

Date of despatch: Thursday, 11 April 2019

To the Members of Slough Borough Council

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of the Council of this Borough which will be held in the The Venue - The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY on **Tuesday, 23rd April, 2019 at 7.00 pm**, when the business in the Agenda below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours faithfully



JOSIE WRAGG
Chief Executive

PRAYERS

AGENDA

Apologies for Absence

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|---|--------------------|
| 1. Declarations of Interest | - |
| <i>All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary or other in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 4 paragraph 4.6 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed.</i> | |
| 2. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 29th January 2019 and 21 February 2019 | 1 - 20 |
| 3. To receive the Mayor's Communications. | - |

Public Questions

| | |
|--|---|
| 4. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9. | - |
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Officer Reports

5. Petition - New Home for Slough Gymnastics Club 21 - 24

Recommendations of Cabinet and Committees

[Notification of Amendments required by 10 a.m. on Thursday 18th April 2019]

6. Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 25 - 52
from its meeting held on 11th April 2019
- Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19

Motions

7. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14. 53 - 54

Member Questions

8. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 -
(as tabled).

Press and Public

You are welcome to attend this meeting which is open to the press and public, as an observer. You will however be asked to leave before the Committee considers any items in the Part II agenda. Please contact the Democratic Services Officer shown above for further details.

The Council allows the filming, recording and photographing at its meetings that are open to the public. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings. Anyone proposing to film, record or take photographs of a meeting is requested to advise the Democratic Services Officer before the start of the meeting. Filming or recording must be overt and persons filming should not move around the meeting room whilst filming nor should they obstruct proceedings or the public from viewing the meeting. The use of flash photography, additional lighting or any non hand held devices, including tripods, will not be allowed unless this has been discussed with the Democratic Services Officer.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at The Venue - The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY on Tuesday, 29th January, 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Sohal), in the chair; Councillors Ali, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, M Holledge, N Holledge, Hussain, Kelly, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Nazir, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Plenty, Qaseem, Rana, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A Sandhu, R Sandhu, Shah(from 7.32pm), Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Anderson, R Bains and Sarfraz.

50. Declarations of Interest

None received.

51. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 27th November 2018 and 18th December 2018

Resolved – That the minutes of the Council meetings held on 27th November 2018 and 18th December 2018 be approved as a correct record.

52. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

None.

53. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

Two questions were received and the Electors were present and asked a supplementary question. A written copy of the replies would be sent to the Electors.

54. Recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting held on 21st January 2019

It was moved by Councillor Nazir,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the

- (a) Council house dwelling rents for 2019/20 to **decrease by 1%** over the 2018/19 rent with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is in line with current government guidelines and legislation.

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- (b) Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (c) Service charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (d) 'Other committee' property rents to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure.
- (e) Properties leased from James Elliman Homes to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure; currently, these are Pendeen Court and 81-83 High Street used as emergency and temporary accommodation for homeless households."

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved – That the

- (a) Council house dwelling rents for 2019/20 to **decrease by 1%** over the 2018/19 rent with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is in line with current government guidelines and legislation.
- (b) Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (c) Service charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (d) 'Other committee' property rents to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure.
- (e) Properties leased from James Elliman Homes to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure; currently, these are Pendeen Court and 81-83 High Street used as emergency and temporary accommodation for homeless households.

55. Calendar of Meetings 2019/2020

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

- “ (a) That the calendar of meetings for the period May 2019 to May 2020 be approved, subject to Labour Group meetings being amended accordingly.
- (b) That the date for Annual Council meeting be agreed as Thursday 16th May, 2019.
- (c) That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make amendments to the calendar resulting from any constitutional

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changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved –

- (a) That the calendar of meetings for the period May 2019 to May 2020 be approved, subject to Labour Group meetings being amended accordingly.
- (b) That the date for Annual Council meeting be agreed as Thursday 16th May, 2019.
- (c) That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make amendments to the calendar resulting from any constitutional changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

56. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

A) EU Settled Status

The Mayor advised that in accordance with Procedure Rule 16.8 Councillor Swindlehurst intended, with the consent of the Council, to alter the motion of which he gave notice. The Mayor put this to the vote and it was agreed unanimously.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst, as an altered motion,
Seconded by Councillor Pantelic,

“Given the current uncertainties about the arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment, this Council resolves to ~~reimburse the EU Settled Status fee~~ **provide support and assistance** for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals applying for settled status.”

It was moved by Councillor Kelly, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

“Given the current ~~uncertainties about the~~ arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU ~~and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment~~, this Council resolves to ~~reimburse the EU Settled Status fee for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals applying for settled status~~ **set up a scheme that would support Slough’s Looked After Children who are EU nationals and vulnerable residents in need of 1 to 1 assistance when completing their applications for EU Settled Status. In addition, SBC will provide facilities in libraries and community hubs for EU national residents to apply for settled status on android devices.**”

(Councillor Shah joined the meeting)

Following discussion regarding the amendment to the altered motion,

It was moved by Councillor Smith, as a joint motion,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“Given the current uncertainties about the arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment, this Council resolves to provide support and assistance for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals, Slough’s Looked After Children who are EU nationals and vulnerable Slough residents in need of one to one assistance when completing their applications for EU settled status.”

The joint motion was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved - Given the current uncertainties about the arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment, this Council resolves to provide support and assistance for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals, Slough’s Looked After Children who are EU nationals and vulnerable Slough residents in need of one to one assistance when completing their applications for EU settled status.

B) Concessionary Bus Travel

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Strutton,

“This Council resolves to reinstate its previous arrangement, prior to 1 April 2015, of concessionary bus travel for elderly and disabled passengers in the Slough Borough Council area before 9.30am and after 11pm on weekdays including holders of companion passes wishing to take a companion with them for free when travelling on buses in the Slough Borough Council area.”

The motion was put to the vote and lost by 6 votes for, 31 against and 1 abstention.

Resolved – That the motion not be carried.

57. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 (as tabled).

A Member question had been received, a copy of which and the reply were tabled at the meeting.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 7.59 pm)

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at The Venue - The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY on Thursday, 21st February, 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Sohal), in the chair; Councillors Ali, Anderson, B Bains, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, M Holledge, N Holledge, Hussain, Kelly, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Nazir, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Qaseem, Rana, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A Sandhu, R Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors R Bains, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, Plenty and Sarfraz

58. Declarations of Interest

None were received.

59. Five Year Plan 2019/20 - 2023/24

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“That the Five Year Plan, as appended to the report, be approved.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved - That the Five Year Plan, as appended to the report, be approved.

60. Meeting Procedure

A suggested procedure for debating the item on the Revenue Budget 2019/20 had been circulated to all Members of the Council.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“That in accordance with procedure rule 27.1, Rule 16.5 on rules of debate be suspended insofar as is necessary to enable the procedure as circulated to be adopted and that the Council consent to:

- Members of the Leadership speaking for up to 50 minutes in total on the Revenue Budget 2019/20;
- Members of the Opposition speaking for up to 20 minutes in total on the same item;
- Independent Member speaking for up to 5 minutes in total, and

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- All subsequent speeches in the debate being limited to 3 minutes, other than the winding up speech by the Leader of the Council which shall not exceed 10 minutes.”

The procedural motion was put and carried.

Resolved – That the proposed procedure for the debate on the Revenue Budget 2019/20 be approved and adopted.

