



Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

Tuesday, 5th March, 2013

Summons and Agenda



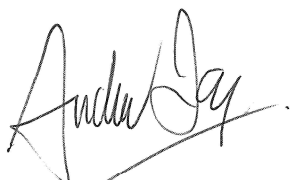
WestBerkshire
C O U N C I L

To: All Members of the Council

You are requested to attend a meeting of
WEST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
to be held in the
**COUNCIL OFFICES, MARKET STREET,
NEWBURY**

on

Tuesday, 5th March, 2013
at 6.30 pm



Andy Day
Head of Strategic Support
West Berkshire District Council

Date of despatch of Agenda: Monday, 25 February 2013

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any).

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman to report on functions attended since the last meeting and other matters of interest to Members.

3. **MINUTES**

The Chairman to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 13 December 2012 and the Council meeting held on the 13 December 2012.
(Pages 1 - 24)

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive notice of any Declarations of Interest from Members.



Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2013 (continued)

5. PETITIONS

Councillors may present any petition which they have received. These will normally be referred to the appropriate body without discussion.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Council's Constitution:

- (a) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Council Strategy & Performance, Housing, ICT, Corporate Support, Strategic Support, Legal submitted by Ms. Judith Bunting:**

"The council's own draft Homelessness Strategy highlights severe problems with the provision of affordable housing in this wealthy district with high house prices and recognises that the trend in people presenting as homeless to the Council is increasing.

In the light of this, and the fact housing officers are already dealing with caseloads three times larger than usual, can the Executive Member for Housing explain why he is so confident that "these pressures can be accommodated within existing resources", as stated in the Action Plan accompanying the Strategy?"

7. LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Licensing Committee has not met.

8. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Personnel Committee met on 20 December 2012 and the 19 February 2013. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

9. GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of Council, the Governance and Audit Committee met on 11 February 2013. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

10. DISTRICT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the District Planning Committee has not met.



11. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission met on 04 February 2013 (special) and the 26 February 2013. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

12. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Standards Committee met on 28 January 2013. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

13. WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL STRATEGY REFRESH 2013-17 (C2544)

To present the refreshed 2013-17 Council Strategy. **(Pages 25 - 62)**

14. BORROWING LIMITS AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2013/14 (C2506)

In compliance with The Local Government Act 2003, this report summarises the Council's borrowing limits as set out by CIPFA's Prudential Code, and recommends the Annual Borrowing and Investment Strategy for 2013/14. **(Pages 63 - 70)**

15. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) 2013-16 (C2504)

To inform Members of the medium term financial planning and strategy for the organisation. **(Pages 71 - 96)**

16. CAPITAL STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME 2013-2018 (C2503)

To outline the draft five year Capital Strategy for 2013 to 2018 including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement and the Asset Management Plan and to set out the funding framework for Council's five year Capital Programme for 2013/14 – 2017/18. **(Pages 97 - 162)**

17. REVENUE BUDGET: 2013/14 (C2502)

To consider and recommend to Council the 2013-14 revenue budget. **(Pages 163 - 260)**

18. STATUTORY PAY POLICY STATEMENT (C2597)

To present a pay policy statement to be published from 1st April 2013 for approval **(Pages 261 - 280)**

19. HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY (C2581)

To advise Members of the emerging priorities within the first Health and Wellbeing Strategy which is scheduled for adoption by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 28th February 2013 and Full Council on 5th March 2013. **(Pages 281 - 306)**



20. **LOCALISATION OF COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT - DETAILED ADMINISTRATION OF THE WEST BERKSHIRE SCHEME (C2611)**

At its meeting on 13th December Council established its policy for the principles upon which the Council Tax Support Scheme will be provided. This report follows that decision and recommends, at a high level, the administrative processes for the scheme. (Pages 307 - 482)

21. **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the [Council's Constitution](#):

(a) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Property, Highways, Transport submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams:**

"Why is this council sending police officers to carry out speed enforcement on roads in the district that do not have legal speed limits, because they are not covered by a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and do not have terminal signs located correctly, which could lead to a speeding fine being challenged in court wasting both police and court time? "

(b) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Countryside, Environmental Protection, "Cleaner Greener", Culture, Customer Services submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams:**

"Can the Executive Member for Culture & Leisure tell me what message she has for the parents who have decided not to use the Park & Stride facility at the Thatcham Discovery Centre, because the car park surface remains muddy and spoils their children's shoes as they walk to school and these parents are continuing to park in the surrounding residential area?"

(c) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Council Strategy & Performance, Housing, ICT, Corporate Support, Strategic Support, Legal submitted by Councillor Gwen Mason:**

"I note that the housing allocations policy has recently been reviewed so that children under 10 regardless of sex are expected to share a bedroom, and children of the same sex under the age of 16 will also be expected to share a bedroom.

I am aware of families that will find this new policy impossible due to the nature of their child's disability. Will you consider making exceptions to this policy on the recommendation of medical professionals where the safety of a sibling is in doubt?"



Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2013 (continued)

West Berkshire Council is committed to equality of opportunity. We will treat everyone with respect, regardless of race, disability, gender, age, religion or sexual orientation.

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Moira Fraser on telephone (01635) 519045.

