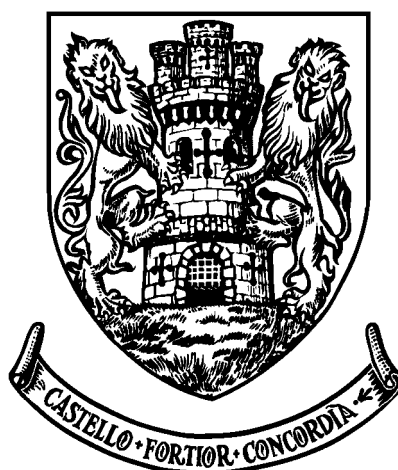


# NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



## COUNCIL

Monday, 9 March 2020

**YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 9 MARCH 2020 AT 6:30 PM WHEN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS IS PROPOSED TO BE TRANSACTED**

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**2. MINUTES.**

To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Council held on 24 February 2020. (Copy herewith.)

**3. APOLOGIES.**

**4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS**

**6. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**7. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS**

**8. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS**

Councillor Smith to make a statement on "Housing"

**9. UPDATE ON CARRIED MOTIONS**

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

i) Councillor Smith to propose, and Councillor T Eales to second:

“The cost of temporary accommodation is putting huge pressure on our budget every year. It is time to call a halt to this.

We call on the council to house eligible families in permanent housing straight away. This would be kinder, cheaper, and more effective.

We call on the council to use the Homes First model to take people off the street and make them safe.

We call on the council to fulfil its 2015 manifesto promise and ensure we have a fully functioning Social Lettings agency by the time we go to Unitary. A social Lettings agency will help us with the supply side by working with private landlords, investing in empty properties, bringing back into use properties that are hard to let.“

## **11. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE MAYOR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.**

George Candler – Chief Executive  
The Guildhall  
Northampton

### **Public Participation**

#### **1. Comments and Petitions**

- 1.1 A member of the public (or an accredited representative of a business ratepayer of the Borough) may make a comment or present a petition on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. A comment or presentation of a petition shall be for no more than three minutes. No notice of the nature of the comment to be made or of the petition is required except for the need to register to speak by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

(Public comments and petitions will not be taken at the Annual Council Meeting or other civic or ceremonial meetings.)

#### **NOTES**

- i. *Comments may be on one or more subjects but each person has no longer than three minutes to have their say.*
- ii. *The same person may make a comment and present a petition on different subjects. In such instances that person will have three minutes to make their comment and a separate three minutes to present a petition.*

#### **2. Member and Public Questions**

- 2.1 A member of the public (or business ratepayer of the Borough) may ask a maximum of two written questions at each meeting, each limited to a maximum of 50 words, on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. Each question shall:
- be submitted in writing and delivered, e-mailed to Democratic Services no later than 10.00am seven calendar days before the day of the meeting; and
  - include the name and address of the questioner and the name of the Cabinet member/Committee Chair to whom the question is put.
- 2.2 At the meeting, copies of all questions and the responses to them from the public and Members will be made available to the public and press. The Mayor may allow one supplementary question, without notice, that arises directly from the original question or response.

(Questions will not be taken at the Annual Council Meeting or at civic or ceremonial meetings or meetings called to deal with specific items of business.)

#### NOTES

*In respect of paragraph 2.1 above, questions may be rejected on certain grounds that are set out on page 4-12 of the Council's Constitution and which may be viewed at [www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download\\_info.php?fileID=1919](http://www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1919) or by seeking advice using the contact details below.*

### 3. Motions

- 3.1 A member of the public may register to speak to a motion under the 'Notices of Motion' item on the agenda. Registration to speak must be made to Democratic Services by 12 noon on the day to the meeting. Speaking to a motion is restricted to three minutes per person.

(The 'Notices of Motion' item will not be taken at the Annual Council meeting or meetings called for civic or ceremonial purposes.)

### 4. General

A member of the public may make a comment, present a petition, ask a question or speak to a motion at the same meeting subject to the restrictions set out above.

### 5. Contacts

Democratic Services: e-mail [democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk)

Tel 01604 837722

Fax 01604 837057

Mail Democratic Services  
Northampton Borough Council  
The Guildhall  
St Giles Square  
Northampton NN1 1DE

## MINUTES

OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE GUILDHALL, NORTHAMPTON, ON Monday, 24 February 2020 AT SIX THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

**PRESENT:** HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR Councillor Choudary (in the Chair).

**COUNCILLORS:** Ansell, Ashraf, Beardsworth, Birch, Choudary, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Haque, Hibbert, J Hill, Joyce, Kilbride, King, Lane, Larratt, Malpas, B Markham, M Markham, Marriott, Meredith, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Russell, Sargeant, Smith, Stone, Walker and Roberts

### 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

### 2. MINUTES.

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 January 2020 were agreed and signed by the Mayor following the correction that Councillor Birch declared an interest in respect of Item 9 as a trustee of Community Spaces Northampton.

### 3. APOLOGIES.

Apologies were received from Councillors Aziz, Bottwood, Cali, Caswell, Chunga, Davenport and Graystone.

### 4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Mayor invited all to attend a Silent Art Auction Mixer at 78 Derngate on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020 and asked that they contact the Mayor's Secretary for further information. He explained that The Lowdown would be hosting a Councillor briefing session on Thursday 27 February 2020 at 6pm. He had been invited to visit Northampton's twinned town of Marburg next month, and would provide an update at the next meeting.

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS

Mr Richard Dimpleby addressed the Council explaining that he lived in Kingsthorpe. He wanted to stress the strength of feeling there was against the Community Governance Review proposal. He had not received a letter during the consultation period. He understood that less than 5% of residents had responded to the consultation indicating there was not an appetite for change. He urged the Council to reconsider the boundaries proposed. He urged the Council to support the amendment being proposed by Councillors Beardsworth and Birch. It was felt that the change was being imposed rather than being done with the residents.

Katie Abu addressed the Council expressing her happiness that another opportunity to discuss the Community Governance Review proposal had arisen. She believed that this was being done too quickly and felt it would be good to defer the proposal. There was a natural cohesion to the three wards of Whitehills, Obelisk and Sunnyside without including Kingsthorpe and St David's. The three wards already worked together and it made sense for this to continue. She felt that not everyone in the area was consulted with and that fewer than 5% responded because they did not understand the consequences of the consultation.

Tony Mallard addressed the Council explaining he was the Chair of Eastfield Residents Association. The association wanted to purchase a bench to place in the park and hoped to do so using funding from the Councillor Community Fund. The bench would need to be provided by the Council at a cost of £1600, which he felt was very high. A company called Workbridge could provide two benches for the park for less than £1000. He asked that the Council grant permission to purchase the benches from Workbridge in order to reduce the cost spend from the Councillor Community Fund.

Arthur Newbury addressed the Council saying he was the Chair of the Investigation Action Group. He raised concerns that a member had posted something inappropriate on social media regarding another member. He felt that this behaviour should not be tolerated and requested that the member who made the inappropriate post apologise to the other member and that they should take responsibility for their actions.

## **6. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Councillor Larratt submitted a report explaining that a lengthy process had been undertaken by the cross-party working group where upon it proposed that the Council made a Community Governance Reorganisation Order be made. This would create a Northampton Town Council, a Far Cotton and Delapré Community Council and a Kingsthorpe Parish Council.

During the consultation period, letters were sent to every household in the parishes through the support of the Elections team. He understood that some people felt the consultation had not been fit for purpose however the same process had been used in previous Community Governance Reviews proposals. The proposals could not be altered without further consultation being undertaken, incurring additional costs. There would be an option to reconsider the governance options in two to three years' time.

Councillor Nunn seconded the report and reserved his right to speak.

At this point Councillor Birch proposed an amendment to the Community Governance Review report. She called the Council to separate consideration of the three new councils in order that each could be voted upon separately. She called upon the Council to respect the views of the ward councillors and residents of Kingsthorpe, and St David's and the views of WASPRA. It was felt that the parish could be too large, being larger than the town councils of Brackley and Towcester.

The area consisted of very different demographics and it was felt that the consultation was flawed. The elected members for those wards were not consulted with, nor were community groups or key stakeholders. It was suggested that Kingsthorpe and St David's could join the Town Council. It was asked that a review be held in eighteen months' time to enable further consultation.

Councillor Beardsworth seconded the amendment indicating the parish wanted to start small and grow over time. It would be beneficial to delay and consider alternative options at another time. She felt the proposal was being rushed and was too complicated. She believed that people felt forced into this option and didn't fully understand the implications.

Councillors discussed the amendment expressing disappointment that the proposals had been submitted in this format. The proposed Northampton Town Council would become the largest town council in the country. The proposal regarding Kingsthorpe Parish Council should be delayed to ensure all available options had been considered. Benefits for everyone were created when diverse communities worked together. The report did not contain financial information regarding the precepts for the new councils.

In response Councillor Larratt thanked everyone for their comments. Members had expressed concern regarding the size of the proposed Kingsthorpe Parish Council however no such concerns had been raised regarding Northampton Town Council which was larger. The proposal had been discussed for the past eighteen months' therefore it had not been rushed. He understood that Kingsthorpe was a community with its own identity and needed its own parish council to represent it.

At this point the Mayor called for the amendment to be voted upon. This was a recorded vote with the following result:

Voting for the amendment: Councillors Choudary, Ashraf, Beardsworth, Birch, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Haque, Joyce, B Markham, Marriott, Meredith, Russell, Roberts, Smith and Stone.

Voting against the amendment: Councillors Ansell, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Hadland, Hibbert, Hill, Kilbride, King, Lane, Larratt, Malpas, M Markham, Nunn, Oldham, Parkekh, Patel, Sargeant, and Walker.

Upon the vote the amendment to the Community Governance Review fell.

Further discussions were then held on the main report. Some councillors felt there was not enough time for the proposal regarding Kingsthorpe Parish Council to be considered adequately. It was acknowledged that there were no restrictions on what parish councils could add to their precept and the true costs of setting up this parish council were not yet known. The process would be clearer after the Unitary Councils were in operation.

At this point another amendment was tabled by Councillor G Eales. He proposed that

the term of office of the new councillors shall be for 4 years from 2021 rather than the proposed 5 years from 2020 onwards for four-year terms.

Councillor Marriot seconded the amendment with those speaking indicating the report did not clearly define the finances involved.

Councillors discussed this amendment agreeing that the report was unclear as to how much the parish council would cost to establish and its operational costs for the first two years. The new parish councils would need time to settle and establish themselves as the lower tier of local government. They would also be supported by Northampton CALC.

The Monitoring Officer explained that the second amendment presented suggested that elections were moved to 2021. The Structural Change Order for Northamptonshire stated that elections could not be held in 2021 therefore the amendment if agreed could be unlawful. If the Council was minded to agree the proposed amendment then further investigation would be needed to check if it was lawful.

In response Councillor Larratt indicated there was a need to ensure the parish councils were operational before the unitary councils to ensure they were supported. The Council would grant fund the new parish councils for the first year of operation enabling them to plan with and for their local areas.

At this point the Mayor called for the amendment to be voted upon. 15 members voted for the amendment and 20 voted against the amendment therefore the amendment fell.

Councillor Larratt asked that the Council supported this proposal within the report which would enable local areas to have a say going forward.

At this point the Mayor called for the recommendations to be voted upon. 20 members voted for the recommendations and 14 voted against the recommendations and there was 1 abstention, therefore the amendment fell.

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

**RESOLVED: That the Council**

- a) Considered the recommendations of the Cross-Party Working Group at its meeting on the 18th February, 2020 and set out in full, in its report and plan now attached as Appendix 'A', and which were:**
  - i. That a Community Governance Reorganisation Order be made creating a Northampton Town council of 21 wards and 25 councillors as shown in red on the enclosed plan; a Far Cotton and Delapré Community Council (unwarded) with 12 councillors; and a Kingsthorpe Parish Council of five wards and 15 councillors both as shown in blue on the enclosed map (see Appendix 1).**
  - ii. That the term of office of the new councillors shall be for 5**

- years from 2020 onwards for four-year terms.
- iii. That the Chief Executive be authorised to convene the first meetings of the new councils. The first meeting of the Town Council being planned for Monday 18th May at 6.00pm at the Guildhall.
  - iv. That it be noted that the new Town Council and likewise the new Parish and Community Councils will not be exercising their full civic functions until April 2021
  - v. That from 1st April 2020 until the first meetings of the new councils, those borough councillors serving borough council wards in those new Council areas shall have responsibility for those new councils
  - vi. That the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Cross Party Working Group and subject where necessary to reports to Full Council, be authorised to prepare schedules of land and property to be transferred to the new councils including civic plate and historic artefacts to the new Town Council and to approve the budget requirement (grant to be paid) of the new councils and this delegation to also include any necessary amendments to the reorganisation orders for other matters that need to be included.
  - vii. That the new councils will be known/titled as:
    - Northampton Town Council
    - Far Cotton & Delapré Community Council
    - Kingsthorpe Parish Council

## **7. GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2020-2021**

The Mayor proposed a suspension of standing orders under Rule 25 to enable the mover and seconders the opportunity to speak for a maximum of 10 minutes and that no other speech exceeds 5 minutes in relation to items 7, 8, 9, and 10. This was agreed by Council.

Councillor Eldred submitted a report which reported the outcome of the consultation process on the 2020/21 general fund revenue and capital budget and the government funding settlement for 2020/21. He thanked his Cabinet colleagues, the Section 151 officer and staff for their help to make this budget possible. The proposal was recommending an increase to the council tax of £5 per year per band D property for 2020-21. Investment had been made to the capital programme.

Councillor Nunn seconded the report.

At this point Councillor Stone introduced the Labour Groups budget statement indicating that the budget included £1.5m of savings and nine proposed redundancies. The Council's accounts had failed external audits value for money test for a number of years. The risks regarding failure to secure the additional funding from the disposal of garden waste income was highlighted, along with the reduction of the Councillor Community Fund.

It was felt that an anti-poverty strategy to reduce inequalities and improve residents'



lives was needed and this would reduce overall costs to the county. The Council should work in partnership with Homes England and the councils housing stock outside of the HRA and the Right to Buy schemes needed to be replenished. It was suggested that a grants officer should be appointed to source additional funding. It was felt that the budget presented did not meet the growth agenda and that it did not include the additional costs regarding the Community Governance Review.

Councillor Birch seconded the budget statement expressing that Northampton could consider becoming the first electric bus town which would enable climate change targets to be met. It was felt that the town had a number of marketable assets, such as its parks and the Guildhall which could be used to generate more income. A fee could be charged for holding a commercial event in a park for example.

There were currently seventeen utilities companies supplying council properties which could be switched to one, greener energy, provider saving money. LED lighting could be installed in all council buildings and all council vehicles could be converted to run on electric.

In response Councillor Eldred clarified the Council was investing in properties because it was cheaper to do so and the number of people claiming job seekers allowance had fallen by 38% over the last ten years.

At this point Councillor B Markham introduced the Liberal Democrats budget statement indicating there was nothing new in the budget proposed. The main objective of the budget was to ensure it balanced and did not pass on any debt or commit the unitary authorities to spending. The budget pressures regarding homelessness had been indicated previously however it was felt little had been done to address them.

It was felt that charging for the disposal of garden waste had been introduced to supplement the budget and would be an environmental disaster and could lead to more fly-tipping.

Councillor Beardsworth seconded the Liberal Democrats budget statement indicating that less environmentally friendly options would be sought to dispose of garden waste due to the additional charge. The Councillor Community Fund was used to help small organisations and the reduction would be noticed.

In response Councillor Eldred explained that many people had already subscribed to pay for the disposal of their garden waste and new collection routes would be implemented and would achieve additional savings.