61. Revenue Budget 2019/20

The Leader of the Council and Lead Members for Transformation and Performance, Children and Education, Environment and Leisure, Corporate Finance and Housing, Health and Social Care, Planning and Transport and Regulation and Consumer Protection presented the Leadership Proposals for the Revenue Budget 2019/20. On completion of the presentation:

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“Council Tax Resolution – In relation to the Council Tax for 2019/20

- (a) That in pursuance of the powers conferred on the Council as the billing authority for its area by the Local Government Finance Acts (the Acts), the Council Tax for the Slough area for the year ending 31 March 2020 is as specified below and that the Council Tax be levied accordingly.
- (b) That it be noted that at its meeting on 18 December 2018 Cabinet calculated the following Tax Base amounts for the financial year 2019/20 in accordance with Regulations made under sections 31B (3) and 34(4) of the Act:
 - (i) 42,789.8 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) as the Council Tax Base for the whole of the Slough area for the year 2019/20; and
 - (ii) The sums below being the amounts of Council Tax Base for the Parishes within Slough for 2019/20:
 - a) Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle 1,923.3
- (c) That the following amounts be now calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with sections 31A to 36 of the Act:
 - (i) £411,146,686 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (2)(a) to (f) of the Act. (Gross Expenditure);

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- (ii) £352,551,190 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the Act.
(Gross Income);
- (iii) £58,595,496 being the amount by which the aggregate at paragraph c (i) above exceeds the aggregate at paragraph c (ii) above calculated by the Council as its council tax requirement for the year as set out in section 31A(4) of the Act. (Council Tax Requirement);
- (iv) £1,369.38 being the amount at paragraph c(iii) above divided by the amount at paragraph b(i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year, including the requirements for Parish precepts.
- (v) That for the year 2019/20 the Council determines in accordance with section 34 (1) of the Act, Total Special Items of £102,583 representing the total of Parish Precepts for that year.
- (vi) £1,366.98 being the amount at paragraph c (iv) above less the result given by dividing the amount at paragraph c (v) above by the relevant amounts at paragraph b (i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.
- (vii) Valuation Bands

| Band | Slough Area £ | Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle £ |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|
| A | 911.32 | 32.93 |
| B | 1,063.21 | 38.42 |
| C | 1,215.09 | 43.91 |
| D | 1,366.98 | 49.40 |
| E | 1,670.75 | 60.38 |
| F | 1,974.53 | 71.36 |
| G | 2,278.30 | 82.33 |
| H | 2,733.96 | 98.80 |

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at paragraph c (iv) and c (vi) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 36 (1) of the Act, as the

amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- (viii) Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts) is £58,492,641.
- (ix) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Thames Valley Police Authority precept has been increased by 13.2% in accordance with Home Office guidance in the provisional police grant settlement. The Police and Crime Panel are meeting on the 1st February to consider the PCP's precept proposals. The following amounts are stated in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

| Band | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley £ |
|-------------|---|
| A | 137.52 |
| B | 160.44 |
| C | 183.36 |
| D | 206.28 |
| E | 252.12 |
| F | 297.96 |
| G | 343.80 |
| H | 412.56 |

- (x) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority has proposed increasing its precept by 2.99% in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

| Band | Royal Berkshire Fire Authority £ |
|-------------|---|
| A | 44.19 |
| B | 51.55 |
| C | 58.92 |
| D | 66.28 |
| E | 81.01 |
| F | 95.74 |
| G | 110.47 |
| H | 132.56 |

These precepts have not been formally proposed or agreed by the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and may be subject to further revision.

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- (xi) Note that arising from these recommendations, and assuming the major precepts are agreed, the overall Council Tax for Slough Borough Council for 2019/20 including the precepting authorities will be as follows:

| Band | Slough | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley | Royal Berkshire Fire Authority | TOTAL |
|-------------|---------------|---|---|--------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| A | 911.32 | 137.52 | 44.19 | 1,093.03 |
| B | 1,063.21 | 160.44 | 51.55 | 1,275.20 |
| C | 1,215.09 | 183.36 | 58.92 | 1,457.37 |
| D | 1,366.98 | 206.28 | 66.28 | 1,639.54 |
| E | 1,670.75 | 252.12 | 81.01 | 2,003.88 |
| F | 1,974.53 | 297.96 | 95.74 | 2,368.23 |
| G | 2,278.30 | 343.80 | 110.47 | 2,732.57 |
| H | 2,733.96 | 412.56 | 132.56 | 3,279.08 |

- (xii) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 2012 Act.
- (xiii) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any Council Tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.
- (xiv) That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to collect (and disperse from the relevant accounts) the Council Tax and National Non- Domestic Rate and that whenever the office of the Section 151 Officer is vacant or the holder thereof is for any reason unable to act, the Chief Executive or such other authorised post-holder be authorised to act as before said in his or her stead.
- (xv) That in the event that there are any changes to the provisional precept of the Fire Authority, arising from their precept setting meeting being held on 25 February, the Section 151 Officer is delegated authority to enact all relevant changes to the Revenue Budget 2019/20, Statutory Resolution and council tax levels.

Fees and Charges –

- (d) Resolve to increase the Council's fees and charges as outlined in Appendix E for 2019/20.

The Robustness Statement

- (e) Note the statutory advice of the Chief Finance Officer outlined in Appendix G, The Robustness Statement. This is required to highlight the robustness of budget estimates and the adequacy of the reserves.

Top-up funding for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

- (f) (a) Note the mechanism outlined in Appendix J to access top-up funding to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs which is currently under review.

(b) Note the move to adjust our local factors to 65% toward the National Funding Formula factors from 2019/20 as outlined in paragraph 5.4.1

Use of Flexible Capital Receipts –

- (g) Resolve to agree the Use of Flexible Capital Receipts Strategy outlined in Appendix K.

Pay Policy –

- (h) Note the Pay Policy Statement agreed at the Employment and Appeals Committee on 24th January 2019 as detailed in Appendix L.

Business Rate Pilot –

- (i) Agree to participate in the 2019/20 Berkshire Business Rates Pilot Scheme.

Court Costs

- (j) Agree:
 - (a) That the Court Costs associated with non-payment of Business Rates remain at the same level for 2019/20 as the current year.
 - (b) That the Court Costs associated with non-payment of Council Tax be increased to £144.95 in total for 2019/20.

Empty Property Relief

- (k) Agree:
 - (a) That the long term empty premium for properties that are empty for more than two years is increased from April 2019 to 100% thereby doubling the charge.
 - (b) That the long term empty premium for properties that are empty for more than five years is increased from April 2020 to 200%

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- c) That the long term empty premium for properties that are empty for more than ten years is increased from April 2021 to 300%

Council's Public Room Booking

(l) Agree:

- (a) The proposed changes to the Council's Public Room Booking Policy and Terms & Conditions (Appendix M), as summarised in Section 8 of this report.
- (b) The updated pricing schedule (Appendix N), as summarised in section 8 of this report.
- (c) All users of our public buildings will be required to pay rates as per the updated policy and pricing schedule and that no exclusions will be made for any group, charity or other organisations without the consent of the Service Lead, Building Management in conjunction with the Council's S151 Officer."

It was moved by Councillor Strutton, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Wright

Additional Traffic Enforcement Cameras

"Request officers to prepare a business case to agree capital funding for the installation of ten additional cameras as well as additional bus lane cameras to those currently proposed along our routes (including bus stops) to encourage safer driving through our town and improve traffic flow whilst raising additional revenue income."

