

Date of despatch: Monday, 20 March 2023

**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 Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on **Tuesday, 28th March, 2023 at 7.00 pm**, when the business in the Agenda below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours faithfully



**STEPHEN BROWN**  
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 Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 9 and Appendix B 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 held on 26th January 2023 and 9th March 2023  | 1 - 16 |
| 3. | To receive the Mayor's Communications.  | -      |

**Public Questions**

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| 4. | Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9. | - |
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**Recommendations of Cabinet and Committees**

*[Notification of Amendments required by 10am on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023]*

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| 5. | Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 22nd March 2023 | 17 - 40 |
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- Annual Scrutiny Report 2022/23

**Officer Reports**

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| 6. | Members Allowance Scheme - Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel | 41 - 44 |
| 7. | Calendar of Meetings 2023/2024   | 45 - 60 |

**Motions**

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| 8. | To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14. | 61 - 62 |
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**Member Questions**

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| 9. | To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 | - |
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**Vote of Thanks**

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 10. | Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor        | - |
| 11. | Vote of thanks to the Retiring Deputy Mayor | - |

**Press and Public**

**Attendance and accessibility:** 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 any items in the Part II agenda are considered. For those hard of hearing an Induction Loop System is available in the Council Chamber.

**Webcasting and recording:** The public part of the meeting will be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The footage will remain on our website for 12 months. A copy of the recording will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy. 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.

In addition, the law allows members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record or tweet the proceedings at public meetings. Anyone proposing to do so 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.

**Emergency procedures:** The fire alarm is a continuous siren. If the alarm sounds Immediately vacate the premises by the nearest available exit at either the front or rear of the Chamber and proceed to the assembly point: The pavement of the service road outside of Westminster House, 31 Windsor Road.

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on Thursday, 26th January, 2023 at 7.00 pm

**Present:-** The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor D.Parmar), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Akbar, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bains, Basra, M. Bedi, P. Bedi, Begum, Brooker, Carter, Cheema, Dar, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Kaur, Kelly, M. Malik, Mann, Matloob, Mohammad, Muvvala, Nazir, Pantelic, S. Parmar, Sabah, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright

**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillors Bal, R. Davis, Hulme, S. Malik, Minhas, Qaseem and Sandhu

### 43. Declarations of Interest

None received.

### 44. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 22nd November 2022

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 be approved as a correct record.

### 45. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor extended his best wishes to all members and officers for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023.

Members were informed that Slough was currently hosting the Knife Angel - a 9 metre tall monument made out of 100,000 knives. A number of knife crime intervention sessions for year 6 and 7 students, talking about the choices and consequences of carrying a weapon, had been delivered. The Knife Angel would remain in Slough until 31<sup>st</sup> January and Members were encouraged to visit it if they hadn't already done so.

The Mayor informed the meeting that Slough had a Royal Visit on 17<sup>th</sup> January from His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness visited Aik Saaath - Together as One - to recognise their accomplishments working with all young people in the town, regardless of their faith or background.

### 46. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

One elector question had been received. The elector was present and asked a supplementary question. A written reply would be sent to the elector after the meeting.

**47. Review of Polling Districts, Places & Stations 2022/23**

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

“That the new polling districts and places as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved and as set out below -

- Chalvey Green Ward – That the PWA building be designated as the polling station for this area due to its more central location and better access for the majority of voters in this polling district
- Cippenham Green Ward - That St. Andrew’s Shared Church be designated as the polling station for this area as the current polling station Cippenham Baptist Church sits just outside the polling district
- Langley Marish Ward  
PD LAA – That Kedermister Hall be designated as the polling station for this area as this existing station is well known by voters in the area  
PD LAB - That Langley Free Church be designated as the polling station for this area as this avoids disruption to pupils attending the school
- Upton Lea Ward – to relocate identified voters to PD UBB (as set out in Appendix C of the report) and create a third polling district east of the A412 and north of the canal with a mobile polling station as previously sited in Rochford Gardens.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 31 votes for and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved** - That the new polling districts and places as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved and as set out below -

- Chalvey Green Ward – That the PWA building be designated as the polling station for this area due to its more central location and better access for the majority of voters in this polling district
- Cippenham Green Ward - That St. Andrew’s Shared Church be designated as the polling station for this area as the current polling station Cippenham Baptist Church sits just outside the polling district
- Langley Marish Ward  
PD LAA – That Kedermister Hall be designated as the polling station for this area as this existing station is well known by voters in the area  
PD LAB - That Langley Free Church be designated as the polling station for this area as this avoids disruption to pupils attending the school
- Upton Lea Ward – to relocate identified voters to PD UBB (as set out in Appendix C of the report) and create a third polling district east of the A412 and north of the canal with a mobile polling station as previously sited in Rochford Gardens.

**48. Changes to Terms of Reference of Cabinet Committee for Asset Disposals**

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

- a) "That the Terms of Reference of the Asset Disposal Cabinet Committee, as set out in paragraph 2.5 of the report be extended;
- b) That the consequential amendment to the Constitution will come into effect on the day following the Council meeting;
- c) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend the Constitution accordingly."

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 30 votes for and 3 abstentions.

**Resolved -**

- a) That the Terms of Reference of the Asset Disposal Cabinet Committee, as set out in paragraph 2.5 of the report be extended;
- b) That the consequential amendment to the Constitution will come into effect on the day following the Council meeting;
- c) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend the Constitution accordingly.

**49. Appointment of Executive Director Finance and Commercial**

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

"That Council welcomes the appointment by the Commissioners of Adele Taylor as Executive Director of Finance and Commercial (S151 Officer)"

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried with 31 votes for and 2 abstentions.

Members placed on record a vote of thanks to the current Director of Finance, Steve Mair, for his expertise in assisting the Council on its recovery to a financially sustainable position.

**Resolved –** That Council welcomes the appointment by the Commissioners of Adele Taylor as Executive Director of Finance and Commercial (S151 Officer)

**50. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.**

It was moved by Councillor Akram,  
Seconded by Councillor Kaur,

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“This Council notes:

Recently published data from the 2021 census reveals that 51% of Slough’s population is female, yet following the 2022 round of elections in England, only 41% of local Councillors across the country are women and women’s representation in local government lags behind that of men, despite several initiatives that have narrowed this gap. Unless further steps are taken to achieve change, 50:50 representation is not expected until 2065.

This Council believes that the 2023 all-out Borough elections in Slough present a distinct opportunity for all local political parties/groups to broaden representation in their pools of candidates and to take further steps to help the Council achieve gender parity among its cohort of Councillors elected at this May’s poll.

Slough Borough Council therefore agrees that the Chief Executive:

1. Will organise a meeting of the Leaders of the Political Groups on Slough Borough Council to discuss the LGA’s ‘21<sup>st</sup> Century Councils’ toolkit (aimed at improving representation from under-represented groups) with the aim of identifying whether any particular barriers exist in the Council’s practices and policies that could be removed or reduced to encourage under-represented sections of our community to consider becoming Councillors, and focusing primarily on practical steps the council could take to attain gender equality among its elected representatives – reporting back to a meeting of full Council in advance of the May 2023 elections (there is a full Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023).

2. Will undertake a review of what steps other councils who have widened representation have taken to achieve that, with findings reported back to members as above and recommendations implemented where possible - to ensure that going forward we have a Council that truly represents the community of Slough.

3. Will write to the recognised political parties within Slough Borough who fielded candidates at the last round of local elections in the Borough, advising them of the support that is available to them from the LGA and its political groups and sending the parties information about the LGA’s ‘be a Councillor campaign.’”

The motion was put to the vote and unanimously agreed.

**Resolved** – This Council notes:

Recently published data from the 2021 census reveals that 51% of Slough’s population is female, yet following the 2022 round of elections in England, only 41% of local Councillors across the country are women and women’s representation in local government lags behind that of men, despite several initiatives that have narrowed this gap. Unless further steps are taken to achieve change, 50:50 representation is not expected until 2065.

This Council believes that the 2023 all-out Borough elections in Slough present a distinct opportunity for all local political parties/groups to broaden representation

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2. Will undertake a review of what steps other councils who have widened representation have taken to achieve that, with findings reported back to members as above and recommendations implemented where possible - to ensure that going forward we have a Council that truly represents the community of Slough.

3. Will write to the recognised political parties within Slough Borough who fielded candidates at the last round of local elections in the Borough, advising them of the support that is available to them from the LGA and its political groups and sending the parties information about the LGA's 'be a Councillor' campaign.

## **51. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10.**

None received within the relevant timeframe.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.15 pm)

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## MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At an extraordinary Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on Thursday, 9th March, 2023 at 7.00 pm

**Present:-** The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor D.Parmar), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Akbar, Akram (until 10.32pm), Ali, Anderson, Bains, Basra, M. Bedi, P. Bedi, Begum, Brooker, Carter, Cheema (from 7.05pm), J. Davis (until 10.05pm), Dar, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Kelly, M. Malik, Mann (until 10.35pm), Matloob, Muvvala (until 9.46pm), Nazir, Pantelic, S. Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright

**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillors Bal, R. Davis, S. Malik and Mohammad

### 52. Declarations of Interest

None received.

### 53. Recommendation of the Employment and Appeals Committee from its meeting held on 22nd December 2022

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

“That the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved for publication.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried with 34 votes for and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved –** That the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved for publication.

