



# **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

A Meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held at Civic Offices,  
Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on **TUESDAY 28  
MARCH 2017 AT 7.00 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Couldrick', written in a cursive style.

Andy Couldrick  
Chief Executive  
Published on 20 March 2017

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# **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Our Vision**

A great place to live, an even better place to do business

## **Our Priorities**

Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential

Invest in regenerating towns and villages, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth

Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and supported by well designed development

Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough

Improve the customer experience when accessing Council services

## **The Underpinning Principles**

Offer excellent value for your Council Tax

Provide affordable homes

Look after the vulnerable

Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life

Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency

Deliver quality in all that we do

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### Councillors

Simon Weeks (Chairman)	John Kaiser (Vice-Chairman)	Parry Batth
Lindsay Ferris	Michael Firmager	Kate Haines
Pauline Helliard-Symons	John Jarvis	Ken Miall
Philip Mirfin	Ian Pittock	Shahid Younis

### Substitutes

Laura Blumenthal	Abdul Loyes	Beth Rowland
Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey		

ITEM NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
60.		<b>APOLOGIES</b> To receive any apologies for absence	
61.		<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 January 2017.	7 - 12
62.		<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest	
63.		<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> To answer any public questions  A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions submitted under notice.  The Council welcomes questions from members of the public about the work of this committee.  Subject to meeting certain timescales, questions can relate to general issues concerned with the work of the Committee or an item which is on the Agenda for this meeting. For full details of the procedure for submitting questions please contact the Democratic Services Section on the numbers given below or go to <a href="http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions">www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions</a>	
64.		<b>MEMBER QUESTION TIME</b> To answer any member questions	
65.	None Specific	<b>COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT</b> To consider Council Performance for Quarter 3.	13 - 76

<b>66.</b>	None Specific	<b>UPDATE ON GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT</b> To consider an update on the new grounds maintenance contract and improvements to ensure an effective grass cutting programme in 2017.	<b>Verbal Report</b>
<b>67.</b>	None Specific	<b>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY</b> To consider an update on the list of infrastructure projects that can be funded from Community Infrastructure Levy. A copy of the report considered by the Executive at its meeting on 26 January 2017 is attached for information.	<b>77 - 102</b>
<b>68.</b>	None Specific	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17</b> To consider the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee annual report 2016-17.	<b>103 - 132</b>
<b>69.</b>	None Specific	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMMES FOR 2017/18</b> To finalise the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes for 2017/18 and discuss scrutiny review suggestions received as set out below.	<b>133 - 148</b>
69.1	None Specific	Scrutiny request - William Luck	<b>149 - 150</b>
69.2	None Specific	Scrutiny request - Catherine Goad	<b>151 - 152</b>
69.3	None Specific	Scrutiny request - Gary Cowan	<b>153 - 154</b>
69.4	Maiden Erlegh	Scrutiny request - Jason Sutton	<b>155 - 158</b>
69.5	None Specific	Scrutiny request - John Halsall	<b>159 - 160</b>
69.6	Maiden Erlegh	Scrutiny requests - Paul Counihan	<b>161 - 164</b>
69.7	None Specific	Scrutiny request - Pauline Jorgensen	<b>165 - 166</b>
69.8	Shinfield South	Scrutiny request – Roberta	<b>167 - 168</b>
69.9	None Specific	Scrutiny request - Tom Clark	<b>169 - 170</b>
<b>70.</b>	None Specific	<b>MONITORING OF PUBLIC AND MEMBER QUESTIONS</b> To review the public and Member questions submitted to the Executive and full Council meetings.	<b>171 - 194</b>

- |     |               |   |           |
|-----|---------------|---|-----------|
| 71. | None Specific | <b>CONSIDERATION OF THE CURRENT EXECUTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORWARD PROGRAMMES</b><br>To consider the current published version of the Executive Forward Programme and the Individual Executive Member Decision Forward Programme. | 195 - 202 |
| 72. | None Specific | <b>UPDATE REPORTS FROM CHAIRMEN OR NOMINATED MEMBER OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES</b><br>For the Chairman or nominated Member of the Committee to report back on its activities including any requests to undertake reviews.                    |           |

**Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent**

A Supplementary Agenda will be issued by the Chief Executive if there are any other items to consider under this heading.

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2017 FROM 7.00 PM TO 8.50 PM

### **Committee Members Present**

Councillors: Simon Weeks (Chairman), John Kaiser (Vice-Chairman), Parry Batth, Michael Firmager, Kate Haines, Pauline Helliari-Symons, John Jarvis, Ken Miall, Ian Pittock and Shahid Younis

### **Other Councillors Present**

Councillors: Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey

### **Officers Present**

Neil Carr, Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **48. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Lindsay Ferris and Philip Mirfin.

### **49. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 November 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Pauline Helliari-Symons declared a personal interest in Item 53, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service – Service Redesign Consultation, in relation to her role as one of the Council's representatives on the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority. Councillor Helliari-Symons remained in the meeting during discussion of the item.

### **51. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions.

### **52. MEMBER QUESTION TIME**

There were no Member questions.

### **53. ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE REDESIGN CONSULTATION**

The Committee considered a report, Agenda pages 13 to 76, which set out details of a service redesign consultation being undertaken by the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service. In addition, Andy Fry (Chief Fire Officer), Trevor Ferguson (Deputy Chief Fire Officer) and Jim Powell (Group Manager) attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the redesign proposals.

The report and presentation set out the strategic context underlying the service redesign proposals. During 2016, the Fire and Rescue Service had consulted on its strategic plans and its response standards. It was now consulting on its service redesign proposals. The consultation started on 12 December 2016 and would run until 13 March 2017. The redesign proposals had been developed to ensure that the service:

- had the right resources, in the right place, at the right time in order to keep our communities safe;
- was able to deliver a modern, fit for purpose service which was efficient, innovative and resilient;

- was able to balance its budget in response to reductions in central government funding.

In order to facilitate the consultation process the Fire and Rescue Service had developed a number of costed options each of which would deliver the required level of savings. The options put forward a combination of service changes covering aspects such as closure and/or remote management of fire stations, changes to the current shift systems and disestablishment of the Retained Support Unit.

Following the presentation, Members raised the following points and questions:

- What impact would the possible closure of the Wargrave fire station have on service delivery to local residents and businesses? It was confirmed that the Wargrave station was a retained station and that nearly all local incidents were currently handled by fire crews from Wokingham Road, Maidenhead or Henley. Consequently, there would be little impact on service delivery if the station was closed.
- What were the current key performance standards for the service and what would be the impact of the redesign proposals? It was confirmed that the key performance indicator was attendance at incidents within 10 minutes of the receipt of an emergency call. The service was currently achieving its performance standard of 10 minute attendance in 75% of cases. The service redesign proposals would not have a significant impact on the achievement of the performance standard.
- Why was there no preferred option set out within the consultation? It was confirmed that the legislative requirements for public consultation meant that it was not possible to set out a preferred action. Doing so may result in a legal challenge. Consequently, options were developed which met the overall requirements for service quality, value for money and risk management. At the end of the consultation period the Fire Authority would meet and go through a process of “conscientious consideration” of the different options and the relevant feedback received for each one.
- In addition to the service redesign proposals what steps were being taken to develop closer working with the other emergency services? It was confirmed that discussions were ongoing to develop closer working arrangements and shared facilities wherever possible. As an example, the new tri-service station in Hungerford was due to open in the summer of 2017. This station would be shared by ambulance, police and fire and rescue services.
- Would the service redesign options result in staff redundancies? It was confirmed that most of the options in the consultation would result in workforce reductions. However, every effort would be made to use natural wastage and avoid compulsory redundancies. One of the key aims of the consultation was to ensure that front-line and back-office staff were fully engaged with the process and supportive of any service changes resulting from the proposals.

Councillor Pauline Helliard-Symons summarised her perspective on the consultation exercise from her role as a member of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority.

Overall, the Committee supported the proposed outcomes underpinning the consultation and recognised the challenges facing the service. Members also welcomed the detailed evidence base and the methodology used to develop the service redesign options.

Members agreed that points raised during the discussion be incorporated into a draft letter setting out the Committee's response to the service redesign consultation. The draft letter to be circulated to members of the Committee for comment prior to the submission of a final response to the Fire and Rescue Service.

**RESOLVED** That:

- 1) Andy Fry, Trevor Ferguson and Jim Powell be thanked for attending the meeting and giving a presentation to the Committee;
- 2) the Committee recognises the challenges faced by the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service and supports the methodology used in developing and consulting on service redesign proposals;
- 3) Democratic Services draft a response letter, summarising the Committee's views on the consultation and redesign options and circulate the draft letter to Members for comment;
- 4) the final version of the letter, incorporating Members' comments, be submitted to the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service as the Committee's formal response to the consultation;
- 5) Members submit individual responses to the consultation to reflect the views of their constituents, as necessary.

**54. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMMES 2017-18**

The Committee considered a report, set out on Agenda pages 77 to 83, which set out proposals for strengthening the Overview and Scrutiny work programming process. The report highlighted the benefits of effective work programming and reminded Members of recent discussions with the Leader of the Council about ways to develop more effective working between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The report proposed an earlier start to the work programming process with a revised timetable as follows:

- January – initial consultation with Overview and Scrutiny Members, Executive Members and key stakeholders;
- February – development of a long list of Scrutiny topics for consultation and feedback;
- March – final work programmes confirmed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee;
- April – publication and implementation of the work programmes;
- November – mid-year review of the work programmes.

Appended to the report was a draft 2017/18 work programme for each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Further items for consideration arising out of the consultation exercise would be added to the existing draft programme for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at its meeting on 28 March 2017.

**RESOLVED** That:

- 1) The draft Overview and Scrutiny work programmes, appended to the report, be approved for public consultation;
- 2) The public consultation process, set out in the report, be approved;
- 3) The Overview and Scrutiny work programmes for 2017/18 be finalised at the next meeting of the Management Committee on 28 March 2017.

**55. PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY**

The Committee considered a report, set out on Agenda pages 85 to 109, which provided an update on the Council's statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality Act placed a general duty on public bodies to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who shared a protected characteristic and those who do not. The protected characteristics were age, sex, race, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

The report stated that, in order to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Duty, public bodies had a further specific duty to publish supporting information and set out and monitor Equality Objectives. The report provided demographic information about the Borough and gave examples of initiatives undertaken by the Council which demonstrated compliance with the statutory duty. The report also set out five proposed Equality Objectives as follows:

Objective 1 – Services are easily accessible for all our residents and are capable of responding to the changing needs of our communities;

Objective 2 – Vulnerable individuals and groups are supported and looked after.

Objective 3 – Consultation and engagement are effective and inclusive for all our communities.

Objective 4 – The Council's workforce is committed to equality and reflects the communities it serves.

Objective 5 – The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council programme will deliver on the Council's commitment to equality through service commissioning and delivery, improved procurement and partnership working.

Appended to the report was the Equality Monitoring Workforce Report for 2016/17. The report demonstrated how the Council had met its statutory obligations in relation to its workforce. The report also demonstrated how employee data was captured and analysed to ensure that the Council was complying with its duties.

The report stated that further monitoring reports would be submitted on an annual basis to ensure that the Council met its duties under the Equality Act and its workforce reflected the communities it served.

**RESOLVED** That:

- 1) the Public Sector Equality Duty report be supported for submission to the Council's Executive;
- 2) the five Equality Objectives set out in the report be endorsed;
- 3) annual monitoring reports be submitted to the Committee to demonstrate the Council's compliance with its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

#### **56. MONITORING OF PUBLIC AND MEMBER QUESTIONS**

The Committee considered a report, set out on Agenda pages, 111 to 118, which gave details of public and Member questions submitted to a recent meeting of the Council.

Members considered the questions and discussed the potential for further investigation of the issues raised.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted, with no further action to be taken.

#### **57. CONSIDERATION OF THE CURRENT EXECUTIVE FORWARD PROGRAMME AND THE INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORWARD PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered a copy of the Executive Forward Programme and the Individual Executive Member Decision Forward Programme, as set out on Agenda pages 119 to 128. Members discussed the Forward Programmes and considered the potential for items to be reviewed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

**RESOLVED** That:

- 1) the Forward programmes be noted;
- 2) an update report on implementation of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee on 28 March 2017.

#### **58. UPDATE REPORTS FROM CHAIRMEN OR NOMINATED MEMBER OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

The Committee considered update reports from the recent meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees as follows:

Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9 January 2017. An update report was set out at Agenda page 129. Members noted the briefing provided to the Committee by Superintendent Rob France on the merged Bracknell and Wokingham Police areas and welcomed the offer to Members to join police patrols.

Members raised the issue of the new cycleway/footpath aimed at improving access to the Bohunt school. Concern was expressed at the Council resources available to meet the demand for cycle proficiency training for children who were likely to use the new cycleway.

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 January 2017. The Chairman gave a verbal update and referred to the report of the Coombes Primary School Task and Finish Group which had been considered at the meeting. Following the discussion at the Committee a further meeting of the Task and Finish Group had been scheduled to discuss the findings of the report with the Executive Member for Children's Services and the Director of People Services. The finalised Task and Finish Group report would be submitted to the Council's Executive in due course.

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16 January 2017. The meeting had been cancelled due to unavailability of external partners. A number of items would be carried forward to the next meeting on 8 March 2017.

**RESOLVED:** That the update reports from the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees be noted.

#### **59. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMMES**

The Committee considered its forward work programme and that of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees as set out on Agenda pages 132 to 138.

During the discussion the following points were raised:

The next meeting of the Management Committee (28 March 2017) would consider a report on the infrastructure projects that can be funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

The next meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (21 March 2017) would consider the final report of the Coombes School Task and Finish Group and a report on the Children Missing Education Strategy.

Members noted that additional scrutiny items were likely to be added following public consultation on the draft work programmes considered earlier in the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Overview and Scrutiny forward work programmes be approved.

# Agenda Item 65.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Council Plan Performance Monitoring – Q3 2016/17 report</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 28 March 2017
<b>WARD</b>	None specific
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR</b>	Andrew Moulton, Head of Governance and Improvement Services

## OUTCOME

Improved performance in those areas of activity that are seen as a priority for the Council.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Management is asked to:

- 1) note the latest performance indicators and major projects and agree any corrective action required;
- 2) consider any amendments to the report before Executive Briefing.

## SUMMARY OF REPORT

The areas of performance are reported as follows (based on the indicators we have RAG ratings for):

	Q3		Q2		Q1	
<b>Green</b>	44	73%	37	71%	41	77%
<b>Amber</b>	13	22%	10	19%	7	13%
<b>Red</b>	3	5%	5	10%	5	9%
Total	60		52		53	

Indicators with a RED rating are:

- % Children who became subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) who are subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time within 24 months.
- % Care Proceedings completed in 16/17 within 26 weeks of application
- % Looked After Children living within 20 miles of Berkshire West

Indicators with an AMBER rating are:

- % referrals in 16/17 which are repeat referrals within 12 months of a previous referral to Children's Social Care
- % CP Visits due in the period which were on-time (within 10 days of the previous visit).
- Care Governance: Number of providers on Wokingham LA's Caution list changing from Red to Amber or removed from the list
- % Secondary Schools with a current Ofsted rating of "good" or better.
- % Special Schools with a current Ofsted rating of "good" or better.
- Number of affordable dwellings completed (annual)

- Percentage of household waste reuse, recycling and composting
- Business Rates collection
- % first contact resolution - calls and emails
- The % of calls answered
- Nine Mile Ride Extension (South)
- Lower Earley Way (Dualling)
- Shinfield Eastern Relief Road

## Background

Executive Briefing and Overview and Scrutiny Committee have requested further information to explain how the RAG ratings for the indicators has been determined – this is shown in Appendix B.

## Analysis of Issues

None.

<b>List of Background Papers</b>	
None	
<b>Contact</b> Andrew Moulton	<b>Service</b> Governance & Improvement
<b>Telephone No</b> 07747 777298	<b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:andrew.moulton@wokingham.gov.uk">andrew.moulton@wokingham.gov.uk</a>
<b>Date</b> 15 March 2017	<b>Version No.</b> 1

# Community



Look after vulnerable people

## Key Indicators

Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% referrals in 16/17 which are repeat referrals within 12 months of a previous referral to Children's Social Care	<b>24% or Less</b> Green: 24% or less Amber: 24.1% to 26% Red: Over 26%	18.96%	25.9% (Q2: 32.9%)	Amber	Better (than Q2)	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Repeat referrals are a mechanism for understanding whether services offered to children and their families were appropriately targeted in the first instance. Children may genuinely be needing to re-access services for a different reason. Exploration of every re-referral takes place to monitor effectiveness.  The Head of Service is satisfied that all re-referrals in Q3 were unavoidable and appropriate.

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel	Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)
% Children who became subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) who are subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time within 24 months.	<b>Less than 8%</b> <b>Green:</b> Less than 8% <b>Amber:</b> 8 – 10% <b>Red:</b> Over 10%	7%  Number of Children: 8 of 114	20%  Number of Children: 7 of 35  (Q2: 33%)	<b>Red</b>	Better (than Q2)	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	This is regularly monitored to ensure that children's needs are met and to ensure that a child protection plan has not been ended prematurely beforehand.  In Q3, seven children came back onto a CPP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 children (including 4 from one family) were put back onto a plan due to an unanticipated change in circumstances; and</li> <li>• 1 child has since been accommodated and the CPP is being discontinued.</li> </ul>
% Care Proceedings completed in 16/17 within 26 weeks of application	<b>60%</b> <b>Green:</b> 60% <b>Amber:</b> Between 47% and 59.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 47%	52.9%	0% (Q2: 33%)	<b>Red</b>	Worse (than Q2)	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	This is a national indicator and the timescales relating to meeting the 26 weeks target in the cases measured in Q3 sit outside the control of the local authority.  The 0% relates to 4 court cases, all of which had significant legal complexities. For this reason the course made decisions which took the timescale over 26 weeks.
% Looked After Children living within 20 miles of Berkshire West	<b>70%</b> <b>Green:</b> 70% or more <b>Amber:</b> 64-69.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 64%	63.9%	59.3% (Q2: 63%)	<b>Red</b>	Worse (than Q2)	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	This figure will continue to be low until local provision and capacity is developed and new entrants into care are placed locally. We would not move already settled children to local placements in order to meet this target.  All of those children living beyond 20 miles are placed through independent fostering agencies or in

# Community



							residential settings.  Of those children in fostering placements, 69.6% are placed within 20 miles of Berkshire West. Of those children in non-fostering placements, 8.3% are placed within 20 miles of Berkshire West.
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# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% of children who wait less than 16 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family – 3 year rolling average	55% Green: 55% or above Amber: 50% to 54.9% Red: Less than 50%	2012 – 2015 rolling three year average: 40%				Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	The DfE continue to review the frequency of data releases. The expected December data release did not take place. The next release is now expected in Summer 2017**.
**Suggested alternate indicator in the absence of DfE data:  Children placed in the financial year to date – average number of days between entering care and placement (using FfA placement date if applicable) (Source: Adopt Berkshire Steering Group Report, Q3)	487 days  Green: 487 days or less  Red: More than 487 days	TBC	464 days	Green	Worse	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	The performance continues to be better than the target. The performance data can be volatile and any dip in performance can be due to decision making and circumstances beyond local authority control.
Proportion of adoptive families who are matched to a child who waited more than 3 months from approval to being matched to a child	52%  Green: 52% or less Amber: 52% to 60% Red: More than 60%	Not yet available  14/15 Actual: 83%				Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	The DfE continue to review the frequency of data releases. The expected December data release did not take place. The next release is now expected in Summer 2017***.

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
<p>*** Suggested alternate indicator in the absence of DfE data:</p> <p>Children matched in the financial year to date – average number of days between Placement Order and formal match. (Source: Adopt Berkshire Steering Group Report, Q3)</p>	<p>121 days</p> <p>Green: 121 days or less</p> <p>Red: More than 121 days</p>	TBC	78 days	Green	Better	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	The current data shows strong performance.

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
20 % CP Visits due in the period which were on-time (within 10 days of the previous visit).	<b>82%</b> <b>Green:</b> 82% or more <b>Amber:</b> 78% to 81.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 78%	80%	79.7% (Q2: 79.1%)	<b>Amber</b>	Better (than Q2)	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	<p>Visits are reviewed by Team and Service Managers weekly and late reviews are scrutinised by managers with any concerns being escalated as appropriate.</p> <p>94% of all visits took place within 15 working days, delays between 10 and 15 days mainly relating to attempted unannounced visits taking place where the family were not at home.</p> <p>The Head of Service is assured that we have an account of all the children not seen within 15 working days, and the reasons for this, and that children are seen/safe.</p>
Percentage of reablement packages of care ceased in the period where reablement was successful	<b>Improve compared to 15-16: 60%</b> <b>Green:</b> 60% or more <b>Amber:</b> 55% to 59.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 55%	60.2%	71.4% (Q2: 69%)	<b>Green</b>	Better (than Q2)	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Care Governance: Number of providers assessed as Amber or Red or changed from Amber to Red that came onto Wokingham LA's Cautions list in the period  <b>21</b>	<b>To decrease the number of providers compared to 15/16</b>  Green: Less than 12 providers at year end Amber: 12 to 14 providers at year end Red: More than 14 providers at year end	Domiciliary Care: 3  Residential/ Nursing Care: 11  Other: 4	Domiciliary Care: 0  Residential /Nursing Care: 1  Other: 0	<b>Green</b>	Better (than Q2)	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	
Care Governance: Number of providers on Wokingham LA's Caution list changing from Red to Amber or removed from the list	<b>To increase the number of providers compared to 15/16</b>  Green: 11 or more providers at year end Amber: 9-10 providers at year end Red: less than 9 providers at year end	Domiciliary Care: 2  Residential/ Nursing Care: 11  Other: 3	Domiciliary Care: 0  Residential /Nursing Care: 1  Other: 0	<b>Amber</b>	No change	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	There were a higher number of providers counted in Q1 due to downgrading from red to amber and then subsequently downgrading from amber to close, following positive QA visits.  Due to the lower number of providers flagged with a caution, there have also been a lower number of providers coming off the cautions list.

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr.3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
<p>SHINE participants - physical activity programme for adults 60 and over living in the Wokingham Borough.</p> <p>22</p>	<p><b>Increase by 10% to 1980 participants (495 per quarter)</b>  <b>Green</b> – 495 and above  <b>Amber</b> – 300-495  <b>Red</b> – 300 and under</p> <p>This may change if we meet our target after the first 2 quarters for example.</p>	1800	120	Green	Better	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	We have already achieved the 10% increase so this is an increase in total for this original target.
Leisure Centre Attendance Numbers	<p><b>Increase by 3% to 565,211 (141,303 per quarter)</b>  <b>Green</b> – 141,303 or over  <b>Amber</b> – 50,000 – 141,303  <b>Red</b> – 50,000 or below</p> <p>This may change if we meet our target after the first 2 quarters for example.</p>	548,749	206,782	Green	Better	Stuart Rowbotham /Angus Ross	

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Percentage of housing stock which meets decent homes standard (Percentage of stock that meet the Decent Homes standard - with Gorse Ride South and Tape Lane properties excluded)	<b>100%</b> 90-100% is <b>Green</b> . 70-80% is <b>Amber</b> . <70% is <b>Red</b> .	90%	99%	<b>Green</b>	Better	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	The percentage of housing stock that meets the Decent Homes Standard has increased to 99% at the end of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter. This means there are 14 properties left in the housing stock that do not meet the standard.  At the end of the financial year a number of properties will fall out of the Decent Homes Standard; this is expected by the Housing Service.

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% of formal Homelessness decisions (Part VII of the Housing Act 1996) in the quarter that are made within 45 working days and at the snapshot count at the end of each quarter % of initial emergency temporary accommodation placements for families made out of Borough (OBP). 24	70% within 45 days (higher is better) 70-100% is <b>Green</b> 50-70% is <b>Amber</b> <50% is <b>Red</b>	78%	71% (Q2 78%)	<b>Green</b>	Slightly worse	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	Homelessness application volumes, though still high, are stabilising. Unplanned long absence of a key member of staff impacted how quickly assessments could be turned round during the two most recent quarters.
	</=60% (OBP) (lower is better) 0-60% = <b>Green</b> 60-70% = <b>Amber</b> 70%+ = <b>Red</b>	50%	44%	<b>Green</b>	Better	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee-Sumner	Impact of progressing bricks and mortar plans for additional homelessness accommodation are starting to positively impact, as are the continued efforts to find alternative and creative solutions wherever possible.

# Community



Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Fosters	October 2017	Green	No change	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee- Sumner	
Integration with Health (Better Care Fund) 25	TBC	Green	No change	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee Sumner	11.01.17 -Budget for 17/19 currently under review for sign off. Night Response service is being recommended to cease at the close of the (extended) pilot period 26.01.17, the need is lower than anticipated and therefore does not provide a cost effective service. Changes are being made to the Step Up Step Down programme to reflect learning from the pilot and to better meet need for timely discharges from Hospital, as well as looking to promote Step Up in a more suitable environment ideally with medical equipment/staff on hand. 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter report for delayed transfer figures has Wokingham RAG rated green; WISH service progressing well. Reviewed CHASC PID has been agreed in principle by partner agency boards, final amendments are being made prior to submission at HWBB in February for final approval and progression of this scheme. Integrated Hub progressing to phase 2 for WBC (transfer of additional comms – emails, faxes). Slough target implementation date of April 2017, commencing with GP referrals to the Hub.

# Community



26					<p>2016-17 BCF plan approved by Department of Health Local 2016-17 Section 75 agreement signed with CCG governing pooled funding, progress on key elements of the programme including: Head of Service jointly appointed for the integrated short term team has progressed integration in the short term team. Connected Care IT project tender phase 3 completed and WBC implementation plan underway. Integrated Social Care and Health Hub went live early June 16; Night Response service commenced late April 16 and pilot scheme has been reviewed and will be re-commissioned until end of January 17. Positive quarter 1 and 2 performance regarding Delayed Transfers of Care, significantly below target and best performance in Berks West, and gradual improvement in non-elective admissions with improved performance expected in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.</p>
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# Community



## Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life

Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Number of cycle trips on the A329 corridor (LSTF project investment area) 27	11%  => 11% = Green 6%-11% = Amber <= 6% = Red	19%	N/A – Annual Return	N/A	N/A	Josie Wragg / Malcolm Richards	2016/17 summer data will not be available until March 2017. Cycling on the A329 is measured at 8 sites for a set week during the summer. That same data is collected year on year so that a comparison can be made.  The percentage is the increase in cycle numbers relative to the baseline surveys undertaken in 2013.  Indicator is therefore report annually. No data is currently available.

# Community



## Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential

Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
28 % Primary Schools with a Current Ofsted Rating of "Good" or better.	<b>Improvement</b> <b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100% <b>Amber:</b> No Change compared to previous quarter <b>Red:</b> Deterioration compared to previous quarter.	86% (as of 31 March 2016)	90% (Q2: 88%)	<b>Green</b>	Better	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Performance has increased in Q3 by 2% from Q2. Inspection outcomes for 2 schools published in this quarter: <b>All Saints</b> – Good, previously RI <b>Bearwood</b> - RI, previously RI

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% Secondary Schools with a current Ofsted rating of "good" or better.  <b>29</b>	<b>Improvement</b> <b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100% <b>Amber:</b> No Change compared to previous quarter <b>Red:</b> Deterioration compared to previous quarter	89% (as of 31 March 2016)	89% (Q2: 89%)	<b>Amber</b>	No change	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	No change from Q2. No school inspection outcomes released in Q3. One inspection outcome was released in Q2. <b>Oakbank School</b> – Good, previously RI
% Special Schools with a current Ofsted rating of "good" or better.	<b>Improvement</b> <b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100% <b>Amber:</b> No Change compared to previous quarter <b>Red:</b> Deterioration compared to previous quarter	100% (as of 31 March 2016)	66% (Q2: 66%)	<b>Amber</b>	No change	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	No change from Q2. No school inspection outcomes released in Q3. Special schools inspected and outcomes published in the first quarter: <b>Southfield</b> - Inadequate, previously Good

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
<p>Children who attend a Wokingham school (Primary, Secondary or Special) who are at a school with an Ofsted rating of “good” or better.</p> <p>30</p>	<p><b>Improvement</b></p> <p><b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100%</p> <p><b>Amber:</b> No Change compared to previous quarter</p> <p><b>Red:</b> Deterioration compared to previous quarter</p>	<p>90% (as of 31 March 2016)</p>	<p>88% (Q2:87%)</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p>Better (than Q2)</p>	<p>Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor</p>	<p>Improvement from Q2 by 1%. Inspection outcomes for 2 schools have been published in this quarter.</p> <p><b>All Saints</b> – Good, previously RI</p> <p><b>Bearwood</b> - RI, previously RI</p>

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
31 Number of schools causing concern	0 schools	5 schools	7 schools (Q2: 8 schools)	N/A	Better (than Q2)	Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor	At the end of Q3, there are 5 schools with “requires improvement (RI)” and 2 schools with “inadequate” Ofsted judgements: RI - Forest, Lambs Lane, Bearwood, Keep Hatch, Gorse Ride Junior, Inadequate – Coombes, Southfield

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
<p>Number of schools becoming academies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">32</p>	<p>10 schools (expectation at end of 15/16)</p>	<p>1 school</p>	<p>0 schools</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Judith Ramsden/ Charlotte Haitham Taylor</p>	<p>This indicator was introduced because of the expected increase in the rate of academy conversions following the publication of the White Paper “Educational Excellence Everywhere” in March 2016 which set a target that all schools convert to academies by 2022. Since then, however, the government proposals for academy conversion have changed. In Q3 no schools were becoming academies. It is expected that the 2 schools in special measures will change to academies in the next two terms.</p>

# Community



Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
33 Secondary School in the South	September 2017	Green	No Change	Josie Wragg / Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Project on programme and within budget

# Community



## Provide affordable homes

### Key Indicators

Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director/ Executive Member	Commentary
Number of affordable dwellings permitted (including where an offsite contribution received) (annual) 34	Green 200 Amber 180-199 Red less than 180	321	171 (Q3) 139 (Q2) 12 (Q1)	Green	Better	Josie Wragg / Julian McGhee-Sumner / Mark Ashwell	The target within the new Housing Strategy 2015 – 2018 is to complete 1000 new affordable homes in the next 3 years. Figure is for new permissions granted (i.e. outline and full).

