

**12dd) Question to Councillor Chris Lloyd, Lead Member for Leisure from Councillor Ciaran Reed**

How can residents in Sarratt understand if there is funding available for regeneration of the reed bed pond in the village centre?

**Written response:**

The District Council does not have any specific information on sources of funding for projects of this nature. Residents would be advised to investigate sources of charitable funding, such as the National Lottery. The Countryside Management Service may also be able to advice and guidance on funding sources for regeneration schemes such as

this: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-and-environment/countryside-management/countryside-management-service.aspx>

**12ee) Question to Councillor Chris Lloyd, Lead Member for Leisure from Councillor Sara Bedford**

How many trees have been planted by the Council, broken down by Ward, over the past three years?

**Written response:**

Ward	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021	2021 / 2022
Abbots Langley & Bedmond	No data	2	0
Carpenders Park	No data	2	3
Chorleywood North & Sarratt	No data	10	6
Chorleywood South & Maple Cross	No data	16	0
Dickinsons	No data	2	33
Durrants	No data	0	0
Gade Valley	No data	0	0
Leavesden	No data	9	3
Moor Park & Eastbury	No data	12	14
Oxhey Hall & Hayling	No data	4	25
Penn & Mill End	No data	2	8
Rickmansworth Town	No data	12	3
South Oxhey	No data	0	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>71</b>	<b>108</b>

It should also be noted that some additional 54 trees (including a substantial feature tree if 15 metres height, were planted Leavesden Ward funded by Warner Bros following discussions with Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst.

The Council is committed to additional tree planting of up to 700 trees spread across the District in the next planting season 2022/23.

**12ff) Question to Councillor Chris Lloyd, Lead Member for Leisure from Councillor Sara Bedford**

How does the Council ensure that courses and classes are reasonably located across the north, west and south areas of the District?

**Written response:**

Officers regularly review their work programmes to ensure that there is an even spread of activities across the District. On occasion, this may be dictated by venue availability. Officers will also regularly review feedback from residents on activities and review how these could be incorporated into future work programming.

**12gg) Report from Councillor Phil Williams, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Sustainability**

Regular briefings and meetings with officers, partners and outside bodies have continued.

The Batchworth Depot work continues. Officers are now in the new building with an official opening due very soon. If anyone would like a tour, please let me know so it can be arranged.

The teams at the Depot have been working as hard as ever. Since Brexit staffing continues to be an issue, although officers strive to fill the gaps.

Preliminary recycling figures are “promising”.

Solar Bulk Buy Scheme has been approved with contracts starting at the end of July.

The Home Energy Support Service has been set up. Full details are on the website. Elen Roberts & Jo Hewitson have been attending various events with school and community groups including a successful event at the Rickmansworth Festival focussing on saving our chalk streams.

**12hh) Question to Councillor Phil Williams, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Sustainability from Councillor Shanti Maru**

Why are the dog bins not being regularly cleared in Oxhey Woods?

**Written response:**

As a general rule, the litter and dog bins are cleared 3 times a week in Oxhey Woods.

**12ii) Question to Councillor Phil Williams, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Sustainability from Councillor Reena Ranger**

The question of no idling zones was first raised with the Lead Member in July 2019. Almost 3 years on, can the Lead Member please advise as to how this has

progressed? They will also remember this was a request from the Youth Council in December 2020.

**Written response:**

As previously advised at Full Council in order to enforce and issue Notices against those who are stationary with their engines on, the area has to be 'designated'. The Council may apply for designation under The Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002. However, specific criteria needs to be met. The Council has an Air Quality Management Area so meets the first criteria for designation. However, part of the application for designation would include the submission of evidence to demonstrate that there is a problem locally. There is no current available evidence detailing there is specific problem outside schools in Three Rivers DC as such the designation has not been pursued. Three London Boroughs that did bring this dropped this following the inability to ticket offenders

Air quality monitoring equipment is located in response to specialist Officer investigations regarding air pollution levels derived from national data and local sources. Officers continue to monitor air quality across the District. As an example, there are diffusion tubes in close proximity to the Reach School in Mill End but these were located in the area due to concerns regarding air quality from the main road on nearby residential properties. No specific studies have been carried out around schools, and would not be initiated unless there was evidence of a recognised issue.

