



RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD

*To be held as a Virtual Meeting on
Wednesday, 9th June, 2021 at 7.00 pm*

To:

Cllr J.B. Canty (Chairman)

Cllr Gaynor Austin
Cllr Jessica Auton
Cllr Sophia Choudhary
Cllr P.I.C. Crerar
Cllr P.J. Cullum
Cllr Michael Hope
Cllr Prabesh KC
Cllr Mara Makunura
Cllr Sophie Porter
Cllr M.J. Roberts

Standing Deputies:

Cllr Christine Guinness
Cllr Jacqui Vosper

Enquiries regarding this agenda should be referred to the Administrator, Adele Taylor, Democracy and Community, Tel. (01252) 398831, Email. adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk.

A G E N D A

1. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN –

To appoint the Vice-Chairmen of the Board for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

2. MINUTES – (Pages 1 - 6)

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th March 2021 (copy attached).

3. APPOINTMENTS TO GROUPS 2021/22 –

(1) Progress Group

To appoint the Membership of the Progress Group. Membership of the Group includes the Chair and Vice-Chairmen of the Policy and Project Advisory Board and two Labour Group representatives from the Policy and Project Advisory Board.

(2) Strategic Housing and Local Plan Group

To appoint the Membership of the Strategic Housing and Local Plan Group. Required Membership is as follows:

- Leader of the Council
- Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Local Plan
- Chairman of Development Management Committee
- Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Project Advisory Board

(3) Transformation Task and Finish Group

To appoint the Membership of the Transformation Task and Finish Group. Required Membership is as follows:

- Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customer Experience and Improvement
- Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Policy and Project Advisory Board.

(4) Elections Group

To appoint the Membership of the Elections Group. Required Membership is as follows:

- Cabinet Member with responsibility for Electoral Issues
- Chairman of Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee
- Chairman or Vice- Chairman of Policy and Project Advisory Board

Nominations from the Groups will be available at the meeting.

4. **FRIMLEY INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM AND FRIMLEY CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP – (Pages 7 - 8)**

The following items will be considered:

- A presentation on Local Health Priorities
- The White Paper on Health and Care (a copy of which can be found [here](#) and the LGA's response to the White Paper [here](#)) and implications for the Frimley Health Care system. A copy of a letter from the Council Leaders at Hart, Rushmoor and Surrey Heath to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care in relation to the Integrated Care System consultation is also attached for reference.

Representatives from the Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group will be in attendance.

5. **FARNBOROUGH CIVIC HUB –**

To discuss the work to date and emerging principles which will inform the design of the Civic Hub building.

6. **MEETING ARRANGEMENTS –**

To discuss the meeting arrangements for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

7. **WORK PLAN – (Pages 9 - 14)**

To consider the Work Plan for the 2021/22 Municipal Year (copy attached).

MEETING REPRESENTATION

Members of the public may ask to speak at the meeting on any of the items on the agenda by writing to the Panel Administrator at the Council Offices, Farnborough by 5.00 pm two working days prior to the meeting.

Applications for items to be considered for the next meeting must be received in writing to the Panel Administrator fifteen working days prior to the meeting.

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POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD

Virtual Meeting held on Wednesday, 24th March, 2021 at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr J.B. Canty (Chairman)
Cllr P.I.C. Crerar (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr C.J. Stewart (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Sophia Choudhary
Cllr P.J. Cullum
Cllr Nadia Martin
Cllr T.W. Mitchell
Cllr Sophie Porter
Cllr M.J. Roberts
Cllr B.A. Thomas

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr Prabesh KC.

28. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th January, 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

29. SOUTHWOOD WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Board welcomed Tim Mills, Head of Economy, Planning, and Strategic Housing and, Ecology and Biodiversity Officer, Debbie Salmon who were in attendance to present the Southwood Woodland Management Plan, 2021-2026. The Plan covered a five year period, after which a review would take place, followed by a further five year plan.

