

2 September 2019

To: All Members of Newbury Town Council

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend an Extraordinary meeting of **Newbury Town Council** to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury on **Thursday 19 September 2019 at 6.15 pm**. The meeting is open to the press and public.

The Mayor has agreed to convene this meeting, having received a written requisition to do so, signed by Councillors Martin Colston and Tony Vickers.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Peacocke
Chief Executive Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
Chief Executive Officer

2. Motion received from Councillors Martin Colston and Tony Vickers:

This Council notes:

- Newbury Town Council is committed to continuing to make Newbury a better place to live, work and visit.
- According to our strategy, Newbury Town Council will represent the views of the people of Newbury when working with other partners and stakeholders or other bodies who can improve the quality of life for our citizens.
- The majority of West Berkshire Residents voted to remain in the EU in the Referendum in 2016.
- That West Berkshire is projected to see a drop in GVA (Gross Value Added) of 2.3% in the event of a No-Deal Brexit*
 - Newbury, as the biggest town in West Berkshire, would take its share of this economic downturn
- That additional resources from Central Government to plan for a No-Deal Brexit locally have not been made available.

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- That a shrinking economy leads to lower tax revenues putting more strain on already underfunded public services.
- That on 12th August 2019 our local MP, Richard Benyon, put his name to a letter to the Prime Minister urging him to avoid a No-Deal Brexit. **

This Council therefore:

- 1) Will write to the People's Vote campaign and West Berkshire for Europe to declare support for a 'People's Vote' referendum on the final Brexit outcome to be held while we remain members of the EU. This final say referendum should include an option to remain in the EU.
- 2) Will write to our local MP, Richard Benyon, to:
 - a. note that we share his 'alarm at the Red Lines the Prime Minister has drawn' which appear to make No-Deal the most likely Brexit outcome
 - b. to express our concern about the expected negative economic impact of a No-Deal Brexit on both Newbury and West Berkshire
 - c. urge him to work with all like-minded MPs to do all he can to prevent a No-Deal Brexit
 - d. urge him to join Newbury Town Council in supporting a People's Vote to ensure explicit public support for the final course of action
- 3) Will write to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (No-Deal Planning) to request additional resources to enable us to carry out a detailed impact study on our local economy in order to:
 - a. understand the full impact of a No-Deal Brexit on services run solely by Newbury Town Council and those run in conjunction with West Berkshire Council
 - b. prepare a plan to mitigate / deal with the identified impacts

*The Centre for Economic Performance and LSE '**CEP BREXIT ANALYSIS No. 10 - The Local Economic Effects of Brexit**' <http://cep.lse.ac.uk/pubs/download/brexit10.pdf>)