

12 September 2025

Our Ref Cabinet Tuesday, 23 September 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 GARDEN CITY, SG6 3JF**

on

TUESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2025 AT 7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,

Isabelle Alajooz
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 - 24 JUNE 2025 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 24 June 2025.	(Pages 7 - 20)
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

To consider any items referred from other Committees.

(Pages
21 - 32)

6A) Referral from Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Council Delivery Plan 2025-26 Q1 Update - **to be considered with item 13.**

6B) Referral from Finance, Audit and Risk Committee: First Quarter Revenue Budget Monitoring 2025/26 – **to be considered with item 14.**

6C) Referral from Finance, Audit and Risk Committee: First Quarter Treasury Management Review 2025/26 – **to be considered with item 15.**

6D) Referral from Finance, Audit and Risk Committee: First Quarter Capital Programme Monitoring 2025/26 – **to be considered with item 16.**

7. DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT - DRAFT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

(Pages
33 - 126)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – PLACE

Following the adoption of the Local Plan in November 2022, the Council adopted a Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document to provide additional details for developers and case officers about developer contributions which can be used to make a development acceptable. This review is to update the SPD, particularly with regard to the provision of open space in new development.

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| 8. | <p>STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – PLACE</p> <p>This report identifies the latest position on key planning and transport issues affecting the Council.</p> | <p>(Pages
127 -
142)</p> |
| 9. | <p>CODICOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - REFERENDUM</p> <p>REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – PLACE</p> <p>To consider the result of the referendum for the Codicote Neighbourhood Plan and to formally “make” the Neighbourhood Plan so that it becomes part of the statutory development plan for North Hertfordshire.</p> | <p>(Pages
143 -
148)</p> |
| 10. | <p>NORTH HERTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2025-2030</p> <p>REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – ENTERPRISE</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to present and seek approval of the new Economic Development strategy for North Herts for 2025-2030.</p> | <p>(Pages
149 -
242)</p> |
| 11. | <p>CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE</p> <p>REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE</p> <p>Report updating on progress against the Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan.</p> | <p>(Pages
243 -
256)</p> |
| 12. | <p>POSITION STATEMENT IN RELATION TO FLOODING</p> <p>REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES AND DIRECTOR – ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>The Council is a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. Amongst other requirements this means that the Council (with other responders) is required to have plans for emergencies, respond to an emergency when it happens and support the recovery from an emergency. Whilst this places obligations on the Council, there are still options available in relation to the level of support that is provided when emergencies occur. This report considers the options in relation to flooding.</p> | <p>(Pages
257 -
268)</p> |
| 13. | <p>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2025/26 (QUARTER 1 UPDATE)</p> <p>REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES</p> <p>This report presents progress on delivering the Council Delivery Plan for 2025-26. This is a Quarter 1 update but generally reflects progress up to the point that this report was prepared (mid-August).</p> | <p>(Pages
269 -
306)</p> |
| 14. | <p>FIRST QUARTER REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2025/26</p> <p>REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the summary position on revenue income and expenditure forecasts for the financial year 2025/26, as at the end of the first quarter.</p> | <p>(Pages
307 -
322)</p> |

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| 15. | FIRST QUARTER TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2025/26
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES | (Pages
323 -
342) |
| | To update Cabinet on progress with delivering the Treasury Strategy for 2025/26, as at the end of June 2025. | |
| 16. | FIRST QUARTER CAPITAL MONITORING REVIEW 2025/26
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES | (Pages
343 -
354) |
| | To update Cabinet on progress with delivering the Capital Programme for 2025/26, as at the end of June 2025. | |
| 17. | 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 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended). | |
| 18. | PART 2 MINUTES - 24 JUNE 2025
To take as read and approve as a true record the Part 2 minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 24 June 2025. | 355 -
358 |
| 19. | GRANT FOR AN OPTION AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OF LAND TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO STRATEGIC HOUSING SITE GA2 - PART 2
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR | 359 -
410 |
| | Site GA2 is a strategic housing site in the Local Plan. It is proposed that a new access road to the development will be created from Mendip Way. This report seeks Cabinet approval to the heads of terms for an option agreement to give the developer a right to acquire land owned by the Council to facilitate the access to GA2, in collaboration with the other four owners. | |
| 20. | GRANT OF AN OPTION AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OF LAND TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO STRATEGIC HOUSING SITE GA2 - PART 1
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR | (Pages
411 -
430) |
| | Site GA2 is a strategic housing site in the Local Plan. It is proposed that a new access road to the development will be created from Mendip Way. This report seeks Cabinet approval to the heads of terms for an option agreement to give the developer a right to acquire land owned by the Council to facilitate the access to GA2, in collaboration with the other four owners. | |