

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, District Council
Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth
on Thursday, 9th March, 2023 at 7.30 pm**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ian Moody, Carol Stanier, Adam Compton and Tony Hunter.

Having given due notice Councillor Morgan Derbyshire substituted for Tony Hunter.

2 MINUTES - 24 JANUARY 2023

RESOLVED: That the Part 1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 24 January 2023 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council policy this meeting would be audio recorded.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The Chair advised that for the purposes of clarification Clause 4.8.23(a) of the Constitution does not apply to this meeting.
- (4) The Chair welcomed the new Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer Sjanet Wickenden.
- (5) The Chair advised of a change to the order of the published agenda with Agenda Item 14 'Sustainability SPD' ahead of Agenda Item 9 'Overview and Scrutiny Committee Resolutions'.
- (6) The Chair led a Minute's silence in memory of former Councillor John Bishop.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at this meeting

6 URGENT AND GENERAL EXCEPTION ITEMS

No urgent or general exception items were received.

7 CALLED-IN ITEMS

There have been no items called-in by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

8 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

No questions had been submitted.

9 SUSTAINABILITY SPD

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:

- (1) That the proposed structure and breadth of the draft Sustainability SPD be approved.
- (2) That the issues and points raised by the Cabinet Panel on the Environment be noted.
- (3) That, for the purposes of developing the draft SPD, Cabinet endorse the principles of:
 1. A tiered approach to assessing the sustainability of new buildings in terms of both built fabric and operational efficiency.
 2. Investigation of the application of parking standards, both residential and nonresidential, with a view to reducing or offsetting them where appropriate.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: To allow the Sustainability SPD to be progressed so that it may be publicly consulted upon with a view to being adopted in due course following its presentation and approval by Cabinet.

10 OVERVIEW AND AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

11 ANNUAL REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Committee considered and commented on the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2022/2023 as attached at Appendix A prior to consideration by Council.
- (2) That, having considered and commented on the Draft Annual Report, the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager make the requested changes to the draft report, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair prior to the report being presented to Full Council.

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 2022/2023 Civic Year prior to consideration by Council.

12 UPDATE ON LORD LISTER HOTEL - INFORMATION NOTE

The Leader of the Council presented the Information Note entitled 'Update on Lord Lister Hotel'.

13 LEISURE CONTRACT PROCUREMENT

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:

- (1) To approve a Competitive Procedure with Negotiation (CPN) procedure for the procurement of the Leisure Management contract.

- (2) To approve the delegation of powers to the Director of Place in consultation with project board, in relation to decisions associated with the development of the procurement strategy.
- (3) To approve letting a 10-year contract with an option to extend by up to 5 years.
- (4) To approve combining the existing three contracts into a single contract, using the nationally recognised Sport England contract format, in order to secure economies of scale and to attract the most interest from the operator market.
- (5) To continue with the principle of the existing contractual shared risk approach to utilities and maintenance.

REASONS FOR REFFERAL: Our leisure management contracts expire on 31 March 2024. These recommendations ensure the procurement will be managed effectively to ensure the successful ongoing provision of leisure services in North Herts. The procurement offers an opportunity to review the existing specification and provide a clear policy position on its approach to the future delivery of sport, leisure, physical activity and wellbeing services across the district.

14 RIPA UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the content of the report be noted by Committee.

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That the RIPA Policy be amended in light of the Police, Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, as set out in section 8.5

REASON FOR DECISION: To comply with best practice guidance and the Committee's terms of reference.

15 QUARTERLY UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee commented on the Council Delivery Plan Quarter 3 monitoring report.
- (2) That Overview and Scrutiny Committee determined any project that they want to receive more detail on as part of the next monitoring report, to include Town Centre Recovery and Tourism Strategy.

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:

- (1) That Cabinet notes the progress against Council projects as set out in the Council Delivery Plan (Appendix A) including changes to milestone dates and risks.
- (2) That Cabinet note the completion of the Business Recovery Grants, the EV Charging for Council Vehicles, and the Help Residents Make Payment at Convenient Location milestones for this year.
- (3) That Cabinet notes the reduction in the Local Plan risk score from a 9 to a risk score of 6 following the end of the Judicial review period.

REASONS FOR DECISION: The Council Delivery Plan (CDP) monitoring reports provide Cabinet with an opportunity to monitor progress against the key Council projects, and understand any new issues, risks, or opportunities.

16 COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That Cabinet considers and formally approves the Council Delivery Plan to be monitored throughout 2023/2024 by Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: An approved Council Delivery Plan provides the Cabinet with assurance that progress against achievement of the Council Plan objectives, will be monitored throughout 2023/24.

17 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following report will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

18 ENTERPRISE DIRECTORATE UPDATE - PART 2

RESOLVED: That the Committee noted the report.

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

19 PART 2 MINUTES - 24 JANUARY 2023

RESOLVED: That the Part 2 Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 24 January 2023 were approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair

20 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Committee prioritised proposed topics for inclusion in the work programme attached as Appendix A and, where appropriate, determines the high level form and timing of scrutiny input.
- (2) That the Committee, having considered the most recent iteration of the Forward Plan, as attached as Appendix B, suggested a list of items to be considered at its meetings in the next civic year.

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.