



BUDGET PANEL

Tuesday, 26th November, 2013

7.00 pm

Town Hall, Watford

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CONTACT

If you require further information or you would like a copy of this agenda in another format, e.g. large print, please contact Sandra Hancock in Democracy and Governance on 01923 278377 or by email to legalanddemocratic@watford.gov.uk .

Welcome to this meeting. We hope you find these notes useful.

ACCESS

Access to the Town Hall after 5.15 pm is via the entrance to the Customer Service Centre from the visitors' car park.

Visitors may park in the staff car park after 4.00 p.m. and before 7.00 a.m. This is a Pay and Display car park; the current charge is £1.50 per visit.

The Committee Rooms are on the first floor of the Town Hall and a lift is available. Induction loops are available in the Committee Rooms and the Council Chamber.

FIRE/EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS

In the event of a fire alarm sounding, vacate the building immediately following the instructions given by the Democratic Services Officer.

- Do not use the lifts
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings
- Go to the assembly point at the Pond and wait for further instructions
- Do not re-enter the building until authorised to do so.

MOBILE PHONES

Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off before the start of the meeting.

MINUTES

Copies of the minutes of this meeting are usually available seven working days following the meeting and can be found on the Council's website www.watford.gov.uk/meetings

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

An audio recording may be taken at this meeting for administrative purposes only.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Councillor J Dhindsa (Chair)

Councillor S Rackett (Vice-Chair)

Councillors J Aron, S Counter, G Derbyshire, S Greenslade, R Martins, P Taylor and M Turmaine

AGENDA

PART A - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

1. **FINANCE TRAINING - BUSINESS RATES SINCE APRIL 2013**
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**
3. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (IF ANY)**
4. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2013 to be submitted and signed.
(All minutes are available on the Council's website.)

5. **AN OVERVIEW OF COMMERCIAL RENTS AND NEXT STEPS**

The Programme Manager will provide a presentation covering an overview of commercial rents, including income collected, potential for growth, debt levels and vacancy rates.

6. **FINANCE DIGEST 2013/2014 - PERIOD 7 (OCTOBER 2013)** (Pages 1 - 22)

Report of the Senior Accountant

This report informs the Budget Panel of the reported budgetary variances at the end of October 2013 (period 7).

7. **FEES AND CHARGES** (Pages 23 - 60)

This report informs Budget Panel of the proposal for fees and charges in 2014/15.

8. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

- Wednesday 15 January 2014
- Wednesday 26 February 2014