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Task and Finish Group - Fair Space

Wednesday, 3rd January, 2024 at 4.30 pm
Howard Room, Parkside and via Remote Access

The Access to Information Procedure Rules are not applicable to Task & Finish Groups set up by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and members of the public may not attend. Members of the Council who are not members of the Group may attend and may speak, both at the discretion of the Chairman and subject to providing advance written notification to the Chairman of the meeting and committeeservices@horsham.gov.uk

Councillors: Sam Bateman Mike Wood
Nigel Emery

You are summoned to the meeting to transact the following business

Jane Eaton
Chief Executive

Agenda

	Page No.
1. Apologies for absence To receive any apologies for absence	
2. Notes of previous meeting To receive the notes of the meeting of the Fair Space Task and Finish Group held on Thursday 16 November 2023	3 - 4
3. Declaration of Members' Interests To receive any declarations of interest from members of the Task and Finish Group	
4. Next steps To consider relevant policies in the draft Horsham District Local Plan 2023 - 2040 . To consider what, if any, changes might be able to be made to the following policies to advance sex-based equality and inclusivity:	
• Green Infrastructure Strategy (April 2014)	

- [Open Space, Sport and Recreation Review – Non-Technical Summary Paper \(June 2021\)](#)
- [Play Strategy 2017 - 2027](#)

Task and Finish Group - Fair Space
16 NOVEMBER 2023

Present: Councillors: Sam Bateman (Chairman), Nigel Emery and Mike Wood

1 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Bateman was appointed as Chairman of the Task and Finish Group.

2 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

3 **APPROVAL OF TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Terms of Reference, as circulated with the agenda, were approved.

4 **NEXT STEPS**

Members heard from the Head of Strategic Planning with regard to the Horsham District Planning Framework (November 2015) and were referred to the following policies:

- Policy 32 – The Quality of New Development
- Policy 33 – Development Principles
- Policy 42 – Inclusive Communities

The Horsham District Planning Framework would continue to apply until the new Local Plan had been adopted. The Head of Strategic Planning or the Senior Planning Officer would inform the Group as to what new policies were proposed once the draft Local Plan had been published in December.

Members also heard from the Head of Strategic Planning with regard to the Green Infrastructure Strategy (April 2014) which looked at multifunctional green spaces. The Green Infrastructure Strategy was in the process of being updated. The Senior Planning Officer advised that the new Green Infrastructure Strategy could include more guidance for developers.

Members also heard from the Director of Communities who advised that a new Green Spaces Strategy was in the process of being developed and it was expected that members of the Group would be able to have some input. It was anticipated that the Green Spaces Strategy would be published at the end of March 2024.

Members recognised that it was important to consider green spaces used for leisure as well as those used for sport.

Members were advised that care needed to be taken not to undermine the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Review (June 2021).

Possible options for gathering data were identified. These included holding focus groups at local schools/colleges, undertaking a survey, communicating with parents, engaging with the Youth Forum, and potentially using the Council's Parks team and neighbourhood wardens (although it was noted that the neighbourhood wardens were funded by parish councils, therefore this might not be possible).

Members agreed a timetable for the work of the Group.

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place in early January, and members of the Group would consider the following in advance of that meeting:

- Policies 32, 33 and 42 of the Horsham District Planning Framework (November 2015)
- Green Infrastructure Strategy (April 2014)
- Open Space, Sport and Recreation Review – Non-Technical Summary Paper (June 2021)

The meeting closed at 4.52 pm having commenced at 4.06 pm

CHAIRMAN