

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



20 December 2019

Our Ref Panel on the Environment 09.01.20
Your Ref.
Contact. Committee Services
Direct Dial. (01462) 474655
Email. committee.services@north-herts.gov.uk

To: Members of the Committee: Councillors Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg (Chairman), Steve Jarvis (Chairman), Val Bryant, Sam Collins, Ian Moody, Gerald Morris, Michael Muir, Claire Strong and Kay Tart

Substitutes: Councillors Mike Hughson, David Levett, Adem Ruggiero-Cakir and Richard Thake

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A

MEETING OF THE CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT

to be held in the

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES,
GERNON ROAD, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY**

On

THURSDAY, 9TH JANUARY, 2020 AT 7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson
Service Director – Legal and Community

****MEMBERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DOWNLOAD ALL AGENDAS AND REPORTS VIA THE MOD.GOV APPLICATION ON YOUR TABLET BEFORE ATTENDING THE MEETING****

Agenda Part I

Item		Page
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	MINUTES - 28 NOVEMBER 2019 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 28 November 2019.	
3.	CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chairman of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest, wishing to exercise a 'Councillor Speaking Right', must declare this at the same time as the interest, move to the public area before speaking to the item and then must leave the room before the debate and vote.	
4.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public. <i>Please note that speakers should register their interest to speak by midday two days before the meeting. The Chairman has requested that a written submission of the content/subject of the presentation be submitted to committee.services@north-herts.gov.uk by the above deadline. Those selected to make presentations will be advised the day before the meeting.</i>	
5.	DISCUSSION REGARDING WASTE, RECYCLING AND FOOD WASTE The Chairman to lead a discussion on waste, recycling and food waste.	

**6. INFORMATION NOTE - WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER
FOR 2019/20**
INFORMATION NOTE OF THE POLICY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
MANAGER

(Pages 5
- 10)

This note highlights items scheduled in the work programme for the Cabinet Panel on the Environment for 2019/20 following the initial meeting. This allows the Cabinet Panel to set a work programme which enables open discussion that may lead to recommendations to Cabinet /the relevant Executive Members or Service Director, regarding actions that they believe that the Council should be taking to address climate and environmental issues.

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**CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT
6 JANUARY 2020**

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER FOR 2019/20

INFORMATION NOTE OF THE POLICY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

EXECUTIVE MEMBER – Environment and Leisure Executive member and Recycling and Waste Management

PRIORITY: RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This note highlights items scheduled in the work programme for the Cabinet Panel on the Environment for 2019/20 following the initial meeting. This allows the Cabinet Panel to set a work programme which enables open discussion that may lead to recommendations to Cabinet /the relevant Executive Members or Service Director, regarding actions that they believe that the Council should be taking to address climate and environmental issues.

2. STEPS TO DATE

2.1 Cabinet approved the establishment of the Cabinet Panel for the Environment for 2019/20 at the 27 June meeting. It agreed the Membership, Terms of Reference and procedure for the panel as noted here -

<http://srvmodgov01.north-herts.gov.uk/documents/s5515/APPENDIX%20A%20-%20Cabinet%20Panel%20on%20Environment%2027.06.19.pdf.pdf>

2.2 The work programme and action tracker have been updated following the initial meeting. Future meetings will be announced shortly to ensure good engagement with the community.

3. INFORMATION TO NOTE

3.1 An Environment inbox has been set up to allow members of the public or organisations to provide suggestions/presentations for the panel's consideration. The address is - EnvironmentalPanel@north-herts.gov.uk. The Policy and Community Engagement Manager will also provide a verbal update to the Panel.

3.2 The Panel will seek to ensure that consideration of agenda items minimises additional burdens on staff resources. Wherever possible, requests are made for the presentation of documents already in existence rather than the production of new documents specifically for the Panel. Suggestions from outside sources, as detailed in paragraph 3.2 will only be placed on the work programme if agreed by one of the alternating Chairs or at a meeting of the Panel.

- 3.3 Attendance from external bodies and members of the public is actively encouraged.
- 3.4 This is a non-decision making advisory body and therefore this or any notes/reports to the Panel do not include a recommendation on a key Executive decision and have not been referred to in the Forward Plan. However, recommendations for action from the Panel for consideration by Cabinet may do so. This will therefore need to be borne in mind for any recommendations of the Panel.