There are also challenges of changing behaviour through enforcement, and Officers are pursuing some alternatives. We are working with all the Hertfordshire local authorities and HCC to change people's attitude to idling and raise awareness of the impacts. Consequently TRDC are an active participant in a current campaign to tackle idling. The campaign started with clean air day on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

This campaign is ongoing.

With Youth Council schools are given a theme (this latest theme was curriculum) and then it is up to the school which project they initiate. We are aware some local schools looked at vehicle idling as a recent school project.

***12jj) Question to Councillor Phil Williams, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Sustainability from Councillor Alison Wall***

Residents are currently expected to pay for dead animals such as Deer to be removed from their land, however the Council will remove dead animals from public roads for free. Will the Council consider removing these charges and change this district policy?

**Written response:**

The fee for this service has been in place for a number of years and there is no requirement for residents to use this if they are able to dispose of the dead animal themselves or arrange for a private contractor. The fee reflects the time and staff used to carry out this service. This forms part of the annual fees and charges process agreed by Members.

***12kk) Question to Councillor Phil Williams, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Sustainability from Councillor Sara Bedford***

What could be done to return Three Rivers to its position as number one for recycling?

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**Written response:**

Three Rivers District Council has consistently been the top 10 of performing Councils in recycling – indeed it should be noted that the top three Councils including Three Rivers are all Liberal Democrat run. Whilst not being No1 in 2020/21 was disappointing, I understand the initial figures for 2021/22 show that position should be reversed.

Given COVID being third in the country in 2020-21 was a fantastic achievement, especially as there is a small margin at the top of the league tables. I understand part of this was down to the excess waste collected from our parks and open space that depressed our figures whilst in fact the volume was increased!

Officers and operational staff continue to operate the waste and recycling collection to a high standard, ensuring contamination is minimal and to reinforce messages about waste reduction and reuse, as well as recycling. Three Rivers has been chosen as the pilot District to lead some interventions on avoidable food waste, a project being run between Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP) and Sustainable Herts and officers have been instrumental in a number of other HWP projects this year, notably on reusable period products, and continue to actively engage with schools in the District and make links with the climate change agenda.

**12II) Question to Councillor Phil Williams, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Sustainability from Councillor Sara Bedford**

When will the cattle intended for the conservation grazing at the Horses' Field in Abbots Langley be in place?

**Written response:**

The cattle were due to be grazed at Leavesden Country Park from the week commencing 27 June 2022. Due to complications with the water connection for the cattle trough, which are being led by Affinity Water, there has been a delay with the grazing. The grazing is now due to start the week commencing the 11 July 2022

**12mm) Report from Councillor Roger Seabourne, Lead Member for Community Safety and Partnerships**

Members will have received the regular Partnership Briefings that have been circulated so I will not repeat any of the detail of the content of those here. However, just to give you a flavour of the extent of the work being done, I have copied below the 'contents page' of the most recent edition.

- Summer Social – June 2022
- Home Energy Support Service for Three Rivers Residents
- CAP money course, South Oxhey Baptist Church – June 2022
- CAP money course, Hillside Community Hub– July 2022
- Residents Survey Poster
- ASCEND – Summer Taster Workshops
- ASCEND – Mixed Media Vibrant Art
- ASCEND – Gardening For All
- Job Vacancy
- Happy Programmes at Rickmansworth Golf Course - Everyone Active & Kaleidoscope Dance
- Supporting Links – Talking Adults Needs
- Supporting Links – Talking Families Needs
- Supporting Links – Online Course Brochure

- Dog Safety Code
- House Hold Support Fund
- Cost of Living Crisis: Women's Aid Survivor Survey

I have continued to have regular meetings and briefings with Officers, police and other agencies as well as meeting with my equivalent colleagues from the other Hertfordshire Districts and the County through the Community Safety briefings organized by the Police & Crime Commissioner.

A Community Safety briefing for all members is being arranged and officers are looking at a date in the week beginning 5 September.

