



**Worcester**  
CITY COUNCIL

# **COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

## **AGENDA**

**Date: Wednesday, 13th March, 2024**

**Time: 7.00 pm**

**Venue: The Guildhall**

## COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

### Information for Members of the Public

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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.

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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, 13 March 2024**

**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 Katie Collier (G)  
Councillor Hannah Cooper (G)

Councillor Jill Desayrah (L)  
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 - 8

Of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to be approved and signed.

5. **Proposed Committee Performance Scorecard for 2024/25**

Page(s): 9 - 18

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Joanna Payne, Corporate Policy and Strategy Officer  
Tel: 01905 722407

1. That the Communities Committee considers the proposed revised approach to corporate performance reporting; and
2. That the Communities Committee considers the proposed content of the Communities Committee Scorecard for 2024/25.

6. **Update on the Homes for Ukraine (H4U) Support Scheme and Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF)**

Page(s): 19 - 26

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Tom Mountford, Head of Homes and Communities  
Tel: 01905 722529

That the Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report and in particular the ongoing support and activity being delivered through the Homes for Ukraine Support Scheme; and
2. Notes the current position in respect of delivery of the Local Authority Housing Fund outlined in section 5 of this report.

7. **Private Sector Housing Annual Update 2023**

Page(s): 27 - 54

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Ismene Broad, Property Standards and Enforcement Team  
Leader  
Tel: 01905 722525

That the Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report and in particular the work undertaken by the Private Sector Housing Team during the course of the past 12 months; and
2. Notes the updated Worcester City Council HMO Standards Conditions and Management Document at Appendix 1.

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

Contact Officer: James Beale, Affordable Housing Delivery Manager  
Tel: 01905 722406

Report to follow.

9. **Review of Public Space Protection Orders**

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Warwick Neale, Community Services Team Manager  
Tel: 01905 752971

Report to follow.

10. **Comer Gardens Institute - Capital Investment Business Case Report**

Page(s): 55 - 80

Ward(s): St. Clement

Contact Officer: Lloyd Griffiths, Corporate Director, Operations, Homes and Communities, Kevin Moore, Head of Property and Asset Management  
Tel: 01905 722314, Tel: 01905 722251

That the Committee:

1. Notes the contents of the report, including the submission of a business plan by the Comer Gardens Hall Association at Appendix 1;
2. Approves the business case for converting the first floor of the Comer Gardens Institute for an extension of the community hall;
3. Notes that the current £168k estimated cost of this work exceeds the provisional budget of £140k; and
4. Approves the release of £140k allocation from the capital programme to support delivery of the project, subject to the Corporate Director (Operations, Homes and Communities) being satisfied that:
  - I. Comer Gardens Hall Association is in funds to pay the remaining balance for the cost of these works within 2 years of the date of approval by this Committee
  - II. The grant of all necessary regulatory consents has been secured, including planning consent
  - III. Acceptable terms have been agreed for a new lease, including a community use agreement.

11. **Any Other Business**

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