#### About women's dignity. Period.

**Surrey Fire and Rescue Service** (SFRS) have launched an initiative aimed at fostering a more inclusive and supportive environment for women and girls across Surrey.

Following a recent menstrual health education session, the SFRS Community Safety Partnership team is now equipped to provide support and period products to women and girls who need them when they are on duty in local communities.

The initiative is a joint collaboration between SFRS and **Binti** - a charity that provides menstrual dignity to girls and women worldwide.

**Bernie Beckett, SFRS Chief of Staff, said:** "Addressing the topic of periods and menstruation can be challenging. However, by launching this initiative we aim to break the stigma and, most importantly, provide period products to those who face challenges in accessing them.

"We know that many women and girls lack access to the necessary support and education surrounding menstrual health. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service can provide a vital role in ensuring that women and girls in our communities have access to period products when they need them. We're delighted to be playing our part in Binti's menstrual dignity mission, contributing to a more inclusive and supportive environment for women and girls in Surrey."

**Manjit K. Gill, CEO and founder of Binti said:** "Manjit K. Gill MBE CEO and Founder of Binti said: "Working with a forward-thinking organisation like Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, especially in a traditionally male-dominated sector, is truly inspiring.

"Their commitment to inclusion for their workforce and their willingness to tackle the issue of period dignity head-on sets a remarkable example for others to follow. By breaking down barriers and fostering a more inclusive environment, we are not only empowering women and girls but also challenging societal norms. It is a privilege to collaborate with such a visionary organisation and collectively drive positive change in the pursuit of gender equality."

The service will be storing period products on some of its Community and Partnership vehicles. An 'Ask me for period products' magnet will indicate to members of the public that period products are available when out in the community or attending events.

Related reports:

Lighting up for menstrual dignity

## Surrey supports mental health projects

The Surrey All Age Mental Health Investment Fund (MHIF) has awarded funding to 10 projects providing innovative, community-focused programmes to support the prevention of mental ill health and improvement of emotional well-being across the county.

Established in 2022, the MHIF is an integrated funding programme with a total budget of £10.5m. This allocation consists of a £6.5m contribution from Surrey County Council from the specific **1% precept on Council Tax collected from 2022/2023** and £4m from Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board. Additionally, the Council has partnered with the Community Foundation for Surrey and secured just under £1m via a match funding arrangement.

Funding is used to support services which are non-statutory; developed by local, community-based groups. The MHIF is aligned to meeting the outcomes of Priority 2 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which focuses on prevention, removing barriers, and supporting people to become proactive in improving their emotional health and wellbeing.

Round 1 of applications took place in December 2022. There were 55 bids submitted of which 10 were successfully awarded funding totally approximately £530,000.

The projects awarded funding include a gardening space to increase access to nature-based therapy, providing support to life-limited children and their families and expanding the provision of a hub that uses drama to support people with mental health challenges.

All bids were assessed by a panel which represents the Integrated Care Board (ICB), Surrey County Council, Cabinet members, the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE), integrated commissioning representatives and Public Health.

Mark Nuti, Surrey County Council Cabinet Member for Adults and Health, said: "I'm delighted that the first round of

funding has been allocated to a range of different organisations, all working to tackle mental ill-health with innovative, community-focused projects.

"The successful bids cover a broad age range and are spread across the 11 districts and boroughs of Surrey. We have also approved funding a large bid investing in primary schools across Surrey as part of Round 1, and I'm pleased to say we have already had significant interest in Round 2 of the fund after going live at the beginning of June."

Round 2 of funding has just closed and bids are currently being evaluated. Information regarding any future rounds of funding will be communicated via our webpage.

Find out more about the MHIF: Surrey Mental Health Investment Fund - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk)

