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WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Age Concern (Twyford)	
Name of Member	Lindsay Ferris	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	10 meetings	
Number of Meetings attended	6 meetings	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with WBC meetings	
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>Age Concern Twyford provides facilities for older people to attend during the day. Many activities are arranged during the days including singing, flower arrangements, quiz's etc, as well as providing lunch.</p>		
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>Yes, I was provided with the appropriate documentation and took part in detailed discussions with the Trustees.</p>		
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>AGE Concern Twyford is a very effective organisation. Residents become members and make a payment for the services. WBC also sponsor a growing number of residents. They are an increasing partner in providing Adult Social Care functions.</p>		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes	
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>There is a close working relationship between WBC & Age Concern Twyford.</p>		

Councillor: L T H Ferris

Dated: 28 Feb 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Name of Member	Tahir Maher
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	Effectively every 10 days
Number of Meetings attended	Most
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with WBC meetings
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>As a Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust representative, the meetings with other Governors are regular and rewarding. Effectively, we meet every ten days or so. Primarily, they deal with Mental health and well-being, Physical and community healthcare, and Children's healthcare. They are in Bracknell and Wokingham, Reading, Slough, West Berkshire, Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead.</p> <p>There are a number of councillor representatives, as Governors, and the rest are elected members, 26 in all. As Governors, we contribute to a strategic vision for the Trust. As Governors, we also get to meet and question the Board members regularly. We have access to detailed KPIs relating to the Trust's activities and question them on their delivery.</p> <p>The activities of the Governors are well managed by the Trust, I found the Trust to be very open, and forthcoming in what they do and they actively listened to the Governors.</p> <p>Martin Earwicker is the Chairman of the Non-Executive Directors and is very engaged with us as Governors. He will make sure that other Non-Executive and Executive Directors are available for any Governors to engage with.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>I have visited a site based at Reading University (Erlegh House). I was impressed with the service they offer for Children and adolescents' mental health: Trauma, Talking therapy, and anorexia, for example. One thing I noted was that there were</p>	

a number of examples given where they supported individuals in Reading, and I impressed on them to be more active in Wokingham.

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

I have found it a pleasure to represent Wokingham as a Governor; I have been impressed with their work to support residents with mental health issues. As a Governor, I have the freedom to be involved in as many of the Trust's activities as I want; I felt that they listened to my concerns and took in suggestions about supporting communities (especially ethnic minorities) and my comments made on their audit committee.

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

Yes

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

This is a worthwhile Trust for Wokingham Council to be involved in. I would suggest that Councillors who are involved with this Trust in the future work with Council Officers to develop an active longer-term programme of support they want, for Wokingham (not that the support we have at the moment, is bad in any way – but a more focused approach would benefit us even better).

Councillor: Tahir Maher

Dated: 7 March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Berkshire Maestros	
Name of Member	Sarah Kerr	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	9	
Number of Meetings attended	7	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash of meetings	
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>Berkshire Maestros continues to provide music lessons to children in Berkshire. Berkshire Maestros is expanding its offering beyond traditional peripatetic music tuition and music ensembles into projects for social value such as dementia choirs, children in care choirs and other projects and teaching for adults as well as children.</p>		
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>We receive detailed agendas and reports prior to each meeting. The organisation is also in the process of re-looking at its aims and objectives and I have been involved in this process and able to contribute.</p>		
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>Berkshire Maestros is an integral part of providing music tuition in the borough and across the county. It provides a range of services including first access teaching to children in primary schools, and seeks to provide opportunities to children from a diverse range of backgrounds. As outlined above, it is further expanding its reach which coincides with the Council's vision and priorities, and we are forming an excellent partnership with the organisation.</p>		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	<u>Yes</u> /No	
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>It's important that we work in a joined-up manner and Berkshire Maestros will be integral in helping WBC deliver on its arts and culture strategy.</p>		

