



## COUNCIL

**20 July 2023**

To: The Mayor and Members of  
WOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL

### SUMMONS TO A MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend an ORDINARY MEETING of the COUNCIL to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Gloucester Square, Woking on THURSDAY, THE TWENTIETH DAY OF JULY 2023 at 7.00 pm to transact the business specified in the agenda overleaf.

JULIE FISHER  
Chief Executive

Civic Offices,  
Woking

NOTE: Filming Council Meetings

Please note the meeting will be filmed and broadcast live and subsequently as an archive on the Council's website ([www.woking.gov.uk](http://www.woking.gov.uk)). The images and sound recording may also be used for training purposes within the Council. Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However, by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed.



# AGENDA

Prior to the commencement of business, Prof. Nisar Ahmed Sulaimani will say prayers.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. (Pages 5 - 6)

- (i) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests from Members in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.
- (ii) In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Strategic Director - Corporate Resources, Kevin Foster declares a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which he is a Council-appointed director. The companies are listed in the attached schedule. The interests are such that Mr Foster may advise on those items.
- (iii) In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Strategic Director - Communities, Louise Strongitharm, declares a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which she is a Council-appointed director. The companies are listed in the attached schedule. The interests are such that Mrs Strongitharm may advise on those items.
- (iv) In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Head of Transformation and Digital, Adam Walther, declares a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which he is a Council-appointed director. The companies are listed in the attached schedule. The interests are such that Mr Walther may advise on those items.

## 3. MINUTES. (Pages 7 - 28)

To approve the minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 18 May 2023, 22 May 2023 and 20 June 2023, as published.

## 4. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

## 5. URGENT BUSINESS.

To consider any business which the Chairman rules may be dealt with under Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

## 6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC. (Pages 29 - 30)

Attached is a list of the questions received from Members of the Public in accordance with Standing Orders.

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.**

In accordance with Standing Orders, the Council to receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council (or their nominated spokesperson), Committee Chairmen and/or the Chief Executive.

**8. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE WBC23-030. (Pages 31 - 36)**

To receive and consider recommendations from the Executive.

8a Notice of Motion - Cllr E Nicholson - Retrospective Surface Water Action EXE23-046

8b Notice of Motion - Cllr K Davis - Digital Spine Connection EXE23-047

8c Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) EXE23-041

8d Sheerwater Regeneration EXE23-049

8e Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Recovery Plan EXE23-050

8f Public Realm Usage Policy EXE23-040

**9. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS WBC23-029. (Pages 37 - 40)**

**10. APPOINTMENTS TO LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE WBC23-028. (Pages 41 - 42)**

AGENDA ENDS

Date Published - 12 July 2023

Note: At the close of the meeting the Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Raja, would like to invite the following to join him in the parlour:-

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Morales, Councillors Aziz, Barker, Boote, Brown, Cosnahan, Davis, Forster, Graves, Greentree, Javaid, Johnson, Kirby, Leach, Rice and Roberts, together with the Independent Co-Opted Member, Claire Storey, the Independent Person, Tim Stokes, and Officers attending the meeting.

# Agenda Item 2

## Schedule Referred to in Declaration of Interests

### Council-appointed directorships

<b>Kevin Foster, Strategic Director – Corporate Resource</b>	
Brookwood Cemetery Limited	Thameswey Guest Houses Limited
Brookwood Park Limited	Thameswey Housing Limited
Energy Centre for Sustainable Communities Ltd	Thameswey Limited
Export House Limited	Thameswey Maintenance Services Limited
Kingfield Community Sports Centre Limited	VSW Hotel Limited
LAC 2021 Limited (Dormant)	Victoria Square Residential Limited
Thameswey Central Milton Keynes Limited	Victoria Square Woking Limited
Thameswey Energy Limited	Woking Necropolis and Mausoleum Limited
Woking Shopping Limited	

<b>Louise Strongitharm, Strategic Director – Communities</b>	
Rutland Woking (Carhouse Lane) Limited	Thameswey Developments Limited
Rutland Woking (Residential) Limited	Thameswey Guest Houses Limited
Rutland (Woking) Limited	Thameswey Housing Limited
Thameswey Limited	

<b>Adam Walther, Head of Transformation and Digital</b>	
Brookwood Cemetery Limited	Thameswey Developments Limited
Brookwood Park Limited	Thameswey Energy Limited
Thameswey Central Milton Keynes Limited	Thameswey Limited
Thameswey Sustainable Communities Limited	Thameswey Solar Limited
Woking Necropolis and Mausoleum Limited	



Council 18 May 2023

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MINUTES  
OF A MEETING OF THE  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WOKING**

held on 18 May 2023

Present:

Cllr S Hussain (Mayor)  
Cllr M I Raja (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr H Akberali	Cllr D Jordan
Cllr T Aziz	Cllr A Kirby
Cllr A-M Barker	Cllr R Leach
Cllr A Boote	Cllr L Lyons
Cllr J Brown	Cllr C Martin
Cllr A Caulfield	Cllr L Morales
Cllr G Cosnahan	Cllr J Morley
Cllr K Davis	Cllr S Mukherjee
Cllr S Dorsett	Cllr E Nicholson
Cllr W Forster	Cllr S Oades
Cllr P Graves	Cllr L Rice
Cllr S Greentree	Cllr D Roberts
Cllr A Javaid	Cllr T Spenser
Cllr I Johnson	Cllr M Sullivan

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Mayor informed the Council that Paul Russell, former Chief Executive of Woking Borough Council, had recently passed away. On behalf of the Council and all those who had worked with Paul, the Mayor extended condolences to Paul's family.

Paul had been appointed to the role of chief executive of Woking Borough Council in September 1983, eventually retiring in 2005, having played a key role in the transformation of Woking's town centre.

Outside of work, Paul had enjoyed a wide range of interests, with a keen interest in sports, including rugby, cricket and Formula 1 and in particular the McLaren Team. Above all, Paul had enjoyed spending time with his family, passing on his interest in sport to his children and grandchildren.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

No apologies for absence had been received.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were received.

**3. MINUTES.**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 30 March 2023 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

**4. URGENT BUSINESS.**

No items of Urgent Business were considered.