# Community



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director/ Executive Member	Commentary
Number of affordable dwellings completed (annual)  35	<b>230</b>  Green – 230 or above Amber – between 181 to 229 completions Red – below 180 completions	123	86 Q3 (39 Q2) (52 Q1)	<b>Amber</b>	Worse	Josie Wragg / Julian McGhee-Sumner	<p>We are currently predicting 196 completions for 2016/17. There have been 177 completions to date in Q1 – Q3. Whilst this figure is below our target of 230 for the year, it is an improvement on last year and one of the highest figures achieved in any yearly period.</p> <p>These figures are based on the most up to date information which is provided by RPs, who are in turn informed by developers. Whilst we closely monitor this data and meet with RPs each quarter to discuss development programmes, slippage on several sites has meant that completions which were expected during this financial year, are now likely to take place early 2017/18.</p> <p>Our target within the 2015 – 18 Housing Strategy is for 1000 affordable housing completions. Should there be a number of additional windfall sites coming forward we could still meet this target.</p>

# Community



Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Phoenix Avenue (formerly Eustace Crescent)	Spring/Summer 2017	Green	No change	Stuart Rowbotham/ Julian McGhee- Sumner	

# Place



## Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency

Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director /Executive Member	Commentary
Kgs of residual household waste per household per annum – <i>The kgs of residual waste that are NOT sent for recycling eg. Waste to energy</i>	665 = G 680 = A 700 = R	709	650 (e) (Q2 728)	Green	Better	Josie Wragg / Angus Ross	This estimated figure reflects a reduction in non recycled/reused waste and especially that taken to the HWRCs and is an early indication of the success of the recent actions taken with our re3 partners.
Percentage of household waste reuse, recycling and composting	42% = G 40% = A 39% = R	38%	40.25% (e) (Q2 40.62%)	Amber	Better	Josie Wragg/ Angus Ross	This provisional figure still shows a good improvement on 2015/16 but a slight and expected fall back in Q3 due to lower collected garden waste. (PB 10/01/17)

# Place



Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
<p><b>Street Lighting Upgrade Project:</b>                      Joint procurement with Slough and Reading BC's to replace approx. 7700 aging WBC street lighting columns and install more than 13,500 low energy LED lanterns, approx. 5800 of which on existing columns. The project also includes approx. 2100 conversions of recently installed lanterns from traditional lamps to LED's. The successful contractor is Volker Highways. The project includes relevant WBC non-highway street lighting assets and the Town and Parish Councils, who own street lighting, are being given the opportunity to be included. 70% of the project will be funded by a DfT Challenge Fund grant - up to £8.12m.</p>	March 2018	Green	No Change	Josie Wragg / Malcolm Richards	Lantern Replacements - 3626 No. (68%) have been done. Column Replacements - 1231 No. (17%) have been done. To match resource levels and the works in the other two boroughs, the contractor has "front loaded" the WBC project with lantern replacement work and is expecting to have the majority of these done in the early part of 2017/18. Column replacements will continue to the end of the project in March 2018. Both are currently on target. Of the 14 Town & Parish Councils that own street lighting 2 will not be relevant for the project, 2 have expressed an interest to participate and 10 have confirmed what works they wish to be included. The Comms Plan is being implemented and a project specific web page is available on the WBC Web Site.

# Place



## Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and are supported by well-designed development

Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Five year housing supply	<b>100%</b> 100% = Green 98.5% = Amber 98% and below = Red	112%	110%	Green	Worse	Josie Wragg / Mark Ashwell	In a recent planning appeal (Stanbury House) the Inspector concluded that the Council was unable to demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply of deliverable sites. Following legal advice, an oral hearing was made to challenge this decision through the High Court. This matter is still ongoing with a future date to attend the high court to be scheduled. The council is maintaining the position that it can demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply following the publication of an updated Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) which indicates the Council has a 5.5 year supply of housing.

39

# Place



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 2 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
New Homes Survey which is monitored annually - % satisfied with their new home (annual)	80% Amber – 70-79% Red – below 70%	80%	N/A (annual survey)	N/A	N/A	Josie Wragg / Mark Ashwell	Completed annually.  The New Homes Survey is an annual survey used to evaluate the effectiveness of our local planning policies by assessing satisfaction with new homes. The survey covers areas such as storage, parking, both inside and outside space and proximity to local facilities and amenities. The results help to identify where policies are working well and where issues maybe occurring. This helps to inform new housing developments and the development of our planning policies in the future. Overall satisfaction levels have tended to be fairly high. With 80% being achieved in last year’s survey, we are anticipating a similar result in the next survey. The next survey is due to be undertaken in early 2017 and the results should be available early Summer.

# Place



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% of S106 which is allocated against schemes	<p><b>Green</b> 90% &amp; above</p> <p><b>Amber</b> 80% to 89%</p> <p><b>Red</b> Below 80%</p>	90%	94% (Q2 95%)	Green	Worse	Josie Wragg / Mark Ashwell	Q3 outturn is marginally worse than Q2 but still well above target. No mitigation proposed at this stage.  Q2 = 95%

# Place



## Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough

Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel	Strategic Director/ Executive Member	Commentary
Journey times on key routes across the Borough (reported Annually (in arrears)- Q4 only)  <i>Average time in minutes to travel one mile in the morning peak period across all chosen routes.</i>	2.96 and less = <b>Green</b> Between 3.60 & 2.96 = <b>Amber</b> 3.60 or more = <b>Red</b>	3.14	N/A <i>Data only available yearly in arrears.</i>	N/A	N/A	Josie Wragg / Malcom Richards	<i>The data is only available annually, is a year in arrears, and will cover the period September to August. Data for 15/16 will not be available until the March 2017.</i>  The benchmark of 2.96 minutes is the average time to travel 1 mile as observed in 2011/12. The indicator is an indication of congestion across the network during the morning peak period (average Tues to Thurs across the year excluding holiday). The longer it takes to travel a mile the more congested the network is, relative to the travel conditions in 2011/12. The 'target' is for this average time to travel 1 mile not to increase. 3.60 minutes equates to an average speed of circa 20mph. This would therefore be the RED RAG, between this and the benchmark would be AMBER. 2.96 or less would be GREEN.

# Place



## Major Projects

43

Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Arborfield Cross Relief Road	2018/19	Green	No Change	Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	
North Wokingham Distributor Road	2019/20	Green	No Change	Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	
South Wokingham Distributor Road	2020/21	Green	No Change	Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	
Nine Mile Ride Extension (South)	Autumn 2020	Amber		Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	Scheme behind programme due to delay signing S106 agreement for MFT site. Scope remains to realign programme.
Lower Earley Way Dualling	Winter 2018	Amber		Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	Scheme behind programme. Scope remains to realign programme.
Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2	Autumn 2020	Green		Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	

# Place



Barkham Bridge	Autumn 2019	Green		Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	
California Cross Roads	Spring 2020	Green		Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	
Shinfield Eastern Relief Road	Winter 2016	Amber		Josie Wragg/ Malcolm Richards	Not a WBC delivered project. Highways working with University of Reading & Contractor to resolve all outstanding issues.

# Performance



## Offer excellent value for your Council Tax

### Key Indicators

45

Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Outturn	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Revenue Budget Monitoring Forecast Position	+/- 1% of £135M Budget inclusive £546k carry forwards from 15-16 (£1.35M) Green +/- 1% Amber +/- 1.5% Red +/- 2%	£454k	£92k overspend	Green	Better	Graham Ebers / Anthony Pollock	Indicative Q3 forecast variance position £92k reported to Executive Briefing 04-01-17 . Final Q3 to be reported to Executive 26-01-17.
Capital Budget Monitoring Forecast Position	Break- even (Nil variance)  Red = +/- over 2.5% Amber = +/- over 1% to 2.5% Green = +/- 1%	£(1,871)k underspend	£(164)k underspend	Green	Better	Graham Ebers / Anthony Pollock	Forecast variance is £(164)k Majority of the £164k underspend is to School Kitchens, most kitchens brought to satisfactory level, boosted by Universal Infant Free School Meals project. Cyclical programme for replacement of old/beyond repair catering equipment in current and future years. Future kitchen

# Performance



							modifications/additional catering equipment will be required at some schools to ensure sufficient capacity due to increase in pupil meal uptake and schools expansion programme.
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# Performance



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Outturn	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Council tax collection	<b>98.85% (Annual)</b> <b>Q3 Target – 87.78%</b> R below 86.28% A 86.28%-87.27% G 87.28% and above	99.51%	87.90%	Green	Better	Graham Ebers/ Anthony Pollock	On target to reach 98.97% at end of the year
47 Business Rates collection	<b>98.50% (Annual)</b> <b>Q3 Targets – 86.42%</b> R below 84.92% A 84.92% –85.91%% G 85.92% and above	99.09%	85.22%	Amber	Better	Graham Ebers/ Anthony Pollock	Business Rates collection can be very volatile throughout the year. We have taken recovery action on more accounts this year than last, and collection is improving. Plans are in place to closely monitor.
Rents collection	<b>98.50% (Annual)</b> <b>Q3 Targets – 73.87%</b> R below 72.27% A 72.27 – 73.26% G 73.27% and above	99.05%	73.42%	Green	Better	Graham Ebers/ Anthony Pollock	Collection rate is improving month on month

# Performance



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Outturn	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Returns on investments	<b>0.50%</b> R below 0.30% A 0.30%- 0.5% G 0.5% and above	0.55	<b>Q3 0.87</b> Q2 0.18 Q1 0.52	<b>Green</b>	better	Graham Ebers/ Anthony Pollock	Interest rate drop to 0.25% and a change in Fund manager deposits resulted in lower interest receipts. This has been more than offset by charges to internal schemes such as WHL. These are expected to exceed the target by the end of the year.

48

# Performance



49

Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Assets Programme	31/01/2018	Green	No change	Graham Ebers / Mark Ashwell	Area Wide Reviews – consultation on Reviews continues. Anticipate that all Reviews will be completed by the spring. The Model for Community Asset Transfer is adopted and the principles contained therein are being implemented in transfers to Town and Parish Councils. The principles of MCAT can now be incorporated within the Asset Management Plan for adoption post C21 Council.

# Performance



## Deliver quality in all that we do, including the statutory services for which we are responsible

Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better /Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% of successfully defended appeal decisions (dismissed)	<b>65%</b> 65% or more = <b>Green</b> 61.75% - 64.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 61.75% = <b>Red</b>	73%	67% (Q2 70%)	<b>Green</b>	Worse	Josie Wragg/ Mark Ashwell	Q3 - We review and circulate all appeals decisions and will continue to focus on any decisions that are allowed where they potentially raise significant policy issues affecting the determination process.  Q2 = 70%  65% or more = Green 61.75% - 64.99% = Amber Less than 61.75% = Red  <b>Appeal decisions - target 5% above likely new Government target.</b>

50

# Performance



Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better /Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Proportion of planning breaches resolved by negotiation	<b>50%</b> 50% or more = <b>Green</b> 47.50% - 49.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 47.50% = <b>Red</b>	65%	77% (Q2 71%)	<b>Green</b>	Better	Josie Wragg/Mark Ashwell	50% or more = Green 47.50% - 49.99% = Amber Less than 47.50% = Red  Q2 = 71%  <b>Planning enforcement – focus on negotiation to reflect focus of the new Local Planning Enforcement plan but more robust approach to taking action where necessary.</b>

51

# Performance



52

Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better /Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
% of service users satisfied with environmental regulatory services (shared service) Annual monitoring	<b>80%</b> 80% or more = <b>Green</b> 76% - 79.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 76% = <b>Red</b>	82%	Data not yet available			Josie Wragg/ Pauline Jorgensen	Q3 – Data for Q3 will not be available until end of February 2017 because of the inherent time lag in submission of responses within each quarter.  Q2 = 82% Q1 = 84%  Data collected and supplied by West Berkshire.  <b>Environmental Shared Service – target 5% above standard set for shared service by Joint Strategic Review Panel.</b>

# Performance



Improve the customer experience when accessing Council Services							
Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director/ Executive Member	Commentary
53 % first contact resolution - calls and emails	<b>65%</b> 65% or more = <b>Green</b> 60% - 64.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 60% = <b>Red</b>	67.3%	64% (Q2 64.4%)	<b>Amber</b>	Worse	Graham Ebers/ Pauline Jorgensen	We are continuing to aim for first time fix as much as possible. As more customers are self-serving (see point below), more calls are now around complex queries which cannot yet be fixed at first point.
The % of calls answered	<b>95%</b> 95% or more = <b>Green</b> 90% - 94.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 90% = <b>Red</b>	92.4%	94.5% (Q2 92%)	<b>Amber</b>	Better	Graham Ebers/ Pauline Jorgensen	Whilst more complex queries have impacted on the abandonment rate this quarter, we have proactively added a message to the IVR signposting customers to the website to report, pay or self-serve information. This has led to more positive abandonment over the last 2 months.

# Business



## Invest in regenerating towns and village, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth

### Key Indicators

Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Number per annum of NEET young people, aged 16-24 years, who have been given employment intervention	92 = G 78 = A >78 = R	N/A	Q1 44 Q2 20 Q3 41  <b>Total 105</b>	Green	Better	Josie Wragg / Stuart Munro	New indicator for 16/17 so no figure for 15/16
Number per annum of opportunities (new employment, apprenticeships and graduate posts) negotiated through ESPs	60 = G 51 = A >51 = R	N/A	Q1 16 Q2 4 Q3 25  <b>Total 45</b>	Green	On target	Josie Wragg / Stuart Munro	New indicator for 16/17 so no figure for 15/16.  A number of ESP agreements have been agreed since the last quarter
Number per annum of new businesses engaged with	70 = G 60 = A >60 = R	71	Q1 16 Q2 24 Q3 21  <b>Total 61</b>	Green	Better	Josie Wragg / Stuart Munro	Economic development officer is now also working with businesses through BNI (Business Network International) business networking group

# Business



Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/ Worse/ No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Wokingham Regen: Peach Place	2018	Green	No Change	Andy Couldrick / Mark Ashwell	Dawnus Construction Limited appointed as Main Contractor in November 2016. Formal handover of Peach Place site to Dawnus took place January 9. Work has commenced and is expected to be completed by Christmas 2018
Wokingham Regen: Elms Field	2020	Green	No Change	Andy Couldrick / Mark Ashwell	Detailed design work being carried out in parallel with the procurement of a build contractor. Contractor is expected to be appointed and work to commence on site in summer 2018.
Wokingham Regen: Carnival Pool	2017 Phase 1 2020/21 Phase 2	Green	No Change	Andy Couldrick / Mark Ashwell	Phase 1 works progressing well on site with cores and steel framework in place. Car park expected to open to public in May 2017. Master planning of Phase 2 has commenced and options are being considered, in response to the wider WBC Leisure Strategy, with intent to submit a detailed planning application in summer 2017.

# Workforce



Key Indicators							
Indicator	Target (plus target range for RAG)	15/16 Actual	16/17 Qtr. 3 Actual	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
Turnover - Number of people voluntary leaving the service as a percentage of the service headcount	G: 15% - 20% A: 10% - 15% or 20% - 25% R: < 10% or >25%	15.29%	Q3 15.21% Q2 14.46% Q1 14.3 %	Green		Graham Ebers / Pauline Jorgensen	Turnover remains within acceptable range but is being monitored due to ongoing uncertainty. There's a +1%/-1% tolerance on this indicator so it remains Green for Q3
Absence - Average days lost to sickness absence per employee (headcount) within the last 12 months	G: <= 6.6 days A: 6.7 – 7.5 days R: > 7.5 days	5.33	Q3 5.75 Q2 5.63 Q2 5.43	Green		Graham Ebers / Pauline Jorgensen	Remains at low levels with proactive absence management taking place as necessary.
Workforce Satisfaction - Percentage of the workforce that is either satisfied or very satisfied with working for WBC	G: >=80% A: 70% - 80% R: < 70%	83.9%	N/A	Green	N/A	Graham Ebers / Pauline Jorgensen	This is taken from our bi-annual employee satisfaction survey and relates to the question "I enjoy working here and would recommend it to friends & family, either agree or disagree"

# Workforce



Major Projects					
Project	Estimated Completion Date	RAG	Direction of Travel (Better/Worse/No change)	Strategic Director / Executive Member	Commentary
57 People Strategy	31 March 2020	Green	No Change	Graham Ebers / Pauline Jorgensen	The people strategy remains on target with key milestones being delivered against initial plans. Work packages and timescales are continually being considered against the developing proposals of the 21C programme.

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DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Community</b>				
<b>Look after Vulnerable People</b>				
% referrals in 16/17 which are repeat referrals within 12 months of a previous referral to Children’s Social Care	18.96%	24% or Less	<b>Green:</b> 24% or less <b>Amber:</b> 24.1% to 26% <b>Red:</b> Over 26%	Stat Neighbours with a “Good” Ofsted rating under the single inspection framework 14/15 Performance: 24.2% Target chosen with the aim of maintaining the improved performance achieved in 2015-16 and to perform in line with our statistical neighbours who received a “good” judgement at their most recent Ofsted Inspection.
% Children who became subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) who are subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time within 24 months	7%  Number of Children: 8 of 114	Less than 8%	<b>Green:</b> Less than 8% <b>Amber:</b> 8 – 10% <b>Red:</b> Over 10%	Stat Neighbours 14/15 Performance: 18.53% based on the DfE definition – all children becoming subject of a CPP for a second or subsequent time in their lifetime.  We saw a higher number of children becoming subject to a CPP in 2015-16 in WBC area.  Although the target percentage is the same as 15-16 performance, due to the predicted lower number of overall children coming on a child protection plan (we estimate that 60 children will come onto plan in 16/17) this target aims to decrease the actual number of children in the year subject to CPP for a second or subsequent time. In 16/17 we expect 8% to equate to approximately 5 children.
% Care Proceedings completed in 15/16 within 26 weeks of application	52.9%	60%	<b>Green:</b> 60% <b>Amber:</b> Between 47% and 59.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 47%	15/16 South East Performance: 47.4% 15/16 National Performance: 58%  National Target is 100%

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
% Looked After Children living within 20 miles of Berkshire West	63.9%	70%	<b>Green:</b> 70% or more <b>Amber:</b> 64-69.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 64%	Percentage of children placed within 20 miles of home address as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2015:  National Performance: 76.9% South East Performance: 68.8% Stat Neighbours Performance:66% “Good” Stat Neighbours Performance: 69.4%  Target is set with the aim of continued improvement to perform in line with our statistical neighbours who received a “good” judgement at their most recent Ofsted Inspection.
% of children who wait less than 16 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family – 3 year rolling average	40% - 2012-2015 rolling three year average	55%	<b>Green:</b> 55% or above <b>Amber:</b> 50% to 54.9% - <b>Red:</b> Less than 50%	Stat Neighbours with a “Good” Ofsted rating under the single inspection framework:2012-2015 rolling three year average 54.6%  Target is set with the aim of continued improvement to perform in line with our statistical neighbours who received a “good” judgement at their most recent Ofsted Inspection.
Proportion of adoptive families who are matched to a child who waited more than 3 months from approval to being matched to a child	Not Yet Available  14/15 Actual: 83%	<b>52%</b>	<b>Green:</b> 52% or less <b>Amber:</b> 52% to 60% <b>Red:</b> More than 60%	52.2% Stat Neighbours with a “Good” Ofsted rating under the single inspection framework 14/15: 52.2%  Target is set with the aim of continued improvement to perform in line with our statistical neighbours who received a “good” judgement at their most recent Ofsted Inspection.

## DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

## Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
% CP Visits due in the period which were on-time.	80%	82%	<b>Green:</b> 82% or more <b>Amber:</b> 78% to 81.9% <b>Red:</b> Less than 78%	Local Indicator – No comparative data available nationally or regionally.  Target set to ensure that children who are identified as being at significant risk are visited regularly, within prescribed timescales and any delays in visiting timescales only occur up to a maximum of 5 working days with a justifiable reason, approved by Service Managers.
Percentage of reablement packages of care ceased in the period where reablement was successful	New indicator	TBC after Q1	TBC after Q1	This is a local indicator to assess the success of reablement by monitoring the percentage of reablement packages of care that ended in the period where the individual was fully or part reabled.
Care Governance: Number of providers that came onto Wokingham LA's Cautions list assessed as Amber or Red or changed from Amber to Red in the period	Domiciliary Care: 3 Residential/Nursing Care: 11 Other: 4	To decrease the number of providers compared to 15/16	Green: Reduction Amber: No change Red: Increase	This is a local indicator to monitor the improvement in the quality of services and safeguarding in the Local Authority area and aims to maintain high standards of care.  No new packages of care will be commissioned with a provider assessed as red and packages of care will be arranged with caution with a provider assessed as amber.
Care Governance: Number of providers on Wokingham LA's Caution list changing from Red to Amber or removed from the list	Domiciliary Care: 2 Residential/Nursing Care: 11 Other: 3	To increase the number of providers compared to 15/16	Green: Increase Amber: No change Red: Decrease	

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
SHINE participants - physical activity programme for adults 60 and over living in the Wokingham Borough lead through the Sport and Leisure Team at WBC.	1800	Increase by 10% to 1980 participants (495 per quarter)	<p>Green – 495 and above</p> <p>Amber – 300-495</p> <p>Red – 300 and under</p> <p>This may change if we meet our target after the first 2 quarters for example.</p>	<p>This is a physical activity programme for adults 60 and over living in the Wokingham Borough lead through the Sport and Leisure Team at WBC, revenue from the classes back to the council.</p> <p>It has been in place since 2000 and is a WBC initiative only.</p>

62

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
Leisure Centre Attendance Numbers for-Loddon Valley, Carnival, St Crispin’s and Bulmershe.	548,749	Increase by 3% to 565,211 (141,303 per quarter)	<p>Green – 141,303 or over                      Amber – 50,000 – 141,303                      Red – 50,000 or below</p> <p>This may change if we meet our target after the first 2 quarters for example.</p>	All leisure centres bring revenue into the council, managed by 1life with the contract management with sport and leisure.
Percentage of housing stock which meets decent homes standard (Percentage of stock that meet the Decent Homes standard - with Gorse Ride South and Tape Lane properties excluded)	90%	100%	<p>90-100% is Green.                      70-80% is Amber.                      &lt;70% is Red.</p>	The figure provides a percentage of the social housing stock that meets the Decent Homes Standard; a programme aimed at improving council homes to bring them all up to a minimum standard. There are a large number of components that make up the Decent Standard, which means properties will fall out of the Standard at various points throughout the year. The 90-100% Decency rate is considered a high level of Decency.

83

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
% of formal Homelessness decisions (Part VII of the Housing Act 1996) in the quarter that are made within 45 working days and at the snapshot count at the end of each quarter.	78%	70% (higher is better)	70 -100% - Green 50-70% - Amber <50% - Red	This is a local indicator. Time taken to make a formal decision under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 has a bearing on the customer experience and also on the council’s finances and use of resources. The target of 70% for 16/17 has been set taking into account the recent increase in homelessness numbers and expected continuation of high numbers.
% of initial emergency temporary accommodation placements for families made out of Borough (OBP).	50%	60% (lower is better)	0-60% - Green 60-70% - Amber 70%-100% - Red	This is a local indicator. We seek to avoid placements out of Borough (OBPs) wherever possible due to the disruption to peoples’ lives. OBPs are more expensive than other forms of temporary accommodation and so are minimised wherever possible. Going forward WBC have a strategy for increasing the portfolio of in-Borough provision and so we anticipate that in coming years the need for OBPs will reduce.
<b>Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>				
Number of cycle trips on the A329 corridor (LSTF project investment area)	19%	11%	=> 11% = Green 6%-11% = Amber <= 6% = Red	Cycling on the A329 is measured at 8 sites for a set week during the summer. That same data is collected year on year so that a comparison can be made

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential</b>				
% Primary schools with a current Ofsted Rating of “Good” or better	86% (as of 31 March 2016)	Improve ment	<b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100% <b>Amber:</b> No Change <b>Red:</b> Deterioration	National Performance – 86.5% (as of 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2016)  Target set to promote consistent improvement over time – tending towards 100%  Note that performance will depend on schools being inspected and inspection reports being published during the period, over which the LA has no control. The results of schools inspected during the period will be included with the commentary each quarter.
% Secondary Schools with a current Ofsted rating of “good” or better	89% (as of 31 March 2016)	Improve ment	<b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100% <b>Amber:</b> No Change <b>Red:</b> Deterioration	National Performance - 76% (as of 31 March 2016)  Target set to promote consistent improvement over time – tending towards 100%  Note that performance will depend on schools being inspected and inspection reports being published during the period, over which the LA has no control. The results of schools inspected during the period will be included with the commentary each quarter.

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<p>% Special Schools with a current Ofsted rating of “good” or better</p>	<p>100% (as of 31 March 2016) – maintained special schools only</p> <p>100% (as of 31 March 2016) – including non-maintained special schools.</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p><b>Green:</b> Maintenance of 100% performance</p> <p><b>Red:</b> Less than 100%</p>	<p>National Performance – 93% (as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016) (Note that this figure includes the non-maintained special schools. No data is available for maintained special schools only).</p> <p>Target set to promote maintenance of 100% performance as at 31 March 2016.</p> <p>Note that performance will depend on schools being inspected and inspection reports being published during the period, over which the LA has no control. The results of schools inspected during the period will be included with the commentary each quarter.</p>
<p>% Children who attend a Wokingham school (Primary, Secondary or Special) who are at a school with an Ofsted rating of “good” or better.</p>	<p>90% (as of 31 March 2016)</p>	<p>Improvement</p>	<p><b>Green:</b> Improvement or 100%</p> <p><b>Amber:</b> No Change</p> <p><b>Red:</b> Deterioration</p>	<p>National (as at 31 Dec 15 – data published twice yearly in December/January and August/September): 82%</p> <p>Note that this figure includes ALL providers – nursery, pupil referral unit, primary, secondary and special schools – figure for combined primary, secondary and special is not available nationally</p> <p>Target set to promote consistent improvement over time – tending towards 100%</p> <p>Note that performance will depend on schools being inspected and inspection reports being published during the period, over which the LA has no control. The results of schools inspected during the period will be included with the commentary each quarter.</p>
<p>Number of schools causing concern</p>	<p>5 Schools</p>	<p>5 Schools</p>		<p>LA School Improvement work aims to identify and reduce numbers of schools causing concern to achieve overall % in good or better</p>

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
Number of schools becoming academies	1 School	10 Schools		<p>Schools in special measures must become academies</p> <p>Coasting schools may be subject to academy orders</p> <p>LA MAT developments could potentially produce a step-change in academy numbers</p> <p>Good or better schools have indicated intentions to convert in 2016-17 (estimated 6)</p> <p>Overall target for 2016-17 is 10.</p>
<b>Provide affordable homes</b>				
Number of affordable dwellings permitted (including where an offsite contribution received) (annual)	321	200	<p>Green 200 or above</p> <p>Amber – 180-199</p> <p>Red – less than 180</p>	<p>The target within the new Housing Strategy 2015 – 2018 is to complete 1000 new affordable homes in the next 3 years. Figure is for new permissions granted (i.e. outline and full).</p>
Number of affordable dwellings completed (annual)	123	230	<p>Green – 230 or above</p> <p>Amber – between 181 to 229 completions</p> <p>Red – below 180 completions</p>	<p>The target within the Housing Strategy 2015 – 2018 is to complete 1000 new affordable homes within this 3 year period. Whilst the number of completions was lower than expected in 2015/16, as development progresses within the larger SDL sites we are anticipating about 600 completions during 2017/18. There may be further schemes that we are not yet aware of and therefore, the 1,000 target may still be achievable.</p> <p>Predictions are liable to change and are based on the best available information provided by Registered Providers and developers at the beginning of each year. Officers hold quarterly meetings with the RPs to closely monitor the delivery programme.</p>

67

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Place				
Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency</b>				
Kgs of residual household waste per household per annum	709	665	665 = G 680 = A 700 = R	Residual waste has increased over the last two years. However, we are retaining the existing RAG targets in order to maintain our commitment to reducing residual waste and its financial impact on the Council. The Council’s task and finish group is working through waste collection options that will be brought to the Executive in the Autumn.
Percentage of household waste reuse, recycling and composting	38%	42%	42% = G 40% = A 39% = R	The rate of recycling is declining nationally. The Council has recently adopted a strategy to increase kerbside recycling which will contribute to the 2020 statutory target of 50%. Therefore we have retained the same targets despite last year’s reduction.
<b>Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and are supported by well-designed development</b>				
Five year housing supply - To help with boosting the supply of housing, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires local planning authorities to identify and keep up-to-date a deliverable five year housing land supply. Without this, even recently adopted planning policies for the supply of housing will be considered out of date (as stated in the National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 49).	112%	100%	100% = Green 98.5% = Amber 98% and below = Red	Need to maintain at least a 5 year housing land supply, which currently includes a 20% buffer. Information is published in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (currently published twice a year). Next update to be published by October 2016– numbers are being finalised.  As soon as the supply of housing drops below five years it should change to red, however we have a mechanism (where we rely upon ‘reserve’ housing sites) in order to ‘bump’ the supply back up to five years.

