

Executive Working Group on the Cost of Living

Terms of Reference

1. General Objectives:

- Investigate the cost-of-living crisis to inform our members and residents of its aspects and impacts.
- Explore and implement mitigation within our direct remit and lobby those beyond it.
- Coordinate, communicate and expand existing mitigation.
- Maintain oversight of the implementation of any local or national government led schemes.

2. Constitutional Status

Executive Working Group

3. Membership

*Chair **Vice-Chair

WBC Members:

Leader of the Council*

Deputy Leader of the Council**

Portfolio Holder for Finance

Co-Portfolio Holders for Housing (Delivery); and Housing (Operations)

Portfolio Holders for Planning and Economic Development

All other exec members invited/notified of meetings and would be recognised to take part fully if in attendance. All other members to be appraised of when it sits and can register to speak.

Officers and Others

Chief Executive

Strategic Directors

Heads of Service, Housing Operations; and Housing Delivery and Communities

Head of Finance and Property

Communications Manager

Chair of Waverley Tenants Panel

Citizens Advice Waverley Representative

Representatives of outside bodies as appropriate

4. Areas of potential work

- Impact of inflation on the budget of the council and consideration of solutions that try not to pass strain onto the public. (Elements may need to be WBC exec only)
- Similar consideration with rent and housing matters
- Compilation of a full list/website directory and map of support services that exist across Waverley. (For example, where are all the food banks).
- Bringing together all relevant supporting data (UC Claimants, unemployment, food bank usage etc.
- Economic development support for businesses promoting re-use and recycle (especially at more reasonable prices vs new).
- Communication to members about the root causes of inflation / cost-of-living crisis and the impacts on council services (and communication of anything we are doing about it).
- Communication to residents about the situation more generally (education/information) and where they can access support services.
- Ensure communication within the council is 'joined up' as possible on these issues.
- Maintain oversight of the implementation of any local or national government led schemes that WBC is tasked with implementing.

5. Quorum

The quorum of the working group shall be three members.

6. Frequency of meetings

As and when required.