Notice of Meeting

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Executive

Thursday 18 December 2025 at 6.00 pm

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

Note: This meeting can be streamed live here: https://www.westberks.gov.uk/executivelive
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Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday 10 December 2025

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

West Berkshire COUNCIL

To:	Councillors Jeff Brooks (Chairman), Patrick Clark, Heather Codling (Vice-Chairman), Iain Cottingham, Nigel Foot, Denise Gaines, Stuart Gourley, Tom McCann, Justin Pemberton and Vicky Poole

Agenda

Part I

Pages

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

2. **Minutes** 7 - 16
   To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 6 and 12 November 2025.

3. **Declarations of Interest** 17 - 18
   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.

4. **Public Questions** 19 - 20
   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** 21 - 22
   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.

Items as timetabled in the Forward Plan

Pages

6. **Devolution - Expression of Interest: Thames Valley Mayoral Strategic Authority Expression of Interest (EX4747)** 23 - 44
   Purpose: the report seeks Executive approval to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to Government in response to the Government's devolution policy following Full Council support at its meeting on 27 November 2025.

7. **Finance Improvement Plan (EX4746)** 45 - 66
   Purpose: the Council is pro-actively responding to the financial position that it, and many other Councils across the country, faces. The report sets out the Finance Improvement Plan, the external assurance review and implementation of a Finance Improvement Group to provide even greater focus on the Council's finances.

8.	**Building Control Assurance and Update Report (EX4739)** Purpose: the report aims to update the Executive on the provision of the shared Building Control Service and recent developments in the sector.	67 - 78
9.	**Youth Council for West Berkshire (EX4750)** Purpose: the report sets out proposals for the establishment of a Youth Council for West Berkshire in order to give young people a voice in local decision making.	79 - 112
10.	**Sports Hub – Response to Resources and Place Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group Report (EX4757)** Purpose: to respond to the Task and Finish Group report and recommendations presented to the Resources and Place Scrutiny Committee on 16 September 2025 which sought to determine whether there was a strategically and financially sound business case for the Monks Lane Sports Hub, whether the project was well managed, and whether reliable and consistent advice was given to members about the project to assist them in their decision-making roles. The report considers any lessons learnt and responds to the recommendations to inform the Council's approach to future sports and leisure projects.	113 - 164
11.	**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.	165 - 166

Sarah Clarke.

Sarah Clarke
Executive Director: -Resources

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