



**Worcester**  
CITY COUNCIL

## **COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Date: Wednesday, 8th November, 2023**

**Time: 7.00 pm**

**Venue: The Guildhall**

## COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

### Information for Members of the Public

Access to the Guildhall is via the front entrance in the High Street. The nearest car park is Copenhagen Street (pay and display). If you are a wheelchair user or have restricted mobility, access to the Guildhall can be gained either through the door on the right side of the forecourt as you face the Guildhall, or through the sliding doors at the rear of the Guildhall. There is dedicated disabled parking space at the rear (access via Copenhagen Street). Most meetings are held on the ground floor, which can be reached by using a lift. If you are a wheelchair user or have restricted mobility and you wish to attend a meeting, please telephone or email the officer mentioned below in advance and we will make any necessary arrangements to assist your visit.

Part I of the Agenda includes items for discussion in public. You have the right to inspect copies of Minutes and reports on this part of the Agenda as well as background documents used in the preparation of these reports. Details of the background papers appear at the foot of each report. Part II of the Agenda (if applicable) deals with items of 'Exempt Information' for which it is anticipated that the public may be excluded from the meeting and neither reports nor background papers are open to public inspection.

Please note that this is a public meeting and members of the public and press are permitted to report on the proceedings. "Reporting" includes filming, photographing, making an audio recording and providing commentary on proceedings. Any communicative method can be used to report on the proceedings, including the internet, to publish, post or share the proceedings. Accordingly, the attendance of members of the public at this meeting may be recorded and broadcast. By choosing to attend this public meeting you are deemed to have given your consent to being filmed or recorded and for any footage to be broadcast or published.

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At the start of the meeting under the item 'Public Participation' up to fifteen minutes in total is allowed for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question or comment on any matter on the Agenda. Participants need to indicate that they wish to speak by 4.30 p.m. on the last working day before the meeting by writing, telephoning or E-Mailing the officer mentioned below.

If you have any general enquires or queries about this Agenda or require any details of background papers, further documents or information, or to discuss arrangements for the taking of photographs, film, video or sound recording please contact the Lead Officer, Julian Pugh, Democratic Services Administrator, Guildhall, Worcester WR1 2EY. Telephone: 01905 722027 (direct line); E-Mail Address: [committeeadministration@worcester.gov.uk](mailto:committeeadministration@worcester.gov.uk).

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**Communities Committee  
Wednesday, 8 November 2023**

**Members of the Committee:-**

Chair: Councillor Jabbar Riaz (L)  
Vice-Chair: Councillor Neil Laurenson (G)

Councillor Basharat Ali (L)  
Councillor Mohammad Altaf (C)  
Councillor Alan Amos (C)  
Councillor Hannah Cooper (G)  
Councillor Jill Desayrah (L)

Councillor Shafaz Ditta (C)  
Councillor Matthew Lamb (L)  
Councillor Karen Lawrance (LD)  
Councillor Tom Piotrowski (G)

C= Conservative      G = Green      L = Labour      LCo = Labour and Co-operative  
LD = Liberal Democrat

**AGENDA**

**Part 1  
(ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION IN PUBLIC)**

1. **Appointment of Substitutes**  
To receive details of any Members appointed to attend the meeting instead of a Member of the Committee.
2. **Declarations of Interest**  
To receive any declarations of interest.
3. **Public Participation**  
Up to a total of fifteen minutes can be allowed, each speaker being allocated a maximum of five minutes, for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question, or comment on any matter on the Agenda or within the remit of the Committee.
4. **Minutes**  
Page(s): 1 - 4  
Of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 to be approved and signed.
5. **Worcester Municipal Housing**  
Ward(s): All Wards  
Contact Officer: Tom Mountford, Head of Homes and Communities  
Tel: 01905 722529  
  
To receive a presentation from Geraint Thomas, Vice-Chairman, Worcester Municipal Charities.
6. **Freedom Leisure - Contract Year 7 Annual Report (April 2022 to March 2023)**  
Page(s): 5 - 30

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Alan New, Contracts and Performance Manager  
Tel: 01905 721122

That the Committee notes the contents of the Freedom Leisure Annual Report 2022/23, presented by members of their Senior Management Team at Committee.

7. **Freedom Leisure - Proposed Fees and Charges for 2024**

Page(s): 31 - 50

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Alan New, Contracts and Performance Manager  
Tel: 01905 721122

That the Committee:

1. Recommends the proposed Freedom Leisure Fees & Charges for the 2024 calendar year at Appendix 1, to Income Management Sub-Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> November for approval; and
2. Notes that subject to approval by Income Management Sub-Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the proposed fees & charges will then be recommended to Council on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 for full and final approval.

8. **Setting of the Budget for 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Plan to 2028/29**

Page(s): 51 - 62

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Mark Baldwin, Head of Finance  
Tel: 01905 722007

1. That the Committee notes the Budgets for the various services identified for 2023/24; and
2. That the Committee notes the progress made in delivering the projects included in the City Plan and City Delivery Fund that are relevant to this Committee and confirms the programme of work resourced.

9. **Review of the Worcester City Lettings Scheme**

Page(s): 63 - 72

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Rosey Badham, Housing Needs and Development Team  
Manager

That the Committee:

1. Approves the discontinuation of the Worcester City Lettings Scheme; and
2. Notes the arrangements set out within the report that will ensure tenants of remaining Worcester City Lettings property are fully supported.

10. **6 Month Update Report - Worcester City Housing Enabling Strategy 2023-2026**

Page(s): 73 - 86

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Tom Mountford, Head of Homes and Communities

Tel: 01905 722529

That the Committee notes the contents of this report, and that a further report will be presented in June 2024.

11. **Quarter 2 Performance Report for 2023/24**

Page(s): 87 - 114

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Joanna Payne, Corporate Policy and Strategy Officer

Tel: 01905 722407

That the Communities Committee notes the Council's quarter 2 performance for 2023/24.

12. **Any Other Business**

Which in the opinion of the Chair is of sufficient urgency as to warrant consideration.