4. NEXT STEPS

Other Topics for Consideration

- 4.1 Other topics for consideration and inclusion in the Panel's work programme will be considered at each meeting. When considering additional topics, their risk assessment and prioritisation will ensure that the most appropriate items are taken forward to the work programme

5. APPENDICES

- 5.1 Appendix A Work programme and Action Tracker

6. CONTACT OFFICERS

Reuben Ayavoo, Policy and Community Engagement Officer, 01462 474212
reuben.ayavoo@north-herts.gov.uk

Hilary Dineen, Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager, 01462 474353
Hilary.Dineen@north-herts.gov.uk

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Cabinet report and Appendix A 27 June 2019

**POTENTIAL PROGRAMME FOR FUTURE CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT
MEETINGS 2019-20**

Meeting 1. 11th September 2019	Introductory Session Guidance Terms of Reference Announcements Public Participation and Q&A Work Programme
Meeting 2. 15th October 2019	Planning (Street lighting, decommissioning of solar farms and energy)
Meeting 3. 28th November 2019	Bio-Diversity (including Trees and landscaping)
Meeting 4. January 9th 2020	Waste, Recycling and Food Waste
Meeting 5. Thursday 5th March 2020	Transport, travel and Air Quality

CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT – ACTION TRACKER: October 2019

Date and Min No	Action/Resolution	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)
11092019 EP1	Meeting Two to be amended to cover - 'Transport, Travel and Air Quality'	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Complete
11092019 EP2	Swap the running order of meetings 2 and 3. Planning will now be meeting two and Transport will be meeting three	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Complete
11092019 EP3	Meeting four will include consideration of food waste	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Complete
11092019 EP4	Meeting five will include Trees and Landscaping	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Complete
11092019 EP5	Meeting Two will include Street lighting, the decommissioning of solar farms and energy	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Complete
11092019 EP6	To consider the investigation of environmental breaches within North Hertfordshire	Environmental Health and Waste Team	On-going
11092019 EP7	Ensure Environment page is updated to publicise Panel's activity.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	On-going
11092019 EP8	Proposal of surveying clients at Best Before Café/Hitchin Food Rescue to assess needs/client base	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	On-going
15102019 EP9	That the Service Director – Regulatory provides an update with regard empty dwellings within in the district and how, where appropriate, these can be brought back into use as homes.	Service Director – Regulatory	On-going
15102019 EP10	That the Service Director – Regulatory informs Members of the Luton airport expansion consultation dates and locations: https://futureluton.llal.org.uk/	Circulated by Policy and Community Engagement Manager. Links also circulated via FB and Twitter feeds on external website.	Complete
15102019 EP11	That the Service Director – Regulatory circulates to the Panel the Future Homes Standards consultation. https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-homes-standard-changes-to-part-l-and-part-f-of-the-building-regulations-for-new-dwellings	Circulated by Policy and Community Engagement Manager. Links also circulated via FB and Twitter feeds on external website.	Complete

Date and Min No	Action/Resolution	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)
15102019 EP12	That the Service Director – Regulatory circulates to the Panel details of Stirling Awards 2019 – The project for Norwich City Council: https://www.architecture.com/awards-and-competitions-landing-page/awards/riba-stirling-prize	Circulated by Policy and Community Engagement Manager. Links also circulated via FB and Twitter feeds on external website.	Complete
15102019 EP13	That the Chair ensures re-iteration of NHDC's Climate Change Emergency through NHDC communication channels (Outlook, external website etc.)	External Webpage has been updated with a permanent direct link in the ' Popular Now' section to the Climate change/Environment Panel pages. Latest Outlook magazine features a range of articles relating to the environment and climate change.	Complete
15102019 EP14	That the Executive Member for Planning and Transport consider the possibility of a Design Standards Committee.	Executive member – Planning and Transport	On-going
15102019 EP15	That the relevant Executive Member/Service Director draft a letter to the other 10 Hertfordshire District Councils to express concerns regarding the proposed Luton Airport expansion.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	On-going
15102019 EP16	That the Service Director - Regulatory 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.	Service Director – Regulatory	On-going
28112019 EP17	Himalayan presentation from November panel – will be circulated by Dr Porter in January 2020.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	January 2020
281102019 EP18	Circulate Dr Porter email address to panel and all attendees for additional questions. Philip Porter - p.r.porter@herts.ac.uk	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Complete
28112019 EP19	Circulate Alex Inza details to Greenspace manager regarding tree planting list	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Complete
2811019 EP20	Explore the possibility of Community composting	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On-going

Date and Min No	Action/Resolution	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)
28112019 EP21	Acknowledgement of high water consumption in Hertfordshire. Circulate water saving measures (Affinity Water and Environment Agency) on Council social media accounts.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Complete and On-going