

Addendum

Council

Dear Councillor,

Council - Thursday, 29 July 2021, 7.30 pm

I enclose, for consideration at the meeting of the Council to be held on Thursday, 29 July 2021 at 7.30 pm, the following documents which were unavailable when the agenda was published.

Mari Roberts-Wood
Interim Head of Paid Service

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|---|------------|--|---|
| Questions by Members | 6. | <u>Questions by Members(Pages 3 - 12)</u> | To consider any questions received from Members of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 14. |
| Report of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances for 2021/22 | 8. | <u>Notice of Amendment to recommendations of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances for 2021/22(Pages 13 - 14)</u> | A Notice of Amendment to the recommendations within the IRP's report, in accordance with procedure rule 2.13.4. |
| Motion: Climate change | 11. | <u>Notice of Alteration to Motion: Climate change(Pages 15 - 16)</u> | A Notice of Alteration to the Motion on climate change, in accordance with procedure rule 2.19.18. |

For enquiries regarding this addendum;

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Reigate and Banstead Borough Council

Meeting of Council 29 July 2021

Questions by Members

Nos.	Question by	To be answered by	Subject
1	Cllr Torra	Executive Member for Finance, Cllr Tony Schofield	Cutting of Hedges and Trees
2	Cllr Harrison	Executive Member for Planning Policy and Place Delivery, Cllr Biggs	Build Back Better High Streets
3	Cllr Essex	The Leader of the Council, Cllr Brunt	Nuclear Non-Proliferation
4	Cllr Booton	The Leader of the Council, Cllr Brunt	Engaging with residents on Greenspaces
5	Cllr Sinden	Executive Member for Community Partnerships, Cllr Ashford	Support for Long Covid Sufferers
6	Cllr Harp	Executive Member for Finance, Cllr Tony Schofield	Mowing of Grass Verges
7	Cllr Chandler	Executive Member for Planning Policy and Place Delivery, Cllr Biggs	Surrey County Council Local Transport Plan LTP4 for Consultation
8	Cllr Ritter	The Leader of the Council, Cllr Brunt	Review of Redhill and Earlswood Common Management Plans

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Councillor Torra will ask the **Executive Member for Finance, Councillor Schofield**, the following question:

Question 1: Cutting of Hedges and Trees

What is the Council doing to ensure that all of the hedges and trees next to paths and public roads, particularly on walking routes to schools, that Reigate and Banstead Borough Council is responsible for are cut sufficiently – noting the specified non-cutting season of May-October - to ensure, alongside efforts by Surrey County Council, the full width of pavements, paths and associated sight lines (for vehicles and pedestrians at junctions and visibility of road signs) are maintained?

Councillor Harrison will ask the **Executive Member for Planning Policy and Place Delivery, Councillor Biggs**, the following question:

Question 2: Build Back Better High Streets

The government has unveiled their long-term plan to support the evolution and regeneration of high streets, with a commitment to breathe new life into town centres, with the 'Build Back Better High Streets' strategy.

We are told that it will transform derelict buildings, clean up streets and support a renewed sense of community. Councils are to be given new powers, and are encouraged to use existing powers to upgrade towns.

On a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor), how does the Council evaluate the situation in each of its 4 towns - Banstead, Horley, Redhill and Reigate? What are the Councils top priorities in each of these towns?

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Councillor Essex will ask **The Leader of the Council, Councillor Brunt**, the following question:

Question 3: Nuclear Non-Proliferation

I would like to ask this question on behalf of Reigate and Redhill CND group who are concerned the government is planning to increase nuclear weapons by 40% and that our borough council area should recognise that this is against the Nuclear non-proliferation treaty, which the UK government is signed up to. Would the Leader join me in writing to our MPs to challenge the increase of Nuclear Arsenal by 40%, which is against the spirit of the non-proliferation treaty, which the UK has committed to, and will the Council formally recognise this being the 40th anniversary of the non-proliferation treaty in some way?

