



# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of an **INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION** will be held in SF2 - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on **MONDAY 17 JUNE 2019 AT 10.00 AM**

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

Susan Parsonage  
Chief Executive  
Published on 7 June 2019

This meeting may be filmed for inclusion on the Council's website.

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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

**For consideration by**

**John Kaiser, Executive Member for Finance and Housing**

**Officers Present**

**Anne Hunter, Democratic & Electoral Services Lead Specialist**

**Callum Wernham, Democratic & Electoral Services Specialist**

<b>IMD NO.</b>	<b>WARD</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	
IMD 2019/15	None Specific	<b>TENANT AND LANDLORD IMPROVEMENT PANEL APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>5 - 14</b>

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# Agenda Item IMD15

## INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REFERENCE IMD: IMD 2019/15

<b>TITLE</b>	Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel Appointments
<b>DECISION TO BE MADE BY</b>	Executive Member for Finance and Housing - John Kaiser
<b>DATE, MEETING ROOM and TIME</b>	17 June 2019 SF2 at 10am
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific;
<b>DIRECTOR / KEY OFFICER</b>	Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT (Inc Strategic Outcomes)**

The Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel recently contacted the Council to advise that appointments made to the Panel should be from each of the political Groups on the Council, which currently consist of the Conservative, Independent, Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups. At the Annual Council meeting held on 22 May 2019, both a Conservative and Liberal Democrat Member representative were appointed to the Panel for the 2019/20 municipal year. The Council is therefore required to offer an appointment to the Panel to both the Independent and Labour Groups to comply with the recently provided terms of reference of the Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel, as set out in Appendix B to this report

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Executive Member for Finance and Housing appoint both an Independent and Labour Member representative to the Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel for the 2019/20 municipal year, from nominations received as set out in Appendix A to this report.

### **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

The report outlines the requirement for the Council to offer an appointment to the Panel to a Member representative from each of the political Groups.

## Background

At the Annual Council meeting held on 22 May 2019, both a Conservative and Liberal Democrat Member representative were appointed to the Panel for the 2019/20 municipal year. Subsequently, the clerk to the Panel contacted the Council to advise that the terms of reference stated that a Member representative from each political Group should be appointed to the Panel. Therefore, the Executive Member for Finance and Housing is advised to appoint both an Independent and Labour Member representative to the Panel from the nominations received.

## Business Case (including Analysis of Issues)

The Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel's terms of reference state that one Member from each of the main political Groups represented on Wokingham Borough Council should be appointed to the Panel. As the Council had previously appointed both a Conservative and Liberal Democrat Member representative to the Panel, the Council is required to offer an appointment to both the Independent and Labour Groups to the Panel for the 2019/20 municipal year to comply with the updated terms of reference of the Panel.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

***The Council continues to face severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of reductions to public sector funding and growing pressures in our statutory services. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions of approximately £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)	£0	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	£0	Yes	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	£0	Yes	Revenue

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
None

Cross-Council Implications
None

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
Director – Corporate Services	None Received
Monitoring Officer	No Specific Comments
Leader of the Council	None Received

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2
N/A

<b>List of Background Papers</b>
None

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**Nominations for representation on the Tenant and Landlord Improvement  
Panel on behalf of Wokingham Borough Council**

<b>Conservative Group</b>	<b>Independent Group</b>	<b>Labour Group</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat Group</b>
Already Represented	Richard Dolinski	Shirley Boyt	Already Represented

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## **APPENDIX B**



### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE TENANT AND LANDLORD IMPROVEMENT PANEL (TLIP)**

#### **Purpose**

To ensure continuous improvement within the Housing Service and to analyse and advise on strategic, budgetary and policy and procedure issues.

TLIP are responsible for ensuring that appropriate working arrangements are in place to achieve continuous improvement.

#### **Duties and responsibilities**

TLIP must work within the context of Wokingham Borough Councils constitution.

#### **The specific remit of the Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel will be:**

- i. To oversee and analyse the Housing Service performance framework and to ensure regular reviews are undertaken;
- ii. To make recommendations to the Assistant Director Housing, Income and Assessments in respect of service delivery and improvement;
- iii. To ensure that the Housing Service continues to be developed with full Tenant and Member involvement and commitment;
- iv. To ensure TLIP receive strategic updates from Assistant Director Housing, Income and Assessments, Assistant Director Customer and Localities, Assistant Director Place Commissioning and their teams where appropriate
- v. To resource an Involved Tenant member to attend the Affordable Housing Implementation Group and other relevant strategic housing meetings within the Borough.

#### **Meeting frequency**

TLIP will arrange their own meeting dates in a way which will allow it to function to its full potential. It is suggested the panel meets monthly.

#### **Membership**

TLIP is free to select its own membership, however, the core group will be:

- Involved Tenants to sit on the panel. This will be the Chairperson of each of the formal Involvement Groups. In circumstances where the Chairperson is unable to commit to these meetings, they may decide to nominate their Vice Chairperson to be on the panel. This arrangement can be changed, should the Chairperson be able to commit in the future.