Councillor: Sarah Kerr

Dated: 20th February 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel
Name of Member	Maria Gee
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member of advisory panel
Number of meetings called to attend	4
Number of Meetings attended	3 (by Teams as non-voting member)
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	1 meeting advisory panel members were not required
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>In part 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note and approve risk register (standing item) and risk management policy • Approve statutory policies update (standing item) • Approve a report regarding good governance • Acknowledges the report on responsible investing (standing item) • Notes the administration report (standing item) • Approval of pension fund draft annual report (still not final) <p>In part 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPPI performance, risk overview and management update • Appointment of Custodian • LPPI advisory and management agreement • Currency hedging 	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>The information provided is very comprehensive. It is also understandable if you have an advanced knowledge of corporate finance and complex financial instruments (I do not, and I doubt whether most councillors do). In any case, the governance structure means that, as a representative of WBC, I have little or no say, as I cannot vote. For reasons explained below, this is not acceptable as a way forward.</p>	

This is the governance structure of the Berkshire Pension Fund:

Administering Authority ('Scheme Manager')

Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

Responsible for managing and administering the Scheme in relation to any person for which it is the appropriate administering authority under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations.

**Berkshire Pension Fund Committee
5 RBWM Elected Members**

- Cllr. Julian Sharpe (Chair)
- Cllr. David Hilton (Vice-Chair)
- Cllr. Simon Bond
- Cllr. Wisdom Da Costa
- Cllr. Shamsul Shelim



The 5 Committee Members have voting rights.

Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel

To consider and make recommendations to the Berkshire Pension Fund Committee on all Pension Fund matters.

- Cllr. Safdar Ali (Slough BC)
- Cllr. Glenn Dennis (Reading BC)
- Cllr. Maria Gee (Wokingham BC)
- Cllr. Alan Law (West Berkshire Council)
- Cllr. Ian Leake (Bracknell Forest Council)

The Advisory Panel has no voting rights.

This is a description of the role of the Advisory Panel:

The Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel ("the Advisory Panel") consists of 5 Elected Members (Councillors), one from each of the other 5 Unitary Authorities in Berkshire, Bracknell Forest Council; Reading Borough Council, Slough Borough Council, West Berkshire Council and Wokingham District Council. The main purpose of the Advisory Panel is to support the Committee in achieving its statutory duties and to provide guidance and advice as appropriate.

Members of the Advisory Panel do not have voting rights but both the Committee and the Advisory Panel meet jointly and so review and discuss all agenda items at the same time.

As you can see, the panel has no separate meetings and attends the meetings of the Berkshire Fund Committee, all of whose members are from Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

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

Difficult to see the intercept between these two, essentially independent, organisations, with their own strategic vision and aims. Indeed, one might go so far as saying that there cannot be an intercept. Furthermore, a lot of relevant information is covered under Part 2, which I am not allowed to disclose, even to officers of WBC and members. This also puts representative members into an untenable position.

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

Yes, but as voting members
There needs to be more clarity disclosure of about part 2 items to officers and members.

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

The investments and liabilities that WBC has in this body is material to the accounts of the Council. Indeed, the accounts of WBC are held up because the Pension Fund has not signed off its accounts. This is because, it appears, RBWM

has not signed off its accounts either. I am informed that the governance structure is what it is, and that is how the Pension Fund was set up. This is not a sensible governance structure when there are major investors with no formal say. It needs to change and WBC needs to find a way to make it change.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

See above. Irrespective of what we may be told, ways of improving governance to benefit of the employees, former employees and WBC as a contributor must be found.

Councillor: Maria Gee

Dated: 7 March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Citizens Advice Wokingham	
Name of Member	Rachel Bishop-Firth	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Outside bodies representative	
Number of meetings called to attend	2	
Number of Meetings attended	2	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. The Citizens Advice Bureau are a member of the Hardship Alliance, run the 'One Front Door' Advice service for residents, and provide key targeted support in a number of areas such as debt advice to residents who are in arrears on council tax.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? The CAB have provided full information on its operations, and provide detailed relevant reports on services provided.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? The CAB has been key in the Hardship Alliance and the Cost of Living Crisis response. This includes acting as a partner in distribution of the central grant of Household Support Fund money.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?		Yes
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative We aim to continue to work closely with the CAB and a close dialogue is essential.		

