

Supplemental Items for Council

Thursday 16 October 2025 at 7.00pm
in the Council Chamber Council Offices
Market Street Newbury

Part I

Page No.

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 5. | Petition for debate – Black bin collections | 3 - 4 |
| 6. | Public Questions
Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution . | 5 - 6 |
| 13. | Members' Questions
Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Members of the Council in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution . | 7 - 8 |

Sarah Clarke.

Sarah Clarke

Executive Director - Resources

For further information about these items, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Stephen Chard (Democratic Services Manager) on 01635 519462

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Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at www.westberks.gov.uk



WestBerkshire
C O U N C I L

Supplemental Items
Council to be held on Thursday 16 October 2025 *(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.

Council – 16 October 2025

Item 5 – Petition for debate:

Black bin collections

Petition requesting that Council pause the changes and reconsider the three weekly black bin collection policy.

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Council – 16 October 2025

Item 6 – Public Questions

No public questions have been submitted for this meeting.

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Agenda Item 13

Member Questions to be answered at the Council meeting on 16 October 2025.

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

(A) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways by Councillor Clive Taylor:

"Can the portfolio holder please explain why the Readibus service for people with mobility issues is not available to residents of my ward, Tilehurst Birch Copse, nor as far as I am aware to most if not all other West Berkshire wards, and of the actions being taken to rectify this?"

(B) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Community Engagement, Economic Development and Regeneration and Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation by Councillor Chris Read:

"What is the Council doing to help maintain the viability of pubs run by lease holding landlords and ladies; and to incentivise new blood to come into the area, take on the lease of a pub and keep that vitality in our local rural communities in terms of planning, grants, and local rural amenity promotion?"

(C) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways by Councillor Ross Mackinnon:

"How many residents paid the Garden Waste Charge, and how much did the charge raise, during the financial year 2022-23, and how do those figures compare with those in the 2025-26 Budget?"

(D) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services by Councillor Dominic Boeck

"Capital spend on enhancing schools and SEND provisions are being delayed. What is the backlog and what effect this having on our children and young people?"

(E) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Public Health by Councillor Ross Mackinnon

"The Liberal Democrat manifesto for the 2023 local elections had as one of its headline commitments to, as soon as possible, "ensuring care packages are in place as early as possible through earlier initial care assessments." On average, what was the time taken to provide initial care assessments in the municipal year 2022-23, and how does that compare to today?"

(F) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways by Councillor Dominic Boeck

"Why is the Grazeley solar farm project in delay and when is it expected to be operational?"

Agenda Item 13

Member Questions to be answered at the Council meeting on 16 October 2025.

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

- (G) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure, Sport and Countryside by Councillor Ross Mackinnon**

“What is the cumulative capital and revenue spend by the Council on the grass pitch at Faraday Road since May 2023?”

- (H) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways by Councillor Ross Mackinnon**

“The 2025-26 Budget specified a saving of £150k from “Reduction of general waste collections from fortnightly to three weekly.

Saving will be realised through reduced costs within the Waste Contract.”

Through which specific provisions in the Waste Contract is this saving to be realised?”

- (I) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Community Engagement, Economic Development and Regeneration and Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation by Councillor Ross Mackinnon**

“The Liberal Democrat manifesto for the 2023 local elections said you would “listen carefully to questions from members of the public during our meetings allowing reasonable follow-up questions”.

Is “5 minutes of speel not related to the question, being a tactic to make sure you ran out of time to get all questions in” as one resident described your behaviour in writing following the Executive meeting on 25 September, really treating residents’ questions with the respect they deserve?”

- (J) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Transformation and Corporate Programme by Councillor Ross Mackinnon**

“Why was the Resources & Place Scrutiny Committee presented with your Transformation Review on 16 September with a £469k cost saving from the Budget still in place from the Resource Centres, despite the report’s commentary pre-empting the announcement by Cllr Clark to Executive on 25 September, where he said that saving was no longer deliverable because the Centres were now to remain open, as described in your report?”