### 54. Recommendations of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee from its meeting held on 22nd February 2023

#### 2018/19 Accounts and Audit Update

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

- a) “That the 2018/19 accounts be approved.
- b) That the issues arising from the preparation and audit of the statement of accounts, as set out in sections 2.3 to 2.9, be noted in order to ensure that the findings are taken into account by Council when making decisions and that any recommendations made by the external auditors are addressed.”

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The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 34 votes for and 2 abstentions.

### **Resolved -**

- a) That the 2018/19 accounts be approved.
- b) That the issues arising from the preparation and audit of the statement of accounts, as set out in sections 2.3 to 2.9, be noted in order to ensure that the findings are taken into account by Council when making decisions and that any recommendations made by the external auditors are addressed.

Members placed on record their thanks to the Director of Finance, finance team and external auditors for all their work in producing the 2018/19 accounts.

### Update on Objection to 2018/19 Accounts and issuing of Statutory Recommendations– Purchase of Observatory House

The Mayor reminded the meeting that these were statutory recommendations which the Council must consider and proposed that normal procedure rules be varied in so far as to allow Grant Thornton, the Council's External Auditors to address Council, following which they would take questions from Members.

The Council unanimously signified its consent to vary procedural rules as set out by the Mayor.

Mr Dosset and Ms Masci set out details of the report and outlined the statutory recommendations that were issued following an objection received to the 2018/19 accounts in relation to the purchase of Observatory House. Members asked a number of questions which were responded to, following which

It was moved by Councillor Kelly,  
Seconded by Councillor Ali,

- (a) "That the statutory recommendations be noted.
- (b) That the recommendations and the management response is accepted.
- (c) That the lessons learnt and proposed action as set out in the report are accepted."

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 35 votes for and 1 abstention.

### **Resolved -**

- (a) That the statutory recommendations be noted.
- (b) That the recommendations and the management response is accepted.
- (c) That the lessons learnt and proposed action as set out in the report are accepted.

**55. Meeting Procedure**

A suggested procedure for the budget debate had been circulated to Members in the supplementary agenda.

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

“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 45 minutes in total on the budget agenda items;
- Members of the Opposition speaking for up to 20 minutes in total on the same items;
- Independent Members speaking for up to 5 minutes in total.

The procedural motion was put and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** – That the proposed procedure for the budget debate be approved and adopted.

The Leader of the Council and Lead Members for Housing and Planning; Financial Oversight and Council Assets; Children’s Services, Lifelong Learning and Skills; Social Care and Public Health; Public Protection, Regulation and Enforcement; Customer Services, Procurement and Performance and Leisure, Culture and Community Empowerment provided details on the budget overview, savings, growth and pressures relating to each of their portfolios.

Members of the Conservative Group and Independent Members spoke on the budget agenda items, highlighting the seriousness of the financial challenge facing the Council.

**56. Section 25 Report**

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

“That Council has regard to the Section 25 Report when making decisions about the calculation of council tax requirement.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried with 34 votes for and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved** – That Council has regard to the Section 25 report when making decisions about the calculation of council tax requirement.

**57. Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28**

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

“That the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in the report and Appendix A be approved.”

The recommendation was 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 recommendation:-

Councillors Ajaib, Akbar, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bains, Basra, M.Bedi, P.Bedi, Begum, Brooker, Carter, Cheema, J.Davis, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Kelly, M.Malik, Mann, Matloob, Muvvala, Nazir, Pantelic, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright..... 34

There abstained from voting:

Councillor Dar and The Worshipful, The Mayor Councillor D.Parmar..... 2

**Resolved** – That the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in the report and Appendix A be approved.

**58. Treasury Management Strategy 2023/24**

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

“That the Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) for 2023/24 to 2027/28 be approved, including:

- i. Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2023/24 (Appendix 1)
- ii. Annual Investment Strategy for 2023/24 (Appendix 2)
- iii. Approved Counterparty List (Appendix 3)
- iv. Approved Countries for Investments (Appendix 4)
- v. the Prudential Indicators for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26 (Section 4 of the TMS)”

The recommendation was 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 recommendation:-

Councillors Ajaib, Akbar, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bains, Basra, Begum, Brooker, Carter, Cheema, J.Davis, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, M.Malik, Mann, Matloob, Nazir, Pantelic, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu and Swindlehurst..... 27

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There abstained from voting:

Councillors M.Bedi, P.Bedi Dar, Kelly, Smith, Strutton, Wright and The Worshipful,  
The Mayor Councillor D.Parmar..... 8

**Resolved** – That the Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) for 2023/24 to 2027/28 be approved, including:

- i. Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2023/24 (Appendix 1)
- ii. Annual Investment Strategy for 2023/24 (Appendix 2)
- iii. Approved Counterparty List (Appendix 3)
- iv. Approved Countries for Investments (Appendix 4)
- v. the Prudential Indicators for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26 (Section 4 of the TMS)

### 59. **Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2023/24 and 30-Year Housing Investment Plan**

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

- a) “That the HRA revenue budget for 2023-24 (Table 1 & Appendix A) be approved.
- b) That the HRA 5-year revenue budgets for 2023-24 to 2027-28 (Table 1 & Appendix A) be noted.
- c) That the HRA 30-year revenue budgets for 2023-24 to 2052-53 (Appendix B) be noted.
- d) That the HRA 5-year Capital Programme for a total £52.714m (Table 3 & Appendix C) be approved.
- e) That the 30-year Capital Programme for 2023-24 to 2052-53 (Appendix D) be noted.
- f) That the draft HRA reserves and balances for the 5-year Business Plan (Appendix E) be noted.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 33 votes for and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved** –

- a) That the HRA revenue budget for 2023-24 (Table 1 & Appendix A) be approved.
- b) That the HRA 5-year revenue budgets for 2023-24 to 2027-28 (Table 1 & Appendix A) be noted.
- c) That the HRA 30-year revenue budgets for 2023-24 to 2052-53 (Appendix B) be noted.
- d) That the HRA 5-year Capital Programme for a total £52.714m (Table 3 & Appendix C) be approved.
- e) That the 30-year Capital Programme for 2023-24 to 2052-53 (Appendix D) be noted.
- f) That the draft HRA reserves and balances for the 5-year Business Plan (Appendix E) be noted.

**60. Update on Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan**

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,  
Seconded by Councillor Hulme,

“That the Council note

- a) the forecast position for DSG spend in 2022/23 to 2026/27
- b) the overarching issues that have resulted in the DSG deficit and the actions taken to date to address these
- c) the Council has been taking part in the ‘safety valve’ intervention programme with the DfE and has submitted its final proposal for addressing the deficit on the High Needs Block.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 28 votes for and 7 abstentions.

**Resolved** - That the Council note

- a) the forecast position for DSG spend in 2022/23 to 2026/27
- b) the overarching issues that have resulted in the DSG deficit and the actions taken to date to address these
- c) the Council has been taking part in the ‘safety valve’ intervention programme with the DfE and has submitted its final proposal for addressing the deficit on the High Needs Block.

**61. 2023/24 Budget**

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

1. “Approval of the 2023/24 budget to enable the Council Tax for 2023/24 to be set;
2. Approval of the Model Council Tax Resolution 2023/24 as set out in Appendix B;
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial, to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 2 within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision;
4. Approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as based on the estimated financial deficit in the Capitalisation Direction and to be funded by capitalisation of:
  - a. £267.1m up to 2022/23
  - b. £31.6m for 2023/24
  - c. £58.4m for beyond 2023/24

5. Approve the overall General Fund revenue budget of £143.4m, to include:
  - a. growth for pressures of £12.2m
  - b. proposed savings by Directorates of £22.4m
6. Approve measures to control spending and improve the finances of the Council at Appendix D
7. Approves that time-limited funding for IT and Council-wide transformation projects budgeted in 2022/23 and set out in the capitalisation direction model shared with DLUHC in February 2023 will remain available in 2023/24 where not fully spent.
8. Approves that services will submit a formal business case to Finance by 30 June 2023 confirming their request and the amount for any underspends to be rolled forward from 2022/23 into 2023/24 and that these requests be subject to Cabinet and Finance Commissioner approval.
9. Approves that services may extend agency staff and contractors critical to the delivery and continuity of their service beyond 31 March 2023, subject to having available budget.