Profitable On-Street Parking

"Ensure that on-street parking achieves greater income in the borough through improved contract management focussing on better conversion of contested PCNs through greater accuracy at the point of issue and also focusing on enhanced enforcement of parking around schools to improve safety and accessibility."

Carers Public Transport Funding

"Part of funding to cover the cost of public transport for carers across the borough so that they are properly supported to care for their dependents by enabling them to move around the borough without the burden of cost."

Public Transport Accessibility Assessment

"Request officers to prepare a business case to provide one-off capital funding for an assessment of all public transport access points across the borough to determine the changes necessary to make all points accessible for our disabled and visually impaired residents."

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Free Parking & additional charging points for Electric Vehicles

“Seek to provide free on-street and off-street parking in dedicated bays for all electric vehicles and install additional charging points in these bays to further encourage the switch to zero-emissions vehicles for residents.”

Additional Public Transport Accessibility and Road Safety Initiatives & Projects

“Any additional funds raised over the budgeted income from traffic enforcement cameras are used to finance changes to our public transport accessibility at access points and additional road safety initiatives/projects focusing on road safety around our schools to better protect our children from accidents and to improve usage of public transport by residents.”

The amendments were put to the vote with 5 for, 30 against and 1 abstention. The amended recommendations were lost.

The original recommendations were put and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ali, Anderson, B. Bains, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, M Holledge, N. Holledge, Hussain, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Nazir, Pantelic, D.Parmar, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Rana, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A.Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Sohal, Swindlehurst and Usmani
..... 31

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Kelly, R.S. Sandhu, Smith, Strutton and Wright
..... 5

Resolved –

Council Tax Resolution – In relation to the Council Tax for 2019/20

- (a) That in pursuance of the powers conferred on the Council as the billing authority for its area by the Local Government Finance Acts (the Acts), the Council Tax for the Slough area for the year ending 31 March 2020 is as specified below and that the Council Tax be levied accordingly.
- (b) That it be noted that at its meeting on 18 December 2018 Cabinet calculated the following Tax Base amounts for the financial year 2019/20 in accordance with Regulations made under sections 31B (3) and 34(4) of the Act:
 - (i) 42,789.8 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax

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Base) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) as the Council Tax Base for the whole of the Slough area for the year 2019/20; and

(ii) The sums below being the amounts of Council Tax Base for the Parishes within Slough for 2019/20:

a) Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle 1,923.3

(c) That the following amounts be now calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with sections 31A to 36 of the Act:

(i) £411,146,686 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (2)(a) to (f) of the Act.
(Gross Expenditure);

(ii) £352,551,190 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the Act.
(Gross Income);

(iii) £58,595,496 being the amount by which the aggregate at paragraph c

(i) above exceeds the aggregate at paragraph c (ii) above calculated by the Council as its council tax requirement for the year as set out in section 31A(4) of the Act. (Council Tax Requirement);

(iv) £1,369.38 being the amount at paragraph c(iii) above divided by the amount at paragraph b(i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year, including the requirements for Parish precepts.

(v) That for the year 2019/20 the Council determines in accordance with section 34 (1) of the Act, Total Special Items of £102,583 representing the total of Parish Precepts for that year.

(vi) £1,366.98 being the amount at paragraph c (iv) above less the result given by dividing the amount at paragraph c (v) above by the relevant amounts at paragraph b (i) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

(vii) Valuation Bands

| Band | Slough Area £ | Parish of Colnbrook with Poyle £ |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|
| A | 911.32 | 32.93 |
| B | 1,063.21 | 38.42 |
| C | 1,215.09 | 43.91 |
| D | 1,366.98 | 49.40 |
| E | 1,670.75 | 60.38 |
| F | 1,974.53 | 71.36 |
| G | 2,278.30 | 82.33 |
| H | 2,733.96 | 98.80 |

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at paragraph c (iv) and c (vi) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 36 (1) of the Act, as the amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- (viii) Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts) is £58,492,641.
- (ix) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Thames Valley Police Authority precept has been increased by 13.2% in accordance with Home Office guidance in the provisional police grant settlement. The Police and Crime Panel are meeting on the 1st February to consider the PCP's precept proposals. The following amounts are stated in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

| Band | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley £ |
|-------------|---|
| A | 137.52 |
| B | 160.44 |
| C | 183.36 |
| D | 206.28 |
| E | 252.12 |
| F | 297.96 |
| G | 343.80 |
| H | 412.56 |

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- (x) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority has proposed increasing its precept by 2.99% in accordance with section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

| Band | Royal Berkshire Fire Authority £ |
|-------------|---|
| A | 44.19 |
| B | 51.55 |
| C | 58.92 |
| D | 66.28 |
| E | 81.01 |
| F | 95.74 |
| G | 110.47 |
| H | 132.56 |

These precepts had not been formally proposed or agreed by the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and may be subject to further revision.

- (xi) Note that arising from these recommendations, and assuming the major precepts are agreed, the overall Council Tax for Slough Borough Council for 2019/20 including the precepting authorities will be as follows:

| Band | Slough £ | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Thames Valley £ | Royal Berkshire Fire Authority £ | TOTAL £ |
|-------------|---------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| A | 911.32 | 137.52 | 44.19 | 1,093.03 |
| B | 1,063.21 | 160.44 | 51.55 | 1,275.20 |
| C | 1,215.09 | 183.36 | 58.92 | 1,457.37 |
| D | 1,366.98 | 206.28 | 66.28 | 1,639.54 |
| E | 1,670.75 | 252.12 | 81.01 | 2,003.88 |
| F | 1,974.53 | 297.96 | 95.74 | 2,368.23 |
| G | 2,278.30 | 343.80 | 110.47 | 2,732.57 |
| H | 2,733.96 | 412.56 | 132.56 | 3,279.08 |

- (xii) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 2012 Act.
- (xiii) That the Section 151 Officer be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any Council Tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and arrears has been duly

Council - 21.02.19

served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.

- (xiv) That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to collect (and disperse from the relevant accounts) the Council Tax and National Non- Domestic Rate and that whenever the office of the Section 151 Officer is vacant or the holder thereof is for any reason unable to act, the Chief Executive or such other authorised post-holder be authorised to act as before said in his or her stead.
- (xv) That in the event that there are any changes to the provisional precept of the Fire Authority, arising from their precept setting meeting being held on 25 February, the Section 151 Officer is delegated authority to enact all relevant changes to the Revenue Budget 2019/20, Statutory Resolution and council tax levels.

Fees and Charges –

- (d) That there be an increase in the Council's fees and charges as outlined in Appendix E for 2019/20.

The Robustness Statement

- (e) Note the statutory advice of the Chief Finance Officer outlined in Appendix G, The Robustness Statement. This is required to highlight the robustness of budget estimates and the adequacy of the reserves.

Top-up funding for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

- (f) (a) Note the mechanism outlined in Appendix J to access top-up funding to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs which is currently under review.

(b) Note the move to adjust our local factors to 65% toward the National Funding Formula factors from 2019/20 as outlined in paragraph 5.4.1

Use of Flexible Capital Receipts –

- (g) That the Use of Flexible Capital Receipts Strategy as outlined in Appendix K be agreed.

Pay Policy –

- (h) Note the Pay Policy Statement agreed at the Employment and Appeals Committee on 24th January 2019 as detailed in Appendix L.