#### Round 1 Awards:

- Merstham Community Facility Trust support groups for adults, and for children in Merstham, as well as supporting the recruitment and training of 16 further Health and Wellbeing Community Champions in the local community
- The Lucy Rayner Foundation Counselling service to reach people (14-39 years) preventing them from reaching crisis
- Catalyst Wellbeing Garden Providing a project co-ordinator and a project assistant to develop the gardening space; establish, programme, and run nature-based therapy sessions, providing time and space for holistic support.
- Prospero Theatre Community Wellbeing Company Prospero is an inclusive theatre company, that uses drama to improve the quality of life for adults and young people with disabilities and mental health challenges.
- **Shooting Star Children's Hospice** Aiding the provision of mental health support for life-limited children, their family members (including parents and siblings)
- **Emerge Advocacy** Community-based support following an A&E attendance to catch young people who have recently been in emotional or mental health crisis.
- **Peer Production** Two full tours of each of Peer Production's mental health plays (Masking and The Space Between).
- **A2 Dominion** Provision of 'Mind My Home' an online solutions-based therapy project, targeted at low income/social housing tenants.
- Appeer Community Interest Company A project which aims to address the social isolation of young autistics
  girls, provide early help and resources and support parents and care givers of autistic daughters.

Further information about the

awards: https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/news/community-projects-500k-mental-health-investment-fund

Image: Appeer Community Interest, Peer Productions, Prospero Friday Club.

### Change at the top at Epsom's University

**Professor Nick Foskett has been named as the interim President & Vice-Chancellor of the University for the Creative Arts.** This includes the campus in Ashley Road, Epsom.

Prof. Foskett, currently an independent member of UCA's Board of Governors, will take over from outgoing President & Vice-Chancellor, Professor **Bashir Makhoul**, upon his retirement from UK higher education in September.

"Having served on the Board of Governors, it was an honour to be asked to cover this interim period," said Prof. Foskett. "UCA is a wonderful university with endless potential and under Prof. Makhoul's leadership is in a fantastic position. I will ensure his legacy continues and is built on so that UCA can continue its impressive trajectory."

Prof. Foskett is a graduate of Oxford and Southampton universities and has had a long and diverse relationship with higher education, working at some of the UK's leading universities. He was Vice-Chancellor of Keele University from 2010 to 2015, and Interim Vice-Chancellor of Bath Spa University from 2017 to 2018. For around 20 years he held several positions at the University of Southampton, latterly as Professor of Education and Dean of the Faculty of Law, Arts and Social Sciences. Prior to that his first foray into higher education was at Aston University, working in school engagement and external relations.

An expert in education policy and management, Prof. Foskett has sat on and continues to sit on several boards in the UK and globally and has also made a huge contribution to the development of governance frameworks within the higher education sector.

Prof. Makhoul announced his retirement from UCA and from UK higher education in March of this year, after more than six years as President & Vice-Chancellor. Since joining, Prof. Makhoul has steered the University towards its aim of becoming a global authority on the creative industries, forging significant partnerships at home and abroad. He has overseen a five-fold increase in international students studying at the University's UK campuses and spearheading the opening of the Institute of Creativity and Innovation in Xiamen, China, along with the establishment of the UK's first Business School for the Creative Industries.

External recognition of these achievements includes being named Modern University of the Year by The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide in 2019 and being granted Research Degree Awarding Powers by the Office for Students.

Prof. Makhoul said: "I am delighted Prof. Foskett will be overseeing operations while my permanent replacement is found. He has a fantastic track record and understands UCA's unique position as a champion of the creative industries. I wish him all the best for his interim tenure."

**Jeremy Sandelson**, Chair of the Board of Governors, said: "We are delighted Prof. Foskett has agreed to be our interim President & Vice-Chancellor at UCA. We couldn't think of a safer pair of hands to take the helm, and we offer him every support as he leads the University during this time."

Emma Cook UCA

#### £10m Co-Vid grant pay-back put in wrong place

A £10million accounting error at cash-strapped Guildford Borough Council was discovered in March but councillors were only told this month.

The error meant it looked like there was more in the council's reserves, effectively its savings, than there really was, and that "urgent action" was now needed to turn things around.

Officers at the borough council have warned a section 114 notice, the same as has been issued by neighbouring Woking, could be issued this year, but is not immediately needed.

There are plans to cut spending in the short term under a new budget to be agreed by council on Tuesday (July 25), but with a warning the notice may be needed later in the year.

At a meeting of the council's corporate governance and standards committee on Tuesday (July 18), members were given a clearer timeline of the discovery of the accounting error.

The money, according to Guildford's joint executive head of finance, a role that is shared with Waverley council, was a Covid grant that had come from central government to be given out by the council.

Peter Vickers told the meeting that the leftover money, which has now been paid back to government, was incorrectly put in the council's reserves rather than as money to be paid out, affecting the amount of money that seemed to be in the council's savings.