88

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
New Homes Survey which is monitored annually - % satisfied with their new home (annual)	80%	80%	Amber – 70-79% Red – below 70%	<b>Completed annually.</b>  The New Homes Survey is an annual survey used to evaluate the effectiveness of our local planning policies by assessing satisfaction with new homes. The survey covers areas such as storage, parking, both inside and outside space and proximity to local facilities and amenities. The results help to identify where policies are working well and where issues maybe occurring. This helps to inform new housing developments and the development of our planning policies in the future. Overall satisfaction levels have tended to be fairly high. With 80% being achieved in last year’s survey, we are anticipating a similar result in the next survey. The next survey is due to be undertaken in early 2017.
% of S106 which is allocated against schemes	90%	90%	Green 90% & above Amber 80% to 89% Red Below 80%	The RAG is an ambitious stretch target to focus service areas on delivery of infrastructure projects at an early stage.
Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough</b>				

69

**DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**Appendix B**

<p>Journey times on key routes across the Borough (reported Annually (in arrears)- Q4 only)</p> <p><i>Average time in minutes to travel one mile in the morning peak period across all</i></p>	<p><b>3.14</b></p>		<p>2.96 and less = <b>Green</b>                  Between 3.60 &amp; 2.96 = <b>Amber</b>                  3.60 or more = <b>Red</b></p>	<p><i>The data is only available annually, is a year in arrears, and will cover the period September to August. Data for 15/16 will not be available until the March 2017.</i></p> <p>The benchmark of 2.96 minutes is the average time to travel 1 mile as observed in 2011/12. The indicator is an indication of congestion across the network during the morning peak period (average Tues to Thurs across the year excluding holiday). The longer it takes to travel a mile the more congested the network is, relative to the travel conditions in 2011/12. The 'target' is for this average time to travel 1 mile not to increase. 3.60 minutes equates to an average speed of circa 20mph. This would therefore be the RED RAG, between this and the benchmark would be AMBER. 2.96 or less would be GREEN.</p>
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70

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Performance				
Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Offer excellent value for your Council Tax</b>				
Revenue Budget Monitoring Forecast Position	£454k	+/- 1% of £135M Budget inclusive £546k carry forwards from 15-16 (£1.35M)	Red +/- 2% Amber +/- 1.5% Green +/- 1%	The 1% target was identified as an indicator of how well WBC manages the overall budget. WBC has consistently been within this target but as WBC faces greater financial pressures this will become more challenging. 1% variance is £1.35m (approximately 15% of General Fund Balances); a 2% variance is £2.7m (approximately 30% of General Fund Balances).
Capital Budget Monitoring Forecast Position	£(1,871)k underspend	Break-even (Nil variance)	Red = +/- over 2.5% Amber = +/- over 1% to 2.5% Green = +/- 1%	The 1% target was identified as an indicator of how well WBC manages the overall budget. As WBC faces greater financial pressures in future years this will become more challenging. 1% variance is £1.5m; a 2.5% variance is £3.7m.
Council Tax Collection	99.51%	98.85%	R below 98.80% A 98.80 - 98.84% G 98.85% and above	Level of previous years' performance less contingency for known risks, i.e. changes to Council Tax Reduction Scheme and changing economy

74

**DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**Appendix B**

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
Business Rates Collection	99.09%	98.50%	R below 98.40% A 98.40 – 98.49% G 98.50% and above	Level of previous years’ performance less contingency for known risks, i.e. impact from changing economy
Rents Collection	99.05%	98.50%	R below 98.40% A 98.40 – 98.49% G 98.50% and above	Level of previous years’ performance less contingency for known risks, i.e. impact of universal credit, benefit cap
Returns on external investment of cash	0.55	0.50%	R below 0.30% A 0.30%- 0.5% G 0.5% and above	Thresholds with the reduction of the base rate in Aug 15 – most investments are already locked in for the financial year at higher than base

72

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Deliver quality in all that we do, including the statutory services for which we are responsible</b>				
% of successfully defended appeal decisions (dismissed)	73%	65%	65% or more = Green 61.75% - 64.99% = Amber Less than 61.75% = Red	Appeal decisions - target 5% above likely new Government target.
Proportion of planning breaches resolved by negotiation	65%	50%	50% or more = Green 47.50% - 49.99% = Amber Less than 47.50% = Red	Planning enforcement – focus on negotiation to reflect focus of the new Local Planning Enforcement plan but more robust approach to taking action where necessary.
% of service users satisfied with environmental regulatory services (shared service) Annual monitoring.	82%	80%	80% or more = Green 76% - 79.99% = Amber Less than 76% = Red	Environmental Shared Service – target is set at 5% above standard set for shared service by Joint Strategic Review Panel.  Data collected and supplied by West Berkshire.

73

**DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**Appendix B**

Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Improve the customer experience when accessing Council Services</b>				
% first contact resolution - calls and emails	<b>67.3%</b>	<b>65%</b>	65% or more = <b>Green</b> 60% - 64.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 60% = <b>Red</b>	Aim to maximise first time resolution, at first point of contact. As technology is developed and 21 <sup>st</sup> C Council implemented, it is likely that actuals will increase. This will impact on call durations, making them potentially longer at first point, but enhancing experience.
The % of calls answered	<b>92.4%</b>	<b>95%</b>	95% or more = <b>Green</b> 90% - 94.99% = <b>Amber</b> Less than 90% = <b>Red</b>	Within industry standard target range. 3-8% call abandonment is standard; 3-5% is best practice.

74

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Business				
Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
<b>Invest in regenerating towns and village, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth</b>				
Number of NEET young people, aged 16-24 years, who have been given employment support	NA	92	92 = G 78 = A >78 = R	Because of changes to external funding streams for Elevate (from Cabinet Office to EU) the skills targets have changed. This is a new indicator based on the targets required for this EU fund. Thresholds been also been devised using tolerances set by the funding body i.e. 15% margin for target shortfall
Number of opportunities (new employment, apprenticeships and graduate posts) negotiated through ESPs	NA	60	60 = G 51 = A >51 = R	This is as new target amalgamating all the employment outcomes negotiated on Employment Skills Plans. Thresholds been also been devised using the same tolerances as above
Number of new businesses engaged with	71	70	70 = G 60 = A >60 = R	Target based on last year's achievement. Thresholds been also been devised using the same tolerances as above

DESCRIPTION OF 16/17 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Appendix B

Workforce				
Indicator Description	15/16 Actual	16/17 Target	RAG (Thresholds)	Commentary
Turnover - Number of people voluntary leaving the service as a percentage of the service headcount	15.29%	15- 20%	G: 15% - 20% A: 10% - 15% or 20% - 25% R: < 10% or >25%	Turnover between 10-20% is seen as healthy, with under 10% seeing as leading to stagnation and over 20% costly. It is likely given the current uncertainty that turnover will be higher than usual hence 15-20% would seem expected.  There's a +1%/-1% tolerance on this indicator so it becomes Green for Q1
Absence - Average days lost to sickness absence per employee (headcount) within the last 12 months	5.33	< = 6.6 days	G: < = 6.6 days A: 6.7 – 7.5 days R: > 7.5 days	In 2015, the national combined public & private sector average was 6.6 days and as such the target set for this year. This is much lower than public sector equivalents which have an average of around 8 days, hence the amber banding of 7.5 days as this is approached.
Workforce Satisfaction - Percentage of the workforce that is either satisfied or very satisfied with working for WBC	83.9%	>=80%	G: >=80% A: 70% - 80% R: < 70%	A normal response for such a response would be 70% and above, hence this is the amber level. The target was set higher given the level of achievement from the last survey.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Community Infrastructure Levy Regulation 123 List Clarification</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	The Executive on 26 January 2017
<b>WARD</b>	None specific
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Josie Wragg, Interim Director of Environment
<b>LEAD MEMBER</b>	Mark Ashwell, Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration

## **OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

The proposed clarifications should help ensure a clearer, fairer and more transparent system of collecting developer contributions and securing infrastructure required as a result of new development.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Executive:

- 1) notes the consultation responses to the Draft Regulation 123 List Consultation Document (attached at Appendix A); and
- 2) adopt the updated Regulation 123 List Document as amended (attached at Appendix B)

## **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

The Wokingham CIL Regulation 123 List of infrastructure that can or may be funded by CIL was adopted by Full Council in February 2015. It was intended that the list would be reviewed and updated on a periodic basis using the benefit of our experience in operating the system as initially adopted.

Executive approved an updated list for consultation on 28/07/2016. Consultation was held from 01/09/2016 to 13/10/2016.

This paper provides a summary of representations received together with individual officer responses to the representations. The changes will help provide further assurance that there will be no double counting of CIL and S106 planning obligations and they also help ensure that site-specific planning obligations can be secured where they are required by new development.

An updated Regulation 123 List will support the effective implementation of the Community Infrastructure Levy and S106 Agreements in Wokingham. It is recommended that the Executive adopt the updated Regulation 123 List.

## **Background**

On 6 April 2015, the Council implemented the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which replaced the previous Section 106 led tariff-based approach for collecting developer contributions in the Borough. As part of new this new approach towards collecting developer contributions the Council adopted what is known as a 'Regulation 123 List' of infrastructure.

The Regulation 123 List serves as a means of identifying those infrastructure needs which can or may be delivered through the use of CIL funds. Inclusion on the list does not imply priority, or that the Council will spend CIL on every item, or not spend CIL on other unlisted items. Prioritisation of CIL funds will be member-led, through the Councils Capital Programme.

However, the main purpose of the Regulation 123 List (as set out in the CIL Regulations) is to prevent CIL expenditure and Section 106 planning obligations from overlapping, and hence prevent developers from being 'double charged' for the same items of infrastructure.

As such, the Council, as Local Planning Authority, is not able to also negotiate a S106 obligation for any type or item of infrastructure included on the CIL Regulation 123 list. Therefore, it is important that the Regulation 123 List does not limit the Council's ability to negotiate a S106 obligation where directly related and specific infrastructure needs are identified.

## **Analysis of Issues**

The Council was clear from the outset as to the intention and nature of the types and items of infrastructure on the list. However, it has come to light that the way in which some of these items and types of infrastructure are worded on the Regulation 123 List could lead to a broader interpretation than was intended, thus restricting the Councils ability to negotiate S106 obligations.

In order to address any ambiguity in the wording of the 'Regulation 123 List' and to clarify the original intention of the Regulation 123 List, the Draft CIL Regulation 123 List Consultation Document was approved for public consultation at a meeting of the Executive on 28/07/2016. The consultation took place between 01/09/2016 and 13/10/2016.

Removing any ambiguity ensures that where site-specific mitigation is required alongside CIL for a development proposal (for example, the construction of a new roundabout for a large residential scheme), this can be secured through a separate legal agreement. Importantly, where S106 planning obligations are sought for such purposes, they need to meet a number of statutory tests, which are set out in the CIL regulations. The obligation must be:

1. necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
2. directly related to the development; and
3. fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

The clarifications also provide further assurance to developers that there will be no

'double counting' of CIL and planning obligations. A copy of the consultation document is attached at Appendix C for information

A summary of representations together with an individual officer response to each representation is attached at Appendix A.

In summary, there were four respondents to the consultation:

<b>Respondent</b>	<b>Officer Response</b>
<b>Arborfield and Newland Parish Council</b> – comments were on detailed points in relation to the prioritisation or addition of specific schemes.	As this was just an exercise in clarification no schemes were added. Also, The Regulation 123 List is a list of infrastructure items that can, or may, be funded via CIL. It is not a prioritisation exercise. Other detailed points are dealt with in Appendix A
<b>Finchampstead Parish Council</b> – comments were on detailed points in relation to the prioritisation or addition of specific schemes.	See above.
<b>Gladman Developments Ltd</b> – comments were on the general approach to updating the Regulation 123 List. In particular that the changes meant that items could be secured under S106 which developers would have expected to fall under CIL and that the viability evidence supporting the charging schedule had not been revised	This is an exercise in clarification – no items would be secured by S106 after the proposed clarifications than was originally intended. The changes just remove any ambiguity. The changes set out at Draft Revised Regulation 123 List do not have any implications on the level at which CIL is set as the update indicates a continuing infrastructure need and consequently a continued funding gap. Gladmans have not provided any viability evidence to the contrary.
<b>Persimmon Homes</b> – Comments were in support of having the South Wokingham Distributor Road on the list and also in relation to prioritisation of that project.	The Regulation 123 List is a list of infrastructure items that can, or may, be funded via CIL. It is not a prioritisation exercise.

## **Conclusion**

An updated Regulation 123 List will support the effective implementation of the Community Infrastructure Levy and S106 Agreements in Wokingham. It is recommended that the Executive adopt the updated Regulation 123 List.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION**

***The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.***

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	-	Funded	
Next Financial Year	-	Funded	

(Year 2)			
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	-	Funded	

**Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision**

The amended Regulation 123 List will allow the Council to continue agreeing Section 106 obligations (where justified in accordance with CIL Regulation 122). Failure to clarify the list could compromise the Council's ability to negotiate some site-specific infrastructure through planning obligations (S106).

**Cross-Council Implications**

Potential to negotiate infrastructure through S106 outside of CIL, thus enabling services to deliver more infrastructure.

**List of Background Papers**

Appendix A – Summary of Consultation Responses to the Draft Regulation 123 Clarification consultation document  
Appendix B – Draft Revised Wokingham Regulation 123 List  
Appendix C – Draft Regulation 123 Consultation Document

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<b>Date</b> 18 December 2016	<b>Version No.</b> 1

**APPENDIX A - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY REGULATION 123 – SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS**

81

Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
<p><b>Arborfield and Newland PC</b></p>	<p>Provision and ongoing maintenance in perpetuity of <b>SANG</b> (part of Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (TBHSPA) Avoidance and Mitigation measures) at Rooks Nest Woods <u>and Clare’s Green Wood.</u></p> <p><b>Arborfield Cross Relief Road (ACRR) - a new road <u>between a new junction on the A327 south of Langley Common Road and a new junction on the A327 West of Arborfield Cross;</u></b></p> <p><b>Barkham Bridge Improvement – <u>widening to one lane each direction;</u></b></p>	<p><b>SANG</b> - SANGS on the SDL locations are explicitly excluded. The Council is not aware of Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) or the developers having agreed any provision for ongoing funding for the SANGS being provided as part of the Arborfield SDL development. The Council therefore requests WBC to consider including the Arborfield SDL SANGS for perpetual funding in line with the provisions made for Rook’s Nest and Clare’s Green.</p> <p><b>Arborfield Cross Relief Road</b> - The Council requests that WBC include specific provision for a footbridge over the ACRR to carry the footpath 17 across the cutting required for the ACRR. The Council would also like WBC to consider including specific provision for the footpath/cycleway that it has been suggested will be included as part of The ACRR development.</p> <p><b>Barkham Bridge Improvements – Arborfield and Newland PC</b> - The Council notes that the Draft Regulation 123 List includes provision for “widening to one lane in each direction” which we understand is one of several options currently being considered. The Council therefore requests that Barkham Bridge mitigation remains specific in the list, but the method of mitigation is left</p>	<p><b>No change proposed</b> - SANG will be secured on-site and off-site via S106 Agreement. On the Arborfield Garrison site a maintenance sum in excess of £3m was secured towards the cost of maintaining SANGS for an indefinite period.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – The requirement for a footbridge to carry footpath 17 across the ACRR will be assessed as part of the detailed project. However, if required it could benefit from CIL funding. Any footway / cycleway provided as part of the overall project could benefit from CIL funds.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – The change would not preclude the Council from using CIL towards a different scheme option at Barkham Bridge.</p>



Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
	<p>Comment is not in relation to a proposed clarification</p> <p>Improvements along the A327 <u>to deliver pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites along the A327 between the Borough Boundary to the South and the Borough Boundary to the North which ends just south of Whitley Wood Road;</u></p>	<p>open until the necessary modelling works and consultation have been completed.</p> <p><b>California Crossroads – Arborfield and Newland PC</b> – It is not on the list, how will it be funded?</p> <p><b>Improvements along the A327 - Arborfield and Newland PC -</b> The Council queries the exclusion ‘not directly related, in part or in whole’, to development sites along the A327. The Council would like to see specific inclusion for the mitigation works required at the Langley Common Road/A327 roundabout which we believe to be critical to ensure traffic leaving the development area by the Biggs Lane exit will use the ACRR to access Reading.</p>	<p><b>No change proposed</b> – S106 contributions have already been secured towards California Crossroads. Also the fact that is not on the list does not preclude WBC from using CIL funds towards it if required.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> - This caveat has been included to clarify that improvements along the A327 directly related to specific development sites should be secured via S106, and that it was never intended that development specific transport and highways requirements for improvements along the A327 would be funded via CIL. The original inclusion of ‘Improvements along the A327’ was so that infrastructure requirements resulting from incremental development along the A327 could be funded via CIL. The proposed changes clarify that. There is no requirement to</p>



Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
	<p>Comment is not in relation to a proposed clarification but suggests additional changes</p> <p>Comment is not in relation to a proposed clarification</p> <p>Comment is not in relation to a proposed clarification but suggests additional</p>	<p><b>Education facilities</b> – The Council would welcome provision for ongoing funding to allow community access to education facilities outside school hours, in particular those facilities being provided at the Bohunt School Wokingham which will be so critical to the development of a full functioning community at the Arborfield SDL.</p> <p><b>Green Infrastructure - Arborfield and Newland PC</b> – The Council notes the exclusion of green infrastructure within the Arborfield SDL. While the Council understands the exclusion of the provision of land for CIL funded facilities within the SDLs the Green Infrastructure exclusions list includes the land exclusion but goes further to exclude Amenity Open Space and Play Areas in the SDLs. Can the Council please clarify the reason for this specific exclusion and how these important facilities will be funded in the Arborfield SDL development?</p> <p><b>Community Centres - Arborfield and Newland PC</b> - Include a specific requirement for funding for a new community centre to replace the existing Garrison Community Centre.</p>	<p>be more specific about the project.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – CIL has to be spent on the provision of infrastructure, as defined in the planning act 2008. Access to facilities does not equate to the provision of infrastructure. CIL will partially fund the secondary school at Arborfield.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – Amenity open space and play areas have been excluded on the SDL’s because they will be secured via S106, and they already have been in the case of the Arborfield Garrison site which came forward before CIL was implemented in Wokingham. No change / clarification was proposed to the adopted approach towards amenity open space and play areas.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – Community centres can benefit from CIL funds, including if</p>



Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
	changes		required, a replacement for the existing Garrison Community Centre.
<b>Finchampstead PC</b>	<p>Comment is not in relation to a proposed clarification but suggests additional changes</p> <p>Comment is not in relation to a proposed clarification but suggests additional changes</p>	<p><b>California Crossroads</b> - The California Crossroads improvement scheme is not included on the List. We understood this is on hold due to lack of funds and other priorities. The implication is therefore that this will be CIL funded.</p> <p><b>The proposed cycle path on the Nine Mile Ride</b>, providing a safe route to the new Secondary School is not included on the List</p>	<p><b>No change proposed</b> – S106 contributions have already been secured towards California Crossroads. Also the fact that is not on the Regulation 123 list does not preclude WBC from using CIL funds towards it if required</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – Cycle Network Improvements are included on the list.</p>
<b>Gladman Development Ltd</b>	General comments on approach to updating the Council’s Regulation 123 List	The proposed changes to the CIL 123 List seek to significantly tighten the definition of a number of infrastructure schemes. The consequence of this would be the inability to use funding from CIL to finance infrastructure within a number of typologies and in a number of locations in the way that was initially expected upon the introduction of CIL in April 2015.	<b>No change proposed</b> – The update does not seek to tighten the definition of infrastructure schemes. It just clarifies that which was originally intended for the avoidance of doubt. The Regulation 123 List does not restrict what the authority can spend CIL funds on.



Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
		<p>The proposed approach would result in planning obligations being sought under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for infrastructure that would reasonably be expected to be funded through CIL at present. The proposed changes are therefore contrary to the advice contained within the PPG.</p>	<p><b>No change proposed</b> – Planning Practice Guidance set out that Authorities may amend their Regulation 123 List at any stage, without reviewing their charging schedule. It was always the intention that the list would be subject to periodic review using the benefit of our experience in operating the system as initially adopted.</p> <p>In order to address any ambiguity in the wording of the ‘Regulation 123 List’, the Draft CIL Regulation 123 List Consultation Document proposes changes to clarify the original intention of the Regulation 123 List items or types of infrastructure and to avoid any misinterpretation as to their meaning in the future.</p> <p>The proposed changes do not remove any items so that they may be funded by S106. The changes simply provide clarification, for the avoidance of doubt, as to the original intention</p>



Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
		<p>In addition, the viability evidence that informed the <b>introduction</b> of CIL has not been revisited in the context of the proposed changes, so at this stage it is not clear as to whether the Council has considered the impact that the proposed changes might have on the viability evidence that supported examination of its charging schedule.</p>	<p>of the projects listed. Furthermore Gladman Developments have not provided any examples of where they expect this might happen.</p> <p><b>No change proposed</b> – Statutory guidance sets out that if any changes to the Regulation 123 list would have a very significant impact on the viability evidence that supported examination of the charging schedule, this should be made as part of a review of the charging schedule.</p> <p>The proposed changes do not have any implications on the level at which CIL is set as the changes are to clarify the intention of the original List. There is a continuing infrastructure need and consequently a continued funding gap. Furthermore Gladman Developments have not provided any viability evidence to the contrary.</p>



Respondent	Regulation 123 Clarification (suggested additional text highlighted in red)	Summary of Representations	Officer Response
Persimmon Homes	General comments on approach to updating the Council's Regulation 123 List	Persimmon Homes are supportive of the changes made to the CIL Regulation 123 List which provides clarity and further detail concerning a number of infrastructure schemes proposed within the List. Persimmon believe that infrastructure delivery at the SDLs should be prioritised and, in particular, the South Wokingham Distributor Road (SWDR) be delivered / prioritised as part of the regulation 123 List. Persimmon believe that a prioritisation in favour of the A329 improvements (over the SWDR) would be a mis-judgement given the essential nature of delivering the SWDR in terms of then being able to deliver suitable development within the South Wokingham SDL.	<b>Support noted - No change proposed</b> – The Regulation 123 List is a list of infrastructure items that can, or may, be funded via CIL. It is not a prioritisation exercise.

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**Wokingham Borough Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

**Draft Regulation 123 List – November 2016**

Regulation 123 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) (CIL) prevents the local planning authority from taking into account as a reason for granting planning permission certain planning obligations for infrastructure that will be funded in whole or part by CIL.

The list does not signify a commitment by the Council to deliver the project, nor does it indicate any priority. The list will be subject to periodic review. Proposed insertions to the Council’s adopted Regulation 123 List are underlined with red text. Proposed deletions are highlighted in red strikethrough text.

68

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*
<p><b><u>Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) - defined as:</u></b></p> <p>Provision and ongoing maintenance in perpetuity of SANG (part of Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (TBHSPA) Avoidance and Mitigation measures) at Rooks Nest Woods and Clare’s Green Wood.</p>	<p>On-site and off-site delivery of SANG (in accordance with the TBHSPA Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy, necessary to meet the requirements of the Habitat Regulations) in connection with the following Strategic Development Location (SDL) sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wokingham SDL</li> <li>• South Wokingham SDL</li> <li>• South of M4 SDL</li> <li>• Arborfield SDL</li> </ul> <p>SPA-wide Strategic Access and Management Monitoring (SAMM) (N.B. This item is not considered to fall within the definition of infrastructure and will continue to be secured through legal agreements).</p>
<p><b><u>Transport, defined as:</u></b></p> <p>The following Local Road Network capacity</p>	<p>All other development-specific transport and highways improvements</p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*
<p>improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements along the A329 to deliver pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites between the Coppid Beech Roundabout to the junction of the B3350;</li> <li>• Winnersh Relief Road – a new road between Kings Street Lane and the A321 Reading Road (near the M4 overbridge);</li> <li>• North Wokingham Distributor Road (NWDR) – new sections of road through the North Wokingham SDL, between Warren House and Twyford Road, and, between Toutley Road (near Brimblecombe Close) and the A321 Reading Road;</li> <li>• South Wokingham Distributor Road (SWDR) – a new road through the South Wokingham SDL, from Montague Park (just south of the school access) to an improved junction on the A321 (near Tesco);</li> <li>• Replacement railway bridges on the A321 Finchampstead Road, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southern underbridge, single span masonry arch bridge (bridge no. 1165 Network Rail reference 19/1375)</li> <li>• Northern underbridge, single span</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>as identified in a development specific transport assessment.</p> <p>Travel Plans</p> <p>The delivery, commissioning, or subsidy of a new or existing expanded bus service.</p> <p>Provision of land for transport requirements on the SDLs</p> <p>Sections of the Greenways Network within the SDL's</p>



Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*
<p>masonry arch bridge (bridge no. 1166 Network Rail reference 4/34);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvements along A321 - to deliver pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites along the A321 between the southern Borough boundary starting at Wokingham Road (Crowthorne) and the end of the A321 in Wargrave towards the north of the Borough;</li><li>• Arborfield Cross Relief Road (ACRR) - a new road between a new junction on the A327 south of Langley Common Road and a new junction on the A327 West of Arborfield Cross;</li><li>• Nine Mile Ride Extension – a new road through the Arborfield SDL between byway 18 and the Nine Mile Ride connection with Park Lane;</li><li>• Barkham Bridge Improvement – widening to one lane each direction;</li><li>• Improvements along the A327 to deliver pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites along the A327 between the Borough Boundary to the South and the Borough Boundary to the North which ends just south of Whitley Wood Road;</li><li>• Shinfield Eastern Relief Road;</li></ul>	

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity improvements on the A329(M) from M4 Junction 10 to Coppid Beech</li> <li>• Corridor Improvements - the delivery of sustainable transport measures that are not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus stop improvements;</li> <li>• Footpath / cycleway improvements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Strategic Road Network (SRN) improvements outside the Borough within contiguous Local Authorities (The SRN is made up of motorways and trunk roads that are managed by Highways England).</p> <p>Public Rights of Way (PROW) and Cycle Network improvements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four crossings over the Waterloo Line (Tanhouse / Gypsy Lane / Star Lane / Eastern Gateway);</li> <li>• The_Greenways Network.</li> </ul> <p>Public Transport Network improvements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thames Valley Park, Eastern Expressway – a new road to support public transport in Thames Valley Park</li> </ul>	

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*
<p>The following improvements to Parking Provision (including Park and Ride infrastructure):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park &amp; Ride near the Coppid Beech roundabout</li> <li>• Carnival Pool Car Park Expansion</li> <li>• Thames Valley Park, Park and Ride</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Education, defined as:</u></b></p> <p>Nursery Schools</p> <p>Primary and Secondary Education Further and Higher Education Special Educational Needs Provision</p>	<p>Provision of land for schools on the SDLs and service / utilities provision / pedestrian and vehicular access connections to the schools.</p>
<p><b><u>Green Infrastructure, defined as:</u></b></p> <p>Allotments and Community Gardens</p> <p>Biodiversity Projects</p> <p>Amenity Open Space and Play Areas</p> <p>Cemeteries and Churchyards Outdoor Sport Facilities</p>	<p>Amenity open space and play areas in connection with the following Strategic Development Location (SDL) sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wokingham SDL</li> <li>• South Wokingham SDL</li> <li>• South of M4 SDL</li> <li>• Arborfield SDL</li> </ul> <p>Provision of land for green infrastructure on the SDLs</p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*
Country Parks	
<p><b><u>Community/Social Infrastructure</u>, defined as:</b></p> <p>Community Centres/Halls Libraries</p> <p>Indoor Sports Facilities</p> <p>Culture and Heritage</p>	<p>Provision of land for community / social infrastructure on the SDLs</p>
<p><b><u>Public Services</u>, defined as:</b></p> <p>Emergency Services facilities and equipment</p> <p>Health centres/GP surgeries</p>	<p>Fire Hydrants</p>

\*Exclusions: projects identified in this column are expected to be delivered in kind or by developer contributions, secured through Section 106 agreements.