To note the following:

- 10 The balanced budget position for 2023/24 requiring savings of £22.4m and the projected financial deficit between 2024/25 to 2027/28
- 11 The intention to increase Council Tax by 7.99% in 2023/24
- 12 The intention to increase Council Tax by a further 2% in 2023/24 in respect of the Adult Social Care Precept
- 13 The assumed funding for the protection of social care 2023/24 through the Better Care Fund
- 14 That due regard has been had to the s.25 report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial
- 15 The minutes from the 2023/24 Budget Scrutiny Sessions at Appendix G
- 16 Approve the process for access to contingency as set out in paragraphs 2.16.64 to 2.16.69"

The 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:-

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There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ajaib, Akbar, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bains, Basra, Begum, Brooker, Carter, Cheema, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, M.Malik, Mann, Matloob, Nazir, Pantelic, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu and Swindlehurst ..... 26

There voted against the recommendations:-

Councillors M.Bedi, P.Bedi, Kelly, Smith and Wright ..... 5

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Dar, Strutton and The Worshipful, The Mayor Councillor D.Parmar... 3

### Resolved -

1. Approval of the 2023/24 budget to enable the Council Tax for 2023/24 to be set;
2. Approval of the Model Council Tax Resolution 2023/24 as set out in Appendix B;
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial, to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 2 within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision;
4. Approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as based on the estimated financial deficit in the Capitalisation Direction and to be funded by capitalisation of:
  - a. £267.1m up to 2022/23
  - b. £31.6m for 2023/24
  - c. £58.4m for beyond 2023/24
5. Approve the overall General Fund revenue budget of £143.4m, to include:
  - a. growth for pressures of £12.2m
  - b. proposed savings by Directorates of £22.4m
6. Approve measures to control spending and improve the finances of the Council at Appendix D
7. Approves that time-limited funding for IT and Council-wide transformation projects budgeted in 2022/23 and set out in the capitalisation direction model shared with DLUHC in February 2023 will remain available in 2023/24 where not fully spent.
8. Approves that services will submit a formal business case to Finance by 30 June 2023 confirming their request and the amount for any underspends to be rolled forward from 2022/23 into 2023/24 and that these requests be subject to Cabinet and Finance Commissioner approval.



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9. Approves that services may extend agency staff and contractors critical to the delivery and continuity of their service beyond 31 March 2023, subject to having available budget.

To note the following:

- 10 The balanced budget position for 2023/24 requiring savings of £22.4m and the projected financial deficit between 2024/25 to 2027/28
- 11 The intention to increase Council Tax by 7.99% in 2023/24
- 12 The intention to increase Council Tax by a further 2% in 2023/24 in respect of the Adult Social Care Precept
- 13 The assumed funding for the protection of social care 2023/24 through the Better Care Fund
- 14 That due regard has been had to the s.25 report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial
- 15 The minutes from the 2023/24 Budget Scrutiny Sessions at Appendix G
- 16 Approve the process for access to contingency as set out in paragraphs 2.16.64 to 2.16.69

### 62. Meeting Guillotine

The Mayor moved that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8.2, the meeting continue beyond 10.30pm to complete all of the remainder of business. The Council signified its' agreement for the meeting to continue to conclude consideration of the remaining agenda items.

**Resolved** – That the meeting continue past 10.30pm to consider all remaining business.

### 63. Financial Action Plan Update

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

“That the progress and issues arising from the continued work as set out in the report be noted.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried with 28 votes for and 3 abstentions.

**Resolved** - That the progress and issues arising from the continued work as set out in the report be noted.

**64. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24**

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

- (a) "That the council tax reduction scheme 2023/24 (appendix c) be adopted for the financial year 2023/24.
- (b) Agree to allocate £0.040m into the council tax hardship fund and to use the remaining element of the council's allocation of the council tax support fund to protect the current levels of support provided to those taxpayers who would otherwise lose under the proposed scheme."

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 30 votes for and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved –**

- (a) That the council tax reduction scheme 2023/24 (appendix c) be adopted for the financial year 2023/24.
- (b) Agree to allocate £0.040m into the council tax hardship fund and to use the remaining element of the council's allocation of the council tax support fund to protect the current levels of support provided to those taxpayers who would otherwise lose under the proposed scheme.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 10.45 pm)

**Slough Borough Council**

<b>Report To:</b>	Council
<b>Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Recommendation of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023 - Draft Annual Scrutiny Report 2022/23
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Stephen Taylor, Monitoring Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Alexander Polak, Head of Governance and Scrutiny and Statutory Scrutiny Officer
<b>Ward(s):</b>	All
<b>Exempt:</b>	NO
<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix A - Draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

**1. Summary and Recommendations**

- 1.1 That Council is asked to receive and endorse the Annual Scrutiny Report 2022/23, which the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is due to consider at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 (attached at Appendix A).

Recommendation -

That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2022/23 as attached at Appendix A be endorsed.

**Reason:** It is a requirement of the constitution that a Scrutiny Annual Report be presented to Council. The Annual Report is important evidence for Members, the public and Commissioners of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function during 2022/23.

**Commissioner Review**

The Commissioners welcome this report which reflects on the work of the Scrutiny function over the past year and identifies some areas which worked well, and other areas for further development which should be taken forward to the new Council following the upcoming elections.

Scrutiny has an important part to play on the democratic running of the Council and it is pleasing to see the increased involvement of members in this.

**1. Report**

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny is an important part of the Council's governance arrangements. It is a requirement of the constitution that an annual report about scrutiny's business be presented to Council. The draft Annual Report 2022/23 is appended to this covering report. It is self-contained and self-explanatory.

- 1.2 As covered in more detail in section 2 of the appended draft Annual Report 2022/23, Commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State are currently monitoring, as part of a suite of Directions made to the council, the Council's progress on achieving "improvements in relation to the proper functioning of the scrutiny function". The Annual Report is important evidence for Members, the public and Commissioners of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function during 2022/23. The Annual Report can be expected to constitute part of the evidence considered by them in their planned April 2023 'deep dive' into what progress is being made towards improving scrutiny.

### **3. Implications of the Recommendation**

#### *3.1 Financial implications*

3.1.1 None

#### *3.2 Legal implications*

3.2.1 None

#### *3.3 Risk management implications*

3.3.1 The risk of either not endorsing an annual report or of endorsing a substandard or incorrect annual report is primarily of reputational damage to the council.

#### *3.4 Environmental implications*

3.4.1 None

#### *3.5 Equality implications*

3.5.1 None

### **4. Comments of Other Committees**

4.1 The Annual Scrutiny Report will be considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 and should any additional comments be received these will be reported at the meeting.

### **5. Background Papers**

None

# Draft Annual Scrutiny Report

## 2022/23

# Scrutiny Chairs 2022/23

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**Cllr Harjinder Gahir**  
Overview & Scrutiny  
Committee



**Cllr Ruqayah  
Begum**  
Customer &  
Community Scrutiny  
Panel



**Cllr Naveeda  
Qaseem**  
People Scrutiny  
Panel



**Cllr Maroof  
Mohammad**  
Place Scrutiny  
Panel

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# 1. Chair's Introduction



**Cllr Harjinder Gahir**  
**Chair**

Overview & Scrutiny  
Committee 2022/23

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I am pleased to present the Annual Scrutiny Report for the 2022/23 municipal year which describes what we have done, and how the work of my committee and its panels has changed and improved over the past year.

It continues to be a very challenging time for the Council and I have worked hard to make sure Overview and Scrutiny is playing its part in the council's improvement and recovery. For scrutiny members this has been a year of reflection, learning, planning and change, ready for a new cohort of scrutiny members in May 2023. This report describes that journey, which I am proud to have led.

This year hinged around the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's recommendations for our future scrutiny arrangements, endorsed by my committee and the Council in November. While I do have some reservations about moving to a single scrutiny committee, our Task and Finish Groups pilot was a resounding success, showing how much scrutiny could achieve next year when this becomes a standard way of working. But it will be critical to ensure that the new scrutiny function is sufficiently and permanently resourced.

Our other main focus this year has been to improve, again, our approach to scrutiny of budget and savings proposals. Scrutiny members have been engaged early and often in scrutiny of every directorate savings proposal and the draft budget. Alongside this the O&S Committee began to monitor non-financial aspects of the Council's improvement and recovery, laying the ground for next year's Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee.

I would like to thank all the members of the Committee and scrutiny panels for their work. There is much still to do but I can also say that much progress has been made. I hope we have laid a strong platform during this year of change, on which the next four years of impactful overview and scrutiny will be built.



## 2. A transitional year – the context

In October 2021 an [external assurance review](#) of Slough Borough Council was published. This included a [governance review by Jim Taylor](#) for the Secretary of State, dated September 2021. This included the following statement:

“The scrutiny function is under resourced and there is no permanent statutory scrutiny officer. All seven meetings of Scrutiny Committees were cancelled in June and July of 2021. The interim Head of Democratic services left the organisation in July 2021. Elected Members indicate they require additional scrutiny resource to carry out their function effectively. Members state that scrutiny reports are complex and hard to interpret, and it is difficult for lay people to challenge. It is acknowledged that some reports have not been given enough scrutiny. Slough Children First refer to an inadequate focus on their activity within the scrutiny function. Members also state that there is has been an ‘erosion of trust’ with officer reports, considering ‘what has happened’. There is no scrutiny forward plan.”

Pages 3

In December 2021 the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (“the Secretary of State”) made [Directions to Slough Borough Council](#) under the Local Government Act 1999 which included the following [in section 3 of Annexe A](#):

“In the first three months prepare and agree an Improvement Plan to the satisfaction of the Commissioners (which may include or draw upon improvement or action plans prepared before the date of these Directions), with resource allocated accordingly, and as a minimum, the following components:

...

An action plan to achieve improvements in relation to the proper functioning of the scrutiny function...”

At the time of the Jim Taylor report, Slough Borough Council also commissioned the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) to do a review of its scrutiny function. This review was carried out after commissioners had then been appointed. The CfGS report was eventually published in November 2022. It included a number of recommendations which were considered advisable for the further improvement of SBC’s scrutiny function. The recommendations were not binding, but they were evidenced, authoritative and public.

## 2. A transitional year – the response

In response to the Secretary of State's Directions, a Scrutiny Improvement Action Plan and Democratic Governance Improvement Action Plan were created in-year, and both have been monitored by Commissioners via the Improvement and Recovery Board. The Scrutiny Action Plan was [received in full by the O&S Committee in November 2022](#) and again in [February 2023 \(see p.70 at link\)](#).