Councillor:
R Bishop-Firth

Dated:
9th March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Finchampstead Baptist Church Advisory Board	
Name of Member	David Cornish	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Advisory Board Member	
Number of meetings called to attend	3	
Number of Meetings attended	2 (third meeting is on 10/3/23)	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A	
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>Re-establishing community activities in the Finchampstead Baptist Centre (FBC) post Covid. Focus on managing FBC running costs. Working alongside Gorse Ride redevelopment. Establishment of new Community Centre in Arborfield Green. Advice to Bohunt School on reaching out to youth groups in Arborfield.</p>		
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>Good initial conversation with the principal.</p>		
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>The FBC works closely with young people but also the wider community in the north part of Finchampstead and Arborfield. It has played a key role in visioning the community centre for Arborfield Green.</p>		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?		Yes/No YES
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>Excellent forum for being in touch with the community grassroots.</p>		

Councillor: David Cornish

Dated: 8/3/23

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Local Government Association
Name of Member	Clive Jones (Other WBC reps - Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey, Stephen Conway, Pauline Jorgensen)
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	1
Number of Meetings attended	1
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>It was very good to meet with other senior councillors from around the country from all political parties and to meet with other council leaders. It provided the opportunity to talk to the boundary commission about the proposed changes to boundary changes to Ward Boundaries, and to talk to people about planning issues and the local plan process.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>There was a full agenda for the AGM and meetings/exhibitions around it.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>I was able attend the AGM and whilst there met with the Secretary of State for levelling Up. This was an informal meeting with other council leaders and senior councillors. I invited the SOS to visit Wokingham to discuss ideas for reforming the way housing numbers were considered. He accepted the invitation and was keen to visit Wokingham.</p> <p>Unfortunately, he lost his job the following week when he fell out with the prime minister, Boris Johnson.</p> <p>Several months later and with two other SOSs in the intervening period he returned to DLUHC.</p> <p>His housing minister Liz Frazer agreed to invite me to a roundtable discussion, she then moved onto another role in government. We are waiting for her successor to meet with me.</p>	

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes/No YES
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative We need to have the information and knowledge to do a better job for our residents and to cope with upcoming changes and strategic challenges.	

Councillor: Clive Jones

Dated: 7th March 2023

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM
MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023**

Name of Organisation	Police and Crime Panel for the Thames Valley
Name of Member	Maria Gee
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member of panel
Number of meetings called to attend	5
Number of Meetings attended	3
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	1 meeting cancelled and 1 meeting rearranged at short notice and I was on holiday.
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC's annual report and the annual report of the Panel • Annual Assurance Report • Budget Task and Finish Group report • Setting of Precept • Report on Arrest Data by Ethnicity, including Stop and Search and the Police Race Action Plan • Confirmation hearing for the Chief Constable • Reports from the Complaints Committee • Consideration of report on Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs • Review of the PREVENT programme effectiveness • Considering topical issues (standing item) 	
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? There were easy links to the website information. There were also briefings by the Clerk to the panel before each meeting, which was very helpful. The agendas and minutes were very comprehensive.	
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? It is difficult to see the intersect between the panel and the council other than agreeing the precept. However, in its main duty to scrutinise the actions, decisions and performance of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), that duty is discharged at each meeting. This is an important role given the political nature of the appointment.	
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body? Yes	
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative Because it is important to hold a political appointee to account.	

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

I am not convinced that a PCC should be a political appointment because police should not be directed by political interests.

Councillor: Maria Gee

Dated: 6 March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Readibus
Name of Member	Mike Smith
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Director
Number of meetings called to attend	5
Number of Meetings attended	2
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Dates clashed with WBC full council meetings – requested change of dates but wasn't possible.
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retendering of Reading Council arrangement was a key issue for Readibus – fortunately they won the contract which secures the bulk of their funding. • An ongoing dispute with West Berkshire District Council over their withholding of funds related to Readibus refusing to sign a contract with a gagging clause. This relates to a decision by WBDC to drastically reduce their contribution to Readibus that was taken without public consultation; it occupies a huge amount of time including Readibus winning a case with the Local Authority Ombudsman. • Return of services to per-Covid coverage with 70% approx. usage – but many passengers have not returned. • Two new vehicles purchased and a new lease on their headquarters has been obtained. 	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>Materials provided were sufficient and consisted of:</p> <p>Previous Board minutes Articles and Memorandum of Association Various guides on Charity and Director responsibilities. Personal briefing on visit to HQ Well attended AGM or awards presentation</p>	

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

Very effective in providing bespoke journey bus services to residents with limited mobility. Anywhere to anywhere; good branding.