## Appendix C

### Wokingham Borough Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

#### Draft Regulation 123 List Consultation Document

Regulation 123 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) (CIL) prevents the local planning authority from taking into account as a reason for granting planning permission certain planning obligations for infrastructure that will be funded in whole or part by CIL.

The list does not signify a commitment by the Council to deliver the project, nor does it indicate any priority. The list will be subject to periodic review. Proposed insertions to the Council's adopted Regulation 123 List are underlined with red text. Proposed deletions are highlighted in red strikethrough text.

95

<b>Infrastructure Type or Project</b>	<b>Exclusions*</b>	<b>Reason for change</b>
<p><b><u>Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) - defined as:</u></b></p> <p>Provision and ongoing maintenance in perpetuity of SANG (part of Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (TBHSPA) Avoidance and Mitigation measures) at Rooks Nest Woods <u>and Clare's Green Wood.</u></p>	<p>On-site and off-site delivery of SANG (in accordance with the TBHSPA Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy, necessary to meet the requirements of the Habitat Regulations) in connection with the following Strategic Development Location (SDL) sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Wokingham SDL</li><li>• South Wokingham</li></ul>	<p>This is to clarify that, apart from specified exclusions, CIL will be used to mitigate SANG in the catchment of Rooks Nest Woods and also in the catchment of Clare's Green Wood.</p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
	<p>SDL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South of M4 SDL</li> <li>• Arborfield SDL</li> </ul> <p>SPA-wide Strategic Access and Management Monitoring (SAMM) (N.B. This item is not considered to fall within the definition of infrastructure and will continue to be secured through legal agreements).</p>	
<p><b><u>Transport, defined as:</u></b></p> <p>The following Local Road Network capacity improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements along the A329 <u>to deliver pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites between the Coppid Beech Roundabout to the junction of the B3350;</u></li> <li>• Winnersh Relief Road <u>– a new road between Kings Street Lane and the A321 Reading Road (near the M4</u></li> </ul>	<p><del>The delivery of enabling works, including site access junctions for a development and roads within an application phase red line.</del></p> <p><u>All other development-specific transport and highways improvements as identified in a development specific transport assessment.</u></p>	<p><b>Change to ‘Improvements along the A329’</b> – to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘Improvements along the A329’ for the purposes of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to Winnersh Relief Road</b> – to provide an exact definition of what constitutes the ‘Winnersh Relief Road’ for the purposes of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘North Wokingham Distributor Road’</b></p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
<p><u>overbridge</u>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Wokingham Distributor Road <u>(NWDR) – new sections of road through the North Wokingham SDL, between Warren House and Twyford Road, and, between Toutley Road (near Brimblecombe Close) and the A321 Reading Road;</u></li> <li><del>Improvements to Coppid Beech Roundabout</del></li> <li>South Wokingham Distributor Road <del>including road over rail bridge (SWDR) – a new road through the South Wokingham SDL, from Montague Park (just south of the school access) to an improved junction on the A321 (near Tesco);</del></li> <li>Replacement railway bridges on the A321 Finchampstead Road, <u>specifically:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Southern underbridge, single span masonry arch bridge (bridge no. 1165 Network Rail reference 19/1375)</u></li> <li><u>Northern underbridge, single span masonry arch bridge (bridge no. 1166 Network Rail reference 4/34);</u></li> </ul> </li> <li>Improvements along A321 - <u>to deliver</u></li> </ul>	<p>Travel Plans</p> <p><u>The delivery, commissioning, or subsidy of a new or existing expanded bus service.</u></p> <p><del>Land for provision</del>Provision of land for transport requirements on the SDLs</p> <p><u>Sections of the Greenways Network within the SDL's</u></p>	<p>- to provide an exact definition of what constitutes the 'North Wokingham Distributor Road' for the purposes of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future. The definition omits sections of the NWDR which were secured via S106 prior to the introduction of CIL in Wokingham. This is to provide assurance that there will be no 'double counting' of CIL and planning obligations.</p> <p><b>Change to 'Improvements to Coppid Beech Roundabout' – to be deleted as the scheme has been completed.</b></p> <p><b>Change to 'South Wokingham Distributor Road'</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes the 'South Wokingham Distributor Road' for the purposes of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future. The definition omits sections of the SWDR which were secured via S106 prior to the introduction of CIL in Wokingham. This is to provide assurance that there will be no 'double counting' of CIL and planning obligations.</p> <p><b>Change to 'Replacement railway bridges on the A321 Finchampstead Road'</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes 'Replacement railway bridges along the A321 Finchampstead Road' for</p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
<p><u>pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites along the A321 between the southern Borough boundary starting at Wokingham Road (Crowthorne) and the end of the A321 in Wargrave towards the north of the Borough;</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Arborfield Cross Relief Road (ACRR) - a new road between a new junction on the A327 south of Langley Common Road and a new junction on the A327 West of Arborfield Cross;</u></li> <li>• <u>Nine Mile Ride Extension – a new road through the Arborfield SDL between byway 18 and the Nine Mile Ride connection with Park Lane;</u></li> <li>• <u>Barkham Bridge Improvement – widening to one lane each direction;</u></li> <li>• <u>Improvements along the A327 to deliver pedestrian and cycle facilities and junction capacity improvements not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites along the A327 between the Borough Boundary to the South and the Borough Boundary to the North which ends just south of Whitley Wood Road;</u></li> </ul>		<p>the purposes of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Improvements along the A321’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘Improvements along the A321’ for the purposes of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Arborfield Cross Relief Road’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes the ‘Arborfield Cross Relief Road’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Nine Mile Ride Extension’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes the ‘Nine Mile Ride Extension’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Barkham Bridge Improvement’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘Barkham Bridge Improvement’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p>

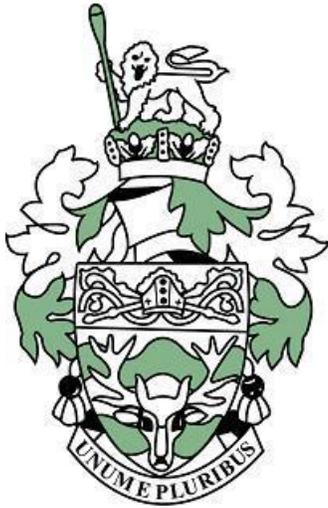
Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shinfield Eastern Relief Road;</li> <li>• <u>Capacity improvements on the A329(M) from M4 Junction 10 to Coppid Beech improvement;</u></li> <li>• Corridor Improvements <u>- the delivery of sustainable transport measures that are not directly related, in part or in whole, to development sites, including:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Bus stop improvements;</u></li> <li>• <u>Footpath / cycleway improvements.</u></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Strategic Road Network (SRN) improvements outside the Borough <u>within contiguous Local Authorities (The SRN is made up of motorways and trunk roads that are managed by Highways England).</u></p> <p>Public Rights of Way (PROW) and Cycle Network improvements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four <u>crossings footbridges</u> over the Waterloo Line <u>(Tanhouse / Gypsy Lane / Star Lane / Eastern Gateway);</u></li> <li>• <u>The</u> Greenways Network.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Change to ‘Improvements along the A327’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘Improvements along the A327’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘A329(M) – M4 J10 to Coppid Beech Improvement’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘A329(M) – M4 J10 to Coppid Beech Improvement’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Corridor Improvements’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘Corridor Improvements’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Strategic Road Network improvements outside the borough’</b> – to provide a definition of what constitutes the Strategic Road Network (SRN)</p> <p><b>Change to ‘PROW and Cycle Network Improvements’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes ‘PROW and Cycle Network</p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
<p>Public Transport Network improvements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thames Valley Park, Eastern Expressway – <u>a new road to support public transport in Thames Valley Park</u></li> </ul> <p>The following improvements to Parking Provision (including Park and Ride <u>infrastructure</u>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Park &amp; Ride near the Coppid Beech roundabout</li> <li>Carnival Pool Car Park Expansion</li> <li>Thames Valley Park, Park and Ride</li> </ul>		<p>Improvements’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Change to ‘Thames Valley Park Eastern Expressway’</b> - to provide an exact definition of what constitutes the ‘Thames Valley Park, Eastern Expressway’ for the purpose of CIL funds. This is to provide clarity as to the original intention of the Regulation 123 List scheme and to avoid any misinterpretation in the future.</p> <p><b>Changes to the ‘exclusions*’ column</b> – to clarify that the exclusion from CIL applies to all other site-specific transport improvements that are identified in a site specific assessment whether they are within the red line boundary of a planning application or not.</p> <p>To clarify that ‘Public Transport Network Improvements’ does not, and was never intended to, include the provision of bus services.</p> <p>To specify that ‘Land for provision on SDL’s’ relates to the provision of transport infrastructure.</p> <p>To specify that CIL will only be used to fund the Greenways Network outside of the SDL’s.</p>

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
<p><b><u>Education, defined as:</u></b></p> <p>Nursery Schools</p> <p>Primary and Secondary Education</p> <p>Further and Higher Education Special Educational Needs Provision</p>	<p><del>Land for</del> Provision of land <u>for schools</u> on the SDLs <u>and service / utilities provision / pedestrian and vehicular access connections to the schools.</u></p>	<p><b>Change to the ‘exclusions’ column</b> – To clarify that land for the provision of schools includes serviced sites</p>
<p><b><u>Green Infrastructure, defined as:</u></b></p> <p>Allotments and Community Gardens</p> <p>Biodiversity Projects</p> <p>Amenity Open Space and Play Areas</p> <p>Cemeteries and Churchyards Outdoor</p> <p>Sport Facilities</p> <p>Country Parks</p>	<p>Amenity open space and play areas in connection with the following Strategic Development Location (SDL) sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wokingham SDL</li> <li>• South Wokingham SDL</li> <li>• South of M4 SDL</li> <li>• Arborfield SDL</li> </ul> <p><del>Land for</del> Provision <u>of land for green infrastructure</u> on the SDLs</p>	<p><b>Change to the ‘exclusions’ column</b> – To specify that ‘land for provision on SDLs’ relates to the provision of Green Infrastructure.</p>
<p><b><u>Community/Social Infrastructure, defined as:</u></b></p>		

Infrastructure Type or Project	Exclusions*	Reason for change
Community Centres/Halls Libraries Indoor Sports Facilities Culture and Heritage	<del>Land for</del> Provision <u>of land for community / social infrastructure</u> on the SDLs	<b>Change to the 'exclusions' column</b> – To specify that 'land for provision on SDLs' relates to the provision of community / social Infrastructure.
<b><u>Public Services, defined as:</u></b> Emergency Services facilities and equipment Health centres/GP surgeries	Fire Hydrants	

\*Exclusions: projects identified in this column are expected to be delivered in kind or by developer contributions, secured through Section 106 agreements.



# **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

### **Annual Reports 2016-17**

Produced: March 2017  
Received by Council: 23 March 2017

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page No</b>
<b>Foreword by Councillor Simon Weeks, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Section 1 – Executive Summary</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Section 2 – Introduction to Overview and Scrutiny</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 3 – Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Section 4 – Report of the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Section 5 - Report of the Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section 6 – Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Section 7 - Getting Involved in Overview and Scrutiny</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Section 8 - Dates of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meetings 2017-18</b>	<b>30</b>



**Foreword by Councillor Simon Weeks  
Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny  
Management Committee**

Welcome to the Annual Reports of Wokingham Borough Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees for 2016-17. The reports describe how the Overview and Scrutiny Committees reviewed the delivery of key services and raised the profile of topics of local importance.

Overview and Scrutiny is currently operating during a period of significant change and uncertainty for the country and for local government. The ongoing reduction in central Government funding for local authorities is having a major impact on local communities. Wokingham Borough Council has found savings of £30m over the past five year period and is faced with a further savings target of £19m over the next four years. During that time funding pressures on the NHS, social care and local schools will continue to grow. At the same time we are witnessing major investment into new homes and supporting infrastructure in the Borough's Strategic Development Locations, investment which, inevitably, is causing disruption to local communities.

In order to meet these challenges the Council has embarked on the ambitious 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council programme which will result in a fundamental change to the way the Council organises itself and the way it provides services for residents and local communities. Inevitably, the breadth and depth of change highlighted above will result in a new role for the Council, new methods of service delivery and new relationships with partners and our local communities. So what role will Overview and Scrutiny play in this changing environment?

Effective scrutiny underpins good governance and good governance leads to better outcomes for the residents of the Borough. So, as resources continue to reduce it is essential that spending decisions are robust and evidence-based. It is also essential that service changes and new ways of working are scrutinised and well publicised in advance to ensure smooth implementation, value for money and risk mitigation. Contributing to new policy development and pre-decision scrutiny of service changes will be key priorities for 2017/18. Providing robust challenge to draft policies and service changes before they are implemented is much more effective than asking questions after implementation to learn lessons and understand why things have gone wrong. This will be a major focus and a major challenge for the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in the year ahead.

**Simon Weeks  
March 2017**

## SECTION 1 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview and Scrutiny is a key element in the system of checks and balances which ensure that Wokingham Borough Council and its partners make and implement effective decisions for the benefit of the residents of the Borough. The Council's Executive is empowered to take decisions within the financial and policy framework set by the full Council. Non-Executive Members of the Council are appointed to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees to review those decisions and the way they impact on the performance of key services.

The Council's Overview and Scrutiny function is delivered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and three Committees focussing on Children's Services, Community and Corporate Services and Health issues. Overview and Scrutiny Committees make recommendations for improvement to full Council and Executive and to partner organisations.

The report sets out the range of issues and submissions considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in 2016 -17, including:

- Regular review of performance indicators which highlight how services are performing.
- Review of the findings of Ofsted inspections of schools and Children's Services.
- The Council's response to flooding and measures to improve flood prevention.
- Performance of health services, including hospitals, GPs and the ambulance service.
- Proposals to develop closer working between health and social care services.
- Implementation of the Council's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council change programme.
- Operation of the Borough's Community Safety Partnership.
- Changes to the Borough's policing arrangements and trends in annual crime statistics.
- Proposed changes relating to the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Effective Overview and Scrutiny utilises information and ideas from a wide range of sources including residents, service users and community groups. During 2017-18 Members involved in Overview and Scrutiny will continue to hold the Council and its partners to account, providing "critical friend" challenge to the Council's Executive and other public service providers. In so doing Members will seek to reflect the aspirations and concerns of local residents and communities. Particular focus will be placed on improvements to pre-decision scrutiny and input to support new policy development.

The report outlines the range of Overview and Scrutiny issues to be considered in 2017-18 and explains how residents and community groups can submit issues for consideration and get involved in the process.

## SECTION 2 – INTRODUCTION TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

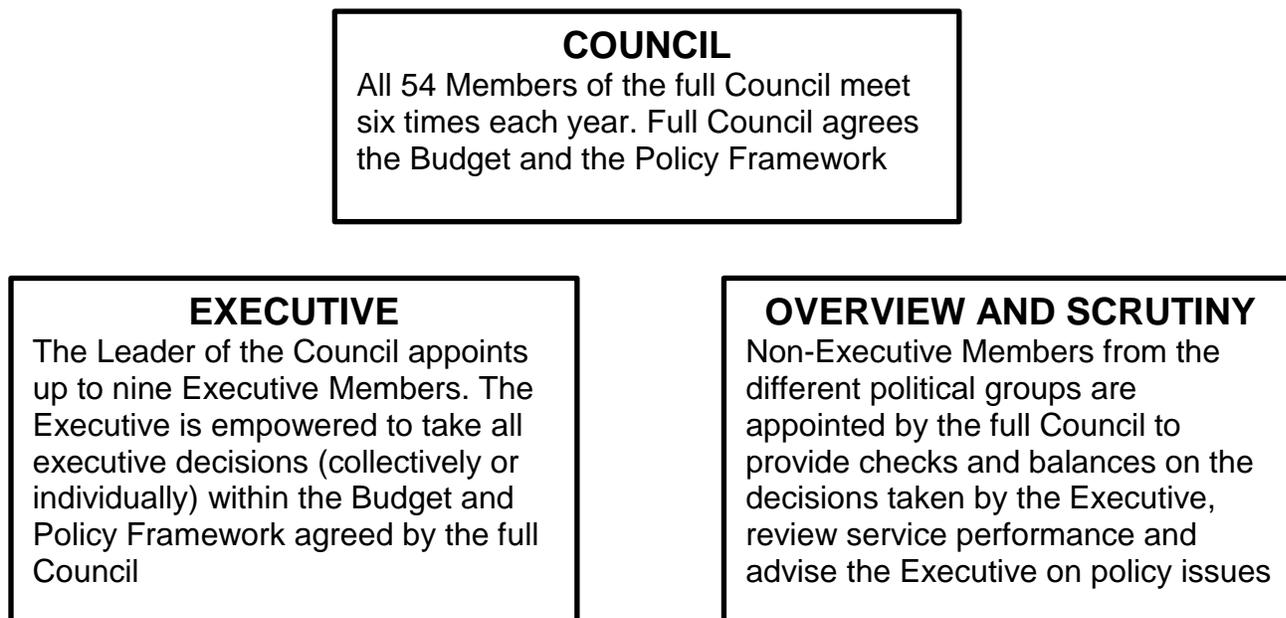
### Context

Wokingham Borough Council is a large, complex organisation with a thousand employees and an annual budget in excess of £100m. The Council’s Vision is to make the Borough “a great place to live, an even better place to do business”. The Council makes major strategic decisions which affect the long-term future of the area and its communities. It also makes decisions on a daily basis which affect the lives of some of the Borough’s most vulnerable residents. In order to ensure that the Council spends public money wisely and makes well informed decisions about key services it is essential that an effective system of checks and balances is in place.

The current Overview and Scrutiny system was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000 as a counterweight to the increased decision making powers given to Leaders and Executives or directly elected mayors. The system reflected the arrangements in Parliament where Government decisions are scrutinised by a range of Select Committees.

The Council’s Executive is empowered to take decisions within the financial and policy framework set by the full Council. Non-Executive Members of the Council (representing each of the political groups) are appointed to the Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committees to review those decisions and the performance of key services. The relationship between Council, Executive and Overview and Scrutiny is illustrated in the diagram below.

### Diagram: Council, Executive and Overview and Scrutiny



## Origins

Following legislative changes to the old Committee system in 2000, the (then) Wokingham District Council adopted the Leader and Executive model whereby the Council Leader and up to nine Executive Members take key decisions either collectively or individually. In order to provide checks and balances for these powers Councils were given Overview and Scrutiny functions to be exercised by non-Executive Members. Subsequent legislation provided further powers relating to the scrutiny of health services and local arrangements for tackling crime and disorder.

The role of Overview and Scrutiny can be summarised as:

- Being a “critical friend” - holding the Executive to account by scrutinising decisions and “calling in” any decisions causing concern.
- Policy development and review – participating in the development of new policies and reviewing the effectiveness of existing policies.
- Performance monitoring – driving improvement in services by reviewing key indicators which underpin delivery of the Council’s Vision, priorities and plans.
- External scrutiny of public services such as health, crime reduction and community safety and flood risk management.
- Engaging with residents and community groups to ensure that their concerns are heard and are reflected in the Overview and Scrutiny work programme.

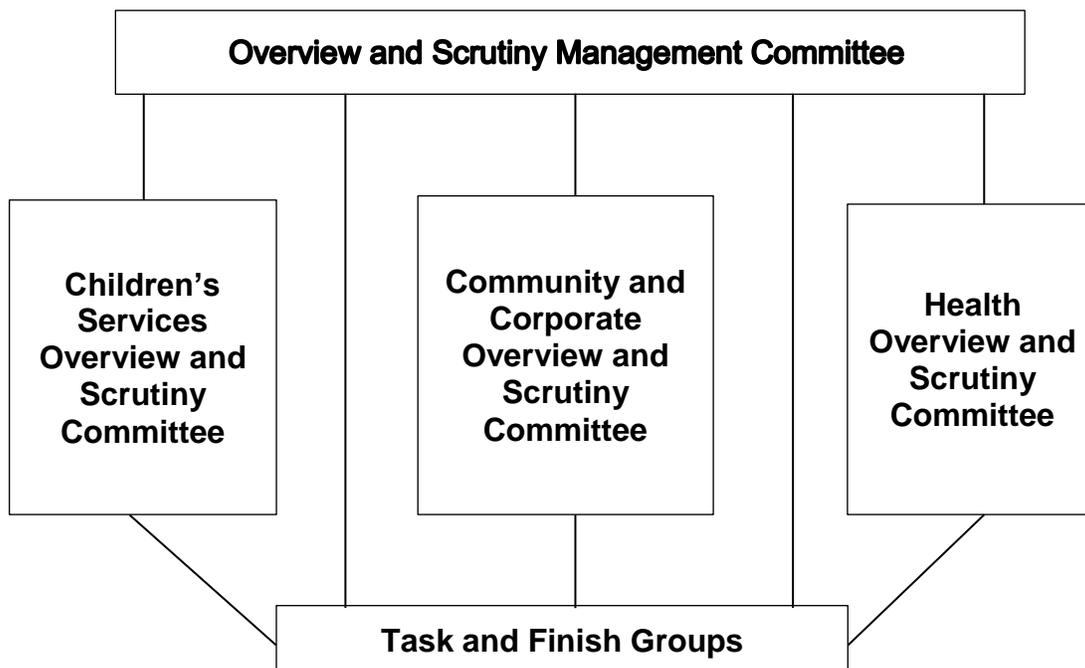
## Structure

In order to deliver the Overview and Scrutiny function the Council has established the following Committees:

- Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee – responsible for overseeing the Overview and Scrutiny function and developing an annual work programme for each of the Committees.
- Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee – responsible for scrutiny of services relating to schools, safeguarding and child protection, looked after children and children with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee - responsible for scrutiny of Council services, crime reduction and community safety and flood risk management.
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – responsible for scrutiny of local NHS bodies, public health arrangements and the work of the Local Healthwatch service.

The Council's Overview and Scrutiny structure is illustrated in the diagram below.

**Diagram: Overview and Scrutiny Structure**



Each of the Overview Scrutiny Committees is made up of non-Executive Members of the Council. The membership of each Committee is set out later in the report. In addressing specific issues the Committees may decide to appoint time limited Task and Finish Groups. Meetings are held in public and residents and community groups are encouraged to attend. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees are supported by Officers from the Council's Democratic Services team.

Overview and Scrutiny aims to provide an open and inclusive forum where a range of contributors can be heard – Members, Officers, partners and members of the public. Effective Overview and Scrutiny results in greater openness and accountability and a more robust decision making process. This is increasingly important as the demographic, financial and service challenges facing the Council continue to grow.

**Select Committee Inquiry into Overview and Scrutiny**

The need for effective Overview and Scrutiny in local government has been highlighted following a number of major service failures. These include poor care and high mortality rates at the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, child sexual exploitation in Rotherham and major governance failures in Tower Hamlets relating to divisive community politics and mismanagement of public money through the allocation of Council grants. In each of these cases an Overview and Scrutiny Committee was in place but was unable or unwilling to identify and highlight concerns which could have led to corrective action.

In response to these cases, in January 2017, the Communities and Local Government Select Committee launched an inquiry into Overview and Scrutiny in local government. The inquiry is assessing whether Overview and Scrutiny arrangements are working effectively and whether local communities are able to contribute to and monitor the work of local Councils. The terms of reference of the inquiry focus on the following issues:

- Whether Scrutiny Committees in local authorities are effective in holding decision-makers to account;
- The extent to which Scrutiny Committees operate with political impartiality and independence from Executives;
- How Scrutiny Chairmen, Scrutiny Members and items for investigation are selected;
- The potential for local authority Scrutiny to act as a voice for local service users;
- The support given to the Scrutiny function by political leaders and senior officers;
- The effectiveness and importance of the Scrutiny of external organisations.

These questions provide a useful framework for self-evaluation of the Council's Scrutiny arrangements. The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) has put forward other key questions which help Members to focus on the effectiveness of Overview and Scrutiny, as follows:

- How do I know that the Council and its partners will be able to identify significant problems and take appropriate action?
- Does Overview and Scrutiny have access to accurate, timely information which enables Members to challenge statements about the quality of a service?
- Do Council Officers and partner organisations agree and accept that this is the role of Overview and Scrutiny?

As the CfPS states, elected Scrutiny Members have a unique credibility and legitimacy to exercise this role. It is about Scrutiny Members asking the questions to assure themselves that there are systems in place which ensure that they will be able to trust the data they receive, to know that it is recording the right things, to know that major issues are not being ignored and to know that emerging risks are recognised and acted upon without delay.

## **Exclusions**

Overview and Scrutiny is not about the investigation of minor matters or individual complaints. The Council has a separate corporate Complaints procedure which is used to investigate individual complaints about services. Similarly, Overview and Scrutiny does not look at quasi-judicial matters such as planning or licensing issues. Finally, Overview and Scrutiny is not used for raising issues of a party political nature as these matters can be addressed through debate at the meetings of the full Council.

## SECTION 3

### REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



**Councillor Simon Weeks, Chairman  
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

The report highlights the issues scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in 2016-17. The role of the Management Committee is twofold. Firstly to oversee the operation of the corporate Overview and Scrutiny process and, secondly, to investigate issues formally referred to it and to scrutinise matters which fall outside the remit of the three Overview and Scrutiny Committees. During the year the Management Committee considered a number of issues which impact on the residents of the Borough. These included the performance management of key services, effectiveness of the Council's public Budget Consultation process and the Council's statutory duties under the Equality Act. The Committee also considered the "call-in" of an Executive decision relating to the introduction of evening and weekend car park charges.

The Committee also invited Executive Members and Directors to give evidence about key services and upcoming challenges facing the Council. This helped to strengthen the working relationship between Overview and Scrutiny and the Executive. As I mentioned earlier, improving the input of Overview and Scrutiny into new policy development and improving pre-decision scrutiny of emerging issues will be a key part of the work programme for 2017/18. Overview and Scrutiny Members recognise the importance of making the process more forward looking in order to add value to the work of the Council.

In the face of the major demographic, financial and service challenges facing the Council, Overview and Scrutiny Members are determined to support the Council in delivering its Vision and priorities. It is timely, therefore, that this report coincides with the launch of a major review of Overview and Scrutiny in local government by the House of Commons Communities and Local Government Select Committee. The outcome of the review is awaited with interest.

This report marks the completion of my first year as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. I would like to record my thanks to the Members of the Committee for their hard work and support and to the Officers, residents and partner organisations who contributed to the work of the Committee during the year.

**Simon Weeks**

## **Remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee oversees the Council's Scrutiny function and is responsible for developing and co-ordinating the work programmes of the three Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Committee also organises a training programme to ensure that non-Executive Members involved in Scrutiny have the requisite skills and knowledge to carry out their roles.

### **Membership**

Councillor Simon Weeks (Chairman).

Councillors Parry Batth, Prue Bray/Lindsay Ferris, Michael Firmager, Kate Haines, Pauline Helliard-Symons, John Jarvis, John Kaiser (Vice-Chairman), Ken Miall, Philip Mirfin, Ian Pittock and Shahid Younis.

**Substitute Members:** Councillors Laura Blumenthal, Abdul Loyes and Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey.

**Officer contact:** Neil Carr            neil.carr@wokingham.gov.uk

## **Work Programme 2016-17**

### **Consideration of 'Call-Ins'**

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee has the power to review decisions made by the Executive and decisions made by individual Executive Members. Under the Council's Constitution five Members who are not members of the Executive can request that decisions made, but not yet implemented, be reviewed.

During 2016/17 one call-in was received, relating to the introduction of evening and Sunday charges at the Council's car parks and charges for the Shute End Council offices car park. The Executive decision was called in on the grounds that it was not proportionate, adequate consultation had not taken place, the decision making process had not been transparent with clear objectives and only one option was presented.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee held a special meeting, on 17 May 2016, to consider the call in and hear evidence from a number of witnesses. Having considered the evidence the Committee concluded that decision had been taken in line with the Council's Constitution and the relevant decision making principles. The Committee did note that the decision making process could have been supported by more effective communication and asked Officers to clarify the decision making process for any future variations of car park charges.

### **Performance Management**

Throughout the year the Committee received a quarterly performance management report setting out details of the Council's performance against a number of financial, staffing and

operational/project indicators. The reports included a commentary section with information on indicators falling below target and the proposed actions to bring performance back on track. Members asked questions on the key indicators and asked for further information about target setting and the involvement of Executive Members in the process. The Committee made strong representations about the timeliness of the performance management reports and suggested that Officers consider ways to improve both presentation and timetabling. It was noted that the Council's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council change programme included major IT investment that would enable the production of more timely performance reports.

In addition to the performance management reports, Executive Members and Directors were invited to attend to provide an update on their service areas and to answer questions from the Committee.