The Task Group looking into the issue of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) has completed their analysis of the responses from the survey they conducted and have now drawn up and started to implement an Action Plan

## **RESOURCES AND SHARED SERVICES**

### ***12nn) Report from Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services***

#### **1. Adoption of new role.**

Having been appointed to my new role at May's Annual Council I have and will continue to receive excellent support from Officers and Councillors as I adjust to my new duties.

#### **2. Impact of inflation on TRDC's finances.**

Inflation has reached a 40-year high. Like all other areas of the country, TRDC is not immune from its impact. In common with all local authorities TRDC will be impacted in various areas. A carry-forward from last year is still being calculated at the time of writing this report, but is expected to be around £600,000. This money is derived from an underspend in 2021/22 and should help us manage some of the impact of inflation in the 2022/23 financial year.

The most significant inflationary pressure on Council finances is expected to come from the pay award. A 2% annual increase has been built into the budget across the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). Informally, Councils have been told to expect a pay award of around 4% in 2022/23. This would add a pressure of around £275k; each 1% increase in salaries roughly adds £140k to the pay bill.

Officers are monitoring where and to what extent inflation is impacting the Council's finances, so that risk mitigation measures, where available, can be identified and deployed. I have asked Officers to submit a written report to the 18 July Policy & Resources Committee, setting out inflationary concerns, impacts and mitigation measures. I have further asked Officers to continue making such reports whilst inflation remains a significant concern.

#### **3. Covid-related grant schemes delivered by Revenues & Benefits.**

Now that Covid-related grant work has ended it seems appropriate to report on the work that was done. If any Councillors require more detail than is contained in this summary please email me and state exactly what information you require. I will then liaise with Officers to ensure you receive the information you have requested.

The following grant schemes, introduced by the government, were processed by Revenues & Benefits:

- i) One scheme had a maximum payment of £10,000 and another with payments ranging between £10,000 and £25,000. Revenues & Benefits assisted 851 businesses, making payments totaling £11,855,000;
- ii) £587,000 was paid out under a scheme providing grants to small businesses. Over 100 organisations shared this money;
- iii) TRDC paid a total of £2,848,000 to 330 businesses under six Local Restriction Support Grant Schemes;
- iv) £806,000 was paid in grants under a discretionary scheme, targeting businesses paying rent rather than business rates. These businesses operate in areas such as leisure and hospitality;
- v) 251 firms received restart business grants. A total of £2,200,000 was paid out;
- vi) A total of £430,000 was paid to 118 businesses in the leisure, hospitality and accommodation sectors, under the Omicron Business Grants Scheme;
- vii) Test & Trace support payments targeted those on low incomes who had to self-isolate. Grants of up to £500 could be given. TRDC received and processed 1,267 claims. Not all claims resulted in grants being paid. A total of £298,000 was paid out.

These schemes constituted a significant amount of additional work for Officers and I am sure all Councillors are grateful for their role in getting money from central government into the hands of our residents and businesses.

#### **4. Council Tax Energy Fuel Payments.**

Payments of £150 are made under this scheme. Revenues & Benefits started making payments on 27/04/22. As at the time of writing this report, 13,167 payment had been made. This comprises 67% of residents identified as being eligible for this payment. I have asked Officers to provide me with update figures on 12 July, so that I can give Council up-to-date information during that evening's Full Council. I have also asked Officers to provide updated figures (if they have changed) on 18 July, so that they can be communicated to the Policy & Resources Committee that evening. If the figures have not changed since 12 July I will advise same at the Policy & Resources Committee.

Fuel payments represent a significant additional piece of work undertaken by Officers. I am sure that all Councillors are appreciative of the efforts made by Officers in order to benefit our residents.

As with the grants under Section 3 of this report, Councillors are invited to email me, setting out what specific information they require in respect of these payments and I will ensure that Officers provide it for them.

#### ***1200) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Andrea Fraser***

Can we obtain a list of grants that Three Rivers has received from the Central Government and Hertfordshire County Council since 2020?

#### **Written response:**

The list of grant funding received is extensive. The funding received includes monies to passport directly to business, funding to support discretionary grant schemes and funding to support the delivery of Council services. A full breakdown will be provided as a written response following the completion of the final accounts working papers. Rule 14(2) does allow that "If the matter is particularly complex, a written answer may

be circulated to all Members as soon as practicable after the meeting and a record kept with the minutes of the meeting.”