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

Yes

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Readibus provides a very valuable service to Wokingham Residents that have mobility issues on a very cost effective basis using the Bus Pass system for charging on a per journey basis. Very good value for money

Councillor: Mike Smith

Dated: 23 Feb 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
Name of Member	Mike Smith (Other WBC reps – Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey, Morag Malvern and Pauline Helliard-Symons)
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member of the Fire Authority; Member of the Audit and Governance Committee; Champion for Health Safety and Welfare combined with Member Development
Number of meetings called to attend	8
Number of Meetings attended	8
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>Fire and Rescue services across the whole of Berkshire.</p> <p>Dealing with the Annual Budget, the HMI Inspection, the proposed Firefighter strike, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion changes for the fire service.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>Very comprehensive handbook comprising 12 separate sections including a code of conduct for members, constitution, financial regulations and clearly defined responsibilities plus much other useful information.</p> <p>Leadership training, Training about the budget, EDI training.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>This is complicated to answer as the Governance is delivered by the Fire Authority comprising 20 Councillors across the six unitary authorities. It has its own vision and priorities that are unique to the service being provided, much dictated by statute. It is not really related to WBC's vision and priorities other than providing excellent service and VFM – which it does as indicated in the annual and quarterly reports and inspections by HMICFRS who found RBFRS "is performing to a high standard, receiving three 'good' judgments across the three areas (effectiveness, efficiency and people) inspected."</p>	

EDI changes are changing the Fire Service, and RBFRS are providing safe and well visits for adults.

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

Yes

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

Residents pay for the RBFRS through a precept collected via Council Tax – it is appropriate that Borough Councillors sit on the Fire Authority which sets strategic directions and agrees budgets etc.

WBC needs the ability to speak about coverage of the Borough by the Fire Service and any new building and fire regulations.

Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful

RBFRS is extremely well run and all major decisions are supported by excellent paperwork for such a relatively small organisations – there are lessons that could be learnt in large organisations.

Councillor: Mike Smith

Dated: March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Sonning & District Welfare and Educational Trust	
Name of Member	Michael Firmager	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member	
Number of meetings called to attend	2	
Number of Meetings attended	1	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with a Wokingham Borough Council meeting	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. The Trust provides welfare support for individuals in need or distress over the area of the old Parish of Sonning by means of grants.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? None.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? It is effective in what it does, especially during these hard economic times.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?		Yes/No
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative This should continue because the Trust provides an effective and necessary function.		

Councillor: Michael Firmager

Dated: 26 February 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	South East Employers	
Name of Member	Clive Jones & David Cornish	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	4	
Number of Meetings attended	2	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Holiday	
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>SEE covers many important areas. There are regular updates on changes in government and Ministers responsibilities. Agenda items have included updates on pay negotiations, Adult social care demands, Integrated care systems, Ukrainian refugees, presentations from the chief planner from DLUHC, discussions on investment zones.</p>		
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>All necessary information has been forthcoming, and they are very helpful.</p>		
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>The information received from them has been very useful.</p>		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes/No YES	
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>Information from the body is very useful and its good to meet with other council leaders across the south east.</p>		

Councillor: Clive Jones

Dated: 7th March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	South East Employers	
Name of Member	David Cornish (With Clive Jones)	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Executive member	
Number of meetings called to attend	1 x AGM, 2 x Exec	
Number of Meetings attended	1	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	One due to miscommunication of notice, one due to holiday (Cllr Jones attended AGM)	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. SEE has facilitated a number of online Pay Briefings for Councils during the most recent round of local government pay negotiations. Developed services and products so that they can be delivered in a variety of new ways which respond to the demands of a changing operating environment, especially hybrid working.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? Very little – I picked up most of what I now know from the AGM.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? I find it difficult to assess. This may be more appropriately answered by council officers, as I have no clear view on how much WBC uses the services provided by SEE.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?		Yes/No TBC
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative I think this would benefit from a proper review by relevant officers and members.		