During discussions it was noted that many of the housing issues stemmed from the 'right to buy' scheme because the housing stock could not be replenished fast enough. The use of food banks and universal credit had not diminished. The Councillor Community Fund enabled many residents' associations to be viable. It was felt the budget focused on the removal of things such as the deletion of vacant posts rather than growth and regeneration. The general fund budget included funding for temporary accommodation and new housing throughout the year.

In response Councillor Eldred explained that the return on installation of solar panels on buildings was twenty to twenty-five years and LED lighting was being installed.

At this point the Mayor called for the recommendations to be voted upon. This was a recorded vote with the following result:

Voting for the recommendations: Councillors Ansell, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill, King, Lane, Larratt, Malpas, M Markham, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Sargeant, and Walker.

Voting against the recommendations: Councillors Ashraf, Beardsworth, Birch, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Haque, Joyce, B Markham, Marriott, Meredith, Russell, Roberts, Smith and Stone.

The Mayor Councillor Choudary abstained from the vote.

Councillor Kilbride was not present for the vote on this item.

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

**RESOLVED: That Council agreed:**

1. That the feedback from consultation with the public, organisations and the Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committees be considered and welcomed (detailed at appendices 9, 10 and 11).
2. That a general fund revenue budget for 2020/21 of £27.770m (excluding parishes, or £29.006m including parish precepts) be approved (detailed in appendices 1 and 2).
3. That the Council increases the council tax for its own purposes (excluding County, Police, Fire and Parish Precepts) by £5.00 (2.21%) per year per average band D property for 2020/21.
4. That the Council approve the general fund capital budget and outline programme and proposed financing for 2020/21, including the schemes in the development pool, as set out in appendix 4.
5. That Council confirm a minimum level of general fund balances for 2020/21 of £3.0m that reflects the risks being faced by the Council, with a prudent level of £4.0m included in the budget setting, and also note the position on earmarked reserves (appendix 7).
6. That authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, and where appropriate the relevant Head of Service and Cabinet Member to:
  - Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves as appropriate during the financial year; and
  - Update prudential indicators in both the prudential indicators report and treasury strategy report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these.
7. That the draft fees and charges set out in appendix 8 be approved, including immediate implementation where appropriate. Note the one small amendment to the fees and charges schedule as detailed at section

**3.1.3.**

- 8. That Council approve the treasury management strategy (and associated appendices) for 2020/21 at appendix 5 of this report.**
- 9. That authority be delegated to the Council's Chief Finance Officer, in liaison with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to make any temporary changes needed to the Council's borrowing and investment strategy to enable the authority to meet its obligations.**
- 10. That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive, Heads of Service and Chief Finance Officer to implement all budget options and restructures.**

## **8. ROBUSTNESS OF BUDGET ESTIMATES AND ADEQUACY OF RESERVES**

Councillor Eldred submitted a report which sought to advise the Council on the robustness of the estimates in the budget and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves for the general fund and housing revenue account (HRA) and recommended the medium term financial plan (MTFP) 2020-2024, the revenue budget for 2020-21, capital programme 2020-24, reserves levels and the treasury management strategy 2020-21.

Councillor Nunn seconded the report.

During discussions it was noted that the report did not contain any information on the effects of Brexit or the local government reorganisation costs. No costs had been listed for the creation of the town and parish councils discussed in the previous item. There was no information regarding the use of reserves or how equality and health issues would be addressed. It did not contain any reassurance that the issues regarding temporary accommodation would be addressed.

At this point the Mayor called for the recommendations to be voted upon. This was a recorded vote with the following result:

Voting for the recommendations: Councillors Ansell, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill, Kilbride, King, Lane, Larratt, Malpas, M Markham, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Sargeant, and Walker.

Voting against the recommendations: Councillors Beardsworth, Birch, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Haque, Joyce, B Markham, Marriott, Meredith, Russell, Roberts, Smith and Stone.

The Mayor Councillor Choudary abstained from the vote.

Councillor Ashraf was not present for the vote on this item.

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

**RESOLVED: That Cabinet recommend to Council to carefully consider the content of this report with regards to the general fund and HRA prior to recommending the approval of the Council's MTFP 2020/21, the revenue budget**

for 2020/21, capital programme 2020/24 and the treasury management strategy 2020/21.

## **9. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET, RENT SETTING 2020/2021 AND BUDGET PROJECTIONS FOR FUTURE YEARS**

Councillor Eldred submitted a report which indicated investment in the capital programme whilst being mindful that it was the first rent increase proposed for a number of years.

Councillor Nunn seconded the report.

In response Councillor Eldred explained the Council was currently considering locations for additional housing however details could not be provided at the meeting.

At this point the Mayor called for the recommendations to be voted upon. This was a recorded vote with the following result:

Voting for the recommendations: Councillors Ansell, Ashraf, Beardsworth, Birch, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Haque, Hibbert, Hill, Joyce, Kilbride, King, Lane, Larratt, Malpas, B Markham, M Markham, Marriott, Meredith, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Russell, Roberts, Sargeant, Smith, Stone and Walker.

There were no votes against the recommendations.

The Mayor Councillor Choudary abstained from the vote.

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

### **RESOLVED: That Council:**

#### **1. The Council approved:**

- a) **An average rent increase of 2.7% per dwelling, in line with the legislation and the government's national rent policy, to take effect from 6th April 2020.**
- b) **The HRA budget for 2020/21 of £53.7m expenditure detailed in Appendix 1.**
- c) **The HRA capital programme for 2020/21, including future year commitments, and proposed financing as set out in Appendix 2.**
- d) **The proposed service charges listed in Appendix 3.**
- e) **That Cabinet be authorised, once the capital programme has been set, to approve new capital schemes and variations to existing schemes during 2020/21, subject to the funding being available and the schemes being in accordance with the objectives and priorities of the Council.**
- f) **The Total Fees proposed for NPH to deliver the services in scope for 2020/21 detailed in Appendix 4.**

#### **2. That the Cabinet acknowledges the issues and risks detailed in the Chief**

**Finance Officer's statement on the robustness of estimates and the adequacy of the reserves.**

- 3. That the Council be recommended to confirm the reserves strategy of protecting balances wherever possible to allow the option of supporting future years' budgets, aiming for a minimum level of unallocated Housing Revenue Account balances of at least £5m for 2020/21 having regard to the outcome of the financial risk assessment.**
- 4. That authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the Council meeting of 24 February 2020.**
- 5. That Council be recommended to delegate authority to the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer to implement any retained HRA budget options and restructures.**
- 6. That authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, and where appropriate the relevant Head of Service and Portfolio Holder to:**
  - Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year.**
  - Transfer monies to/from HRA working balances between the Council and NPH for cash flow purposes should that become necessary during the financial year.**
  - Transfer monies, within the Capital Programme, between Developer Affordable Homes opportunities (budget head) and Buy backs and Acquisitions (budget head) during the financial year subject to the funding being available and the schemes being in accordance with the objectives and priorities of the Council.**
  - Update the budget tables and appendices, prior to Council should any further changes be necessary.**
  - Update prudential indicators in both the Prudential Indicators report and Treasury Strategy report, for Council for any budget changes that impact on these.**

## **10. COUNCIL TAX 2020/21**

Councillor Eldred submitted a report which detailed the final precept determinations from the major precepting authorities.

Councillor Nunn seconded the report.

During discussions it was noted that the proposed increases needed to reflect that lower income households did not always receive an increase based on the rate of inflation from the Bank of England. People who lived on their own only received a small reduction to the expected fee and there was a need to understand how these fees affected people's wellbeing. A special exemption for care leavers had been requested but not granted.

At this point the Mayor called for the recommendations to be voted upon. This was a recorded vote with the following result:

Voting for the recommendations: Councillors Ansell, Eldred, Flavell, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill, Kilbride, King, Lane, Larratt, Malpas, M Markham, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Sargeant, and Walker.

Voting against the recommendations: Councillors Ashraf, Beardsworth, Birch, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Haque, Joyce, B Markham, Marriott, Meredith, Russell, Roberts, Smith and Stone.

The Mayor Councillor Choudary abstained from the vote.  
The recommendations in the report were agreed.

**RESOLVED: That Council approved the council tax resolution shown at appendices A, B, and C.**

**11. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE MAYOR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.**

There were none.

The meeting concluded at 9:10 pm

# Agenda Item 7

## Cabinet Member Report for Leader of the Council

### Northampton Borough Council

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2020



Since my last report to Council I have continued to work with the Cabinet, Members, the Chief Executive and Officers across all areas of the Council. Many of these activities and issues are referred to in Cabinet colleagues' reports.

#### **Unitary Status**

Work on Future Northants activity is increasing week by week and is accounting for on average two days a week of my time now. All of the council leaders across the county feel it is vital that we have good oversight on the work as it progresses, and I am pleased to advise you that the Programme Team are facilitating face to face briefings with the key officers involved across all service areas to ensure that this happens.

I would strongly encourage all members to attend the visits to the Engine Room for which all have had details. Along with attending the regular briefings that the Chief Executive and I continue to deliver, a tour of the Engine Room will help give you a good insight into how the work is progressing, and an opportunity to ask questions on any aspect of the Future Northants Programme.

The Chief Executive and I last provided another all member briefing in January, and again I would encourage you all to attend the next one which is scheduled for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

In early February I chaired the West Northamptonshire Joint Committee meeting, and a number of key agenda items were covered, including an update on the budget and papers on the engagement strategy. This important item was tabled as the committee sees it as a top priority for both internal communication (amongst officers, staff and members), and external communication (with key stakeholder) to keep everybody aware of progress.

Since my last update I have also attended the monthly Leaders' Oversight Board meeting, and since January, every Thursday is a dedicated day where all of the Leaders spend the day in the Engine Room at One Angel Square to receive briefings and ask questions around each service area workstream. Over the last few weeks, we have had discussions on the current situation across all 8 workstreams, and we are now moving into the design stage where officers are sharing with the Leaders design principles for the respective portfolio areas and the early stages of what those new functional areas could look like. From this, further discussions will take place including modelling the financial affordability of the designs for each area.

The Structural Changes Order was formally made on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February which followed a series of parliamentary debates in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. This now enables the two new Shadow councils to be formally set up, and elections to be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

I have also been involved in a small recruitment panel in selecting a council leader from an outside council, who will act as a 'critical friend' to support the Northants council leaders as we embark on the next 13 months of activity between now and April 2021. I am pleased to say that Cllr. Spencer Flower, Leader of Dorset Council has been

selected, and those of you who attended the county-wide member briefings at the Saints some time back may remember hearing him speak about his unitary experiences in Dorset, having gone through unitary planning as recently as 2 years ago. During an interview, everybody on the panel found his insights from Dorset's unitary journey extremely valuable, and were impressed with his ambitious approach for the authority and his commitment to cross-party working.

With so much going on it is also important to ensure that members within Northampton Borough Council are kept up to speed and therefore the regular cross party Unitary Working Group meetings continue with meetings scheduled in for the remainder of 2020.

### **Economic Growth**

Northampton Forward continues at a pace and further Board meetings have taken place since my last report, including final feedback on the Market Square consultation and reviewing progress on the subsequent designs that Gillespies Landscape Architects are now undertaking to reflect the comments from the public. It's extremely positive that this work is progressing and will form a key strand of our full business case that we will need to submit to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government at the end of April. We are also progressing the high-level concept designs for additional housing accommodation in the Town Centre and I am hopeful that we will be able to announce more details on this in the coming weeks, and this again will form a key strand of the business case.

The opening of our refurbished and expanded museum and art gallery is fast approaching and I have been involved in a number of meetings with key colleagues alongside Councillor Anna King in the planning of both the formal opening on Saturday 20th June, but also looking at how we can allow Members and others an earlier opportunity to preview the completed building when we take back possession from the contractor in the next few weeks, as the fit-out is undertaken.

Another key investment in the Cultural Quarter is Vulcan Works and I was thrilled to be involved in the 'topping out' ceremony on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January. It's only when you experience the site on the ground, or stand on the scaffolding and view it, that you see the sheer scale and real opportunity that will be provided for business start-ups. I am confident it will create a really vibrant community, within an area that is already an exciting part of our wider regeneration plans for the town.

Regeneration is clearly not just about bricks and mortar, important as that is, connectivity is also a key and important strand and therefore I was particularly pleased to meet with the new MD for Stagecoach for the East Midlands and discuss with him both our future plans for the development of the town and how Stagecoach can play a part within that, as well as ensuring that they are involved in the wider discussions that officers are having with colleagues as the County Council on the development of a transport study for the town. This transport study is vital to help improve access into and around the town, and to make sure that there is an attractive choice of transport options available, as good alternatives to the car.

The digital agenda is something that is also incredibly important and something that Northampton wants to be at the forefront of, and therefore it was particularly pleasing to see CityFibre's recent announcements and their partnership with Three. I have also been in discussions with Digital Northampton and Barclays about how we might progress potentially Barclays Eagle Labs concept here in the town. Further discussions will take place on this in the coming months.



## **Regional Activity**

My involvement in South East Midland Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) continues and I have recently attended the finance committee and the board meetings in February. At the board meeting we regrettably had to state that we could not, at this stage, progress St James Mill link Road, although it still remains a priority for the Borough Council, and we will continue to look at all avenues of future funding to develop out this section of road.

I have also attended recent meetings regarding the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, in which governance has been a key discussion topic, with the need to ensure that both the Central Area of the Arc and Northampton have a strong voice.

## **Other Activity**

In early February I was fortunate to attend the two day District Councils Network annual conference in which we heard from a number of key speakers on topics including the climate agenda, housing and devolution, and all very useful in bringing back thoughts and ideas to the future development of both Northampton and the wider West Northants area.

I have met with David Latham, Chair of Northampton Partnership Homes, to ensure that our two organisations are aligned in delivering the best service and maximising our strategic objectives such as house building.

I was pleased to be able to meet again with the Lowdown, this time exploring what opportunities there are for the National Lottery heritage Fund to support them with their aspirations to extend and improve their historic premises.

It was good to be able to further progress our partnership with Action for Happiness, by meeting with them and the Chief Executive of Delapre Abbey, Rachael Boyd, to discuss and agree how a Happiness Café can operate at Delapre. Providing an opportunity for people to drop in to where they know they will find a welcoming and supportive environment, Happy Cafes can also develop to run sessions to help individuals build better wellbeing and mental health, through structured sessions around the Action for Happiness Ten Keys to Happier Living.

The Good Loaf is also becoming a happy cafe, and intends to put emphasis on supporting Military Veterans, and so it was good to meet with their Chief Executive recently to discuss this, and progress some specific support that the council can bring, further supporting our own Armed Forces Covenant commitments.

Returning briefly to Delapre Abbey, we were sorry to bid farewell to Rachael Boyd as Chief Executive of Delapre Abbey Preservation Trust, as she moves on to a new challenge, but we remain extremely grateful to her for all of her hard work in bringing the Abbey successfully through its renovation and into being a beautiful building that visitors can fully enjoy. She leaves the Abbey in a strong position, and the work that we started with Rachael and the Trust Board will continue, specifically our current focus on ensuring the Abbey's financial sustainability. We are looking forward to working with the new Chief Executive, Richard Clinton, who many of you will know as a strong supporter of Northampton's cultural and business community, through his previous work at the Royal & Derngate and in the town centre Business Improvement District.

I was extremely proud to attend the Holocaust Memorial event held in the Great Hall on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January, and I have subsequently received numerous complimentary comments back on what an extremely moving event it was.