**12pp) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Lisa Hudson**

It seems that Three Rivers now plans for Council Officers to mainly work from home. What have we done to assess the impact of this change on the services for our residents?

**Written response:**

The Visitor Centre at Three Rivers House is open to the public from 09:00-16:00 hrs, Monday to Friday. This provides our residents with 35 hours each week when they can be greeted and assisted by our Customer Service Centre or Revenues & Benefits staff. Should a resident require access to a specific service area this can be conducted virtually or over the telephone. If face-to-face contact is required an appointment will be scheduled with the relevant Officer. Visitor Centre staff can also direct residents online services, where this is appropriate.

There is no “mainly working from home” plan. Rather, we have adopted an agile working practice, the objective of which is to provide residents with the best possible service, given our resources. This involves a combination of office-based, and where appropriate, remote working. We have no evidence that this approach has reduced the quality of service provided to residents. Indeed, when combined with increased online services our residents can access information and report issues out of office hours, thereby expanding our overall service capability.

**12qq) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Lisa Hudson**

Residents are in queues of up to 29 people when they are ringing the Three Rivers switchboard. What are we doing to get this number down?

**Written response:**

Three factors drove higher than usual call volumes; i) the £150 Council Tax rebate; ii) changes to bin collections before and after the Jubilee bank holiday weekend; iii) a high volume of recovery letters which had been sent out at this time.

We are encouraging residents to use the self-service portal via the Council’s website wherever possible in order that the phones are available for those who do not have access to the internet or find this way of communicating difficult.

**12rr) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor David Raw**

Has Three Rivers got a list of what services are outsourced and when the providers were last reviewed?

**Written response:**

The following services are delivered through partnerships or contractual arrangements:

Outsourced through Partnership agreement / Service Level Agreement (SLA) / Contract:

- Pest Control
- Environmental Health
- Parking



- Conservation Advice
- Disabled Facilities
- Emergency Planning
- Leisure Venues

Company structures:

- Building Control – service provided by Herts Building Control, Inter Authority Agreement and Shareholder agreement was extended for 12 months in August 2021. This is now being reviewed for 2022 onwards.

Shared Services:

- Shared Services with Watford Borough Council (HR & ICT and procurement) – Overseen by Shared Service Operations Board
- Internal Audit – Overseen by Shared Internal Audit Services (SIAS) Board

A full written response will be provided including the review dates for each arrangement. Rule 14(2) does allow that “If the matter is particularly complex, a written answer may be circulated to all Members as soon as practicable after the meeting and a record kept with the minutes of the meeting.”

***12ss) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Stephen Cox***

Whilst accepting that Rome was not built in a day, please can the Lead Member advise what progress has been made, if any, to alleviate the bowls club parking issues that went unaddressed when this council sold the Pavilion lease to Whitbread and similarly the parking issues this council created for the Scouts when it encouraged them to move from Oxhey Drive under false pretences?

**Written response:**

As Members will be aware this matter was previously addressed at Full Council in February 2022. There is no ‘quick fix’ to this issue. The Council does not retain the rights to grant permission to park over the Pavilion car park in South Oxhey.

As a reminder, my Predecessor stated in response to a supplementary question arising from the Full Council meeting in February that:

*“Unfortunately it was believed at the time of agreeing the lease to the Scouts that they could use the car park, however this was not enshrined in their lease and not challenged by their legal representatives at the time.*

*Whilst it is regrettable that this situation has occurred, TRDC is unable to permit or grant rights for parking in the car park to the Scouts or Bowls Club, as it does not retain the rights to do so.”*

It is therefore impossible to guarantee any further positive developments in relation to this matter and only the willingness of the current Leaseholder would enable such concessions to be granted.

***12tt) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Stephen King***



When can I expect to receive a full answer to my supplementary question regarding retail units at Station Approach in South Oxhey which I asked in February?