- One Councillor from each of the main parties represented on Wokingham Borough Council
- The Council's Executive Member(s) with Housing portfolio will have an open invite to attend
- Officers from Wokingham Borough Council to include the Assistant Director Housing, Income and Assessments, the Senior Specialist for Tenancy Involvement and other invited officers as required

TLIP may co-opt additional members on to the panel. Co-optees must demonstrate an interest in affordable housing (whether tenanted or shared ownership) across the Borough. All co-optees must be formally elected on to the panel. At the Chairpersons discretion, this person may attend each panel meeting or may be requested to only attend certain meetings to provide feedback to the panel.

At the start of each calendar year, the panel will confirm the position of all current co-optees on the group.

Those who wish to attend outside the core group must inform the Chairperson that they want to attend and the reason why. The Chairperson may use their discretion if any other organisation wishes to attend to observe. They are not public meetings.

#### **Appointment of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

When required, the appointment of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be held. The Chairperson's primary group will be TLIP. However, during unforeseen circumstances, such as long term illness, no Chairperson etc. with the Involvement Groups agreement, then the Chairperson of TLIP can assist in the Chairing the other meetings on a temporary basis.

The Chairperson may visit any other group at any time with agreement from the Chair of that Involvement Group. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be in position for a maximum of 3 years. If required there will be a 3 month hand over period, to ensure continuity and support for the incoming Chairperson or Vice Chairperson. These posts are not open to Councillors or staff.

#### **The Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel Chairperson will make sure:**

- That TLIP considers its contribution to cross-cutting issues within Wokingham Borough Council and associated strategies
- That TLIP develops priorities, recommends interventions and employs an analytical approach to performance monitoring
- That the Assistant Director Housing, Income and Assessments provides progress, performance and improvement reports to TLIP on an agreed basis
- There is effective liaison with the Council's Executive Member(s) with Housing portfolio, Leader of the Council and Chief Executive
- That minutes of the meeting are agreed and sent to the members of TLIP within ten working days of the end of the meeting
- The Chair may take any urgent business if agreed outside of the meeting but should update the panel at the next available meeting.

**The Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel Vice Chairperson will:**

- Act as Chairperson during periods of absence
- Represent TLIP at meetings if the Chairperson is unable to attend

**Election Process for the Chairperson – when election is due**

- All Involved Tenants will be invited to submit their self-nomination as Chairperson of TLIP
- The candidates will be asked to submit some supporting details as to why they feel they would be a suitable candidate and also what they feel are the issues currently affecting housing
- All nominations will be collated by the Tenant Involvement Team
- If there is only one candidate, this person will be notified and will be elected into position at the next TLIP meeting
- In the event of there being more than one candidate, an election will take place
- Ballot papers will be distributed to all Involved Tenant Volunteers for them to cast their vote
- All votes will be counted and verified by the Tenant Involvement Team
- The winner will be notified and duly elected at the next TLIP meeting

**Election Process for Vice Chairperson – when election is due**

- All Involved Tenant members of TLIP will be invited to submit their self-nomination as Vice Chairperson of the panel
- The candidates will be asked to submit some supporting details as to why they feel they would be a suitable candidate
- All nominations will be collated by the Tenant Involvement Team
- If there is only one candidate, this person and the Chairperson of TLIP will be notified and then they will be elected into position at the next TLIP meeting
- In the event of there being more than one candidate, an election will take place
- Ballot papers will be distributed to the tenant members of TLIP for them to cast their vote
- All votes will be counted and verified by the Tenant Involvement Team
- The winner and Chairperson of TLIP will be notified and they will be duly elected at the next TLIP meeting.

In the event of the Chairperson stepping down, the Vice Chairperson will carry out the position on an interim basis until a new Chairperson is elected. If there is no Vice Chairperson, the Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel is free to nominate an interim Chairperson from its current membership, until a new Chairperson is elected.

**Responsibilities of the Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel members**

Each person that attends is responsible for obtaining agreement from their own group to proposals/actions identified.

Members are responsible for reporting and communicating with the wider tenant / leaseholder / staff base, their own committees and boards regarding their work on TLIP.

Each person that attends must keep all official and sensitive information or material received whilst attending a TLIP meeting confidential. This information may be from other TLIP members, or be contained within reports or minutes of meetings.

Involved Tenants, Officers and Members who are identified as a 'lead' for specific actions, will be accountable to the panel and the Chairperson of the Panel for progress which will be discussed at each meeting.

The Senior Specialist Tenancy Involvement will be responsible for ensuring that any Officers who are required to complete an action have adequate notice and do so within the agreed timeframe.

**Administration and support**

Administration and support of TLIP will be undertaken by the Housing Service team at Wokingham Borough Council.

**Agenda setting**

TLIP will endeavour to set the next months agenda at each meeting. The panel may wish to arrange additional one-off meetings to discuss specific issues, but the focus for the panel meetings must be to secure improved performance and delivery of its Housing Service priorities.

The papers will be circulated to all members of TLIP at least 7 working days in advance of meetings.

**Circulation of minutes**

Members of the Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel  
Website – excluding confidential information  
Others as requested