The Action Plans include various actions to improve the functioning of scrutiny, many of which were completed during this year, such as:

- Scrutiny training to councillors and officers, and report-writing training for officers.
- The Head of Service role for the function has been re-filled and made Statutory Scrutiny Officer.
- Scrutiny officer capacity was built back into the Democratic Services budget, recruitment of which has been attempted twice so far without success in the market.
- A Work programming exercise was completed with all scrutiny members.
- A pilot of three focused Task & Finish groups was completed, including one focused on Slough Children First.
- An improved budget scrutiny process was agreed and delivered.
- Shadow arrangements in place for a new structure focused on the council's improvement and recovery

In addition to this, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee [endorsed the CfGS's recommendations in November 2022](#) albeit with an additional recommendation that the option of two committees also be given consideration. They asked Full Council to set up a Members Working Group for the purpose of proposing a final scrutiny structure to the Council's AGM in May 2023. Full Council in turn endorsed the recommendations and set up the group, made up of scrutiny chairs, cabinet members and the leader of the opposition. This group has met twice in January and February to progress this work.

To maximise the success of next year's new arrangements, scrutiny transitioned to shadow arrangements anticipating the future structure. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee took a stronger lead role on Improvement and Recovery monitoring as well as budget scrutiny, while the Panels freed up resources for a Task and Finish Groups Pilot – see below. A single combined work programme for all four committees was in place.

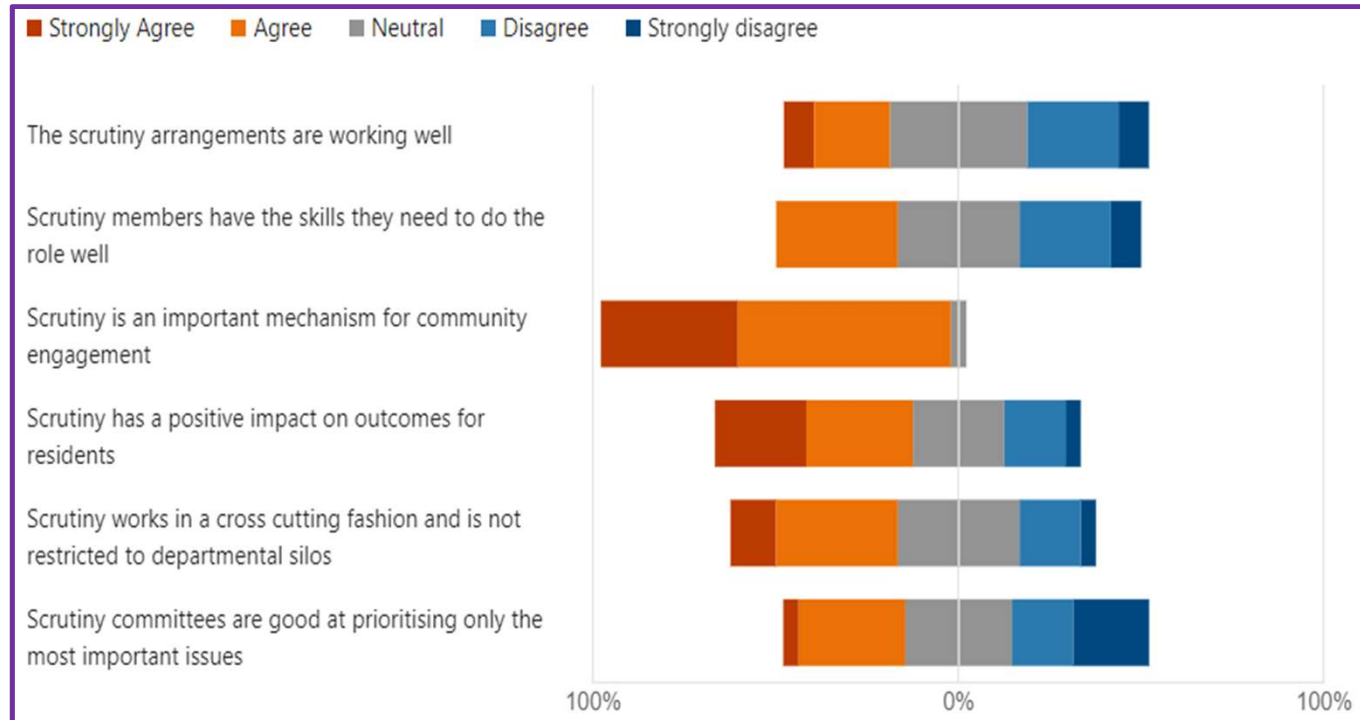
# 3. Measuring Scrutiny improvement (a)

All Members were surveyed in January – February 2023. The survey was extensive covering a range of topics. Almost 60% of members responded (24/42) providing a range of insights to support the council's improvement and recovery. The full results will be reported to the Standards Committee in April.

As well as sections about culture, member support and member wellbeing, there were sections about Democratic Governance and Scrutiny. It is to be hoped that these results show some improvement on where they would have been before the current intervention, but there is no data baseline against which to measure before now. Nevertheless this data does provide an insight into members' current views and a baseline for the future.

Of the 24 respondents, 10 were Scrutiny members.

While almost every member agreed that Scrutiny is important – which is itself an improvement on the position reported previously - only a minority of members could agree that the scrutiny arrangements are working well, or that scrutiny members have the skills they need to do the job well. There appears to be room to improve scrutiny's effectiveness at prioritising only the most important issues, which would presumably increase the overall impact of scrutiny.



# 3. Measuring Scrutiny improvement (b)

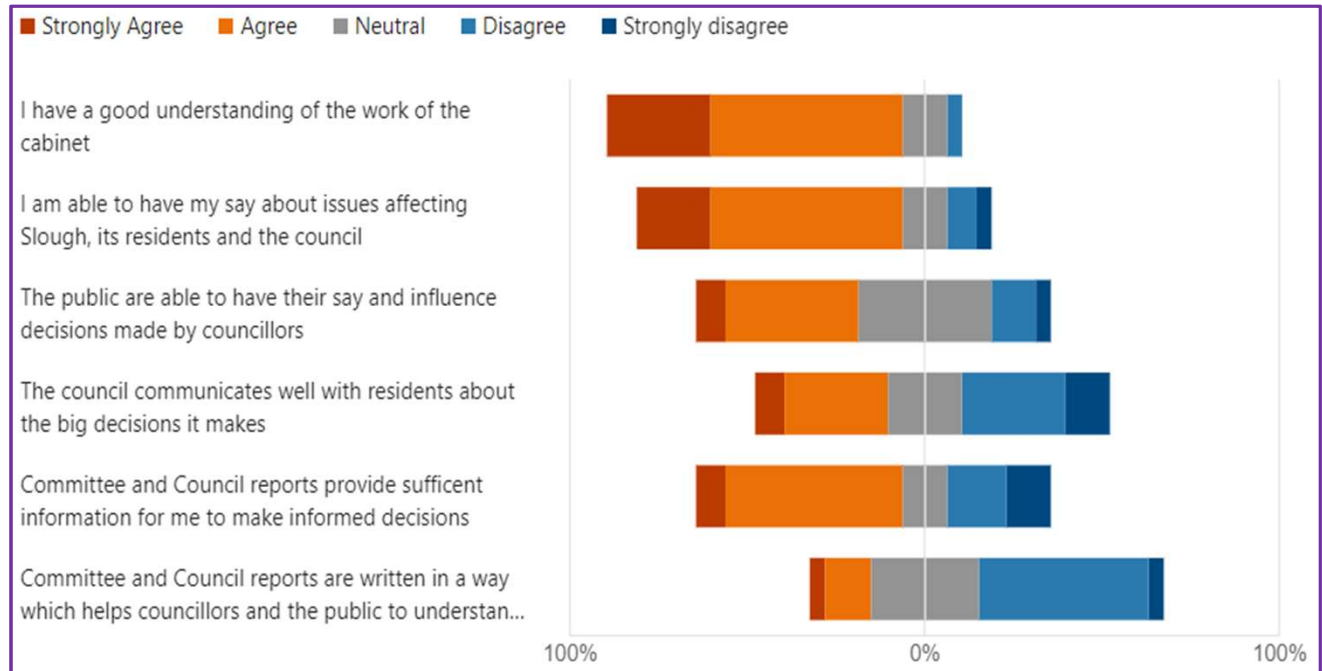
Other questions in the member survey asked about the wider democratic arena. This includes but is not limited to Overview and Scrutiny.

It is very positive that members generally feel they are able to have their say about issues affecting Slough, its residents and the Council.

But Members appear less confident about residents' ability to have their say, and especially the council's effectiveness at communicating with residents. It is not clear to what extent this latter point refers to councillors' own role in communicating with residents either directly or via scrutiny.

The issue of report quality and clarity has been raised consistently by external reviews over the past few years and, while it probably shows progress that the majority of members feel that they are given sufficient information to inform their decisions, there are still a significant number who do not, and the issue of clarity for members and the public was still strongly raised.

The survey will be conducted annually to allow tracking of improvement, and comparison between member cohorts.