I was also pleased to again attend the Chinese New Year celebrations at the end of January, celebrating the year of the rat. This event is always a splendid spectacle of exciting entertainment, and this time all the better for visitors being able to enter the beautiful foyer of the Old Savoy building via the main entrance now, rather than the side entrance, as a result of the Deco Theatre now progressing their taking on the whole building. I am grateful to our NBC team who do such a great job in arranging and supporting these events, and above all, always feel extremely proud of how our town's community actively embrace and participate in them.

**Cllr Jonathan Nunn**  
**Leader of the Council**



## **Cabinet Member Report for Deputy Leader of the Council**

**Northampton Borough Council**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**

As Deputy Leader of the Council, I have continued to play an active role in the establishment of a Unitary Council and the transition to it, while continuing to support the Leader and Cabinet colleagues across a variety of areas within the council. I can report on some of my specific responsibilities as below.

### **Market**

January and February are traditionally quiet months for the market. With all the storms and inclement weather some of the traders have taken time away to recharge their batteries before the build up to Easter.

In January we worked with NPH and the Citizens Advice Bureau to target the elderly with information on how to reduce their gas and electric bills.

This month we have worked with Vodafone and City Fibre to promote the gigabit broadband coming to the town. This will be an ongoing partnership.

We also held a vegan on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February with over 50 stalls and have committed to hold one per quarter going forward.

### **Councillor Development Group**

As previously reported the Councillor Development Group met on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 and further meetings will be scheduled as required.

Since the last meeting of this Council:

- An information session on LGBTQ took place on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and was hosted by QSpace Northampton.
- On 27 February, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, together with representatives from the Lowdown spoke to Members about the work of the Lowdown.

Further training sessions proposed by the Councillor Development Group are currently being investigated:

- S106 – What it is and how Members can become involved and engaged. An external training provider has been contacted. This will be held in the new Municipal Year on a date to be confirmed.
- Officers are working on potential sessions for Members around - Gangs and Knife Crime – information and video material shown to schools by the police will be provided to Members.

Further briefing sessions on Local Government Reorganisation, led by the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive, are scheduled with the next one set for 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 6.00 pm in the Jeffery Room.

Can Members wishing to attend any of these events please inform Tracy Tiff as soon as possible.

## **Legal Services**

Legal Services have been very busy. Their activities have included:

- Advising Private Sector Housing about the adequacy of evidence in order to enable them to continue to issue civil penalties in respect of unlicensed or badly managed HMOs.
- Advising Assets and Regeneration and instructing an external expert legal advisor with a view to applying for adjudication in respect of the defects at Delapre Abbey caused by either poor workmanship or non-performance by the contractor. The ultimate goal is to recover the extra money spent by the Council correcting or mitigating defects that the contractor has refused to accept responsibility for.
- Continuing to advise the Partnership Unit with regards to ending a dispute between Enterprise Managed Services and NBC and DDC arising from deductions for poor performance from contractual payments which they allege were invalidly deducted. NBC and DDC are very close to agreeing a joint position and paying EMS what they believe they are owed.
- Advising Environmental Health, Assets and the Countywide Traveller Unit (CTU) with regard to a small, established traveller encampment at Studland Road. Commercial activity and the siting of caravans on the public highway has expanded onto NBC owned land and Court action will be required to prevent this from continuing, especially as the CTU and NCC Highways have effectively tolerated the encampment and certain commercial activities on the adjoining highway for a couple of years.

## **Street Lighting**

Balfour Beatty Street Lighting Ltd have commenced work on upgrading our Lighting Assets and converting them to LED. The works started on 24<sup>th</sup> February and are expected to take 26 weeks to complete. At the time of writing works have been going on at Bradlaugh Fields and The Racecourse. Despite the adverse weather the works are on schedule, although a cable fault has been identified on The Racecourse that Western Power will have to address. Such issues were expected to arise as the works proceed

We have received a draft maintenance contract from Balfour Beatty that is being scrutinised by our officers and consultant. Hopefully this contract can be finalised and brought to Cabinet soon. Other lights that are NBC assets but not part of the current works as they are relatively new, and LED will also be included in the maintenance contract, i.e. those on Midsummer Meadow Car Park and South Bridge.

## **Rail Issues**

The Government has now decided to proceed with the construction of HS2. This new railway will have a significant impact on the West Coast Main Line, including the Northampton Loop, providing additional capacity / train paths. While its opening is a long time off, we need to work to ensure that Northampton benefits from this additional capacity / train paths. I will continue to press Northampton's case with Train Operators, Network Rail, DfT, and other relevant bodies.

The East West Rail Consortium is due to meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, after the writing of this report. I'll report on the meeting verbally. The Consortium met on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in Bedford. Due to sickness I was unable to attend, however the officer attending, Paul Everard, provided me with the following rundown of the points raised / discussed:

1. East West Rail Company rep did a presentation on their preferred route for the Central Section from Bedford to Cambridge (Route E). <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/latest-news/press-releases> This had only been announced 45 minutes before the meeting started. It will run via Bedford Midland (not Wixams) to a new station where it will cross the ECML between Sandy and St Neots and then continue to Cambridge via the proposed Cambridge South station at Addenbrooke's. This route was chosen because it performed best in terms of the balance between:
  - Benefits for transport users
  - Supporting economic growth
  - Supporting the delivery of new housing
  - Cost
  - Environmental impacts and opportunitiesIt was also the most popular option with the public. There will be further consultation and analysis of how to incorporate 1<sup>st</sup> mile / last mile. Next steps will be for EWR Co to choose their alignment within Route E and secure a Development Consent order. The aim is to start construction about 2025.
2. Network Rail rep did a presentation on Phase 2 of the Western section. They have started with ecological infrastructure – the overall aim is to achieve a 10% biodiversity net gain. All of the rail infrastructure has now been removed from the Bletchley Flyover. The span of the flyover over the WCML is to be removed over Easter, so I guess we will have no trains to London that weekend. A replacement span will be put in later in the year. Ministerial sign-off for the Transport and Works Act Order for this section of the route is expected this week.
3. Suffolk County Council is working in partnership with Norfolk and Cambridgeshire County Council's on the work to be commissioned in support of the Eastern section. It was agreed that the Consortium assist with funding.
4. John Disley explained more about the Oxon Rail Corridor study, which will be feeding in to Network Rail's Continuing Modular Strategic Plan. It was explained that CSMP is the new process that replaces the RUS.
5. Gavin Dowland of Network Rail System Operator explained the strategic work he and his colleagues are doing with EEH to generate a Rail Strategy. Given wider capacity issues, there is a desire to term East West Rail as a mainline to highlight its potential for reducing the amount of rail travel that currently runs via the main London terminals.
6. The opportunity is being considered to incorporate Hyperspeed Broadband into the civils for Phase 2 of the Western section.

### **Sports Clubs**

The adaptations to Fernie Fields Sports & Social Club have been completed, and all Members were invited to view the finished works on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March. The works were supported through significant investment by NBC. The improvement to the facilities was necessary so that they are compliant with FA rules and requirements. I hope that Members attending the event on 1<sup>st</sup> March were impressed with what has been achieved and consider that the investment in this NBC asset was worthwhile.

**Cllr Phil Larratt**  
**Deputy Leader of the Council**



## Cabinet Member Report for Planning

### Northampton Borough Council

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

#### Planning Policy

Work is continuing on the next steps in the process of producing the Northampton Local Plan Part 2.

Following public consultation an Article 4 Direction taking away the permitted development rights for converting dwelling houses (Use Class C3) to houses in multiple occupation for three to six people (Use Class C4) in those parts of the Borough that are not already covered by such a direction, work continuing on next steps in the legal process.

The team continues to play a role in strategic planning, having taken part in the review of policies contained in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy.

#### Heritage

We are now seeking nominations from the public for buildings, monuments and areas of open space for possible inclusion in a Local Heritage List for Northampton. The consultation runs until 31<sup>st</sup> March.

#### Planning

- Reserved matters application N/2019/1599 for Phase 3 development of 346 dwelling units and associated works at the former University of Northampton Park Campus site, Boughton Green Road was received on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Planning application N/2019/0851 for the alteration and extension to existing building to provide 20 flats at the former Pearce Leather Works, Wellingborough Road was approved by the Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020.
- Reserved matters application N/2019/1212 for the development of 14 dwellings on land off Mill Lane, Dallington was approved by the Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020.
- Development Management has achieved 100% performance standard in terms of major and minor applications and 98% for other applications in December 2019.
- 76 Planning Applications have been determined in December 2019.

#### Building Control

- Received Full plan application for 3 new dwellings in Maidencastle, 2 new dwellings in Baukewell Court, 3 new dwellings in Preston Court, 4 new dwellings in Longueville Court, and for 6 new dwellings in Pell Court.
- Received and actioned 8 dangerous structures in January 2020
- Commencement of work received for the Upton Park Development, Upton Valley Way – 219 new houses.

- 807 building regulation inspections carried out in December 2019 to January 2020.
- 100% of inspections booked on the same day were carried out in December 2109 and January 2020.

**Councillor James Hill**  
**Cabinet Member for Planning**



## Cabinet Member Report for Cllr Tim Hadland

### Northampton Borough Council

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## ECONOMY, ASSETS AND ENTERPRISE

### Property Maintenance

#### Rectory Farm Community Centre

Works are progressing well with the extension roof now on. First fix works have commenced internally and various external works have been carried out. CSN (end user) are happy with progress. The project is on target to be complete in late spring.

#### Street Light Replacement Scheme

The contracts have all been signed and sealed with works on site have now commenced. The work is expected to be completed in the summer.

### Corporate Assets

#### Land at Southbridge Road

The acquisition of land at Southbridge is now complete. Development plans are being progressed for Northampton Partnership Homes to deliver an affordable housing scheme on the site. This will come back to cabinet for approval in the coming months.

#### Cherry Orchard open space, Hardingstone

The Community Asset Transfer of Cherry Orchard to Hardingstone Parish Council has been approved. Suitable restrictions will be put in place to ensure the land remains used as public open space for the benefit of the Community.

#### New Investment

The acquisition of the B&M unit on Victoria Promenade has now completed, with the council acquiring the asset as an investment to gain new income streams to support service provision. The acquisition demonstrates to residents and local businesses that Northampton Borough Council is committed to ensuring a strong financial footing heading into the new Unitary authority.

#### Rectory Farm Farmhouse.

This property was identified surplus to the Councils needs and will be sold by auction on 6<sup>th</sup> May.



## **ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REGENERATION**

### Economic Growth Strategy

A new Economic Growth Strategy is being developed for the borough and wider area. Dialogue with businesses on this has been taking place throughout its development with a business workshop held in December where 25+ stakeholders had the opportunity to input their comments, the final strategy will be taken to Cabinet in March to seek its approval.

### Future High Street Fund

The Northampton Forward Board approved the draft business case submission to MHCLG on the 15<sup>th</sup> January. We will receive feedback from MHCLG in the next few weeks which will then be incorporated ahead of submission of the full business case by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

### Weston Favell Health and Wellbeing Hub

We have secured funding through One Public Estate (OPE) to support the development of the Weston Favell Health and Wellbeing Hub. This project will bring forward 3.8 hectares of under-utilised public sector buildings and land at Weston Favell District Shopping Centre through the delivery of a new Health and Wellbeing Hub. The services at the hub would replace the current tired facilities in the local area, giving customers modern and user centred services while also allowing for more cost-efficient delivery. The tender to appoint an organisation to undertake a full feasibility study for the project went live in early January. The next stage of work is for a consultant(s) to undertake a feasibility study for the development of the hub to further explore facility and service mix options, engagement with stakeholders and the public and design development.

### Vulcan Works

The development continues to be built out at a pace and the topping-out ceremony took place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January. Visitors were surprised and impressed by the huge scale of the project. Steelwork is now complete and the façade well under way on the Angel Street element. Work is also almost complete on the replacement roof for the Fetter Street buildings with just a skylight left to install.

The new building at St John's Street is taking shape, with the steel frame in place and floor slabs poured.

The scaffolding on the Guildhall Road frontage has been removed, providing a first glimpse of the finished façade. This will enable the hoarding to be moved back to the pavement. We are grateful to the local businesses for their continued understanding during the works.

### CityFibre:

The Council are pleased to be working with CityFibre to enable their £40m infrastructure investment to make the town among the first locations in the UK to receive a full-fibre broadband rollout. It will provide homes and businesses with gigabit broadband speeds. Currently, only three per cent of the town has full fibre, below the eight per cent national average.

### Four Waterside

A new masterplan for the Four Waterside site is now complete. The site will enable a new mixed use development to come forwards and went through Cabinet for approval in February.

**Cllr Tim Hadland**

**Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise**

### **Councillor Community Fund**

Since 1 April 2019, a total of £142,892 has been spent by councillors on supporting the delivery of positive outcomes in their wards.

### **Partnership Support**

Nearly 50 applications received for the partnership grant, the closing date was 21 February. The applications will be submitted to the cross party member panel in March for recommendations on funding, decisions will be ratified by the middle of April 2020.

### **Forums**

27 January 2020 – Holocaust Memorial Day civic and evening commemoration events, both well attended exceeding 50 daytime guests and 200 evening attendees. Performances and speakers from NIFF, NMPAT, Weston Favell Secondary School, Northampton School for Boys, the Punjabi School, the Male Voice Choir and the Youth Forum.

12 & 26 February – Staff engagement for LGBTQ history month, promoting local services and Northampton Borough Council Staff LGBTQ & allies network

Planning for Pride 2020 event continues. Large number of applications received for involvement in the parade, stalls and performances. Well covered and engaged with in the press and sponsorship options now being promoted.

Plans underway for a Windrush event, to be held at the Guildhall, being led by the Diverse Communities Forum. This will be a public event, early plans include art displays, historical items, and a Windrush drama performance from the Northampton School for boys.

Youth provision app development in initial discussion stages with youth forum, to look for a solution as to how we can communicate what's going on in the Town to young people and the wider community.

Inspirational Woman – 42 nominations received, judging took place on 13 February and the winner will be announced at the International women's Day event at the Guildhall on 7 March.

### **Events**

We commenced 2020 with the annual Chinese New Year celebrations in the old Savoy Theatre (previously known as the Deco Theatre) on Abington Square. The event attracted over 500 visitors who enjoyed a variety of displays including music and dance, acrobats, martial artists as well as the Dragon dance. 2020 is the Chinese Year of the Rat and in the entrance of the old Savoy visitors were greeted with a 5-foot-high Rat and a 10-foot-high Lucky Cat.

2020 events programme will continue with the HMS Laforey Parade followed in April by the Bands in the Park and Terry Wire Hayley Davidson Memorial Run and in May we will have VE Day, Beer Festival, Carnival and many other community events across the Borough.

## **Culture & Heritage**

Abington Park Museum continues to offer a wide range of exhibitions, activities and events which are appealing to young and old alike.

January saw the exhibition 'Abington Landscapes' open. The exhibition showcases a selection of works from the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery collection highlighting Abington's changing landscape over time.

Two volunteer led tours of Abington Park Museum sold out during January and February as did the first three Over 60s talks in the winter season. The Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust presented a selection of archive film to an audience of 70 in early February. During February, the museum hosted a Vegan Market and in March, a Vintage & Craft Fair was held, both events attracted over 40 traders and were attended by over 1,000 visitors. Half term workshops including Animal Encounters were sold out.

Various items from the collections came back to the museum after being on loan including a pair of Johnny Moke egg heel shoes returned from an exhibition at The Swiss Institute, New York; a collection of 18th century footwear and buckles from an exhibition on Georgian dress at Fairfax House, York and a pair of postillion boots returned from The Postal Museum, London having been on display for two years in their new postal gallery. The Christopher Hatton portrait by William Seger, has returned to Northampton having been on loan to the National Portrait Gallery for 3 years. During this time 8,407,505 visitors visited the National Portrait Gallery, some of whom will have seen the portrait.