Councillor Booton will ask **The Leader of the Council, Councillor Brunt**, the following question:

Question 4: Engaging with residents on Greenspaces

What can the Council do to ensure resident's views are collected and considered in respect of improvements and ideas in relation to the Borough's Greenspaces? This is in addition to online provisions that are already in place however are often overlooked or simply not accessible to resident's who don't have internet access.

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Councillor Sinden will ask the **Executive Member for Community Partnerships, Councillor Ashford**, the following question:

Question 5: Support for Long Covid Sufferers

This question is about what support sufferers from Long Covid can receive in Reigate and Banstead. I understand that there is a Long Covid Clinic at East Surrey Hospital, but it has a long waiting list. Can you confirm how many Long Covid clinics are operating in the Borough and what else is being provided, including specifically things being done by this Council, such as through our community centres and leisure services?

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Councillor Harp will ask the **Executive Member for Finance, Councillor Schofield**, the following question:

Question 6 Mowing of Grass Verges

To provide clarity for our residents, could the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services explain the council's current policy and practice relating to the mowing of grass verges for both residential roads and larger highways?

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Councillor Chandler will ask the **Executive Member for Planning Policy and Place Delivery, Councillor Biggs**, the following question:

Question 7 Surrey County Council Local Transport Plan LTP4 for Consultation

Following the progressive proposals set out in the Surrey County Council Local Transport Plan LTP4 for Consultation, will Reigate and Banstead Borough Council confirm how they will take a lead on the measures set out by the County Council, and in particular how this could be applied to manage demand down for fossil fuel powered transport to Reigate Town Hall?

Councillor Ritter will ask **The Leader of the Council, Councillor Brunt**, the following question:

Question 8 Review of Redhill and Earlswood Common Management Plans

Many residents have been commenting and asking questions about the way in which our Greenspaces are managed, perhaps since the lockdowns over the past year have brought many more people into contact with their local outdoor areas but also as there is a growing awareness of the need to turn the tide on biodiversity loss by managing our green spaces to enable insects, pollinators, butterflies, birds and other wildlife to thrive, alongside our enjoyment of them.

As a member of the Earlswood Common Management steering group I am aware that there has been a discussion about public consultation on the Management plan that is currently under review. However, it would appear to the public, from the RBBC website, that the last time this group met was in February 2020 (as Nov 2020 and June 2021 meeting minutes are not yet posted on the website) and there is no mention about the Management Plan review or how residents will be able to feed into this.

Given the strong public interest can you give assurance that the review of Redhill and Earlswood Commons Management plans are being given the urgency they deserve (particularly as the last Earlswood Common plan expired in 2013 and the golf course closed in March 2019) and that a date will soon be set for a public consultation to enable the plan to be agreed and in the public domain this year and in time for winter tree planting?

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Meeting of Council, 29 July 2021

Agenda item 8, Notice of Amendment (Council Procedure Rule 2.13.4)

Proposer Councillor Mark Brunt, seconder Councillor Tony Schofield.

Amendments to the recommendations within Annex 1, the twenty first report of the Independent Remuneration Panel to Full Council on 29 July 2021, as set out in **red**.