# 4. Annual Review - Scrutiny members' workshop

A workshop was held on 2 March 2023 for the purposes of:

- 1) Reviewing the past year to inform the Scrutiny Annual Report
- 2) Collecting further qualitative information alongside the Member Survey, to inform the improvement of the Scrutiny function
- 3) Making recommendations to next year's Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee about areas which they may wish to prioritise.

Ten of the 24 scrutiny members attended. A summary of the outputs from parts 1) and 2) above are on the following slides. Part 3) is addressed in part 8



## 4. Annual Review – O&S Committee (a)

### What went well?

- Reviewing detail of contract performance at the outset of the year was a good insight – helped us identify new issues
- Task & Finish Groups were really good
  - The work they did, and the support from officers - the whole thing was really good
- Budget process began much earlier – previously has always felt rushed
- Some report layouts were much better eg Richard West's and Stephen Mair's
- Much fewer acronyms and jargon in most reports now
- Leader & most of Cabinet attending O&S more often
- Chairing of O&S Cttee has been good this year, more info shared with committee.
- Pre-meetings and training has been good. Members are better trained now and must keep it up.
- Enjoyed meeting Ian from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny to consider proposals for becoming more effective next year. Good to ask him direct questions.

- Support from Democratic Services is appreciated.
- More structured way of approaching questioning this year
- Chair and Vice Chair have good and productive working relationship
- Good that new members had the confidence to raise questions.

### What didn't go so well?

- Some reports still not well laid out eg Children's reports
- Need Cabinet to attend and answer more questions
- Need to plan better for Police and Crime items
- Perhaps too many new councillors on the committee at once, it might be better to have a different balance of experience
- Need more training on how committees work for new councillors eg talking through the Chair
- Missed our dedicated scrutiny resource – could have been recruited faster.

## 4. Annual Review – O&S Committee (b)

### Hopes for the future

- “I’d like to be on a T&F next year, I can see now I’d enjoy that”
- Recruitment of permanent dedicated Scrutiny Officer
- Must make sure we don’t lose sight of scrutinising front line services when the structure changes
- Cabinet to attend and front items – answer questions with occasional reference to officers rather than all the questions going directly to officers (not all cabinet members do this currently eg the O&S Cttee budget scrutiny sessions towards the end of the year were good)
- Need an action tracker showing progress of recommendations made to cabinet
- Scrutiny Chairs should present their committees’ recommendations at Cabinet/Council themselves.
- The Vice Chair hopes the Chair will continue next year.
- Better quality reports
- To see more improvement in the Council’s performance.



# 4. Annual Review – People Scrutiny Panel

## What went well?

- The Task and Finish Group
  - Dedicated group
  - More informal setting
  - Split the workload between members
  - Made strong recommendations
  - Able to engage people outside of formal committees eg D&E Commissioner
- Good communication and working together as a panel
- Pre-meetings have been useful

## What didn't go so well?

- The T&F time commitment was significant
- Lack of coverage of education issues
  - Should be more prominent in work programme
  - This issue has been picked up in audit reports
- Work programming
  - We did not deliver what we agreed at the June work programming session
  - Agendas need to be agreed further in advance

## Hopes for the future

- Would like to see one education topic on every agenda
- How do we deal with 'less important' issues?
- Better report writing
  - Better use of executive summaries
  - Providing glossaries or using plain English in reports!
- Budget scrutiny
  - More explanation of reports
  - More use of appendices / explanatory notes eg for budget presentations
- Pre-meetings
  - Suggested questions to be prepared in advance and discussed at the pre-meeting



# 4. Annual Review – Place, Customer & Community Panels

*These committees conducted joint budget scrutiny during 2022/23 and reviewed their year together:*

## **What went well?**

- Osborne
  - scrutinising will make the next contract better for residents and better value for money
- Green bins
  - lots of questions were dealt with
  - Members' feedback was taken on board
- Asset Disposal
  - Many of members' questions were resolved
- Houses of Multiple Occupation
  - Made some good recommendations to officers

## **What didn't go so well?**

- Bus Lane – residents wishes and needs were not accommodated
- 2-weekly waste collection – members not able to amend the recommendation
- Charges at recycling centre – has resulted in more fly tipping

## **Hopes for the future**

- Concerned about the workload of the new Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee – hope it will be able to scrutinise in depth
- Recommendations from Task and Finish Groups should be agreed
- Report authors must attend and Cabinet Members should attend to respond to questions

## 5. Task and Finish Groups pilot (a)

Three Task and Finish Groups were commissioned this year in order to pilot the proposed future ways of working while making concrete recommendations for the improvement of Council services. The hypothesis was that T&F work, while often quite resource-intensive, tends to produce more concrete and better informed recommendations, while being more rewarding for the Members involved.

The Task and Finish Groups covered the following topics:

- Contract Management (O&S Committee)
- Complaint Handling (Customer and Community Scrutiny Panel)
- Slough Children First - Workforce Strategy Business Case (People Scrutiny Panel)

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A fourth Task and Finish Group was proposed on the topic of Waste Disposal and Recycling, but members of the Place Scrutiny Panel instead looked at this topic in-committee.

**All recommendations from all three T&F groups were accepted in full by the Cabinet.**

These recommendations will be included in a new Recommendations Tracker so that progress of implementation can be monitored by scrutiny members and the public.

Learning from the process of conducting the T&Fs has been fed into the Scrutiny Improvement Action Plan. The feedback (above) from Committee members all raised the T&Fs as a highlight of their year in scrutiny. Further feedback follows, from the council's government-appointed Commissioners and from the officers who supported the T&F groups.

## 5. Task and Finish Groups pilot (b)

### Commissioner Feedback:

- Contract management
  - “The task and finish group has produced **a well-researched and useful report. All involved should be congratulated.** The recommendations are supported as their implementation will be a significant step in meeting the Direction.”
- Complaint Handling
  - “This is **a well-researched and documented report and those involved should be commended...**In due course Scrutiny may want to review how their recommendations were implemented. It may be useful as part of that review to look at the areas that generate the most complaints and how these are dealt with.”
- Review of Workforce Strategy Business Case for Slough Children First
  - “Commissioners would like to commend the task and finish group for the work they put in and the scope of their coverage. The approach they have followed and the learning they have obtained should flow through into future work and **members should be thanked for setting such a good standard.** DLUHC Commissioners look forward to reviewing the responses and implementation plans that follow the recommendations.”

## 5. Task and Finish Groups pilot (c)

### Feedback from Officers who supported the Task and Finish Groups:

#### What went well?

- Has strengthened the relationship with members through productive informal contact with members.
- Especially a good way of junior staff to have exposure to political domain without being in a formal setting.
- Created a platform for frank and honest conversations in which councillors get to understand some of the detailed issues which one doesn't get to raise in a formal setting.
- Members have had the flexibility to decide what they want to know about these topic areas to improve their knowledge.
- It has been a great mythbuster.
- Has been a great way to get a qualitative discussion going amongst members rather than just looking at data etc.
- Has definitely helped councillors learn about the barriers faced by the council as well as the issues we need to fix.
- Has shown a joint commitment to trying to address some fundamental areas within the council that need to work well (eg contract management, complaints - fundamental prerequisites of being able to operate a good council).
- We saw progress at the three final meetings, with councillors presenting the reports in the formal meetings, and cabinet members receiving the issues, rather than officers presenting or receiving / answering questions.
- Has felt like a good way to demonstrate to members the skills and ability of SBC's officers.

**“If there was another opportunity to do this, I would do it, because it has been so good. It has been time consuming, but I would even consider getting involved in doing this in other people's service areas because of how rewarding it has been.”**

## 6. Scrutiny of Improvement and Recovery

A critical role for Overview and Scrutiny as a whole this year was to hold the Executive to account on progress against the Directions set by the Secretary of State while representing the voice of residents by giving strong consideration to the potential impacts of proposed savings and changes to service delivery.

All four scrutiny committees took part in a multi-step scrutiny of the emerging savings and associated impact assessments, which spanned multiple meetings over the full course of the year. The process was kicked off with briefings for all scrutiny members and several training sessions and briefings were delivered for scrutiny members in pre-meetings across the course of the year. In response to the changing shape of the organisation, the Place Scrutiny Panel conducted most of this process in joint meetings with the Customer and Community Scrutiny Panel.

Furthermore, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, mindful of its role in the transition to a future Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee, commenced a programme of regular items to focus on the full Improvement and Recovery Programme. In this way, members have received and scrutinised in the public domain detailed papers which the organisation now prepares for the purpose of reporting to the Secretary-of-State-appointed Commissioners at monthly Improvement and Recovery Board meetings.

