

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Community and Wellbeing Committee on Thursday, 16 January 2025

This notice was published 17 January 2025.

Decisions will come into force, and may be implemented, on the expiry of 5 clear working days from the date of this notice unless called in by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

NOTE: The following represents a summary of the decisions taken by the Committee. It is not intended to represent the formal record of the meeting (for which reference should be made to the minutes) but to facilitate the call-in process.

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
1.	Questions and Statements from the Public	The Committee received no questions or statements from members of the Public at the meeting.
2.	Declarations of Interest	<p>Fees and Charges 2025/26</p> <p>Councillor Graham Jones, Other Interest: Councillor Graham Jones wished to declare that he was a concert promoter and had been involved in future events scheduled at Epsom Playhouse.</p> <p>Councillor Kim Spickett, Other Interest: Councillor Kim Spickett wished to declare that she had been involved in a future production scheduled at Epsom Playhouse.</p> <p>Voluntary Sector Funding 2025-2026</p> <p>Councillor Alison Kelly, Other Interest: Councillor Alison Kelly wished to declare as a non-registerable interest that she was a volunteer for Age Concern and Citizens Advice.</p>
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Committee confirmed as a true record the public Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 October 2024 and authorised the Chair to sign them.

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Agenda Item No	Report Title	Decision
4.	Armed Forces Councillor Champion Annual Statement 2024/25	The Committee unanimously resolved to: (1) Receive and note the annual statement of the Armed Forces councillor champion.
5.	Mental Health Councillor Champion Annual Statement 2024/25	The Committee unanimously resolved to: (1) Receive and note the annual statement of the Mental Health councillor champion.
6.	Capital Programme 2025/26	The Committee unanimously resolved to: (1) Submit the capital programme for 2025/26 as identified in section 3¹ of the report to the Council for approval on 11 February 2025; (2) Note the provisional forecast of schemes for the capital programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30; (3) Note that schemes subject to external funding from Disabled Facilities Grants will only proceed once funding has been received.

¹ Prior to making its decision, the Committee noted a change to the figure for the Disabled Facilities Grant Programme, as explained by the Senior Accountant during his introduction to the report.

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7.	Fees and Charges 2025/26	<p>The Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Agree the fees and charges for the Community and Wellbeing Committee for 2025/26.</p> <p>(2) Nominate and authorise the Head of Operational Services and Assistant Head of Service (Venues) to issue discounts on the new facility fee for group bookings of over 25.</p>
8.	Revenue Budget 2025/26	<p>The Committee resolved (7 for, and 1 abstaining) to:</p> <p>(1) Recommend the 2025/26 service estimates for approval at the budget meeting of Full Council in February 2025.</p>
9.	Housing Reviews	<p>The Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Approve the award of a contract for the conduct of reviews of allocation and homelessness decisions to Residential Management Group (RMG) Ltd for a period of 1 year with an option to extend for a further period of 1 year and;</p>

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		<p>(2) Nominate and authorise to RMG Ltd the Council’s statutory functions pursuant to the provisions of s166A(9) and s202 of the Housing Act 1996 to perform reviews of decisions made either regarding the suitability of accommodation offered s166A(9) or as the result of a decision upon a request for assistance as homeless s202. And:</p> <p>(3) Nominate and authorise to the Strategic Housing Manager the Council’s statutory functions pursuant to the provisions of s166A(9) and s202 of the Housing Act 1996 to perform reviews of decisions made either regarding the suitability of accommodation offered s166A(9) or as the result of a decision upon a request for assistance as homeless s202.</p> <p>(4) Nominate and authorise Housing Reviews Ltd to conclude all outstanding cases as per the previous committee report in October.</p>
10.	Health and wellbeing priorities 2025-2028	<p>The Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Support the Council in developing its revised Health and Wellbeing Strategy based on the priorities set out in the report, and as included in Appendix 1 of the report.</p>

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11.	Voluntary Sector Funding 2025-2026	<p>The Committee unanimously resolved to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended) and that pursuant to paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the said Schedule 12A the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.</p> <p>The Committee resolved (7 for, and 1 against) to:</p> <p>(1) Agree to the financial support of the voluntary sector organisations in 2025-2026 as detailed in option 2 (section 3.10 of the report).</p>