The error came to light as external auditors looked over the 2020/21 accounts, with Guildford being one of many councils across Surrey and nationwide that has a backlog in its accounts being externally audited.

Mr Vickers said there were "quite a lot of accounting adjustments required" off the back of Grant Thornton's audit, but said the issue was brought to members "at the earliest, most appropriate time to have that conversation".

Councillors received an email the day before the statement that was issued on July 12 by Mr Vickers and the council's chief executive to outline the plans to draw up a new budget and give the council a chance of staying afloat.

Councillor George Potter (Lib Dem, Burpham), said as with anything of such "magnitude" there was an interest in understanding "who knew what and when". He asked officers when portfolio holders were made aware of the accounting error.

Mr Vickers said it wasn't "cut and dry" when the error was identified and work needed to be done on identifying what had happened, what controls were in place and the nature of the error. He said: "It wasn't something we were just about to bring to members and say: 'Oh, we found an error.' Everyone's ears [would] prick up and suddenly we're all on high alert. We have to do the right diligence to understand what had gone on."

He said the relevant portfolio holder was told in an "absolutely confidential briefing happened to very few individuals at the time" but that with three years of uncompleted external audits, officers didn't know "the boundaries of what was going on".

The borough council's chief executive told the meeting it was not a case of the council having "lost" £10m that now needed to be found. Tom Horwood said: "This is about an accountancy treatment of a figure that was effectively put in the wrong set of columns. So the money came in, it was spent appropriately, the balance was returned to government. There is no further money to find in that sense from that sum, but it was put into the wrong place from an accountancy perspective, which meant that it looked as if our reserves were higher than they actually are."

A full council meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 25.

# RA and Green motion to improve Surrey's "Green" motion

It could soon be possible to take a "pleasant walk or cycle" along a Surrey road without being "slapped" in the face by "brambles or nettles".

A motion calling on **Surrey County Council** to prioritise the maintenance of walking and cycling routes was passed with unanimous cross-party support – as long as the plans pass select committee.

Introducing the item at the Tuesday, July 11 full council meeting, was **Residents' Association** and Independents Group leader Councillor **Catherine Powell**. She said: "The travel choices people make will be driven by how convenient, safe, easy, and enjoyable the options are. These choices will also impact on the individuals carbon footprint, and their health and wellbeing."

Cllr Powell added: "We must make the most of the infrastructure we have already invested in, by proactively maintaining the surfaces, managing vegetation and prioritising the routes that people value most and use most. That will encourage others to use them too."

The motion, she said, would "ensure our residents are not put off from walking, cycling, scooting because of overgrown paths, poorly repaired surfaces or just the plain absence of a map that shows the cut-throughs through an estate".

The group hopes new and improved routes, in addition to the increased awareness from new maps – created with input from ramblers and cyclists – would reduce the dependence on driving as a default means of transport.

The motion was seconded by Cllr **Jonathan Essex**, leader of the **Green Party** group, who said it would ensure bus and cycle lanes, as well as pavements, were inspected more frequently.

He told the meeting it would "make it possible to do a pleasant walk or cycle without being slapped by brambles or nettles."

The motion will go to the council's highways select committee for approval following an amendment from Surrey County Council leader **Tim Oliver** who told the meeting decisions requiring policy and budget changes needed greater scrutiny and couldn't be made on the hoof- but he supported it in principle.

The motion says that increasing cycling and walking is a key objective of the Council, and forms part of Surrey's Community Vision for 2030 and Local Transport Plan.

All highways policies will be aligned with the council's transport vision but, the motion said, more still needs to be done to develop plans to encourage walking and cycling.

As such the council has agreed, subject to agreement from the select committee, to update transport plans to support a higher priority grading on routes for local walking and cycling journeys, – particularly in areas of high employment, schools, hospitals, and leisure facilities.

It will also ensure walking and cycling routes are not blocked by overgrown plants and that highways inspection, for things such as potholes, are extended to left-behind signs, debris on pavements and cycleways and blocked drains.

Image: Cycle paths beside Christchurch Road Epsom (Google image).

#### Contractors occupying the high-ground

Ewell school benefits from local highway contractors' social value activities.

