the age of 80 to the game. The idea was originally devised by staff at Warner Hotels, the hotel group which targets the over-50s market, after research among customers uncovered demand for more active team sports modified to include older players with a new set of rules. Also, wheelchair rugby was launched in January. Their aim is to make it a Berkshire Rugby club under the brand name of Berkshire Banshees.

The Playing Pitch Strategy is currently awaiting further data for inclusion in the final draft strategy.

England Golf Berks Bucks & Oxon Union of Golf Clubs (BB&O) are running courses for boys and girls aged between 11 and 18 with physical, visual or hearing impairments and learning difficulties with the emphasis on fun. On a wider note they intend to bring golf to the public. Their website is www.bbogolf.com.

WBC, through the Place & Community Partnership, is aligning themselves with Health & Wellbeing.

WBC's Sport & Leisure Team have volunteering opportunities in a wide range of sports and activities. A campaign is currently running.

In respect of tennis building work has started at Cantley and the courts should be ready for the Easter holidays.

Councillor: Michael Firmager Dated: 7 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Job Support Centre Management Committee WJSC
Name of Member	Stuart Munro
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	WBC Representative
Number of meetings called to attend	1
Number of Meetings attended	1
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Since Appointment of the new board of trustees, the review of the funding from WBC (ongoing) WJSC continues as before. I attend the Annual Meeting.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I am given a full briefing by the Trustees Chairman, Martyn Lambert who I have known for many years and receive a copy of their quarterly report.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

The Organisation provides an essential and well respected service to the community

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative As well as being a well-used service, this is a good vehicle for WBC to understand employment trends in the Economic Development Area.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful N/A

**Councillor**: Stuart Munro **Dated:** 14 February 2017

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Volunteer Centre
Name of Member	Dianne King
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	WBC Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	6 per annum
Number of Meetings attended	4 (plus events)
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with other meetings

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

N/A

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

I have represented the Council for many years and the organisation is well known to me. I am kept informed of activities and liaisons with WBC.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

- Finding and Placing Volunteers
- Running a volunteer transport service (eg to hospital/doctors etc)
- Running a gardening scheme in the area for older residents
- Running a town centre mobility scheme

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	res

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N/A}}$ 

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful They work to raise the visibility of the organisation to help broker and place volunteers throughout the Borough (eg with weekly column in local newspaper) and work with businesses on joint ventures

Councillor: Dianne King Dated: 09/0317

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Waterside Centre
Name of Member	Alison Swaddle
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Director
Number of meetings called to attend	6
Number of Meetings attended	4
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with borough and town council meetings

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Oversight and scrutiny of the management and finances of the Centre. Since August 2016 the WWC is managed by Cloud9Pursuits Ltd who report to the Board which has led to considerable improvements in efficiency.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

First appointed in January 2015 and given sufficient introduction to structure and mission of the WWC.

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

Courses are over-subscribed and both the University of Reading and the Wokingham Canoe Club have growing memberships which make best use of the facilities. Great work with local charities such as Reading Mencap and Young People with Dementia is being done and there is a strong emphasis on making water sports accessible and enjoyable for all. Many youth groups such as schools and scouts enjoy sessions on the Thames.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?

Yes

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

The building and land is owned by WBC and leased to WWC and it is important to safeguard that these are being used to the very best effect to provide water sports facilities for our residents particularly the young and those with additional needs.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

Councillor: Alison Swaddle Dated: 7 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Youth Counselling & Information Service (ARC)
Name of Member	Rachelle Shepherd-Dubey
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member of the Executive
Number of meetings called to attend	5
Number of Meetings attended	5 (if I was unable attend the meeting I had a meeting with the chair within three days to cover the Executive. I only missed the Annual dinner due to illness.
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A

Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Counselling for young people and their families, Counselling young people in schools and helping CAMHS provide quicker service for young people within Wokingham Borough

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Discussions with the coordinator and my own experience as a psychotherapist

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

I believe ARC has helped maintain the health and well-being of Young people and their families so they can become functioning and contributing members of British society.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	162

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Since Wokingham Borough helps fund this organisation I can help ensure that the funds are spent wisely and reasonably to achieve the vision of WBC.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful This organisation is helping young people succeed in a very challenging and anxiety provoking world. It is helping them become productive and contributing members of society.

Signed: Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey Dated: 28 February 2017

Name of Organisation	Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative (TCMI)
Name of Member	Kate Haines
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Committee Member
Number of meetings called to attend	4
Number of Meetings attended	2
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clashed with hospital appointments

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

The TCMI manages the town centre for Woodley. This includes running various markets (Saturday, Farmers, continental); Car Boot Sales; specific events such as Winter Extravaganza, Carnival, the look of the centre covering things like flower displays and Xmas lights; and manage the pagoda and clock. It also involves extensive liaison with retailers and the freeholders of their shops. They also operate, with the police, the shop watch system and manage temporary stands in the town centre.

The TCMI is fully inclusive including local retailers, the police, local resident groups, councillors, WBC Economic Development Officer and interested residents. The financial strength of the TCMI is solid thus making it eminently sustainable. With the regeneration of the northern end of the precinct and the new public loo, the TCMI is going from strength to strength. This is the web address for the TCMI for further information: <a href="http://www.woodleytowncentre.co.uk/">http://www.woodleytowncentre.co.uk/</a>

## What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

Having been involved with the TCMI for 8 year, I have all information required to carry out my role.

# Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

This provides a major impetus in regenerating Woodley Town Centre, one of the key priorities. It also helps, as a by-product, the Sustainable Communities priority. Whilst Wokingham Town is the focus of regeneration this initiative contributes to the regeneration of Woodley Town Centre in advance of the next phase of WBC regeneration strategy.

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes	
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative		
Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative is hugely successful and having WBC		

representatives contributes to its success.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful N/A

Councillor: Kate Haines Dated: 9 March 2017

Name of Organisation	Woodley Volunteer Centre
Name of Member	Councillor Abdul Loyes
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Wokingham Borough Council Representative
Number of meetings called to attend	1
Number of Meetings attended	0
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Conflict with other meeting

## Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.

Once again, I am very pleased to write this report for the Woodley Volunteers, who have continued to work hard in looking after our residents. The duties they perform include taking them to doctor's appointments, the hospital and much more. They kindly go beyond what was is expected of them – travelling for appointments as far as Basingstoke and Oxford, which is considerably time consuming for the drivers. The Woodley Winter Extravaganza held on 4<sup>th</sup> December raised £358.10. Additionally, generous donations from their clients raised £220.00. The volunteers were especially grateful to have received £500.00 from Boyes Turner Solicitors.

Wokingham Borough Council has requested that all drivers need to have a DBS check, which those who were willing to take part in the scheme have done so. There are approximately 40 people left on the waiting list. Once new drivers have been recruited, this number should be reduced. With regards to the Alarm Aid report, there are now a total of 6 alarms supplied to clients. This leaves 4 alarms available, which can be fitted on request. A replacement for the venue for the AGM is in discussion; however it is likely to be Alexander Place.

What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?

- Met one on one with the Chairman
- This was sufficient to help me understand the organisation and its objectives

Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?

I believe the organisation is working very well.

Do you think the Council should continue to be	Yes
represented on this Outside Body?	100

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

**FOR:** They have regular clients who are depending on their transportation and support.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful Date of next meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at Karen's.

**Councillor**: Abdul Loyes **Dated:** 5 February 2017