

Merton Council

Council Meeting

Membership

The Mayor: Councillor Gill Manly

The Deputy Mayor: Councillor Martin Whelton

Councillors: Sally Kenny, Agatha Mary Akyigyina OBE, Stephen Alambritis MBE, Laxmi Attawar, Thomas Barlow, Hina Bokhari, Mike Brunt, Billy Christie, Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Anthony Fairclough, Edward Foley, Brenda Fraser, Jenifer Gould, Joan Henry, Daniel Holden, Andrew Howard, Natasha Irons, Linda Kirby MBE, Paul Kohler, Edith Macauley MBE, Peter McCabe, Simon McGrath, Nick McLean, Aidan Mundy, Dennis Pearce, Marsie Skeete, Eleanor Stringer, Helena Dollimore, James Williscroft, Sheri-Ann Bhim, John Braithwaite, Michael Butcher, Caroline Charles, Eleanor Cox, Klaar Dresselaers, Chessie Flack, Kirsten Galea, Ross Garrod, Jil Hall, Billy Hayes, Susie Hicks, Dan Johnston, Andrew Judge, Usaama Kaweesa, Samantha MacArthur, Stephen Mercer, Stuart Neaverson, John Oliver, Robert Page, Michael Paterson, Tony Reiss, Slawek Szczepanski, Matthew Willis, Max Austin and Victoria Wilson

Date: Wednesday 7 February 2024

Time: 7.15 pm

**Venue: Council chamber - Merton Civic Centre, London Road,
Morden SM4 5DX**

This is a public meeting and attendance by the public is encouraged and welcomed. The meeting will be livestreamed.

For more information about the agenda please contact democratic.services@merton.gov.uk or telephone [020 8545 3357](tel:02085453357).

All Press contacts: communications@merton.gov.uk, 020 8545 3181

Council Meeting

7 February 2024

1	Apologies for absence	
2	Declarations of Pecuniary Interest	
3	Minutes of the previous meetings	1 - 10
	<i>To approve the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting and the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 15 November 2023.</i>	
4	Announcements by the Mayor, Leader of the Council and Chief Executive	
5	Public questions to cabinet members	
	The questions and written responses will be circulated at the meeting.	
6	Councillors' ordinary priority questions to cabinet members	11 - 12
	The questions and written responses will be circulated at the meeting	
7a	Strategic theme: Main report	13 - 32
7b	Strategic theme: Councillors' questions to cabinet members	
	The questions and written responses will be circulated at the meeting.	
7c	Strategic theme: motions	
8	Notice of motion - Labour Motion	33 - 36
9	Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25	37 - 62
10	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2024-26	63 - 100
11	Treasury Management Half Yearly Report	101 - 114
12	Variation to Merton Community Panel Terms of Reference	115 - 124
13	Review of proportionality and changes to Membership of Committees	125 - 128
14	Petitions	129 - 130
15	Business for the next ordinary meeting of the Council	

Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. For further advice please speak with the Managing Director, South London Legal Partnership.

Partnership.

Public Information

Attendance at meetings

The public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council.

Audio/Visual recording of meetings

The Council will film meetings held in the Council Chamber for publication on the website. If you would like to film or record any meeting of the Council held in public, please read the Council's policy [here](#) or contact democratic.services@merton.gov.uk for more information.

Mobile telephones

Please put your mobile telephone on silent whilst in the meeting.

Access information for the Civic Centre



- Nearest Tube: Morden (Northern Line)
- Nearest train: Morden South, South Merton (First Capital Connect)
- Tramlink: Morden Road or Phipps Bridge (via Morden Hall Park)
- Bus routes: 80, 93, 118, 154, 157, 163, 164, 201, 293, 413, 470, K5

Further information can be found [here](#)

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Fire alarm

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Electronic agendas, reports and minutes

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Agendas can also be viewed online in the Borough's libraries and on the Mod.gov paperless app for iPads, Android and Windows devices.