### **Public Sector Equality Duty**

The Committee sought confirmation that the Council was meeting its statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010. The Equality Act placed a general duty on public bodies to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who shared a protected characteristic and those who did not. The Act also set out specific duties to publish information about the Council's actions and to set out and monitor specific Equality Objectives.

Members supported the development of refreshed Equality Objectives and the publication of information to demonstrate that the design and delivery of services was appropriate for everyone who uses them. This process would help Members and Officers to understand changing trends and needs, which would enable the Council to ensure that services were targeted correctly.

Following the Committee's intervention Officers developed updated Equality Objectives relating to accessibility of services, support for vulnerable residents, effective consultation, workforce monitoring and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council programme. At the time of writing the refreshed Equality Objectives were due to be considered by the Executive in March 2017. The Committee and the Executive will receive annual reports providing evidence of compliance with the Equality Objectives and composition of the Council's workforce.

### **Public Budget Consultation**

The Committee considered reports on the Council's annual public Budget consultation exercises for 2015 and 2016. Councillor Anthony Pollock, Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance, and Graham Ebers, Director of Finance and Resources, attended to give a presentation to the Committee and answer Member questions. The aim of public Budget consultation was to provide information on the financial challenges facing the Council and develop a better understanding of the views and priorities of local residents.

Members provided feedback on the Budget consultation to date and made suggestions to improve the process in future years. These included earlier publicity and better locations for the public sessions, establishing clear aims for the consultation, identifying measures of success and more effective use of social media to support the process.

It was noted that the Committee's ideas and suggestions had helped to strengthen the Budget consultation process to date and would be taken forward into the 2017 exercise.

### **Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service**

The Committee considered a presentation on the service redesign consultation being undertaken by the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority. Andy Fry, Chief Fire Officer, attended the Committee's meeting, on 24 January 2017, to answer Member questions. Members noted that the Fire and Rescue service had consulted on its strategic plans and response standards in 2016. It was now consulting on its service redesign proposals. The proposals aimed to deliver a more effective, targeted service whilst generating significant savings.

Members sought more information on the impact of the proposals on residents in the Borough and were satisfied that the range of options under consideration would have minimum impact on the quality of service provided. Members also welcomed the extensive consultation programme under way and noted the ongoing work to develop closer working and shared facilities with the other emergency services.

### **Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes**

The Committee considered ideas to improve the annual work programming process. These included proposals to start the process earlier in the year and to establish a closer working relationship with the Executive. The aim was increase the input of Overview and Scrutiny into new policy development and to provide more effective pre-decision scrutiny of policy and service changes. This change of focus would help to ensure that new policies and service developments were tested more rigorously prior to implementation, thereby ensuring smoother implementation with fewer risks.

Councillor Keith Baker, Leader of the Council, attended the Committee's meeting on 22 November 2016 to discuss the operation of Overview and Scrutiny and opportunities for closer working between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. A further meeting was held between Executive Members and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen to consider practical measures to deliver a more symbiotic process.

### **Consideration of Forward Programmes**

The Committee continued to consider the forward programmes for the Executive and Individual Executive Member Decisions in order to identify potential items for Overview and Scrutiny to consider.

### **Update Reports from the Scrutiny Committees**

At each meeting the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees presented a short report highlighting the issues considered at recent meetings. The purpose of these items was to share information on the key topics under consideration, reduce the potential for duplication and enable the Management Committee to carry out its oversight role.

## **Shared Services Task and Finish Group**

The Committee established a Task and Finish Group to examine the Council's approach to the delivery of Shared Services. However, it was subsequently reported that Shared Services was one of the work streams under consideration as part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council programme. Consequently, the work of the Task and Finish Group was put on hold pending the outcome of the review undertaken by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council team.

## **Training and Development**

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees recognise the importance of ongoing training and development to ensure that skills and knowledge are constantly upgraded. In June 2016 a lively, well-attended, training session was held which examined key elements of effective Overview and Scrutiny, including the scoping of reviews, questioning techniques, interpreting evidence and following up on recommendations.

A further session will be held in June 2017 to ensure that Members are aware of changes in legislation and best practice in Overview and Scrutiny. Training and support will also be provided for Members newly appointed to Overview and Scrutiny roles. The 2017 training event will include feedback from the ongoing Select Committee review into the operation of Overview and Scrutiny in local government.

## **Work Programme 2017-18**

The Committee will continue to carry out its challenge and support functions through consideration of key performance indicators and the Executive's Forward Programme. Executive Members and Service Directors will be invited to attend and discuss specific issues relating to their portfolios and a key priority will be more effective pre-decision scrutiny relating to new policies and service developments.

The Committee will also scrutinise the following issues:

- Council Plan and Corporate Peer Review Action Plan;
- Strategic Development Locations (SDLs) and development of the new Local Plan;
- The Council's annual Budget Consultation exercise;
- Operation and performance of Council-owned companies;
- Compliance with the Council's statutory duties under the Equality Act.

The Committee will also consider adding items to the Work Programme as a result of consultation with residents, community groups and partners organisations.

## SECTION 4

### REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



**Pauline Helliard-Symons, Chairman  
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Committee's work is divided between scrutiny of children's social care and educational attainment. As well as monitoring recommendations put in place by earlier Committees and Task and Finish Groups, the new issues arising during the year are outlined below. This is in addition to the regular performance monitoring carried out at each meeting which involves challenging performance against the targets that Officers have set. This process keeps the Committee in touch with the performance of different elements of the service and the performance of schools via the monitoring of Ofsted reports.

We also monitor what the service is doing to help schools requiring improvement to improve. This is now more complex, with the advent of academies and free schools, as the Council has little control over what they do but retains accountability for their educational outcomes. In undertaking its duty to scrutinise schools' performance, the Committee requested that a cross-party Task and Finish Group be set up to identify the reasons that led to the Coombes C of E Primary School rating of 'inadequate' following an Ofsted inspection which took place in May 2016. At the time of writing, recommendations from the Task and Finish Group were due to be submitted to Executive for consideration.

The Committee continued to monitor the social worker recruitment and retention strategy. The rate of Social Worker retention has improved from 2015. However, the evidence indicates that there will be an ongoing need for agency staff due to the work advantages offered by agencies, which can outweigh the benefits of working for a Local Authority.

Members of the Committee and their substitutes attend training at the start of the first meeting each year. As Children's Services is an area where so much changes so quickly, we are keen to keep up to date with new legislation and service developments.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Committee, and the substitutes who have frequently been asked to attend, for their commitment to and interest in the work that we do, and for all the positive and useful contributions that they have made.

**Pauline Helliard-Symons**

## **Remit of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutiny and assisting with policy development in relation to services for children and young people. This includes schools, early years settings and children's centres, safeguarding and child protection, children in care and services for children with special educational needs and disabilities. The Committee also scrutinises the parts of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy that relate to children and young people.

### **Membership:**

Councillor Pauline Helliar-Symons (Chairman).  
Councillors Laura Blumenthal, Richard Dolinski, Ken Miall, Beth Rowland, Bill Soane, Alison Swaddle and Shahid Younis (Vice-Chairman).

### **Substitute Members:**

Councillors Chris Bowring, Prue Bray, Kate Haines and Clive Jones.

Representatives of the Church of England Diocese and the Roman Catholic Diocese, together with a Parent Governor are also able to attend meetings of the Committee when Education issues are being considered. At the moment these posts are vacant.

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Tel 0118 974 6091

## **Work Programme 2016-17**

### **Performance Management**

At each meeting the Committee reviewed the performance of the service in relation to key Performance Indicators. These indicators demonstrate the contribution made by Children's Services to achieving key Council priorities relating to looking after vulnerable people, improving educational attainment and focussing on every child achieving their potential. Members asked detailed questions on the performance indicators and requested further information to support the direction of travel set out in the report. At its meeting in November 2016 the Committee challenged the target for the 'schools causing concern' indicator and Officers agreed to make this a target of zero. The Committee asked the Service to include a further indicator to start the monitoring of Adoption services.

### **School Performance Data**

The Committee received regular School Performance data reports. Summaries of recently published School OFSTED reports were also considered. The Committee noted that many schools had improved their Ofsted inspection results over the last year. The Committee challenged the performance gap between boys and girls and enquired about the efforts in narrowing the gap for disadvantaged pupils.

Members were informed that Southfields Special School (which had undergone special measures) was now closed and a new school has been formed in partnership with the Northern House Trust. An inspection took place in December 2016 and significant improvements had already been achieved with the support of the Local Authority and the Trust. The Committee requested to be regularly informed of any school(s) causing concern. In future such reports would be considered in a part 2 session with the local ward Member(s) being invited to attend the meeting.

The Committee noted that 'reading' and 'grammar' tended to perform better than 'writing' in the Early Years, KS1 and KS2. Officers were asked to provide evidence of work being undertaken to improve 'writing' in schools and Early Years settings across the Borough. The Committee noted high achievements, and on the whole, the fact that Wokingham schools continued to perform well, as evidenced by national statistics.

### **Coombes School Task and Finish Group**

The Task and Finish Group was set up to examine the reasons that led to the school's unsatisfactory Ofsted rating following an inspection in May 2016. The Group's remit was firstly to find out how the Council supported the school and how it could have supported the school more effectively; secondly, to determine what measures could be introduced to prevent what happened to the Coombes School from happening to other schools; and thirdly, to develop a system to keep local ward Members informed of schools' performance in their ward, in particular to provide early warning if a particular school was in danger of underperforming.

The cross-party Group consisted of six Members. Six meetings were held from August to November 2016, during which various Officers and Headteachers were interviewed. A final report containing its findings and recommendations was presented to the March 2017 meeting of the Committee. Details of the Task and Finish Group's investigations and conclusions are contained in the final report which can be found on the Council's website.

### **Multi Agency Safeguarding**

Members noted that the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) was implemented in April 2016 and had been rated a success. MASH was a programme that facilitated information sharing between agencies. The project offered a safe environment to hold conversations about safeguarding and helped to speed up processes. The Committee received an update at its June 2016 meeting from Graham Enright of Thames Valley Police.

The Committee was also informed that there were other systems already in place to ensure effective safeguarding, such as the MARAC map (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) and the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). The Committee received a report on the work undertaken by all these safeguarding projects at its September 2016 meeting. The Committee will continue to monitor MASH as part of its work programme.

### **Post OFSTED Action Plan**

The Committee continued to monitor the action plan developed following the Ofsted inspection of Children's Services in November 2015. The Service also submitted a self-

assessment plan containing targets for improvement. The Committee was informed that Ofsted had not revised the action plan, this demonstrated confidence in the Service's ability to improve and move forward.

### **Wokingham Multi Academy Trust**

The Committee was informed that a Member and Officer Task and Finish Group was set up to establish the best way to develop a Trust. Councillor Charlotte Haitham Taylor, Executive Member for Children's Services addressed the Committee at its meeting in January 2017 to update the Committee on the work of the Task and Finish Group. Since the Task and Finish Group was first established, there has been a shift in government policy in relation to academies. The Committee was informed of the loss of the Education Services Grant and its implication for schools' funding. The Council will continue to explore various options and the potential benefits of setting up a partnership model.

### **Wokingham Borough Council Policies Regarding Transsexual Issues in Schools**

Members requested a review of the Council's policies in relation to transsexual issues in schools following enquires from residents. Members were informed that transsexual issues only affected a small number of children in the Borough and where necessary this was dealt with by the Education Psychology Service. The small number of cases did not warrant the development of a specific policy at this stage. The Committee recommended that schools' awareness of this issue should be raised and that access to information should be made available to schools. The Service agreed to make more information available to schools by sharing another Council's policy document. The Committee agreed to monitor this issue within the equalities review.

### **Regional Adoption Agency**

The Committee considered the proposal for Wokingham Borough Council to join a Regional Adoption Agency. This was a government initiative which encouraged local authorities to join in partnership with other adoption agencies. The Committee was informed that there were many benefits to joining the agency, including: a bigger pool of children and adopters; better value for money through economies of scale in the recruitment and assessment process for adopters; potential savings through placing children with adopters more quickly and improved adoption services across a wider geographical area. After careful consideration, the Committee agreed to support the proposal.

### **Career Choice, Guidance and Training Opportunities for Children in the Borough**

The Committee was informed that this service provision was delivered through schools. Schools made use of links with education, businesses, networks with the public and voluntary sectors to provide students with a variety of opportunities. Members recommended that training and guidance about career choice should be extended to parents. The Committee also noted that it was important to encourage girls to take up STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects. The Committee learnt that children with disabilities received career guidance through Addington School in partnership with Elevate. Members recommended that the Service promote partnerships between schools and major companies to facilitate work experience for young people.

## **Staff Recruitment and Retention**

The Committee was pleased to note that the recent strategies to improve social worker recruitment and retention had started to produce positive results. There were now more experienced Social Workers in the Borough in comparison to 2015/16. However, the Committee was informed that there would always be a need to use agency workers because the benefits of working for the Council did not always outweigh the advantages of a flexible approach to work offered by agencies. The Service offered substantial training opportunities through the Innovation Programme and the Practice Framework.

Members noted that children in care had asked for more consistency with social workers. As a result, the Service had made social worker retention one of its priorities. It was important not to become complacent and, therefore, there would be continuous effort to improve social worker recruitment and retention.

## **Work Programme 2017-18**

The Committee will continue to monitor key Performance Indicators to track the overall improvement of Children's Services and will continue to monitor school improvement, particularly in relation to 'narrowing the gap' between high and low achievers and the delivery of effective safeguarding services for children. Additionally, the Committee will closely monitor any school(s) causing concern. The forward programme will now include a standing item on 'school(s) causing concern' (to be considered in a part 2 session). The Committee's work programme is flexible and will allow for items to be added if the need for a particular review arises. Task and Finish Groups will be established if required by the Committee, either to carry out specific investigations or to have an input into policy development. The Committee's work programme for 2017-18 will include the following topics:

- Workforce Strategy;
- The impact of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council programme on Children's Services;
- Children and Young People's Plan – refresh;
- Early Years Strategy (including the impact of the 30 free hours for 3-4 year olds)
- Sufficiency Strategy for Children In Care and Care Leavers – refresh 2017-19
- Secondary School place planning;
- Engagement Plan 2017/18 (receiving feedback from young people and their families);
- Disability Strategy 2016/18;
- Children Missing Education Strategy 2015-18 (including children educated at home);
- Primary Strategy 2016/18.

## SECTION 5

### REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



**Philip Mirfin, Chairman  
Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee**

2016-17 was the second year of operation for the Committee following the merger of the former Corporate Services and Community Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

During the year the Committee looked at a number of issues which are important to the residents of the Borough and to the delivery of high quality services by the Council and key partners. These included parking, flood risk management, the Wokingham Town Centre Regeneration, community safety and policing arrangements, houses in multiple occupation, unauthorised traveller encampments and cycle lanes.

The Committee also scrutinised the Council's major change programme: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council. The programme aims to improve customer choice, implement "state of the art" information technology and systems, increase partnership and community working whilst, at the same time, delivering significant savings. These are ambitious aims. The Committee will monitor the implementation of the change programme to ensure that its aims are achieved, the positive impact on residents and local communities is delivered and the most vulnerable residents in the Borough are not disadvantaged by the new ways of working.

We already have a number of important topics on the agenda for coming meetings, as you can see from this report, and more will be added during the next two months as proposals are evaluated and prioritised.

This report marks the completion of my first year as Chairman of the Committee. I thank the Members of the Committee, Officers and those others who took part in our meetings for their valuable contributions during the year.

**Philip Mirfin**

## **Remit of the Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for the scrutiny of internal Council operations and partnership working across the Borough. It also has responsibilities under the Police and Justice Act 2006 which involves oversight of the operation of the Borough's Community Safety Partnership. The Committee is also responsible for the scrutiny of flood risk management.

### **Membership**

Councillor Philip Mirfin (Chairman).

Councillors Chris Bowring, Michael Firmager (Vice-Chairman), Ken Miall, Rachelle Shepherd-Dubey, David Sleight, Bill Soane and Shahid Younis.

**Substitute Members:** Councillors Parry Batth, Chris Smith, Lindsay Ferris and Clive Jones.

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## **Work Programme 2016-17**

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Council**

As part of its role the Committee holds a watching brief over the changes that are currently taking place within the Council under the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council change programme. During the year, the Committee received two presentations on the change programme. The first was a presentation by the Chief Executive and the Programme Director, submitted in June 2016, outlining the key drivers of the changes and the projected benefits relating to improved customer service and financial savings. Members asked a number of questions regarding the need for resilience and the need to maintain focus on key customer and statutory services.

The second presentation was submitted in January 2017 at the start of Phase 1 of the restructuring process, i.e. the restructuring of senior management, support services, IT and strategy and commissioning. As part of this submission, the Chief Executive explained the methodology being used to minimise job losses and to involve the trade unions and other consultative bodies through the process. The Committee welcomed the report and asked for a further report in November 2017 following the commencement of Phase 2 of the programme.

### **Wokingham Town Centre Regeneration Scheme**

In October 2015, the Committee received a report on the proposals to regenerate Wokingham Town Centre. Members requested further updates as the scheme progressed, with future updates to include financial data. An update was duly presented to the Committee in November 2016, prior to the commencement of the Peach Place refurbishment. The update included details of the four priority projects within the scheme as well as information regarding the financial implications of the scheme which was projected to deliver a financial surplus of £16m to the Council. Members subsequently received information about trends in the retail market and projected growth in retail activity linked to the regeneration scheme.

Members asked a number of questions relating to the risks facing the Council in its role as developer, the variety of retail, food and entertainment facilities to be delivered by the scheme and the implications for vulnerable residents such as the visually impaired.

### **Cycle Lanes**

The Council has been carrying out a programme of cycle lane development within the Borough and with Reading Borough Council, with the intention of creating a cycle path along the A329 corridor as part of the National Cycle Route across Berkshire. The Committee received an update on the cycle lane programme, in January 2017, which outlined the progress that had been made since the start of the programme. The Committee were pleased to note that funding continued to be identified and that the “My Journey” brand had been successfully launched.

Members reported that a number of residents had raised concerns about shared pavements and the apparent lack of courtesy displayed by many cyclists, for example by not making pedestrians aware of their presence by means of cycle bells or similar. Officers were asked to broaden engagement with all ages of cyclists to make them aware that it is mandatory to have a bell on a bicycle when it is sold, for a very good reason, so that pedestrians and other users of shared spaces could be alerted to the danger of speeding bicycles approaching. Members continued to be concerned about safety and asked for a further update on this issue in September 2017 following the completion of Phase 4 of the programme, which would link Woodlands Road to Station Approach.

### **Road Repairs and Road Improvement Schemes**

The Committee received a report on road repairs in 2015 and asked for an update in June 2016. As part of the update report, the Committee was informed about changes in staffing and how this had impacted on the road repairs programme. The Committee was happy to learn that, over the previous year, the target of 85% of works meeting required standards had been successfully achieved and would continue to be improved upon by working closely with the contractor. Officers also reported that new Government guidelines were to be issued later in the year, promoting an integrated asset management approach to highway infrastructure.

At the November 2016 meeting, the Committee welcomed the new “Highways for Members” service and its positive impact on the handling of queries. In response to being informed that the contracts with professional services and highway maintenance and structures were being extended until March 2019, Members raised the issue of highway works carried out by utility companies and asked for more information about the number and range of fines imposed due to work overruns, etc. Members were subsequently informed of the figures and that income from fines was being directed towards the Highways and Transport service.

### **Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Strategy**

Following an initial report in January 2016, the Committee received an update on the SuDS strategy in September 2016 outlining the Council’s long term vision on its use with regard to managing flood risk and improving water management. The Committee was briefed on current flood risk management issues across the Borough and the benefits that would accrue

through the adoption of SuDS through the planning system. With the potential building of 800-900 new houses each year it was essential that the approach to water management was sustainable and appropriate.

Members sought clarification on a number of points around responsibility, asset management and the interface with other authorities as well as working with farmers and their organisations. The strategy went to consultation in July 2016 and was submitted to the Executive in January 2017 when it was adopted. As a result SuDS would be incorporated into the consideration of all future planning applications. The Committee requested an annual update on the impact of the SuDS strategy, commencing in June 2017.

### **Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)**

Following on from a report on HMOs, received in November 2015, the Committee received an update in September 2016 which outlined the current position in the Borough. A resident submitted a question to the Committee relating to the Council's application of HMO regulations to three storey houses when many HMOs in Shinfield Park were based on two storey properties.

Officers informed the Committee that there had been a sizeable reduction in the number of applications for planning and licensing HMOs due to the change of rules around 'buy-to-let' investments. The report stated that the Shinfield Neighbourhood Plan was due to be considered by the Executive followed by a local referendum on its adoption. The Neighbourhood Plan contained provisions relating to parking which could help to alleviate parking problems relating to HMOs.

The update went on to discuss parking issues, which were a key concern around HMOs. The Shinfield Parish Plan included a requirement for parking surveys to take place prior to planning and licensing permission being granted. Members were also informed that the adoption of Civil Parking Enforcement across the Borough would enable the Council to address specific parking issues. The decision was made at Executive in September 2016 to make a submission to the Department of Transport to undertake Civil Parking Enforcement. Progress was ongoing with a public consultation due later in 2017, with the Committee receiving a report on its progress at the March 2017 Meeting.

### **Unauthorised Traveller Encampments**

The Committee received a presentation at the November 2016 meeting outlining the background to the rise in unauthorised Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) encampments in 2016, the costs involved and the measures open to the Council to address the problem. The presentation highlighted a large increase in unauthorised encampments during 2016 with 35 encampments in the year to September. The presentation gave details of the financial implications of the increased incidence of encampments with £25k committed to date.

Members raised concerns relating to the Council's timeframe for removing unauthorised encampments compared to the timeframe for private landowners. Members requested that Officers write to the Lord Chancellor's office to highlight this issue and request appropriate legal changes. The Committee welcomed the use of preventative measures at key sites and

supported the more proactive approach taken by Officers. A further update was requested on unauthorised encampments during 2017.

### **Policing – Wokingham and Bracknell**

The Wokingham and Bracknell local police areas (LPAs) were merged in April 2016 and Members asked for an update on the progress and the impact of the merger to be delivered to the Committee in January 2017. Superintendent Rob France, Bracknell and Wokingham LPA Commander, delivered a detailed report on the benefits of the combined force. He replied to Member questions on crime statistics and reporting and updated the Committee on possible changes to the force in future. Members agreed that this was a valuable report and requested that it be repeated on an annual basis, due next in January 2018.

### **Community Safety Partnership**

At its meeting in March 2017 the Committee scrutinised the work of the Community Safety Partnership over the previous year. Members asked how the partnership and its delivery groups had progressed the four strategic priorities relating to the reporting of domestic abuse, reducing the level of repeat offending, understanding hidden crime and communicating the work of the partnership to make all residents feel safer.

Members considered the range of performance indicators underpinning each of the priorities and provided evidence of local issues which impacted on community safety and the work of the partnership.

### **Work Programme 2017-2018**

Apart from receiving further updates mentioned above on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council programme, cycle lanes, the SuDS strategy and Civil Parking Enforcement, the Committee will also scrutinise the following issues:

- Operation of the Borough's Community Safety Partnership;
- Council Budget monitoring;
- Wokingham Town Centre regeneration project;
- Council support to Voluntary Sector organisations;
- Government Right to Buy Scheme;
- Impact of new legislation on the Council's Procurement Policy

## SECTION 6

### REPORT OF THE HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



**Ken Miall, Chairman  
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The challenges facing the NHS and social care services continue to be front page news. Demand for services continues to increase as a result of new medical technologies, a growing population, longer lifespans and the effect of lifestyle factors such as alcohol consumption, poor diet and lack of exercise. At the same time financial constraints continue to increase as evidenced by record NHS trust deficits and significant reductions in funding for social care. Additionally, the Government is seeking to deliver major service changes such as seven day working in the NHS and new models of care are being introduced through Sustainability and Transformation Plans. Finally, the implications of Brexit, for example in relation to health and social care staffing, are yet to be understood.

The impact of the challenges outlined above on the most vulnerable members of our communities means that there has never been a more important time for robust scrutiny of existing services and detailed analysis of proposed changes. Against this backdrop, the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has continued to test the effectiveness of local health services and explore the potential for more collaborative working between health and social care. In so doing, it has considered evidence from a wide range of sources, including residents, service users, health and care providers and the Borough's Healthwatch team.

During the year the Committee addressed a number of key issues such as the performance of the Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, care home provision, maternity services and progress relating to ongoing Better Care Fund projects.

In delivering its work programme, the Committee continues to build on effective working relationships with key health service providers, the Wokingham Health and Wellbeing Board, the Borough's Clinical Commissioning Group and the local Healthwatch team.

Finally, I would like to record my thanks to the Members, Council Officers, external partners and residents who contributed to the work of the Committee during the year.

**Ken Miall**

## **Remit of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) reviews and scrutinises matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the Borough. This includes acute and community health services, family and public health services and the work of the Local Healthwatch team.

The Committee exercises powers conferred through the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013. The Committee also scrutinises social care services and other health related services jointly commissioned by the Council and local health bodies.

### **Membership**

Councillor Ken Miall (Chairman).

Councillors Parry Batth, Laura Blumenthal, Richard Dolinski, Kate Haines (Vice Chairman), Philip Houldsworth, Clive Jones, Abdul Loyes, Chris Smith, and Bill Soane.

**Substitute Members:** Chris Bowring, Lindsay Ferris, Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey and David Sleight.

All attendees at HOSC meetings, including members of the public, may ask questions after each presentation is delivered.

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### **Work Programme 2016-17**

#### **Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust**

The Committee received a presentation on the performance of the Trust from Julian Emms, Chief Executive, and David Cahill, Locality Director for the Borough. The Trust was the main provider of mental health and community health services across Berkshire. The Trust operated from more than 100 sites across the county including community hospitals, Prospect Park hospital, clinics and GP practices.

The Committee were informed that a Care Quality Commission inspection had rated the Trust as “Good” overall with several services rated as “Outstanding”. This meant that the Trust was the first combined community and mental health trust in the south of England to achieve such a rating. All services located within the Borough, including Westcall, were rated as “Good”.

Members welcomed the outcome of the inspection and asked about the Trust’s plans to move to an “Outstanding” rating. Julian Emms outlined how the Trust intended to build upon the strengths highlighted during the inspection, including a strong leadership team, well motivated and trained staff, high standards of cleanliness in wards and clinics and responsive services which adopted best practice and innovation.

## **Care Homes**

At its meeting in July 2016, the Committee received an update on the provision of care homes within the Borough. Members were informed that there were 21 care homes providing a total of 356 residential care beds and 542 nursing beds. There were also three extra care units with 106 flats. Existing capacity was considered to be adequate. However, the impact of quality assurance frameworks and organisational safeguarding concerns on a provider could have a major impact number of places available within the local market.

Members asked about the impact of a growing population and other trends which would impact on the care home market. It was confirmed that the number of people with high levels needs in the Borough stood at 4,442 in 2015. This number was projected to rise to 7,280 by 2030. It was clear that future market shaping would need to be based on accurate projections of population growth and an assessment of the availability of alternative types of care.

The Committee sought assurance about quality assurance and the process for identifying concerns about local providers. It was confirmed that the Care Governance Board met monthly to analyse feedback and any safeguarding alerts received. It was also reported that the Healthwatch team were undertaking a project on extra care homes, working with Optalis to understand the experience of residents living in extra care housing.

## **Local Health and Care Economy**

Members discussed the local health and care economy, at the meeting in November 2016, and considered how it was meeting the needs of the growing care home population. This followed concerns about difficulties faced by care home residents in registering with local GPs.

Members were briefed on the projected increase in the number of older people in the Borough with the number of residents over the age of 80 likely to double over the next 10 years. In relation to GP registration it was considered to be more practical if care home residents registered with the General Practice linked to the home rather than staying with their own GP. Members recognised that the growing number of older people in the Borough would have ongoing implications and requested updates to future meetings.

## **Support for Carers**

The Committee considered the level and quality of support available for carers across the Borough. It was reported that the Council provided statutory services to around 700 carers. Members were reminded of the Council's Carers' Strategy (2016/18) which focussed on support for carers, enabling carers to keep healthy, social isolation, self-help and the promotion of community based support. In addition, more carers were supported by the voluntary sector.

Members were briefed on the development of a new model of carer support services which included extensive consultation with carers about advice, information and outreach services. The specification for the new service had been informed by the views of local carers and carers would also assist in the process for selecting the new provider. Members welcomed

service improvements which included a carers club for carers of people with dementia, an advocacy service for carers and a dedicated young carers service.

### **Independent Living Fund**

Members considered an update on the transfer of Independent Living Fund (ILF) cases to the Council. The ILF had been established in 1988 to make direct payments to enable disabled people and, where appropriate, their carers to purchase support that could not be obtained from Councils. Members were briefed on the 18 cases transferred to the Council and the grant monies allocated by central Government.

