

To register to speak at Council please contact the Committee Officer before 12 noon on the day of the meeting (Written questions submitted in advance will be dealt with first)

Meeting of: The Council

Time: 6.30pm **Date** 24th February 2016

Venue: Council Chamber, The Business Centre, Futures Park, Bacup. OL13 0BB



Supported by: Carolyn Sharples, Committee and Member Services Manager Tel: 01706 252422

Email: carolynsharples@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Directions to the Council Chamber and transport information can be found [here](#).

ITEM		Lead Member/Contact Officer
A.	BUSINESS MATTERS	
A1.	Apologies for Absence	
A2.	To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 th December 2015.	
A3.	Urgent Items of Business To note any items which the Chair has agreed to add to the Agenda on the grounds of urgency.	
A4.	Declarations of Interest <i>Members are advised to contact the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting to seek advice on interest issues if necessary.</i> Members are requested to indicate at this stage, any items on the agenda in which they intend to declare an interest. Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 and the Council's Code of Conduct, they must declare the nature of any personal interest and, if the interest is prejudicial, withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the item.	Clare Birtwistle, Monitoring Officer. Tel: (01706) 252438 Email: clarebirtwistle@rossendalebc.gov.uk
A5.	To deal with any outstanding items of business from the last meeting.	
B.	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	
B1.	Public Question Time Members of the public can register their question by contacting the Committee and Member Services Manager. This is an opportunity to ask a question about a matter which the Council may be able to assist with. A time limit of 3 minutes applies for each question and you are only able to address the meeting once. Please begin by giving your name and state whether you are speaking as an individual member of the public or as a representative of a group. (Question time normally lasts up to 30 minutes).	Carolyn Sharples, Committee and Member Services Manager Tel: 01706 252422 Email: carolynsharples@rossendalebc.gov.uk

The agenda and reports are also available for inspection at the Council's One Stop Shop, Futures Park, Bacup. Other formats are available on request. Tel 01706 217777 or contact Rossendale Borough Council, Futures Park, Bacup, OL13 0BB

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C.	Communications from the Mayor, the Leader or Head of Paid Service To receive any communications from the Mayor, the Leader, or the Head of the Paid Service that they may wish to lay before the Council.	The Mayor, Councillor Procter, The Leader, Councillor A.Barnes and Stuart Sugarman, Chief Executive Tel: (01706) 252447 Email: stuartsugarman@rossendalebc.gov.uk
D.	MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME	
D1.	Questions by Members Subject to Council Procedure Rule 10.2, a Member of the Council may put a question to:- The Leader/ A Member of the Cabinet / The Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee / The Member of the Council appointed to a Joint Committee and nominated as Spokesperson for the Joint Committee / The Member of the Council appointed as the Council's representative on an Outside Body.	Carolyn Sharples, Committee and Member Services Manager Tel: 01706 252422 Email: carolynsharples@rossendalebc.gov.uk
E.	POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK ITEMS	
E1.	2016/17 Corporate Priorities, Budget, Council Tax and the Medium Term Financial Strategy To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on 10 th February 2016 in respect of the 2016/17 Corporate Priorities, Budget, Council Tax and The Medium Term Financial Strategy.	Councillor Marriott/ Phil Seddon, Head of Finance Tel: 01706 252465 Email: philseddon@rossendalebc.gov.uk
E2.	Capital Resources and Capital Programme 2016/17 To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on 10 th February 2016 in respect of the Capital Resources and Capital Programme 2016/17.	Councillor Marriott/ Phil Seddon, Head of Finance Tel: 01706 252465 Email: philseddon@rossendalebc.gov.uk
E3.	Treasury Management Strategy & Treasury Management Practices (updates for 2016/17) To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on 10 th February 2016 in respect of the Treasury Management Strategy & Treasury Management Practices (updates for 2016/17).	Councillor Marriott/ Phil Seddon, Head of Finance Tel: 01706 252465 Email: philseddon@rossendalebc.gov.uk
F.	ORDINARY BUSINESS	
F1.	Rossendale Local Plan To consider the report on the Local Plan for Rossendale.	Councillor Lamb/Stuart Sugarman, Chief Executive Tel: (01706) 252447 Email: stuartsugarman@rossendalebc.gov.uk
F2.	Senior Management Restructure To consider the Senior Management Restructure report.	Councillor Marriott/ Stuart Sugarman, Chief Executive Tel: (01706) 252447 Email: stuartsugarman@rossendalebc.gov.uk
F3.	Urgent Decisions To note any urgent key decisions that have been taken by the Cabinet since the last meeting of the Council.	Councillor Serridge/ Clare Birtwistle, Monitoring Officer. Tel: (01706) 252438 Email: clarebirtwistle@rossendalebc.gov.uk

G.	RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET AND OTHER COMMITTEES	
G1.	Recommendation of the Licensing Committee To consider the Licensing Committee's recommendation on the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Intended 'Use' Policy.	Councillor Serridge/ Clare Birtwistle, Monitoring Officer. Tel: (01706) 252438 Email: clarebirtwistle@rossendalebc.gov.uk
G2.	Recommendation of the Governance Working Group To consider the Constitution Review.	Councillor Serridge/ Clare Birtwistle, Monitoring Officer. Tel: (01706) 252438 Email: clarebirtwistle@rossendalebc.gov.uk
G3.	Recommendation of the Appointments and Appeals Committee To consider the Appointment Committee's recommendation on the appointment of the Director of Business.	Councillor Marriott/ Clare Law, HR Manager. Tel: (01706) 252457 Email: clarelaw@rossendalebc.gov.uk
H.	NOTICE OF MOTION	
H1.	<p>To consider the following written notice of motion submitted by Councillors Knowles and Ashworth:</p> <p>The Council notes that proposed changes to cap housing benefit to the level of Local Housing Allowance will have a massive detrimental impact upon those living in supported housing.</p> <p>The proposed change will affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who totally depend on this specialist housing, and many are the most vulnerable people with nowhere else to turn – older people, the homeless, those with dementia, people with mental health problems, ex-veterans and women fleeing domestic violence.</p> <p>According to the National Housing Federation, this change would hit vulnerable people by an average of £68 a week and at least 82,000 homes for these groups would be forced to close. In a recent survey by Inside Housing magazine 95% of supported housing providers would be forced to wind up housing schemes for the most vulnerable if the planned benefit cut goes ahead.</p> <p>The cut will link the amount of housing benefit to the level of Local Housing Allowance but rents in supported housing are typically much higher than this due to the care element provided. Discretionary Housing Payments will go nowhere near addressing this shortfall leaving tenants with huge arrears if the benefit is capped.</p> <p>Although the measure is not due to be fully implemented until April 2018, the government has failed to understand that it has a profound impact now, today. New homes for supported housing, partly funded by capital investment from the</p>	Councillor Knowles Councillor Ashworth

government, will now not be built because no provider can risk the cost of new building unless they are confident the rent will cover the cost. Existing homes will begin to close very soon as contracts for the provision of care and support services, which usually last three to five years, are renegotiated. No organisation can possibly sign such a contract unless they have a reasonable expectation that they will be able to pay the price.

This measure will therefore result in redundancies, a sharp fall in the construction of desperately needed bed spaces, and the most vulnerable members of society having to find accommodation in the private sector at a far greater cost to the public purse.

The Council urges the Government to address this issue as a matter of great urgency.



Stuart Sugarman
Chief Executive

Date Published: 16th February 2016