

Addendum

Council

Dear Councillor,

Council - Thursday, 9 February 2023, 7.30 pm

I enclose, for consideration at the meeting of the Council to be held on Thursday, 9 February 2023 at 7.30 pm, the following reports which were unavailable when the agenda was published.

Mari Roberts-Wood
Managing Director

6. Questions by Members(Pages 3 - 10)

To consider any questions received from Members of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 2.15.

11. Constitution update: Governance Task Group(Pages 11 - 14)

To receive a report from the Monitoring Office to update the Constitution to remove references to the Governance Task Group, which has delivered its work programme and is no longer required.

For enquiries regarding this addendum;

Contact: 01737 276182

Email: democratic@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

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Reigate and Banstead Borough Council

Meeting of Council 9 February 2023

Questions by Members

Verbal responses to be given at the meeting			
	Question by	To be answered by	Subject
1.	Councillor Ritter	Councillor Ashford, Executive Member for Community Partnerships	Resident use of Community Partnership support
2.	Councillor Kulka	Councillor Schofield, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Governance	Voter ID publicity
3.	Councillor Essex	Councillor Neame, Executive Member for Housing & Support	Pre-payment meters
4.	Councillor Torra	Councillor Mrs Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Pedestrian Zones in Redhill Town Centre
5.	Councillor Booton	Councillor Mrs Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Benches on Earlswood Common
6.	Councillor Chandler	Councillor Mrs Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Electric vehicles as part of the RBBC fleet
7.	Councillor McKenna	Councillor Biggs, Executive Member for Planning Policy & Place Delivery	National Planning Policy Framework consultation

Agenda Item 6

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

Question 1: Resident use of Community Partnership Support

Could the Executive member for Community Partnerships give an update on numbers of residents accessing support from the following core voluntary sector partners in 2021/22; Citizen's Advice Reigate and Banstead, MHA Communities East Surrey, Stripey Stork, Community Debt Advice and Age Concern; the proportion of these referred directly from the Council.

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Councillor Kulka will ask the **Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance & Governance, Councillor Schofield**, the following question:

Question 2: Voter ID publicity

Could you please outline what work the Council is doing to help the groups most affected by the introduction of photo voter ID (young people, older people and people with disabilities), to raise awareness of this new requirement?

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Councillor Essex will ask the **Executive Member for Housing & Support, Councillor Neame**, the following question:

Question 3: Pre-payment meters

Does the Council have a list of those on pre-payment meters locally and/or have a way to reach out and help those whose energy meter has been removed during the Cost-of-Living crisis, including those forcibly removed by energy companies, removing the human rights of people to have a decent quality of life in our communities.

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Councillor Torra will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Councillor Mrs Bramhall**, the following question:

Question 4: Pedestrian Zones in Redhill Town Centre

How does the council deal with handing out permits for vehicles driving and parking onto pedestrian zones in Redhill town centre and penalise those that are not exempt to do so when there is no contravention code 54 (Enforceable Restrictions for the Parking Enforcement Team)?

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Councillor Booton will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Councillor Mrs Bramhall**, the following question:

Question 5: Benches on Earlswood Common

Residents have told us that the benches on Earlswood Common are rotting and there are concerns that now the golf club is no longer there, these benches when they become unfit for purpose, will not be replaced. What capital budget does the Borough Council have for renewing these to improve amenities?

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Councillor Chandler will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Councillor Mrs Bramhall**, the following question:

Question 6: Electric vehicles as part of the RBBC fleet

According to the inventory of RBBC vehicles a year ago there were 8 electric vehicles out of 132. Parking Services were allocated 4 of those vehicles but this function moves to Surrey County Council shortly. Are these vehicles also moving to Surrey County Council so that we are left with just 3% of the fleet being electric or have we progressed towards a zero-emission fleet this past year?

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

Question 7: National Planning Policy Framework consultation

With regards to forthcoming changes in the planning system it is understood that this Council is committed to provide a full response on the current National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation which finishes in early March. This NPPF is likely to introduce some significant changes including proposals to roll back the requirement for a five-year housing land supply, such as by allowing councils to take into account previous year's over delivery of housing completions. How will the Executive Member ensure both that councillors are briefed on the implications of these proposed policy changes and their input sought to inform the Council's response to this important government consultation?