Milestone Infrastructure, a part of M Group Services, is committed to supporting the communities in which it operates and was delighted to volunteer its services to **West Ewell Primary School** recently by helping to clear a large, abandoned area of the school playground containing a disused swimming pool and outbuildings.

Milestone Infrastructure is the street lighting contractor for Surrey County Council and, as part of its commitment to undertaking social value activities and events throughout the year, the team formed a Social Value Alliance with the council and other highways contractors including Yunex, Atkins, Ringway and Surrey Skill Mill.

A team of 36 volunteers representing the Alliance met onsite to help remove the old swimming pool and outbuildings surrounding it and cut back overgrown foliage to make the area safe and accessible for the school children to use in future.

Once the ground has been cleared and the overgrown vegetation removed, the area will provide an accessible space for the children to use and enjoy in future.

Vikki Kelly, Strategic Improvement Manager at Milestone Infrastructure, said: "Building social value into what we do and giving back to the local communities where we work is a large part of what we do. It was a rewarding day and, together with our alliance partners, we managed to achieve everything we needed to onsite and more."

James Joyce, Business Manager at West Ewell school, said: "We would like to thank Milestone Infrastructure who organised the event but also the other companies that attended: Surrey County Council, Yunex Traffic, Atkins, Surrey Skill Mill and Ringway. On the day they achieved more than you could expect for a day volunteer event and transformed the area, giving the school a regenerated space that can now be used."

**Mia Bennett**, Head teacher at West Ewell school, added: "We really appreciate the time, effort and resources your teams invested in making this project a reality. The cleared area is now a blank canvas which we plan to transform info a flourishing wildlife area and outdoor classroom which all our pupils can enjoy, while learning about nature, biodiversity and developing a deep appreciation for our environment."

Milestone's focus on social value is an essential element of M Group Services' environmental, social and governance (ESG) commitments.

**Zoë Johnston** Corporate Communications Manager | M Group Services

#### An alternative view from Labour

**Mark Todd** lives in Epsom and is the Chair of the local **Labour Party**. He contested the new ward of Horton at the 4th May Epsom and Ewell Borough Council elections. He is an active cyclist and member of the local tree board.

Unfortunately, Britain seems to be stuck in a whole series of crises at the moment: a cost of living crisis, an economic crisis, an NHS crisis, a care crisis, a public sector wage crisis, a housing crisis, and a climate crisis.

We're in a Tory perma-crisis and no wonder it's so tough!

It's not surprising that public services start to fail after a decade of Tory under investment. If you starve state schools and the NHS of money for 5 years, the results are not good; but they are not disastrous. If you starve them for over ten years, well the chickens really come home to roost.

Labour handed over to the Tories the best public health service in the World in 2010. Now we have over seven million unfortunate souls on waiting lists and people who have paid into the system all their lives are left in terrible pain waiting for essential procedures.

In education our schools are crumbling, and teachers struggle to provide pupils with a good education as they are spread too thin. Care services can be appalling with older people left neglected at their time of greatest need.

A Labour Government would get more money into these services, and they would implement common sense reforms to improve them too.

<u>Sewage in our Streams</u>: The Conservatives' privatisation of many public services has been a disaster; but none has been so disastrous as water. They created a system whereby foreign vulture capitalists moved in and minimised the investment they put into the companies and maximised the money they took out.

I complained direct to the Head of Thames Water about the terrible pollution of the Hogsmill and other local streams last year into which Thames Water regularly overflow sewage. Myself and other local Labour leaders met with senior managers from Thames Water in October. It was clear on touring the facilities and looking at their investment plans that Epsom and Ewell's sewage system struggles as most of the infrastructure is from the 1960s and cannot cope with current volumes. They equally have no clear costed plan of how to fix it.

A massive problem is that in many parts of the borough, the rainwater drainage and sewage systems are mixed. So, in times of heavy rainfall, this mixed waste tends to end up in the Hogsmill and Green Lanes Stream. Separating out the systems, as they should be, would be the best way to stop this. Then rainwater could go into local streams maintaining the flow and wildlife, and sewage could go to the sewage station.

But, it's costly to make the system right and despite all the extra money Thames Water get from the increase in local population, it's not something they currently want to do.

It is only through much tougher regulation from a Labour Government that Thames Water will be forced to invest to fix the system.

<u>A Burning Planet</u>: The Conservatives policies on climate change are too little, too late. We need a green revolution in Britain not tinkering around the edges.