### **Better Care Fund – Step Up, Step Down**

The Committee considered progress relating to the Step Up, Step Down project which was one of the eight schemes being delivered under the Better Care Fund. The Better Care Fund had created a local single pooled budget to incentivise the NHS and local government to develop services which focussed on the wellbeing of local residents. Step Up related to people who experienced a sudden and severe change in need requiring a period of intensive support and rehabilitation to avoid hospital admission or permanent placement in a residential or nursing home. Step Down related to people in hospital who were medically well but were not ready to return to their home or level of independence. Step Up, Step Down was based at the Alexandra Place Extra Care scheme with 24/7 staffing.

Members asked about the level of usage of the service and the measures used to assess service quality. It was confirmed that during the year from July 2015 to July 2016 the service had been used by 37 people for a cumulative total of 698 days. This meant that 339 days in hospital were saved along with 25 admissions to residential care. The estimated cost of the service for the year was £110k against which NHS savings of £155k and Council savings of £92k had been identified. Service users were asked to complete a questionnaire and, to date, feedback had been largely positive.

### **Maternity Services**

Gill Valentine, Director of Midwifery at the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust, attended the November 2016 meeting to brief Members about maternity services. The services delivered included community midwifery, hospital based ante-natal and post-natal care. The briefing covered staffing levels, quality assurance and service priorities for the future.

Members were informed that a Care Quality Commission inspection in November 2015 had resulted in positive feedback for the service. The inspection found that feedback from service users was consistently positive, delivery rates were comparable with the England average and clinical areas were visibly clean.

Members asked about any issues which impacted on the recruitment of midwives, including housing costs and other challenges facing the service. It was confirmed that the cost of housing was a major challenge and that the age profile of staff meant that recruiting younger midwives was a priority. New housing developments in the Borough were also likely to result in additional demand for maternity services.

## **Healthwatch**

At each Committee meeting Healthwatch Wokingham Borough updated Members on its work. Members also considered the Healthwatch Annual Report for 2015/16. The annual report stated that over 650 people had shared their experiences with Healthwatch during the year and 167 people had been signposted to advice and guidance.

The Committee expressed concern that future funding for Healthwatch was not guaranteed. Members felt that Healthwatch provided a valuable service to local communities.

## **Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan**

The Committee accepted an invitation to join with West Berkshire, Reading, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Councils in the joint scrutiny of the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). The STP includes key programmes and enabling work streams focussing on prevention relating to child and adult obesity and exercise, urgent care, mental health, workforce issues and digital interoperability.

Delivery of the STP will help to tackle major challenges relating to the increased demand for services, pockets of deprivation, population growth, out of date facilities, variable access to services and staff recruitment and retention. It will also generate significant savings to bridge the major funding gap facing health services across the region.

## **Work Programme 2017-18**

The Committee's work programme for 2017/18 will be an evolving piece of work. The Committee will continue to receive the Wokingham Clinical Commissioning Group Performance Outcomes Report and updates from Healthwatch. It will also continue to monitor current health related consultations and will scrutinise the following issues:

- Performance of the local NHS Foundation Trusts;
- Progress relating to the integration of health and social care services;
- The provision of effective community mental health services;
- Access to primary care services within the Borough's Strategic Development Locations.

## SECTION 7

### GETTING INVOLVED IN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

The Council is committed to making Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings accessible to all residents of the Borough. A key aim is to increase public involvement in the process and to remove barriers to participation.

Residents can get involved in Overview and Scrutiny by attending meetings - all Overview and Scrutiny meetings are open to the public and are held in the early evening to make attendance easier. In addition, copies of Agendas including reports to be considered are published five working days before each meeting and can be accessed on the Council's website:

[www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings)

Residents can also elect to receive automatic notification when new Overview and Scrutiny Agenda and Minutes are published.

Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting includes a Public Question Time session which allows residents to raise issues of general interest and/or specific issues relating to the items under consideration.

Members of the public are also able to contribute to Scrutiny reviews by giving evidence either as an individual or as part of a community group. Residents can also request that a specific item is considered by Overview and Scrutiny as a review item. Residents can complete an online Scrutiny review suggestion form at:

[www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review)

During 2017-18 the Council will be seeking to make more use of local and social media to raise awareness of issues coming before the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and to allow residents to provide comments and feedback.

The Council's Twitter feed is accessible here: [WokinghamBorough@WokinghamBC](https://twitter.com/WokinghamBC)

If you want to learn more about Overview and Scrutiny or want to discuss a specific issue, please contact Neil Carr, the Council's Scrutiny Officer:

by telephone: 0118 974 6058, or

by email: [neil.carr@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:neil.carr@wokingham.gov.uk) or by post:

Democratic Services, Wokingham Borough Council, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN.

## **SECTION 8**

### **DATES OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN 2017/18**

- **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

Tuesday 30 May 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 11 July 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 20 September 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 22 November 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 9 January 2018 at 7pm  
Tuesday 27 March 2018 at 7pm

- **Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Tuesday 20 June 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 14 November 2017 at 7pm  
Tuesday 23 January 2018 at 7pm  
Tuesday 20 March 2018 at 7pm

- **Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Monday 19 June 2017 at 7pm  
Monday 4 September 2017 at 7pm  
Monday 6 November 2017 at 7pm  
Monday 15 January 2018 at 7pm  
Monday 12 March 2018 at 7pm

- **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Monday 5 June 2017 at 7pm  
Monday 10 July 2017 at 7pm  
Monday 11 September 2017 at 7pm  
Monday 22 January 2018 at 7pm  
Wednesday 7 March 2018 at 7pm

## **DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2017/2018**

**Please note that the Work Programme is a 'live' document and subject to change at short notice.**

**The information in this Work Programme, including report titles is draft and is subject to approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
30 May 2017	<b>Monitoring of Public and Member Questions</b>	To review the public and Member questions submitted to the Executive and full Council meetings	Request by the Committee – 31 May 2016	Neil Carr
	<b>Executive Forward Programme and IEMD Forward programme</b>	To consider upcoming Executive and Individual Executive Member Decision items	Standing Item	Democratic Services
	<b>Reports from O&amp;S Chairmen</b>	Standing Item	Coordination between the Committees	Committee Chairmen
	<b>Work Programmes</b>	To consider the Work Programmes for the Management Committee and the three Overview and Scrutiny Committees	Coordination between the O & S Committees	Democratic Services
11 July 2017	<b>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report</b>	To consider Q4 Council Performance.	Standing Item	Julie Holland

	<b>Monitoring of Public and Member Questions</b>	To review the public and Member questions submitted to the Executive and full Council meetings	Request by the Committee – 31 May 2016	Neil Carr
	<b>Executive Forward Programme and IEMD Forward programme</b>	To consider upcoming Executive and Individual Executive Member Decision items	Standing Item	Democratic Services
	<b>Reports from O&amp;S Chairmen</b>	Standing Item	Coordination between the Committees	Committee Chairmen
	<b>Work Programmes</b>	To consider the Work Programmes for the Management Committee and the three Overview and Scrutiny Committees	Coordination between the O & S Committees	Democratic Services
<b>20 September 2017</b>	<b>Monitoring of Public and Member Questions</b>	To review the public and Member questions submitted to the Executive and full Council meetings	Request by the Committee – 31 May 2016	Neil Carr
	<b>Executive Forward Programme and IEMD Forward programme</b>	To consider upcoming Executive and Individual Executive Member Decision items	Standing Item	Democratic Services
	<b>Reports from O&amp;S Chairmen</b>	Standing Item	Coordination between the Committees	Committee Chairmen

	<b>Work Programmes</b>	To consider the Work Programmes for the Management Committee and the three Overview and Scrutiny Committees	Coordination between the O & S Committees	Democratic Services

**Items to be Confirmed:**

<b>Delivery Options for Highways and Transport</b>	To receive a report once the service review process is complete	Requested by the Committee - 11 January 2016	Alex Deans
<b>Asset Management Review Programme</b>	To receive a further update as the review progresses	Requested by the Committee - 7 March 2016	Chris Gillett

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### 2017/ 2018 WORK PROGRAMME

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
20 June	<b>Children's Services Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an update and monitor Children's Services performance measured by local indicators</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Children's Services Performance & Information Team
137	<b>School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports, School Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information on schools' performance, and to review recent Ofsted Report</li> <li>Narrowing the gap – progress report</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Head of Learning & Achievement
	<b>Schools causing concern – Part 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information about any school(s) causing concern</li> </ul>	Standing item to give an early indication of any school(s) in danger of underachieving	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Children's Services O&amp;S Committee Forward Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the forward programme of the Committee</li> </ul>	Standing item	Democratic Services / Luciane Bowker

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
<b>12 September</b>	<b>Children's Services Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an update and monitor Children's Services performance measured by local indicators</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Children's Services Performance & Information Team
	<b>School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports, School Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information on schools' performance, and to review recent Ofsted Report</li> <li>Narrowing the gap – progress report</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Schools causing concern – Part 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information about any school(s) causing concern</li> </ul>	Standing item to give an early indication of any school(s) in danger of underachieving	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Children's Services O&amp;S Committee Forward Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the forward programme of the Committee</li> </ul>	Standing item	Democratic Services / Luciane Bowker
<b>14 November</b>	<b>Children's Services Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an update and monitor Children's Services performance measured by local indicators</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Children's Services Performance & Information Team

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
	<b>School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports, School Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information on schools' performance, and to review recent Ofsted Report</li> <li>Narrowing the gap – progress report</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Schools causing concern – Part 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information about any school(s) causing concern</li> </ul>	Standing item to give an early indication of any school(s) in danger of underachieving	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Children's Services O&amp;S Committee Forward Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the forward programme of the Committee</li> </ul>	Standing item	Democratic Services / Luciane Bowker
<b>23 January</b>	<b>Children's Services Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an update and monitor Children's Services performance measured by local indicators</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Children's Services Performance & Information Team
	<b>School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports, School Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information on schools' performance, and to review recent Ofsted Report</li> <li>Narrowing the gap – progress report</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Head of Learning and Achievement

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
	<b>Schools causing concern – Part 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information about any school(s) causing concern</li> </ul>	Standing item to give an early indication of any school(s) in danger of underachieving	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Children’s Services O&amp;S Committee Forward Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the forward programme of the Committee</li> </ul>	Standing item	Democratic Services / Luciane Bowker
<b>20 March</b>	<b>Children’s Services Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an update and monitor Children’s Services performance measured by local indicators</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Children’s Services Performance & Information Team
	<b>School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports, School Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information on schools’ performance, and to review recent Ofsted Report</li> <li>Narrowing the gap – progress report</li> </ul>	Standing item to enable the Committee to assess performance and identify areas of concern	Head of Learning and Achievement
	<b>Schools causing concern – Part 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive information about any school(s) causing concern</li> </ul>	Standing item to give an early indication of any school(s) in danger of underachieving	Head of Learning and Achievement

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
	<b>Children's Services O&amp;S Committee Forward Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the forward programme of the Committee</li> </ul>	Standing item	Democratic Services / Luciane Bowker

Possible items:

- Workforce Strategy 2014-16
- Children and Young People's Plan – refresh
- Early Years Strategy (this will look among other things of the impact of the 30 free hours for 3-4 year olds)
- Sufficiency Strategy for Children in Care and Care Leavers- refresh 2017-19
- Secondary School place planning
- Engagement Plan 2017-18 (how we get feedback from young people and their families)
- Disability Strategy 2016-18
- Children Missing Education Strategy 2015-18 (including children educated at home)
- Primary Strategy 2016-18
- Market Position statement, and Statement purpose of education.

## COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/2018

142

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
19 June 2017	<b>Flood Risk Update Report</b>	To consider a report of local flooding issues arising during the winter of 2016/17	Statutory requirement	Francesca Hobson
	<b>Car Parking Strategy Update and CPE</b>	To consider the pricing of parking in Wokingham, how it has been formulated and the possible impact on town centre users, including Carnival Park and to update on the progress towards the introduction of CPE	Requested by the Chairman Jan 2017	Alison Dray
	<b>Review of the Voluntary Sector</b>	To consider an update on the Review and what is being proposed in regard to moving forward against Council priorities.	Requested at the meeting in March 2016	Paul Feven
	<b>Work Programme</b>	To consider the work programme for the committee for 2017/18 so that the resources of the committee can be used as effectively as possible.	Standing Item	Democratic Services
DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
4 September 2017	<b>Cycling Lanes</b>	To consider the impact of new cycle lanes across the Borough and cycling safety issues including an update on the extension of new cycle lanes after the completion of Phase 4	Requested by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman at Jan 9 2017 meeting	Alex Deans/David Wilby

	<b>Highway &amp; Transport Service Initiatives 2017</b>	General update on improvements and initiatives including improved programming and co-ordination of all planned works including the major distribution roads, and an update on highway maintenance repairs in 2017 and an update on the sound proof barriers along the M4.	Requested by the Committee 21 November 2016	Alex Deans
	<b>Work Programme</b>	To consider the work programme for the committee for 2017/2018 so that the resources of the committee can be used as effectively as possible.	Standing Item	Democratic Services

Upcoming Items:

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council Phase 2
- Unauthorised encampments

## HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/2018

DATE OF MEETING	ITEMS	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
144	<b>Accessing GP appointments and Primary care facilities at the Arborfield SDL</b>	To be informed of plans for primary care for the Arborfield SDL and to be updated around GP capacity and accessing GP appointments to determine if there are any areas of concern.	To determine if there are any areas of concern.	Darrell Gale, Consultant in Public Health/ Mark Cupit, Delivery Programme Director/ CCG
	<b>Healthwatch – Extra Care Project</b>	To update the Committee on Healthwatch Wokingham Borough's Extra Care Project	For information	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough
	<b>Wokingham Safeguarding Adults annual report which 2015-2016 and the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual report</b>	To present the Wokingham Safeguarding Adults annual report which 2015-2016 and the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual report to the Committee.	For information	Judith Ramsden, Director of People Services
	<b>Performance Outcomes Report</b>	To monitor performance and identify any areas of concern	Challenge item	
	<b>Health Consultation Report</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Democratic Services
	<b>Healthwatch update</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEMS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
<b>Monday 10 July 2017</b>	<b>Update from Health and Wellbeing Board</b>	To be updated on the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board	To be updated on the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board	Chairman of Health and Wellbeing Board
	<b>Performance Outcomes Report</b>	To monitor performance and identify any areas of concern	Challenge item	
	<b>Health Consultation Report</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Democratic Services
	<b>Healthwatch update</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEMS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
<b>Monday 11 September 2017</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes Report</b>	To monitor performance and identify any areas of concern	Challenge item	
	<b>Health Consultation Report</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Democratic Services

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEMS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
	<b>Healthwatch update</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEMS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
<b>Wednesday 15 November 2017</b>	<b>Impact of the 21st Century Council project on health and social care services</b>	To be informed of the potential Impact of the 21st Century Council project on health and social care services	To be informed of the potential Impact of the 21st Century Council project on health and social care services	Judith Ramsden, Director of People Services/ Andy Couldrick, Chief Executive
	<b>Performance Outcomes Report</b>	To monitor performance and identify any areas of concern	Challenge item	
	<b>Health Consultation Report</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Democratic Services
	<b>Healthwatch update</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEMS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
<b>Monday 22 January 2018</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes Report</b>	To monitor performance and identify any areas of concern	Challenge item	
	<b>Health Consultation Report</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Democratic Services
	<b>Healthwatch update</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough
<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEMS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REASON FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
<b>Wednesday 7 March 2018</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes Report</b>	To monitor performance and identify any areas of concern	Challenge item	
	<b>Health Consultation Report</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Democratic Services
	<b>Healthwatch update</b>	Challenge item	Challenge item	Healthwatch Wokingham Borough

**Currently unscheduled topics:**

- Draft Quality Accounts (April 2018)
  - Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
  - Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
  - South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
- Update on work of Clinical Commissioning Group
- Weekend 'bed blocking'



## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – WORK PROGRAMME SUGGESTION FORM

I would like to suggest a Scrutiny or Policy Review item for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee’s next work programme.

Name: William Luck

**I would like to suggest that the following matter is reviewed:**

The permitted development rights for the conversion of Use Class C3 to a Use Class C4 (HMO), consideration of an Article 4 Direction to ensure that adequate car parking is provided with such a change of use. Also a review of the parking standards to include a requirement for all types of HMO, both Use Class C4 and sui generis.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Reasons for suggestion:**

These conversions within a suburban area result in a significant increase in car parking demand, given that they usually generate as many cars as bed spaces, and with limited on-plot parking add an unacceptable burden to the local roads to accommodate the overspill parking along with those from the surrounding family homes, particularly when there can be a number in any one street. Many LPAs are including such policies in their Local Plans and reviewing their parking standards as a result.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Please consider:**

- Why should there be a review on this?
- Any linkages with the Council’s Vision, Priorities and Underpinning Principles – you can find these at <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council/decisions/vision/>
- What benefits would there be to residents?

**Are there any specific aspects of the issue you would like scrutiny to focus upon or supporting evidence?**

Comments received from local residents about the impacts of parking from such properties and comments upon local social media again highlighting these problems.

I am personally aware of two such properties where the number of vehicles has exceeded the number of bedrooms, with only one on-plot parking space.

I am aware that a number of LPAs are adopting Article 4

**Please consider:**

- What evidence is there to support the above reasons?
- What are the facts?
- Are there specific organisations or documents you would like a review to refer?
- Do you have any suggestions for potential witnesses?

Directions and planning [policies to specifically address the problems of excessive parking associated with HMOs.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**What would you like to see coming out of the review in terms of desired outcomes?**

The adoption of an Article 4 Direction to remove the PD rights;  
A suitable policy incorporated within the emerging Local Plan;  
and, a review of the Council's parking standards to include a requirement for all types of HMOs.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Please consider:

- What would you wish to see happen as a result of any review?
- Why do you think the desired outcome is achievable?

Would you like to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a short statement in support of your request?

Yes

No

I am (Please tick appropriate box)

A Member or Officer of Wokingham Borough Council

A group with an interest in the Wokingham Borough Council area

A local business situated in the Wokingham Borough Council area

A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

Please return this form to:

Neil Carr

Democratic Services

Shute End

Wokingham RG40 1BN

**Tel** 0118 974 6058

**Email**

democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk

Scrutiny Review Suggestion:

Entry ID: 646036

Submitted On: 13/03/2017

Submitted From: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review/>

Submitted By:

**Name:** Catherine Goad

**Tell us what topic you'd like reviewed:** Household recycling

**Tell us the reasons for your suggestion (areas to tell us about include how it links to our vision and priorities and what benefit there would be to residents):** We have lived in the area for the past 12 months and I am shocked and saddened by how little we are able to actually recycle. Having lived down the road in Taplow where you can recycle so much, including most plastics, pots, trays as well as bottles, foil, glass as well as all the normal bits it's shocking that a council doesn't want to do more.

**Tell us any specific aspects of the topic you'd like the focus to be on or any supporting evidence you have (areas to tell us about include the facts, specific organisation or documents you want the review to refer to and suggestions for potential witnesses):** I appreciate that recycling can be a costly exercise for a council, but surely with neighbouring councils managing this is there not some kind of partnership deal that can be done to help with such an important issue.

**Tell us what you'd like the outcome of the review to be and why you think that outcome is possible:** To be able to recycle more, certainly more plastics and ideally other items too. Make it easy to reduce the amount going to landfill

**Do you want to come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a statement in support of your request:** No

**Who are you:** A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

**Date of your request:** 13/03/2017

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**WOKINGHAM  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – WORK PROGRAMME SUGGESTION FORM

I would like to suggest a Scrutiny or Policy Review item for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee’s next work programme.

Name: Gary Cowan	
Daytime Contact Number	Email Address
Evening	
Address:	

**I would like to suggest that the following matter is reviewed:**

Member/Officer/Resident protocol for communicating with each other.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

<p><b>Reasons for suggestion:</b></p> <p>The biggest drawback to Members being able to fulfil their roles there needs to be in place a very clear guidance on how communications work that are open and transparent etc.</p>	<p><b>Please consider:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why should there be a review on this?</li> <li><i>Any linkages with the Council's Vision, Priorities and Underpinning Principles</i> – you can find these at <a href="http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council/decisions/vision/">http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council/decisions/vision/</a></li> <li>What benefits would there be to residents?</li> </ul>
--	---

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Are there any specific aspects of the issue you would like scrutiny to focus upon or supporting evidence?**

Many cases of lack of communication leading to distrust

- Please consider:
- What evidence is there to support the above reasons?
  - What are the facts?
  - Are there specific organisations or documents you would like a review to refer?
  - Do you have any suggestions for potential witnesses?

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**What would you like to see coming out of the review in terms of desired outcomes?**

Better communications and openness

- Please consider:
- What would you wish to see happen as a result of any review?
  - Why do you think the desired outcome is achievable?

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Would you like to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a short statement in support of your request?**

Yes  No

I am (Please tick appropriate box)

- A Member or Officer of Wokingham Borough Council
- A group with an interest in the Wokingham Borough Council area
- A local business situated in the Wokingham Borough Council area
- A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

Please return this form to:  
Neil Carr  
Democratic Services  
Shute End  
Wokingham RG40 1BN

**Tel** 0118 974 6058  
**Email**  
democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk

## O&S Work Programme Scrutiny Request

Entry ID: 639300

Submitted On: 02/02/2017

Submitted From: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review/>

Submitted By:

**Name:** Jason Sutton

### **Tell us what topic you'd like reviewed:**

Responses to the Supplementary Question of EP2 posed to the Executive Member for Children's Services at the Meeting of the Executive Committee on the 26th Jan 2017

### **Tell us the reasons for your suggestion (areas to tell us about include how it links to our vision and priorities and what benefit there would be to residents):**

Lack of visibility over process and procedure can affect public faith that public bodies are abusing positions of power and not held to account for decisions that are made.

### **Tell us any specific aspects of the topic you'd like the focus to be on or any supporting evidence you have (areas to tell us about include the facts, specific organisation or documents you want the review to refer to and suggestions for potential witnesses):**

Responses to the Supplementary Question of EP2 This question was not answered, a response to this question required a simple decision to be made on the validity of a previous decision from a procedural perspective. The Supplementary question was quite simple in that it requires an answer of "Remain valid" or "Be re-examined".

### **Tell us what you'd like the outcome of the review to be and why you think that outcome is possible:**

A response that either: The executive would still uphold a previous decision even in the event that it is based on information that can be demonstrated to be inaccurate, erroneous, misleading and not supportable through evidence. Or The Executive would re-examine an approval decision as such a decision may have been based on information that misled the decision. Such an examination would be recorded and open to scrutiny in order to show accountability justifying the decision that has been made and demonstrating that a change in information would not have affected the original decision. It is the responsibility of the Executive to make properly informed decisions and therefore I believe that either of the above responses should be possible

### **Do you want to come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a statement in support of your request:** Yes

**Who are you:** A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

**Date of your request:** 02/02/2017

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PUBLIC QUESTION TIME  
EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**ON 26 JANUARY 2017**

Jason Sutton has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

**Question**

There is a proposal to expand Aldryngton Primary School. Aldryngton is the smallest Primary School site in Earley. Spatial availability is a key consideration when determining which schools to expand. WBC commissioned a spatial study by ERM Architecture dated 7/9/2015 to compare Loddon, Radstock and Aldryngton Primary. The study's conclusions were very clear: "Aldryngton's Primary Campus is the least attractive campus for investment - there is a substantial deficit in campus area." With a recommendation Loddon and Radstock be taken forwards to a "Stage 1 Feasibility".

On 28 January 2016, the WBC Executive met and one of the items discussed was which Primary Schools to expand. This 'Spatial Study' was not provided to the Executive. Rather 'spatial analysis' was a category presented in Annex 2 of the document "Primary Strategy Implementation Plan Phase 1" contained on page 142 of the Report to the Executive. The stated conclusion in relation to Aldryngton was however described to the Executive as, "Sufficiency of space - space for 0.5FE expansion which would be relatively straightforward." The strategy also suggested that an activity of consultation had been performed with "parents, residents, schools and other stakeholders" with the next step being a detailed feasibility study on the selected schools. Why was the information supplied to the Council within the report not reflective of the findings of the original spatial report commissioned, was this information provided in error?

**Answer**

The ERM report conclusions were on the basis of the size of the site alone, while the "Primary Strategy Implementation Plan Phase 1" recommendations were informed by a number of factors. The most important factor was the assessment of the number of places required to meet the need in Earley. The best fit with projected need was the expansion of Loddon and Aldryngton Primary Schools to provide 45 additional places per year.

The ERM conclusions were made against the Department for Education recommended space standard for school premises (known as Building Bulletin number 103), a space standard that is not met at many outstanding and good schools, or in many new and expanded school projects in towns and cities across the country.

The Executive report noted "the site is one of the more constrained" and this was why the recommendation was "that further work should be carried out with the school to determine the feasibility of expansion with a target of September 2017". All work to date indicates that the challenges presented by the constraints identified in the ERM report can be addressed and that expansion is feasible.

**Supplementary Question**

When a decision is made by the Executive based on information presented, which can be shown to be inaccurate, erroneous, misleading and not supportable through evidence, will such a decision approval made by the Executive remain valid or be re-examined?

**Supplementary Answer**

Evidence was produced in order to make that decision and, as I said in my first answer, the recommendation was to do some further analysis and that was done, and therefore the recommendation that went to the Executive therefore stands. So it does not change the recommendation which subsequently went forward. If, subsequently, information then changed what the original recommendation should be, ie it showed that it was completely impossible to build an extra number of classrooms etc because spatially it was completely impossible, for example, in this situation, then another recommendation could, in fact, be effective. But in this case it did not say that, it said completely the contrary. So, therefore, it showed that the expansion was feasible, so, therefore, the recommendation still stands.



**WOKINGHAM  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – WORK PROGRAMME SUGGESTION FORM

I would like to suggest a Scrutiny or Policy Review item for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's next work programme.

Name: John Halsall	
Daytime Contact Number	Email Address
Evening Contact Number	
Address:	

### I would like to suggest that the following matter is reviewed:

The MTFP plan foresees an increase in borrowing which is several times the annual Council Tax receipts and probably the highest level of borrowing ever enjoyed. It is argued that these borrowings will generate new income flows which will repay these borrowings within ten years. These assumptions must be tested and reported upon with the risks associated coupled with the institutions required to ensure that these risks are minimised.

### Reasons for suggestion:

Failure to do so will impose an unreasonable risk to the Council

### Please consider:

- Why should there be a review on this?
- Any linkages with the Council's Vision, Priorities and Underpinning Principles – you can find these at <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council/decisions/vision/>
- What benefits would there be to residents?

<p><b>Are there any specific aspects of the issue you would like scrutiny to focus upon or supporting evidence?</b></p> <p>Should the Council be acting as a speculator? Does it have the necessary skills? Should the Council be putting residents at risk financially or should be it be minimising risk, reducing borrowings and concentrating on optimising services?</p> <p>(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)</p>	<p>Please consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What evidence is there to support the above reasons?</li> <li>• What are the facts?</li> <li>• Are there specific organisations or documents you would like a review to refer?</li> <li>• Do you have any suggestions for potential witnesses?</li> </ul>

<p><b>What would you like to see coming out of the review in terms of desired outcomes?</b></p> <p>The correct institutions independent of the Executive to monitor and ensure that the residents' interests are protected and risk minimised</p> <p>(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)</p>	<p>Please consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What would you wish to see happen as a result of any review?</li> <li>• Why do you think the desired outcome is achievable?</li> </ul>

<p>Would you like to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a short statement in support of your request?</p>	
<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

I am (Please tick appropriate box)

- A Member or Officer of Wokingham Borough Council
- A group with an interest in the Wokingham Borough Council area
- A local business situated in the Wokingham Borough Council area
- A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

Please return this form to:

Neil Carr  
 Democratic Services  
 Shute End  
 Wokingham RG40 1BN

**Tel** 0118 974 6058  
**Email**  
 democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk

## Scrutiny Request

Entry ID: 638532

Submitted On: 27/01/2017

Submitted From: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review/>

Submitted By:

**Name:** Paul Counihan

### **Tell us what topic you'd like reviewed:**

Please review the context, meeting, and factors that led to the agreement for a decision to recommend Aldryngton School for expansion above other options available. At what point, and based on what criteria, was Aldryngton chosen, above ALL other options available, using data and assumptions independently validated by an against the recommendation and advice of the ERMC architects? There is a serious issue of transparency in this case.

