

Scrutiny Panel 2 (Economy and Sustainability)
Thursday 12 March 2024

Meeting Format

The *hybrid meeting* will be conducted from **Committee Room 5, Ground Floor, Perceval House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, W5 2HL** and webcast live on the Council's YouTube channel – [Ealing Council - YouTube](#). ***There should be a minimum of three Members present in the room for a quorate meeting.***

Members and officers are able to join the meeting **remotely** via **Zoom**. ***However, regulations do not allow for Members attending virtually to be counted as present in the attendance section of the Minutes and their attendance would not count as attendance in relation to Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. Members attending virtually can speak through the Chair but would not be able to vote.***

The link to join the meeting via Zoom has been emailed to all expected attendees. ***Please do not forward the link to anyone else without checking with the Overview and Scrutiny Officer first as only agreed invitees are admitted virtually to the meeting.***

You are advised to join the meeting from **6.45pm onwards** to ensure that everyone is able to join without any problems and a prompt start. Members attending in person should bring their Surface to the meeting to access agenda papers. Your Surfaces will need to be fully charged as there is no capacity for this in Committee Room 5.

Speaking at the Meeting

Attendees should speak through the Chair, one at a time, for an orderly meeting to take place and enable accurate clerking of the proceedings.

Agenda Papers

The agenda papers are accessible online with this link: [Agenda for Scrutiny Panel 2 - 2023/2024: Economy and Sustainability on Tuesday, 12 March 2024, 7.00 pm \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

1. Apologies for Absence

To note any apologies for absence and substitutions.

None have been received so far.

2. Urgent Matters

To consider any urgent matters that the Chair has agreed should be considered at the meeting.

3. Matters to be considered in Private

There are none.

4. Declarations of Interest

Panel members to declare if they have a personal or prejudicial interest in any of the matters on the agenda.

5. Minutes of the Meeting

The panel to agree as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 5 December 2023.

6. Economy and Sustainability

The Panel will be hearing from officers and expert witnesses about the current economic context of the borough, particularly what initiatives are being planned and delivered to support local business growth and residents into employment.

The Panel will receive an update from Connor McDonagh, Assistant Director of Regeneration, Economy & Skills, on the newly created Regeneration, Economy & Skills department. Diana Skwarczowska, Partnerships and Performance Officer, will provide an update on unemployment data in the Borough.

The following expert witnesses will attend to present on topics relating to local business growth and employment in the Borough:

- Paul Murphy, Head of Community Safety at Ealing Council, will present data in relation to shoplifting on the Borough's highstreets.
- Representatives of the University of West London, Eduardo Saavedra, Angela Kanwar and Stephen Fry, will attend to present to the committee about the university's employment services team and the Westmont Hub.
- Natasha Patel, Business Improvement District (BID) Manager of Your Acton BID, will attend to outline the role of BIDs, particularly in the context of supporting businesses.

The Panel is asked to consider, comment and make recommendations on the information provided.

7. Panel recommendations

Panel members to consider the responses to the recommendations made at the previous 3 meetings.