

# **NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **DECISION SHEET**

**Meeting of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City on Tuesday, 15th October, 2019 at 7.30 pm**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **2 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (1) The Chair welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation;
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (3) The Chair 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 Chair advised that the dates of the Panel meetings for the rest of the Civic Year were now on the website;
- (5) The Chair advised that this meeting was about Planning and Transport;
- (6) The Chair welcomed County Councillor David Barnard and District Councillors Paul Clark and Ian Mantle who would be invited to comment throughout the meeting.

### **3 MINUTES - 11 SEPTEMBER 2019**

The Chair advised that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2019 would be presented to the next meeting of the Panel for approval.

### **4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Before the commencement of any other business of the Panel Councillor Michael Muir declared a declarable interest in that he was a Member sitting on the Hertfordshire County Council Highways and Transport Committee.

### **5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - PRESENTATION OF A PETITION**

The Chairman formally acknowledged receipt of a petition which had been handed in to NHDC by the climate change protesters.

She reminded Members that a citizens Forum was being provided through the Cabinet Panel on the Environment and asked for continued support and patience.

### **6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair reminded those who wished to speak to register in advance of the meeting.

**7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - CHRIS NICKOLAY**

Mr Chris Nickolay thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Panel.

The Chair thanked Mr Nickolay for his presentation.

**8 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - PHILIP DEVONALD**

Mr Philip Devonald thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Panel.

The Chair thanked Mr Devonald for his presentation.

**9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - SOPHIE BARBER**

Ms Sophie Barber thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Panel regarding London Luton Airport.

The Chair thanked Ms Barber for her presentation.

**RESOLVED:** That the Service Director – Regulatory be requested to inform Members of the Luton airport expansion consultation dates and locations.

**10 PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR DAVID BARNARD**

Councillor David Barnard thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Panel regarding London Luton Airport.

The Chair thanked Councillor Barnard for his presentation.

**11 DISCUSSION REGARDING PLANNING AND TRANSPORT**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Service Director – Regulatory be requested to circulate to the Panel and external parties the Future Homes Standards consultation;
- (2) That the Service Director – Regulatory be requested to circulate to the Panel details of Stirling Awards 2019 – The project for Norwich City Council;
- (3) That the Chair be requested to ensure re-iteration of NHDC's Climate Change Emergency through NHDC communication channels (Outlook, external website etc.);
- (4) That the Service Director – Regulatory and the Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health, be requested to provide an update with regard empty dwellings within in the district and how, where appropriate, these can be brought back into use as homes.
- (5) That the Executive Member for Planning and Transport be requested to consider the possibility of a Design Standards Committee;
- (6) That the Service Director be requested to explore whether there was an opportunity to identify, in the Local Plan, which sites were most sustainable and whether these could be developed first;
- (7) That Group Leaders and Members approach relevant local Council's to lobby them to speak against the expansion of Luton Airport;

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- (8) That the Chair be requested to draft a letter on behalf of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment to other 10 Hertfordshire District Councils to express concerns regarding the proposed Luton Airport expansion.

*NB – following the meeting it was advised that the Panel should request that the Executive Member for Planning and Transport undertake resolution 8.*

**12 INFORMATION NOTE - WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER 2019/20**

**RESOLVED:** That the Policy and Community Engagement Manager be requested to put a link on the front page of the NHDC website to the Climate Panel webpage.