**5. PRESENTATION OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CIVIC AWARDS 2023.**

The Mayor presented awards to the winners of the 2023 Young People's Civic Awards Scheme. The Scheme aimed to reward young people who made an outstanding contribution to the life of the community in Woking and whose work or achievements might not normally be recognised.

Each winner received a certificate, a trophy and a voucher from The Ambassador Theatre Group which had sponsored the Award Scheme.

**James Howell – Outstanding Contribution to the Community**

The winner in the first category, Outstanding Contribution to the Community, was James Howell, a Year 11 student at Woking High School.

James was an active member of both his school and local community and had a passion for improving the town's sustainability for future generations.

**Annabelle MacAlister – Outstanding Achievement**

The winner in the second category – Outstanding Achievement – was Annabelle MacAlister, a young carer from Goldsworth Park who cared for her parents alongside her two older siblings.

As a valued member of Woking Young Carers, Annabelle supported the younger members and was involved in activities such as bingo sessions at Brockhill Care Home and supporting community events in Sythwood. In 2022, Annabelle completed her Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

**Chloe Harding – Triumph Over Adversity**

The winner of the Triumph Over Adversity category was Chloe Harding, a remarkable young lady who deserved true recognition for her exceptional resilience and determination to overcome enormous challenges.

Chloe had joined Hoe Valley School five years previously and had suffered the tragic loss of her parents during her time at secondary school. With the support of her family, her school and the Hope Service, Chloe had slowly managed to rebuild her life in the face of adversity. Since achieving her GCSE's, Chloe had started a new college to pursue her wish to work with young children.



**6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2023 EMINENT CITIZEN.**

Each year, the outgoing Mayor selected a resident who had provided an 'eminent service' to the community and appointed them Eminent Citizen. The Mayor announced that this year's honour would be bestowed on Julia Hopkins from Knaphill, an outstanding resident who had worked tirelessly to support local communities and various charities.

In 2019, Julia had opened Woking's first community fridge. What had started as a shed in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church in Knaphill, was now a purpose-built cabin that supported hundreds of families each week. Aside from her work at the community fridge, over the years Julia had also raised money for mental health and pancreatic cancer charities.

In recognition of her work for the Community, Julia had also been awarded the British Empire Medal in December 2022.

**7. THE MAYOR'S END OF YEAR SPEECH.**

The Mayor spoke of the many events he had attended throughout the past year, including spectacular live performances, fundraising events and award ceremonies. However, it was the chance to meet individuals that stood out, including Margaret Ripley, a local resident aged 99 years and 10 months who had recently fulfilled her dream of walking her great granddaughter down the aisle.

The Mayor stated that it had been the greatest honour and privilege to meet so many Woking residents, volunteers, businesses and entrepreneurs, all of whom did so much to make Woking a truly special place.

**8. ELECTION OF MAYOR 2023/24.**

Councillor Aziz moved and Councillor Lyons seconded that Councillor Raja be elected Mayor.

RESOLVED

That Councillor M Ilyas Raja be elected Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing year.

The Mayor signed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**9. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.**

The Mayor thanked all those present for attending and for the honour bestowed on him by the Council.

**Past Mayor's Badge**

The Mayor thanked Councillor Saj Hussain for his service to the Borough over the past year as Mayor and presented him with a Past Mayor's Badge. The Mayor further presented Faaria Sahi, daughter of Councillor Hussain, with a Past Mayoress' Badge.

### **The Mayoress**

The Mayor was pleased to announce that his wife, Nargis Ilyas Khan, would support him as Mayoress for the coming year.

### **The Mayor's Charity**

The Mayor had chosen to support and raise funds for the Friends of Woking Community Hospital, supporting the diagnostic centre on Heathside Road. The charity had been founded in 1970 and had since raised a million pounds for the hospital.

### **Forthcoming Events**

The Mayor reported that his diary had already been filled with a wide range of engagements, including an event being organised by Woking Park Bowling Club for 9 July 2023 to support the Mayor's Charity. The event would be open to the whole community.

## **10. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2023/24.**

Councillor Forster moved and Councillor Davis seconded that Councillor Morales be appointed Deputy Mayor.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Louise Morales be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing year.

The Deputy Mayor signed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

## **11. LOCAL ELECTIONS 2023 WBC23-019.**

The Council received a report on the names of those who had been returned as Borough Councillors at the Elections on 4 May 2023.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

## **12. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO PAST MEMBERS.**

In recognition of their service to the community as Borough Councillors, the following individuals were presented with a certificate by the Mayor.

- James Sanderson. Ward Councillor for Goldsworth East (2015 – 2016) and Goldsworth Park (2019-2023).
- Mohammad Ali. Ward Councillor for Canalside (2016 – 2023).
- Colin Kemp. Ward Councillor for Horsell West (2014 – 2016) and Horsell (2016 – 2023).

- Ayesha Azad. Ward Councillor for Mayford and Sutton Green (2014 – 2016) and Heathlands (2016 - 2023).
- Gary Elson. Ward Councillor for West Byfleet (2008-2016) and Pyrford (2016 – 2023)
- Melanie Whitehand. Ward Councillor for Knaphill (2007 – 2023).

**13. SEATING ARRANGEMENTS 2023/24.**

The Council had before it a plan showing the proposed seating arrangements for Members at Council meetings for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED

That the seating plan be approved.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and ended at 8.15 pm

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



MINUTES  
OF A MEETING OF THE  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WOKING**

held on 22 May 2023

Present:

Cllr M I Raja (Chairman)  
Cllr L Morales (Vice-Chair)

Cllr H Akberali	Cllr I Johnson
Cllr T Aziz	Cllr A Kirby
Cllr A-M Barker	Cllr R Leach
Cllr A Boote	Cllr L Lyons
Cllr J Brown	Cllr C Martin
Cllr A Caulfield	Cllr J Morley
Cllr G Cosnahan	Cllr S Mukherjee
Cllr K Davis	Cllr E Nicholson
Cllr S Dorsett	Cllr S Oades
Cllr W Forster	Cllr L Rice
Cllr P Graves	Cllr D Roberts
Cllr S Greentree	Cllr T Spenser
Cllr A Javaid	Cllr M Sullivan

Also Present: Claire Storey, Independent Co-Opted Member

Absent: Councillors S Hussain and D Jordan.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Hussain and Councillor Jordan.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Chief Executive, Julie Fisher, declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which she was a Council-appointed director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mrs Fisher could advise on those items.