As part of a programme for the Open University, the BBC came in to film some of the trainer collection. The programme looks at the development of the trainer with an emphasis on use of innovative materials.

During January to March, Abington Park Museum was hired out for four paranormal events, a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party and a project launch by Northamptonshire Community Foundation.

## **Museum Expansion Project**

The Exhibition Fit Out Contractor has begun on site and fit out of the Shoe Gallery is progressing well. The floors have been laid to the Shoe Gallery and Link Space and oak flooring in the entrance and lobby areas is progressing well.

Snagging of sections of the building has commenced and is progressing well. Only minor, mainly cosmetic issues are being identified.

Commissioning of mechanical and electrical systems continues and the refurbishment of the lifts is almost complete. The Kitchen servery has been installed and discussions are underway with the catering contractor to begin testing of the catering facilities. Work has begun on paving of the rear courtyard.

A date for Practical Completion and hand over of the building in mid-March has been agreed and the programme of work to begin installing objects and mobilise for full operation of the museum has been developed.

The public opening date of 20<sup>th</sup> June for the museum was announced on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Customer Services**

Partnership working is essential to our success in ensuring customers received the right support at the first point of contact. We continue to review the needs of our customers and work with our partners to help meet these needs.

We welcomed Sue Young, NHFT Mental Health Navigator, who will be based in the OSS from 10:00 – 16:00 Monday to Thursday. Sue will be providing support in the community to help people improve their general wellbeing. The service is designed for people experiencing stress, anxiety, depression or recovering from a mental health condition and are struggling to move forward and find the right support.

The role of the Navigator is to:

- Actively listen to what you want to do to make positive changes to improve your wellbeing
- Help assess whether you are ready to make those changes and support you in planning a pathway for them
- Provide information of appropriate support agencies that you may wish to use
- Motivate and empower you to make these changes and maintain them in the long term

NBC Customer Services, NCC Web and Digital and NCC Adult Services have been working together to gauge the interest in Digital training. NCC Adult Services offer many free courses including 'Online Safety' and 'Life on Line' to the residents of Northampton.

We have been asking our residents who have called NBC's Contact Centre over the last three months and have received approximately 40 survey responses from residents requesting this training. Due to the interest shown we have agreed to run these courses quarterly.

## **Community Safety**

Although we have seen an increase in all crime from January – December 2019 by 2.8%, the overall crime rate for the Community Safety Partnership is moving towards the average for our Most Similar Group, which reflects a stronger performance than our comparator partnerships in a time of rising crime levels nationally.

Incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by Northamptonshire Police fell by 15.5% in the year to the end of December, violent crime has increased, accounting for 36% of all crime.

Violent Crime remains a priority for the Community Safety Partnership and Northampton Borough Council is working with the police and partners to tackle violent behaviour. This will be the focus of the Community Safety Strategy, as we refresh the priorities going forward into next year.

Taxi Marshall scheme in operation – two taxi marshals covering the hours of 11-5am, Friday and Saturday nights (during pay weekends and bank holidays).

Two community engagement sessions held with the Police in the town centre and at Northampton General Hospital.

Youth Provision meeting established to coordinate the activity and youth spaces that are developing in the Town. Bringing partners together to work collaboratively as our youth offer continues to grow and develop.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Primary School Community Safety Conference held at the Deco. Themes including hate crime, fire safety, railway safety, personal safety, cyber bullying, knife crime and gangs all

covered by experts to raise awareness and educate 180 year six students, across four primary schools.

Planning continues for the Knife Angel's visit to Northampton for the month of June with partners and the community.

Consultation has taken place with the Lings community for an upgraded skate park. Tender documents are being prepared.

Consultation for the Public Spaces Protection Order continues. The closing date is Tuesday 10 March.

**Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

3<sup>rd</sup> 'Cuckooing' injunction obtained, on a prolific offender who had been targeting vulnerable and elderly males in the town centre of Northampton.

Training input provided to new student Police officers, which included; what anti-social behaviour is and what tools and powers we have in order to tackle it, as well as how to use the ECINs system (partnership case management ASB software).

**Councillor Anna King**

**Cabinet Member for Community Engagement & Community Safety**



## Cabinet Member Report for Housing and Wellbeing

### Northampton Borough Council

9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

#### **Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP)**

As Members will be aware, SWEP was activated on three occasions during February when Northampton was first battered by the high winds and heavy rain of Storms Ciara and Dennis and then endured a sudden cold snap of wintry showers and sub-zero temperatures.

I am pleased to report that the Severe Weather Shelter is now operating from the Salvation Army Building in Tower Street (larger premises which have a bigger sleeping area and a separate, spacious dining area) with the support of the Salvation Army, the Hope Centre, local services and community groups, and a fantastic team of volunteers.

I would like to express my thanks to the Hope Centre and Midland Heart for their help and support in hosting SWEP in Oasis House over the years. SWEP provides a multi-agency, emergency response to severe weather and is invariably activated at very short notice. It is a testament to everyone's goodwill and flexibility, therefore, that it has been possible to run an overnight shelter alongside the vital services that operate from Oasis House during the day.

When SWEP is activated, people who are sleeping rough in Northampton will be able to stay in the severe weather shelter (which provides guests with hot drinks, an evening meal, breakfast and somewhere safe, warm and dry) from 9.00pm until 9.00am. During the day, extended opening hours will operate at the Hope Centre's day centre in Oasis House.

#### **Northampton's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy**

After being agreed with key stakeholders, the draft Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy was published in February and consultation ended on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Feedback from the consultation will determine what amendments are made to the Strategy before it is submitted to Cabinet for approval in April.

The draft strategy can be found on the Council's website:

<https://www.northampton.gov.uk/info/200024/consultation-and-feedback/2503/draft-homelessness-and-rough-sleeping-strategy-2020-23>

Implementation of the Strategy will be overseen by the Housing and Wellbeing Team and will be monitored by the Single Homelessness Forum and the Family Homelessness Forum.

#### **Additional HMO Licensing Scheme**

I am pleased to report that the Additional HMO Licensing Scheme came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> February and the new online HMO licensing system is operational.

The Housing Enforcement Team continues to work closely with landlords and letting agents to ensure that they meet their legal obligations, and an 'early bird discount' remains available for the first 150 HMO licence applications that are received and complete.

## **Multi-Agency Housing Enforcement**

Following a successful bid for government funding – resulting in an enforcement and innovation grant of £196k; the largest in the country – the Housing Enforcement Team has established its Special Operations Unit and has been undertaking a series of multi-agency operations targeted at the housing portfolios of Northampton’s criminal landlords.

During one of these operations, warrants of entry were executed in relation to nine HMOs that were being managed by the same individual. On inspection, all of the properties were found to be licensable and operating without an HMO licence, and Officers identified and recorded a total of more than two hundred breaches of the HMO Management Regulations. To protect the occupants, emergency remedial action was undertaken in three of the HMOs and two prohibition orders were issued in relation to the occupation of a cellar and the structural collapse of a kitchen floor.

Northampton’s Housing Enforcement Team and its partners – including the Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Trading Standards, Immigration, HMRC, the Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority and the Planning and Building Control teams – are tackling serious organised crime in a manner that is innovative, effective and could be replicated across the country. The Council’s intelligence-led, targeted approach is attracting the interest of the government and law enforcement agencies.

## **Housing Enforcement and Civil Penalties Policies**

Later this month, Cabinet will be asked to approve a new and updated Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy and Private Sector Housing Civil Penalties Policy.

These policies will support the Council’s work in raising standards in Northampton’s private rented sector, encouraging behaviour change and tackling criminal, rogue and irresponsible landlords.

## **Northampton Partnership Homes**

### Re-accreditation of Housing Support Team

In 2019, the Housing Support Team received accreditation for the support services that it provides for tenants. I am delighted to report that, following an extremely thorough assessment process by Erosh which involved an emphasis on the feedback received from tenants, NPH’s Housing Support Team has again been rated as “outstanding”.

### Council House New Build Programme

New build developments are progressing very well at Toms Close (21 homes), Witham Way Kingsheath (12 homes) and a number of former garage sites in Briar Hill and Delapre.

All of these developments will be completed by the end of March 2020.

### Community Hubs

NPH has completed a review of Community Hubs, and a programme of upgrading and modernisation works to 10 Community Hubs is now being planned for 2020/21.

Arrangements are being put in place to undertake a full consultation with the people who use the Community Hubs to ensure that each Hub is designed with them in mind.



### **Environmental Services Contract**

The environmental services contract with Veolia continues to work well, recycling rates are up and street cleansing standards are improving. We continue to work with Veolia and Idverde to look at performance and seek to build on the work undertaken since the start of the contract to further improve and generate efficiencies.

The partnership unit has been working hard on a number of projects, from implementing the chargeable garden waste project, replacing street trees in Far Cotton, working with stakeholders to win national funding to refurbish the Racecourse basketball courts and planning capital works at Westbridge & Towcester Road Cemetery.

We're also working with Idverde, Veolia's grounds maintenance contractors on winding down the winter maintenance works and gearing up for the mowing season and are also having a wide input into the unitary authority preparations, looking at aligning services whilst maintaining the high standards that residents of Northampton now receive.

Customer Feedback in relation to the cleanliness of the Town Centre and surrounding areas has been exceptionally positive.

Several areas of the A45 were cleared using overnight closures during February with plans in place to expand the cleansing during March.

### **Environmental Services**

The Park Rangers have installed 10 specially carved mushrooms at Bradlaugh Fields, as part of their work towards achieving the Green Flag 2020. Also, at Bradlaugh Fields a new Trim Trail has been installed adjacent to the existing play area for the older children.

Within the Racecourse the sudden drop near the Zip Wire has been levelled out for health and safety reasons.

Abington Park has had new safety railings installed near the ice cream plaza and has had the addition of a pelican crossing to make the area safer for pedestrians.

The old broken fibreglass litterbins at the Lings Shops have been replaced with the new metal Black & Gold Broxap type.

The Bollards at Lings Wood have been installed along the internal road to help eradicate the problem with fly tipping from cars.

The hazardous footpath into Becketts Park from St Johns Car Park has been repaired.

We have entered three parks into the Green Flag Awards this year

- Abington Park – Full assessment by Judges
- Delapre Park - Mistry Shopper by Judges
- Bradlaugh Fields – New entry, full assessment by Judges

## **Enforcement**

Below are January and February (to date of writing) environmental enforcement statistics:

- 180 Investigations
- 81 Fixed Penalty Notices
- 3055 Notices (108, S46, S47, S16)
- 117 Vehicle investigations
- 40 Vehicle removal
- 26 Community protection Warnings

## **The Climate Emergency**

Work is progressing on the preparation of installation of the electric vehicle charging points in town centre car parks. Installation works are due to take place in during March and a press launch for the new units is planned for 26 March. In conjunction with this launch the Council is working with the taxi and private hire community to provide assessments of vehicle usage and potential savings that drivers could make by changing to electric vehicles.

The number of electric vehicle charging points publicly available in the Northampton area continues to increase with nearly 20 points available across the Borough.

In addition, officers from the team are continuing to work with colleagues from the county council who have been consulting on potential locations for on street electric vehicle charging points.

**Councillor Mike Hallam**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment**



## Cabinet Member Report for Finance

### Northampton Borough Council

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

#### Finance

On the 24 February 2020 the Council considered and approved the proposed Budget for 2020/2, with associated reports.

We are still awaiting the final Local Government Settlement, but do not anticipate any material change from the values they have indicated.

The Finance Team continue to busy with our External Auditor (EY), who are currently working through their audit of 2018-19 in December 2019. They will also be commencing preparatory work for the closedown of 2019-20.

The Budget Monitoring Report which will be going to Cabinet for discussion on 25 March 2020, will reflect that our overspend position is being managed and is coming down in year. Cabinet and Corporate Management Board, continue to mitigate the projected overspend and I am confident we may reduce the overspend further by year end.

#### Business Rate News

Northampton Borough Council is implementing the revised Government Business Rate Relief scheme that will benefit retail businesses in the town. Retail orientated Businesses with a rateable value of less than £51,000 in 2020/21 will be eligible for a discount of 50% of the business rates due, after all other discounts are applied. This is an increase in the discount provided previously and will mean that £2.4million of rate relief is given for retail businesses such as shops, restaurants, cafes, drinking establishments, post offices, charity shops and music venues.

The Council will also be implementing the Pubs discount, which will award up to £1,000 of additional relief to pubs and continuing with the other schemes it already has in place to support businesses.

This new version of the scheme is great news for small businesses in our area, and with the existing discounts as well, it will save them up to £9million during the next financial year, as part of our commitment to support the local economy.

Our Revenues and Benefits team are already applying the discount to approximately 2,800 businesses that they are certain qualify. We will also be contacting other businesses to see if they are also eligible for the discount and welcome enquiries to ensure we help as many businesses reduce their costs as possible.

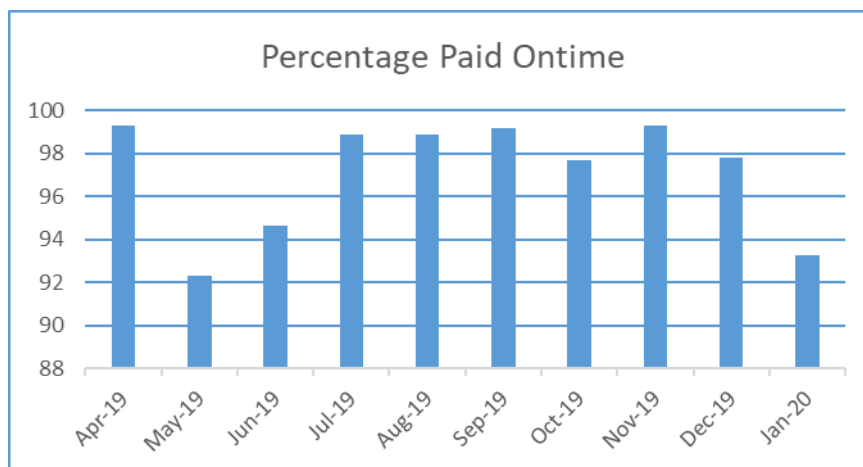
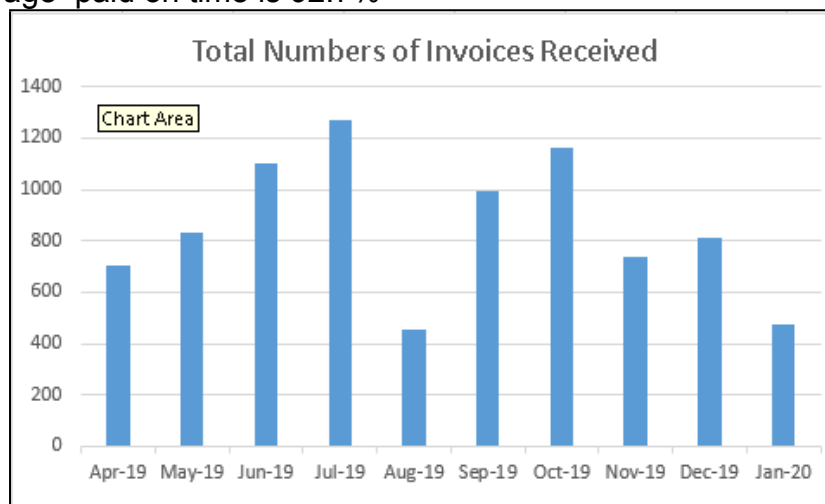
## Revenues & Benefits

The Revenues and Benefits Service continues to deliver to service standards. I am pleased that we will be applying the same Council Tax Reduction Scheme in 2020/21 as we have applied in 2019/20, to help those most in need with support.

