

Delivering Good Governance in Wokingham Borough Council

Good governance is the phrase used to describe how organisations direct and control what they do. For local authorities this includes how a council relates to the communities that it serves.

Good governance is everyone's responsibility. The Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive have a special leadership role as custodians of the Council's governance arrangements.

We deliver good governance at Wokingham Borough Council through demonstrating the following principles based on the International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector.

As part of our commitment to openness we endeavour to publish as much information on our website as possible on our governance arrangements.

A. Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law.

The council's values are defined on the website [here](#). These are embedded in the Council Plan [here](#). They are embedded in job descriptions and assessed within appraisals.

There are Member and Officer Codes of Conduct detailed within the council's constitution [here](#). The Members code in Section 9 and Officers code in Section 11.

Details of Councilors Declarations of Interests, Register of Interests and details of Gifts and Hospitality are published on the Council's website [here](#).

The Council operates a Whistleblowing regime [here](#).

B. Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement.

The Council transacts as much of its business as possible in public. Council Meetings are published [here](#). The Council proactively publishes information under its publication scheme [here](#).

E-petitions are available on the Council's website [here](#). The Council regularly consults with its stakeholders. Details of current consultations are [here](#).

C. Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits.

The council's vision is defined on the website [here](#). These are embedded in the Council Plan [here](#). The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) details the medium viability of the Council [here](#).

These are underpinned by a network of supporting plans, strategies and policies [here](#).

D. Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes.

The Council Plan and its annual review detail the actions required to deliver on the Council's Vision, Principles and Priorities and is available on the Council's website [here](#).

These are monitored via the Council Plan Performance Monitoring report presented to Overview and Scrutiny on a quarterly basis [here](#).

E. Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it.

There is Induction for new Members and Officers on joining the Council.

Details of Members training is published [here](#).

There is a Training Needs Analysis which informs the training of Officers.

F. Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management.

The Council has a risk management policy and guidance [here](#). The Council's Corporate Risk Register is reviewed quarterly by the Council's audit committee [here](#).

The Council details its Financial Regulations and Procurement and Contract Rules and Procedures in the Constitution in Sections 11 and 12 respectively [here](#). The annual accountants and other relevant financial data are available [here](#).

G. Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability.

Transparency data and Publication Scheme detail a wealth of information about how the Council operates [here](#).

The responsibility for services is detailed for Executive Members [here](#), Officers [here](#), and the complaints process is defined [here](#).

The Council has an Overview and Scrutiny function that provides holding the Executive to account. This includes undertaking policy development and review performance monitoring and external Scrutiny [here](#).

The Council has an Audit Committee that reviews the work of management, internal audit and external audit [here](#).