

2 April 2026

Our Ref    Cabinet Tuesday, 14 April 2026  
Contact.    Committee Services  
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To:    Members of the Cabinet:

Executive Members Councillors: Val Bryant (Chair) Sean Nolan (Vice Chair) Ian Albert, Amy Allen, Daniel 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, SG6 3JF**

on

**TUESDAY, 14TH APRIL, 2026 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**

| <b>Item</b> |   | <b>Page</b>       |
|-------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>1.</b>   | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  |                   |
| <b>2.</b>   | <b>MINUTES - 17 FEBRUARY 2026</b><br>To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 17 February 2026.   | (Pages 7<br>- 20) |
| <b>3.</b>   | <b>NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS</b><br>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.<br><br>The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.   |                   |
| <b>4.</b>   | <b>CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b><br><u>Climate Emergency</u><br>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.<br><br>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.<br><br>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.<br><br>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.<br><br><u>Ecological Emergency</u><br><br>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**

(Pages  
21 - 42)

6A) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Lease on Letchworth Multi-Storey Car Park - **to be considered with Item 10.**

6B) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – RIPA Update and Annual Review – **to be considered with Item 11.**

6C) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Section 106 Task and Finish Group Report – **to be considered with Item 12.**

6D) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Council Delivery Plan 2025-26 (Q3 Update) - **to be considered with Item 13.**

6E) Finance, Audit and Risk Committee – Third Quarter Treasury Management Review 2025/26 – **to be considered with Item 14.**

6F) Finance, Audit and Risk Committee – Third Quarter Capital Budget Monitoring Review 2025/26 – **to be considered with Item 15.**

6G) Finance, Audit and Risk Committee – Third Quarter Revenue Budget Monitoring 2025/26 – **to be considered with Item 16.**

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

#### **7. STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS**

REPORT OF THE INTERIM STRATEGIC PLANNING MANAGER

(Pages  
43 - 146)

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

8. **RENTERS RIGHT ACT** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – REGULATORY 147 -  
532)
- Please note that this report is for Cabinet to consider four legal documents all of which are directly affected by the Renters Rights Act, 2025 (the Act), and need to be either amended or in place before the Act takes effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026.
9. **ARRANGEMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT PUBLIC HEALTH FUNERALS** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – REGULATORY 533 -  
554)
- The purpose of this report is to provide the key information to enable North Herts Council to adopt the Policy to accommodate the provision for carrying out Public Health Funerals in accordance with obligations place on the Council by section 46 of the Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984.
10. **LEASE ON LETCHWORTH MULTI STOREY CAR PARK** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – ENTERPRISE 555 -  
562)
- This report sets out negotiations that have taken place between the Martin Group and the Council with regards to the potential surrender of the Letchworth Multi Storey Car Park.
11. **REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT (RIPA) UPDATE AND ANNUAL REVIEW** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE/MONITORING OFFICER 563 -  
638)
- This Report provides an update on the Council's current use of RIPA and reports on the annual policy review. The Report also provides an update on the proposed amendments to the Council's RIPA Policies following its annual review.
12. **SECTION 106 TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT 2026** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE SECTION 106 TASK AND FINISH GROUP 639 -  
718)
- The report details the Task and Finish Group's review of North Herts' application of the Section 106 (s106) mechanism for securing developer contributions from new development and provides an overview of the assessment undertaken and recommendations identified.
13. **COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2025-26 (QUARTER 3 UPDATE)** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES 719 -  
760)
- Report presenting progress on delivering the Council Delivery Plan for 2025-26.
14. **THIRD QUARTER TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2025/26** (Pages  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES 761 -  
780)
- To update Cabinet on progress with delivering the Treasury Strategy for 2025/26, as at the end of December 2025.

- 15. THIRD QUARTER CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REVIEW 2025/26** (Pages  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES** 781 -  
796)

To update Cabinet on progress with delivering the capital programme for 2025/26, as at the end of December 2025.

- 16. THIRD QUARTER REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2025/26** (Pages  
**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES** 797 -  
812)

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 third quarter.