



Extraordinary meeting of West Berkshire District Council

Tuesday 19 December 2023

Summons and Agenda



WestBerkshire
C O U N C I L

To: All Members of the Council

*You are requested to attend an extraordinary
meeting of*

WEST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

to be held in the

**COUNCIL OFFICES, MARKET STREET,
NEWBURY**

on

Tuesday 19 December 2023

at 7.00pm



Sarah Clarke
Service Director – Strategy & Governance
West Berkshire District Council

Date of despatch of Agenda: Monday 11 December 2023

AGENDA

Part I

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any). **(Pages 5 - 6)**

2. **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](#). **(Pages 7 - 8)**



WestBerkshire
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3. WITHDRAWAL OF LOCAL PLAN REVIEW (C4478)

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to approve the withdrawal of the West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039 (LPR) which was submitted to the Secretary of State on 31 March 2023.

The report outlines the current Administration's concerns about the strategic approach of the LPR in planning for new development in the District. These concerns were submitted by the Liberal Democrat Group (in opposition) through the Regulation 19 consultation. The report explains these concerns which cannot be addressed within the context of the current LPR and therefore, the need for the Council to develop a new local plan with an alternative spatial strategy to deliver new development.

The implications and risks associated with the withdrawal of the Local Plan Review in respect of appeals and unplanned development and the associated costs are addressed in the report. This also outlines the process and financial cost of delivering an alternative new local plan. **(Pages 9 - 88)**

4. CREATION OF SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (C4481)

Purpose: It is crucial that the Council has sufficient capacity at senior level to continue the operations of the organisation and can fulfil statutory responsibilities and respond to challenges that face the Council. The changes to our services, expectations of our customers & partners, and the workings of the Council have all changed significantly in recent years. The increasing level of demand and complexity of need, pace of change, accessibility and availability of current and potential services, and latest inspection frameworks place new and increasing demands from children and families on the Council.

The senior management structure of the Council has been subject to a variety of reviews over recent years. This report's purpose is to set out the proposed senior management structure across the Council, and focussing on children's services, with greater resilience in Children's Services (People Directorate) to respond to the challenges facing Social Care, SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities) and Education. As part of the SMR 2019 report, a decision on the Heads of Service posts in Education and Children's Services was to be made in the future, as the original report had a single joint Service Director for Children and Young People.

The proposed structure will bring Children's services in line with the wider council senior directorate structures, and appendix B(i) has the latest Council senior management structure appended. **(Pages 89 - 116)**



5. UPDATE ON THE APPOINTMENT OF AND ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES FOR THE 2023/24 MUNICIPAL YEAR (C4477)

Purpose: At the Annual Meeting of Council which took place on the 25 May 2023, Council considered and approved a report detailing the allocation and appointment of seats on Committees.

The Council has a duty under section 15 of the Local Government Housing Act 1989, to review the allocation of seats as soon as practicable following any change to the groups. Following the formation of a new political group, known as the Minority Group, this report proposes a number of changes to the allocation of seats and appointments to Committees. **(Pages 117 - 124)**

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Stephen Chard on telephone 01635 519462.

