



Email: committeeservices@horsham.gov.uk
Direct line: 01403 215465

Housing, Communities & Wellbeing Policy Development Advisory Group

Thursday, 7th March, 2024 at 5.30 pm
Wallis room and via Remote Access

Councillors: Sam Raby (Chairman)

Sam Bateman
Tony Bevis
Jon Campbell
Philip Circus
Claudia Fisher

Chris Franke
Liz Kitchen
Jay Mercer
Colin Minto
Tricia Youtan

You are summoned to the meeting to transact the following business

Jane Eaton
Chief Executive

Agenda

	Page No.
1. Apologies for absence	
2. Notes of previous meeting	3 - 4
To receive the notes of the meeting held on 11 January	
3. Cost of Living Summit	
The group will receive feedback from HDC's Cost of Living Summit held on 25 January, and discuss the outcomes	
4. Forward Plan Extract for the Housing, Communities & Wellbeing Portfolio	5 - 8
To note the Forward Plan extract for the Housing, Communities and Wellbeing portfolio	

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

Housing, Communities & Wellbeing Policy Development Advisory Group 11 JANUARY 2024

Present: Councillors: Sam Raby (Chairman), Sam Bateman, Tony Bevis, Jon Campbell, Claudia Fisher, Liz Kitchen, Colin Minto and Tricia Youtan

Apologies: Councillors: Chris Franke

Absent: Councillors: Philip Circus and Jay Mercer

Also Present: Councillors: Paul Clarke, Mike Croker and Roger Noel

9 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on 9 November were received.

10 CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST - NOTICE OF MOTION TO COUNCIL

The Group discussed the motion that was previously submitted to the Council meeting on 13 December. Members explored the role of Horsham District Council (HDC) in supporting those who are affected by conflict in the Middle East and the importance of partnership working was highlighted. The Council had an important role to signpost those who need support to key organisations, as appropriate. The district benefits from a strong voluntary sector, and the residents of Horsham had shown generosity, particularly in relation to the Ukrainian refugees.

Officers advised that there was ongoing work with the relevant team at West Sussex County Council (WSSCC). Issues surrounding access to medical help were identified, and it was suggested that WSSCC may be able to support. In relation to this, identifying individuals that may need support with their mental health as a result of the conflict was also highlighted.

The Cabinet Member advised the group that the Cost of Living Summit would take place at the end of January. There would be opportunities at the event to explore additional support that may be required, and to identify any barriers to accessing support, so that, where possible, these can be removed.

The importance of community was acknowledged, and the role of HDC in facilitating these communities was explored. It was suggested that a strategy could be developed to outline the support and actions that HDC would take to support refugees.

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND TOP UP

The Group received an update from the Director of Communities and the Head of Housing & Communities in relation to the Local Authority Housing Fund. The

Government had invited Local Authorities to bid for further grant funding. If grant funding was received, 4 additional homes could be provided. This would strengthen the temporary accommodation portfolio for those who are homeless, as well as provide housing for Afghan refugees. Members discussed the proposal and spoke in support.

12 **FORWARD PLAN EXTRACT FOR THE HOUSING, COMMUNITIES & WELLBEING PORTFOLIO**

It was noted that there were no items on the forward plan for the Housing, Communities & Wellbeing portfolio.

The meeting closed at 6.11 pm having commenced at 5.30 pm

CHAIRMAN

FORWARD PLAN

This notice sets out details of key decisions that the Cabinet or a Cabinet Member intend to make, and gives 28 days' notice of the decision under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. The notice may also include details of other decisions the Council intends to make.

The reports and any background documents that have been used to inform the decisions will be available on the Council's website (www.horsham.gov.uk) or by contacting Committee Services at the Council Offices.

Whilst the majority of the Council's business will be open to the public, there will be occasions when the business to be considered contains confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. This is formal notice under the 2012 Regulations that part or all of the reports on the decisions referred to in the schedule may be private because they contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

If you wish to make representations about why part or all of the papers should be open to the public, please contact Committee Services at least 10 working days before the date on which the decision is to be taken.

If you wish to make representations to the Cabinet or Cabinet Member about the proposed decisions, please contact Committee Services to make your request.

Please note that the decision date given in this notice may be subject to change.

To contact Committee Services:

E-mail: : committeeservices@horsham.gov.uk

Tel: 01403 21512

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What is a Key Decision?

A key decision is an executive decision which, is likely –

- (i) to involve expenditure or savings of £250,000 or more as well as otherwise being significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District.

	Subject	Decision Taker	Date(s) of decision	Is all or part of this item likely to be dealt with in private	Contact Officer Cabinet Member (NB include name, title and email address)
5.	Drill Hall, Horsham	Cabinet	21 Mar 2024	Open	Director of Communities (paul.anderson@horsham.gov.uk) Cabinet Member for Housing, Communities and Wellbeing (Councillor Sam Raby)

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