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Strategic Director - Corporate Resources, Kevin Foster declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which he was a Council-appointed director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mr Foster could advise on those items.

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Strategic Director - Communities, Louise Strongitharm, declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which she was a Council-appointed

director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mrs Strongitharm could advise on those items.

**3. URGENT BUSINESS.**

No items of Urgent Business were considered.

**4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

The Mayor reported that, following his election as Mayor on 18 May 2023, he had attended his first engagement on the weekend at Christ Church to see the work of the Turning Point Trust. The Trust supported vulnerable families and children living in Kibera in Kenya.

The Mayor referred to forthcoming engagements including the American Armed Forces Day at Brookwood Cemetery on 28 May, a dinner at the Chobham Golf Club and the funeral of Paul Russell, former Chief Executive of Woking Borough Council.

**5. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT.**

The Leader, Councillor Barker, made a statement on her approach for the forthcoming year and advised that the Executive for 2023/24 would comprise Councillor Forster as Deputy Leader, and Councillors Graves, Johnson, Lyons, Nicholson and Roberts.

Councillor Davis, Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Aziz, Leader of the Labour Group, and Councillor Boote, Leader of the Independent Group, were given the opportunity to respond to Councillor Barker's statement.

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND/OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.**

No announcements were received.

**7. POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL 2023/24 WBC23-022.**

Formal notices had been received which had the effect of dividing the Council into political groups. The composition of the Council was as follows:

Liberal Democrat	20
Conservative	4
Labour	3
Independent	3

In addition, notification had been received of the Members to act as Group Leader and Deputy Group Leader of each political group as follows:-

	<b>Group Leader</b>	<b>Deputy Group Leader</b>
<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	Councillor Barker	Councillor Forster
<b>Conservative</b>	Councillor Davies	Councillor Brown
<b>Labour</b>	Councillor T Aziz	Councillor Javaid
<b>Independent</b>	Councillor A Boote	Councillor D Jordan

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

**8. SELECTION PANEL WBC23-021.**

The Committee received a report which set out the recommendations from Selection Panel which had met on 16 May 2023.

RESOLVED

That (i) the proportions for each Committee and Sub-Committee be settled as follows:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind</b>
Appeals (3)	2	0	1	0
Licensing (10)	7	1	1	1
Overview and Scrutiny (10)	6	2	1	1
Planning (10)	7	1	1	1
Standards and Audit (6)	4	1	0	1

<b>Sub-Committee</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind</b>
Licensing Sub-Cttee A (3)	2	1	0	0
Licensing Sub-Cttee B (3)	2	0	1	0
Taxi Licensing Sub-Cttee (6)	4	1	1	0
Standards Panel (4)	3	0	0	1

(ii) the HIF Housing Outputs Panel be disbanded;

- (iii) the membership of the Military Covenant Advisory Panel be increased by 1, creating a Panel of 7 Members;
- (iv) the proportions for each Group be settled as follows:

**Working Groups Under the Remit of Council**

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind</b>
Appointments Panel (5)	3	1	1	0
Corporate Governance WG (3)	2	1	0	0
Freedom of the Borough WG (6)	5	0	0	1
Military Covenant Adv. Panel (7)	4	1	1	1
Sheerwater Regen. Delivery and Oversight Board (7)	4	1	1	1

**Working Groups Under the Remit of the Executive**

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind</b>
Greener Woking WG (8)	5	2	1	0
Joint Infrastructure WG (7)	4	1	1	1
Leisure Partnership Board (5)	4	1	0	0
Local Dev. Framework WG (7)	4	1	1	1
Neighbourhood CIL WG (6)	3	1	1	1
Safer Woking Partnership (4)	3	0	0	1
UK Shared Prosperity Fund (2)	2	0	0	0
Woking Wellbeing Group (4)	3	0	0	1



**Working Groups Under the Remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>Con</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Ind</b>
Economic Development WG (7)	5	1	1	0
Finance WG (7)	4	1	1	1
HIF WG (7)	5	1	0	1
Housing Working Group (7)	4	1	1	1

(v) the proportions for each appointment be settled as follows:

		Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Ind
Ashford & St Peters Hospital NHS Trust (3 years to 2025)	1 rep	1			
Basingstoke Canal Jt Management Cttee (1 year)	2 reps	1	1		
	2 subs	1			1
Countryside Partnership Board. Sub appointed to the Local Liaison Group (1 year)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub		1		
Fairoaks Airport Consultative Cttee (1 year).	1 rep	1			
	1 sub	1			
Farnborough Airport Consultative Cttee (1 year).	1 rep	1			
	1 sub	1			

Friends of Woking Palace (1 year)	1 rep	1			
Maybury Centre Trust (4 years to 2026 and 2027 respectively)	2 reps	1 (2026)		1 (2027)	
Nat. Parking Adjud. Service Jt Cttee (2 years to 2025)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub	1			
Police & Crime Panel (1 year)	1 rep	1			
ShopMobility (1 year)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub				1
SE Employers (1 year)	1 rep	1			
	1 sub		1		
Sport Woking (1 year)	2 reps	1		1	
Surrey County Playing Fields Assoc. (1 year)	1 rep	1			
Sutton Green Village Hall Man. Cttee (1 year)	2 reps inc. 1 Ward Cllr	1	1		
Woking Access Group (1 year)	2 reps	1		1	
Woking Cty	2 observers	1		1	

Transport (1 year)					
Working People of Faith (5 years to 2026)	1 rep	1			
Working Youth Council (1 year)	2 reps	1	1		
	1 sub				1

(vi) Councillor Guy Cosnahan be appointed the Council's Armed Forces Champion for the 2023/24 Municipal Year; and

(vii) Councillor Amanda Boote be appointed the substitute member for the Armed Forces Champion for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

**9. CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES 2023/24 WBC23-023.**

The Council had before it a document setting out the proposed memberships of the Committees for the coming year.

**RESOLVED**

That Membership of the Committees for 2023/24, as set out below, be agreed.