**Written response:**

Following Councillor King's supplementary question in February, Officers sought to identify the purchaser of the retail units at South Oxhey. A search of the Land Registry database was undertaken, but at the time, the ownership records had not been updated on the Land Registry database. Following a more recent search at that the end of June, those records had still not been updated.

Officers subsequently spoke with colleagues from Countryside PLC to confirm that a transaction had occurred. However, the identity of the purchaser has not yet been published within the public domain. As soon as we are made aware that this information has been published to the Land Registry database, Officers will provide a further update directly to Councillor King

***12uu) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Joan King***

Can the Lead Member advise is there anything further this authority needs to do in respect of Three Rivers District Council's application for Village Green status for South Oxhey Playing Field that it has submitted on behalf of Watford Rural Parish Council.

**Written response:**

There is nothing further that Three Rivers District Council needs to do in relation to this application. The definitive site plan has been submitted to Hertfordshire County Council and it is now up to them to determine the Town & Village Green application for South Oxhey Playing Fields.

We have been advised that there is a substantial backlog in relation to Town & Village Green and Common Land registration applications. We understand that it could take between 2-3 years before this application is processed and Town & Village Green status is granted. I have asked Officers to notify if there are any material changes affecting this application. In the event I am so notified I will advise Councillor King and report the matter at Full Council as part of my report.

***12vv) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford***

What provision is there for residents to meet Council officers in person, including on a 'drop-in' basis?

**Written response:**

The Visitor Centre is open between 9.00am – 4.00pm Monday – Friday for residents to hold face-to-face discussions with a member of staff from the Customer Services Centre or Revenues & Benefits. Should a customer require access to a specific service area, this can be conducted virtually or over the telephone. If face-to-face contact is required then an appointment will be scheduled with the relevant Officer.

**12ww) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

What is the provision for residents who may be in crisis to speak in person regarding Housing Benefit or Council Tax payments?

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**Written response:**

Residents requiring assistance with Housing Benefit, Council Tax Support and any queries relating to payment of Council Tax payments, repayment of overpayments etc. can come into the Visitors Centre at Three Rivers House. Two Revenues & Benefits Officers are on duty every day in Visitors Centre between 09:00 - 16:00 hrs. If visiting Three Rivers House is impractical, residents can call Three Rivers and they will be directed to Revenues & Benefits staff, who can assist them.

**12xx) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

Being able to identify the correct officer to speak to is vital for Councillors. What is done to ensure Councillors know when officers have moved on, new officers have taken on roles or responsibilities have been reallocated?

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**Written response:**

The Head of Customer Experience has recently circulated to Councillors the key contacts in each service area. Any changes to this will be communicated from each department to Committee Officers so that this information can be shared with Councillors.

**12yy) Questions to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

**12yy i** How many Three Rivers households were eligible to receive the Council Tax Rebate?

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**Written response:**

The number of eligible households in Three Rivers for the Council Tax Energy payment is approximately 19,500.

**12yy ii** On what date were residents whose bank details were held by the Council paid the Council Tax Rebate?

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**Written response:**

Payments to households who pay their Council Tax by DD started on 27 April 2022. Payments were made on the following dates; 27.04.22, 05.05.22, 12.05.22, 16.05.22 & 27.05.22. All payments to DD payers were made by 27.05.22.

**12yy iii** How many households had received the rebate by 31 May and 30 June respectively?

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**Written response:**

12,296 by the end of May 22.

12,716 by 22.06.22 (in total)

We have also made a number of payments direct to households Council Tax accounts where this is their chosen method of receiving the payment. To date there are 180 of these.

The difference between the total number of 5,900 between the expected payments of 19,500 and 13,600 total number of payments made is then number of applications we are still expecting to receive.

Non-DD payers have to complete an application form in order to receive the payment. Payments to non-DD payers commenced on 30.05.22 with payments being made on the following dates; 30.05.22, 06.06.22, 07.06.22, 10.06.22, 15.06.22, 17.06.22, 21.06.22 & 29.06.22.

Three Rivers have now paid 70% of the payments due to households in Bands A-D.

**12yy iv** What are the reasons for any delays in payments?

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**Written response:**

The Revenues Team are completely up-to-date with payments and applications are being turned around daily as they continue to be received. Households can apply on-line and they can also come into the council offices if they need assistance. Officers are available at Three Rivers House between the hours of 09:00 and 16:00. There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up.

