

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



16 June 2025

Our Ref Cabinet Tuesday, 24 June 2025
Contact. Committee Services
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To: Members of the Cabinet:

Executive Members Councillors: Daniel Allen (Chair), Val Bryant (Vice Chair),
Ian Albert, Amy Allen, Mick Debenham, Tamsin Thomas, Laura Williams and
Donna Wright.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET

to be held in the

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, GERNON
ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

on

TUESDAY, 24TH JUNE, 2025 AT 7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson
Director – Governance

****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 - 20 MAY 2025 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 20 May 2025.	(Pages 7 - 10)
3.	NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS Members should notify the Chair of other business which they wish to be discussed at the end of either Part I or Part II business set out in the agenda. They must state the circumstances which they consider justify the business being considered as a matter of urgency. The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.	
4.	CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS <u>Climate Emergency</u> The Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to achieving a target of zero carbon emissions by 2030 and helping local people and businesses to reduce their own carbon emissions. A Cabinet Panel on the Environment has been established to engage with local people on matters relating to the climate emergency and advise the council on how to achieve these climate change objectives. A Climate Change Implementation group of councillors and council officers meets regularly to produce plans and monitor progress. Actions taken or currently underway include switching to green energy, incentives for low emission taxis, expanding tree planting and working to cut food waste. In addition the council is a member of the Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership, working with other councils across Hertfordshire to reduce the county's carbon emissions and climate impact. The Council's dedicated webpage on Climate Change includes details of the council's climate change strategy, the work of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment and a monthly briefing on progress. <u>Ecological Emergency</u> The Council has declared an ecological emergency and is committed to addressing the ecological emergency and nature recovery by identifying appropriate areas for habitat restoration and biodiversity net gain whilst ensuring that development limits impact on existing habitats in its process.	

The Council has set out to do that by a) setting measurable targets and standards for biodiversity increase, in both species and quantities, seeking to increase community engagement, b) to work with our partners to establish a Local Nature Partnership for Hertfordshire and to develop Nature Recovery Networks and Nature Recovery Strategy for Hertfordshire and c) to investigate new approaches to nature recovery such as habitat banking that deliver biodiversity objectives and provide new investment opportunities.

Declarations of Interest

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 Chair 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.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public.

6. ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Any Items referred from other committees will be circulated as soon as they are available.

7. STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS

REPORT OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR – PLACE

(Pages
11 - 20)

This report identifies the latest position on key planning and transport issues affecting the Council.

8. CODICOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

REPORT OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR – PLACE

(Pages
21 - 56)

To consider the examiner's report and the proposed modifications to the Codicote Neighbourhood Plan and to agree that officers make arrangements to conduct a referendum within the designated neighbourhood planning area for Codicote.

9. SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2025-2030

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – ENVIRONMENT

(Pages
57 - 84)

This report proposes a replacement of the Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027, which was approved in 2022. This replacement is The Sustainability Strategy 2025-2030 and aligns with the Council Plan 2024-2028 priority of Sustainability.

10. COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2024-25 (END OF YEAR)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES

(Pages
85 - 124)

This report presents progress on delivering the Council Delivery Plan for 2024-25.

- 11. REVENUE BUDGET OUTTURN 2024/25** (Pages
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES 125 -
148)

The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the summary position on revenue income and expenditure at the end of the financial year 2024/25.
- 12. INVESTMENT STRATEGY (CAPITAL AND TREASURY) END OF YEAR REVIEW 2024/25** (Pages
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES 149 -
182)

To consider the Investment Strategy (Capital and Treasury) End of Year Outturn Review.
- 13. RISK MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE - YEAR END REVIEW** (Pages
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES 183 -
202)

To provide the Committee with an update on the effectiveness of the Risk Management Governance arrangements at the Council. The review is referred on to Cabinet and the Committee can make recommendations on how we can improve our risk management arrangements.
- 14. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

To consider passing the following resolution: 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 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).
- 15. PART 2 MINUTES - 14 JANUARY 2025 AND 18 MARCH 2025** 203 -
To take as read and approve as a true record the Part 2 minutes of the 206
meeting of the Committee held on the 14 January 2025 and 18 March 2025.
- 16. THE ARENA, BALDOCK - PART 2** 207 -
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR 234

This report sets out proposals for dealing with the balance on the rent account; regularising underlettings; a new rent and details how future rent reviews will be assessed. This will enable the club to progress replacement of the pitch.
- 17. THE ARENA, BALDOCK - PART 1** (Pages
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR 235 -
240)

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- 19. RADBURN WAY, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY - PART 2** 241 -
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR 262

This reports is to consider whether the Council should not progress development or disposal of the site. Instead, the Council should consider capitalising on the site's biodiversity, with a view to improving public use of the site and exploring the site's value as part of a habitat bank.

- 20. RADBURN WAY, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY - PART 1** (Pages
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR 263 -
278)

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