

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held as a This will be a Virtual Meeting
on Tuesday, 9th March, 2021 at 7.30 pm**

1 WELCOME AND REMOTE/PARTLY REMOTE MEETINGS PROTOCOL SUMMARY

The Chair welcomed everyone to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting that was being conducted with Members and Officers at various locations, communicating via audio/video and online. There was also the opportunity for the public and press to listen to and view proceedings.

The Chair invited the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer to explain how proceedings would work and to confirm that Members and Officers were in attendance.

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer undertook a roll call to ensure that all Members, Officers and registered speakers could hear and be heard and gave advice regarding the following:

Extracts from the Remote/Partly Remote Meetings Protocol were included with the agenda and the full version was available on the Council's website which included information regarding:

- Live Streaming;
- Noise Interference;
- Rules of Debate;
- Voting; and
- Part 2 Items.

Members were requested to ensure that they were familiar with the Protocol.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor David Levett started the meeting proper.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Adem Ruggiero-Cakir and Claire Strong.

Having given due notice Councillor Clare Billing advised that she would be substituting for Councillor Rugeiro-Cakir and Councillor Morgan Derbyshire advised that he would be substituting for Councillor Strong.

3 MINUTES - 19 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 19 January 2021 be approved as a true record of the proceedings;
- (2) That, with the authorisation of the Chair, his electronic signature and initials be attached to the Minutes approved in (1) above.

4 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

5 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council policy this meeting was being audio recorded as well as filmed. The audio recordings would be available on Mod.gov and the film recording via the NHDC YouTube channel.
- (2) Members were reminded to make declarations of interest before an item, the detailed reminder about this and speaking rights was set out under Chair's Announcements on the agenda.
- (3) The Chair advised that he would be taking Item 21 – Commercial Update Part 2 report immediately prior to Item 18 – the Part 1 report of the same name.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no presentations by members of the public.

7 URGENT AND GENERAL EXCEPTION ITEMS

The Chair advised that he, as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, had agreed for a Part 2 item regarding Contract Procurement Waiver Referral, not previously notified, to be considered by Cabinet at the meeting due to be held on 16 March 2021.

8 CALLED-IN ITEMS

Since the last meeting, no decisions had been called-in by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

9 RESOLUTIONS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the report entitled Resolutions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review and comment on actions and feedback received regarding resolutions previously made.

10 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report entitled Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme be noted;
- (2) That Members be requested to inform the Chair and the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager of any items to be considered at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of 15 June 2021 and beyond;
- (3) That an invitation be sent to settle to attend the June or July meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- (4) That the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager be requested to invite settle to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to make a presentation that includes their approach to the supply of rented social housing.

REASON FOR DECISION: To allow the Committee to set a work programme which provides focussed Member oversight, encourages open debate and seeks to achieve service improvement through effective policy development and meaningful policy and service change.

11 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2020/2021

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report entitled Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21 be noted;
- (2) That, subject to the following amendments, the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21 be presented to Annual Council:
 - (i) That a section be added to the Annual report regarding attendance and viewing figures
- (3) That the thanks of the Chair to all participants at and those supporting the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings be formally recorded.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider and comment on the report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the work of the Committee in the 2020/2021 Civic Year prior to consideration by Council.

12 UPDATE ON CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE ACTION PLAN

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That the progress made on the Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan as set out at Appendix A be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to comment on the report entitled Update on Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan prior to consideration by Cabinet.

13 LOCAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:

- (1) That the North Hertfordshire Masterplanning Guidance, attached as Appendix A, be approved and recognised as a material consideration in the determination of relevant planning applications with the following amendment:
 - (i) That Paragraph 3.2 be amended to include references to Neighbourhood Planning Groups and the Design SPD.
- (2) That officers be authorised to commence work on a revised and updated programme of Supplementary Planning Documents and supporting evidence as set out in this report.
- (3) That to support recommendation 2.2, Cabinet:
 - a. Resolve not to pursue the preparation of a Community Infrastructure Levy for the District at this time; and
 - b. Authorise the reprofiling of existing, approved revenue budgets for Community Infrastructure Levy (£87,000) and the potential Single Issue Review of the Local Plan (£80,000) to deliver this work;
- (4) That Member working group be arranged to discuss the Design and Sustainability SPDs prior to consideration of these by Cabinet.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To ensure that resources are used most effectively to support the implementation of the new Local Plan for North Hertfordshire and to improve delivery upon corporate priorities relating to place leadership and the declared climate change emergency.

14 QUARTER 3 2020/21 PERFORMANCE AGAINST PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

RESOLVED: That the 3rd Quarter Update on Performance against Performance Indicators be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To update the Committee on the performance indicators as well as other indicators that officers have updated and activated on Pentana Risk.

15 NEW YEAR PERFORMANCE INDICATORS TO BE MONITORED IN 2021/22

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That Cabinet considers and formally approves the PIs and any associated targets that will be monitored throughout 2021/2022 by Overview & Scrutiny

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to comment on the report entitled New Year Performance Indicators to be Monitored in 2021/22 prior to consideration by Cabinet.

16 3RD QUARTER MONITORING REPORT ON KEY PROJECTS FOR 2020/21

RESOLVED: That delivery against the key projects for 2020/21 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To enable achievements against the key projects for 2020/21 to be considered.

17 NEW YEAR REPORT ON PROJECTS TO BE MONITORED FOR 2021/22

RESOLVED: That the key projects, subject to capacity, that will be the key focus for the Council 2021 / 2022 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: The Corporate Business Planning Timetable requires the key projects to be considered by this Committee. In addition, this Committee has a role in monitoring the delivery of these projects.

18 UPDATE OF THE COMMERCIAL DIRECTORATE'S PROGRESS AND FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME - PART I

Prior to the item being considered Councillor David Levett declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of Garden Square Shopping Centre that he held 2 licensed tenancies within the Centre. He asked that any discussion regarding the shopping centre be held at the end of the debate at which time he would leave the meeting.

NB: There was no further discussion regarding the Garden Square Shopping Centre.

RESOLVED: That the report entitled Update of the Commercial Directorate's Progress and Future Work Programme be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: The report is following the request of the committee for an update on the progress of the Commercial Directorate work programme and is for information only.

19 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

No questions had been submitted.

20 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

21 UPDATE OF THE COMMERCIAL DIRECTORATE'S PROGRESS AND FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME - PART II

NB: This Part 2 Item was not audio recorded or filmed.

The Committee Member and Scrutiny Manager undertook a roll call to ensure all present could hear and be heard.

Prior to the item being considered Councillor David Levett declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of Garden Square Shopping Centre that he held 2 licenced tenancies within the Centre. He asked that any discussion regarding the shopping centre be held at the end of the debate at which time he would leave the Part 2 meeting.

NB Councillor David Levett left the Part 2 meeting and Councillor Kate Aspinwall took the chair.

RESOLVED: That the report entitled Update on the Commercial Directorate's Progress and Future Work Programme be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: The report is following the request of the committee for an update on the progress of the Commercial Directorate work programme and is for information only.