

## **Rural Forum**

### *Purpose*

The forum is intended as a platform to discuss issues relevant to our rural areas and to make recommendations to the appropriate Panel or Forum.

- (i) Be made aware of, and have the opportunity to comment on, the rural work done by the Council and rural-interest organisations
  - (ii) Provide a local Forum for discussion about the aspirations and concerns of farmers, rural businesses and other representatives from the rural community of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead District
  - (iii) Provide a networking opportunity amongst a variety of rural interests
  - (iv) Act as a consultative, information sharing/gathering arena
  - (v) Identify areas of special rural interest to link into the Council's Community Planning process, and other plans where appropriate
- Meeting open to the public and press to attend.
  - Agendas and Minutes of each Forum will be made available on the Council's website.

### *F18.2 Membership*

- (i) Six Councillors
- (ii) Membership of the Rural Forum will be by invite and will consist of representatives from:
  - National Trust - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - Berkshire College of Agriculture - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - Woodland Managers - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - Country Landowners Association - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - Crown Estate - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - Council for Protection of Rural England - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - National Farmers Union - Up to 3 representatives to cover RBWM
  - Smallholders Association - 1 representative plus 1 substitute
  - Parish Councils - 2/3 from RBWM
  - RBWM Officers with a rural interest - When item on the Agenda requires.

Additional organisations and individuals may be invited to attend a Forum if they have an interest in a specific agenda topic.

### *F18.3 Quorum: 4 Members*

### *F18.4 Frequency*

Twice per year. Up to 2-hour meetings will be held bi-annually in June and November and will be organised by RBWM, Democratic Services.