

COUNCIL MOTIONS – 2019/22

Submitted by and date		Council Date	Motion	Progress
S Kerr	5.19	18.7.19	Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) of the Equalities Act 2010	Equality Impact Assessments included in key decision reports. Training for newly elected Members as part of the post-election induction. Training session on equalities is being developed for Members in 2022 as part of the Member Training Programme
J Halsall	5.19	18.7.19	Climate Emergency Declaration	Climate Emergency Action Plan in place and reported annually to the O&S Management Committee and Council
W Smith	5.19	18.7.19	Housing Needs – Council opposes any housing need calculation above demographic growth	Ongoing lobbying of the Government over the Borough’s housing numbers
K Baker	5.19	18.7.19	Anti-Semitic Sentiments	Ongoing – the Motion stated: “Council abhors any attack on individual groups, including our Jewish residents, and commits to lend support to anyone attempting to drive out such anti-Semitic views...”
P Fishwick	7.19	19.9.19	Introduction of Low Emissions Transport Strategy	The Low Emission Transport Strategy is under development. Officers are expecting to have a final draft ready for discussion in May 2022 which will then go through the decision making process before formal adoption.
C Jones	7.20	23.07.20	Political leadership to challenge Government targets for increased housing in the Borough	Ongoing lobbying of the Government over the Borough’s housing numbers

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G Murray	7.20	23.07.20	Single use plastics are eliminated from all Council operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities removed all disposable cups from vending machines in Shute End apart from the machine on the ground floor public area – however, the paper cups provided are recyclable. All kitchens have a supply of washable cups for staff to use which fit the vending machines. Re-usable plastic glasses are provided for water in large meetings in Council Chamber/David Hicks Rooms The Council is currently delivering Let's Talk Climate, engaging with businesses, community groups, school children and residents to share advice, ideas, and best practice on building a sustainable community. One of the key areas of this project is waste and recycling. The Council's Green Team is continually working on increasing awareness among Council staff with campaigns including signposting on Shute End drinks machines in all staff areas to increase staff awareness about single-use plastics and encourage the use of reusable tableware for lunch. Other campaigns such as Christmas-free plastic have been delivered over the last year. A Climate Pledge campaign was launched at the beginning of 2022, to engage residents and inspire them to make small changes. A key topic of the pledge includes helping to reduce plastic in our community. Through collaboration with school catering contractor Caterlink, significant progress was made with the removal of cling film, plastic cups, straws, bottles and the introduction of reusable plastic pots and containers and fully recyclable package materials from 34 local authority schools in the Borough.
S Kerr	2.20	23.07.20	Air pollution reduction – including increased monitoring, vehicle idling and active travel	Actions set out in the Climate Emergency Action Plan – reported annually to the O&S Management Committee and Council.
I Pittock	7.19	23.07.20	Expansion of Heathrow Airport	That this Council does not support the expansion of any airport unless it can be proven to be carbon neutral.
R Burgess	7.20	17.09.20	This Council will adopt the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Tax Protocol adopted in line with the Motion.