We are also holding 2 Council Tax Energy Rebate surgeries in the district on 19 & 20 July. 19 July is in Abbots Langley at the Hillside Community Hub and 20 July is at the Watford Rural Parish Council offices. The dates and times are going to be published on the web and social media. We thought this would be a good way to engage with residents and encourage further take up of this rebate. We are analysing data with regards to the numbers of applications received from each Parish and we will run further drop-in surgeries where required.

We have until 30.09.22 to make payments for this scheme. At the moment households have the choice of receiving the payment directly into their nominated bank account or have the payment transferred to their Council Tax account. Towards the end of the scheme if there are any households who have not applied but are eligible we will make the payment to their Council Tax account in order that they do not lose out.

**12zz) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

What policy has been used to make discretionary payments to those outside Council Tax bands A-D? How many payments have been made, broken down by Ward?

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**Written response:**

The criteria for the Council Tax Energy Discretionary Rebate Scheme was agreed at the Policy & Resources Committee on 13.06.22. The criteria is as follows:

- Residents of properties in Bands E-H who are in receipt of Council Tax Support (CTS) will receive a payment of £150.00.
- Residents of properties in Bands A-D in receipt of Council Tax Support will receive a 'top-up' payment of £40.00

- Residents who have moved into the area since 01.04.22 who have not received a payment from another local authority can apply for a payment of £150.00. Claims of this type will be restricted to the first 61 as funds will then be spent.

Please see the answer to 12xx iii for the number of payments made under the core scheme. There have been no payments made yet under the discretionary scheme. We do not have the breakdown of the numbers in each ward for payments referred to at 12xx, above. Producing this information involves significant work. Once an answer has been produced it will be sent to Councillor Bedford.

**12aaa) Questions to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

**12aaa i** - What progress has been made towards providing and signing a gender-neutral toilet where possible in every public building owned or operated by the Council?

**Written responses:**

There is a gender-neutral toilet at Three Rivers House although there is presently no legal requirement to provide gender-neutral toilet facilities, indeed in certain circumstances, the removal of gender-specific toilets in favour of unisex/gender-neutral provision can be considered inappropriate and can be regarded as discriminatory towards women.

The Council continues to maintain a range of gender-specific and unisex disabled facilities and there are presently no plans to review this provision.

HM Government hosted a consultation on "Toilet provision for men and women" which ran from 31 October 2020 to 26 February 2021. HM Government are currently reviewing feedback and the Council will of course review such findings and implement any recommendations.

**12aaa ii** - What has been done to encourage partners to do likewise?

**Written response:**

As indicated in the answer to the initial question (12zz i), there is presently no legal requirement to provide gender-neutral toilet facilities and partner organisations and we can encourage but not force them to do so.

**12bbb) Questions to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

**12bbb i** - How many contracted staff are now being paid the Real Living Wage where the roles were previously being paid at a rate lower than the RLW?

**Written response:**

The Real Living Wage for the Leisure Management Contract is due to commence on 1 October 2022. It will affect 103 colleagues/staff broken down as the below;

Full Time – 15

Part Time – 39

Casual – 49

Tenon FM provide cleaning services for Watersmeet, Batchworth Depot, Basing House and Three Rivers House. Their staff are paid the National Minimum wage. The contract is due for renewal in January 2023 when the requirement to provide the Real Living wage will be implemented

**12bbb ii** - Which areas of the Council's operations do these staff work in?

**Written response:**

Cleaning Contract, Leisure Management Contract

**12ccc) Question to Councillor Keith Martin, Lead Member for Resources and Shared Services from Councillor Sara Bedford**

Keeping residents and other stakeholders informed of the Council's activities is vital for openness and provision of information. On 20 June 2022, the last Full Council meeting for which minutes are available on the Council Minutes page of the Council's web site is 19 October 2021. What can be done to ensure these pages are kept up to date?

**Written response:**

This was an administrative oversight. All the Council minutes were available to view on the website with the published agendas for the Council meetings. The Council minute's webpage was updated on 21 June when notified of the question. Officers will ensure that both the agenda and minutes page are kept updated. All other minute pages were checked at this time and were found to be all up to date.

