

Notice of Meeting



Executive

Thursday, 9 September 2004 at 6.00pm**

in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Market Street, Newbury

*****Please note the change of time***

Date of Despatch of Agenda: 1 September 2004

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Anne Hunter, Policy Executive on (01635) 519241
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Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at www.westberks.gov.uk

Agenda – Executive Meeting to be held on 9 September 2004 (continued)

To: Councillors Phil Barnett, Billy Drummond, Miss Denise Gaines, Mrs Sally Hannon, Owen Jeffery, Mrs Mollie Lock, Dr Royce Longton, Mike Rodger

Agenda

Part I

- | | Page No. |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Apologies for Absence
To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any). | |
| 2. Minutes
To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 August 2004. | 1 |
| 3. Declarations of Interest
To receive any declarations of Interest from Members. | |
| 4. Presentation by Steve Hart, CSCI
Inspection of West Berkshire Children's Services by the Commission for Social Care Inspectorate (EX0841)
<i>Purpose: To inform the Executive of the findings of the CSCI following its inspection of Children's Services, and of the Action Plan developed to address the Commission's recommendations.</i> | 15 |
| 5. Questions | |
| (a) Public Questions | |
| Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution. <i>(Note: There were no questions submitted relating to items not included on this Agenda.)</i> | |
| (b) Members' Questions | |
| Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution. | |
| (i) Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Financial Management submitted by Gordon Lundie: | |
| <i>"With our pension fund sitting at 83% of full funding requirement West Berkshire Council is increasing its contribution to help make up this shortfall. Are there any plans to increase employee contributions or review the benefits delivered under this scheme in future? If this is not done what is the burden being placed on all the people of West Berkshire through increased future council tax?"</i> | |
| 6. Petitions | |
| (a) Councillors or Members of the public may present any petition which they have received. These will normally be referred to the appropriate Committee without discussion. | |

Agenda – Executive Meeting to be held on 9 September 2004 (continued)

Items as timetabled in the Forward Plan

	Reference	Page No.
<p>7. West Berkshire Forward Plan - October 2004 to January 2005 (CP – This item is not linked to a Corporate Priority but is a statutory requirement) <i>Purpose: To advise Members of items to be considered by West Berkshire Council over the next four months.</i></p>	EX0652	18
<p>8. Closure of Capital Accounts 2003/04 (This item supports all the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities) <i>Purpose: To determine certain capital financing transactions for the accounting year ended 31 March 2004 in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.</i></p>	EX0662	30
<p>9. Performance Report for Level One Indicators – Quarter One 2004/05 (CP1 – Providing stronger community leadership) (DT1 – Performance improvement) <i>Purpose: To outline performance levels across the Council for the first quarter of 2004/05 and to consider, where appropriate the remedial action that is required.</i></p>	EX0692	33
<p>10. 2004/2005 Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1 (This item supports all the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities) <i>Purpose: To update Members on the 2004/2005 budget monitoring position.</i></p>	EX0693	66
<p>11. Supporting People Inspection Report (CP2 – tackling all forms of social exclusion across the district) (CP3 – promoting independence for older people and people with disabilities) (CP6 – increasing the provision of homes that are affordable to those on low incomes) <i>Purpose: To inform Members of the outcome of the recent Audit Commission Inspection of the Supporting People programme in West Berkshire and to brief Members on the action being taken to respond to the Recommendations in the Inspection Report..</i></p>	EX0853	83
<p>12. Treasury Management Annual Report 2003/04 (This item supports all the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities) <i>Purpose: To consider an Annual Report on the Treasury Management Function, reviewing the previous year's activities and performance fund for the year.</i></p>	EX0673	92
<p>13. Disabled Facilities Grant Group Report (CP2 – tackling all forms of social exclusion across the district) <i>Purpose: To report the findings of the review into Disabled Facilities carried out by the Community Care and Housing Select Committee.</i></p>	EX0845	97
<p>14. Section 106 Scrutiny Review Task Group Report (CP6 – increasing the provision of homes that are affordable to those on low incomes) <i>Purpose: To report the findings of the Section 106 Scrutiny Review Task Group.</i></p>	EX0828	112
<p>15. Housing Benefit Task Group Report (CP2 – tackling all forms of social exclusion across the district) <i>Purpose: To report the findings of the review into Housing Benefits carried out by Community Care and Housing Select Committee.</i></p>	EX0843	134

Agenda – Executive Meeting to be held on 9 September 2004 (continued)

	Reference	Page No.
16. Older People's Services Task Group Report (CP3 – promoting independence for older people and people with disabilities) <i>Purpose: To report the findings of the review into Older People's Services carried out by the Community Care and Housing Select Committee</i>	EX0844	143
17. South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) Small Rural Towns Programme (CP10 – Creating attractive and vibrant town centres) <i>Purpose: To provide an outline of this new regional Programme and set out a range of proposals for taking it forward across Berkshire.</i>	EX0851	152
18. Benefits Counter Fraud Strategy (DT1: Performance improvement) <i>Purpose: To update Members and seek approval of the West Berkshire Council Benefits Counter Fraud Strategy.</i>	EX0830	160
19. Park Way Redevelopment – Update Report (CP10 – Creating attractive and vibrant town centres) <i>Purpose: To update Members on the process of selecting a developer for the Park Way Redevelopment and to seek authority for the Newbury Town Centre Task Group to recommend a preferred Developer to the Executive at its December meeting.</i>	EX0837	166
20. SEN Inclusion Policy & SEN Development Plan (CP2 – Tackling all forms of social exclusion across the district) (CP4 – Maintaining high standards of educational achievement across all of our schools) <i>Purpose: To report the outcome of the SEN review consultation and to seek approval for the SEN Inclusion Policy & Development Plan 2004-2009.</i>	EX0679	169

Items not timetabled in the Forward Plan

	Reference	Page No.
21. East of the District Task Group (This Task Group would support all of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities) <i>Purpose: (1) To establish an East of the District Task Group to evolve a vision and strategy for services in the East of the District. (2) To agree terms of reference for the Task Group. (3) To agree Membership of the Task Group.</i>	N/A	177
22. Exclusion of the Press and Public		

RECOMMENDATION: *That members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as it is likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description contained in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 specified in brackets in the heading of each item. Rule 9.10.4 of the Constitution also refers.*

Part II

Item as timetabled in the Forward Plan

	Reference	Page No.
23. Domiciliary Care Block Contracts (Paragraph 9 – terms proposed in negotiations) (CP3 – Promoting independence for older people and people with disabilities) <i>Purpose: To seek approval to enter into three-year block contracts to purchase Domiciliary Care from the private and independent sector.</i>	N/A	180

Malcolm Burch
Head of Policy and Performance