The Single Person Discount review is reaching a conclusion, with several households being invited to update their status as appropriate. SPD is a 'benefit' and misuse can be considered a fraud and the Council is required to administer DWP benefits correctly. This has had an 'administrative' impact on the collection rate profile, as the value to be collected increased as a result of this exercise. The Service is actively managing this and impact of an increase in 12 monthly instalments against the traditional 10 monthly instalments.

## ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / RECEIVABLE

The table below reflect that 8850 Invoices were received, up to the end of November 2019, the average paid on time is 92.7%



In respect of recorded sundry debt as at the end of January 2020 there was a total of £2,008,256.97 (excluding Housing Benefit Debt) on the sundry debtors system of which £766,883.4 was older than 61 days. The largest service area debt is Asset Management with £679,568.71 of debt. The CFO Governance Team continues to work with the Asset Management Team to improve processes, procedures and debt management to reduce the level of aged debt.

## **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

- Painting of meeting rooms and communal areas continues
- All maintenance requests complete within requisite timescale
- A total of 45,243 items of post dispatched
- 1,248 incoming documents scanned
- Overall scanning accuracy – 99.8%
- 1178 incoming Revs and Bens documents indexed in total
- Overall indexing accuracy – 99.4%, 3061 incoming Revs and Bens e-mails indexed
- High level cleaning programme commenced
- Hosted meetings for Reed Global, NCC, Age UK and Credit Union, a wedding Ceremony in the Gt Hall and filming of “the Fortune Cookie” in the Courtyard for the Lunar New Year.
- Secured over £4K of bookings for weddings and receptions and £1.7K for private and corporate bookings
- Out of 19 queries, 10 have confirmed bookings

## **NORTHAMPTON LOTTERY**

Cllr King and I sponsored the launch of Northampton Lottery to support a wide range of local good causes. It has now been running for five months and in addition to the proceeds earned through their respective ticket sales, the five core causes, will each be receiving a cheque for £600.00 from the ‘central pot’.

The Council does not receive any funds from the lottery, all proceeds are disbursed to the good causes associated with the scheme.

- **78 Derngate**

The only house in England designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Now a multi award-winning visitor attraction offering an unforgettable day out in Northampton.

- **Delapré Abbey**

An urban country house and park alive with the possibilities of the present, surrounded by echoes of the past.

- **Inspiration FM**

A community led radio service, providing access, information, entertainment and training.

- **The Lewis Foundation**

Visits local hospitals every week with a trolley full of gifts for people to pick what they would like during cancer treatments, free of charge.

- **The Lowdown**

A counselling, sexual health and LGBTQ support service in Northamptonshire offering a free and confidential service six days a week to children and young adults.

<https://www.northamptonlottery.co.uk/>

**Councillor Brandon Eldred**  
**Cabinet Member for Finance**

Appendices: 1



# COUNCIL

## 9 March 2020

**Agenda Status: Public**

**Directorate:** Borough Secretary and  
Monitoring Officer

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Update on Carried Motions</b>
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### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 To receive, and note, the update on Carried Motions from April 2018 to date, as attached at Appendix A.

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 That Council notes the update on Carried Motions.
- 2.2 That a further update is brought to full Council at its meeting on 14 September 2020.

### 3. Issues and Choices

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#### 3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 Full Council, at its meeting on 16 September 2019, received the update on carried motions. This document has been updated and is attached at Appendix A.
- 3.1.2 Officers have continued to undertake an information gathering exercise to assess the current status of Motions that have been passed and what has been completed or is in the process of being completed for each Service Area.

- 3.1.3 Information contained within the appendix of the report provides details of the number of motions submitted, those currently outstanding, those that are in progress and those that have been completed.
- 3.1.4 A number of the motions are marked as 'ongoing' due to the complexities of work that is required to complete some of the motions, it is reasonable for several motions to be 'in progress' for a period of time whilst officers carry out work prior to completion which can also involve partnership agencies. Furthermore, some motions request continual support for certain projects and as such, are inevitably regarded as ongoing. Officers have included in the action column of the document details of work that has taken place and how the motion is being actioned.
- 3.1.5 There are examples contained within Appendix A of motions that cannot be completed due to the change in circumstance of the Council following the agreement of the proposed Unitary Council.
- 3.1.6 Should Members wish to have further information on individual motions, a narrative will be provided with additional information that cannot practically be reported on the published table of motions by contacting Democratic Services who will endeavour to gather relevant information on each motion.
- 3.1.7 A further report will be submitted to Council in September 2020 updating Council on the six month progress since this meeting and on further progress of motions submitted and carried at future Council meetings.

## 3.2 **Decision details**

- 3.2.1 Full Council is to note the update on carried motions and consider receiving a further update at its meeting in September 2020.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

- 4.1.1 There are no policy implications arising directly from this report, however some motions affect wider Council Policy.
- 4.1.2 Notices of Motion are a substantive agenda item of each meeting of full Council.

### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

- 4.2.1 There are no direct resource implications arising directly from this report however some motions affect wider Council resources and Officer time.

### **4.3 Legal**

4.3.1 In accordance with the Constitution, the Council has a responsibility to debate Notices of Motions submitted to meetings of full Council. Each motion may have its own legal implications but for the purposes of this report there are no specific legal implications.

### **4.4 Equality**

4.4.1 There are no specific equalities implications arising directly from this report.

### **4.5 Other Implications**

4.5.1 There are none.

## **5. Background Papers**

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5.1 Agendas and minutes of meetings of full Council from April 2018 onwards in relation to the carried motions.

**Francis Fernandes**  
**Borough Secretary and Monitoring Officer**  
**0300 330 7000**



**Carried Motions - Not started/In progress**

**Meeting date: 12th March 2018**

38

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
2	This council recognises that more can be done to encourage recycling. To this end, and working with our new Environmental Services Contractor, this Council resolves to investigate and recommend innovative models for the recycling of cans and bottles that can be available in locations across the Borough. In doing so this Council recognises that young people are encouraged to collect and recycle cans and bottles for a small remuneration. The model recommended should educate, entertain and encourage the process of recycling.	Head of Customers and Cultural Services	CLlr Mike Hallam	<p>NBC Environmental Services team are currently working with Veolia on reducing waste to landfill and improving the recycling rate across the borough. First steps towards this was to introduce the blue lidded bin recycling 'all in one' scheme in autumn 2018 and we have also introduced a single use sack trial in Far Cotton to both improve recycling rates and street cleansing standards.</p> <p>Although in its infancy, Veolia are trialling reverse vending machines at two London locations, the first machine is at Kings Cross ans accepts plastic bottles and aluminium cans – users are rewarded with vouchers for a local restaurant. The second is in Veolia's offices and for every bottle and coffee cup recycled, the company donates 5p to charity. The ES team will continue to monitor these innovations and seek to adopt them as soon as operationally possible.</p> <p>UPDATE: We are working with Veolia for the transfer approx. 3000 properties from sacks to wheelie bins. We hope this will encourage residents more to recycle, as the wheelie bins will be able to contain the recycling, rather than the open boxes which do not contain the recycling. This will be rolled out in October. Properties included will be notified of the change.</p> <p>October update: Sacks to bins project is ongoing with blue lidded bin deliveries scheduled for October, we continue to observe the success of reverse vending machines.</p> <p>Update February 2020 Whilst the ES team continue to follow the reverse vending machines initiative, Deposit Return Schemes are featured in the new Environment Bill, the Bill gives the powers to implement a DRS. It does not mean that a DRS is certain, the Bill just enables one to be implemented if the Government decide they wish to go ahead with one. However, there was a commitment in the Conservative election manifesto to introduce a DRS and initial stakeholder meetings indicate that the intention is to introduce one, in England at least. Once implemented, more opportunities will present themselves for encouraging young people to collect and recycle cans and bottles for a small remuneration.</p>	Ongoing

**Meeting date: 23rd April 2018**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
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1	<p>This Council notes the success of the night shelter in tackling rough sleeping in Northampton.</p> <p>We are aware that concerns remain with rough sleeping and hidden homelessness, and we are aware that women in this situation are particularly vulnerable. This Council therefore commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successfully implementing “TOGETHER we change lives”, the borough’s 10-point multi-agency strategy for ending the need for people to sleep rough in Northampton;</li> <li>• Exploring the options for establishing a permanent emergency nightshelter that has the capacity and facilities to provide men and women with shelter and support;</li> <li>• Persuading local groups and services to do everything they can to help and encourage people to engage with local services and accept the help that they need in order to come off the streets and rebuild their lives;</li> <li>• Considering the role that ‘Housing First’ can play in reducing rough sleeping in the borough;</li> <li>• Working with partners to establish the true extent of hidden homelessness in Northampton and the way in which people with protected characteristics, physical and mental disability, addiction, forensic history and immigration are affected by hidden homelessness; and</li> <li>• Ensuring that everyone who is homeless is provided with a personal housing plan, and that the homelessness service is a two-way process with service users fully consulted and involved with the provision of the services they use.</li> </ul>	Head of Housing and Wellbeing	Cllr Stephen Hibbert	<p>‘TOGETHER we change lives’ has provided the foundations for the way in which rough sleeping in the borough is tackled. This Strategy is being revisited at a multi-agency workshop in July 2019.</p> <p>Since the publication of the Strategy, the Council has secured Government rough sleeping funding of £480k in 2019/20 and has agreed to invest in the expansion and reorganisation of the Housing Options &amp; Advice Service which will include the establishment of a Single Homelessness Pathway Service.</p> <p>The extra government funding has enabled the Council to fund a total of 11 additional staff, including a Rough Sleepers Co-ordinator, extra Street Outreach Workers, a Mental Health Outreach Worker and a team of Rough Sleeper Navigators.</p> <p>The search for suitable premises for a larger Nightshelter was put on hold while efforts were being made to address tensions between local agencies, including the Council. These have now been addressed and a raft of improvements (including the establishment of a multi-agency Single Homelessness Forum that is being established in September 2019) are planned.</p> <p>‘Hidden homelessness’ and ‘Housing First’ featured in a 2019/20 Overview &amp; Scrutiny Review of Rough Sleeping and Homelessness. All homeless people have been provided with personalised housing plans since the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 in April 2018.</p> <p>A draft Homelessness &amp; Rough Sleeping Strategy was published in February 2020 and government funding has been secured to continue with, and expand, the services provided for rough sleepers in 2020/21.</p>	Ongoing
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**Meeting date: 9th July 2018**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
2	<p>Our town is famous for the boot and shoe industry and for leather works. The Central Museum hosts our famous shoe collection and the town has in trust the National Leather Collection, currently located in the Grosvenor Centre.</p> <p>We note recent announcements of retail and other High Street closures and the Northampton Chronicle’s current Town Centre campaign. We know as a council that we need to support the regeneration of our town, increase footfall and to stimulate tourism. Leather goods manufacturers and our world renowned shoe makers can play a key role in this.</p> <p>This council therefore resolves to:</p> <p>Invite interest from shoe manufacturers and leather goods producers around the county and possibly beyond to be included in a retail shoe and leather goods outlet in Northampton Town Centre. This plan could see the development of one of the vacant sites in the middle of town become a show case for the sale of shoes and leather goods from our world class manufacturers. The vision being that the demand for our high quality shoes &amp; leather goods, will contribute to making Northampton Town Centre an attraction for visitors into the town. This will aid regeneration and increase footfall.</p> <p>To make this offer work and make it viable for the businesses concerned, this council will work with them and make whatever concessionary offers are within its gift for a defined period and play an active role in the delivery of what will be a mutual heritage and commercial concern.</p> <p>This council will seek to include the BID and the University of Northampton in playing an active role in this initiative.</p>	Economic Growth and Regeneration Manager	Cllr Tim Hadland	<p>The Council, working with the BID, has had engagement with leading local shoe manufacturers over this proposal and seeking to identify and investigate a potential site.</p> <p>This will be problematic for the manufacturers as given the strong independent brands they have developed and the issues with how a store could operate.</p> <p>The council are continuing to hold talks to look at if this is achievable.</p>	Ongoing

3	<p>There are four community libraries in the town that are under threat of closure.</p> <p>This council recognises the value of libraries as community hubs. This council, therefore, resolves to work with the friends of the libraries to facilitate the libraries remain open for community use.</p>	<p><b>Director of Housing and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>CLr Anna King</b></p>	<p>Support has been offered via the Community Safety &amp; Engagement Team, to St James Community Centre and offers to facilitate meetings to help support others, including Far Cotton who have been expressed.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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**Meeting date: 5th November 2018**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
2	<p>The council notes that in spite of the fact that two firms of consultants have been appointed to produce a development scheme without success, the site of the former Greyfriars Bus Station has stood empty since March 2015 and adds to the sense of decline in Northampton Town Centre.</p> <p>The council notes the appointment of a new consultant to produce a development scheme and calls on the administration to ask this consultant to draw up options for the site to be brought into a temporary use as a matter of urgency for the public benefit. While accepting that this is an interim measure pending the long-term development of the Greyfriars site, whatever happens in the short term must not be to the detriment of a long term permanent development</p>	<p><b>Economic Growth and Regeneration Manager</b></p>	<p><b>CLr Tim Hadland</b></p>	<p>A meanwhile use (temporary use) strategy for the site will begin to be developed in September 2019. This needed to wait until a full site appraisal could be undertaken to assess when the site is likely to come forwards in order to establish how long the temporary uses would likely need to be for.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
4	<p>We note with concern the effects of holding commercial events on our town parks resulting in damage to the grass and terrain. The damage to the parkland is taking months to repair and meanwhile our residents are not able to enjoy the full use of these public open spaces.</p> <p>This Council resolves to introduce a legally binding contract with commercial hirers, including fairs, to ensure the full restoration of the site and land impacted upon by the event, at the expense of the hirer, requiring a deposit to cover the likely cost of this work should it be deemed necessary.</p> <p>Council also resolves to liaise through Park Management Committee's regarding events in individual parks. As we move towards Unitary status parishes may wish to take on the responsibility of their parks and these issues need to be regularised.</p>	<p><b>Director of Customers and Communities</b></p>	<p><b>CLr Mike Hallam</b></p>	<p>Any damage caused by events is recharged to the organisers and to date, there have been no issues.</p> <p>Update Feb 2020 The Council's Events Terms &amp; Conditions point 7 states: The hirer will take all reasonably practicable steps to avoid damage to carriageways, footways, verges, grassed areas, trees, shrubs, flowers, fences, fixtures and equipment, and will make good all damage or loss caused to the Council's land or property as described, to the Council's satisfaction. Reinstatement costs will be forwarded to the event organiser for payment. Large-scale events may be required to pay a bond to NBC prior to the event taking place. This will be agreed with the organiser pre-event</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
5	<p>Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, towards Jewish Community institutions and religious facilities.</p> <p>This Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Acknowledge the importance of tackling anti-Semitism in all its forms, to support the growing Jewish community in our town and across the county.</li> <li>2) Reiterate its condemnation of all forms of racism in all its manifestations</li> <li>3) Adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism as the working model for challenging and confronting incidents of this form of racism.</li> <li>4) Asks the Executive to look to adopt similarly agreed definitions to confront and challenge all forms of racism and discrimination that exist within our society.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Director of Housing and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>CLr Anna King</b></p>	<p>The Council utilises national days such as Holocaust Memorial Day and Srebrenica to bring communities together, to learn about the past, in order to positively shape the future—to celebrate difference and promote understanding. HMD was commemorated on 28 January and Srebrenica will be commemorated on 11 July.</p> <p>Northants Police work towards the definition, that is recommended by the Royal College of Policing,</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