That's why Labour are offering a bold plan to:

- a) Make Britain a clean energy superpower by 2030
- b) Set up GB Energy, a publicly owned energy company to generate huge amounts
- of renewable electricity
- c) Insulate 19 million homes over a decade bringing down people's energy bills and meaning that we use less energy too

<u>Don't mention the B word</u>: And, of course, there is the B word. Labour believes that the current Hard Brexit is not working. Trade is struggling and living standards are declining. Labour will re-open negotiations to get the country a better deal. The Labour leadership believe it is possible to make significant improvements.

I attended a conference in London at which the Vice President of the European Parliament, Pedro Silva Perreira, talked. He said that only a Labour Government can really improve Britain's trade relations with Europe. The Conservatives, he continued, have been so antagonistic to the EU and Boris Johnson had told so many lies about them that there was no good will in the negotiations. With a Labour Government that would be so different.

<u>Bringing us all together</u>: While the Labour Party is more cautious now, we still offer some bold policies that can turn around the nation. We hope that under Keir Starmer we can bring together enough of the nation to make a real difference.

I'm sure a Labour Government would make a massive difference to Epsom and Ewell; and it would be the start of a much-needed transition to a fairer, greener, happier society.

#### Thames Water among worst in country

Standout levels of pollution and poor monitoring has left Thames Water languishing joint last among the country's "very disappointing" water and sewerage companies.

The damning verdict was delivered in a report by the **Environment Agency** which measured the performance of the nine companies operating in England.

It found that there were 2,026 "pollution incidents" from sewerage and water supply – up from 1,883 in 2021 leading to the EA's chair, **Alan Lovell** to describe the situation as "simply unacceptable". Worse, he said, was that early unconfirmed data for 2023

suggests there has been no improvement this year either.

The report, published July 12, found that for serious pollution incidents four companies performed significantly below target – and none more so than Anglian Water and **Thames water**.

In total there were 44 of the serious incidents – and 38 per cent of those were from Thames Water alone – its worst performance since 2013. Of the six worst polluting incidents, half were from Thames Water.

The beleaguered company, which has faced calls to be renationalised in recent weeks, also led the way in the number of category 3 incidents that caused minor impacts to air, with four.

For planned environmental improvement schemes, 99.5 per cent were completed as part of the Water Industry National Environment Programme however three companies failed to meet all requirements and Thames Water, with its red rating, performed the worst.

In 2019,regulators **Ofwat** set the prices water companies could charge and developed environmental programmes for each firm to follow. Thames Water was the only one to have performed "significantly below target" due to 12 water-quality schemes not meeting requirements within planned deadlines.

The EA also expects water companies to report pollution to the body first as "without a rapid response, the impact of pollution can escalate and the opportunity for mitigation measures can be lost." The report said that Thames Water was one of four companies to fall below this target, the others being Anglian Water, South West Water, and Yorkshire.

According to the EA, water companies must also install monitoring devices on their storm overflows to capture how often and how long they are used. Thames Water again came last among the utility companies with 61.8 per cent coverage compared with market leader Severn Trent Water which had 99.6 per cent coverage.

Thames Water scored well for satisfactory sludge use and disposal, as well as for its compliance with permits to discharge treated wastewater.

Concluding, the report read: "The sector as a whole needs to improve in order to achieve and sustain expected levels of regulatory and environmental performance. The majority of water companies are not meeting basic environmental requirements. Although we have acknowledged some improvements, these results cannot be taken in isolation. They are set against the backdrop of poor and inconsistent results over recent years.

"We are concerned that some companies will not or cannot change. Anglian Water and Thames Water repeatedly dominate serious incident numbers." It added: "These water companies in particular need to make radical changes now, but all water companies have areas to improve."

A spokesperson for Thames Water said: "Protecting the environment is fundamental to what we do and we recognise our performance in preventing pollutions is still not good enough. We're committed to turning this around and our shareholders have approved additional funding into the business so we can improve outcomes for customers, leakage and river health.

"Alongside implementing our pollution reduction plan to deliver these changes, we have plans to upgrade over 250 of our sewage treatment works and are striving every day to reduce the discharge of untreated sewage into our rivers. This is a key part of our River Health Action Plan to radically improve our position in order to protect and improve the environment, as we strive to eliminate all incidents in the future."

