

Notice of Meeting



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Executive

Thursday 14th December 2023 at 5.00 pm

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

Note: This meeting can be streamed live here: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/executive/live>

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday, 6 December 2023

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Sadie Owen (Principal Democratic Services Officer) on 01635 519052 e-mail: sadie.owen1@westberks.gov.uk

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

Agenda - Executive to be held on Thursday, 14 December 2023 (continued)

To:	Councillors Lee Dillon (Chairman), Jeff Brooks, Heather Codling, Martin Colston, Iain Cottingham, Denise Gaines, Stuart Gourley, Janine Lewis, Alan Macro and Tony Vickers
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Agenda

Part I

	Pages
1. Apologies for Absence To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any).	7 - 8
2. Minutes To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 2 November 2023, and of the meeting of the Extraordinary Executive held on 23 November 2023.	9 - 22
3. Declarations of Interest To remind Members of the need to record the existence and nature of any personal, disclosable pecuniary or other registrable interests in items on the agenda, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct .	23 - 24
4. Public Questions - REPORT TO FOLLOW 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.	
5. Petitions 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.	25 - 26

Items as timetabled in the Forward Plan

	Pages
6. Capital Financing Report Financial Year 2023/24 Quarter Two (EX4363) Purpose: the capital financing performance report provided to Members presents the provisional outturn position for financial year 2023/24 against the Council's approved capital programme. This report focuses on the capital financing and future borrowing requirement generated by the Quarter Two forecast position.	27 - 44



Agenda - Executive to be held on Thursday, 14 December 2023 (continued)

7. **2023/24 Revenue Financial Performance Quarter Two (EX4362)** 45 - 72
Purpose: to report on the financial performance of the Council's revenue budgets. This report is Quarter Two for the 2023/24 financial year. The report is highlighting the financial position at each quarter of the financial year and impact on the Council's General Fund position. This allows the Executive and Scrutiny Commission to consider the implications and the actions being taken to mitigate and manage the position.
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8. **2023/24 Performance Report Quarter Two (EX4351)** 73 - 84
Purpose: to provide assurance that the priority areas in the Council Strategy 2023-2027 are being managed effectively, and where performance has fallen below the expected level, present information on the remedial action taken and the impact of that action. To ensure effective oversight to Councillors, staff and residents regarding progress made towards the achievement of the outcomes detailed in the Council Strategy Delivery Plan.
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9. **Newbury Town Centre Pedestrianisation Extension Trial (EX4416)** 85 - 98
Purpose: the report addresses the Council Strategy commitment to conduct a trial extension to the pedestrianisation timings in Newbury Town Centre. This will remove traffic from this core area during the evenings to create more space for pedestrians, areas for seating and planting, 'spill-out' space for cafés and restaurants and flexibility for larger events. Removal of traffic in the evenings will also improve pedestrian safety.
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10. **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework (EX4354)** 99 - 242
Purpose: to present a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Framework for agreement.
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11. **Contract Award for the Provision of Bus Service Network Contract (EX4398)** 243 - 264
Purpose: the paper seeks Executive approval, in accordance with its delegated authority, to award a Bus Services Network Contract covering the period from 2 September 2024 for a period of five years to 1 September 2029, with the option to agree a further three-year extension to 1 September 2032.
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12. **Rural England Prosperity Fund Business Grant Scheme (EX4467)** 265 - 276
Purpose: the report puts forward a proposal on how to design and administer the rural business grant scheme which forms the main part of West Berkshire's Rural England Prosperity Fund investment plan. The scheme is aimed at promoting diversification and stimulating growth in small rural businesses.
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13. **Senior Management Restructure (Resources) (EX4471)** 277 - 286
Purpose: the report sets out the implication for the Executive of the consultation proposals for the Resources Management team restructure. The Senior Management Restructure (SMR) 2019 report set out a variety of changes to the Council's management structure. These have only been partially implemented in the Resources Directorate to date. During November and early December a consultation took place within the Resources directorate concerning future senior management arrangements on a similar basis to the SMR 2019 report.
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14. **Response to Council Motion on the 'Rwanda Scheme' (EX4466)** 287 - 294
Purpose: to provide the Executive with further information to enable it to consider a motion relating to the plans to send asylum seekers to Rwanda for claims to be processed.
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15. **Awareness Days (EX4458)** 295 - 302
Purpose: to provide an overview of the programme of Awareness Days which it is proposed West Berkshire Council supports in 2024.
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16. **Members' Questions - REPORT TO FOLLOW**
Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.
17. **Exclusion of 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 8.10.4 of the Constitution refers.](#)

Part II

18. **Contract Award for the Provision of Bus Service Network Contract (EX4398)** 303 - 326
(Paragraph 6 – information relating to proposed action to be taken by the Local Authority)
Purpose: the paper seeks Executive approval, in accordance with its delegated authority, to award a Bus Services Network Contract covering the period from 2 September 2024 for a period of five years to 1 September 2029, with the option to agree a further three-year extension to 1 September 2032.



19. **Senior Management Restructure (Resources) Potential Redundancy (EX4471)** 327 - 332

(Paragraph 1 – information relating to an individual)

(Paragraph 2 – information identifying an individual)

(Paragraph 3 – information relating to financial/business affairs of particular person)

(Paragraph 4 – information relating to terms proposed in negotiations in labour relation matters)

Purpose: the report sets out the implication for the Executive of the consultation proposals for the Resources Management team restructure. The Senior Management Restructure (SMR) 2019 report set out a variety of changes to the Council's management restructure. These have only been partially implemented in the Resources Directorate to date. During November and early December a consultation took place within the Resources directorate concerning future senior management arrangements on a similar basis to the SMR 2019 report.

Sarah Clarke
Service Director: Strategy and Governance

West Berkshire Council Strategy Priorities

Council Strategy Priorities:

PC1: Ensure our vulnerable children and adults achieve better outcomes

PC2: Support everyone to reach their full potential

OFB1: Support businesses to start, develop and thrive in West Berkshire

GP1: Develop local infrastructure to support and grow the local economy

GP2: Maintain a green district

SIT1: Ensure sustainable services through innovation and partnerships

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Sadie Owen on telephone (01635) 519052.