7	<p>There has been a growing understanding of the positive impact that taking part in the arts can have on health and wellbeing. By supplementing medicine and care, the arts can improve the health of people who experience mental or physical health problems. The arts can improve healthcare environments and benefit staff retention and professional development.</p> <p>There are many case studies and a wealth of evidence in Creative Health report, conducted by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Arts, to support three key messages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The arts can help keep us well, aid in our recovery and support longer lives better lived.</li> <li>• The arts can help meet major challenges facing health and social care: ageing, long term conditions, loneliness and mental health.</li> <li>• The arts can help save money in the health service and social care.</li> </ul> <p>Northampton Borough Council (NBC) expresses its strong support for the report's ten recommendations to increase awareness of how engaging in the arts can bring benefits to health and wellbeing.</p> <p>This Council notes the recommendation 3 of the report, which encourages all local authorities to designate an individual to take cross-sector responsibility for arts, health and wellbeing.</p>	Director of Housing and Wellbeing	Cllr Anna King	<p>Northampton Museums and Art Gallery (NMAG) will seek to align its planning and programming with Northampton becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. It will feature as a key new area of work for NMAG to explore and implement. People living with dementia will become an area of focus for the museum service and we will seek to provide activities for those living with dementia and their carers through our existing core offer and developing bespoke activities in conjunction with partners. NMAG has been running a monthly Dementia Café as a pilot scheme and is looking at how activities for people living with dementia can be further developed and integrated into our public programme will rolling this out on a larger scale on the opening of the new museum.</p> <p>This ethos will be developed further to consider how museum exhibitions, events and its collections and contribute to the health and wellbeing of individuals and the aims and objectives of public health bodies and initiatives.</p>	Ongoing
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**Meeting date: 11th March 2019**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
1	<p>This Council believes that to maintain a connection between communities in Northampton and a remoter Unitary Council that the new body needs to embrace Neighbourhood working supported by delegated budgets.</p> <p>The Council calls on NBC representatives on the Shadow Authority to promote the concept of Neighbourhood working to enable residents and local stakeholders to work with service providers and drive improvements in their local area.</p>	Chief Executive	Cllr Jonathan Nunn	<p>Programme Plan has been established with key thematic work streams. This element (Neighbourhood Working) will be considered in Phase 2 of the work programme (Spring 2019 – Winter 2019)</p> <p>UPDATE Feb 2020: This work sits in the Community and Leisure workstream and is now factored into the design element of the Future Northants activity.</p>	Ongoing

3	<p>In preparation for the transition to Unitary we call upon NBC to produce a Sports Strategy for the people of Northampton that draws on the Sports Strategy for West Northamptonshire of 2009.</p> <p>The purpose of this strategy, as well as reviewing current facilities, would be to identify gaps, reflect current user preferences and requirements.</p> <p>Only by doing this can we protect the assets in Northampton for the people of the town.</p>	<p><b>Director of Customers and Communities</b></p>	<p><b>Clr Anna King</b></p>	<p>The Head of Customers and Communities is liaising with Northampton Leisure Trust in relation to developing a wider health and wellbeing strategy which will include sport in preparation for unitary</p> <p>UPDATE: In January 2008 Syzygy Leisure was commissioned by Daventry District Council, on behalf of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit to undertake the development of a Sports Facilities Strategy for West Northamptonshire.</p> <p>A number of strategic documents, i.e. national policy documents, regional policy documents, county policy documents and the plans of Northampton Borough Council, Daventry District Council and South Northamptonshire Council helped frame the Sports Facilities Strategy.</p> <p>Thirty Governing Bodies of Sport were approached to ascertain their needs. These needs were then considered against the facilities available across the West Northamptonshire area and a number of issues were identified, some specifically in Northampton.</p> <p>The report then looked at the needs and demands of the sports facilities across West Northamptonshire. Again, a number of issues were identified, some specifically in Northampton.</p> <p>The report also looked at future requirements for the West Northamptonshire area, and outlined the conclusions and action plans. The report identified a number of new facilities that were required to meet the growth in the West Northamptonshire area as well as identify where there was insufficient provision to meet demand at that time. The report also identified that there is an overall need to ensure that where facilities exist that their access for community use is maximised.</p> <p>The Sports Facilities Strategy for West Northamptonshire (2009) has helped shape the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Local Plan (Part 1) which sets out the long-term vision and objectives for the whole of the area covered by Northampton Borough, Daventry District and South Northamptonshire District councils for the plan period up to 2029.</p> <p>An assessment of the current supply and demand, future requirements and recommendations was undertaken in the development of the West Northamptonshire Open Space, Sports and Recreation Strategies for Northampton Borough dated 2017/18. These strategies will be used to inform the development of the Local Plan Part 2.</p> <p>In preparation for the transition to Unitary we need to ensure that we deliver and build on the strategies already produced for West Northamptonshire and jointly maximise any opportunities to increase participation in sport and physical activities, e.g. taking advantage of any funding available, joining in with national sports initiatives and building upon the work of Northamptonshire Sport.</p> <p>Together we need to put healthy living at the heart of our communities and support each other to deliver this.</p> <p>Update Feb 2020 Ian Redfern, Managing Director, NLT, and Councillor Phil Larratt, Deputy Leader of the Council, presented a written briefing note to the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee on 9th January 2020. See Agenda &amp; Minutes of this meeting</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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**Meeting date: 3rd June 2019**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
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2	<p>This Council recognises the strength of public opinion recently expressed in London and Northampton to address the issue of climate change and the need to address carbon reduction to protect the health and wellbeing of future generations. The council also notes that the UK parliament has declared a Climate Emergency.</p> <p>The Council therefore declares “a Climate Emergency” in Northampton and commits to a target of making Northampton carbon neutral by 2030.</p> <p>The Council requests a report to the Council at the beginning of 2020 setting out the action that has been taken in respect to this motion and detailing how progressing this objective has been communicated to and integrated within the start up plans of the West Northamptonshire Unitary Council.</p>	Director of Planning and Sustainability	Cllr Mike Hallam	An approach to Energy Use within the Borough is being drafted.	Ongoing
3	<p>All parties within this council acknowledge the urgency of dealing with climate change. We need cross party agreement to develop strategies for a greener, more sustainable society in Northampton. A green revolution is required.</p> <p>Working with partners we will seek to implement the following actions, which we strongly believe will benefit Northampton in leading an eco-friendly Britain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A ban on single-use plastics within school environments. Schools across Northampton produce a huge amount of plastic waste each week</li> <li>• Northampton schools would benefit from educating their students on eco issues through school schemes, where programs could be set up in order to teach students how to stay green in lessons, such as Personal, Social, Health and Economic education or by holding educational assemblies with influential speakers.</li> <li>• To help further reduce the damaging effects of plastic littering, the council should support and work closely with schemes operated by companies like TerraCycle who turn many unrecyclable plastics (such as crisp packets and wrappers) into outdoor furniture.</li> <li>• To explore with Local businesses and partners options for an eco-rewards scheme that would allow individuals and groups to gain something back from recycling.</li> <li>• Northampton Borough Council to commit to reducing carbon emissions, both as an organisation and as the local planning authority and resolve to go further than the UK100 Agreement. To act in line with the scientific consensus that we must reduce emissions to net-zero carbon by 2030, thus use the planning process to encourage developers to consider low carbon developments.</li> </ul> <p>Joining many councils who have already done the same, NBC declares “a Climate Emergency” in Northampton and commits to a target, in line with the above actions, of making Northampton carbon neutral by 2030.</p> <p>The Council requests a production of a baseline report to be submitted to the council in the beginning of 2020 setting out the action that has been taken in respect to this motion. This Council also resolves to work with other local authorities ahead of Unitary to use the baseline report as the basis on which to develop an action plan which could be adopted by the new Council.</p>	Director of Planning and Sustainability	Cllr Mike Hallam	An approach to Energy Use within the Borough is being drafted.	Ongoing

#### Meeting date: 17th June 2019

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
4	<p>This Council recognises the contribution made to the town by the voluntary sector. They will bring local intelligence, energy, commitment and resources to our localities. We therefore agree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To include the voluntary sector in our forward plans;</li> <li>• To ensure robust partnerships are in place as we go into the new Unitary Authority;</li> <li>• To work with Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire to provide the Northampton voluntary sector with sound funding and business advice; and</li> <li>• To work with VIN and CVS to develop back room services for the voluntary sector.</li> </ul>	Community Safety & Engagement Manager	Cllr Anna King	The community and voluntary sector are engaged across our work streams and we continue to grant Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire to provide sound funding and business advice to all our community and voluntary groups in the Town. VIN are engaged in the Future Northants workstreams and working with the sector in preparation for the new ways of working as we move toward s unitary.	Ongoing

#### Meeting date: 22nd July 2019

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
3	<p>At the council meeting on the 3rd June there was unanimous cross party support for action to be taken to address the “climate emergency”.</p> <p>Making Northampton carbon neutral by 2030 must be accompanied by conserving and enhancing biodiversity across Northampton and managing its green Infrastructure.</p> <p>This council adopted a Biodiversity Supplementary Planning document in May 2015 and this will influence new developments but will not affect the general conservation and enhancement of the existing environmental infrastructure that is vital to reducing Northampton’s carbon footprint.</p> <p>In August 2011 under the Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition government the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs issued a report entitled:- BIODIVERSITY 2020 : A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services. The mission for this strategy was to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.</p> <p>The council requests that, and following on from the cross party meeting on 18th June, a report be presented to this Council, setting out how we have responded to the Biodiversity 2020 challenge highlighting those areas that still need to be addressed and actions that need to be considered when preparing the 2020/21 budget.</p>	<p><b>Director of Planning and Sustainability</b></p>	<p><b>Clr Mike Hallam</b></p>	<p>The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study, completed in 2018, commissioned as part of the Local Plan Part 2 evidence base makes reference to Biodiversity 2020 and includes assessments of ecosystem services provided at each open space.</p> <p>The Green Infrastructure Plan for Northampton seeks to enhance existing areas of priority habitat, increasing opportunities for wildlife to move around the landscape by way of “stepping stones” and “corridors”. This approach is to be articulated through Local Plan Part 2 policy.</p> <p>The Council is a partner in the Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area (NIA) which seeks to re-create and reconnect natural areas along the Nene and its tributaries from Daventry to Peterborough. This area includes the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Special Protection Area, for which the Council has adopted a joint Supplementary Planning Document. Taking this into account, we have worked closely with the County Council’s Ecology Officer in the preparation of the Local Plan Part 2 and also in the determination of planning applications.</p> <p>The Council has recently started working with partner councils in the NIA in securing a tool for habitat opportunity mapping, which will identify potential areas for the expansion of key habitats including broadleaved and mixed woodland, semi-natural grassland and wetlands. This will assist decision-making for planning applications because it will, among other things, map opportunities to enhance biodiversity and deal with air pollution, surface water runoff and soil erosion.</p> <p>The Beds, Cambs and Northants Wildlife Trust continues to manage Local Nature Reserves in Northampton under a Service Level Agreement with the Council.</p> <p>In putting together the Local Plan Part 2, taking account of the evidence commissioned above, the Council is taking a strategic approach to planning for nature within and across local areas. The Council will continue to secure planning obligations associated with the protection and enhancement of natural networks.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p>4 Air Quality Policy 2 of The Northampton Low Emissions Strategy states: "We will aim to reduce the vehicle emissions that have a harmful effect on air quality, by increasing the attractiveness of low polluting alternatives to the private car and encouraging modal shift."</p> <p>Air Quality Policy no 6 states: "We will work with operators and Government to seek the introduction of buses fuelled by alternative fuel sources in Northamptonshire."</p> <p>Other Local Authorities with similar policies have imposed target dates to ensure the introduction of alternative fuelled buses in their areas. Northampton does not have such a target and as a result we are getting older more polluting vehicles that other areas have banned.</p> <p>We therefore call on NBC to work with public transport operators, Northamptonshire County Council and Michael Ellis MP, ( Minister of State, Department of Transport, ) to take urgent action to :-</p> <p>1: Ban all diesel buses that do not meet EURO 5 Emissions standards or higher, from scheduled bus and coach services, in Northampton by 1st April 2023.</p> <p>2: To ensure that buses and coaches that do not meet EURO 6 standards are withdrawn from scheduled service routes by 1st April 2025.</p> <p>3: Produce a public transport plan for the Northampton Travel to Work Area that will enable the councils and successor authorities to secure funding for a Low and Ultra-Low Emissions Public Transport Infrastructures. With the aim of getting rid of diesel powered buses from Northampton and the county by 1st January 2030.</p> <p>4: In addition, we call on NBC to campaign to stop cars and buses idling, enforcing this with Fixed penalties under The Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) Regulations 2002</p> <p>5: We also call on NBC to establish car free zones around schools wherever possible.</p>	<p><b>Director of Customers and Communities</b></p>	<p><b>CLr Mike Hallam</b></p>	<p>Update Feb 2020 Discussions are ongoing with partner agencies about possible opportunities for the development of electric bus networks.</p> <p>Additional work to reduce vehicle emissions including an evaluation of the practicality of using the fixed penalty regime to target vehicle idling will be undertaken as part of the air quality action planning that will take place once the new town centre air quality management area has been declared.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5 The council is currently consulting on Part 2 of the Local Plan with the view of submitting the draft for public inspection in 2020.</p> <p>The draft plan has introduced a more detailed categorisation of open space which differentiates between Parks and Gardens and Amenity Green Space.</p> <p>Many well-known parks have been categorised as Amenity Green Spaces (AGS) which is defined as Informal recreation and green spaces in and around housing, with a primary purpose of providing opportunities for informal activities close to home or work.</p> <p>The council is concerned that the public would not recognise their local park as complying with this definition and requests that consideration is given to all open spaces, with play equipment supplied and maintained by this council, be classified as Parks and Gardens and not as Amenity Green Spaces.</p>	<p><b>Director of Planning and Sustainability</b></p>	<p><b>CLr James Hill</b></p>	<p>This will be addressed in the Local Plan part 2</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6 This Council recognises that poverty, as an issue in the county, has a major impact on the life chances of our citizens. We have 18,000 plus children living in poverty. We are seeing an increasing number of our elderly, vulnerable residents living in poverty.</p> <p>We will therefore, working with partners and services, develop an anti-poverty strategy that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-seek to prevent people and families becoming poor;</li> <li>- support people and families with appropriate measures when they are poor, and;</li> <li>-support people to maximise their income to get them, and the following generation, out of poverty.</li> </ul> <p>This strategy will be offered to the new Unitary Authority as a working document.</p>	<p><b>Head of Housing and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>CLr Anna King</b></p>	<p>There is currently an overview and scrutiny panel looking at Food Poverty within the Town. The evidence being gathered during this process may help to support any potential future strategy that may be devised as an outcome/recommendation of this process. The work of the panel will also be fed into the Housing and Revenue and Benefits Future Northants workstreams who are looking at Poverty as a whole.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>



Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
2	<p>Council notes the excellent work of the "Save our Street Trees" Group in Far Cotton and the work they have done in bringing both NBC and NCC together with the Woodland Trust to look at a trial project for re-instating street trees in Northampton.</p> <p>Council notes the work of the former Mayor of London Boris Johnson in re-instating 20,000 of street trees to our Capital during his time as the Mayor and the benefit that can give to the wider environment and efforts to combat climate change. He also delivered his pledge to create 100 rejuvenated spaces as part of his pocket parks programme in 26 London boroughs, with more than 25 hectares of community land across the capital having been converted into new enhanced green areas.</p> <p>Northampton Borough Council calls for a transformation of underused urban spaces across our town. Trees deliver huge benefits such as cleaning the air and storing carbon. To ensure future generations receive these benefits and Northampton grows sustainably, we all need to protect existing trees and plant new trees.</p> <p>Therefore, this Council requests on the initial work to form a joint plan for wider scale re-instatement of street trees as part of the move to Unitary.</p>	<b>Economic Growth and Regeneration Manager</b>	<b>Clr Tim Hadland</b>	As part of the vision to transform Northampton town centre trees form an important part of this. As designs are developed the council will look at how these opportunities can be maximised.	Ongoing