Basic Allowance	
Recommendation 1:	<u>The Basic Allowance remain unchanged at £5,680</u> The Basic Allowance be increased from £5,680 to £5,721.
Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs)	
Recommendation 2:	<u>The Leaders of Political Groups SRA remain unchanged at £147 and the allowance per member remain unchanged at £58</u> The Leaders of Political Groups SRA be increased from £147 to £148 and the allowance per member remain unchanged at £58.
Recommendation 3:	<u>The Leader of Council SRA remain unchanged at £14,151</u> The Leader of Council SRA be increased from £14,151 to £14,278.
Recommendation 4:	<u>The Deputy Leader of Council SRA remain unchanged at £11,557</u> The Deputy Leader of Council SRA be increased from £11,557 to £11,661.
Recommendation 5:	<u>The Other Portfolio Holders SRA remain unchanged at £9,434</u> The Other Portfolio Holders SRA be increased from £9,434 to £9,519.
Recommendation 6:	<u>The Chair of the Council SRA remain unchanged at £2,667.</u> <u>This role is performed by the Mayor. This SRA covers the responsibility for Chairing meetings of the Full Council. The Panel note that the Mayor is not permitted to sit on any Committee of the Authority. (See Recommendations 15 and 16 below.)</u> The Chair of the Council SRA be increased from £2,667 to £2,691. This role is performed by the Mayor. This SRA covers the responsibility for Chairing meetings of the Full Council. The Panel note that the Mayor is not permitted to sit on any Committee of the Authority. (See Recommendations 15 and 16 below.)
Recommendation 7:	<u>The Chair of the Planning Committee SRA remain unchanged at £5,442</u>

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	The Chair of the Planning Committee SRA be increased from £5,442 to £5,491.
Recommendation 8:	<u>The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee SRA remain unchanged at £3,162</u> The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee SRA be increased from £3,162 to £3,190.
Recommendation 9:	<u>The Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be paid an SRA of £957.</u> <u>Vice-Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee</u> <u>Both Group Leaders and Senior Officers recognised that the SRAs should be paid to more members of the Committee. As a start the Panel recommend that an SRA be paid to the Vice Chair of 30% of the Chair's SRA</u> The Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be paid an SRA of £957. Vice-Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Both Group Leaders and Senior Officers recognised that the SRAs should be paid to more members of the Committee. As a start the Panel recommend that an SRA be paid to the Vice Chair of 30% of the Chair's SRA
Recommendation 10:	<u>The Chair of the Audit Committee SRA remain unchanged at £3,162</u> The Chair of the Audit Committee SRA be increased from £3,162 to £3,190.
Recommendation 11:	<u>The Chair of the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel SRA remain unchanged at £441</u> The Chair of the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel SRA be increased from £441 to £445.
Recommendation 12:	<u>The Chair of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee SRA remain unchanged at £411</u> The Chair of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee SRA be increased from £411 to £445.
Recommendation 13:	<u>The Chair of the Licensing and Regulatory Sub-Committee SRA remain unchanged at £308</u> The Chair of the Licensing and Regulatory Sub-Committee SRA be increased from £308 to £311.
Recommendation 14:	<u>The Members of the Planning Committee SRA remain unchanged at £804</u> The Members of the Planning Committee SRA be increased from £804 to £811.

<p>Recommendation 15: Recommendation 16:</p>	<p>The Mayoral SRA be set at £3,009. As the Mayor is also ex officio Chair of the Council the two SRAs be combined to make an SRA of £5,700 Mayoral Allowance The Panel recommends that the Mayoral expenses should not be part of an SRA. The Panel recommends that an SRA should be paid to reflect the responsibility exercised by the Mayor as a representative of the Authority in the Community.</p>
<p>Recommendation 17:</p>	<p>The Deputy Mayoral Allowance be removed from the list of SRAs payable. Deputy Mayoral Allowance This SRA should be treated like the balance of the Mayor's SRA and transferred to the Mayoralty Expenses budget.</p>
Travelling Expense	
<p>Recommendation 18:</p>	<p>Travel Allowances remain unchanged. The Panel did not undertake a review of these expenses.</p>
Subsistence	
<p>Recommendation 19:</p>	<p>Subsistence Allowances remain unchanged. The Panel did not undertake a review of these expenses.</p>
Dependents' Carers' Allowance	
<p>Recommendation 20:</p>	<p>Childcare Allowance be set at £12 per hour, Adult Basic Attendance set at the prevailing Surrey County Council Adult Domiciliary Care Rate and Higher Needs at an hourly rate agreed by the Head of Paid Service. The hours for which any of these allowances are claimed should include travelling time. To widen accessibility to local democracy and to provide clarity of this allowance, the Panel believe that setting rates per hours would make clearer what support is available.</p>
Maternity, Paternity and Adoption Leave	
<p>Recommendation 21:</p>	<p>The following wording be included in the Allowances Scheme: "During leave for Maternity, Paternity and Adoption reasons, all allowances in payment at the time should (will) continue to be paid during the statutory period of leave or until the claimant ceases to in the role that carries the allowance." This is not covered in the current Allowances Scheme.</p>
<p>Recommendation 22:</p>	<p>That that a full review of Members' Allowances be undertaken every four years and basing approved increases in allowances on the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in January each year.</p>