Appeals Committee	Cllr Aziz Cllr Morley	Cllr Caulfield
Licensing Committee	Cllr Caulfield Cllr Hussain Cllr Javaid Cllr Jordan Cllr Leach	Cllr Martin Cllr Morley Cllr Rice Cllr Spenser Cllr Sullivan
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Akberali Cllr Brown Cllr Caulfield Cllr Davis Cllr Javaid	Cllr Kirby Cllr Leach Cllr Morley Cllr Rice Cllr Sullivan
Planning Committee	Cllr Aziz Cllr Cosnahan Cllr Dorsett Cllr Greentree Cllr Jordan	Cllr Martin Cllr Morales Cllr Mukherjee Cllr Oades Cllr Spenser

Standards and Audit Committee	Cllr Akberali Cllr Brown Cllr Caulfield Mrs C Storey, Independent Co-Opted Member	Cllr Cosnahan Cllr Greentree Cllr Oades
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**10. APPOINTMENTS TO WORKING GROUPS 2023/24 WBC23-024.**

The Council had before it a document setting out the proposed memberships of the Working Groups under the remit of Council for the coming year.

RESOLVED

That membership of the Working Groups for 2023/24, as set out below, be agreed.

Appointments Panel	Cllr Aziz Cllr Barker Cllr Davis	Cllr Forster Cllr Roberts
Corporate Governance Working Group	Cllr Caulfield Cllr Davis	Cllr Greentree
Freedom of the Borough Working Group	Cllr Boote Cllr Forster Cllr Johnson	Cllr Leach Cllr Lyons Cllr Sullivan
Military Covenant Advisory Panel	Cllr Boote Cllr Cosnahan Cllr Hussain Cllr Martin	Cllr Raja Cllr Spenser Cllr Sullivan
Sheerwater Regeneration Delivery and Oversight Panel	Cllr Boote Cllr Dorsett Cllr Forster Cllr Javaid	Cllr Johnson Cllr Lyons Cllr Sullivan

**11. APPOINTMENTS TO AD HOC BODIES AND EX OFFICIO POSITIONS 2023/24 WBC23-025.**

The Council was asked to agree the appointments to Ad Hoc Bodies and to receive the list of Ex Officio appointments. In respect of the appointments available through the Surrey Leaders' Group, the Council noted that three nominations had been received.

RESOLVED

That (i) appointments to Ad Hoc Bodies as set out below be agreed;

Ashford & St Peters Hospital NHS Trust (1 rep, 3	Cllr Nicholson (2025)
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years to 2025)	
Basingstoke Canal Joint Management Cttee (2 reps, 1 year plus 2 subs, 1 year)	Cllr Davis Cllr Leach (Cllr Jordan) (Cllr Mukherjee)
Countryside Partnership Board (1 rep, 1 year plus 1 sub, 1 year). Substitute appointed to the Local Liaison Group.	Cllr Graves (Cllr Davis)
Fairoaks Airport Consultative Cttee (1 rep, 1 year plus 1 sub, 1 year).	Cllr Morley (Cllr Sullivan)
Farnborough Airport Consultative Cttee (1 rep, 1 year plus 1 sub, 1 year)	Cllr Barker (Cllr Sullivan)
Friends of Woking Palace (1 rep, 1 year)	Cllr Barker
Maybury Centre (2 reps, four years to 2026 and 2023 respectively)	Cllr Graves (2026) Cllr Aziz (2027)
National Parking Adjudications Service Joint Cttee (1 rep, 2 years, plus 1 sub, 2 years to 2023)	Cllr Barker (2025) (Cllr Roberts) (2025)
Police and Crime Panel (1 rep, 1 year)	Cllr Nicholson
ShopMobility (1 rep, 1 year plus 1 sub, 1 year)	Cllr Barker (Cllr Jordan)
South East Employers (1 rep, 1 year plus 1 sub, 1 year)	Cllr Barker (Cllr Davis)
Sport Woking (formerly Woking Sports Council) (2 reps, 1 year)	Cllr Aziz Cllr Martin
Surrey County Playing Fields Association (1 rep, 1 year)	Cllr Nicholson
Sutton Green Village Hall Management Cttee (2 reps, 1 year, 1 to be local Ward Cllr, 1 to be a Member of WBC)	Cllr Davis Cllr Rice
Woking Access Group (2 reps, 1 year)	Cllr Barker Cllr Javaid
Woking Community Transport (2 observers, 1 year)	Cllr Rice Cllr Aziz
Woking People of Faith (1 rep, 5 years to 2026)	Cllr Morales (2026)
Woking Youth Council (2 reps, 1 year plus 1	Cllr Brown Cllr Leach

substitute, 1 year)	(Cllr Akberali)
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- (ii) the schedule of Ex Officio appointments as set out below be noted; and

Allotments Consultation Group Deputy Mayor to act as judge at the Annual Allotments Competition.
Asset Management – Lead Member Portfolio Holder for Asset Management.
Children & Young People – Lead Member Portfolio Holder for Cultural and Community Development.
Elected Member Development – Lead Member Appropriate Portfolio Holder.
Elections Panel Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders and Independent Co-Opted Member.
Joint Cttee for Oversight of Delivery of Surrey Public Authority Services Leader of the Council or their nominee.
Ostensible Authority Standing Panel Leader of the Council and two nominees.
Resident Engagement – Lead Member Appropriate Portfolio Holder.
Safeguarding – Lead Member Appropriate Portfolio Holder.
Selection Panel Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders.
Shareholder Advisory Group Members of the Executive & Independent Co-Opted Member. Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee invited to attend as an observer.
Sheerwater Regeneration – Lead Member Appropriate Portfolio Holder.
Surrey Climate Change Partnership Members Group

Portfolio Holder for Climate Change.
Surrey Waste Partnership Portfolio Holder for Waste and Recycling.
Surrey Waste Partnership – Joint Waste Collection Services Cttee Portfolio Holder for Waste and Recycling.
Transport – Lead Member Appropriate Portfolio Holder.
Woking Chamber of Commerce Leader of the Council or their nominee.
Woking Community Fund Panel Portfolio Holder for the Voluntary Sector.
Woking Palace Consultative Panel Ward Members for Hoe Valley & Portfolio Holder for Planning.
Woking Place Board Leader of the Council.
Woking Strategic Partnership Board Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition.