**The Member Working Group on Scrutiny has agreed to recommend to Council in May 2023 that the following be the core terms of reference for next year's Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee:**

- Monitoring and driving Improvement against any Directions by the Secretary of State and other external or internal inspections/reviews/performance information.
- Monitoring and driving progress of major corporate improvement initiatives eg transformation programmes, major programmes of savings delivery, culture change, governance improvement
- Scrutinising and inputting into the council's budget-setting cycle and monitoring the council's financial recovery progress
- Scrutinising proposals for, and delivery of, major savings initiatives, including their impact on partners and residents.
- Commissioning Task and Finish Groups to investigate specific discrete questions or issues

## 7. 2022/23 Scrutiny items (a)

### May – July 2022

- PEOPLE: [Re-Procurement of Community Equipment Service](#)
- PEOPLE: [Re-Procurement of Extra Care Contract](#)
- PLACE: [Bus Enhanced Partnership](#)
- CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Houses of Multiple Occupation](#)
- CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Call Centre Statistics](#)
- O&S: [Budget Process](#)
- O&S: [Contract Management/Procurement](#)

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### August – October 2022

- CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Housing Regulation Enforcement, Licensing and Civil Financial Penalties Policies](#)
- PLACE: [Waste and Recycling](#)
- PEOPLE: [Home to School Travel Assistance and Post 16 Travel Assistance](#)
- O&S: [Financial Action Plan](#)
- O&S: [Financial Update - 2022/23](#)
- CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Task & Finish Group: Complaints Handling](#)
- PEOPLE: [Slough Children First \(SCF\) Business Planning - Task and Finish Group](#)

# 7. 2022/23 Scrutiny items (b)

## November – December 2022

- O&S: [Improvement and Recovery update](#)
- O&S: [Scrutiny Improvement Review](#)
- O&S and all Panels: [Financial Overview](#)
- O&S: [Chief Operating Officer budget proposals and Finance & Commercial budget proposals](#)
- PLACE with CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Place & Communities and Housing & Property budget proposals](#)
- PEOPLE: [Adults Social Care Budget Proposals 2023/24](#)

## January – March 2023

- Member Working Group on Scrutiny – meetings 1 and 2
- PLACE: [Asset Disposal Programme Update](#)
- PEOPLE: [Budget Proposals 2023/24](#)
- PEOPLE: [Task & Finish Group Report - Review of Workforce Strategy Business Case for Slough Children First](#)
- PLACE with CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Budget Proposals 2023-24](#)
- PLACE with CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY: [Task & Finish Group Report on Complaints Handling](#)
- O&S: [Budget Proposals 2023/24](#)
- O&S: [Task & Finish Group Report - Review of Contract Management](#)
- O&S: [Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable](#)
- O&S: [Recovery & Improvement Update](#)
- O&S: [Full suite of budget documents](#)
- O&S: [Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24](#)
- Annual Review and Work Programming Workshop

## 8. Scrutiny members' workshop - Ideas for 2023/24

At the Scrutiny Review Workshop members were encouraged to consider what issues might lend themselves to whole-committee or Task & Finish work next year, bearing in mind the changing focus of the main committee (as above). It will of course be a matter for next year's scrutiny members what to prioritise for their work programme, but these are the 2022/23 scrutiny members' views:

### **O&S Committee**

- Budget monitoring
- Procurement
- Contract Management / value for money
- IT
- Transformation
- Capital Programme Monitoring

### **People Panel**

- Education item at every meeting
- SEND
- School attainment gap
- School places
- Social Care performance
- Libraries

### **Place, Customer and Communities Panels**

- Temporary accommodation
- Housing repairs reprocurement (governance – who is responsible?)
- Policies and procedures at Chalvey Hub
- Refuse and recycling
  - Recycling rates
  - community engagement
  - Best practice
- Meet with other local authorities



## 9. Priorities for Scrutiny Improvement in 2023/24

The Council's plans for Scrutiny Improvement are formally set out in the Council's Scrutiny Improvement Action Plan. As set out above, a then-current version of the plan was received by the O&S Committee on [17 November 2022](#) and then again as part of an [Improvement and Recovery monitoring item on 23 February 2023 \(see page 70\)](#). The action plan, which is updated monthly, is monitored by the Secretary of State's Commissioners as part of the papers for the Improvement and Recovery Board. The Commissioners plan to conduct a 'deep dive' into progress against those plans in April 2023.

The plan recognises the importance of developing an effective scrutiny function. It incorporates in full the recommendations of the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny, although recognises that the Member Working Group on Scrutiny will make an informed decision about what to recommend to Full Council where constitutional changes are required. Full Council will decide the final structure.

### Key areas of the Scrutiny Improvement Action Plan include:

- Agree new scrutiny structure and ways of working in May 2023, to optimise the function for the council's unique situation. This includes:
  - a reframing of the main committee's focus (as above)
  - a move to more T&F work
  - Continuing and improving the council's whole-year focus on financial management in scrutiny
- Deliver enhanced training and induction for new members in 2023 including training for Chairs.
- Deliver enhanced training for officers working with scrutiny.
- Continue to develop a cohesive work programme for scrutiny, tightly focused on scrutiny of the council's plans for financial and organisational recovery
- Improve the effectiveness of pre-meetings
- Restore dedicated, permanent officer support for the scrutiny function.
- Empower scrutiny members to self-evaluate their performance in committee and plan steps towards further improvement.

# 10. Petitions Report for 2022/23

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 a total of 9 petitions were received: six paper petitions and three e-petitions. None met the threshold for O&S or Council debate.

Paper Petition Title	Signatures
22-01 - Petition Against Yellow Lines on Faraday Road	114
22-02 - Petition - Oppose the Introduction of Closure of Streets around Holy Family School	27
22-03 - Petition - Chicken Ranch – Music License Review	51
22-04 - Petition - Residents Parking Bays in Cecil Way	16
22-05 - Petition Against Plan of New Bus Lane on Farnham Road	39
22-06 - Request for Double Yellow Lines on Hawthorne Crescent	10
ePetition Title	Signatures
Parking restrictions on St Mary's Road by LHPA	0
Objection to Building Height in the Proposed Mackenzie Homes Development	189
That All Labour Councillors Resign	40

**Slough Borough Council**

<b>Report To:</b>	Council
<b>Date:</b>	28 March 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Members Allowance Scheme - Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel</b>
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Stephen Taylor, Monitoring Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Alexander Polak, Head of Governance and Scrutiny
<b>Ward(s):</b>	All
<b>Exempt:</b>	NO
<b>Appendices:</b>	A - Report by the Independent Remuneration Panel (TO FOLLOW)

**1. Summary and Recommendations**

- 1.1 An Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) convened in March 2023 has made a report and series of recommendations relating to updating the Members Allowance Scheme. These are set out in appendix A.

**Recommendations:**

Council is requested to:

- (a) Endorse the Independent Remuneration Panel appointments made under existing delegated authority by the Monitoring Officer on 7 March 2023;
- (b) consider the Independent Remuneration Panel's report and recommendations (attached at Appendix A), and to resolve what action should be taken in respect of these recommendations; and
- (c) resolve that the agreed recommendations be implemented from the date of the Council's AGM in May 2023, with the exception of any recommendations relating to the index-linking of members' basic allowance which should be implemented from 1 April 2023 to ensure there is no break in the council's scheme.

**Reason:**

The Council must keep its Scheme of Allowances up-to-date. Although a full review is not yet due, the current scheme contains a clause stating that index-linking of members' basic allowance comes to an end on 31 March 2023 and a resolution of council would be needed to extend this. Furthermore structural changes to SBC's committee structure means that several Special Responsibility Allowances require review.

## Commissioner Review

Commissioners note the report and will take a view once the Appendix A, outlining the details of the recommendations are available.

## 2. Report

### Introductory paragraph

- 2.1 An Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) was convened for Slough Borough Council to advise the Council on specific aspects of its current Members' allowances scheme. Following consultation with Group Leaders and Independent Councillors, they were asked to review:
- SRAs for new committees or those whose remits changed significantly within the past year ie
    - Standards Committee Chair (a new committee)
    - Audit and Governance Committee Chair (which used to encompass Standards)
  - SRAs for Overview and Scrutiny members in light of changes to the structure of O&S from May 2023 ie
    - Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee Chair (new for May 2023)
    - Chairs of Task and Finish Groups
  - Renewal of the index-linking arrangements (the practice of increasing members' allowances in line with the national pay award made for local government employees) Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) for the Cabinet Members on the Commercial Sub-Committee and Vice Chairs of the Scrutiny Panels.

### Options considered

- 2.2 For Recommendations and options, please see Appendix A.

### Background

- 2.3 The Monitoring Officer has authority to appoint members to the Independent Remuneration Panel when casual vacancies arise. The following were appointed by him on 7 March 2023:
- Declan Hall (Chair)
  - Andrew Vallance
  - Chris Stevens
  - John Murtagh
- 2.4 Dr Declan Hall has Chaired Slough Borough Council's Independent Remuneration Panel in the past. He has extensive experience leading Independent Remuneration Panels and has served as Chairman for Panels across the country. Mr Vallance, Mr Stevens and Mr Murtagh have all previously served on IRPs for other councils in the local area. None have any links to Slough Borough Councillors or officers and are fully independent of the council. Dr Hall receives a commercial fee for training the rest of the panel, conducting benchmarking, chairing the panel and writing the panel's report. The other panel members each receive an allowance of £150. Full Council are invited to endorse their appointment.

2.5 The IRP convened on 15 March 2023. The full detail of their investigation and a list of the sources of evidence considered by the panel can be found in their report, at Appendix A.

### **3. Implications of the Recommendation**

#### **3.1 *Financial implications***

The net costs associated with the recommendations by the Panel are set out in Appendix A.

Appendix A was not available at the time of publication, so updated 'financial implications' will be published 'to follow' alongside Appendix A.

The 2022/23 budget for Members Allowances is £572k. Any additional cost or reduction in cost of the scheme overall for the coming year will result in a saving or pressure which would need to be funded corporately. If members were to agree a significant increase in the cost of the scheme overall, the council would need to identify additional savings from elsewhere in the overall SBC budget to fund this. For the purposes of this decision, a pressure of up to 3% of the budget (ie £17k) should not be considered 'significant'.