Signed off by	Mari Roberts Wood Managing Director
Author	Joyce Hamilton, Strategic Head of Legal & Governance
Telephone	Tel: 01737 276623
Email	joyce.hamilton@reigate- banstead.gov.uk
To	Council
Date	Thursday, 9 February 2023
Executive Member	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance

Key Decision Required	N
Wards Affected	(All Wards);

Subject	Constitution update: Governance Task Group
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Recommendation
(i) To note the Executive decision to disband the Governance Task Group and to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make the required changes to the Constitution to reflect this.
Reasons for Recommendations
The Executive reached agreement on 17 November, for the Governance Task Group to be disbanded, having achieved the original purpose for which it was established. An updated Constitution provides certainty of officer decision making roles and responsibilities. This report enables the administrative updating of the Constitution.
Executive Summary
In December 2018, the Leader of the Council established a cross-party Task Group to review a range of governance issues to ensure the Council's Constitution provides a full and effective framework for the Council's decision-making structures. The Task Group's detailed review of the Constitution was reported to the Executive in March 2019 with Council agreeing the recommendations made in April 2019.

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The above recommendation is subject to approval by Full Council

Statutory Powers

1. Express powers of delegation are found in sections 101-102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and, in relation to executive functions, in sections 9E-9EB of the Local Government Act 2000. Local authority schemes of delegation are published pursuant to section 100G of the 1972 Act.
2. A local authority is under a duty to prepare and keep up to date its Constitution under s.9P Local Government Act 2000 as amended.

Background

3. Organisational and regulatory change impacts on the Council's constitution, requiring frequent review and adjustment to ensure that it is maintained, and offers certainty to Members, Officers and the Public.

Key Information

4. Article 15 of the Constitution sets out that changes to the Constitution will only be approved by the Full Council (by way of recommendation or direct report), subject to the Monitoring Officer agreeing with the proposed changes. Provision 13.3.1 of the Constitution states that the Monitoring Officer will maintain an up-to-date version of the Constitution.
5. The Monitoring Officer agrees with the recommendation.
6. The Task Group was established for a time-limited duration specifically to review certain areas of the Constitution and related governance issues. Now that this has been fulfilled it is intended to disband the Task Group as originally intended and for consideration of any arising governance related issues to be addressed through the Group Leaders' meeting structure.
7. Following the completion of the Task Group's comprehensive review of the Constitution conducted in 2018/19, a standing Task Group is not necessary. Governance related issues arise on an ad hoc basis. Therefore, having a standing Task Group is not an effective use of the Council's resources when any arising governance issues can be well addressed through Group Leaders'. It has been confirmed that there is capacity within Group Leaders' meetings to accommodate the additional business.
8. The Monitoring Officer reviewed the Constitution in 2021 and more recently in 2022 in consultation with Members and will continue to periodically review and update the Constitution in consultation with Group Leaders and officers.

Legal Implications
9. This report enables the discharge of the statutory duty to maintain the Constitution of the Council. Certainty of decision-making roles is fundamental to good governance
Financial Implications
10. There are no financial implications for this report.
Equalities Implications
11. Equality Objective 4 2020-2025 sets out that “ <i>equality considerations are clearly presented as part of the Council’s formal decision-making process</i> ” – the Constitution enables the Head of Corporate Policy to oversee the manifestation of the Equality Objectives throughout the decision-making process.
Communication Implications
12. The changes, if adopted will be formatted as necessary into the Constitution and published on the Council’s website.
13. A communications plan will be used to ensure effective communication to officers and members about the changes and implications, including an updated section on the Knowledge (staff intranet) and Modern.Gov (for use by officers and members).
Environmental Sustainability Implications
14. There are no environmental implications for this report.
Risk Management Considerations
15. Strategic Risk 4, <i>Organisational Capacity and Culture</i> , will, in part, be mitigated by an updated Constitution.
Other Implications
16. There are no other implications for this report.
Consultation
17. There has been consultation with Council’s statutory officers, Group Leaders and a report to Executive in November 2022.

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Policy Framework
18. The <i>Organisation Priority</i> of the Corporate Plan ' <i>Reigate and Banstead 2020 -2025</i> ' sets out that the Council will operate in an efficient and rigorous way, make the best use of its assets, and consider commercial opportunities. The updated Constitution provides efficiency and certainty of decision-making roles and responsibilities in the delivery of the Corporate Plan Objectives.
Background Powers
1. There are no background papers