- (iii) the nominations for appointments available through the Surrey Leaders' Group be supported as follows:

<b>Countryside Access Forum</b> (3 years to June 2026.)	Cllr Graves
<b>Surrey &amp; Borders Part. NHS Foundation Trust</b> (3 years to June 2026.)	Cllr Barker
<b>Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Part.</b> (3 years to June 2026.)	Cllr Barker

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and ended at 8.00 pm

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_





MINUTES  
OF A MEETING OF THE  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WOKING**

held on 20 June 2023

Present:

Cllr M I Raja (Mayor)  
Cllr L Morales (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr H Akberali	Cllr I Johnson
Cllr T Aziz	Cllr D Jordan
Cllr A-M Barker	Cllr R Leach
Cllr J Brown	Cllr L Lyons
Cllr A Caulfield	Cllr C Martin
Cllr G Cosnahan	Cllr J Morley
Cllr K Davis	Cllr S Mukherjee
Cllr S Dorsett	Cllr E Nicholson
Cllr W Forster	Cllr S Oades
Cllr P Graves	Cllr L Rice
Cllr S Greentree	Cllr D Roberts
Cllr S Hussain	Cllr T Spenser
Cllr A Javaid	Cllr M Sullivan

Also Present: Brendan Arnold, Section 151 Officer and Interim Director of Finance, Julie Fisher, Chief Executive, and Claire Storey, Independent Co-Opted Member.

Absent: Councillors A Boote and A Kirby

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Amanda Boote and Councillor Adam Kirby.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Chief Executive, Julie Fisher, declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which she was a Council-appointed director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mrs Fisher could advise on those items.

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Strategic Director - Corporate Resources, Kevin Foster declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which he was a Council-appointed director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mr Foster could advise on those items.

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Strategic Director - Communities, Louise Strongitharm, declared a disclosable personal interest (non-

pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which she was a Council-appointed director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mrs Strongtharm could advise on those items.

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Head of Transformation and Digital, Adam Walther, declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items concerning the companies of which he was a Council-appointed director. The companies were listed in an attached schedule. The interests were such that Mr Walther could advise on those items.

### **3. SECTION 114 REPORT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S RESPONSE WBC23-027.**

The Mayor referred the Council to the report before it on the Section 114(3) Notice and the Chief Executive's response, and briefly outlined the procedure to be adopted for the evening. In line with Standing Order 31.2, the Mayor proposed that Standing Orders should be suspended for the sole purpose of enabling the Section 151 Officer and Interim Director of Finance and the Chief Executive to directly address the Council.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Standing Orders be suspended for the sole purpose of enabling the Section 151 Officer and Interim Director of Finance and the Chief Executive to directly address the Council.

The Section 151 Officer and Interim Director of Finance, Brendan Arnold, was invited to introduce the report. The Section 114(3) Notice had been issued on 7 June 2023 as, in the view of the Section 151 Officer, the expenditure of the Council incurred (including expenditure it proposes to incur) in 2023/24 was likely to exceed resources (including sums borrowed) available to it to meet that expenditure. It was noted that the Council faced a financial situation of an extremely serious nature, with an unprecedented shortfall and no prospect that the Council would balance its budgets in subsequent years without external financial support on a large scale.

The Council faced a deficit of £1.2 billion against the core funding of £16m available in the current financial year, a position which was expected to worsen initially. The Council had not set aside sufficient funds to pay off the interest on the debt, and the investments had been impaired. A suite of financial controls had been introduced which would continue going forward. The situation would require both immediate and ongoing action over a number of years in order to return the Council to a path of financial and operational sustainability and recovery. Weaknesses in the management of financial affairs had been identified and were being addressed.

The Local Government Finance Act (1988) provided that the Council had to consider the report of the Section 151 Officer at a meeting to decide whether it agreed or disagreed with the report and what, if any, action it proposed to take. The Council had been required to meet within 21 days of the date on which the Section 114 Notice had been issued and accordingly the Extraordinary Meeting of Council had been convened to fulfil the requirement.

The Chief Executive, Julie Fisher, was invited to present her response to the Section 114(3) Notice, details of which were set out in the report before Council. The response summarised the work undertaken over the past six months and outlined a series of recommendations to take the Council forward. A Commissioning Team had been

appointed through the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and was working closely with the Council on the development of an Improvement and Recovery Plan. The key lines of enquiry being used to develop the details of the Plan had been included in the report before Council.

Above all, the reports before the Council highlighted the need for Members to take some difficult decisions going forward in order to enable the Council to operate with a substantially reduced revenue budget. The significant impact on the Council's staff and services for residents in the future was highlighted. In addition, the Council would require significant financial support from the Government, and it was recommended that the Council should approach the Government to explore the prospect of financial support.

As well as taking forward the recovery work, the Council had commissioned a Value for Money review through auditors Grant Thornton, relating to the decisions made by the Council with respect to its investment strategy.

Following the introduction of the report and the recommendations contained therein, the Mayor advised that the discussion would move to the debate and invited the Leader of the Council and the Group Leaders to speak first, before inviting other Members of the Council to speak.

The Councillors welcomed the recommendations set out in the report and noted the extensive work undertaken by Officers. However, many questions were raised on how the Council now found itself in such an extreme position and the impact of the measures going forward on the services of the Council, residents and the Authority's staff. The Council would seek, however, to ensure that vulnerable residents would be provided with the support they needed going forward.

The importance of the Housing Revenue Account was raised and hope was expressed that the development of the remaining Sheerwater Regeneration phases would be continued. Above all, the Councillors recognised the anger and disappointment of residents and emphasised the importance of the Value For Money review in understanding how the situation had reached the scale it had.

At the conclusion debate, the Mayor invited the Leader of the Council to respond to the points raised and summarise the key elements of the debate. It was clear that the decisions and circumstances that had led to the current position had to be understood for lessons to be learnt and the Leader highlighted the importance of the Value For Money review to be undertaken by Grant Thornton. The Section 151 Officer and Interim Director of Finance responded to the points raised during the debate, again highlighting the work of Grant Thornton which would look at, amongst other matters, the failure to ensure an adequate Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for the level of debt.

Finally, the Chief Executive summarised the key considerations for the Council before referring the Members to the recommendations set out in the report. The Members welcomed the proposals and agreed the recommendations in full.

