

13 May 2026

Our Ref Council 21 May 2026
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To: The Chair and Members of North Hertfordshire District Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

to be held in the

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

on

THURSDAY, 21ST MAY, 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**

Item		Page
1.	ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2026/27	
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
3.	ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2026/27	
4.	MINUTES - 23 APRIL 2026 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 23 April 2026.	5 - 12
5.	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.

Ecological Emergency

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.

- 6. NOTING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET FOR 2025/26 (INCLUDING SPECIAL INTEREST MEMBER CHAMPIONS)** 13 - 18
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

To inform the Council of the Leader's appointment of Members of the Cabinet for 2026/27.

- 7. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES, JOINT COMMITTEES AND PANELS FOR 2026/27** 19 - 34
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

To inform the Council of the appointment of Members of Committees for 2026/27.

- 8. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES FOR 2026/27** 35 - 40
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

To inform the Council of the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs for 2026/27.

- 9. EXTENSION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE** 41 - 44
REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

To extend the appointment of John Cannon as Independent Member of Finance, Audit and Risk (FAR) Committee until 31st March 2028.

- 10. ADJOURNMENT**
The Annual Meeting of Council will adjourn to allow meetings of each Community Forum to convene and elect Chairs and Vice Chairs for the civic year 2025-2026.

11. KEY DECISIONS - ANNUAL REPORT ON CASES OF SPECIAL URGENCY 45 - 50
REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

To inform the Council of any occasions over the past year where the provisions relating to “Special Urgency” have been used in connection with the publication of an intention to make a Key Decision, as required by legislation

12. APPROVE A PROGRAMME OF ORDINARY MEETINGS FOR THE COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2026/27 51 - 58
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

To seek approval of a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the Civic Year 2026/27.

13. NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER BODIES FOR 2026/27 59 - 72
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

To present a list setting out the nomination of representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2026/27.

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 Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

15. APPROVAL OF POTENTIAL EXIT PAYMENT - PART 2 73 - 84
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – CUSTOMERS

To seek approval of Council for the authority to make an exit payment, should redundancy arise following completion of consultation and redeployment processes, where the cost exceeds the threshold of £100,000 as set out in the Pay Policy Statement.

16. APPROVAL OF POTENTIAL EXIT PAYMENT - PART 1 85 - 94
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – CUSTOMERS

To seek approval of Council for the authority to make an exit payment, should redundancy arise following completion of consultation and redeployment processes, where the cost exceeds the threshold of £100,000 as set out in the Pay Policy Statement.