Business Rate Pilot –

- (i) Agree to participate in the 2019/20 Berkshire Business Rates Pilot Scheme.

Court Costs

(j) Agree:

- (a) That the Court Costs associated with non-payment of Business Rates remain at the same level for 2019/20 as the current year.
- (b) That the Court Costs associated with non-payment of Council Tax be increased to £144.95 in total for 2019/20.

Empty Property Relief

(k) Agree:

- (a) That the long term empty premium for properties that are empty for more than two years is increased from April 2019 to 100% thereby doubling the charge.
- (b) That the long term empty premium for properties that are empty for more than five years is increased from April 2020 to 200%
- (c) That the long term empty premium for properties that are empty for more than ten years is increased from April 2021 to 300%

Council's Public Room Booking

(l) Agree:

- (a) The proposed changes to the Council's Public Room Booking Policy and Terms & Conditions (Appendix M), as summarised in Section 8 of this report.
- (b) The updated pricing schedule (Appendix N), as summarised in section 8 of this report.
- (c) All users of our public buildings will be required to pay rates as per the updated policy and pricing schedule and that no exclusions will be made for any group, charity or other organisations without the consent of the Service Lead, Building Management in conjunction with the Council's S151 Officer.

62. Treasury Management Strategy 2019/20

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

"The Council is requested to resolve that the Treasury Management Strategy for 2019/20 as at Appendix A be approved."

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

Council - 21.02.19

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ali, Anderson, B. Bains, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, M Holledge, N. Holledge, Hussain, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Nazir, Pantelic, D.Parmar, S.Parmar, Rana, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A.Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Sohal and Swindlehurst

..... 29

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Kelly, R.S. Sandhu, Smith, Strutton and Wright

..... 5

Resolved – That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2019/20 as at Appendix A be approved.

63. Capital Strategy 2019/24

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“ (a) That the capital strategy of **£239.3m** and the Minimum Revenue Provision be approved.

(b) That Council notes the notional costs of borrowing for the capital programme to the revenue budget would be an increase of up to **£4.188m** per annum -commencing during the period of the capital strategy to fund borrowing.

(c) That the principles underpinning the capital programme in paragraph 5.1.2 and the Minimum Revenue Provision principles in Section 6 be approved.

(d) That Appendices A and B detailing the capital programmes be approved.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ali, Anderson, B. Bains, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, M Holledge, N. Holledge, Hussain, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Nazir, Pantelic, D.Parmar, S.Parmar, Rana, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A.Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Sohal and Swindlehurst

..... 29

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Kelly, R.S. Sandhu, Smith, Strutton and Wright

..... 5

Resolved –

- (a) That the capital strategy of **£239.3m** and the Minimum Revenue Provision be approved.
- (b) That Council notes the notional costs of borrowing for the capital programme to the revenue budget would be an increase of up to **£4.188m** per annum -commencing during the period of the capital strategy to fund borrowing.
- (c) That the principles underpinning the capital programme in paragraph 5.1.2 and the Minimum Revenue Provision principles in Section 6 be approved.
- (d) That Appendices A and B detailing the capital programmes be approved.

64. Licensing Act 2003 - Statement of Licensing Policy 2019/24

It was moved by Councillor Davis,
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

“That the draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2024 is adopted as the Council’s Licensing Policy.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved – That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2024 is adopted as the Council’s Licensing Policy.

65. Review of Members Allowances Scheme

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“That the Independent Remuneration Panel’s recommendations, as set out in paragraph 5.5 of the report, be approved.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved - That the Independent Remuneration Panel’s recommendations, as set out in paragraph 5.5 of the report, be approved.

(Councillor S Parmar was not present during the vote on this item)

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.06 pm and closed at 9.23 pm)

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**REPORT TO:** Council**DATE:** 23rd April 2019**CONTACT OFFICER:** Catherine Meek
(For all enquiries) Head of Democratic Services
(01753) 875011**WARD(S):** All**PART I**
FOR DECISION**PETITION – NEW HOME FOR SLOUGH GYMNASTICS CLUB****1 Purpose of Report**

To advise the Council of a Petition that has been received under the Council's Petitions Scheme. The Petition contains 1,608 signatures, all of which were submitted online via the e-petition facility on the Council's website:

'We the undersigned petition the council to Provide a location that is suitable to house Slough Gymnastics Club - either a building with suitable use, or a location to build a purpose built multi-sport venue that incorporates SGC, and provide space for a temporary building until a suitable location is found to build on.'

'Slough Gymnastics Club is an inclusive affordable gymnastics club that was founded with the community in mind. We offer classes to boys and girls from all ages at affordable prices.'

2. Recommendation

Following debate, the Council is requested to resolve what action it wishes to take with regard to the Petition.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities****Improving mental health and wellbeing**

Physical activity and sport play a crucial role in maintaining good health, preventing illness, supporting mental wellbeing and generally enabling people to be healthier and happier for longer.

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes**Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful**

Taking part in regular sport and is proven to improve the physical health and mental wellbeing of children and young people, along with educational attainment and confidence and self esteem.

4. Other Implications

(a) Financial

- (b) This is dependent on the decision(s) the council wish to take. No budget has been earmarked in the council's medium term financial plan to support this. Risk Management

There are no reported risks associated with the recommendations stipulated in section 2.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act Implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There is no requirement for an EIA.

5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 Under the Council's published Petitions Scheme a Petition that contains 1500 signatures triggers a debate at Council.

Debate

- 5.2 The Petition Organiser has been invited to the meeting to speak on the Petition (up to five minutes) and the Petition will then be discussed by Members of the Council for a maximum of 15 minutes. The Mayor has discretion to extend this time taking account of the degree of public interest in the issue, the level of support given to the petition and the number of elected members wishing to express their views on the subject.
- 5.3 Following this discussion the Council will need to decide what action to take with regard to the Petition. Where the issue is one on which the Cabinet is required to make the final decision the Council will decide whether to make recommendations to inform that decision.
- 5.4 The Scheme indicates that the Council's response to a Petition will depend on what a petition asks for and how many people have signed it but may include one or more of the following;
- Taking the action requested in the Petition
 - considering the Petition at a Council Meeting
 - Holding an Inquiry
 - Commissioning relevant research
 - Organising a public meeting
 - Mounting a wider public consultation
 - Meeting with the Petition Organiser or representatives of signatories
 - Providing a written response outlining the Council's views on the subject
 - Referring the issue to the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee **OR**
 - Referring the issue to the relevant Committee/Cabinet
 - Consulting statutory partners and local service providers

- Instigating discussions with the voluntary and community sectors
- Making representations to Commercial or other Interests