#### RESOLVED

- That (i) the Findings stated in the Section 114(3) report issued by the Interim Director of Finance and in particular the points arising in paragraphs 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the Section 114 (3) be endorsed;

- (ii) the Intervention by the Secretary of State, the Directions issued by the Secretary of State under section 15(5) and (6) of the Local Government Act 1999 and the appointment of the Commissioning Team be noted; and
- (iii) the response by the Chief Executive to the Section 114(3) report be noted and the recommended actions in her response at Appendix 2 to this report be agreed as follows;
  - (a) actions be established that will bridge the Council's budget gap of £9m in 2024/25 that will be presented as planning assumptions in the Medium Term Financial Strategy report to the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 meeting of the Executive;
  - (b) it be noted that expenditure controls will remain in place beyond the Section 114 Notice and will remain a feature of how the Council conducts its business for some years;
  - (c) a revised Budget may need to be prepared and received by Council in the late summer to receive budget proposals to take savings early to assist with balancing the Budget in 2023/24 and 2024/25;
  - (d) it be noted that a Financial Recovery Plan is being developed by the Section 151 Officer in liaison with the Corporate Leadership Team and the Commissioning Team;
  - (e) the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Plan be reported quarterly to the Executive and Council moving forward;
  - (f) actions be established to bring the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) back into balance and to create a 30 year business plan;
  - (g) an assets disposals strategy, alongside a Commercial Strategy, be developed to optimise the returns from the disposal of the Council's and Companies' assets for the benefit of the "public purse" in the context of the need to pay off debt; and
  - (h) Government be approached to explore the prospect of financial support.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and ended at 9.01 pm

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL – 20 JULY 2023

## QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC

### Executive Summary

The following questions have been received from Members of Public. The individuals who raised the questions have been invited to attend the meeting. The relevant Portfolio Holder will be asked to provide a formal response.

#### **Question 1 – Neil Hughes**

Going forward, would the council agree that all planning applications submitted in a conservation area should be detailed rather than outline (i.e. outline being an application with a number of conditions)?

#### Supporting Statement

The contentious outline planning application PLAN/2022/1161 regarding the Phipps / Chequers corner plot in St Johns appeared to be a crafted strategy on behalf of the applicant rather than going through the tighter scrutiny expected of a detailed planning application for a conservation area. In any case, if an outline application is ultimately accepted, the planning officer / committee should clarify (to the objectors) why outline is being accepted, specifically with reference to The Planning Handbook which indicates "outline planning permission is not normally accepted in conservation areas as it is difficult for councils to evaluate the impact of a proposal without seeing the full details", an opinion which is also supported by planning professionals.

#### **Question 2 - Talitha Spiers**

As I reside in a flat overlooking the area known as the Triangle I would like to know exactly what is going on there at the moment?

#### **Question 3 – Bella Di Manno**

Will the gym and fitness services be affected?

**Contact Person:** Frank Jeffrey, Head of Democratic Services  
Email: frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3012

**Date Published:** 12 July 2023



COUNCIL – 20 JULY 2023

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

### Executive Summary

The Council is invited to consider the recommendations from the meetings of the Executive held on 15 June and 13 July 2023. The extracts from the minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2023 are set out below.

The extracts from the minutes of the Executive on 13 July 2023 will be published in due course. Set out below are the recommendations in the reports to be considered by the Executive.

### THE EXECUTIVE – 15 JUNE 2023

#### 8a. NOTICE OF MOTION - CLLR E NICHOLSON - RETROSPECTIVE SURFACE WATER ACTION EXE23-046

At its meeting on 30 March 2023, the Council referred the following Notice of Motion to the Executive.

Councillor E Nicholson

“Retrospective Surface Water Action

The latest State of the UK Climate report indicates the UK has become wetter over the last few decades, although with significant annual variation. 2011-2020 was 9% wetter than 1961-1990. From the start of the observational record in 1862, six of the ten wettest years across the UK have occurred since 1998.

The recent UK climate projections (UKCP18) provide the most up-to-date assessment of how the UK climate could change over the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Overall, the UK is expected to experience wetter winters and drier summers.

However, rain that does fall in summer will likely be more intense than what we currently experience. For example, rainfall from an event that typically occurs once every 2 years in summer is expected to increase by around 25%. This will impact on the frequency and severity of surface water flooding, particularly in urban areas.

In towns and cities, flash floods are a growing problem. Concrete can't soak up rainwater, so in heavy downpours it has nowhere to go except into drains, overloading sewers and setting off flash floods. During the recent heavy rainfall, the water caused slippages within the station underpass and led to pooling of water within areas of the town centre.

Therefore this motion proposes that this Council:

1. Engages with South West Trains to seek to secure surface water drainage systems are retrospectively fitted to the two entrances to the station underpass and /or other measures to capture rainwater are installed to reduce the excess water overspill causing slippage within the underpass.
2. That Woking planning applications continue to be assessed with surface water drainage systems in mind and that the County, as the lead flood authority is consulted on planning applications where required.

## Recommendations of the Executive

3. That Woking Borough Council work proactively with the partners to green Victoria Square, and introduce features such as rainwater gardens in line with the aspirations of the town centre Masterplan.”

Councillor Nicholson spoke in support of the Motion, commenting on the need to work with partners to improve the town’s sustainability and to consider surface water drainage systems to capture and recycle rainwater. The Executive welcomed the Motion noting that it concerned working with partners to deliver, with the Council providing help and support. The Executive noted the rainwater gardens already installed in parts of the Borough and how the Council could encourage residents to use sustainable solutions, such as when installing driveways.

Councillor Nicholson drew attention to an amendment to the Motion to replace the words ‘South West Trains’ with the words ‘Network Rail and South Western Railway’. The amendment was due to South West Trains having been replaced by South Western Railway, and to reflect the parties with responsibilities for the station. The Executive was supportive of both Cllr Nicholson’s Motion and the amendment, and agreed an amended Motion to read as follows:

### “Retrospective Surface Water Action

The latest [State of the UK Climate](#) report indicates the UK has become wetter over the last few decades, although with significant annual variation. 2011-2020 was 9% wetter than 1961-1990. From the start of the observational record in 1862, six of the ten wettest years across the UK have occurred since 1998.

