

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING
COMMITTEE commencing 7.55pm, held at the Council Chamber,
Epsom Town Hall on 17 June 2025**

PRESENT -

Councillor Clive Woodbridge (Chair); Councillor Bernice Froud (Vice-Chair); Councillors Rob Geleit, Graham Jones, Rachel King, Bernie Muir, Humphrey Reynolds and Kim Spickett

In Attendance: Councillor Alison Kelly and Councillor James Lawrence

Officers present: Jackie King (Chief Executive), Cagdas Canbolat (Director of Corporate Services (S151)), Piero Ionta (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), Rod Brown (Head of Housing and Community), Mark Shephard (Head of Property and Regeneration), Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Manager) and Dan Clackson (Democratic Services Officer)

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other registrable or non-registrable interests were made by Members in respect of any items considered at the meeting.

5 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

During the Committee's debate on item 2 of the agenda (RELATE funding 2025/26), the Committee considered that due to the sensitivity of the information contained within Appendix 2 to the report, an exclusion of the Press and Public would be necessary in order to enable effective debate on the matter in question.

The Chair proposed a motion that the Press and Public be excluded 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.

The Committee agreed unanimously in favour of the motion.

6 RELATE FUNDING 2025/6

The Committee received a report considering options for future funding arrangements for RELATE Mid and East Surrey for 2025-2027.

The Committee considered the following matters in public:

- a) **General Clarifications.** In response to questions from Members, the Head of Housing and Community confirmed that RELATE, who also operated in Mole Valley and Reigate & Banstead, did not receive subsidised rent from either of those Councils. He stated that RELATE had confirmed that the data they had provided, as seen at appendix 1 to the report, was in respect of Epsom & Ewell residents only.
- b) **Delay in Receiving Service Data from RELATE.** In response to a question from a Member, the Head of Housing and Community suggested that the delay in receiving service data from RELATE was likely on account of a clerical error on their part, as the Council's original request for the information coincided closely with a change in management within RELATE.

The summary of the Committee's debate that took part following the exclusion of the Press and Public is recorded in a separate (not for publication) restricted minute.

Following consideration, the Committee resolved (6 for, 2 abstaining) to:

(1) **Agree to Option 3.**

The meeting began at 7.55 pm and ended at 8.33 pm

COUNCILLOR CLIVE WOODBRIDGE (CHAIR)