Background

- 5.5 Slough Gymnastics Club was established in 2010 and operated from a converted warehouse on Slough Trading Estate, leasing the provision from SEGRO. Since this date the club has grown in size with a membership of over 500; of all ages and abilities. The club is a private business set up as a community interest company.
- 5.6 In 2017 the council received information that Slough Gymnastics Club (SGC) had been given notice to quit by SEGRO from their bespoke venue on Buckingham Avenue and contacted the club to offer support. Slough. The club unfortunately were unable to find a suitable alternative venue and the council negotiated the use of a space at Montem Leisure Centre at a reduced rate of £3K per month. At this point it was explained to the club that this was a temporary measure up to March 2019, when Montem would be closed for demolition. The club moved to Montem in the March 2018.
- 5.7 The council has no responsibility to provide facilities for community sports clubs in the town. At no point did the council agree to fund or subsidise any alternative provision for SGC.
- 5.8 During this period the council contacted Sport and England and British Gymnastics to discuss potential support for the club in reference to capital funding towards a new facility. Unfortunately they confirmed that no support was available.
- 5.9 In the summer of 2018, the council undertook a feasibility study to extend Cippenham Community Centre to house an artistic gymnastics venue. A master plan was produced and it proved it was possible to meet the gym club's needs at this proposed venue. SGC would have been charged the full commercial rate for the hire of this facility. Unfortunately the project could not proceed when the planning authority confirmed that planning would not be granted as the development was situated on high risk flood plain. The club was informed of this as soon as we received this information.
- 5.10 The council subsequently has met regularly with the club and has searched for suitable sites in the borough including council owned facilities and commercial industrial units. All were declined by the club as either being unsuitable in regard to size or not affordable. These sites and options included:
- Cippenham Community Centre (without the extension to the existing provision)
 - Weekes Drive Community Centre
 - Thames Valley Athletics Centre
 - Langley Pavilion
 - 7 x commercial business units at various sites across the borough
 - Keep Montem Leisure Centre open for 3 to 12 months
 - Thames Valley Athletics Centre
 - Slough Cricket Club
 - Wexham Park (privately owned facility)

5.11 In January 2019 the club presented the council with a temporary building design and costs and requested land for them to put a temporary structure on. The size of the structure was 800m² and the council's immediate response was that there were no affordable or suitable sites in the borough to house such a large structure, which would also require planning consent.

5.12 The council are continuing to work with the club to identify potential venues.

6. **Conclusion**

Members are requested to consider what action to take with regard to the petition, as outlined in Paragraph 5.4 of the report.

7. **Appendices Attached**

None

8. **Background Papers**

Petition

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council **DATE:** 23 April 2019

CONTACT OFFICER: Nick Pontone, Senior Democratic Services Officer
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 875120

WARDS: All

PART I
FOR ENDORSEMENT**ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2018/19**1. **Purpose of Report**

1.1 That Council receives details of the Annual Scrutiny report 2018/19.

2. **Recommendation**

2.1 That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19 be endorsed.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Five Year Plan**

3.1 The council's decision-making and the effective scrutiny of it underpins the delivery of all the Joint Slough Wellbeing Strategy priorities. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, alongside the three scrutiny panels combine to meet the local authority's statutory requirement to provide public transparency and accountability, ensuring the best outcomes for the residents of Slough.

3.2 The work of scrutiny also reflects the priorities of the Five Year plan, as follows:

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful
- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay
- Our residents will live in good quality homes.
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents.

3.3 Overview and Scrutiny is a process by which decision-makers are accountable to local people, via their elected representatives for improving outcomes relating to all priorities for the borough and its residents. Scrutiny seeks to influence those who make decisions by considering the major issues affecting the borough and making recommendations about how services can be improved.

4. **Other Implications**(a) **Financial**

The work of the scrutiny function is included within existing SBC budgets.

(b) Risk Management

| Recommendation | Risk/Threat/Opportunity | Mitigation(s) |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Endorse that the report. | Opportunity to promote the work of scrutiny in the past year. | The report was submitted to chairs and vice chairs of the committees for comment and considered by Overview & Scrutiny on 11 th April |

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act implications. The work of scrutiny functions in local authorities is outlined in the Local Government Act 2000.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There are no Equality Impact Assessments required as a result of this report.

5. **Supporting Information**

- 5.1 Annual reports are an opportunity to review the scrutiny work programme for the past year and assess the impact scrutiny has had on influencing policy. Looking at an annual report can help us to understand the nature of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny and to assess its effectiveness. It also gives an opportunity to reflect on any lessons learned during the year to help guide future work.
- 5.2 The production of an annual report is a constitutional requirement and the committee “must report annually to the full council on future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.” The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider the draft of the Annual Scrutiny Report which highlights some key achievements from the year where scrutiny has made a difference at its meeting on 11th April 2019. Any substantive comments and amendments will be reported to Council.
- 5.3 There is scope to build on and develop different methods of scrutiny next year; particular attention needs to be given on using overarching policy documents such as the Five Year Plan and how they should shape the work of scrutiny. In addition, members may wish to consider increasing the variety of methods used by scrutiny (e.g. Task and Finish Groups, co-option of members). We will be undertaking some research into scrutiny best practice for consideration at a future date.

6. **Conclusion**

- 6.1 The Local Authority, through its Overview and Scrutiny Function, has an influential, as well as statutory, role in scrutinising the activities and performance of the Cabinet and External Bodies (e.g. the Clinical Commissioning Group). The Annual Scrutiny Report provides an opportunity to communicate the work the committee and its panels have undertaken, challenges faced and the improvements made as a result of scrutiny.

6. **Appendices Attached**

A Draft Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19

7. **Background Papers**

Local Government Act 2000 (Section 21)

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Annual Scrutiny Report

2018–2019



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Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the annual scrutiny report for 2018-19. This report highlights the key areas of work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its three standing scrutiny panels (the Health Scrutiny Panel, Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel and the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel).

In 2018-19, the scrutiny committee and panels have undertaken vital work. In particular they paid special attention to Slough Borough Council's progress achieving its Five Year plan outcomes. The Five Year plan outcomes are:

- Outcome 1: Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful
- Outcome 2: Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs
- Outcome 3: Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay
- Outcome 4: Our residents will live in good quality homes
- Outcome 5: Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents

While every piece of work delivered by the council has these outcomes in mind, the committee and panels have played a role by scrutinising and challenging council officers on their delivery for the Five Year plan outcomes.

I am pleased to report that the main Scrutiny and Overview Committee and the panels have had a busy year which ended with two task and finish groups reporting back with their findings.

The disability task and finish group that reports to the Health Panel made recommendations in ways to make Slough a more inclusive and disability friendly town.

The children centres task and finish group, reporting to the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel, made a number of valuable and insightful recommendations in its review of services provided at the children's centres in Slough.

I thank the task and finish groups for their valuable work and their findings. Their evidence based research will provide a valuable bank of knowledge as we move into 2019-20.

I would like to thank my own Vice Chair as well as the chairs and vice chairs of the panels for their support and leadership throughout the year. I would also like to thank sincerely all members, officers and partners who have contributed to the work of the overview and scrutiny function over the past year.

**Councillor Arvind Dhaliwal
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Introduction

In 2002, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister set out the role of Overview and Scrutiny in local authorities, its powers and work.

“Overview and Scrutiny is potentially the most exciting and powerful element of the entire local government modernisation process. It places Members at the heart of the way in which Councils respond to the demands of modernisation. In addition, Overview and Scrutiny is the mechanism by which Councils can achieve community leadership, good governance and by which Councillors can become powerful and influential politicians.”

In order to do this, scrutiny committees have three key roles:

- holding the Cabinet to account
- policy development and review
- external scrutiny

Through requesting information and questioning decision-makers an overview scrutiny committee can review the quality of local services, hold decision-makers to account (whether the Cabinet or other statutory bodies such as NHS Trusts), and put forward ideas for developing and improving services.