The recent [UK climate projections \(UKCP18\)](#) provide the most up-to-date assessment of how the UK climate could change over the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Overall, the UK is expected to experience wetter winters and drier summers.

However, rain that does fall in summer will likely be more intense than what we currently experience. For example, rainfall from an event that typically occurs once every 2 years in summer is expected to increase by around 25%. This will impact on the frequency and severity of surface water flooding, particularly in urban areas.

In towns and cities, flash floods are a growing problem. Concrete can’t soak up rainwater, so in heavy downpours it has nowhere to go except into drains, overloading sewers and setting off flash floods. During the recent heavy rainfall, the water caused slippages within the station underpass and led to pooling of water within areas of the town centre.

Therefore this motion proposes that this Council:

1. Engages with Network Rail and South Western Railway to seek to secure surface water drainage systems are retrospectively fitted to the two entrances to the station underpass and /or other measures to capture rainwater are installed to reduce the excess water overspill causing slippage within the underpass.
2. That Woking planning applications continue to be assessed with surface water drainage systems in mind and that the County, as the lead flood authority is consulted on planning applications where required.
3. That Woking Borough Council work proactively with the partners to green Victoria Square, and introduce features such as rainwater gardens in line with the aspirations of the town centre Masterplan.”



**RECOMMENDED to Council**

**That the Motion, as amended by the Executive, be supported.**

**8b. NOTICE OF MOTION - CLLR K DAVIS - DIGITAL SPINE CONNECTION EXE23-047**

At its meeting on 30 March 2023, the Council referred the following Notice of Motion to the Executive.

Councillor K Davis

“At the March Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting, Enterprise M3, the Local Enterprise Partnership discussed the Guildford to Basingstoke Digital Spine and confirmed that Woking would not have a spur to join the Gigabit link.

Connecting to the Internet via Gigabit links is a key part of the Digital Strategy as it is important for the economic output of the borough as well as the limitless opportunities high speed links provides to residents.

Would the Council please investigate opportunities that exist with a view to ensuring that the borough is connected to the fastest possible digital backbone as soon as possible and certainly within three years if it cannot be achieved within the Digital Strategy period.”

Councillor Davis was not in attendance at the meeting to present the Motion. The Executive discussed the Motion which concerned investigating opportunities to provide gigabit capable broadband to local businesses and residents. Councillor Roberts, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, advised that sufficient provision was most likely to be provided within the next three years by private sector network providers. However, the Portfolio Holder was supportive of investigating other opportunities to accelerate access to gigabit capable broadband should the Council not be achieving the proper balance of access for residents and businesses, and affordability in terms of resources available to the Council.

The Executive was supportive of the broad principle of the Motion. The Leader commented that further information could be provided ahead of Council on 20 July 2023 regarding potential future opportunities.

**RECOMMENDED to Council**

**That the Motion be supported.**

THE EXECUTIVE – 13 JULY 2023

**8C. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)**

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND to Council That

- (i) the Budget Timetable be noted;
- (ii) the Guiding Principles be approved;
- (iii) the Capital Planning Principles be approved;
- (iv) it be noted that the Capital Planning Methodology will be re-designed before Budget Council on 8 February 2024;
- (v) it be noted that the Investment Programme has been suspended indefinitely on grounds of affordability;
- (vi) the savings for consultation (FFP 3(A)) including those relating to possible reductions in the Council's staffing establishment be approved;
- (vii) it be noted that the Treasury Management Strategy, Financing Strategy, and related documents will be re-set for Budget Council in February 2024;
- (viii) the MTFS and embedded MTFP as an estimate of the Council's current financial position be approved; noting that the figures will change as further updating takes place; and
- (ix) the preparation of an Assets Rationalisation Plan be noted.

**Reasons for Decision**

Reason: The decision is sought to ensure open and transparent governance in the financial affairs of the Council in balancing the 2024/25 Budget.

**8D. SHEERWATER REGENERATION**

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND to Council That

- (i) the existing Development Agreement between the Council and ThamesWey for the delivery of the Sheerwater regeneration project be brought to an end;
- (ii) ThamesWey do not commence any new phases following those currently under construction;
- (iii) ThamesWey be authorised to take such actions, including seeking technical and planning approvals as necessary, to bring its

## Recommendations of the Executive

involvement in the project to a cost-effective end in consultation with the Council;

- (iv) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to give an Executive Undertaking if the Planning Committee approves the changes to the affordable housing as outlined in the report;
- (v) negotiations between the Council and ThamesWey commence on an unwinding of the previously agreed barter arrangement; and
- (vi) the Special Lettings Policy adopted in 2017 be temporarily suspended until such as time as the wider scheme and Sheerwater Community Charter have been reviewed.

### Reasons for Decision

Reason: To enable further work to progress that will deliver a sustainable delivery option for the Sheerwater Regeneration project whilst reducing financial risks and exposure to the Council.

## 8E. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) RECOVERY PLAN

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND to Council That

- (i) the update on the Housing Revenue Account budgets be noted;
- (ii) the Housing Annual Maintenance Plan (AMP) budget for 2023-24, included in the Housing Investment Programme, be increased to £5,330,000 to allow essential and statutory remedial works to be completed, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (iii) the Strategic Director – Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, be authorised to agree the disposal of vacant housing assets as required; and
- (iv) any capital receipts from disposals of vacant housing assets be held in the Major Repairs Reserve for investment in the maintenance of the Council's homes.

### Reasons for Decision

Reason: To ensure the Council is able set a sustainable Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget and deliver on its statutory and regulatory housing duties.

## 8F. PUBLIC REALM USAGE POLICY

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL That

## Recommendations of the Executive

the updated Public Realm Usage Policy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be adopted.

### Reasons for Decision

Reason: To ensure fair and consistent usage of the town centre to promote footfall and economic prosperity.

The Committee has the authority to determine the recommendation(s) set out above.
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**Background Papers:** None.