### **Tell us the reasons for your suggestion (areas to tell us about include how it links to our vision and priorities and what benefit there would be to residents):**

The decision to select Aldryngton was not made fairly, some info was withheld - Please also refer to FOI 8022 as to where/how the decision was made - The proposal is already out of date, as was initiated in 2015 or earlier - The proposal is estimated at £5m. WBC have spent less than that in the past building new schools, why not build a new school where the demand is? - WBC predicts a surplus of places from 2018 onwards across Earley (WBC's Primary School Planning Strategy 2016-2018). Why not use this & indicative app numbers for 2017? - How does this fit with long term strategy? Maiden Erlegh plans to admit an additional 180 pupils from 2020, is this factored in? New Tesco wasn't factored into the plans from a traffic volume perspective

### **Tell us any specific aspects of the topic you'd like the focus to be on or any supporting evidence you have (areas to tell us about include the facts, specific organisation or documents you want the review to refer to and suggestions for potential witnesses):**

When asked how a decision was reached to recommend Aldryngton given the lack of sufficient space, based on FOI 8022, it was disclosed that no minutes were taken and records had been wiped. - The Public Reports Pack 28-Jan-16 (presented to the Exec) failed to include the recommendation not to proceed with Aldryngton. A clear concealment of relevant information and a blatant obstacle of transparency

### **Tell us what you'd like the outcome of the review to be and why you think that outcome is possible:**

I want courage from a leader to admit that mistakes have been made in this process from the start, to withdraw the current proposal, and start again, based on up to date data (currently not used), valid assumptions (mistakes exist in current assumptions), and a

transparent decision making body based on facts and figures validated by an independent statistician (the cost of which would significantly less than a wasted £5m spend), delivering the best outcome for the residents of Wokingham & Earley

**Do you want to come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a statement in support of your request:**

No.

**Who are you:**

A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area.

**Date of your request:** 27/01/2017

Entry ID: 638594

Submitted On: 27/01/2017

Submitted From: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review/>

Submitted By:

**Name:** Paul M Counihan

**Tell us what topic you'd like reviewed:**

Conflict of Interest: The proposed appointment responsible to make the decision on Aldryngton Expansion as Head of People Services, Judith Ramsden

**Tell us the reasons for your suggestion (areas to tell us about include how it links to our vision and priorities and what benefit there would be to residents):**

Judith Ramsden was Director of Children's Services until Nov-2016. Whilst Director of Children's Services, Judith was part of the team that developed and pushed forward a proposal to expand Aldryngton. This is a clear conflict of interest. The decision should be made by an objective and independent panel. A £5m proposal has to be watertight, this is not.

**Tell us any specific aspects of the topic you'd like the focus to be on or any supporting evidence you have (areas to tell us about include the facts, specific organisation or documents you want the review to refer to and suggestions for potential witnesses):**

The proposal is tainted with allegations of foul play, concealment of information, lack of transparency, and errors (that could have been corrected) in projection assumptions that led to an understated surplus of school places in 2018 and beyond. This proposal for decision making raises very serious concerns of conflict of interest and questions on the

overall process since 2015 in terms of fairness and trust in WBC. This proposal has raised a lot of controversy and needs fresh scrutiny.

**Tell us what you'd like the outcome of the review to be and why you think that outcome is possible:**

The outcome should be the appointment of a completely independent panel and a withdrawal of the current proposal until all issues of breach of policy & processes and foul play are resolved. The level of controversy this proposal has generated merits a fresh look at how any decision making has been conducted and should be conducted. This would be relatively straightforward to achieve.

**Do you want to come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a statement in support of your request:** No.

**Who are you:** A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area.

**Date of your request:** 27/01/2017

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Scrutiny Suggestion – Cllr Pauline Jorgensen

19 January 2017

It might be useful for someone to do a health check of the customer service organisation in advance of 21 Century Council and review the new requirements against this to ensure we are talking the right actions given the importance of the area to the future running of the Council. It would reduce the likelihood of issues but it needs to be done at the right time.

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Scrutiny Review Suggestion:

Entry ID: 646016

Submitted On: 13/03/2017

Submitted From: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review/>

Submitted By:

**Name:** Roberta

**Tell us what topic you'd like reviewed:** Transport links to Oakbank secondary school

**Tell us the reasons for your suggestion (areas to tell us about include how it links to our vision and priorities and what benefit there would be to residents):** Currently there are no public transport links to Oakbank school and the so-called cycle paths are far too dangerous to use.

**Tell us any specific aspects of the topic you'd like the focus to be on or any supporting evidence you have (areas to tell us about include the facts, specific organisation or documents you want the review to refer to and suggestions for potential witnesses):** Traffic and congestion around school drop-off and pick-up time. Children are having to walk and cycle great lengths along on a very unsafe route (from school to Black Boy round about) due to the lack of transport links.

**Tell us what you'd like the outcome of the review to be and why you think that outcome is possible:** Introduction of a public bus linking Earley/Whitley/Shinfield and Oakbank. Perhaps it could run during peak school times.

**Do you want to come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a statement in support of your request:** No

**Who are you:** A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

**Date of your request:** 13/03/2017

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Scrutiny Review Suggestion:

Entry ID: 646309

Submitted On: 14/03/2017

Submitted From: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/decisions/ask-for-a-scrutiny-review/>

Submitted By:

**Name:** Tom Clark

**Tell us what topic you'd like reviewed:** Are you employing legal services efficiently (only when needed) and getting value for money. Who could deliver the same cheaper?

**Tell us the reasons for your suggestion (areas to tell us about include how it links to our vision and priorities and what benefit there would be to residents):** It is a big expense and looks from the outside it us taken for granted

**Tell us what you'd like the outcome of the review to be and why you think that outcome is possible:** A new best practise and new suppliers

**Do you want to come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to make a statement in support of your request:** No

**Who are you:** A resident of the Wokingham Borough Council area

**Date of your request:** 14/03/2017

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# Agenda Item 70.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Monitoring of Public and Member Questions</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 28 March 2017
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Andrew Moulton, Head of Governance and Improvement Services

## **OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Overview and Scrutiny is a key part of the checks and balances which ensure that the Council and its partners make and implement effective decisions for all the residents of the Borough. Questions submitted to the Executive and Council give an indication of issues of interest and concern. These issues may generate review topics for the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee considers the list of questions set out at Annex A and determine whether any of the issues raised should be considered for inclusion in the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes for 2017/18.

## **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

At its meeting on 31 May 2016, the Committee considered a report containing suggestions for improving the Overview and Scrutiny process. One of the suggestions related to the monitoring of questions submitted to the Council's Executive and Council.

Members agreed that regular monitoring reports be submitted to the Management Committee.

## Background

At its meeting on 31 May 2016, the Committee considered a report containing a number of suggestions aimed at improving the Overview and Scrutiny process and developing greater public interest and involvement. One of the suggestions related to the monitoring of questions submitted to the Executive and full Council meetings.

Members and residents regularly ask questions at the Executive and Council meetings. These questions indicate areas of interest and concern and may generate ideas for Overview and Scrutiny investigation. The Committee agreed to consider regular monitoring reports on the questions submitted. Annex A contains details of the public and Member questions raised at the Executive meetings on 26 January and 23 February 2017, the extraordinary Executive meeting on 15 March 2017 and the Council meeting on 23 February 2017 which may relate to issues for inclusion in the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes for the coming year.

## Analysis of Issues

Members are requested to consider Annex A and to determine whether it contains issues requiring further consideration and inclusion in the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes for 2017/18.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

***The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.***

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

None

### List of Background Papers

None

<b>Contact</b> Neil Carr	<b>Service</b> Governance and Improvement Services
<b>Telephone No</b> 0118 974 6058	<b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:neil.carr@wokingham.gov.uk">neil.carr@wokingham.gov.uk</a>
<b>Date</b> 15 March 2017	<b>Version No.</b> 1

## Questions to Executive on 26 January 2017

### Public Questions

1. **Lloyd Watkins asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

#### Question

In February 2014 Council Officers were shown all the likely walking or cycling routes to the now Bohunt School in Wokingham. They were asked to ensure that all the routes were improved in order that the students could safely walk or cycle to school. On 1 September 2016 an Extraordinary Executive Meeting had to occur in order that some of the requested speed reductions would be in place for the school opening only 3 days later. Despite early engagement with the Council by concerned parents, not all the routes requested for safety improvements were addressed at the September Executive meeting. This leaves some routes untouched, in particular we have been repeatedly told that the route along Nine Mile Ride will be in place for September 2017 but there has been no local consultation on changes nor have any plans been published. When will the Council's plans for improvement along Nine Mile Ride be published in order that safe routes are provided by September 2017?

#### Answer

Development work for improvements along the Nine Mile Ride are programmed to be delivered by September 2017 and public engagement is planned for February and March of 2017.

2. **Jason Sutton asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### Question

There is a proposal to expand Aldryngton Primary School. Aldryngton is the smallest Primary School site in Earley. Spatial availability is a key consideration when determining which schools to expand. WBC commissioned a spatial study by ERM Architecture dated 7/9/2015 to compare Loddon, Radstock and Aldryngton Primary. The study's conclusions were very clear: "Aldryngton's Primary Campus is the least attractive campus for investment - there is a substantial deficit in campus area." With a recommendation Loddon and Radstock be taken forwards to a "Stage 1 Feasibility".

On 28 January 2016, the WBC Executive met and one of the items discussed was which Primary Schools to expand. This 'Spatial Study' was not provided to the Executive. Rather 'spatial analysis' was a category presented in Annex 2 of the document "Primary Strategy Implementation Plan Phase 1" contained on page 142 of the Report to the Executive. The stated conclusion in relation to Aldryngton was however described to the Executive as, "Sufficiency of space - space for 0.5FE expansion which would be relatively straightforward." The strategy also suggested that an activity of consultation had been performed with "parents, residents, schools and other stakeholders" with the next step being a detailed feasibility study on the selected schools. Why was the information supplied to the Council within the report not reflective of the findings of the original spatial report commissioned, was this information provided in error?

### **Answer**

The ERM report conclusions were on the basis of the size of the site alone, while the "Primary Strategy Implementation Plan Phase 1" recommendations were informed by a number of factors. The most important factor was the assessment of the number of places required to meet the need in Earley. The best fit with projected need was the expansion of Loddon and Aldryngton Primary Schools to provide 45 additional places per year.

The ERM conclusions were made against the Department for Education recommended space standard for school premises (known as Building Bulletin number 103), a space standard that is not met at many outstanding and good schools, or in many new and expanded school projects in towns and cities across the country.

The Executive report noted "the site is one of the more constrained" and this was why the recommendation was "that further work should be carried out with the school to determine the feasibility of expansion with a target of September 2017". All work to date indicates that the challenges presented by the constraints identified in the ERM report can be addressed and that expansion is feasible.

### **3. David Nader asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### **Question**

There is a proposal to expand Aldryngton Primary School by increasing the intake by 15 as soon as this year. Your Committee approved the Primary School Planning Strategy 2016-2018 proposed by Children's Services on the 28th of January 2016. The Strategy included projections for the number of school places required in Earley for each year between 2015/2016 to 2021/2022 and it has been shown that the demand for both 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 intakes were overestimated in the Strategy report.

The Strategy report also shows that there will be 0.8% surplus school places in Earley this year and a 7 to 8% surplus school places in Earley for 2018/2019 to 2021/2022 without Aldryngton being expanded. Children's Services have said that the Council will make the final decision on whether to expand Aldryngton in the light of actual information on the demand for school places in 2017. However, the decision for expansion should be based on the mid-term to long term projections. Shouldn't the Committee review the decision to expand Aldryngton Primary School, which your data and projections suggests is not actually needed, based on more up-to-date data and projections before allowing a £4.8 million expansion project to go ahead?

#### **Answer**

While the information in the question concerning the roll projection data is correct, this can only form part of the picture when developing a strategy for ensuring sufficient school places. As an illustration of this, the roll projection for 15/16 appeared to demonstrate that adequate school places in Earley would be available. In reality, 30 Earley children, whose parents were hoping for a local school place, were diverted out of the area in order to obtain one.

Roll projections are very much led by numbers of live births in the area. This needs to be balanced against other less predictable factors such as housing churn where we have been seeing older families being replaced by families with younger children, the

impact of which increases demand for local school places. Therefore, the Council needs to review actual demand for Earley school places in March in order to have as much contextual information as possible as the basis for the decision on whether or not to expand the school.

This decision will be taken by the end of March 2017. If the evidence does not support expansion, and subject to the granting of planning permission for the expansion, the Council will be able to implement the proposal in the next three years without incurring further design costs - if demand rises in that time, for example. Therefore there is no good case for pausing the process at this point as this could lead to hardship for Earley families if there are too few places available to meet need in September 2017 and, just an example of statistics which might be useful for you, in reception at the moment (just at Aldryngton) there are 59 students on the waiting list.

**4. Keith Malvern asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

**Question**

The December 2016 revenue monitoring report indicates that there has been an over achievement of £40,000 in the income from car parking. Bearing in mind the introduction of Sunday and evening charges was controversial will you consider reducing those charges particularly in Wokingham town whilst it is undergoing disruption due to regeneration work?

**Answer**

Parking is part of the Highways and Transport portfolio and, as such, its income is used to maintain and improve highways related services – including pothole repairs. I am sure you would agree with me that using any additional income to fix more potholes is better than adjusting a few parking fees. We will continue to provide good parking and to use its extra income to do more pothole repairs.

With regard to disruption during regeneration we will, of course, monitor its impact and take any appropriate action if necessary.

**5. Imogen Shepherd-DuBey asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Within the Chief Finance Officer's Report on Page 126 he refers to the Schools Funding situation in Wokingham.

Would the Exec Member comment on why Wokingham Borough's schools have been treated so poorly by the Conservative Government, so much so that it remains the lowest funded level of all local Authorities?

**Answer**

I am sure that you all know my views by now; that the schools funding formula is totally inequitable, unfit for purpose and long overdue its planned overhaul by this Conservative Government. We need a new system that does not just tinker around the edges. We need a new formula that will radically re-think how schools are funded, taking into account schools' autonomy, local staffing costs and recognition of differing pupil cohorts, including those with Special Education Needs and deprivation factors.

How can it be equitable when one school receives £8,587 per pupil on role and ours here in Wokingham just £4,166.51 per pupil on role.

I am pleased that it is a Conservative Government that is heralding a change and has recognised that this practice of historical inequality in schools funding which has been applied over successive governments, including Labour and the Lib Dem Coalition, cannot continue. We have been in dialogue with Ministers about this, taking the opportunity of a national funding change to ensure our voice of Wokingham is heard in Westminster.

**6. Liz McDaniel asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

**Agenda Item 104 Disabled Children's Family Support and Short Breaks**

Providers were audited in June last year and therefore the accounts information provided is now out of date. Has the Council taken into account that the present financial outlook for some small charities is currently very different than 8 months ago?

**Answer**

The information gathered last year was part of an assessment of individual providers offering short breaks. It was used as part of the information gathering on the range, scope and quality of providers.

It does not, however, have a direct bearing on the proposals set out in the report. These proposals focus on how providers are commissioned and deliver their services.

**7. Sandra Stubbs asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

**Agenda Item 104 Disabled Children's Family Support and Short Breaks**

How are Wokingham Borough Council going to ensure that the views of all parents of Children with SEND, including those who currently do not access short breaks, are considered before any changes are made to the current system of short breaks?

**Answer**

The views of current and potential future users of short breaks are a core part of the proposals going forward.

During the reviews of individual providers during 2016 Officers met with parents and carers to discuss short breaks with a focus on their satisfaction with the services provided.

Officers also canvassed providers to seek out parents who would be willing to talk to the Council with their views on short breaks and separate discussions were had with them too.

Going forward, Reach has also presented us with a survey of parents, many of whom do not use short breaks. This will be a useful piece of evidence in determining future priorities for short breaks provision including the provision of information on the range of services available to eligible users.

The Council will meet with parents in March to consult and build upon these proposals in the report. Further events will be arranged depending on demand.

Officers will also use the SEND network and the CAN network to communicate and consult with parents on the proposals for short breaks.

**8. Catherine McLeod asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

**Agenda Item 104 Disabled Children's Family Support and Short Breaks**

Families of children with SEND in the early years often struggle to cope with all the demands on them. Our families have told us that they do not want direct payments to replace short breaks funding, as they feel this would put undue extra pressure on them to manage payments. They also fear it would change the nature of their relationship with local voluntary sector providers - making it a financial transaction rather than about their children. How is the Council going to manage these concerns and the extra pressures on families and providers if there is a full shift to direct payments?

**Answer**

The majority of short breaks are already commissioned via a direct payment used by parents in Wokingham so we are simply looking to extend this.

It is part of a national direction of travel to move away from council commissioned block contracts and move to a more flexible arrangement offering choice and control for service users and a more personalised approach to commissioning.

However, the Council will be open to the views of parents on their preferences for how they access the short break services that are available and there is no pressure upon parents to move to direct payments. I believe that many people will prefer to take a direct payment as they will see the benefits of more choice and more control. Any arrangements adopted by the Council will enable both the Council and service users to purchase services from providers; in the event that people would prefer not to take a direct payment.

As the report outlines, the Council will be exploring the use of pre-paid cards (already a feature within adult social care, as Julian knows) to reduce any additional burdens upon parents wishing to take a direct payment. Pre-paid cards offer a simple transaction that can be expanded to the number of people willing to look at direct payments but we will of course discuss this directly with parents and gauge all of their views.

**9. Catherine McLeod asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question on behalf of Jane Holmes who was unable to attend the meeting:**

**Question**

**Agenda Item 104 Disabled Children's Family Support and Short Breaks**

Regarding the proposed withdrawal of funding to service providers for disabled children and replacing it with Direct Payments to families. What support is WBC going to put in place in order to help families navigate their way through the service provision available and to enable them to make the best decision for themselves? Without some sort of

gateway support, families are at risk of being isolated, unaware and of making the wrong decision - ie accessing a service provision out of area because they're not aware it exists closer to home. This as well as being overwhelmed by the paperwork, responsibility and stress that managing Direct Payments brings. This, of course, could have the effect of increasing pressure on the statutory authorities over time.

### **Answer**

Direct payments are already the vehicle for the majority of Wokingham's provision of short breaks.

No one will be forced to adopt direct payments and the Council can continue to spot purchase for parents if they wish.

In terms of support already available to parents to navigate the short breaks market:

- The CAN network coordinator works with families to signpost to service provision and answer questions and concerns about services to help with the choice
- The Council's Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service is a statutory service which is run at 'arm's length' from the Council and it offers advice, information and assistance to parents.
- Within the Executive Report tonight you will see that we are proposing to develop a preferred provider list which would be quality assured by the Council, with information on the range of services available on the Council's normal information sources. As part of the consultation we will discuss with parents how this should work and other actions we need to undertake to ensure parents are informed.
- Pre-paid cards offer the benefit of reducing the requirements of parents wishing to take out direct payments. We will also discuss this directly with parents.

## **Member Questions**

### **1. Gary Cowan asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:**

#### **Question**

With reference to the Judgment in the case of Gladman Vs WBC case number Case No: CO/1455/2014 heard in July 2014 what were the implications of the judgement for Wokingham Borough Council both the pros and the cons.

#### **Answer**

Gladman Development Ltd (GDL) was seeking, through the High Court, to quash the Managing Development Delivery Local Plan (MDD) on the basis that the Inspector who examined the MDD Local Plan did not take into account the National Planning Policy Framework, in respect of whether the housing target for the Borough was appropriate.

The implications of the judgement for Wokingham Borough Council all fall under your pros heading. The judgement agreed with the Council that:

- while the MDD did not assess housing need, it did not have to do this or to set a new housing target;
- the MDD did not have to determine whether the number of dwellings to be provided under the Core Strategy would be sufficient to meet an Objectively Assessed Need (OAN);

- The MDD should not be quashed (in whole or in part) because it only had to allocate the right amount of land to meet the Core Strategy requirements and to do this in the most appropriate sites. It only had to allocate sites for the provision with which it was dealing and did this adequately;
- the authority has a 5 year housing supply;
- The Council has a duty to review matters including Development Plan Documents and housing numbers. At the time of the decision, the Council was in the process of preparing a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) which could lead to a review of the housing need. This is the appropriate mechanism to review housing requirements;
- WBC had adopted the right version of the plan.

The judgment did not have any negative implications for Wokingham Borough Council I therefore have nothing to list under your cons heading.

The only thing I can think of is that the MDD challenge has now been superseded by an Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) of our housing numbers – this was reflected in the judgement. This is a technical assessment and evidence base. The Council has not signed up to providing this estimated need. This will be a process addressed through the Local Plan review.

**2. Michael Firmager asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

**Question**

Could the Executive Member for Highways and Transport explain what enhancement of services is expected this year (2017) following the platform extension at Wokingham Station?

**Answer**

The platform extension at Wokingham Station is part of the £800m Wessex Capacity Upgrade programme that will make the South West franchise into a 10 car railway on the suburban lines into Waterloo and that includes the services from Reading through Wokingham. The Wessex Capacity Upgrade includes the rebuilding of the former International Station at Waterloo for domestic services, and that is for completion by December next year as well as traction power supply upgrades and platform extensions to allow trains to be extended from 8 to 10 cars and we expect the first 10 car trains to be introduced on the Reading services later this summer.

This will give us a 25% increase in carriages and something like a 35% increase in capacity but please note that capacity is measured as the number of standard class seats on a train plus the room for standing. The 10 car trains will have no more seats than an 8 car train will have as the 2+3 seating arrangement is replaced by a 2+2 seating arrangement; where they remove the bench of three that was not a popular layout. These are not new trains but they are the trains we had on the Reading services until a couple of years ago prior to their rebuilding and extension using former Gatwick Express carriages and they are now painted a new shiny blue colour.

Therefore we will get more capacity on the trains but will have to wait until December next year before the planned increase in train frequency will deliver more seats. One side effect of having longer trains will be that passengers will have to walk slightly

further down the platform because it is a longer train at the station. Basically that is the information we have.

**3. Lindsay Ferris asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:**

**Question**

Who within WBC (Senior/Middle Officers and Councillors (by name/role)) knew about the Application for the Grazeley Garden Settlement **at the time** of the submission to the DCLG in July 2016?

**Answer**

Just to clarify we were given four weeks to pull together an initial draft expression of interest for the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and it was not an application it was a confidential expression of interest.

Councillors David Sleight, Chris Singleton, Keith Baker, Chris Bowring, Malcolm Richards and myself were alerted as Conservative members of the Local Plan Update Steering Group.

For the avoidance of doubt we need to point out that there was, and there should be, no assumption that being alerted infers that support for the expression of interest was either sought of, or given by, the Conservative members at this time. Since then Members, especially those whose wards would be affected, have been participating in the ongoing debate.

The Officers who were aware of the expression of interest were the Chief Executive (Andy Couldrick), Director of Environment (Heather Thwaites), Heads of Services within Environment (Mark Cupit, Josie Wragg, Alex Deans, Sarah Hollamby and Clare Lawrence) and relevant staff within the directorates as well. In addition a small number of staff from other Council directorates were also aware.

**4. Richard Dolinski asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:**

**Question**

In their latest newsletter in Emmbrook, the Liberal Democrats are claiming that there will be 17,000 more houses in Wokingham, quote "on top of approximately 13,000 currently being built". Could the Executive Member tell me whether this figure is correct?

**Answer**

It is not correct and it is a gross misrepresentation of the actual situation. They claim that the identified need is for 17,000 homes on top of the 13,000 homes already planned for within the Local Plan. I can only see this as a blatant and scurrilous attempt to scaremonger just before an election.

Comparing the Objectively Assessed Need, the OAN study with the existing Local Plan, the study identified a need for approximately 200 more homes per year from 2016 on top of the 13,000 homes currently planned for. This is a total of approximately 4,000 more homes, not 17,000, up to 2036 on top of the 13,000 already planned for.

Hopefully the electorate will hold them to task for this gross misrepresentation.

**5. Clive Jones asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:**

**Question**

Recently three teams of professional people have been seen working and taking measurements around the land known as Area DD in Lower Earley. No doubt they are preparing reports for developers, Wokingham Borough Council or both.

Can you explain what these people have been doing?

**Answer**

Area DD was always zoned for some form of development right from the start of the formation of Lower Earley. There are no proposals as to what might be put there yet and it needs to be appropriate to the site so as not to cause problems to the existing residents. The survey currently being undertaken is to look at one option which is the suitability for housing or sheltered housing for the elderly. The land is quite high and held in place by retaining walls, as you probably know, and therefore any development on the site needs to be carefully considered from structural terms, hence the surveying.

**6. Prue Bray asked the Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance the following question:**

**Question**

When the Revenue Monitoring report appeared in the agenda for October's Executive meeting, there was a projected overspend of £494,000. The Exec member for Finance is recorded in the minutes as saying that "it was hoped that some of this overspend would be clawed back by the end of the year." In January's agenda, the Revenue Monitoring report shows the projected overspend has reached £812,000, 65% higher than in October. What has the Executive member for Finance done about the overspend, other than just hoping for the best?

**Answer**

The reason for the increase in forecast overspend to £812k is explained by the fact we are now clearer that the Department of Health do not intend to pay us the income we were led to believe we would receive. In October's Executive monitoring report we were still hopeful that we would receive the £722k from the Department of Health that we had applied for and we had good grounds for considering that they would give us and it was therefore included in our income projections. We did however note that there was a risk that it may not be forthcoming and this is what has happened. If this figure was treated in the same way in both reports the £812k reported in January would be reduced to £90k; which is actually an 82% reduction in the overspend reported in October.

**7. Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:**

**Question**

Does WBC plan to require all new SUDS systems given to WBC to be provided with the necessary funding, or require the operator to pay for yearly inspections by WBC?

**Answer**

Wokingham Borough Council requires a developer to pay a commuted sum to the Council on the adoption of the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) feature to cover

its future maintenance requirements. Commuted sums are financial contributions made by third parties to the Local Authority as compensation for taking on the future maintenance responsibility for newly created highways and drainage improvements. They are usually secured through legal agreements made with the developers and landowners under sections 38 or 278 of the Highways Act 1980 and is a single payment that is invested over an agreed period of time.

For SuDS features that are not adopted by the Council, arrangements need to be made with other Risk Management Authorities (such as Thames Water or town and parish councils) for the adoption of the SuDS or the developer will be required to make arrangements for a management company to conduct regular inspections and maintenance.

The SuDS Strategy requires developers to submit information to the Council clearly defining the maintenance of the SuDS for the entire lifetime of the development, as well as the agreements demonstrated to be in place to ensure these arrangements do not lapse.

An example of where this strategy has recently been implemented is the proposed system of attenuation ponds which make up part of the drainage for the Nine Mile Ride extension. Wokingham Borough Council will be adopting these features and an appropriate commuted sum has been agreed to cover the cost of future maintenance.

## **Questions to Executive on 23 February 2017**

### **Public Questions**

- 1. Laura Titchiner asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:**

#### **Question**

What measures are being put in place to minimise noise and air pollution from the M4 specifically the elevated carriageway to the west of Junction 10? I am a resident of Winnersh and, since having my baby, have become increasingly concerned with the air and noise pollution coming from the M4 and A329. The M4 around here is on an elevated carriageway with no noise or pollution barriers in place. I believe this is very detrimental to the health and wellbeing of local residents. I would like to petition the council and highways agency to implement acoustic barriers along the raised section of the M4. I'd like to propose that these barriers be coated in photocatalytic paint or concrete to assist in reduction of pollution. In my opinion this work should be carried out in a joint effort to manage the impact of the M4 Smart motorways scheme and the Air quality management plan that Wokingham is required to undertake.

#### **Answer**

It is simplest to address this in three parts, the impact of the M4 Smart Motorway, noise impact of M4/A329 and air quality impact of M4/A329 as the legislation and areas of responsibility are different.

M4 SMART Motorway Project:

As a Council we raised concerns about traffic modelling and requested that Highway's England go above and beyond normal requirements for noise mitigation. The Secretary of State concluded in Sept 2016 that:

- The Enhanced Noise Mitigation Study had been applied consistently throughout the proposed development and an overall minor improvement in the noise environment would result from low noise surfacing and the provision of acoustic fencing, and
- There would be no significant effect on air quality and the development would be at low risk from non-compliance with the EU Air Quality Directive. However, it was accepted that there were uncertainties in precise traffic forecasting which may mean that the ability of local authorities to comply with EU air quality objectives may be impacted upon. In light of this, the Secretary of State imposed a requirement within the Development Consent Order to ensure that Highways England monitor actual concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> and if there is a worsening of air quality then mitigation must be prepared in consultation with the relevant LPA.

#### Current Air Quality Monitoring:

The Environmental Health Team has responsibility for the monitoring of air quality. We monitor for Nitrogen Dioxide in over 50 locations across the Borough. Only one location in Winnersh has exceeded the Annual National Air Quality Objective since 2011.

Details are on the website: <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/business-and-licensing/health-and-safety/environmental-health/> and clicking on Air Quality.

The M4 itself is an air quality management area and measurements show compliance with the objective.

#### Noise:

The Council does not have the powers to deal with noise from road traffic under nuisance legislation. Noise is a consideration when assessing development control applications and there is a specific noise policy which developers should have regard to.

Noise maps of major transport sources (M4, A329(M) and A329) have, however, been created by independent consultants on behalf of DEFRA.

In locations with the highest noise levels nationally an action plan (produced by the noise making authority) is needed to address noise issues, and these are assessed by the Environmental Health Team. Seven action plans have been received by the Team relating to the M4 which include suggestions such as low noise road surfaces and new or extended barriers.

## **2. David Nader asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

### **Question**

My question relates to traffic safety around Aldryngton Primary School and the proposal to expand the school by 105 places.

