

3 July 2026

Our Ref Council 16 July 2026
Contact. Committee Services
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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, 16TH JULY, 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.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	MINUTES - 21 MAY 2026 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 21 May 2026.	5 - 18
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.

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| 5. | PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public. | 19 - 20 |
| 6. | ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES
To consider items referred from other Committees: | 21 - 38 |
| | 6A) Cabinet – Revenue Budget Outturn 2025/26 – to be considered as a referral only. | |
| | 6B) Cabinet – Treasury Management End of Year Review 2025/26 – to be considered as a referral only. | |
| | 6C) Cabinet – Year End Report of Risk Management Governance – to be considered as a referral only. | |
| | 6D) Finance, Audit and Risk Committee – Finance, Audit and Risk Annual Report – to be considered with Agenda Item 7. | |
| | 6E) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2025/26 – to be considered with Agenda Item 8. | |
| | 6F) Cabinet – Churchgate Regeneration Project Update & Next Steps – Part 2 – to be considered with Agenda Item 11. | |
| | 6G) Cabinet – Churchgate Regeneration Project Update & Next Steps – Part 1 – to be considered with Agenda Item 12. | |
| 7. | FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES | 39 - 50 |

The Annual Report (attached at Appendix A) details the work undertaken by the Finance, Audit and Risk (FAR) Committee over the last year (25/26) and describes the planned work for the coming year (26/27).

8. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2025/26** 51 - 64
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

To consider the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the 2025/2026 Civic Year.

9. **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 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

10. **PART 2 MINUTES - 21 MAY 2026** 65 - 68
To take as read and approve as a true record the Part 2 minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 21 May 2026.

11. **CHURCHGATE REGENERATION PROJECT UPDATE & NEXT STEPS - PART 2** 69 - 72
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – ENTERPRISE

Since the previous update to Members, further work has been undertaken to assess the viability, deliverability and regeneration potential of the Churchgate site. This report provides an update on that work and seeks approval for the additional funding required to support the next phase of the project.

12. **CHURCHGATE REGENERATION PROJECT UPDATE & NEXT STEPS - PART 1** 73 - 84
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – ENTERPRISE

Since the previous update to Members, further work has been undertaken to assess the viability, deliverability and regeneration potential of the Churchgate site. This report provides an update on that work and seeks approval for the additional funding required to support the next phase of the project.

13. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**
To consider any questions submitted by Members of the Council, in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.11 (b).

14. **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**
To consider any motions, due notice of which have been given in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.12.