#### **3.2 *Legal implications***

The IRP was convened under The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 1021) (the 2003 Regulations). These regulations require all local authorities to set up and maintain an Independent Members' Remuneration Panel to periodically review and provide advice on Members' allowances. All Councils are required to convene their Remuneration Panel and seek its advice before they make any changes or amendments to their allowances scheme and they must 'have regard to' the IRP's recommendations before making or amending their Members' Allowances Scheme.

#### **3.3 *Risk management implications***

The primary risk associated with failing to provide appropriate allowances for Councillors would be that the financial implications of becoming a councillor could become prohibitive for people who might have made excellent candidates if they could afford it. In an ideal world, financial considerations would not be relevant for those willing to serve their communities as local councillors. The Members Allowance Scheme ought to fairly reflect the degree of time and work required from councillors in order to carry out their important democratic roles.

#### **3.4 *Environmental implications***

None

#### **3.5 *Equality implications***

A corollary to the risk set out at section 3.3 is that a financial disincentive of this sort would be disproportionately more likely to have an impact on those with smaller incomes, those still in full-time work or education, and people with caring responsibilities. The Members Allowance Scheme ought to fairly reflect the degree of

time and work required from councillors in order to carry out their important democratic roles.

#### **4. Background Papers**

None

**Slough Borough Council**

<b>Report To:</b>	Council
<b>Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Calendar of Meetings 2023/2024
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Stephen Taylor, Monitoring Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Nick Pontone, Democratic Services Lead
<b>Ward(s):</b>	All
<b>Exempt:</b>	NO
<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix A – Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023/2024

**1. Summary and Recommendations**

1.1 To seek approval of the Calendar of Meetings for 2022/23.

Recommendations:

The Council is requested to resolve:-

- (a) That the Calendar of Meetings for the period May 2023 to May 2024, as set out in Appendix A of this report, be approved.
- (b) That the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager be authorised to make amendments to the Calendar throughout the year, including from those resulting from any constitutional changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

**Commissioner Review**

Commissioners have reviewed the report and made no comments on the details of the report.

**2. Report**

2.1 A draft programme of meetings has been drawn up and is appended to this report.

2.2 If alterations to the Calendar are required as a result of any changes to the Constitution, it is proposed that the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager be authorised to make changes following appropriate consultation in accordance with the Constitution.

2.3 Members are specifically asked to note that at this stage the Calendar:

- Reflects the agreed changes to structure of scrutiny, with one main Committee - Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee. Dates for regular scrutiny task & finish meetings will be added once the calendar has been agreed.

- Increased frequency of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee from 4 to 6 scheduled meetings for 2023/24.
- Group meetings will be added to the calendar after the election once groups have formed and advised Democratic Services of their meeting frequency and cycles.
- Mandatory and key training is included in the Calendar (welcome/induction, planning, licensing and scrutiny), with a view to further dates being added during the year once the committee meeting dates are fixed.
- Meetings such as Licensing Sub-Committee, Appointments Sub-Committee, Member Panel on the Constitution and other working groups and panels to be arranged as and when required.

### **3. Implications of the Recommendation**

#### *3.1 Financial/Legal implications*

3.1.1 None arising from this report.

### **4. Background Papers**

None



**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**May 2023**

Date of Meeting	Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Mon	1 <sup>st</sup>	May		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	2 <sup>nd</sup>	May			
Wed	3 <sup>rd</sup>	May			
Thurs	4 <sup>th</sup>	May		<b>BOROUGH ELECTION</b>	
Fri	5 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	8 <sup>th</sup>	May		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	9 <sup>th</sup>	May			<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	10 <sup>th</sup>	May	pm	<b>HOLD: Members' induction (TBC)</b>	
Thurs	11 <sup>th</sup>	May	pm	<b>HOLD: Members' induction (TBC)</b>	Either 10 <sup>th</sup> or 11 <sup>th</sup>
Fri	12 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	15 <sup>th</sup>	May			
Tues	16 <sup>th</sup>	May			<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	May			<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	18 <sup>th</sup>	May	7.00pm	<b>Annual Council (Ext)</b>	
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	22 <sup>nd</sup>	May			
Tues	23 <sup>rd</sup>	May			
Wed	24 <sup>th</sup>	May	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	If required
Thurs	25 <sup>th</sup>	May	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee Training</b>	
Fri	26 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	29 <sup>th</sup>	May		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	30 <sup>th</sup>	May	3.00pm	<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b>	
			6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee (and Training)</b>	
Wed	31 <sup>st</sup>	May	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**June 2023**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Thurs	1 <sup>st</sup>	June	6.30pm		<b>Licensing Committee (&amp; Training)</b>	
Fri	2 <sup>nd</sup>	June				

Mon	5 <sup>th</sup>	June	6.30pm		Lead Members	
Tues	6 <sup>th</sup>	June	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	7 <sup>th</sup>	June	6.30pm		<b>Audit &amp; Corporate Governance Committee (&amp; Training)</b>	
Thurs	8 <sup>th</sup>	June				
Fri	9 <sup>th</sup>	June				

Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	June				
Tues	13 <sup>th</sup>	June				<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	June				
Thurs	15 <sup>th</sup>	June	4.30pm		<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	16 <sup>th</sup>	June				

Mon	19 <sup>th</sup>	June	6.30pm		<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	20 <sup>th</sup>	June				<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup>	June				<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	22 <sup>nd</sup>	June	6.30pm		<b>Employment &amp; Appeals Committee</b>	
Fri	23 <sup>rd</sup>	June				

Mon	26 <sup>th</sup>	June				
Tues	27 <sup>th</sup>	June	6.30pm		<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	28 <sup>th</sup>	June	6.30pm		<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	29 <sup>th</sup>	June				
Fri	30 <sup>th</sup>	June				

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

## Slough Borough Council Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24

### July 2023

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Mon	3 <sup>rd</sup>	July	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	4 <sup>th</sup>	July	4.30pm	<b>SACRE</b>	
			6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	5 <sup>th</sup>	July			
Thurs	6 <sup>th</sup>	July			
Fri	7 <sup>th</sup>	July			

Mon	10 <sup>th</sup>	July			
Tues	11 <sup>th</sup>	July	3.00pm	<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b>	<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	12 <sup>th</sup>	July			
Thurs	13 <sup>th</sup>	July	4.00pm	<b>Berkshire Local Transport Body</b>	
			4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	July			

Mon	17 <sup>th</sup>	July	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	18 <sup>th</sup>	July	6.00pm	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>	<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	July	6.30pm	<b>Audit &amp; Corporate Governance Committee</b>	<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	20 <sup>th</sup>	July			
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	July			

Mon	24 <sup>th</sup>	July			
Tues	25 <sup>th</sup>	July	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	26 <sup>th</sup>	July	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	27 <sup>th</sup>	July	7.00pm	<b>Council</b>	
Fri	28 <sup>th</sup>	July			

Mon	31 <sup>st</sup>	July			
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Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**August 2023**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
Tues	1 <sup>st</sup>	August			
Wed	2 <sup>nd</sup>	August			
Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup>	August			
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Mon	7 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Tues	8 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Wed	9 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Thurs	10 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Fri	11 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Tues	15 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Thurs	17 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Fri	18 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Mon	21 <sup>st</sup>	August			
Tues	22 <sup>nd</sup>	August			
Wed	23 <sup>rd</sup>	August			
Thurs	24 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Fri	25 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup>	August		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	29 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Wed	30 <sup>th</sup>	August			
Thurs	31 <sup>st</sup>	August			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**September 2023**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Fri	1 <sup>st</sup>	September			
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Mon	4 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		Lead Members
Tues	5 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	September			
Thurs	7 <sup>th</sup>	September			
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	September			

Mon	11 <sup>th</sup>	September			
Tues	12 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		<b>Employment &amp; Appeals Committee</b> <i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		<b>Audit &amp; Corporate Governance Committee</b>
Thurs	14 <sup>th</sup>	September	4.30pm		<b>Cabinet Committee</b>
Fri	15 <sup>th</sup>	September			

Mon	18 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		<b>Cabinet</b>
Tues	19 <sup>th</sup>	September	3.00pm		<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b> <i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	September			<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	21 <sup>st</sup>	September			
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>	September			

Mon	25 <sup>th</sup>	September			
Tues	26 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	September	6.30pm		<b>Planning Committee</b>
Thurs	28 <sup>th</sup>	September	7.00pm		<b>Council</b>
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	September			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**October 2023**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Mon	2 <sup>nd</sup>	October	6.30pm	Lead Members	1-4 <sup>th</sup> Conservative Party Conference
Tues	3 <sup>rd</sup>	October	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	4 <sup>th</sup>	October			
Thurs	5 <sup>th</sup>	October			
Fri	6 <sup>th</sup>	October			

Mon	9 <sup>th</sup>	October			8-11 <sup>th</sup> Labour Party Conference
Tues	10 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.30pm	<b>Standards Committee</b>	Wexham Court Parish
Wed	11 <sup>th</sup>	October			
Thurs	12 <sup>th</sup>	October	4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	13 <sup>th</sup>	October			