The company has also announced that shareholders agreed to provide an additional £750m to "further improve operational performance and financial resilience".

Related reports:

Local sewage uploaded

"Garden of Eden" coming to West Ewell as Wetlands Plan is approved. Will this stop pollution?

River "Bogsmill" blights Borough

An alternative view from Labour

#### Kids takeover Bourne Hall digitally

On Friday 7 July **Bourne Hall** in Ewell handed over its social media channels to young people from **St Clement's Catholic Primary School** in Ewell, as part of a national Kids in Museums Digital Takeover Day event.

Supported by Arts Council England, the Kids in Museums charity aims to empower young people and help them learn digital marketing skills, as well as support museums to engage younger audiences.

The charity has held an annual digital takeover since 2014, where young people take over the social accounts of museums, galleries, historic homes, archives and heritage sites across the UK. Last year, over 50 museums were taken over and the hashtag #TakeoverDay has even trended on Twitter.

Bourne Hall welcomed a group of year 2 students to its Museum to become cultural detectives for the morning. Focusing on five specific themes: Space, Nature, Local History, Holidays and Textiles, children highlighted their favourite items, which were then photographed and placed alongside their own caption, to go out on Bourne Hall's social media.

As well as the digital takeover, the children also created some brilliant visual responses to their visit, these artworks will be turned into an exhibition at Bourne Hall – watch this space for the launch date!

The children had some insightful comments to make about the objects in the museum. One commented about some 1950s card games:

"Amazing, incredible, really fun! The cards were colourful and rainbowy and reminded us of holidays."

Thinking about working in the role of a Curator, another child added: "I'm thinking about the security in our museum - and how we keep everything safe. I'm also thinking about how I would make sure that everyone had a great time when they come to visit our museum."

Speaking of the recent event, Councillor **Clive Woodbridge**, Chair of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council's Community and Wellbeing Committee, said "This was a great event that brought our fantastic museum to life for some of our borough's young people. It was a highly engaging experience for the children and they also gave us valuable feedback on what they loved in the museum and what they'd like to see more of. I am really looking forward to seeing the children's artwork when it is displayed in Bourne Hall's foyer."

You can follow the conversation on social media by looking at the hashtag #TakeoverDay and following @KidsInMuseums.

#### Little plots of Council land for housing?

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council's Strategy and Resources Committee decided Thursday 13th July to submit two Council owned sites for housing. The Draft Local Plan sets out the framework for local development including meeting housing targets. Proposals to release green belt land for development were met with strong local opposition and a brake on the Plan's adoption.

Council officers were tasked with seeking additional brownfield sites suitable for housing, including land owned by the Council itself.

The Council owns 37% of the Longmead and 35% of the Kiln Lane industrial estates. However, the grant of long leases to various businesses means that none of its land can be made available in the Local Plan timescale within 2040.

Consideration was given to the Council owned Cox Lane Community building and car park but a doctor's surgery and nursery need medium term certainty for their future with the surgery's lease expiring just before the plan period ending 2040..

Two small plots of Council owned land were stated to be suitable to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority, (the Council itself) for consideration for inclusion in the Local Plan. They are a small 0.08 ha site (a former Scout's Hut) on Wesley Close / Scotts Farm Road and Richard's Field Car Park accessed off Chessington Road, offering approximately 35 parking spaces of which about 14 are reserved as resident permit spaces.

Cllr Graham Jones MBE (RA Cuddington Ward) noted the Wesley Close site had not been submitted before as it was too small. "What had changed?" An officer explained the proposal was "directly on the back of members request to find more brownfield sites to meet housing targets. The site had been looked at again and it could achieve 5 dwellings which is the threshold for a call for sites".

Cllr Jones asked the same question in relation to the Richards Field car park and Cllr Dallen suggested that there maybe a way of building residences while keeping parking provision.

The meeting agreed to the submission of the two sites for consideration to be included in a revised draft Local Plan.

In a lengthy explanation officers reported that the legal and cost obstacles to pursuing compulsory purchase orders to acquire land for housing development are too high. Thus, exercising such powers was not recommended.

Related Reports:

Motion to pause Local Plan process

Public meeting on Local Plan dominated by greenbelters.

Planning or pantomime? Councillors press pause on Plan.