It was noted that a survey of the site had been carried out to assess what was present and the condition of the site. A number of habitats had been found, these included:

- Birch woodland – classed as secondary woodland and required some maintenance
- Veteran Oaks – over 400 years old
- Heathland – glade created by Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership
- Bog habitats – Head waters of the Ively stream, currently an underground culvert
- Wet woodland – valuable and rare habitat, birch present in this area required thinning
- Ditches – required thinning and re-profiling

Several animal species had also been identified on the site, including, badgers, deer, bats, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. The invertebrate population had been exceptionally good, 675 different species had been spotted in the Woodland and combined over the two sites (the Woodland and the Country Park) 952 species had been identified. The requirement to gain SSSI status for invertebrates was 1000 different species.

The vision for the Southwood Woodland Management Plan was to:

- manage the site to increase its biodiversity value whilst enabling access to nature for all visitors
- re-create the habitats that were present in the 1800's when the site had been open fields with areas of heathland and moorland by removing the majority of the birch from the woodland allowing the wooded heath to regenerate naturally
- compliment the work proposed within Southwood Country Park and join up the habitats already present to create a connected and varied habitat complex for the public to enjoy

The key objectives of the Management Plan were identified as:

- Clearing the birch and conifer trees over the five year period
- Maintain the wet woodland and ditches by thinning the tree canopy and clearing the ditches to increase the aquatic invertebrate species
- Re-naturalising the Ively Brook to meander through the woodland
- Health and safety objectives to include – an annual tree survey and check of infrastructure, this was supported by the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership who volunteered on site and the newly appointed Ranger on the Southwood Country Park site
- Install replacement directional and educational signage

The Board discussed the Plan and raised a number of issues, including land grabbing, garden waste dumping, use by cyclists and future plans for the Country Park site.

It was noted that both land grabbing by neighbouring residents and dumping of garden waste were an issue on the site and action had been taken, and would continue to be taken, to address this with residents. The garden waste issue raised concerns around the spread of invasive species, such as Yellow Arch Angel. It was noted that the invasive plant was currently being tackled through spray treatment, but the digging up of the plants would be undertaken if necessary. It was noted that the Council was aware of the boundaries of all the Council owned open spaces across the Borough and engagement with residents would be the first step in reclaiming land that had been taken. If this was unsuccessful further legal action would be considered.

In response to a query regarding cycleways through the Southwood sites, it was noted that the existing pathways were wide and currently well used by both pedestrians and cyclists. It was important however to strike the right balance for leisure and enjoyment for all in the natural environment and maintain a suitable

environment for the species present. In the longer term the aim was to provide a network of pathways to allow travel between Basingstoke and the Blackwater Valley.

It was noted that a feasibility study would be carried out on the use of the existing clubhouse on the Southwood Country Park site. It was hoped that a cost effective solution would be found to use some elements of the existing structure to create a visitor centre and café. It was suggested that consultation would take place through the summer months with visitors/residents on the design of the country park and visitors centre complex.

The Chairman requested that some changes be made to the key objectives to show a greater balance on biodiversity, the connectivity between the two sites and how public access would be improved.

The Board **NOTED** the presentation and it was agreed that any further comments from Members should be email direct to Mr. Mills and Ms. Salmon.

30. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY PEER CHALLENGE - REPORT**

The Assistant Chief Executive, Rachel Barker, gave a presentation on the recent Peer Review carried out by the Local Government Association (LGA) on Equalities and Diversity. The Board were being asked to endorse the report, action plan and recommendations prior to it being presented to the Cabinet in April for adoption. The Portfolio Holder for Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships, Cllr Adrian Newell, was also in attendance for this item.

An overview was provided on the process of the Review which had taken place in January, 2021. Background documents had been shared with the Review team prior to virtual meetings being held with elected Members, staff, managers and stakeholders. A verbal feedback session had been held on 28th January, before the full written report had been produced.

It was advised that 35 recommendations across 4 headings had been set out in the report. An action plan had been drawn up to show how these recommendations could be taken forward through a phased approach. Actions within Phase 1 would be completed by September, 2021 and those in Phase 2 by March 2022. In addition, there were a small number of longer term (to be completed by 2022/23) actions proposed in Phase 3, which included signing up to accreditations and charters, use of grants to improve participation, community engagement on careers in the Council and co-design and co-development of Council services.

