



BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

To the Mayor and Members of the Council,

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a Meeting of the Council to be held at the Council Offices, Farnborough on **Thursday, 19th March, 2026 at 7.00 pm** for the transaction of the business set out on the Agenda given below.

A G E N D A

1. **MINUTES –** (Pages 1 - 18)

To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 26th February, 2026 (copy attached).

2. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS –**

3. **STANDING ORDER 8 - QUESTIONS –**

- (1) To receive any questions by Members submitted in pursuance of Standing Order 8 (3).

Public Questions

- (2) To answer any questions from the public submitted under Standing Order 9 in accordance with the Procedure Note.

4. **CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY –**

1) **Notice of Motion - Rights of Rivers –**

To consider the following Notice of Motion, which has been submitted by Cllr Jules Crossley pursuant to Standing Order 10 (1):

“This Council notes that Basingstoke and Deane Council agreed to recognise the rights of the River Loddon, which the Blackwater is a tributary of, in May 2025, and committed to developing a ‘Declaration on the Rights of the River’ by Spring 2026.

The Council recognises that environmental laws and regulations have failed to protect the quality of our rivers and further protections are needed.

This Council will:

- 1) Consult with Basingstoke and Deane, Hart Council and other relevant stakeholders with the aim of mutual support in the implementation of the Rights of Rivers.
- 2) Write to the Environment Agency to express the Council’s concerns about the poor ecological and chemical health of the Blackwater and Cove Brook, requesting that the EA explain how they have been, and how they plan to further protect and enhance our local rivers.
- 3) Ensure that within the scope of existing law and agreed policy, officers and the development control process shall, where they are able, take account of the Rights of Rivers within individual planning decisions, including consideration of the imposition of planning conditions to have no adverse impact on the health, water quality or ecological integrity of the Blackwater River and Cove Brook.”

2) **Extension of Term of Office for the Designated Independent Person –**
(Pages 19 - 22)

To receive a report from the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee (copy attached – Annex 1) which recommends the approval of an extension to the term of office of Mr Matt Smith as the Council’s Designated Independent Person, for the period from July 2026 to the end of April 2028. Cllr Jacqui Vosper, Chair of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee, will introduce this item.

3) **Report on the work of the Community Engagement Task and Finish Group – (Pages 23 - 44)**

To receive a report from the Community Engagement Task and Finish Group (copy attached – Annex 2), which provides details of the activities delivered to understand and address community concerns following a Council motion in 2024, and setting out plans to support cohesion and integration activity. Cllr Sophie Porter, Portfolio Holder for Healthy Communities and Active Lives, will introduce this item.

5. **NOTICE OF MOTION - PUBLIC ART AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS –**

To consider the following Notice of Motion, which has been submitted by Cllr G.B. Lyon pursuant to Standing Order 10 (1):

“This Council notes:

The incredible historical and cultural importance of Farnborough and Aldershot and the pride which local residents take in that history.

The role which public art and community projects can play in expressing, preserving and deepening that pride.

The relative lack of these in our Borough.

The lack of dedicated existing funds for developing more of these.

This Council therefore resolves to:

Request a relevant cross-party group of councillors to consider proposals for establishing, administering and promoting a public fund which residents and businesses could contribute, or subscribe to, dedicated to public art and community projects related to our local heritage and history.”

6. **MAYOR ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR ELECT 2026/27 –**

At its meeting on 5th March 2026, the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee considered the nominations for Mayor-Elect and the Deputy Mayor-Elect for 2026/27. The Council is recommended to approve that:

(i) Cllr P.J. Cullum be selected as Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2026/27;
and

(ii) Cllr Akmal Gani be selected as Deputy Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2026/27, subject to re-election to the Council in May 2026.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES –**

To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet and Committees in relation to the following items:

- 1) **Allocation of Capital Budget for Farnborough Leisure Centre –** (Pages 45 - 62)

To receive a Report from the Cabinet (copy attached – Annex 3) which seeks approval for the Executive Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) to be authorised to put in place a Capital Budget up to £27.5 million for the Leisure Centre project as set out in the Report. Cllr Sophie Porter, Healthy Communities and Active Lives Portfolio Holder, will introduce this item.

- 2) **Pay Policy Statement and Gender Pay Gap and Ethnicity Pay Gap –** (Pages 63 - 78)

To receive a Report from the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee (copy attached at Annex 4) which recommends that approval be given to the Pay Policy Statement 2026/27. Cllr Jacqui Vosper, Chair of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee, will introduce this item.

- 3) **Updates to the Constitution - Champion Roles –** (Pages 79 - 86)

To receive a report from the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee (copy attached – Annex 5) which recommends updates to the Council's Constitution for new arrangements for Champion roles. Cllr Jacqui Vosper, Chair of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee, will introduce this item.

- 4) **Update on Designations of Head of Paid Service and Monitoring Officer –** (Pages 87 - 92)

To receive a report from the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee (copy attached – Annex 6) in respect of designations of the Head of Paid Service and Monitoring Officer. Cllr Jacqui Vosper, Chair of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee, will introduce this item.

8. **REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME –** (Pages 93 - 126)

To receive a report containing the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, which recently undertook a review of the Members Allowances Scheme (copy attached - Annex 7)

9. **QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET –**

To receive any questions by Members to Cabinet Members submitted in accordance with the Procedure Note.

10. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26 –** (Pages 127 - 130)

To receive and ask questions on the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (copy attached – Annex 8) for the 2025/26 Municipal Year. A procedure note for asking questions has been circulated to Members.

11. **REPORTS OF CABINET –** (Pages 131 - 142)

To receive and ask questions on the Reports of the following Meetings (copy reports attached):

Cabinet

15th December 2025
(Held over from 26th February)
3rd March 2026

12. **REPORTS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD –** (Pages 143 - 148)

To note the Report of the following meeting (copy report attached):

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

24th February 2026

IAN HARRISON
Managing Director

Council Offices
Farnborough
Hampshire GU14 7JU

Wednesday 11 March 2026