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			Council Tax protocol agreed by Citizens Advice and the LGA during municipal year 2020/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with enforcement agencies and Citizens Advice to help people pay Council Tax bills while accessing debt advice - each case is treated on its own merits before any action is taken. • All communication with residents about Council Tax will be clear - the Council is working corporately with First Word to review letters. • Consider using the Standard Financial Statement when calculating repayment plans - when setting up payment plans an Income and Expenditure form is used to assess a customer's eligibility to pay. • Flexible payment arrangements will be offered to residents - they are offered depending on the individual's circumstances. • Where resident receives Council Tax support, WBC will consider matters carefully, including refraining from using enforcement agents - each case is treated on its own merits before any action is taken. • WBC will publish policy on residents in vulnerable circumstances. The full protocol can be found here: Citizens Advice Council Tax Protocol 2017.pdf - we do not have a bespoke policy on residents in vulnerable circumstances per se - we have many policies that already cover this sensitive area.
R Bishop-Firth	2.20	17.09.20	Publish a review of the how the Council can best mitigate the effects of Brexit on local EU-National residents	<p>An officer working group was established to consider this matter. Officers promoted settled status via news releases, social media and inclusion in the residents' newsletter. Communications stated that WBC offered assistance to residents who required additional help applying for UK immigration status through the EU Settlement Scheme. The majority of applicants should have been able to use the EU Exit: ID Document app to complete the ID verification stage of the EU Settlement Scheme application using their smart phone, without any further assistance. Individuals who might require extra support with ID verification were advised to book a one-to-one appointment at the Borough Council's Register office.</p> <p>For businesses WBC's role was primarily signposting to business advice services – key being the Growth Hub, but also the Chamber of Commerce to pick up on Brexit related issues (importing, exporting and labour market where relevant). Officers have no evidence of significant impact of British citizens returning to the UK.</p>

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P Helliars-Symons	2.20	17.09.20	Sprinkler policy centred on WBC schools	<p>Letter sent to the Government in line with the Motion. The letter stated: "Since 2012, we have been installing sprinkler systems in all new schools which is over and above the requirement legislated through the Building Regulations process. This now improved approach raises the bar again and states, as a default position, that we will install sprinklers to our wider buildings and major refurbishment programme. We are driven to this approach in our attempts to not only improve the life safety of the building occupiers but also in an attempt to protect the assets themselves. Not only do we believe that this is a cost-effective measure, but it also reflects the negative social and disruptive impact a loss of a building (especially a school) would have on residents".</p> <p>WBC have installed an AFSS (Automatic Fire Suppression System) in all WBC funded and delivered schemes instigated since the adaptation of the Motion in line with the criteria as set out in the Motion. Examples are: Bulmershe Leisure Centre, Carnival Pool Leisure Centre, Aborfield Primary School, Matthews Green Primary School and several other sites.</p>
I Shenton	9.21	18.11.21	Declaration of an Ecological Emergency	Referred to Tree Protection & Biodiversity Task & Finish Group to examine the benefits of formally declaring an ecological emergency and the actions set out in the Motion. The Task and Finish Group report and recommendations will be considered by Council at the end of 2022.
G Murray	9.21	18.11.21	Tree Cities of the World status	Application for Tree Cities of the World status to be submitted following completion of the eight actions set out in the Motion
D Hare	10.21	18.11.21	White Ribbon UK Accreditation	<p>Referred to Equalities Working Group and then considered at January 2022 Council meeting. Council resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Council explore how it can improve communications to residents on what it is doing to support domestic violence victims; 2) Council Officers explore whether there is a more comprehensive accreditation to certify at which level the Council is performing when it comes to domestic violence provision and provide a report on their findings to a meeting of the Executive; 3) the Leader of the Council write to the Home Secretary in support of making public sexual harassment a specific offence and impress the need for wider cultural change, and write to the four MPs that cover Wokingham

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				4) Borough and the PCC to encourage them to also support this; the Executive Member for Children's Services write to local schools on how they are upholding the Department for Education's September 2021 "Keeping Children Safe in Education" policy on public sexual harassment.
R Burgess	25.03.22	21.07.22	Local Welfare Provision Scheme – more effective delivery and signposting	
A Mather	25.03.22	21.07.22	The Local Electricity Bill – promoting local community energy schemes	
C Margetts	30.06.22	21.07.22	Alternatives to car travel – improving journey times from Wokingham Borough stations to London Waterloo	
G Cowan	11.07.22	21.07.22	Banning the use of live animals for prizes on WBC land + lobbying the Government for an outright ban	
L Blumenthal	12.10.22	20.10.22	Leave policy for Members who become parents	
Rachel Bishop-Firth	12.10.22	20.10.22	Declaration of a Cost of Living Crisis in the Borough – working with the Hardship Alliance to support residents	

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