

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF on Tuesday, 3rd February, 2026 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Elizabeth Dennis and Dominic Griffiths.
Councillor Cathy Brownjohn was absent.

2 MINUTES - 6 JANUARY 2026

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2026, as amended, 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.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6 URGENT AND GENERAL EXCEPTION ITEMS

There were no urgent or general exception items.

7 CALLED-IN ITEMS

There were no called-in items.

8 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

No questions had been submitted by Members.

9 LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE FOLLOW UP

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the findings of the CPC follow up report were noted.
- (2) That the progress against the CPC Action Plan was noted.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To ensure that the Council responds to the matters identified within the CPC follow up report, ensuring that the benefits of the CPC process are realised.

10 ENTERPRISE PORTFOLIO UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the Committee noted the report.

REASON FOR DECISION: The report followed the request of the committee for an update on the progress of the Enterprise Directorate and is for information only.

11 LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

RESOLVED: That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the broad 'direction of travel' for the Local Plan Review pending formal laying and enactment of the relevant legislation and regulation; and provided any commentary as required.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure the Council is well-positioned to progress preparation of the Local Plan as quickly as possible once the new plan-making system comes into effect. Cabinet previously first resolved, in principle, that a review of the Local Plan should take place in January 2024. However, the Council did not progress on the review which was held back due to the delays in the publication of the regulations and guidance on the new Local Plan system.

12 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Committee prioritised topics for inclusion in the Work Programme attached as Appendix A and, where appropriate, determined 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 at Appendix B, suggested a list of items to be considered at its meetings in the coming civic year.
- (3) That the Committee noted the Decisions and Monitoring Tracker, attached as Appendix C to the report.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

- (1) To allow the Committee to set a work programme which provides focused Member oversight, encourages open debate and seeks to achieve service improvement through effectively policy development and meaningful policy and service change.
- (2) The need to observe Constitutional requirements and monitor the Forward Plan for appropriate items to scrutinise remains a key aspect of work programming.