**Meeting date: 4th November 2019**

46

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
1	<p>7 in 10 young people have experienced cyberbullying. 26% of young people who have been cyberbullied report feeling suicidal.</p> <p>Whether you are in the public eye or not, you cannot get away from social media and it is ruining a lot of people's lives.</p> <p>Building on the excellent BBC's documentary 'Odd One Out', featuring Little Mix star Jesy Nelson, this Council believes that there is a real need to talk more about cyberbullying, how this is making us feel and how to tackle it.</p> <p>NBC is proud to say that we held a primary school event on 16th October and has two more planned for this academic year 2019-20: 11th February and 5th June 2020, all focussing on various community safety messages, including online safety.</p> <p>Based on the feedback from the young people, the Council has this year also added the topic of cyberbullying and 540 year six's will have attended the events and received this informal education.</p> <p>This Council further commits to launching its secondary school programme covering cyberbullying, with the first one taking place on 24th November at Weston Favell secondary and this being rolled out to Northampton International Academy and other secondary schools before the end of the academic year.</p> <p>We live in a social media obsessed world and people say things without realising the devastating effect on young lives and families. This Council is fully committed to leading the way in showing that bullying is not ok.</p> <p>Lowdown offer free counselling and advice to young people aged 12-25yrs across Northampton. The following link provides information and guidance for young people facing these issues  <a href="http://thelowdown.info/issues/cyberbullying/">http://thelowdown.info/issues/cyberbullying/</a></p>	<b>Community Safety &amp; Engagement Manager</b>	<b>Clr Anna King</b>	<p>Four primary school community safety events have been held at the Deco in the last 18 months. We have engaged 16 of our priority primary schools, more than 650 year 6 students, attended during the day to learn more from our experts, through workshops, theatre performances and films about important issues such as knife crime, gangs, online safety, cyberbullying, child sexual exploitation, railway safety, hate crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>We also held our first secondary school's community safety awareness raising event held at the Deco theatre in November 2019 . 540 year 8 and 9 students attended from Weston Favell Academy to hear key community safety messages. Expert speakers, performers and presenters covered topics such as healthy relationships, knife and gang crime, personal safety, online safety, grooming, cyber bullying and hate crime.</p> <p>As a result of the success of the first event, we have had expressions on interest from a number of secondary schools and Booth Lane College to deliver the programme.</p>	Ongoing

2	<p>This council notes with dismay the recent 1% increase in interest for loans from the Public Works Loan Board. This comes at a time when all councils, including NBC, were looking to increase their building of social housing in order to address the housing crisis.</p> <p>The 1% increases the risks attached to regeneration and development and creates the need for revision of existing plans and business cases. We note this has led to, for example, a delay in borrowing for the Berkley house rebuild.</p> <p>We therefore call on the council to join with the LGA to make representation to the government to have this decision reversed.</p>	Chief Finance Officer	Cllr Brandon Eldred		
3	<p>This council congratulates Norwich Council for winning the Stirling Architecture Prize for its recently developed housing estate, Goldsmith Street, comprised of almost 100 'ultra-low-energy homes'</p> <p>This is the first time in the 23-year history of the Stirling prize that it has been awarded to social housing.</p> <p>"A modest masterpiece" is how the RIBA Stirling prize judges described the project, designed by London firm Mikhail Riches with Cathy Hawley, representing "highquality architecture in its purest most environmentally and socially conscious form". The 105 creamy-brick homes are designed to stringent Passivhaus environmental standards, meaning energy costs are around 70% cheaper than average. The walls are highly insulated, and the roofs are cleverly angled at 15 degrees, to ensure each terrace doesn't block sunlight from the homes behind, while letterboxes are built into external porches, rather than the front doors, to reduce any possibility of draughts.</p> <p>Immense thought has gone into every detail – from the perforated brick balconies to the cleverly interlocking staircases in the three-storey flats at the end of each terrace – to ensure that every home has its own front door on the street. The back gardens look on to a planted alley, dotted with communal tables and benches, while parking has been pushed to the edge of the site, freeing up the streets for people, not cars.</p> <p>This year's choice sends a clear message that, despite government cuts, it is eminently possible for brave councils to take the initiative and build environmentally sustainable social housing.</p> <p>We call on NBC to be brave and develop an ambitious long-term sustainable housing plan.</p>	Director of Housing and Wellbeing	Cllr Stephen Hibbert		

**Meeting date: 20th January 2020**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions	Status
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2	<p>We note that all the party manifestos promised new money for youth.</p> <p>This council recognises that well-resourced youth work in Northampton will deliver many benefits. It will:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide meaningful and enriching activities for young people;</li> <li>• provide jobs and career pathways for youth workers;</li> <li>• deflect young people from gangs and criminal activity;</li> <li>• enable young people to develop a voice and contribute to the regeneration of the town.</li> </ul> <p>To this end we agree to support the local campaign for a Youth Centre for Northampton.</p> <p>The centre will be multifaceted and provide a focus for developing our understanding of what young people in the town need, for developing youth work, and developing a youth voice for the town.</p> <p>A youth centre, particularly in the town centre, will bring new energy and commitment to the town.</p>	<p><b>Community Safety &amp; Engagement Manager</b></p>	<p><b>Clr Anna King</b></p>	<p>Youth Provision meeting established to coordinate the activity and youth spaces that are developing in the Town. Bringing partners together to work collaboratively as our youth offer continues to grow and develop.</p> <p>Youth space has been secured in the Town Centre. Support being offered to Free2Talk and partners to develop the space.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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**Carried Motions - COMPLETED**

**Meeting date: 22nd January 2018**

49

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
1	<p>This council recognises the important role played by our Private Sector Housing Service which provides the following,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licences houses in multiple occupation (HiMOs)</li> <li>• Enforces legislation tackling rogue landlords</li> <li>• Investigates suspected incidences of abuse whether from Landlords or tenants</li> </ul> <p>This Council notes that our town's private rented sector is sometimes used to support criminal activity, including money laundering, sexual exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery. Additionally, the profits that can be made from HiMOs, have encouraged criminal, rogue and irresponsible landlords to break the law. In order to tackle these issues, our Private Sector Housing Service needs more resources.</p> <p>This council welcomes the fact that on 17th January 2018, the Administration took to Cabinet, and approved, a report that enables this Council to impose civil penalties of up to £30,000 per offence on law-breaking landlords. A business case for utilising the penalty income collected to expand the Housing Enforcement team, initially by eight additional officers, and subject to due diligence and an updated business case, a further five officers, thirteen officers in total, was also approved and is welcomed by this Council.</p>	<p><b>Director of Housing and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr Stephen Hibbert</b></p>	<p>The Council completed the recruitment of the Housing Enforcement Manager, 6 Housing Enforcement Officers, 2 Intelligence Officers and a Tenancy Relations Officer in April 2018.</p> <p>The Housing Enforcement Team consolidated its working relationship with Northamptonshire Police by providing advice and training in relation to its work and powers, by working together to support the sharing of intelligence and resources and by carrying out joint enforcement operations with the Police, Fire &amp; Rescue Service and Immigration Services.</p> <p>The Housing Enforcement Team is now imposing civil penalties as an alternative to criminal prosecutions.</p> <p>In December 2019, the Council made a successful bid to the MHCLG for an Enforcement and Innovation Grant of £196k to fund a Special Operations Unit, for three months, to target some of the biggest and worst criminal landlords in Northampton.</p>
4	<p>The administration has always been committed to enhancing and promoting the heritage of our town.</p> <p>Never was this more clearly demonstrated than with the opening of Delapre Abbey to the public next weekend for the first time in 900 years after a multi-million pound restoration programme.</p> <p>The Abbey takes its place as a jewel in the crown of our historic town, a fitting tribute to all those organisations and individuals who have supported the project.</p> <p>The administration has maintained its commitment as difficulties arose and were overcome, creating and working with the Delapre Abbey Preservation Trust to ensure that we have something to make us all proud.</p> <p>This Council congratulates and thanks everyone who has been involved, and wished the Trust and its volunteers every good wish for an exciting and successful future</p>	<p><b>Economic Growth and Regeneration Manager</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Anna King</b></p>	<p>The trust and volunteers have been thanked</p>

5	<p>This Council recognises that our town has been let down by the current Environmental Services provider. According to the biggest and most successful consultation that this Council has ever undertaken, a higher quality of cleanliness delivering cleaner streets and a cleaner environment, and quality grounds maintenance are top priorities for residents of our Borough.</p> <p>This Council is therefore delighted that our new contractor won the bid primarily due to the quality of service it was offering. This Council is making a significant additional investment in this contract and looks forward to working with Veolia to raise the standard of cleanliness and grounds maintenance right across Northampton – something that our town has long been crying out for.</p> <p>This Council also very much welcomes the new Enforcement Contract and the zero tolerance approach to littering and fly-tipping. We call on our enforcement provider to continue to strenuously enforce legislation with regard to littering and fly-tipping, especially through using fixed penalty notices for those people who litter our streets.</p> <p>With the help, hard work, and commitment of our community volunteers, this Council will continue to provide local communities with clean, well maintained and safe open spaces. Council therefore proudly commits to provide continued support to community groups, initiatives and projects, including Residents Associations, Parish Council's, Summer Bloom, Green Flag and Friends of Parks Groups.</p>	<b>Director of Customers and Communities</b>	<b>Cllr Mike Hallam</b>	<p>Some 325 new vehicles and items of equipment rolled out of the depot on day one of the new contract and within days an improved level of service was experienced over that provided by the previous contractors, refuse and recycling, parks and green areas were immediately improved and street litter cleared in a seamless fashion.</p> <p>In September, 70,000 wheeled bins were delivered to relevant households and a new 'all in one' recycling service was implemented and Saturday collections were abolished (apart from catching up after Christmas Day).</p> <p>In April, a trial to replace recycling boxes with single use recycling sacks commenced for 1,000 properties in Far Cotton – the basis of this trial was to reduce qualitative issues such as box return, street cleansing and to improve the recycling rate in the area – feedback received so far has been very positive and the objectives have been met. Plans are in place to roll the trial out to other areas.</p> <p>The cost of the bulky waste collection service was reduced from £25 to £15 for a trial period from 1st April along with a near a 50% increase in the availability of booking slots. This reduction in charge will continue for the rest of the financial year whilst the success of the initiative is evaluated. The additional cost associated with the reduction in charge is being funded through the income from successful enforcement.</p>
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**Meeting date: 23rd January 2018**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
2	<p>There is national concern about keeping our communities safe and the concern is widespread in Northampton. We are seeing alarming rates of crime, with increases in violent crime, sexual crime, trafficking, vehicle thefts, burglary and drug related crime. We are particularly concerned that young children and young people are being exploited and sometimes also drawn into crime. We have a duty of care to our citizens and we must do all we can to keep them safe. This Council will therefore take the following actions:</p> <p>- Continue to work with the Police to receive regular performance information from the Police that drives our activity, supports our multi-agency approach and enables this Council to have a good understanding of the crime and antisocial behaviour issues in the town.</p> <p>- Actively contribute to and support the Community Safety Partnership, which includes the Police and Police Crime Commissioner's Office, and the three – year community safety strategy, including the following identified priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce Crime</li> <li>• Reduce ASB and Hate Crime</li> <li>• Support Vulnerable People</li> <li>• Build Stronger and Resilient Communities</li> <li>• Safety in the Night-Time Economy</li> </ul> <p>The full strategy can be found at <a href="https://www.northampton.gov.uk/downloads/file/10006/ncsp-2017---2020">https://www.northampton.gov.uk/downloads/file/10006/ncsp-2017---2020</a></p> <p>- Support the Government and the Home Secretary in delivering the new Serious Violence Strategy, including improving policing and visible policing, to break the deadly cycle of violence that devastates the lives of individuals, families and communities.</p>	<b>Head of Housing and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Cllr Anna King</b>	<p>See below re knife crime and youth violence activity</p> <p>Four gang specific injunctions being developed</p> <p>'Nights Out' campaign continued</p> <p>Working with the University, to introduce safety messages amongst the students, including the 'safer routes home' initiative</p> <p>Taxi Marshall scheme being piloted</p> <p>Delivering partnership activity days in priority areas</p> <p>Additional police resource funded to work in the Town Centre during peak ASB and Youth Violence times over the Summer and Christmas period.</p>

3	<p>Northampton Borough Council calls for the continued support of our local market and market traders. Consequently, this Council is proud that our market participates in the Love Your Local Market campaign organised by the National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA).</p> <p>Love Your Local Market is an international initiative and the UK's largest annual celebration to promote retail and wholesale markets across the country.</p> <p>To coincide with this year's initiative, and together with the Northampton Town Centre BID, the Council is organising workshops, street entertainment and other activities. This Council is delighted to be able to contribute to celebrating our town's history, innovation, experience, entrepreneurship, food and culture in a festival of market activities and events running from 17th to 31st May, and urges the public to support these events and our towns market offer</p>	Head of Customer and Cultural Services	Councillor Phil Larratt	<p>Love Your Local Market was celebrated in conjunction with Pride on the market square.</p> <p>Also as part of the LYLM initiative the market offered free stalls to traders wanting to try market trading for the first time</p>
4	<p>Northampton Borough Council welcomes the Government's Serious Violence Strategy launched this week by the Home Secretary, Amber Rudd. The strategy stresses the importance of early intervention to tackle the root causes of serious violence and steer young people away from crime in the first place, while ensuring the police continue to have the tools and support they need to tackle violent crime.</p> <p>This Council has recognised the great importance of engaging with our young people early to help prevent them from being drawn into crime.</p> <p>This motion, therefore, calls for support of this Council's collaborative work with the Police, East Midlands Ambulance Service, Youth Offending Service, University and Free to Talk in developing a training and awareness package that will be offered to schools, during our school's event in October, youth clubs and youth groups. The package will include a video, drama production and training, as well as educational awareness packs</p>	Head of Customer and Cultural Services	Cllr Anna King	<p>Trusted relationships funding from the Home Office - £800k over 4 years (youth work in three established areas in the Borough.</p> <p>Delivering community safety awareness messages to year 6 students in 12 of our priority primary schools – youth conference held at the Deco.</p> <p>Knife crime awareness programme delivered to teachers and students in 11 of our secondary schools and both colleges in Northampton</p>

### Meeting date: 4th June 2018

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
1	<p>The letter from the Ministry of Housing, Communities &amp; Local Government regarding submission for unitary authorities stated that they wanted "locally led proposals for establishing unitary authorities across the county which will be right for communities and people they serve.</p> <p>This Council acknowledges these requirements and will try and fulfil them on behalf of the residents in the Borough of Northampton. It is essential that Residents participate in the formal, county-wide consultation, because this will ensure that their views are taken into account, and this council will encourage them to do that.</p> <p>To achieve this end the Council commits to undertake consultation with local residents to explain the changes that are being proposed and to seek resident's views on the key issues and requirements of a new unitary council to serve Northampton residents</p> <p>This is the most important decision regarding local government reorganisation since 1974 and all Councillor should make their best effort to help with the consultation so that the Ministry of Housing, Communities &amp; Local Governments call for proposals is delivered.</p>	Chief Executive	Cllr Jonathan Nunn	<p>Countywide consultation undertaken in the summer 2018 with over 6000 responses.</p> <p>A separate Northampton specific consultation was also undertaken and the outcomes of this both informed the community governance review on the establishment of a new town council and the name of the new unitary council for the West.</p>