Cllr Newell, advised that the Plan helped to implement new initiatives and improve on what was already in place.

The Board discussed the Action Plan and raised a number of issues around the content and focus of the Plan and the critical path of how each phase connected to the next. How the actions would be measured was also raised, it was advised that usually following a Peer Review the LGA would return, around 18 months later, to

assess the Council's position. The Council's Service Plans would also give an indication of whether the actions had been achieved.

The action regarding "celebrating different festivals and events using social media" was also discussed. It was felt important to celebrate different cultural events but consideration needed to be given to which would be highlighted to avoid exclusion of any particular group.

In response to a query regarding data from the recent Census 2021, it was noted that this data was expected to start being shared from the autumn. Two of the LGA's recommendations were around understanding Rushmoor's communities and the Census data would provide a real opportunity in achieving a better understanding of who lived within the Borough.

The Board **ENDORSED** the report, action plan and recommendations, subject to any comments and feedback from Members.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Newell and Ms Barker for their presentation and it was noted that Members had been encouraged to see that some recommendations had already been implemented and others would be embedded into existing strategies moving forward. Thanks were also expressed to all Members of the Board and stakeholders for their involvement in the Review process. The Chairman added that strides had already been taken to reduce cultural barriers across the Borough and the Action Plan would take the process to the next level.

31. **COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN 2021 - 2024 - UNDERSTANDING THE STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

The Assistant Chief Executive, Rachel Barker, gave a presentation on the Council Business Plan 2021/24 – Understanding the Strategic Context. The presentation showed the processes taken in developing the Plan, with particular focus on the use of PESTLE analysis to understand the strategic context. The Board was asked for feedback to help inform the final stages of the development work.

The proposed approach would be to build on the current plan for April 2020 – March 2023, covering the period to March 2024. It would incorporate new programmes and activities that had come into existence over the previous 12 months including, the updated Property, Major Works and Regeneration Programme, the Climate Change Action Plan, Supporting Communities Strategy, Covid-19 Recovery Plan and People Strategy, and the Peer Challenge Feedback on Equality and Diversity.

The process used in developing the approach had involved, workshops with the Cabinet and the Policy and Project Advisory Board, consultation with the Corporate Management Team (CMT) and individual Portfolio Holders. A further workshop would be held with the Cabinet in April, 2021 followed by final approval from the Cabinet and full Council in June, 2021.

It was advised that the PESTLE analysis looked at external factors that could influence the Business Plan, these factors were:

- Political
- Economical
- Social
- Technological
- Legal
- Environmental

Moving forward, over the next three years, the strategic context would continue to change and be reviewed and the PESTLE analysis would be a key tool when considering the Council's work over this period.

The Board discussed the presentation and a number of suggestions were made, as follows:

- better translation of national/international risks at a local level around areas such as Brexit and Climate Change
- bundle together the financial issues under one heading of "financial sustainability" - more detail could be provided on mitigation of risk in this area
- Community safety – it was felt that this area was missing from the Plan
- Impact on leisure facilities – more specifically impacts from what remains open and those that are planned to be rebuilt

Following a further discussion it was agreed that this item would be picked up at the Progress Group meeting on 31st March and Members were welcome to provide feedback via email.

32. **WORK PLAN**

The Board noted the current work plan.

Cllr Stewart updated the Board on the work of the Elections Group and paid tribute to the team for all the hard work during the polling places/station review and the continued work in preparing for the forthcoming elections on 6th May.

The meeting closed at 9.21 pm.

CLLR J.B. CANTY (CHAIRMAN)

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Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
Secretary of State for Health & Social Care
House of Commons
London SW1A 1AA

27 May 2021

Via email to: mb-sofs@dhsc.gov.uk

Dear Secretary of State

We are writing on behalf of Rushmoor Borough Council, Hart District Council and Surrey Heath Borough Council. As with our unitary colleagues in Berkshire we have all been active partners in the development of the Frimley Integrated Care System (ICS) and have contributed to the ICS becoming one of the more successful ICSs in the country. Importantly this has brought significant health and care benefits for all our residents.