The Centre for Public Scrutiny has set out the four principles for effective scrutiny as:

- critical friendship to decision-makers
- engaging the public, enabling the voice of the public and communities to be heard in the process
- owning the process with non-executive members driving the scrutiny process
- making an impact through driving forward improvements in public services

To achieve the desired quality of effective scrutiny, an overview and scrutiny function must:

- be independent
- be robust, rigorous and challenging
- fully engage all non-executive members
- come from a positive culture that supports and promotes the process
- involve local citizens and service users
- ensure that its purpose is clear and widely understood
- demonstrate the value added
- be creative in its ways of monitoring service performance
- have dedicated resources
- bring the conclusions of its reviews to the attention of full council
- have a comprehensive member development programme

The questions an overview and scrutiny function must ask itself in terms of its own effectiveness are:

- Is it effectively holding decision-makers to account?
- Is it helping to improve services?
- Is it building links between the Council, its partners and the community?
- Is it helping to improve the quality of life for local people?
- Is it adding value?

The annual report looks to assess the effectiveness of the work done by the overview and scrutiny function at Slough Borough Council in 2018–19.

Overview and Scrutiny at Slough Borough Council

The overview and scrutiny function at Slough Borough Council is made up of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and three standing panels:

- Health Scrutiny Panel
- Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel
- Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel.

The panels enable greater focus on specific subject matter, while the overarching Overview and Scrutiny Committee focuses on cross-cutting issues, corporate, financial and performance management of the council. The committee and panels look to work closely together, using joint meetings where appropriate, to develop their work programmes and effectively scrutinise the work of the council and its partners.

Members on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and three panels receive support from the policy and insight team; with democratic services also providing committee administration to the main committee and Health Scrutiny Panel.

Getting Involved

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and all three panels meet in public, and welcome members of the public who wish to observe proceedings.

The agendas and related papers are published on the Slough Borough Council website five working days in advance of any meeting and are available to download.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Membership:

Councillor Dhaliwal (Chair)
Councillor Bains
Councillor Dilbagh Parmar
Councillor Rana
Councillor Sharif

Councillor Sandhu (Vice Chair)
Councillor Minhas
Councillor Satpal Parmar
Councillor Sarfraz

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertakes the following:

- review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the executive, committees and council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time
- review and scrutinise the performance of the council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets, data quality and/or particular service areas;
- question members of the executive, committees and directors about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects;
- make recommendations to the executive and/or appropriate committee and/or council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process;
- review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the committee and local people about their activities and performance; and
- question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent).

In order to undertake this work, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has appointed three standing panels to cover specific remits of works:

- Health Scrutiny Panel – undertaking the council’s statutory responsibility to scrutinise provision of healthcare in the local area, as well as the cabinet portfolio for Health and Social care.
- Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel – scrutinising the cabinet portfolio for Children and Education
- Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel – scrutinising the Cabinet portfolios for Housing, Environment and Leisure and Planning and Transport.

This delegation of work allows the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to take an overarching view of the work of the council and its partners, as well as specifically focusing on the Cabinet portfolios of Regeneration and Strategy, Transformation and Performance, and Regulation and Consumer Protection.

Specific focuses of work

Five Year Plan Work

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee uses the Five Year Plan to map out its priorities and work for 2018-19. During the year, the committee focused on Outcome 3 and Outcome 5 of the Five Year Plan

Outcome 3 – Slough will be an attractive place where people chose to live, work and stay

Throughout the year the committee welcomed and endorsed the progress made on the four key actions identified by Slough Borough Council for delivering this outcome. These actions are:

- To establish a town team to ensure a clean and safe town centre
- Plant one million bulbs with our communities in our Parks and Open Spaces
- Town survey to ask residents what they felt about the town and use of the results to shape future plans
- Co-create strong and attractive neighbourhoods

Outcome 5 – Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents

Our long term priorities are to:

- Collaborate on the Heathrow expansion
- Regenerate former Thames Valley University site and the town centre and maximise potential of Crossrail
- Work with major employers and Heathrow to reduce traffic congestion and emissions by encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport.

During the year, members of the committee scrutinised Slough Borough Council's plans to respond to the skills and investment opportunities arising from Heathrow's expansion and other major economic development schemes.

Community Engagement

The committee scrutinised the work of the One Council Group that was formed in 2017. The group was formed to develop a joined up approach to community engagement. A joined up approach has many advantages, including reducing duplication and preventing 'consultation fatigue' by over surveying residents. Part of the group's brief was to develop a toolkit based on best practice which included the successful Manor Park case study. The toolkit and the work of the One Council group was well received by the committee

The Adult Social Care Programme

The committee focused on the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme. This programme was established to address the significant pressures on services arising from increased demand, cost and complexity of clients needs.

To date, the programme has delivered £4.814m of the targeted £7.9m of savings between 2015 and 2020. However, the overall Adult Social Care budget was showing a £1m overspend in 2018/19 which reflected the greater increased pressures on the service.

The committee welcomed the increased use of direct payments for social care support as it gives people more control over their own care. The committee sought reassurances that adequate systems were in place to monitor the payments to ensure they were not being misused.

Childhood Obesity

The committee examined the council's efforts in reducing the levels of childhood obesity in Slough. Reducing childhood obesity has remained a local priority for a number of years and was an integral part of the Five Year Plan. Current data indicates that 20 per cent of children in reception year were overweight or obese and this rose to 40 per cent by year 6.

The committee discussed the work of the Active Movement Programme which was originally piloted in two children's centres, five primary and two secondary schools in late 2017. The committee supported the roll out and expansion across Slough.

The committee also discussed its concerns about unhealthy food choices often provided by parents in school lunch boxes and asked the Council to consider what actions it can take to address this problem. The Committee also expressed concerns about takeaways near to schools and low levels physical activity.

Housing Strategy

The committee reviewed a report that provided an overview of the Housing Strategy focusing on the strategies theme 2, the private sector, and theme 3, council homes. The report set out the actions the Council was taking and planned to take which included strengthening the Housing Regulation Team and a process to issue civil penalties of up to £30,000 on 'rogue' landlords. The committee examined in detail the measures that the council was taking against rogue landlords and the increase of enforcement action in the private rented sector. The committee supported a proactive approach being taken against rogue landlords and requested statistics for the number of civil penalties issued in over the past five years.

Contract Management

In September 2017, an internal audit identified risks in the contract management procedures. At the September 2018 meeting, the committee received a progress report following the audit. The report identified historic issues relating to existing contracts that needed to be address as well robustness of recent major contracts such as the repair, maintenance and investment contracts. The committee agreed to take a more active role in scrutinising major contracts by widening its scope in scrutinising major contracts to include repair, maintenance and investment contracts.

Members welcomed the changes that had been introduced and the benefits to be gained from effective contract management were highlighted. The committee agreed to take a more active role in scrutinising major contracts by widening the scope of its regular scrutiny of the Arvato contract to include other contracts such repair, maintenance and investment.

In the January meeting the committee considered a report that updated on the council's contract management procedures and the progress made by the new repairs, maintenance and investment service partner, Osborne Property Services Ltd, in the first year. The committee scrutinised the significant work that had been done to develop and improve the council's approach to contract management in response to the internal audit recommendations. A new corporate commercial function had been established along with a new commercial strategy.

Note: The full work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2018 – 19 Municipal Year is attached as Appendix A.

Health Scrutiny Panel

Membership:

Councillor Sandhu (Chair)
Councillor Ali
Councillor M Holledge
Councillor Qaseem
Councillor Strutton

Councillor Smith (Vice Chair)
Councillor Chaudhry
Councillor Matloob
Councillor Shah
Colin Pill (Healthwatch Slough)

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoints the Health Scrutiny Panel to undertake its constitutional role looking at the specific Cabinet Portfolio for Health and Social Care. In addition, the panel also undertakes the statutory council responsibility to scrutinise the provision for healthcare in the local area.

