

## COUNCIL MOTIONS – 2019/22

Submitted by and date		Council Date	Motion	Progress
I Shenton	9.21	18.11.21	Declaration of an Ecological Emergency	Referred to the Tree Protection & Biodiversity Task & Finish Group to examine the benefits of formally declaring an ecological emergency and the actions set out in the Motion
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	Referred to Equalities Working Group and then considered at January 2022 Council meeting. Council resolved that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Council explore how it can improve communications to residents on what it is doing to support domestic violence victims;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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 Borough and the PCC to encourage them to also support this;</li> <li>4) 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.</li> </ol>

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				Progress reported at Community & Corporate O&S on 7 July 2023. Meetings with White Ribbon had taken place. This included an introductory meeting with Members followed by two informal meetings with officers. This was a three year process, following the Executive decision to seek accreditation in November 2022. Work was ongoing to develop the accreditation work programme.
R Burgess	25.03.22	21.07.22	Local Welfare Provision Scheme – more effective delivery and signposting	<p>Officers have been looking at ways to better reach those most in need with the LWP scheme and have been in discussions with various 3<sup>rd</sup> sector partners this year. The aim of the work, aligned to the Motion was to ensure it was available to those most in need, that is was made as accessible as possible and the type of support most met those needs. With an obvious need for transparency and full audit and governance process to oversee the scheme. Officers have had several meetings with members of the Hardship Alliance and it has been proposed that potentially the best way forward would be for one of the organisations to administer our LWP scheme directly at least until 31.3.23 – so this can be evaluated and measured as an approach going forward. This will ensure more direct access for key residents and that applications are considered more holistically. It will also allow that LWP applications will be processed as part of a bigger understanding of other funding and support available for a wider range of needs. This will be beneficial to claimants as it will avoid duplication and the need for multiple applications to various different schemes. Key measures of performance and impact of funding will then be kept to review and ensure the policy best meets local need.</p> <p>Officers are continuing to develop the principle and hope to be able to engage Members in a proposed approach in the coming weeks. The Council will still advertise the LWP scheme on its website but will signpost enquiries to the relevant organisation.</p>
A Mather	25.03.22	21.07.22	The Local Electricity Bill – promoting local community energy schemes	Sarah Kerr submitted the Council’s pledge on the website of Power for People, who are campaigning for the Bill. We now appear on their list of supporting LAs as result of this – please see bottom of this

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				<p>webpage: <a href="https://powerforpeople.org.uk/the-local-electricity-bill/support">https://powerforpeople.org.uk/the-local-electricity-bill/support</a></p> <p>Leader and CEX have written to the MPs (John Redwood, James Sunderland, Theresa May and Matt Rodda) and to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.</p>
C Margetts	30.06.22	21.07.22	Alternatives to car travel – improving journey times from Wokingham Borough stations to London Waterloo	Officers have commenced communication on this matter with the train operator. Officers are also aware of discussions that have taken place between the rail operator and WBC Members. Communications will continue with the rail operator with the view to highlight the aims of this Motion.
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	<p>Officers have added a new clause into the WBC Booking form for Events: Wokingham Borough Council has an outright ban the giving of live animals as prizes in any form, on Wokingham Borough Council land.</p> <p>Officers will confirm this point when they receive enquiries relating to events.</p>
L Blumenthal	12.10.22	20.10.22	Leave Policy for Members who become parents	<p>A Member working group was established, comprising: Rachel Bishop-Firth, Laura Blumenthal, Rachel Burgess and Jim Frewin.</p> <p>The Assistant Director, HR &amp; OD, Assistant Director, Governance and Head of Legal joined the group to provide advice. The working group met and agreed a draft policy for submission to Council. The Member Parental Leave Policy was subsequently agreed by Council at its meeting in March 2023.</p>
R 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	<p>Community-led response, driven through the Hardship Alliance, supported by the Council and a range of partners and groups across the Borough. Progress reported to the Community &amp; Corporate and Children’s Service’s O&amp;S Committees.</p> <p>The following work-streams were developed:</p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a Needs-Led Approach</li> <li>• Funding – maximising available resources</li> <li>• People Based Resources – refocusing existing staff resources</li> <li>• Logistics – including accommodation and transport</li> <li>• Essentials – food, energy and other needs for families</li> <li>• Data – understanding changing demand – monitoring take-up</li> <li>• Communications – using joint messaging to raise awareness</li> </ul>
G Cowan	21.11.22	19.01.23	Set up a working group to review the Council's Constitution. Work with LGA to develop a modern new Constitution	Cross-party Working Group established, supported by officers and the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny. Revised Constitution to be submitted to full Council for approval before the May 2024 elections.
R Margetts	12.10.22	19.01.23	Congratulations to the England Lionesses on becoming European Champions. Call on primary schools to ensure that football is offered to every child who wishes to play	
S Boyt	23.01.23	23.03.23	Council values the contribution of all key workers and recognises that they are suffering hardship. Council agrees to undertake a review of Key Worker Housing Provision	

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A Croy	08.03.23	23.03.23	Transparency in dealing with requests for road crossings and traffic calming, etc. Publish on the WBC website a schedule which sets out the status of resident and Member requests to WBC highways	
C Smith	30.05.23	20.07.23	Make the Borough a recognised Borough of Sanctuary and a supporter of City of Sanctuary UK – welcoming those fleeing violence and persecution and committing to practical steps to welcome and include refugees and asylum seekers	
P Bray	21.09.23	19.10.23	Council recognises the pressures on WBC and commits to decision making by the Executive based on community interest, fiscal responsibility, partnership working, prevention and transparency	Development of co-produced Community Vision and supporting Council Plan reported to Overview & Scrutiny. Commitment to improved partnership working with Town & Parish Councils. Leader's commitment to principles of Overview and Scrutiny - emphasis on the "Overview" element – greater involvement in policy development at an early stage. Ongoing Budget Scrutiny via Community & Corporate O&S.

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