**Reporting Person:** Julie Fisher, Chief Executive  
Email: [julie.fisher@woking.gov.uk](mailto:julie.fisher@woking.gov.uk), Extn: 3333

**Contact Person:** Frank Jeffrey, Head of Democratic Services  
Email: [frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk](mailto:frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk), Extn: 3012

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Ann-Marie Barker  
Email: [cllrann-marie.barker@woking.gov.uk](mailto:cllrann-marie.barker@woking.gov.uk)

**Date Published:** 12 July 2023

REPORT ENDS

COUNCIL – 20 JULY 2023

## APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

### Executive Summary

This report deals with the resignation of the Council's Chief Executive, Julie Fisher as director of a number of Council companies. The Chief Executive has exercised the powers under Part 3, Section 3, Rule 4.4 of the Council's Constitution and appointed Colin Taylor as director of the same companies to provide strategic oversight, skills and knowledge advantageous to the Board.

### Recommendations

The Council is requested to:

#### RESOLVE That

- (i) the resignation of Julie Fisher as director of the companies outlined in Section 2.1 of the report with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 be noted; and
- (ii) the appointment of Colin Taylor as director of the companies outlined in Section 2.2 of the report with effect from 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 be noted.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Person:</b>	Gareth John, Interim Director of Legal and Democratic Services Email: Gareth.John@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3077
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Gareth John, Interim Director of Legal and Democratic Services Email: Gareth.John@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3077
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Ann-Marie Barker Email: cllrann-marie.barker@woking.gov.uk
<b>Date Published:</b>	12 July 2023

### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Following the issuance of the S114 report and consequent increasing concerns about the conflict of interest between the dual roles of Council Chief Executive and director of the group companies outlined at point 2.1, below, the Chief Executive resigned with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
- 1.2 The Chief Executive exercised her power under Part 3, Section 3, Rule 4.4 of the Council's Constitution to appoint Colin Taylor as director of the group companies outlined at point 2.2, below, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, who is also the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, and the Commissioners.
- 1.3 Colin Taylor was assessed and selected from a field of external independent candidates and is an experienced commercial consultant with local authority experience. His skillset is well suited to helping organisations focus on vital commercial capabilities including income generation, improved cost awareness and management, commercially driven procurement, and sophisticated commercial operations.

### 2.0 Directorships of Group Companies

- 2.1 The Chief Executive, Julie Fisher, resigned on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 from the Board of the following companies:

Thameswey Limited  
Thameswey Developments Limited  
Thameswey Housing Limited  
Thameswey Guest Houses Limited  
Thameswey Energy Limited  
Thameswey Central Milton Keynes Limited  
Thameswey Solar Limited  
Thameswey Sustainable Communities Limited  
Thameswey Maintenance Services Limited  
Energy Centre for Sustainable Communities Limited  
Rutland (Woking) Limited  
Rutland Woking (Carthouse Lane) Limited  
Rutland Woking (Residential) Limited  
Brookwood Cemetery Limited  
Brookwood Park Limited  
Woking Necropolis and Mausoleum Limited  
Victoria Square Woking Limited  
Victoria Square Residential Limited  
VSW Hotel Limited

- 2.2 Colin Taylor was appointed on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 to the Board of the following companies:

Thameswey Limited  
Thameswey Developments Limited  
Thameswey Housing Limited  
Thameswey Guest Houses Limited  
Thameswey Energy Limited  
Thameswey Central Milton Keynes Limited  
Thameswey Solar Limited  
Thameswey Sustainable Communities Limited  
Thameswey Maintenance Services Limited  
Energy Centre for Sustainable Communities Limited  
Rutland (Woking) Limited  
Rutland Woking (Carthouse Lane) Limited

Rutland Woking (Residential) Limited  
Brookwood Cemetery Limited  
Brookwood Park Limited  
Woking Necropolis and Mausoleum Limited  
Victoria Square Woking Limited  
Victoria Square Residential Limited  
VSW Hotel Limited

**3.0 Corporate Strategy**

3.1 The appointment to the Board of the group companies shall ensure adequate oversight and direction.

**4.0 Implications**

Finance and Risk

4.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

Equalities and Human Resources

4.2 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

Legal

4.3 Appointments to the Boards shall ensure that the Boards are constituted in line with group company protocols.

**5.0 Engagement and Consultation**

5.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

REPORT ENDS





COUNCIL – 20 JULY 2023

## APPOINTMENTS TO LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

### Executive Summary

At the meeting of Council on 22 May 2023, the Membership of the Sub-Committees of the Licensing Committee for the 2023/24 Municipal Year were agreed as follows:

<p><b>Licensing Sub-Committee A</b> (Daytime) (3) (All remaining Members of Licensing Committee appointed as Substitutes)</p>	<p>Councillor Caulfield Councillor Hussain Councillor Oades</p>
<p><b>Licensing Sub-Committee B</b> (Evening) (3) (All remaining Members of Licensing Committee appointed as Substitutes)</p>	<p>Councillor Javaid Councillor Leach Councillor Martin</p>
<p><b>Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee</b> (Daytime) (6)</p>	<p>Councillor Hussain Councillor Javaid Councillor Leach Councillor Rice Councillor Spenser Councillor Sullivan</p>

It is a legal requirement that Members of the Sub-Committees are also Full Members of the Licensing Committee and it has come to light that one of the Members appointed to the Sub-Committees was not also appointed to the Licensing Committee: Licensing Sub-Committee A – Councillor Oades.

Following consultation with the Group Leader, Councillor Leach has been put forward to replace Councillor Oades on Licensing Sub-Committee A. In addition, Councillor Sullivan has been put forward to replace Councillor Leach on Licensing Sub-Committee B. Both Councillor Leach and Councillor Sullivan are Members of the Licensing Committee.

The Council is requested to approve the changes to the membership for the remainder of the Municipal Year. There are no changes required to the Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee.

### Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

#### RESOLVE That

- (i) Councillor Leach be appointed to Licensing Sub-Committee A in place of Councillor Oades for 2023/24; and
- (ii) Councillor Sullivan be appointed to Licensing Sub-Committee B in place of Councillor Leach for 2023/24.

The Committee has the authority to determine the recommendations set out above.

## Appointments to Licensing Sub-Committees

**Background Papers:** None.

**Reporting Person:** Gareth John, Interim Director of Legal and Democratic Services  
Email: Gareth.john@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3077

**Contact Person:** Doug Davern, Democratic Services Officer  
Email: doug.davern@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3018

**Date Published:** 12 July 2023