The Frimley ICS is one of only eight that is not directly co-terminus with its constituent local authorities. This has not got in the way of its success. We also understand that National Health England have consistently supported the continuation of Frimley as a standalone system, not least because it has been so effective. That understanding was further reinforced by the decision earlier this year to support the creation of a Frimley CCG that is co-terminus with the current Frimley ICS boundaries. That is a position Rushmoor, Hart and Surrey Heath strongly support as we strongly believe that we are working effectively within the new arrangements both in Covid response and recovery. This is further evidenced by the desire for the whole of Hart District (not just part as currently) to be moved into the boundaries of the Frimley ICS area.

We are therefore extremely concerned that the future of the Frimley ICS is now being reviewed in order to achieve co-terminosity for a Surrey based ICS with Surrey County Council. A decision to do this would clearly make a Frimley ICS unviable as a standalone system and would lead to further knock on changes to ICS boundaries. We believe such a decision would undermine many of the effective population health outcomes we have all been working for with partners for many years, create real disruption to services across a much wider geographical area and we know is not supported by the majority of our local GPs and clinicians.

We are very disappointed that as district councils we have not been considered significant consultees in discussions on the future of health in our areas. As requested by our Berkshire colleagues we would therefore also ask you to share the detailed evidence and analysis of the benefits of changing the local ICS geography and the criteria which will be used in making a final decision. We would also wish to see evidence of why the Surrey boundary co-terminosity is considered critical in terms of resident health outcomes when the Frimley system health and referral pathways make sense to practitioners, providers and residents and deliver excellent outcomes. The existence of historic county boundaries should not drive service delivery decisions unless there is clear evidence to suggest service or outcomes would be significantly improved.

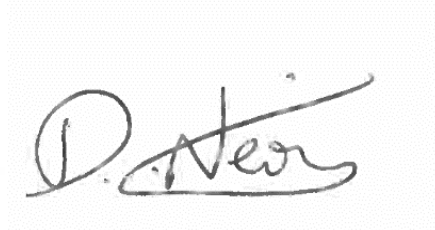
Finally, we would question the timing of any changes given everything that our combined workforces need to be focussing on and would suggest that structural change and the disruption it causes is inappropriate now and for the foreseeable future.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



David Clifford
Leader of Rushmoor
Borough Council



David Neighbour
Leader of Hart
District Council



Alan McClafferty
Leader of Surrey Heath
Borough Council

POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD WORK PLAN

The purpose of the work plan is to plan, manage and co-ordinate the ongoing activity and progress of the Council's Policy and Project Advisory Board, incorporating policy development work carried out through working groups.

(A) CURRENT WORKING GROUPS APPOINTED BY THE POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD

GROUP	MEMBERSHIP 2020/21	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT
Elections Group	<p>Cllrs P.I.C. Crerar, A.R. Newell (Cabinet Member with responsibility for electoral issues) S.J. Masterson (Chairman of Licensing, Audit and General Purposes Committee), C.J. Stewart (Vice-Chairman of PPAB), T.D. Bridgeman and K. Dibble, T.W. Mitchell</p> <p>Chairman: Cllr C. Stewart</p>	<p>Position at March 2021 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliamentary Boundary Review due in June 2021 Review of processes – how best to engage/Photo ID 	<p>Andrew Colver, Head of Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships, Tel: (01252) 398820, andrew.colver@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>

GROUP	MEMBERSHIP 2020/21	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT
Strategic Housing and Local Plan Group To steer the development of the Local Plan and monitor updates to the Housing and Homelessness Strategy	Cllrs P.I.C. Crerar (As V-C of PPAB), D.E. Clifford (Leader of the Council), T.W. Mitchell, Marina Munro (Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Local Plan), P. Cullum, C.J. Stewart, C.P. Grattan and M.J. Roberts Chairman: Cllr P.I.C. Crerar	Position at March 2021 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-visit Terms of Reference – consider purpose/does it still need to be active? • Gather principles for the Group • Draft a work programme for the year? 	Tim Mills Head of Planning Tel: (01252) 398790 tim.mills@rushmoor.gov.uk Anna Lucas Principal Planning Officer Zoe Paine Strategy and Enabling Manager (Housing)
Transformation Task and Finish Group (formerly Rushmoor 2020 Modernisation and Improvement Programme)	Cllrs J.B. Canty, K.H. Muschamp (as Cabinet Member with responsibility for this area of work), Sophia Choudhary, P.J. Cullum, Gaynor Austin and Sophie Porter (plus one Liberal Democrat vacancy) Chairman: Cllr. J.B. Canty	Position at March 2021 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the work of this Group would continue as previously 	Karen Edwards, Executive Director Tel: (01252) 398800 karen.edwards@rushmoor.gov.uk