Mon	16 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	17 <sup>th</sup>	October			CwP Parish
Wed	18 <sup>th</sup>	October			Britwell Parish
Thurs	19 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.30pm	<b>Trustee Committee</b>	
Fri	20 <sup>th</sup>	October			

Mon	23 <sup>rd</sup>	October			
Tues	24 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.00pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	25 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	26 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>	
Fri	27 <sup>th</sup>	October			

Mon	30 <sup>th</sup>	October	6.30pm	<b>Licensing Committee</b>	
Tue	31 <sup>st</sup>	October			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**November 2023**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Wed	1 <sup>st</sup>	November			
Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup>	November	4.30pm	<b>SACRE</b>	
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	November			

Mon	6 <sup>th</sup>	November	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	7 <sup>th</sup>	November	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	8 <sup>th</sup>	November			
Thurs	9 <sup>th</sup>	November	4.00pm	<b>Berkshire Local Transport Body</b>	
Fri	10 <sup>th</sup>	November			

Mon	13 <sup>th</sup>	November			
Tues	14 <sup>th</sup>	November			<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	15 <sup>th</sup>	November			<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	16 <sup>th</sup>	November	4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	17 <sup>th</sup>	November			

Mon	20 <sup>th</sup>	November	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	21 <sup>st</sup>	November			<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	22 <sup>nd</sup>	November	6.30pm	<b>Audit &amp; Corporate Governance Committee</b>	
Thurs	23 <sup>rd</sup>	November	3.00pm	<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b>	
Fri	24 <sup>th</sup>	November			

Mon	27 <sup>th</sup>	November			
Tues	28 <sup>th</sup>	November	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	29 <sup>th</sup>	November	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	30 <sup>th</sup>	November	7.00pm	<b>Council</b>	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**December 2023**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Fri	1 <sup>st</sup>	December			
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Mon	4 <sup>th</sup>	December	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	5 <sup>th</sup>	December	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Thurs	7 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	December			

Mon	11 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Tues	12 <sup>th</sup>	December			<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Thurs	14 <sup>th</sup>	December	4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	15 <sup>th</sup>	December			

Mon	18 <sup>th</sup>	December	6.30pm		<b>Cabinet</b>
Tues	19 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	December	6.30pm		<b>Planning Committee</b>
Thurs	21 <sup>st</sup>	December			
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>	December			

Mon	25 <sup>th</sup>	December			<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
Tues	26 <sup>th</sup>	December			<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Thurs	28 <sup>th</sup>	December			
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	December			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.



**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**January 2024**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Mon	1 <sup>st</sup>	January		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	2 <sup>nd</sup>	January	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Wed	3 <sup>rd</sup>	January	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	4 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Fri	5 <sup>th</sup>	January			

Mon	8 <sup>th</sup>	January			
Tues	9 <sup>th</sup>	January			
Wed	10 <sup>th</sup>	January			
Thurs	11 <sup>th</sup>	January	4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	12 <sup>th</sup>	January			

Mon	15 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	16 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.00pm	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>	<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Audit &amp; Corporate Governance Committee</b>	<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	18 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Employment &amp; Appeals Committee</b>	
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup>	January			

Mon	22 <sup>nd</sup>	January			
Tues	23 <sup>rd</sup>	January	3.00pm	<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b>	
Wed	24 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Trustee Committee</b>	
Thurs	25 <sup>th</sup>	January	7.00pm	<b>Council</b>	
Fri	26 <sup>th</sup>	January			

Mon	29 <sup>th</sup>	January			
Tues	30 <sup>th</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	31 <sup>st</sup>	January	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**February 2024**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Thurs	1 <sup>st</sup>	February			
Fri	2 <sup>nd</sup>	February			

Mon	5 <sup>th</sup>	February	6.30pm	<b>Licensing Committee</b>	
Tues	6 <sup>th</sup>	February			
Wed	7 <sup>th</sup>	February			
Thurs	8 <sup>th</sup>	February			
Fri	9 <sup>th</sup>	February			

Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	February	6.30pm		Lead Members	
Tues	13 <sup>th</sup>	February	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors	<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	February				
Thurs	15 <sup>th</sup>	February				
Fri	16 <sup>th</sup>	February				

Mon	19 <sup>th</sup>	February				
Tues	20 <sup>th</sup>	February				<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup>	February				<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	22 <sup>nd</sup>	February	4.30pm		<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
			6.30pm		<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Fri	23 <sup>rd</sup>	February				

Mon	26 <sup>th</sup>	February	6.30pm		<b>Cabinet (Budget)</b>	
Tues	27 <sup>th</sup>	February				
Wed	28 <sup>th</sup>	February	6.30pm		<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	29 <sup>th</sup>	February				

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**March 2024**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Fri	1 <sup>st</sup>	March			
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Mon	4 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	5 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	March	4.30pm	<b>SACRE</b>	
Thurs	7 <sup>th</sup>	March	4.00pm	<b>Berkshire Local Transport Body</b>	
			7.00pm	<b>Council (Ext. - Budget)</b>	
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	March			

Mon	11 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	<b>Licensing Committee</b>	
Tues	12 <sup>th</sup>	March	5.00pm	<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b>	<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	March			
Thurs	14 <sup>th</sup>	March	4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	15 <sup>th</sup>	March			

Mon	18 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	19 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	<b>Standards Committee</b>	<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	<b>Audit &amp; Corporate Governance Committee</b>	<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	21 <sup>st</sup>	March			
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>	March			

Mon	25 <sup>th</sup>	March			
Tues	26 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	March	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	28 <sup>th</sup>	March			
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	March		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**April 2024**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Mon	1 <sup>st</sup>	April		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	2 <sup>nd</sup>	April	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Wed	3 <sup>rd</sup>	April	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	4 <sup>th</sup>	April	6.00pm	<b>Corporate Parenting Panel</b>	
Fri	5 <sup>th</sup>	April			

Mon	8 <sup>th</sup>	April			
Tues	9 <sup>th</sup>	April			<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	10 <sup>th</sup>	April			
Thurs	11 <sup>th</sup>	April	4.30pm	<b>Cabinet Committee</b>	
Fri	12 <sup>th</sup>	April			

Mon	15 <sup>th</sup>	April	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	16 <sup>th</sup>	April	6.30pm	<b>Employment &amp; Appeals Committee</b>	<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	April			<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	18 <sup>th</sup>	April	6.30pm	<b>Trustee Committee</b>	
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup>	April			

Mon	22 <sup>nd</sup>	April			
Tues	23 <sup>rd</sup>	April	6.30pm	<b>Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee</b>	
Wed	24 <sup>th</sup>	April	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	25 <sup>th</sup>	April	7.00pm	<b>Council</b>	
Fri	26 <sup>th</sup>	April			

Mon	29 <sup>th</sup>	April			
Tues	30 <sup>th</sup>	April			

Notes:

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**Slough Borough Council  
Draft Calendar of Meetings 2023-24**

**May 2024**

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Wed	1 <sup>st</sup>	May			
Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup>	May			
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	May			

Mon	6 <sup>th</sup>	May		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	7 <sup>th</sup>	May	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Wed	8 <sup>th</sup>	May	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	9 <sup>th</sup>	May			
Fri	10 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	13 <sup>th</sup>	May			
Tues	14 <sup>th</sup>	May			<i>Wexham Court Parish</i>
Wed	15 <sup>th</sup>	May			<i>Britwell Parish</i>
Thurs	16 <sup>th</sup>	May	7.00pm	<b>Annual Council (Ext)</b>	
Fri	17 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	20 <sup>th</sup>	May	6.30pm	<b>Cabinet</b>	
Tues	21 <sup>st</sup>	May			<i>CwP Parish</i>
Wed	22 <sup>nd</sup>	May			
Thurs	23 <sup>rd</sup>	May			
Fri	24 <sup>th</sup>	May			

Mon	27 <sup>th</sup>	May		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
Tues	28 <sup>th</sup>	May			
Wed	29 <sup>th</sup>	May	6.30pm	<b>Planning Committee</b>	
Thurs	30 <sup>th</sup>	May	3.00pm	<b>Slough Wellbeing Board</b>	
Fri	31 <sup>st</sup>	May			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

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**SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Council **DATE:** 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Shabana Kauser  
**(For all enquiries)** Principal Democratic Services Officer  
07821 811 259

**WARD(S):** All

**PART I**  
**FOR DECISION****MOTION SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 14**

The following motion has been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14:-

**Anti-Social Behaviour**

(Moved by Councillor Brooker, seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst)

Anti-social behaviour is a scourge on too many residents' lives across the country and in parts of our town. Anti-social behaviour and environmental crime have negative impacts on an area and on perceptions about the safety of residential communities- this Council therefore reaffirms its commitment to working with local residents and partner organisations to help ensure Slough's neighbourhoods are strong, healthy and attractive places to live.

As part of its wider recovery work and community engagement, Slough Borough Council therefore resolves to:

- Work with and support victims of anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
- Strengthen partnerships between the police, the council and residents' groups and involve local people in designing solutions for their area
- Work to respond better and more quickly to anti-social behaviour complaints
- Work to keep public spaces clean and litter free, and to carry out core maintenance and repairs when required
- Act promptly to clear dumped rubbish from public space and local parks
- Work with Neighbourhood Watch to grow the number of active local Neighbourhood Watch groups across the borough; and with residents and the police to establish Neighbourhood Action Groups for a joined-up approach in tackling ASB and local environmental problems where they impact our communities.

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