Councillor: David Cornish

Dated: 10/3/23

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Standing Conference on Archives	
Name of Member	Stephen Conway	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	3	
Number of Meetings attended	2	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Clash with other meetings	
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>The Standing Conference's meetings take place in the Record Office. The head archivist and his staff report on acquisitions (new collections) and work on maintaining existing collections. They also keep us updated on plans for the extension of the Record Office and the archive service's outreach activities.</p>		
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>As above.</p>		
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>I have attended all but one of the meetings, and have reported back to our senior management team on progress on the jointly-funded extension, to which all the Berkshire unitary authorities are committed.</p>		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes	
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>The Berkshire unitary authorities share the costs of the archive service, based at the Berkshire Record Office in Reading.</p>		

Councillor: Stephen Conway

Dated: 25 March 2023

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM
MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023**

Name of Organisation	Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board
Name of Member	David Cornish (With Ian Shenton)
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer / WBC representative
Number of meetings called to attend	2
Number of Meetings attended	1
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Holiday (Meeting attended by Cllr Shenton)
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>Monitoring of areas of Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS) in the Thames Basin Heath area. Between December 2021 and March 2022 in person visitor surveys were completed at all 75 SANGS that were open at that time. In total 262 survey sessions were completed with 836 people being counted across all sites. To improve the robustness of visitor number data, agreement was sought for the installation of six additional visitor counters at locations across the TBH area. Bird monitoring surveys continued to be run by a third-party provider. A primary focus continued to be education and engagement. Staff worked in partnership with local police forces to raise awareness of nesting birds and responsible dog ownership.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>Very little direct from the organisation but a good briefing from WBC officers</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>Within our borough, the organisation is focussed primarily on SANGS. They have run pop-up session, especially at Rooks Nest Country Park, which helps to support our countryside team.</p>	
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes/No YES
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>SANGS are important to our countryside and to the enjoyment of residents and help to mitigate the impact of development. Therefore, working alongside the Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership adds to our knowledge in this area.</p>	

Councillor: David Cornish

Dated: 8th March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Piggott Trust	
Name of Member	Lindsay Ferris	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	One	
Number of Meetings attended	One	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. I attended the annual meeting of the Piggott Trust, it deals primarily with schools and support for school children who come from the Wargrave area.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? I received paperwork both before and during the meeting.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? It is very effective at supporting Wargrave children with grants to assist with their studying.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes	
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative It provides a good link between WBC and Wargrave		

Councillor: L T H Ferris

Dated: 28 Feb 2023

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM
MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023**

Name of Organisation	Polehampton Charity
Name of Member	Stephen Conway
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	4
Number of Meetings attended	3
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>The Polehampton Charity was established in 1722 and last autumn I attended an event to commemorate the founding of the charity and to celebrate the council's commitment to delivering Twyford's new library on the old Polehampton Boys' School site.</p> <p>The charity was set up to help support the poor of Twyford and neighbouring Ruscombe, especially with educational provision. Since 1722, its geographical remit has been broadened to include the parish of Charvil.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>The Charity provides information to members on a range of issues. The charity receives regular requests for support from local schools and, recently, an increasing number of applications for hardship funding. The charity now has good connections with Citizens Advice Wokingham, and receives referrals from them.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>The Polehampton Charity is associated with the local Hardship Alliance and the charity's financial resources help extend the money, person-power and information available to help us (the Council working with the its partners in the Hardship Alliance) to tackle the local manifestations of the cost-of-living crisis. The charity's new chair is particularly keen to recalibrate its funding strategy, to lay more emphasis on the relief of hardship, and less on supporting local schools, all of which are now academies with less of a link to the local community than in the past.</p>	
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>I have attended all the meetings of the charity during the municipal year 2022/23, acting as a link point on discussions between the council and the charity on the new library and helping make decisions on grant applications.</p>	