**13. REPORTS AND QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRS OF THE AUDIT, PLANNING, LICENSING AND REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEES (RULE 14)**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**13a) Report from and questions to the Chair of the Audit Committee, Cllr Tony Humphrey**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**13b) Report from and questions to the Chair of the Planning Committee, Cllr Steve Drury**

**13c) Question to Councillor Steve Drury, the Chair of the Planning Committee, from Councillor Sara Bedford**

How can the Council better defend planning appeals for major or minor planning applications?

**Written response:**

Planning applications are required to be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Should planning applications be refused by the Council, it is essential that refusals are based on demonstrable harm which can be evidenced. It is also important that when schemes are refused, regard is had to the planning balance and whether the adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits. If schemes are refused having full regard to the statutory requirements and having undertaken a balancing exercise, then any decision

reached ought to be defensible but the decision on whether to allow or dismiss an appeal rests with the Government's Planning Inspector.

## LICENSING

***13d) Report from and questions to the Chair of the Licensing Committee, Cllr Raj Khiroya***

## REGULATORY SERVICES

***13e) Report from and questions to the Chair of the Regulatory Services Committee, Cllr Raj Khiroya***

## 14. MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 11

### Motion 1:

**Councillor Ciaran Reed, seconded by Councillor Reena Ranger to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

Three Rivers District Council are saddened and disturbed by the unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, which has caused horrific devastation, and created an escalating humanitarian crisis with millions displaced or affected. In light of this, and as a way of expressing support for the people of Ukraine and members of our communities who are from or who have ties with Ukraine this Council:

1. Condemns the unprovoked Russian invasion of Ukraine and stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and their families and friends, including those local to Three Rivers;
2. Stands ready to provide support and open our arms to innocent people displaced and affected by this unprovoked Russian aggression;
3. Will work with and support the efforts of our local communities to provide help, support and comfort to those in need;
4. Commits to ensure that Three Rivers District Council will not cooperate with any organisation or form contracts with any companies owned or part owned by the government of the Russian Federation and work to leave any contracts that are with companies owned or part owned by the government of the Russian Federation.

### Motion 2

**Councillor Reena Ranger, seconded by Councillor Ciaran Reed to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

The Council believes that administrative boundaries do not define communities. Residents of Moor Park and Eastbury in Northwood, Three Rivers' residents are being unfairly penalised by parking charges to access vital services in Northwood High Street which falls in Hillingdon.

We believe that all residents should have easy and fair access to doctors, dentist basic services and therefore request the administration to write to the Leader of Hillingdon Council to urge them to reinstate for 30 minutes free parking for those residents living in Northwood who happen by virtue of an administrative boundary to be a non-resident but in reality and use it as a principal town due to proximity so

that we can ensure our residents are able to access the vital services that they need as needed without financial consequence at this already difficult time.

### **Motion 3**

**Councillor Stephen King, seconded by Councillor Joan King to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

This Council notes the 50th Anniversary of Oxhey Jets Football Club, which has been an integral part of the South Oxhey community for all that time.

This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to John Elliott B.E.M. who, along with his parents, formed the club in 1972 and who has selflessly put in thousands and thousands of hours making the club the success it is today. The letter shall thank him and personally and all the other club volunteers both past and present for their dedication and true community spirit.

The letter shall make it clear that this council fully acknowledges all that club means to the people South Oxhey and this Council's appreciation of its role it plays in the wider community."

### **15. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

If Council wishes to consider the remaining items in private, it will be appropriate for a resolution to be passed in the following terms:-

"that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act. It has been decided by the Council that in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

### **16. TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2022**

#### **16a. BUILDING CONTROL AND UPDATE REPORT**

#### **16b. LEISURE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – REPROFILING OF MANAGEMENT FEE**

### **17. TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2022**

#### **17a. PRE EMPTION SITES**

Joanne Wagstaffe  
Chief Executive  
4 July 2022

General Enquiries: [Committeeteam@threerivers.gov.uk](mailto:Committeeteam@threerivers.gov.uk)