(B) OTHER ISSUES/MATTERS FOR THE WORK PROGRAMME

ISSUE	DETAILS	CONTACT DETAILS
REGENERATION		
Position at March 2021 – recommendation for Corporate Directors (IH/KE) to take stock early in 2021/22 Municipal Year on all aspects of the regeneration work across the Borough. KE to be invited to first Progress Group tom discuss way forward.		
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY		
Byelaws Review – Aldershot and District Military Lands	Pending publication of a consultation on the Byelaws Review of Aldershot and District Military Lands, the Chairman has requested that this issue be placed on the work programme.	
DEPRIVATION HEALTH AND WELLBEING		
Deprivation and Wellbeing Strategy	Position at March 2021 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This strategy would be discussed at the next meeting of the Joint OSC/PPAB Chairs meeting • Discussions to include Equality and Diversity Action Plan and Back Lives Matter 	Andrew Colver Head of Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Tel: (01252) 398820 andrew.colver@rushmoor.gov.uk

	OTHER MATTERS	
Leisure Facilities and Contracts	<p>In March 2021, a decision was taken to not re-establish the Leisure Facilities and Contracts Task and Finish Group until required.</p> <p>It was proposed that initial work could involve the Board as a whole and a Task and Finish Group established for specific work later down the line.</p>	<p>James Duggin Head of Operational Services Tel: (01252) 398543 james.duggin@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>
Black Lives Matter	<p>Position at May 2021 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet agreed the way forward at its meeting in April 2021 • A phased approach would be taken and a critical path developed to be shared at the July meeting of the Board 	<p>Rachel Barker, Assistant Chief Executive rachel.barker@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>

POLICY AND PROJECTS ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA PLANNING – 2020-2021

9 June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frimley Integrated Care System and Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group • Farnborough Civic Hub
14 July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Plan for Southwood Country Park • Aldershot Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan
22 September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Economic Framework • Housing and Homelessness Strategy • Future of the ICE Programme
24 November 2021	
26 January 2022	
23 March 2022	
<i>Items to be considered</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Investment Strategy</i> • <i>Cultural Impact</i> • <i>Building Control Changes</i> • <i>Carbon Footprint</i>

PROGRESS GROUP MEETINGS

Membership: Cllrs J.B. Canty (Chairman), P.I.C. Crerar (Vice-Chairman), C.J. Stewart (Vice-Chairman), P.J. Cullum, M.J. Roberts, Nadia Martin and T.W. Mitchell

31 March 2021	<p>Council Business Plan</p> <p>Any Other Business</p>	<p>Deadline for comments 19th April, 2021. Important to make as accessible as possible to all. Relate back to what Rushmoor is responsible for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Protection Strategy/Community Safety – our responsibilities • Town Centre/High Street Recovery – involvement on a project basis • Parking Policies – increase in delivery drivers parking illegally/short stay options • Parking Standards Review • C19 Recover Task and Finish Group – immediate response/medium – longer term work
FUTURE MEETINGS	<p><i>Items carried forward from 2020/21, for consideration:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Litter Enforcement Strategy</i> • <i>Medium Term Financial Strategy/Budget Strategy</i> • <i>Fair Funding consultation</i> • <i>Rushmoor Development Partnership – Site Appraisals</i> • <i>Income Crisis – policy development</i> • <i>Commercial Investment Strategy</i> • <i>Follow-up on Department of Transport Letter on Heathrow Southern Rail Link (end 2020/beg 2021)</i> 	