Councillor: Stephen Conway

Dated: March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	The Poors Land Charity	
Name of Member	Abdul Loyes	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Trustee	
Number of meetings called to attend	10	
Number of Meetings attended	3	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Working as an NHS appointed ambulance care assistant. I had irregular shift patterns which prevented me attending more meetings than I hoped.	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. Providing housing in almshouses and to make grants by way of Relief in Need to poor people within the area of benefit within Wokingham.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? The second aim of the Charity is to make small grants to local persons in need by way of Relief in Need for essential items, such as washing machines, beds, ovens, carpets, etc. and even short holidays by way of respite. The area of benefit for relief in need grants was extended to include the adjacent parishes to Woodley and Charvil, which extends to Earley, Winnersh, Hurst, Wargrave, Sonning and Twyford. The budget for these grants is £1,000 each month. The Charity still retains investments in multi asset charitable funds.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? I believe the Charity has contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities as last year the organisation helped 13 people with a total of £7,795.29 being spent.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?		Yes
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative This Charity is continuing to help vulnerable residents in need and allocating their resources appropriately.		
Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful The Poors Land Charity was originally served by 9 Trustees – Three of whom were Co-opted and 6 were nominated. Four being nominated from Woodley Town		

Council, one from Wokingham and one from Charvil. In 2014 another Co-opted Trustee was appointed and another in 2019 making the total of Trustees up to 11 each bringing different skills and areas of expertise to the Trustee body. My own 4 year term of office is due to terminate at the end of May 2023.

The Charity has two branches – to provide housing in almshouses and to make grants by way of Relief in Need to poor people within the area of benefit.

The almshouse building was funded by investments from the sale of land in Woodley from when the charity was formally known as The Fuel Allotment Charity where the poor could gather firewood. Land was purchased in Loddon Bridge Road and turned into blocks of flats. The units were completed and the building called Cedar Place was opened in 1979. As the Charity had obtained a loan from Wokingham they had the nomination rights to five of these flats with the Trustees being able to appoint residents to the other five. In 1993 extra land was obtained and four extra flats built with the addition of 4 linked bungalows at the rear and a common area and laundry. In 2000 the bungalow next to Cedar Place was purchased as a commercial let and for the future development of the almshouse units. The Charity still retains investments in multi asset charitable funds.

The second aim of the Charity is to make small grants to local persons in need by way of Relief in Need for essential items, such as washing machines, beds, ovens, carpets, etc. and even short holidays by way of respite. The area of benefit for relief in need grants was extended to include the adjacent parishes to Woodley and Charvil, which extends to Earley, Winnersh, Hurst, Wargrave, Sonning and Twyford. The budget for these grants is £1,000 each month. Last year the Charity helped 13 people with a total of £7,795.29 being spent.

The Charity normally holds 10 meetings a year and last year ten meetings were held of which I attended two. They are held monthly but not usually in August or December when a Christmas Party is held on the premises for the residents instead. Occasionally extra events are held by way of a fish and chip lunch, afternoon tea or garden party. Recently one of the Trustees has been arranging regular Coffee Mornings which have proved quite popular with certain residents.

Councillor: Abdul Loyes

Dated: 28/02/2023

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM
MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023**

Name of Organisation	Wokingham and District Association for the Elderly (WADE)
Name of Member	Beth Rowland
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	Nil (See below)
Number of Meetings attended	Nil (See below)
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>WADE is a local charity offering support to anyone over sixty in Wokingham and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>WADE provide a warm and friendly environment for their members to mix and socialise. Some simply come along for lunch and a change of scene from their own home and the opportunity to see friends. Others have the early stages of dementia, and a day out in safe, caring and stimulating surroundings allows their caregivers some much-needed respite.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>I have not been formally contacted by WADE, however I have visited their facilities on several occasions as Deputy Mayor. I was impressed by the care and support offered by WADE to their members.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>WADE provide a vital service for residents over 60 in the Borough, offering a change of scenery and a community atmosphere.</p>	
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative It is important to have Member representation on community focussed services, such as WADE.</p>	

Councillor: Beth Rowland

Dated: 10 March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Borough Sports Council (WBSC) Wokingham Borough Sports Sponsorship Fund (WBSSF)
Name of Member	Ian Shenton
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Committee Member
Number of meetings called to attend	One joint meeting of WBSC & WBSSF
Number of Meetings attended	One
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>It was agreed that the need for new volunteers would have to be addressed. Continued deliverable outcomes in training courses and sponsorship awards were flagged as essential to support future grant funding, and a synopsis was supplied to WBC Head of Sport & Leisure team. It was agreed to consider possible new ventures that supported diversity and encouraged disability sport.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>Copy of the constitution and verbal briefing proved sufficient.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>The organisation's effectiveness is constrained by its reliance on a limited cohort of volunteers, but the awards that it makes promote aspirational participation in sport and community involvement, aligning with the Council's partnership agenda.</p>	
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>The Council can act as a facilitator of this community-led initiative.</p>	

