

Executive Report 14 July 2021

Councillor Paul Bettison
Leader of the Council



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Community Cohesion

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance – Definition of Antisemitism adopted

- Government adopted definition in December 2016
- Bracknell Forest Council equality, diversity strategy committed to eliminating discrimination and hatred to **all** communities
- Recent further request from Secretary of State to Local Authorities – important
- Important Bracknell Forest Council position not misinterpreted

Definition recommended to Council for formal adoption by Chief Executive



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Property/Assets

Time Square Collaboration Space/Community Hub

- Phase 1 works agreed to transform Time Square ground floor
- Pre-pandemic 700 desks – home to 1100 staff
- New home working policy reduces total desk requirement
- Offers opportunity to create vibrant community hub which is much more accessible to public, including;
 - Ground floor café/collaboration space
 - New Ceremony Room
 - Re-imagined Reception/Customer meeting area

£640k capital allocation recommended to Council for Chief Executive to include in Capital Programme



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Depot Site

Strategic procurement plan to re-develop site agreed by Executive Member

- Will deliver new depot facility plus surplus land for disposal
- Work due to commence April 2022



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Culture & Leisure (1)

Leisure Facilities

- Council's primary leisure facilities (BSLC, Downshire Golf Course, Coral Reef) operated by Everyone Active
- Income generated underpins £1.3m management fee to Council
- Income inevitably hit by Covid restrictions
- Financial support packages to ensure activities able to re-open agreed in April and July 2020 and March 2021
- Members agreed level of Quarter 2 support to be agreed when usage and income data available



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Culture & Leisure (2)

South Hill Park

- Request to guarantee pension liability declined by Executive Members
 - No legal connection between Bracknell Forest Council and South Hill Park
 - Concern about equitable treatment of other charitable organisations
- No threat to premises or grounds
- Ongoing revenue support grant to South Hill Park [£194k] unaffected



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Other Decisions advise to Executive Members

Temporary Emergency Affordable Accommodation

- Wheelchair accessible modular building at Tenterden Lodge
- £180k of S106 provision for affordable housing agreed

Children's Residential Care Consortia Framework 2021 – 2024

- Continued membership of CRC consortia endorsed
- Retains flexibility for spot purchases



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Other Decisions advise to Executive Members

Crowthorne Neighbourhood Development Plan 2018 – 2036

- Plan formally 'made' so part of Bracknell Forest Development Plan
- Endorsed by May referendum (supported by 85%)
- 25% of relevant local CIL levy receipts now payable to Crowthorne Parish Council



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THANK YOU

Paul

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