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Agenda item 11, Notice of Alteration (Council Procedure Rule 2.19.18) to Motion on climate change

Proposer Councillor Chandler, seconder Councillor Ritter.

Alteration to the Motion on Climate Change at item 11 on the agenda for Full Council on 29 July 2021, as set out below.

Background

In 2018, at the COP24 climate conference, the UK Government signed up to having 'domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities' so localities can play their part in delivering the UKs 'Nationally Determined Contributions' in the Paris Climate Agreement.

In September 2019 this council referred a motion to the Executive in relation to climate change. Subsequently the Executive agreed (in July 2020) a new Environmental Sustainability Strategy with a commitment to work towards zero-carbon emissions in Reigate and Banstead Borough Council by 2030, and the Council has employed a sustainability project officer to work across the whole council for this end.

~~In (September) 2019 this council passed a motion to work towards zero-carbon emissions in Reigate and Banstead Borough Council by 2030 and have employed a sustainability project officer to work across the whole council for this end.~~ This has highlighted the complexity of applying for funding from central government to support our actions in working towards this goal (in addition to the budget set aside by the council) and there are no guarantees that enough monies will be secured to fund our ambition as a council to meet the goals in our action plan. In addition, there are major areas of activity where the role of local authorities is currently unclear, such as decarbonisation, as recently identified by the National Audit Office.

In May 2021 Alok Sharma MP, President of COP26 said collaboration would be a key objective of the climate summit

"Governments, business and civil society (sometimes called 'non-state actors' and including local government) need to work together to transform the ways we power our homes and businesses, grow our food, develop infrastructure and move ourselves and goods around"

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Despite these agreements and statements there is still no formal relationship allowing joint partnership working between Local and National Government on climate action.

This Motion asks Council to resolve to:

- ~~• In this year of the COP26 climate conference, add our voice to calls by the Local Government Association, and write to Alok Sharma MP asking for national government to ensure the adequate representation of local government at COP26, in order to promote the significant contribution, leadership and efforts of local councils in reducing carbon emissions across the UK, and to champion the innovative and rapid progress being made at a local level to tackle climate change ; in this year of the COP26 climate conference, add our voice to calls by the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport & others for a joint local & national government Task Force to plan action to reach 'net zero' emissions. Such a partnership can set appropriate regulations, benchmarks and targets and create the much needed long-term funding mechanisms to enable local communities and economies to decarbonise whilst remaining resilient, sustainable and supporting the needs of our most vulnerable residents.~~
- ~~• To write to the Prime Minister, Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government and the Leadership Board of the LGA and the informing them of:~~
 - ~~i. Our view that better partnership working between Government and Local Authorities is required to adequately respond to the climate challenge;~~
 - ~~ii. Our support for a joint Local/National Government Climate Change Partnership Taskforce, as previously advocated by the LGA and asking for one to be established as soon as possible; and~~
 - ~~iii. Our commitment to engaging constructively in such partnership working to deliver both national and local net zero targets and if possible increase our local ambition as a result of establishing appropriate regulations, benchmarks and targets and establishing long-term funding mechanisms.~~
- ~~• write to Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, the Prime Minister and the Leadership Board of the LGA informing them of our support for a joint Local/National Government Climate Change Partnership Taskforce and asking for one to be established as soon as possible.~~
- ~~• use this task force to bolster our case to central government on what is needed to deliver our environmental sustainability strategy and to increase its ambition.~~