Specific focuses of work

Five Year Plan – Outcome 2 – Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs

The panel scrutinised a report that updated on the progress of Outcome 2 of the Five Year Plan that focused on the health of local residents and enabling service users to take an active role in shaping the services available to them.

The four key actions for Outcome 2 are

- Support our residents to be more active
- Open a range of new leisure facilities (including Slough Ice Arena, Salt Hill Activity Centre, Langley Leisure Centre, The Centre and a network of green gyms in our parks and open spaces)
- Support more people to take control of their care needs including a direct payment
- Support more people to have a health check.

The progress being made against each of these areas was outlined to the panel. This included the major investment in new core leisure facilities and provision in neighbourhoods such as green gyms, trim trails and multi-use games areas.

Disability Task and Finish Group

During the Health Scrutiny Panel meeting in March 2018 a number of disability issues were raised in the agenda. Given the complexity of the matter, the panel established a Task and Finish Group which delivered its report and recommendations in March 2019.

The group investigated the issue in depth and concluded that the ultimate objective for Slough should be to create a town with full accessibility for all its residents and to provide a safe environment. Based on its investigations, the group have identified seven key areas which it would recommend form the basis of Slough Borough Council's approach to making Slough a Disability Friendly Town.

Air Quality

The panel received information on the causes of air pollution in Slough. These causes include the proximity to the motorway network, cross boundary effects from London and the continent, incineration and electricity generation and emissions from aeroplane take-off at Heathrow and unburned jet fuel.

The Panel raised a number of issues including:

- The potential risks of exercising in areas of high air pollution. Air quality varied throughout the day and the AirTEXT service was available to people to provide information. Members felt this could be more widely publicised.

- There was a high cost of poor air quality and it was considered that this was likely to be understated.

The panel welcomed the information that had been provided and it was agreed that strong action needed to be taken to address the air quality problems in Slough. Future actions discussed by the panel include an examination of local variations and measures that could be targeted to address particular problem areas and causes of bad air pollution.

Adult Social Care Programme – Stage 2

The panel scrutinised a report on Stage 2 of the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme. The report noted that there had been significant pressures on adult social care services, including a net reduction of 17 per cent in the budget since 2013 and a projected overspend in the current year of £1.8million.

The four key areas in the delivery of Stage 2 of the Transformation Programme were new ways of working; developing social capital; implementing integrated care; and promoting self care. The panel received a detailed update on the progress being made in each of these areas.

The panel expressed concerns about the medium and long term national funding shortfall and the impact on services and residents locally. This would be a key consideration in future budget decisions for the Council.

Note: The full work programme for the Health Scrutiny Panel for the 2018/19 municipal year is attached as Appendix B.

Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel

Membership:

Councillor Plenty (Chair)
Councillor N Holledge
Councillor Rasib
Councillor Sandhu
Councillor Wright

Councillor Kelly (Vice Chair)
Councillor S Parmar
Councillor Shabah
Councillor Shah

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoints the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel (NCS Scrutiny Panel) to undertake its constitutional role looking at the specific Cabinet Portfolios for Corporate Finance and Housing, Planning and Transport, and Environment and Leisure.

Specific focuses of work

Five Year Plan – Outcome 4 – Our residents will have access to good quality homes

Our long term priorities are to:

- Maintain our council housing to a high standard
- Keep housing affordable for local people
- Drive up standards in the private and rented sector

The panel was provided progress in the council's actions in delivering Outcome 4 of the Five Year Plan. The panel discussed the Outcome 4 Action Plan that drew actions from the housing strategy.

The panel scrutinised the council's progress in these areas, but also looked in detail at homelessness in Slough and housing.

Housing

Throughout the year, the panel examined a number of issues to do with Housing. These included:

- Strategic Housing Services
- Licensing of Housing in Multiple Occupation
- Revised Housing Allocation Scheme
- 2019/20 Housing Rents and Service Charges.

Homelessness in Slough

The UK Government has recognised the rough sleeping concerns across the country and has provided some additional financial help to assist local authorities.

The panel discussed issues around homelessness in Slough which will be included in a Homelessness Plan. The panel will review the plan and determine how to proceed.

Fly tipping

The panel scrutinised a report on the potential options for tackling fly tipping in a more proactive and intelligence-led manner, including the use of CCTV as a deterrent or to identify offenders.

The Chair commended Slough Borough Council for the work undertaken with regard to commercial fly tipping and endorsed the proposed partnership work but expressed concern at the regular low level fly tipping. Members supported a trial of two to three

wards whereby hotspots were identified, signs erected and cameras installed should fly tipping continue.

Note: The full work programme for the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel for the 2018/19 municipal year is attached as Appendix C.

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel

Membership:

Councillor Sharif (Chair)

Councillor Brooker

Councillor Matloob

Councillor D Parmar

Councillor Strutton

(Secondary Teacher Representative)

(Head Teacher Representative)

(Slough Youth Parliament)

Councillor Kelly (Vice Chair)

Councillor N Holledge

Councillor Minhas

Councillor Sandhu

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoints the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel (ECS Scrutiny Panel) to undertake its constitutional role looking at the specific Cabinet Portfolios for Children and Education.

Outcome 1 of the Five Year Plan is states that Slough children will grow up to be happy healthy and successful. Our long term priorities are to:

- Work with our partners to ensure excellent outcomes for children and young people in Slough. We will do this through building on existing successful education and children's social care partnerships, ensuring children and young people are at the centre of what we do
- Reduce the numbers of children looked after and care leavers and young people with SEND who are not in education, employment or training
- Support the creation and promotion of pathways to high quality employment, including apprenticeships
- Reduce the 'conveyor belt' to social care through improved early help and early intervention

Specific focuses of work

The Curve

The panel reviewed the impact that the Curve has had on the community since it opened as a library in 2016. As well as a library it has acted as a community hub and has seen a 47.5% rise in the numbers. While the panel noted that the Curve provided a better service than other libraries and community centres regionally and nationally, it discussed efforts to encourage reading for pleasure for older secondary school pupils which is lower than reading group participation by younger pupils.

Annual report and updates from key stakeholders

The panel has a role examining stakeholders annual reports and updates, such as the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, Slough Youth Offending Team and the Joint Parenting Panel.

In October 2018, the panel scrutinised the Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and suggested that the report in future provided a breakdown of issues such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage, modern slavery and prolonged school absence.

Children's Centres Task and Finish Group

In July 2018 a task and finish group was established to review the provision of services at Children's Centres in Slough. The group reported back to the panel and made the following recommendations/proposed actions:

- Maintain the standard of buildings with regular checking of facilities.
- Ensure the relationship with Heathrow is developed to support Children's Centres in the surrounding area.
- Investigate the cost of extending the offer to children and families across higher phases in Slough.
- Build on the excellent relationships with delivery partners to extend and consolidate the offer.
- Explore further the opportunities for other agencies to operate out of children's centres (e.g. libraries) to deliver satellite services.
- Establish more formal opportunities for children's centres to generate additional income by letting out parts of the building in a manner which does not impact on service delivery or compromise safeguarding arrangements.

