

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber,
District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth
on Thursday, 31st October, 2019 at 7.30 pm**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Jarvis, Ian Mantle, Helen Oliver and Carol Stanier.

2 MINUTES - 24 SEPTEMBER 2019

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 24 September 2019 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chairman welcomed those present at the meeting;
- (2) The Chairman advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (3) The Chairman drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question;
- (4) The Chairman reminded those present that the Council had declared a Climate Emergency and had not only set up a Cabinet Panel on the Environment, but were also beginning to work on issues within the organisation.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no presentations by members of the public.

6 ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no referrals from other Committees.

7 STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report entitled Strategic Planning Matters be noted;
- (2) That the submissions in Appendices A, B and C be noted and endorsed;
- (3) That the use of Conservation Area Character Statements for Charlton, Gosmore, Great Offley, Preston and St Ippolyts as listed in Paragraph 8.4.3 of the report as material considerations in decision making for planning applications and in the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans be endorsed.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That Cabinet supports the proposed Memorandum of Understanding relating to the Hertfordshire Growth Board, attached as Appendix D, and recommends to Council the signing of the agreement.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To keep Cabinet informed of recent development on strategic planning matters and progress on the North Hertfordshire Local Plan.

8 COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2025 AND COUNCIL OBJECTIVES 2020-2025

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the draft complete Council Plan, which provides a summary of objectives and of activity to support the progression of the following Council Objectives be approved:
 - Be a more welcoming and inclusive **council**;
 - Build a thriving and resilient **communities**;
 - Respond to challenges to the **environment**;
 - Enable an enterprising and co-operative **economy**;
 - Support the delivery of good quality and affordable **homes**.
- (2) That the following documents be recommended for approval, with the minor amendments and corrections as discussed:
 - Appendix A - Council Plan 2020-2025;
 - Appendix B – Proposed Actions;
 - Appendix C – Achievements.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That the following documents be adopted with the amendments as discussed:

- Appendix A – Council Plan 2020 -2025;
- Appendix B – Proposed Actions;
- Appendix C – Achievements.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: The Council plan is a key element of the corporate business planning process, as a high level strategic document it sets out the Council's priorities for the next year. As an overarching policy framework document it guides and influences the use of Council resources; providing a focus for activities, plans and services the Council provide.

9 THE GOVERNMENT'S REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT SCHEME

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the successful appointment of a specialist refugee support provider:

- (1) the Government's extended refugee resettlement programme be supported;
- (2) ten Syrian refugees be resettled in North Hertfordshire in the first year of the new global resettlement scheme and authorises officers to make the necessary arrangements to deliver this commitment.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Council to continue to support the Government's refugee resettlement programme.

10 LAND AT WINDMILL CLOSE, BARKWAY

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the land at Windmill Close, Barkway be declared surplus to the District Council's requirements and placed on the open market for sale on a subject to planning basis for residential development;
- (2) Following receipt of offers for the 2.23 acres of land identified at Appendix A, the decision to accept an offer be delegated to the Service Director for Resources, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and IT.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

- (1) To provide a financial receipt to help fund the District Council's capital programme;
- (2) Marketing the land on the open market will maximise interest from developers and satisfy the requirements to obtain the best price reasonably obtainable.