



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in David Hicks 1 - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN **MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM**

Susan Parsonage
Chief Executive
Published on 24 August 2023

The role of Overview and Scrutiny is to provide independent “critical friend” challenge and to work with the Council’s Executive and other public service providers for the benefit of the public. The Committee considers submissions from a range of sources and reaches conclusions based on the weight of evidence – not on party political grounds.

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

Please note that other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting. The use of these images or recordings is not under the Council’s control.

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| Our Vision |
| <i>A great place to live, learn, work and grow and a great place to do business</i> |
| Enriching Lives |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion excellent education and enable our children and young people to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background. • Support our residents to lead happy, healthy lives and provide access to good leisure facilities to enable healthy choices for everyone. • Engage and empower our communities through arts and culture and create a sense of identity for the Borough which people feel part of. • Support growth in our local economy and help to build business. |
| Providing Safe and Strong Communities |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and safeguard our children, young and vulnerable people. • Offer quality care and support, at the right time, to reduce the need for long term care. • Nurture our communities: enabling them to thrive and families to flourish. • Ensure our Borough and communities remain safe for all. |
| Enjoying a Clean and Green Borough |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play as full a role as possible to achieve a carbon neutral Borough, sustainable for the future. • Protect our Borough, keep it clean and enhance our green areas for people to enjoy. • Reduce our waste, promote re-use, increase recycling and improve biodiversity. • Connect our parks and open spaces with green cycleways. |
| Delivering the Right Homes in the Right Places |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer quality, affordable, sustainable homes fit for the future. • Ensure the right infrastructure is in place, early, to support and enable our Borough to grow. • Protect our unique places and preserve our natural environment. • Help with your housing needs and support people, where it is needed most, to live independently in their own homes. |
| Keeping the Borough Moving |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and improve our roads, footpaths and cycleways. • Tackle traffic congestion and minimise delays and disruptions. • Enable safe and sustainable travel around the Borough with good transport infrastructure. • Promote healthy alternative travel options and support our partners in offering affordable, accessible public transport with good transport links. |
| Changing the Way We Work for You |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be relentlessly customer focussed. • Work with our partners to provide efficient, effective, joined up services which are focussed around our customers. • Communicate better with customers, owning issues, updating on progress and responding appropriately as well as promoting what is happening in our Borough. • Drive innovative, digital ways of working that will connect our communities, businesses and customers to our services in a way that suits their needs. |
| Be the Best We Can Be |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be an organisation that values and invests in all our colleagues and is seen as an employer of choice. • Embed a culture that supports ambition, promotes empowerment and develops new ways of working. • Use our governance and scrutiny structures to support a learning and continuous improvement approach to the way we do business. • Be a commercial council that is innovative, whilst being inclusive, in its approach with a clear focus on being financially resilient. • Maximise opportunities to secure funding and investment for the Borough. • Establish a renewed vision for the Borough with clear aspirations. |

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillors

Chris Johnson (Chair)
David Cornish
Charles Margetts

Peter Dennis (Vice-Chair)
Norman Jorgensen
Alistair Neal

Laura Blumenthal
Pauline Jorgensen
Marie-Louise Weighill

Substitutes

Jane Ainslie
Catherine Glover
Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey

Andy Croy
Stuart Munro
Alison Swaddle

Phil Cunnington
Caroline Smith
Shahid Younis

| ITEM NO. | WARD | SUBJECT | PAGE NO. |
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| 24. | | APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence. | |
| 25. | | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2023. | 7 - 14 |
| 26. | | DECLARATION OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest. | |
| 27. | | PUBLIC QUESTION TIME 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 www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions | |

28.

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

To answer any member questions.

28.1

Gary Cowan has asked the Chairman of the Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee the following question:

Question

All of us in public life share a common duty to protect our local taxpayer's interest which is critical for sound financial management and key to ensuring that every pound spent by local government is used to support the communities they serve.

At Exec I asked to see the business case for the purchase of the care home on Barkham Road including all the costs incurred by the Borough Council.

The reply I was given stated as the Borough Council had signed a non-disclosure agreement I could not have that information.

There are councils which have got into serious financial difficulties over external investment and have effectively gone bankrupt.

Keeping a tight rein on such spending would appear to be right and proper hence my interest in all external investment not just this one.

My question is how does this council with due diligence manage its checks and balances on investments such as this to ensure the Councils are properly protected.

29. None Specific

ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGY UPDATE

15 - 30

To consider an update to the ongoing delivery of the Arts and Culture Strategy.

30. None Specific

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT - CUSTOMER SERVICE, POTHoles AND SMALL PROJECTS

31 - 52

To consider a presentation on service delivery within Highways and Transport service, including Customer Service, Potholes and Small Projects.

31. None Specific

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 4

53 -
298

To consider the draft Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4).

32. None Specific

ACTION TRACKER

299 -
300

To consider the Committee's Action Tracker.

33. None Specific

WORK PROGRAMME

To consider the Committee's Work Programme for the remainder of the 2023/24 municipal year.

**301 -
310**

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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