As you will be aware, the area immediately outside of the school is already extremely congested at pick-up and drop-off times. There are over 2,000 children from two schools (Aldryngton Primary School and Maiden Erlegh School), parents, siblings, shoppers, visitors to the library and community centre all converging on a small site at these times.

A new Tesco Express is due to open within 50 metres of the school very soon. When the proposal to build a Tesco Express was discussed at the Planning Committee, two local Councillors, Ken Miall and David Chopping expressed concerns about the impact on congestion and traffic safety.

Both schools share a narrow access road between the Silverdale Parade shops. You will be aware that two primary school children were seriously injured on 17 January on the pavement of this narrow access road. One of the children needed to be airlifted to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

In a feasibility report commissioned by WBC it is noted, and I quote, "the local highway network is very constrained during the start and end of the school day," it is further noted that pupil drop-off and pick up is a "key issue" which requires mitigation. It is strange that this report does not feature in the formal Planning Application to expand Aldryngton. In a Council meeting on the 21st of July 2016, this report was discussed with Judith Ramsden who noted, and I quote, "credible measures to manage school run traffic are required."

Respondents to the Planning Application are concerned that the Transport Statement that was published with the application is not based on the Council's own projection for surplus school places in Earley if Aldryngton is expanded and assumes that only 26 more children will be driven to school as a result of the expansion. The Council itself projects an 11% surplus of places in Earley with the expansion of Aldryngton and Loddon from 2018. The Transport Statement also fails to take into account the opening of Tesco.

The Councillors of the Earley Town Council Planning Committee, who are residents of the local area themselves and have first-hand experience of how bad the existing situation outside of the school is, have voted unanimously to refuse the planning application of Aldryngton expansion as they found it extremely difficult to mitigate the impact of the expansion on the local traffic situation.

To summarise, there is a commonly held view by local Councillors that even without expansion, congestion and traffic safety are a concern around the school. This point is re-enforced by a WBC feasibility report and the report's findings were highlighted by Judith Ramsden. WBC's own projections predict that with expansion many more pupils would travel from out of catchment.

Given these facts, and apologies for directing them to you [Councillor Dolinski] rather than the individual concerned, how do you justify the statement made on BBC Berkshire that congestion would be reduced by expanding Aldryngton?

**Answer**

Currently some Earley children are allocated school places outside their area, and these children are almost inevitably driven to school. Congestion can be reduced by additional

capacity because it will mean that more children will be allocated schools within walking distance of their homes.

Looking at your list of specific issues I observe that some, such as the impact of the new Tesco Express are addressed in the planning application for the scheme. Without seeking to repeat the information provided to support the planning application I note that:

- after expansion I expect all children allocated a place at the school to live within walking distance of the site;
- that the incident on 17th January was not, as far as we know, related to congestion;
- that the two transport reports were for different purposes, both supported expansion but the second was written specifically to be part of the planning application;
- that I expect the planning consent, should it be granted, to condition traffic and transport management requirements, based on the Transport Statement recommendations; and
- that the views of Earley Town Council will be formally communicated to the Wokingham Planning Committee, who will give them proper and due weight when making their decisions.

More generally, I note that the Council's traffic study recommends that the proposals are manageable and without substantial impact on local traffic. We will continue to work with the school and the community to address the problems associated with parents who wish to drop and collect their children at the school gates.

### **3. Toshiko Tani asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### **Question**

The council is proposing to expand Aldryngton Primary School by 33% from 315 pupils to 410 pupils. Parents, local residents as well as the school itself have raised a number of questions and concerns, many of these have not yet been addressed by the Council.

For example, we continue to find it difficult to understand why a £4.8 million expansion is necessary despite the Council's own projection of 11% surplus school places from 2018 to 2021 in Earley if the expansion goes ahead.

No concrete measures have been presented by the council to mitigate the impact of expansion on the already worrying congestion in the area surrounding the school. Furthermore, the Executive appears to have been misled by erroneous information at the time of approving Aldryngton Primary as a candidate for expansion in January 2016. For example, the findings of a WBC commissioned spatial study that found that Aldryngton is "the least attractive campus for investment" was misrepresented to the Executive.

We have been told by Children's Services that they are planning to have the Executive Meeting in February delegate their final decision making authority on the Aldryngton expansion to the Director of People Services, Judith Ramsden.

Considering how controversial the expansion proposal is, we do not see it as appropriate that the final decision is made in a forum not open to the public. We have serious concerns about whether our voices will be reflected at all in the decision making process and find it absolutely necessary to monitor reasoning applied for the council to reach a decision.

Please confirm that you will not allow such delegation to happen and that the final decision on the expansion will be made in a forum open to the public such as at the Executive Meeting, for the sake of transparency and to allow proper democratic participation.

**Answer**

Thank you for your very detailed question and indeed for your correspondence to the Executive Member for Children Services regarding this matter.

Questions and concerns raised by parents have been addressed by Officers, local Members, myself, the Executive Member for Children Services, and I am not aware of any outstanding matters. I do appreciate that there are parents who wish for the proposal to be withdrawn but it is important for the Executive, at all times, to consider this matter thoroughly and with due regard to all Wokingham residents.

It is a matter of record that the projections show a surplus from 2018 onwards. However, the projections are led by births in the area. While we have good reason to believe that the demand is fed by housing churn and so reflects the number of children who were born in other areas who are moving to Earley. It is because of these movements, that can take place shortly before an application is made for a school place, that we have looked at the number of applications for 2017 Reception places in March before making the decision for this year.

The Council's traffic study recommends that the proposal is manageable and without substantial impact on local traffic. Congestion caused by parents dropping their children at the school gates is a concern, as it is at many other schools, but I note that the vast majority of children choose other methods to travel to school.

Should this proposal go ahead we will continue to work with the school to ensure the local Travel Plan helps to mitigate impacts and will consider whether other measures such as Traffic Regulation Orders are appropriate.

In the proposal, additional staff car parking will be provided on site, with at least 12 spaces to meet the needs of the new staff required to support expansion and partly address an existing shortfall in parking spaces.

Lastly, I very much hope that you will find reassurance in our genuine wish for democratic transparency in actions taken by the Executive to agree that the school expansion proposals will not be delegated but will form the basis of a Special Executive to be held on 15th March.

**4. Lloyd Watkins asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

**Question**

The Capital Programme makes specific mention of tackling traffic congestion in specific areas. There is also specific funding in Year 1 of £214K of Service Development Capital which appears to be an allocation from the CIL levy for the Arborfield Development (Which is further specified in the 10 year Capital Vision) as well as mention of Specified Section 106 allocations of a recurring £45k. In addition there is a specified £1.787k apportionment in the 10 Year Capital Vision for the Wokingham Borough Cycle Network.

The Capital Programme also contains a specific project relating to a Safe Route to Arborfield School. £214k is allocated to this project to progress the design and construction and to include all feasibility work. Could you therefore please tell me what options for the delivery of a cycle route were presented and considered by elected Members?

**Answer**

It remains the aim of the Council to provide a safe cycleway along Nine Mile Ride between California Crossroads and Bohunt School.

There was a planning commitment to provide a walking route to the new school, and it was also agreed that it was desirable to provide, in addition, a cycleway. Although not part of the planning requirement the Council felt it would be beneficial and they would fund it. The Council recognises that it has informed local parents that it intends to proceed with a cycleway and it regrets the delay.

A footpath takes up less space than a combined footpath and cycleway in terms of width. When Officers investigated the route they found major problems which were constraining what would happen quickly. The Council is committed to working with the local Members and parents to achieve a satisfactory and safe resolution for all parties at the earliest opportunity.

In order to have a safe route by the new term the decision to go ahead with just the footpath was made; which will be achieved by September 2017, ie this year. The Council is also committed to pushing ahead with a sufficiently lit greenway between the FBC and Bohunt School to ensure that this is also ready by September 2017.

However as I said right at the beginning, the opportunity to put in a cycleway in the future is still our aim. However, there are complex legal issues surrounding this matter that have prevented us from putting in the cycle route by this September.

However, we will be working closely with local Members, residents and parents in order to achieve the best result for the area and to resolve those issues. It has been agreed with local Members that free bus passes on the number 3 bus route serving the school will temporarily continue until an alternative safe cycleway route is implemented. In addition, we have agreed to a request by local Members to undertake a feasibility study and find an alternative route for the cycleway and to consult with those Members prior to a decision being made.

**5. Keith Malvern asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

**Question**

I am disappointed that despite the Woodley trial starting in August you are not yet in a position to give details of the income generated compared to the proposals that have been implemented elsewhere in the Borough. We know from last month's Executive that the car park budget has been over achieved by £40K. That was then. Regardless of whether the Executive takes a sensible decision or not this evening, can I ask you to consider what you can do to help retailers in Wokingham Town, two of whom have already left this year.

**Answer**

Regarding the Woodley trial that commenced in September 2016 we need to analyse a full year's car parking data across the Borough, including seasonal fluctuations, before making a permanent decision. However I am proposing that this data and a clear recommendation will be brought back to this Committee when it is available.

I have recently set up a cross party Member and Officer working group to review the Borough's approach to parking. The initial meeting was only this week however I am pleased to report that part of the group's wide remit will be to review town centre car parking, as well as Borough wide parking. When a new Wokingham Parking Policy is drafted later this year the Council will be engaging with stakeholders by consulting widely, before a new Wokingham Parking Plan is ultimately approved by the Committee. It would be unwise to make hasty decisions about anything based on incomplete data.

With regard to the retailers in the Wokingham Town, which you asked about, apart from the Rose Street car parking being recently removed to enable the new Peach Place development there is considerable parking around the town, both at daytime and evening (both chargeable and free parking) and the brand new Carnival Pool with parking will be opening shortly, and don't forget that the on-street parking is still operational and is free around various parts of the town centre. Finally, the feedback we are getting from retailers (both existing and potential new ones) is that they are very pleased with the regeneration and are keen for us to continue and we are receiving many enquiries about the new town centre premises including major sign ups.

**Member Questions**

**1. Charles Margetts asked the Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance the following question:**

**Question**

Some parts of Finchampstead have internet speeds only marginally faster than dial up. This lack of internet speed is a major constraint on the ability to work / shop from home and should not be accepted or tolerated. Can the Executive Member tell me what is being done to address the remaining internet blackspots in Finchampstead and across the Borough?

**Answer**

Superfast Berkshire has now instigated phase 3 of the programme which will address remaining gaps in coverage across Wokingham Borough. There are a number of steps in this process (e.g. State Aid approval and a full open procurement) before contracts

can be awarded. The ITT process is currently underway with the evaluation scheduled to commence in March 2017. Contracts are expected to be awarded in July 2017.

The aim is to ensure that everyone in Wokingham Borough has access to superfast broadband by 2018 at the very latest. Finchampstead has been identified as one of the priority areas to be addressed as part of phase 3.

Superfast Berkshire is also in continuous dialogue with suppliers encouraging them to extend their networks across Berkshire as part of their commercial roll-out at no cost to the project. Virgin Media are currently exploring expanding their network to homes and businesses in the Finchampstead area and the Project Team will provide an update when they have more information.

**2. Gary Cowan asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

**Question**

Deteriorating bus shelters in Arborfield and Barkham has been a big problem for residents for some years now but just going back to the 1st June 2015 as a start date for a series of emails referred to in this question the Head of Highways stated that “we are very keen to make sure that the bus shelters in Arborfield are attractive and well used. To this end replacing the existing “life expired” shelters would be a great idea and really worthwhile”.

He continued “however there are a number of issues in the offing at the moment that mean I would recommend we put this idea on hold – for no more than 6 months and if in 6 months we are no closer to knowing the outcome of any of these issues then at which point we will go ahead and replace the shelters anyway”.

A more recent email from the head of highways stated that the Borough has no money available to carry out these works in the next financial year yet I read in the Wokingham Paper that WBC were going to replace an old bus shelter in Woodley and also erect a second new one. Why does Woodley appear to get star treatment and Arborfield and Barkham do not?

Might residents of Wokingham Borough be forgiven if they thought it might have anything to do with the fact that the Leader of Wokingham Borough Council is also at the time of writing the Leader of Woodley Town Council.

**Answer**

Analysis of bus routes operating within the Borough is undertaken regularly to identify where the funding would be best targeted in terms of cost/benefit. The analysis takes account of the type of route operated, the days and times of operation, the annual passenger numbers and the type of vehicles operated on those routes.

An outcome of this process has identified Woodley Orange routes to be improved during 2017/18. Following that, the Leopard route, which serves Arborfield and Barkham would be the next route for consideration. The Woodley Orange routes score better than the Leopard as passenger numbers are higher, at over 1 million per year and the combined frequency of the Woodley Orange routes is higher than that of the combined Leopard service.

With regard to the shelters in Woodley one was formally supplied free of charge to the Borough by the bus shelter company Clear Channel. This shelter has recently been damaged by a vehicle; therefore this replacement is being undertaken now. The bus shelter on Beechwood Avenue has come to the end of its natural life and is due to be replaced by the Town Council using the Town Council's own funding (ie Woodley Town Council, not WBC's money) – once more a matter involving an Officer-only procedure. The Leader was not involved in any of these decisions.

**3. Clive Jones asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Many residents living in Earley and parents of children who attend Aldryngton Primary School have expressed concerns about the Council's expansion plans for Aldryngton School. Will you confirm that the Council's Executive and officers are taking all their concerns seriously?

**Answer**

Concerns are, and without any doubt, being treated seriously on this matter which has received a great deal of attention from Members and Officers alike. There is an active and open consultation with parents with children attending Aldryngton Primary School. Indeed, you still have time to submit your views should you wish to. As you might expect, considering the concerns raised by existing parents at the school and the school itself, this has been a priority for Officers, who have ensured that issues raised have been dealt with thoroughly and promptly. In addition to this there has been: an open meeting with parents in January with the presentation on proposals and an extensive question and answer session, which I believe you attended as well; a detailed proposal was sent to the parents of the school including responses to issues raised by parents; a briefing for all local members (I know that you attended that as well); and a statutory school expansion consultation concluding on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.

I note that, whilst you are not a local Ward Member, you should be conversant on this topic as you have been invited, as I said, to the briefing of local Members as well and you also put an appearance in at the open meeting for parents and residents. I hope that you will agree with me that it is important to also consider the parents in Earley who are not actively engaged in the consultation but hope to send their children to a local school. When considering the Council's expansion plans for the school the Council is going to need to balance the concerns raised against the proposals with those factors favouring a school place strategy that enables greater capacity in Earley.

The Conservative-led Council is a leader in this region in delivering and investing in local schools for local families. We want to continue to avoid children unnecessarily travelling across the Borough to find a school placement. This is something that the parents have appealed for and this is imbued in the work that the Executive Member for Children Services has led for the last five years through the current and previous primary schools strategies. The Council's Executive will be holding a Special Executive on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March in order to ensure that the proposals are scrutinised by Members, as well as ensuring that the matter continues to be treated in an open and transparent matter.

## Questions to Council on 23 February 2017

### Public Questions

1. **John Russell asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:**

#### Question

The Council is currently updating its Transport Plan. What is the 2016-17 budget spend on transport across the borough and how much is being spent on the following elements: (a) Highway maintenance; (b) Traffic management of the existing road network, e.g. traffic lights, islands and speed controls; (d) Bus services; (e) Community transport and (f) Responsive transport.

#### Answer

The answer is as follows:

#### Revenue

- £1.4million on Highway maintenance, that is reactive road and footway repairs including patching and potholes;
- £480,000 on Traffic management of the existing road network that includes minor traffic schemes, signing and lining, Traffic Regulation Orders, road safety activities, traffic signal maintenance, traffic surveys and data collection;
- £734,000 on Bus services; and
- £98,000 on Community transport and Responsive transport.

On the capital side there are numerous highway and transport capital projects and initiatives and these are all listed in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

Of the capital sums allocated to Highways & Transport there is £2.28million per annum allocated to "Carriageway Structural Maintenance" which includes the annual road resurfacing programme, where the Borough's roads are assessed to identify those most in need of treatment, including their structural condition and usage.

2. **Guy Grandison asked the Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance the following question:**

#### Question

Could the Executive Member for Finance tell me what Capital investments the Council will be making in Earley as part of the 2017/18 budget?

#### Answer

The schemes included in the Budget, specific to only the area of Earley are: the expansion of Loddon Primary school £2.4m over the next 2 years and the proposed expansion of Aldryngton Primary at £4.8m over the next 2 years.

However, there are a number of other programmes in the capital vision which though Borough wide involves additional investment in Earley. Amongst these are:

- Schools urgent maintenance
- School Kitchens maintenance

- Schools LED Enhancement (that is lighting)
- Special Education Needs
- Enhancing Provision for Children and Young People with Disabilities
- Highway Drainage Schemes
- Street Lighting Column Structural Testing
- Highway Infrastructure Flood Alleviation Schemes
- Highways Carriageways Structural Maintenance
- Highways Footway Structural Maintenance
- LED Streetlight Replacement Programme
- Traffic Signal Upgrade Programme
- Wokingham Borough wide Cycle Network
- Sports Provision across the Borough
- Waste Schemes and
- Library service

I would also like to stress that even where capital investment is made outside the area of Earley, it is also of benefit to the residents of Earley, as they can utilise the roads and community facilities and other facilities beyond their immediate boundaries.

## **Questions to Extraordinary Executive on 15 March 2017**

### **Public Questions**

- 1. Sabine Heine-Bickle asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### **Question**

Do you agree that any investment decision by the Council should only go ahead if it offers value for money against all other available options?

- 2. Toshiko Tani asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### **Question**

Do you think it is important that your decision tonight is based on facts?

- 3. David Nader asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### **Question**

Do you agree that a £5m investment in the expansion of a school should be based on a high level of confidence of long term local demand for school places rather than a single year's data?

- 4. Jason Sutton asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

#### **Question**

Do you agree that the council's statutory duty is to provide school places to every child in the Borough, but that this duty does not extend to: ensuring every child is allocated a place in the catchment it lives in every year, ensuring there is a place for every child at

- 5. Hannah Selman asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

The issue of funding in education is currently high on everyone's/ the political agenda at the moment, both nationally and within Wokingham Borough, with many schools facing the challenge of ever-tightening budgets. Do you agree that given the current financial situation in schools maintaining surplus places could be considered a considerable, and uneconomical, financial burden?

- 6. Martha Ahijado asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Do you agree that the Council's decisions should be made following a transparent set of decision making criteria?

- 7. Ian Head asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Do you have faith in the Aldryngton Primary School governors to make the best possible choices and exercise sound judgement for the pupils of the school?

- 8. Philip Martin Daniels asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Can you share the number of parents who attended the Council's pre-consultation meeting on the 16th of January?

- 9. Carolyn Simpson asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Aldryngton School and its PTA have for the last 9 months put their capital investment on hold, from repairing the climbing frame, adding the planned new playground markings, to needed repairs etc. in order to avoid investing funds into infrastructure about to be demolished again. Do you agree that it is unreasonable towards the school and unfair to its current pupils to expect this to continue for the next three years that the planning permission would be valid for?

- 10. Tahir Maher asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Now that a decision has been made not to expand Aldryngton school this year will the Council use some of the money that was set aside to finance the expansion to repair and refurbish parts of the school.

**11. John Russell asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

Do you agree that Aldryngton School has successfully accommodated all foundation applicants from within the catchment area from at least 1998 until 2014-15 and that the school has been unsuccessful in accommodating all foundation applicants only in the last two years 2015-16 and 2016/17?

**Member Question**

**1. Clive Jones asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:**

**Question**

You have advised me that you don't think that a new school in the Hatch Farm Diaries development, as an alternative to the expansion of Aldryngton School, is not a good idea.

Could you explain in detail why you have come to this conclusion?

# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE FORWARD PROGRAMME

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## Executive Forward Programme March to June 2017

Updated 15 March 2017

195 Ref No.	Subject for Decision	Decision to be taken by	List of Documents to be submitted to the Decision Maker for consideration and Background Documents	Contact Details (Director/ Author)	Responsible Lead Member	Statement as to whether the item is likely to be considered in private and if so the reasons why / Explanation for any deferment of item
<b>Executive Meeting 30 March 2017</b>						
WBC913	<b>Council Owned Companies' Business</b> Purpose: To consider various items related to the business of the Council owned companies, including their trading position	Executive		Graham Ebers/ Emma Lyons	Keith Baker	N/A
WBC920	<b>Update on Expansion of the Council Owned Company Optalis</b> Purpose: To provide an update on the expansion of the Council Owned Company Optalis	Executive		Andy Couldrick/	Keith Baker, Julian McGhee-Sumner	Yes - it is likely that part of the report will be considered at a private meeting of the Executive. This is because it is likely that the report will contain information which is commercially sensitive and relates to the financial and business affairs of a person

WBC921	<b>Land Acquisition and Compensation Policy and Strategy to Support SDL Highway Projects Delivery</b> Purpose: To consider a policy and strategy to determine the approach to acquire land and deal with land compensation claims associated with the delivery of transport infrastructure.	Executive		Josie Wragg/ Louise Strongitharm	Mark Ashwell, Malcolm Richards	N/A
WBC860	<b>Buildings of Traditional Local Character</b> Purpose: To agree the procedure for the designation of Buildings of Traditional Local Character	Executive		Josie Wragg/ Clare Lawrence	Mark Ashwell	N/A This item was deferred from the November meeting in order to clarify the process for revising the list.
196 WBC932	<b>Peach Place Residential</b> Purpose: To agree the long-term arrangements for the residential units at Peach Place in Wokingham	Executive		Graham Ebers/ Bernie Pich, Louise Strongitharm	Mark Ashwell, Julian McGhee-Sumner	Yes - it is likely that part of the report will be considered at a private meeting of the Executive. This is because it is likely that the report will contain information which is commercially sensitive and relates to the financial and business affairs of a person.
WBC933	<b>Gorse Ride South</b> Purpose: To agree future aspirations for the Gorse Ride South Estate (including Cockayne Court)	Executive		Graham Ebers/ Louise Strongitharm	Julian McGhee-Sumner	Yes - it is likely that part of the report will be considered at a private meeting of the Executive. This is because it is likely that the report will contain information which is commercially sensitive and relates to the financial and business affairs of a person.
WBC934	<b>Relocation of Wokingham Library</b> Purpose: To agree in principle to the relocation of Wokingham Library to a new building on the Carnival Pool site subject to full	Executive		Josie Wragg/ Mark Redfearn	Pauline Jorgensen	N/A

	impact assessment and detailed business case					
WBC935	<b>Proposed Shared Emergency Planning Service</b> Purpose: To set out a proposal for a shared emergency planning service across Berkshire	Executive		Graham Ebers/ Pauline Jorgensen	Pauline Jorgensen	N/A
WBC936	<b>Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) In-Principle Decision</b> Purpose: To enable the acquisition of all necessary land interests to deliver the regeneration of Carnival site	Executive		Andy Couldrick/ Sarah Morgan	Mark Ashwell	N/A
WBC937	<b>Public Sector Equality Duty</b> Purpose: To consider the Council's progress in relation to its duties under the Equality Act 2010	Executive		Andrew Moulton/ Neil Carr	Pauline Jorgensen	N/A
WBC941	<b>Strategic Review of Voluntary Sector Services</b> Purpose: To approve the commencement of a Strategic Review of Voluntary and Community Sector Services funded by the Council.	Executive		Judith Ramsden/ Hayley Rees	Keith Baker	N/A

197

**The Executive will not be holding a meeting in April therefore there are no items programmed for this month**

**Executive Meeting 25 May 2017**

WBC928	<b>Council Owned Companies' Business</b> Purpose: To consider various items related to the business of the Council owned companies, including their trading position	Executive		Graham Ebers/ Emma Lyons	Keith Baker	N/A
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WBC929	<b>21st Century Council - Update</b> Purpose: To provide an update on the 21st Century Council Project	Executive		Andy Couldrick/	Keith Baker, Pauline Jorgensen	N/A
WBC939	<b>Revenue Outturn 2016/17</b> Purpose: To consider the Revenue Monitoring Outturn Report, including Treasury Management Indicators, to the end of the financial year and any carry forward requests	Executive		Graham Ebers/ John Ogden	Anthony Pollock	N/A
WBC940	<b>Capital Outturn 2016/17</b> Purpose: To consider the Capital Monitoring Outturn Report to the end of the financial year and any carry forward requests	Executive		Graham Ebers/ John Ogden	Anthony Pollock	N/A
<b>Executive Meeting 29 June 2017</b>						
WBC913	<b>Map-Based Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs)</b> Purpose: To approve the conversion of the existing TROs into a map-based format	Executive		Josie Wragg/ Michael Horton	Malcolm Richards	N/A
WBC938	<b>Council Owned Companies' Business</b> Purpose: To consider various items related to the business of the Council owned companies, including their trading position	Executive		Graham Ebers/ Emma Lyons	Keith Baker	N/A

**EXECUTIVE FORWARD PROGRAMME  
CHANGES MADE TO PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED VERSIONS**

<b>Ref No.</b>	<b>Subject for Decision</b>	<b>Decision to be taken by</b>	<b>Original Schedule Date</b>	<b>Contact Details (Director/ Author)</b>	<b>Responsible Lead Member</b>	<b>Explanatory notes</b>
WBC893	<p><b>Acquisition of Property (The Lodge) due to the Provision of the Arborfield Cross Relief Road</b></p> <p>Purpose: To consider the voluntary acquisition of The Lodge due to the delivery of the Arborfield Cross Relief Road</p>	Executive	26 Jan 2017	Josie Wragg/ Ian Haller	Malcolm Richards	Acquisition of the Lodge has been deferred until the Council agree a wider and standard approach to land acquisition and Part 1 Land Compensation Claims via an approved policy and strategy to support SDL highway projects delivery.

199

**Members of the Executive:-**

Keith Baker	Leader of Council
Mark Ashwell	Planning and Regeneration
Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Children's Services
Pauline Jorgensen	Resident Services
Julian McGhee-Sumner	Deputy Leader and Health and Wellbeing
Anthony Pollock	Economic Development and Finance
Malcolm Richards	Highways and Transport
Angus Ross	Environment

**Note:**

Unless the matter has been listed as being likely to be discussed in private, copies of the reports associated with the above decisions will be available no earlier than five days before the meeting at the Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham; on the Council's website; by contacting a member of the Democratic Services Team on 0118 974 6053 or by emailing [democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk)

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# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS FORWARD PROGRAMME

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Updated 15 March 2017

## Individual Executive Member Forward Programme March 2017

Ref No.	Subject for Decision	Decision to be taken by	List of documents to be submitted to the Decision maker for consideration and Background documents	Contact Details (Director/ Author)	Responsible Lead Member	Statement as to whether the item is likely to be considered in private and if so the reasons why/ Explanation for any deferment of item
201						
IMD 2017/06	<b>Response to Kensington and Chelsea Waste Plan</b> To give comments to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on their consultation on the Local Plan Partial Review – Publication Policies – Waste Planning <b>Date 17 Mar 2017 at 12.30pm</b>	Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration - Mark Ashwell	Local Plan Partial Review	Josie Wragg/ Vanessa Rowell	Mark Ashwell	N/A
IMD 2017/07	<b>Response to East of Basingstoke and Redlands Development Brief SPD</b> To give comments on the Draft East of Basingstoke and Redlands Development Brief Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) <b>Date 17 Mar 2017 at 12:45 pm</b>	Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration - Mark Ashwell	East of Basingstoke and Redlands draft development brief SPD	Josie Wragg/ Vanessa Rowell	Mark Ashwell	N/A
IMD 2017/08	<b>Response to Slough Borough Council Issues and Options Consultation Document</b> To give comments on the Slough Issues and Options Consultation <b>Date 17 Mar 2017 at 13:00 pm</b>	Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration - Mark Ashwell	The Emerging Local Plan for Slough 2016-2036	Josie Wragg/ Vanessa Rowell	Mark Ashwell	N/A

IMD 2017/09	<b>Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal</b> Purpose: To adopt the Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal following consultation <b>Date 7 Apr 2017 at 11:30 am</b>	Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration - Mark Ashwell		Josie Wragg/ Giles Stephens	Mark Ashwell	N/A
IMD 2017/05	<b>TRO Consultation Carnival Multi-storey Car Park</b> Purpose: to approve the TRO consultation on the proposed charges and operation of Carnival Multi-storey Car Park <b>Date 11 Apr 2017 at 9:30 am</b>	Executive Member for Highways and Transport - Malcolm Richards		Josie Wragg/ Michael Horton	Malcolm Richards	N/A  Deferred to facilitate consultation process
IMD 2017/10	<b>Construction of a road hump in Holt Lane</b> Purpose: To approve construction of a road hump in Holt Lane <b>Date 9 May 2017 at 13:30 pm</b>	Executive Member for Highways and Transport - Malcolm Richards		Josie Wragg/ Michael Horton	Malcolm Richards	N/A

#### Members of the Executive:-

Keith Baker	Leader of Council
Julian McGhee-Sumner	Deputy Leader and Health and Wellbeing
Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Children's Services
Anthony Pollock	Economic Development and Finance
Angus Ross	Environment
Mark Ashwell	Planning and Regeneration
Malcolm Richards	Highways and Transport
Pauline Jorgensen	Resident Services

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