Councillor: I C Shenton

Dated: 03/03/23

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Volunteer Centre
Name of Member	Rachel Burgess
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer
Number of meetings called to attend	0
Number of Meetings attended	2 – initial briefing meeting (June 2022) plus the WVC annual meeting (October 2022), plus attendance at two ‘Green n Tidy’ sessions
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	NB this role does not sit on the board of trustees so there was no <i>requirement</i> to attend any meetings
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>Wokingham Volunteer Centre works with over 100 local charities to promote and recruit to volunteering roles.</p> <p>They run a gardening service, Green ‘n’ Tidy, which provides basic gardening help to older or more vulnerable residents.</p> <p>They also run a community transport scheme to help, for example, to transport people to medical appointments.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>I met with the Chair, Julian Thompson, and the Chief Officer, Nick Fellowes, for a briefing on the work of the organisation on 29 June 2022.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council’s Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>The organisation has contributed to the Council’s vision and priorities, in particular with regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting residents to lead happy, healthy lives - Nurturing communities and enabling them to thrive 	

- Supporting people to live independently in their own homes
- Working effectively with partners

This has been achieved through its three main activities:

Volunteering

The charity works effectively to promote and recruit volunteers for local charities, through its volunteering portal, a matching service and by holding regular recruitment fairs.

Green 'n' Tidy

I was glad to join in with volunteers for two sessions of Green 'n' Tidy in Norreys ward. Green 'n' Tidy provides a basic gardening service for elderly, disabled or vulnerable residents of Wokingham Borough who cannot maintain their own properties.

I was extremely impressed by the operation – I joined a well-motivated team of volunteers who were valued by residents not just for their gardening skills but also for their friendly interactions with residents, some of whom may experience loneliness and social isolation. This is an excellent team that provides a valuable service for residents.

Community Transport

The Community Transport schemes provides a personal service to support to older and vulnerable residents, helping them get to medical appointments or other activities. This also contributes to improvements in mental and physical health through reducing loneliness and isolation, in particular now the service has been extended to cover social activities.

I attended the Wokingham Volunteer Centre Annual Meeting on 3 October 2022 and was impressed with the reports of the charity's activities.

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

Yes/No

Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative

The charity provides some valuable services in our community, and it is important for the Council to have this link into the charity and its activities, to ensure partnership working continues to be effective.

Councillor: Rachel Burgess

Dated: 2 March 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Waterside Centre
Name of Member	Shirley Boyt
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Trustee/Board member
Number of meetings called to attend	4 per annum
Number of Meetings attended	4
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>WWC provides water activities – canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding and dragon boating to both children and adults. Local schools, scout and guides, and Duke of Edinburgh's Awards are all catered for. Sessions for those with physical and learning disabilities are also a core activity of the centre. Improvements have been made to the interior – replacement of worn safety flooring in showers, toilets and lobby. Replacement of carpeting in function room and meeting room.</p> <p>The tenant of the retail unit has recently vacated the premises and WWC has taken over this space to be used for a variety of activities – dedicated staff rest area, boat repair bay and a small kiosk which will sell hot and cold drinks, snacks and ice creams during the summer months.</p> <p>In the area surrounding the centre – trees have been trimmed and shrubs planted. Safety equipment and boats have been replaced as required.</p>	
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>As I have previously been a board member a briefing was not needed.</p>	
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>Activities provided are suitable for all age groups. The activities are beneficial to both physical and mental well-being. Participants are encouraged to develop their skills in a safe environment with highly qualified instructors.</p> <p>Those with disabilities are welcomed. The Additional Needs Group is mainly students from Addington School and many former students are still visiting the centre, continuing to paddle as adults.</p>	

Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Definitely
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>I believe it is important that a councillor representative continues to sit on the board. The building is leased by WBC to the board of WWC and a named person who can liaise with council officers quickly and efficiently when problems arise is vital.</p> <p>Two issues in particular spring to mind:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anti-social behaviour in the P & R car park which is adjacent to the centre. This takes the form of illegal car meets and littering, both of which are ongoing but communication channels are open. 2. When I became a trustee, the hot water system was in need of replacement at a cost of c.£28,000. As the building belongs to WBC, I called in Wokingham Energy to assess the building for renewables, and as a result the building is set to become carbon neutral by the end of the year. So far, all the lighting has been replaced with LED, a solar array has been installed with battery storage and heat pumps to follow. The board members had no idea the building could be upgraded as part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan. This will be a win, win situation for the centre. It has not only saved the cost of a new LPG hot water system but going forward, the centre's energy costs will be zero and they will become a supplier when the system is connected to the grid. 	

Councillor: Shirley Boyt

Dated: 16 February 2023

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Wokingham Youth Counselling	
Name of Member	Rachelle Shepherd-Dubey	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Member of the Management committee	
Number of meetings called to attend	5	
Number of Meetings attended	2	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	Conflicting Council meetings	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year Working with young people are dealing with mental health issues that aren't covered by CAMHS and normal issues that young people have to deal with.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed roll? I was a trained councillor and Psychotherapist.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? Young people need help dealing with mental health issues.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes	
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative We need to have input into a service that helps young people deal with the pressure of Post Pandemic Britain		

Councillor: Rachelle Shepherd-Dubey Dated: 12 Feb 2023

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM
MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023**

Name of Organisation	Woodley Town Centre Management Partnership	
Name of Member	Shirley Boyt (Other WBC reps – Andy Croy and Beth Rowland (Sub))	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Representative	
Number of meetings called to attend	3	
Number of Meetings attended	3	
Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year. Ideas for increasing footfall; concerns about anti-social behaviour; increasing the involvement of local businesses; events; social media presence; financial aspects.		
What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role? None needed as I had previously been a member of the partnership.		
Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply? The partnership hosted a number of events during the year. These are popular with residents and bring people into the town centre which benefits local businesses and also fosters a sense of community. The Winter Extravaganza and the carol service are two good examples of this.		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes / No	
Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative The TCMP is jointly funded by Woodley TC and WBC. It is important that each has representatives sitting on the group to understand the problems. There are currently two Members attending the Partnership. I think one of those should always be a ward member of the ward in which the town centre is located (currently Bulmershe and Whitegates). It is sometimes overlooked that there are residents living above the shops and they also have a stake in the precinct along with businesses and shoppers.		
Please provide any additional information that fellow Members might find useful The town centre manager and I have been engaged in discussions with the Leader of the Council and Senior Officers to look at opportunities for maximising income; improving engagement with businesses; and for upgrading and improving the appearance of the centre, which is looking somewhat tired and dated.		

Councillor: Shirley Boyt

Dated: 01/03/23

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES ANNUAL FEEDBACK FORM

MUNICIPAL YEAR: 2022-2023

Name of Organisation	Woodley Volunteer Centre	
Name of Member	Beth Rowland	
Capacity appointed, e.g. trustee, director, observer etc	Observer	
Number of meetings called to attend	1	
Number of Meetings attended	1	
Reasons for not attending, if appropriate	N/A	
<p>Please give a brief synopsis of the key areas covered by the Outside Body during the past Municipal Year.</p> <p>I was invited and attended the AGM - the centre is working as much as ever now that things have returned to just about normal after Covid. Taking residents to hospitals and other appointments when they are unable to get there under their own steam is so needed.</p>		
<p>What background /briefing information did you receive from the organisation on its constitution, aims, objectives etc and was it sufficient to enable you to carry out your appointed role?</p> <p>The AGM provided me with relevant information about the organisation.</p>		
<p>Please indicate how effective you think the organisation is, e.g. has it met or contributed to the Council's Vision and Priorities and give examples to illustrate your reply?</p> <p>I would like to acknowledge all the hard work and hours that they volunteer. They do need more - younger people to sign up to help - if you know anyone, please either contact the directly or through me.</p>		
Do you think the Council should continue to be represented on this Outside Body?	Yes	
<p>Please state the rationale FOR OR AGAINST having a representative</p> <p>Without this organisation our residents would be poorer.</p>		

Councillor: Beth Rowland

Dated: 13 March 2023

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