Section 11 Audits

Section 11 audits are in place to ensure that local authorities are undertaking their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Compliance was judged on eight national standards, with SBC reporting to the Pan Berkshire Local Safeguarding Children's Board. SBC operated its DBS checking policy in line with Department for Education guidelines. While some councillors (e.g. Cabinet Member for Children and Education) required such a check, this was not the case for all members.

Education

In March 2019, the panel focused its attention on school standards, school places planning and the recruitment and retention of teaching staff.

Members received a report and presentation which provided an overview of education outcomes in the Slough Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. In considering patterns of achievement for schools and groups of pupils, there would be improved strategic planning.

The panel received a report which provided an update on current school expansion projects, the latest pupil projections and proposals for meeting future demand, as set out in the School Places Strategy 2018-23. The panel looked at provision of school places in relation to new housing developments and regeneration in the area and sought reassurance that the number likely to be required in the future had not been underestimated. The panel noted that some schools appeared to be oversubscribed whilst others were undersubscribed. While this may be due to popularity of certain schools with parents/carers, Members indicated that it would be useful to have a discussion on the reasons for this at a future meeting.

The panel received a report which provided an overview of the national and local picture in relation to the recruitment and retention of teachers. The panel expressed support in terms of raising the profile of the borough's academic success and to link this with the success in business. Celebration and promotion of the borough's successes in education may attract quality teaching staff.

Note: The full work programme for the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel for the 2018/19 municipal year is attached as Appendix D.

Looking Forward

In 2018-19, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the three panels used the Five Year plan to map their priorities and work streams. The Five Year plan is a live document that is refreshed every year. In 2019-20 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the panels will continue to use the outcomes from the five year plan as their main framework.

In late 2018 Slough Borough Council began developing and defining its Transformation Programme which will guide the way the council works in the future. The aim of the Transformation Programme is to modernise the council, where customer services will be modern and efficient. The council will embrace a new fast-paced and dynamic culture which uses technology to drive improvements to services and our ways of working.

During 2019-20 the scrutiny function will challenge and track progress of the Transformation Programme.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 6 June 2018 | |
| Administrative Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of Panels • Work programme |
| 1 | Scrutiny Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voting Task and Finish Group |
| 12 July 2018 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Strategy 2018/19 to 2023/24 • Housing Strategy – Private Sector and Council Homes • Performance and Projects Report – Quarter 4 2017/18 • Revenue Financial Report 2017/18 (Provisional Outturn) |
| 13 September 2018 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thames Valley Transactional Services Centre Annual Report April 2017 – March 2018 • Five Year Plan – Outcome 3 • Contract Management |
| 15 November 2018 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner and Thames Valley Chief Constable • Performance and Project Report Quarter 1 2018/19 • Adult Social Care Transformation Programme |

| 10 January 2019 | |
|------------------------|---|
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thames Valley Transactional Services Centre-Contract Year 7 Half Report April 2018 – September 2018 • Childhood Obesity Update • Contract Management – Overall Policy and Repairs, Maintenance and Investment Contract • Performance and Projects Report: Quarter 2 2018/19 • Member Call in: Chalvey Regeneration Strategy |
| 31 January 2019 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue Budget 2019/20 • Treasury Management Strategy 2019/20 • Capital Strategy 2019/24 |
| 14 March 2019 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement and Consultation – A One Council Approach • Five Year Plan – Outcome 5 |
| 11 April 2019 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buses – Fares and Access for residents • Adult Social Care Transformation Programme • Performance and Projects • Annual Scrutiny Report • Annual Petitions Report |

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL
WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

| 28 June 2018 | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Administrative Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Chair • Election of Vice Chair |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frimley Health and Care Integrated Care System • Changing Behaviours – Work of Solutions 4 Health • Slough – A Disability Friendly Town • Co-Operation Between the Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny Panel |
| 11 September 2018 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Social Care Transformation Programme – Stage 2 • Resident and Service User Engagement – Co-Production • Solutions4Health – Deep Dives • Disability Task and Finish Group – Terms of Reference |
| 16 October 2018 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Year Plan – Outcome 2 • Oral Health in Slough • Slough Wellbeing Board – Half Yearly Report • Slough Safeguarding Adult Board (SSAB) Annual Report |

| 21 November 2018 |
|---|
| Scrutiny Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frimley Health and Care System Winter Planning 2018/19• Frimley Health and Care Integrated Care System• Air Quality and Health in Slough |
| 17 January 2019 |
| Scrutiny Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Annual Report on Immunisation and Screening in Slough• Mental Health: Review of the Hope College and Mental Health Services• Frimley Health and Care Integrated Care System: Draft Operational Plan 2019/20 |
| 25 March 2019 |
| Scrutiny Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adult Social Care Local Account 2017-18• Oral Health in Slough• Disability Task and Finish Group – Report and Recommendation |

NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL
WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

| 25 June 2018 |
|--|
| <p>Administrative Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Chair • Election of Vice Chair <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Slough Partnership • Update on Garages Strategy • Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Overview Indicators • Rechargeable Repairs Policy • Cycle Hubs |
| 6 September 2018 |
| <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Year Plan – Outcome4 • Strategic Housing Services – Scrutiny Overview Indicators |
| 1 November 2018 |
| <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation • Homelessness in Slough |

| 15 January 2019 | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan for Slough 2013-36 • Revised Housing Allocation Scheme 2018-2022 • Neighbourhoods Services Scrutiny Overview Indicators • Development Initiative for Slough Housing Ltd – Cabinet Proposals • 2019/20 Housing Rents and Service Charges |
| 28 February 2019 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly Tipping • Rogue Landlords Database and Banning Orders Under Planning and Housing Act 2016 • Market Lane Road/Hollow Hill Lane Network – Proposals • Safer Slough Partnership – Update |
| 3 April 2019 | |
| Scrutiny Items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing – Scrutiny Overview Indicators • Downsizing – Under Occupation of Social House • Progress with the implementation of the Housing Asset Management Strategy |

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL
WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

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| 17 July 2018 |
| <p>Administrative Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Chair • Election of Vice Chair <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Parenting Panel Quarterly Update • Children's Social Care – Verbal Update • Forward Work Programme |
| 24 October 2018 |
| <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report • Impact of Curve on Library Services • Slough Youth Parliament • Slough Youth Offending Team Update Report • Youth Service and Vulnerable Children |
| 6 December 2018 |
| <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 11 Audits • Joint Parenting Panel Quarterly Update |
| 7 February 2019 |
| <p>Scrutiny Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Centre's Task and Finish Group • 30 Hours Extended Entitlement • Early Years Workforce Report |

13 March 2019

Scrutiny Items

- School Standards
- School Place Planning Update
- Recruitment and Retention of School Teaching Staff

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council **DATE:** 23rd April, 2019

CONTACT OFFICER: Shabana Kauser
(For all enquiries) Senior Democratic Services Officer
(01753) 787503

WARD(S): All

PART I
FOR DECISION

MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 14

The following motions have been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14:-

A) Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988

(Moved by Councillor Nazir, seconded by Councillor Mann)

“This Council notes that eviction from the private rented sector is the largest single reason for homelessness in the UK and therefore calls upon the Government to abolish Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 which allows landlords to evict tenants without a reason.”

B) Bus Lane Use

(Moved by Councillor Strutton, seconded by Councillor Kelly)

“This Council resolves that licenced private hire vehicles can use normal (with-flow) bus lanes in Slough while they are operating – carrying a passenger(s) or on the way to pick up a pre-booked customer(s) - in the same way that taxis can use our bus lanes to ease traffic congestion and air pollution within the borough.”

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