2	<p>Obesity in Childhood is a growing problem. There are many causes of obesity. One is an issue that can be addressed by planning conditions. Tower Hamlets and other Local Authorities are leading the way by not allowing fast food outlets within a 400 metre radius of schools. Some authorities are additionally providing healthy food awards for local retailers to encourage healthier food choices.</p> <p>This council therefore commits to proposing, through the local plan process, a policy that there will be no new fast food outlets that fall within a 400 metre radius of schools.</p> <p>We will additionally consider creating a healthy food award for local retailers to encourage healthier food choices.</p>	<p><b>Director of Planning and Sustainability</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr James Hill</b></p>	<p>Introducing a policy was considered as part of the drafting of the emerging Local Plan Part 2, which included an assessment of the impact of similar policies elsewhere. This concluded that, without an objectively assessed evidence base to demonstrate the direct link of takeaways near schools to childhood obesity, such a policy would conflict with the National Planning Policy Frameworks requirements to plan positively and support economic development. On that basis, a blanket exclusion approach would not be positive, justified, effective or consistent.</p> <p>It is also noted that a neighbouring authority which had proposed such a policy as part of its Local Plan Part 2 has had to recommend that the policy be removed for the same reasons.</p> <p>In light of this, the basis of the emerging NBC plan has been to plan positively for healthy communities by encouraging sustainable communities which promote safe and healthy activity.</p> <p>In addition, the emerging West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan offers the opportunity to undertake an objective health impact assessment with neighbouring authorities and health professionals to understand whether a direct link can be established in order to justify a future policy</p>
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**Meeting date: 9th July 2018**

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Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
1	<p>Whatever the boundaries of the new Unitary Councils, for Northamptonshire, those councils will take on responsibility for the care of older people in our community, from 2020.</p> <p>A recent study estimated that 35% of inpatients in local hospitals were there simply waiting for suitable after care to be available (so called Bed Blocking).</p> <p>This council asks scrutiny, working with NCC scrutiny and partners, particularly health service partners, to carry out investigation into Adult Social Care facilities in the area to identify future demand patterns, in order that the new Unitary Council is able to better plan for the needs of older people in the future.</p>	<p><b>Chief Executive</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr Phil Larratt</b></p>	<p>Overview and Scrutiny meeting group specifically looking at this.</p> <p>Results will be reported back to Cabinet at its conclusion</p> <p>This work has now concluded. Final report to O+S 10/06/19 – Cabinet in July 19</p>

4	<p>This motion calls for the Council to continue to a commitment to support mental health awareness and support to the Government's Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health.</p> <p>The Concordat is intended to provide a focus for cross-sector action to deliver a tangible increase in the adoption of public mental health approaches across local authorities, the NHS, public, private and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations and others.</p> <p>This Council is proud to actively support the campaign to make Northampton a 'happy town', including the launch of Northampton's first 'Happy Café' in June. 'Happy Cafés' are being set up by supporters of the Action for Happiness movement in local communities, as a friendly and welcoming place to meet others with a shared interest in promoting happiness and well-being.</p> <p>As well as the 'Happy Café' launch, there was also be a celebration of the publication of '50 Ways to Feel Happy', a new illustrated children's book which helps children build skills and develop healthy habits for their daily lives, promoting resilience, wellbeing, self-confidence and emotional stability.</p> <p>This motion calls on the Council to further promote a prevention-focused approach to improving the public's mental health, including supporting community based initiatives, for example, community choirs and health walks, which makes a valuable contribution to achieving a fairer and more equitable society.</p>	<b>Head of Housing and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Clr Anna King</b>	<p>Mental Health Concordat signed.</p> <p>Support being given to reinvigorate the Northampton Health and Wellbeing Forum</p> <p>Supporting David Smart to deliver the GREAT DREAM in Northampton 'rolling out the 10 key ways to make people happier in Northampton.</p> <p>Funding offered through NBC's grants programmes for the 'Happy Hood' project and counselling services.</p>
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**53 Meeting date: 10th September 2018**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
1	<p>This Council notes that graffiti is an unwelcome sight in most towns and cities across the country. A town is often judged by how it responds to graffiti, particularly that of a racist or offensive nature. Council notes that there has previously been a robust informal policy and stance adopted regarding this, but now resolves to:</p> <p>a) Adopt a formal policy for the removal of graffiti in a quality manor, free of charge on private property where the appropriate permission has been provided in writing by the property owner;</p> <p>b) Prioritize and immediately tackle instances of racist or offensive graffiti;</p> <p>c) Continue the commitment to do all it can to remove graffiti in the town, including working closely with the police across the borough, Northampton Town Centre BID, Network Rail, and owners of other affected properties, to try and catch offenders;</p> <p>d) Relaunch the "name the tag" campaign and actively promote it within the Youth Forum and youth groups across the town;</p> <p>e) Urge people to report offenders and the location of graffiti on both public and private property when they see it, so it can be removed.</p>	<b>Director of Customers and Communities</b>	<b>Clr Mike Hallam</b>	<p>Utilising projects to establish local ownership. i.e. St David's youth graffiti project and NorFAMton</p> <p>Removal of offensive and racist graffiti is included in the environmental service contract</p>



5	<p>This Council recognises the concerns of residents and Parish Councils in areas where management companies are responsible for open space and other amenities. Council resolves to support residents and Parish Councils in resolving their concerns.</p> <p>This Council also resolves to make it clear that, it too, has significant concerns regarding the establishment of management companies to manage open space and other facilities on new housing developments in the borough of Northampton, rather than them being formally adopted.</p> <p>While resisting management companies, this Council will encourage developers to consider all the alternatives available for managing the facilities on new developments in the borough and Northampton growth area, including seeking for developments to be adopted with sufficient resources to ensure that the maintenance of these pieces of land is fully funded.</p>	<b>Director of Planning and Sustainability</b>	<b>Cllr James Hill</b>	Planning applicants proposing areas of open space and drainage which could be run by Management Companies are being challenged about the management of these spaces as part of the planning application determination process.
6	<p>This Council notes the Government's aims in encouraging a modal shift of freight from road to rail, which is a key aspect of its transport policy, and recognise that with effective implementation this modal shift can result in a reduction of carbon emissions, shorter and more efficient journeys, and fewer road casualties.</p> <p>This Council further notes that the delivery of a national network of Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges (SRFIs) forms a key part of recognising this aim, and the criteria for these are set out in the National Policy Statement for National Networks (NPSNN) and the Strategic Rail Freight Interchange Policy Guidance documents.</p> <p>This Council also notes that the NPSNN is clear that there is a need for an expanded network of large SRFIs across the regions to accommodate the long-term growth in rail freight, and that new rail freight interchanges, especially in areas poorly served by such facilities at present, are likely to attract substantial business, generally new to rail. However, the NPSNN also states that existing operational SRFIs and other intermodal RFI are situated predominantly in the Midlands and the North, and that SRFI capacity needs to be provided at a wide range of locations, to provide the flexibility needed to match the changing demands of the market.</p> <p>This Council believes that, as there is already around 39m sq. ft of SRFI-related warehousing either under construction or being proposed in the East Midlands alone, not including the existing SRFI warehousing capacity already present nor other SRFIs in the wider Midlands region, it is unclear whether the proposed local developments, Rail Central and Northampton Gateway, are compliant with the NPSNN.</p> <p>This Council, therefore, resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Transport to ask for an urgent review of the NPSNN, and all other associated policy guidance, to ensure that SRFI capacity is deployed as a national network across the country, rather than being built in areas where developers have no existing land options.</p>	<b>Economic Growth and Regeneration Manager</b>	<b>Cllr Tim Hadland</b>	A letter to the Secretary of State was written about this matter.

### **Meeting date: 5th November 2018**

<b>Motion no.</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Responsible Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1	<p>The Council recognises that in 18 months' time that responsibility for the regeneration of Northampton Town Centre will pass to the newly formed Unitary Authority.</p> <p>The Council also recognises that delays implementing regeneration projects in Northampton may occur if the new authority does not have a clear understanding of the stakeholders' vision for Northampton.</p> <p>Building on the good work of the Business Improvement District and its recent consultation, as well as the work of others, this council agrees to set up a cross party working group, working with a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties to produce a "Peoples Plan for Northampton" to enable the new Unitary Council to prioritise projects in its first year. This Council requests that the working group produces its report by September 2019.</p>	<b>Economic Growth and Regeneration Manager</b>	<b>Cllr Tim Hadland</b>	Northampton Forward, a group made up of leading representatives from NBC, NCC, SEMLEP, UoN, Royal and Derrigate, Northampton Town Centre BID, Northamptonshire Chamber, Northants Police, Legal and General, and Trickers was set up in January to guide the work being undertaken to regenerate Northampton Town Centre. A cross Party Group has been formed which forms a sub group of Northampton Forward in order to feed in to the plans and allow for a wide range of views to be considered as the programme develops.

3	<p>The technological advancements of recent decades have much in common with the effects of the Industrial Revolution in the latter part of the 18th century. Specifically, both movements accelerated the displacement of workers by machines that could perform tasks faster, more accurately and 24/7. While technology enables business owners to reduce overhead by downsizing their workforce, individuals whose skill sets are now obsolete have limited options for employment if their current jobs are eliminated.</p> <p>Given that Northampton has a large proportion of warehousing and transport as its employment base, both of which face the introduction of new technology and automation in the near and medium future, this equates to at least 37% of workers in fear of their job.</p> <p>Working in partnership with other appropriate bodies such as local colleges, the University of Northampton, and relevant industry training bodies and organisations, the council will start to prepare and identify the finances to allow for upskilling of workers. The partnership will assist with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training through employers and other agencies</li> <li>• Planning for the future to deal with the implications of new technology as it is introduced.</li> <li>• Organising a Symposium on the future of employment and the local economy with the university and employers.</li> </ul>	Director of Customers and Communities	Cllr Mike Hallam	At present any structural changes to the logistics sector that will result in job losses following the introduction of autonomous vehicles are a significant number of years away. Given this it is too early to start making preparations. We will continue to keep this under review as the technology develops.
6	<p>There is an increasing number of reports received by Northampton Borough Council (NBC) regarding abandoned shopping trolleys. These are often abandoned in roads, on walkways and in parks, where they have the potential to cause accidents and are an eye sore within the community.</p> <p>Although many of local supermarkets try to take effective action to prevent the abandonment of shopping trolleys, it is too often the case that they do not act quickly enough on reports received.</p> <p>This Council, therefore, resolves to investigate whether it ought to use legal powers available to it to more effectively tackle the problem by charging supermarkets a fee for each trolley collected by NBC. This set charge would be solely to recover the cost of collecting a shopping trolley that is found by an NBC authorised officer on 'any land in the open air' (including watercourses), and that appears to them to be abandoned. The Council would have to comply with certain statutory procedures in order to set up such a scheme, including a requirement to consult with supermarkets and other shops which offer the use of shopping trolleys to the public. This Council notes that officers will commence the necessary preparatory work with a view to preparing a report for the Executive so that it may make a decision as to whether or not to introduce such a charge throughout the entire Borough and, if so, what amount that charge should be set at.</p> <p>Abandoned trollies are a real nuisance and NBC is hoping that if such a scheme is created, rather than paying fees, supermarkets will take more responsibility for collecting their trolleys and, consequently, help reduce the number of such incidents.</p>	Director of Customers and Communities	Cllr Mike Hallam	Following a period of public consultation, on 16 January 2019, Cabinet resolved that Schedule 4 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 shall be applied to the whole of Northampton. This resolution allows the Council to collect abandoned shopping trolleys and to charge their owners for their return. This resolution comes into effect on 1 May 2019. Arrangements to deliver this service are being put into effect.

**Meeting date: 10th December 2018**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
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3	<p>Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (formerly women's aid) do valuable work to support victims of domestic abuse. They currently run 5 refuges with 21 beds, which will not be funded from April 2019. Partner organisation Eve is at risk of losing 13 beds. NDAS have launched a fundraising campaign to raise £100k by March to keep the refuges open for 12 months. Losing these refuges will mean that the responsibility of helping these victims out of abusive homes will fall onto NBC.</p> <p>We therefore call upon this council to not only recognise NDAS for the service they have been providing to domestic abuse victims but to give some much needed financial assistance.</p>	<p><b>Director of Housing and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr Anna King</b></p>	<p>Supporting the working group to establish a countywide domestic abuse and sexual violence strategy</p> <p>Funding provided for NDAS - £20k per annum. Funding provided for Northampton Rape Crisis and the Sunflower Centre, more than £30k</p> <p>16 Days of activism delivered.</p> <p>Officers contributed to, and supported the development of Northamptonshire's Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy and was the Lead Authority in Northamptonshire's successful bid for MHCLG funding of £510,862 for 2020/21, (comprising £24,000 to accommodate victims with No Recourse to Public Funds and £486,862 for staffing) to set up a Safe Accommodation Pathway in Northamptonshire.</p>
4	<p>This Council recognises the value of openness and transparency in communicating with the public about air quality and the steps that it is making to monitor and to reduce air pollution.</p> <p>This Council notes that other authorities, such as Kings Lynn and West Norfolk District Council, make effective use of corporate websites to share information about air quality monitoring in an accessible way, including regular monthly publication of raw data from air quality monitoring tubes.</p> <p>Northampton Borough Council resolves to review the accessibility, frequency of update and timeliness of the air quality data and activity published on its own website in order to match the openness and transparency achieved by other local authorities.</p> <p>This Council also notes that it is important that members of the public understand that the raw data can only be properly analysed and trends assessed after a 12 month period to take account of any seasonality or specific in-month events that might skew the data such as road traffic closure.</p> <p>Council also notes that this is a highly complex and technical area of work and resolves to work openly with all those with appropriate expertise in this area.</p>	<p><b>Director of Customers and Communities</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr Mike Hallam</b></p>	<p>Monthly air quality monitoring results are now reported on the Council's website. With effect from April 2019 the relevant webpages are being redesigned to a similar format to the Kings Lynn and West Norfolk site and data from previous years will be displayed together with current results.</p>

**Meeting date: 14th January 2019**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
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1	<p>Northampton Borough council is committed to being the best employer we can be and to set the standard for other local employers.</p> <p>It can be hard to balance the demands of modern life and needs of family with those of an employer but it's in everyone's interests to get the balance right, and Northampton residents deserve to be served by council staff that feel valued and engaged with their work, and therefore provide the best service they can.</p> <p>We therefore continually refresh our employment procedures, and these include the existing policies that the council has on Parental Leave and Paternity Leave, and our Career Break Policy that is currently supporting staff including one employee who's long-term serious illness would otherwise have meant them having reduced pay, but who is still receiving full pay consistent with our commitment to the TUC 'Dying to Work' charter.</p> <p>The council also operates family-friendly working, which (whilst never losing sight of the service to be provided to residents) not only allows parental leave and flexible working arrangements, but flexible working, part-time, job sharing, working school hours, and staggering time.</p> <p>Working from home is part of modern work patterns, and this is allowed, with a review currently under way to ensure that this, and flexible working, is clearly defined." As an employer we are keen to help staff find the right work/life balance because we want them to be productive and focused on work, getting the best possible outcome for our service users, and council reaffirms its commitment to this.</p>	Chief Finance Officer	Cllr Brandon Eldred	<p>CMB continually review NBC policies.</p> <p>The policy relating to Flexible working, Home working etc is currently under a further review (17/72019).</p> <p>The Governance &amp; Risk Manager is working with the HR Manager to form a small working group of managers to assist with a review of NBC HR policies.</p> <p>All material changes to policies impacting on staff, go through the MTUCM (NBC Management and Trade Union Committee Meeting).</p>
3	<p>This Council recognises the importance of retaining good members of staff over the next 15 months to ensure that skilled staff are available to transfer to a new Unitary authority to continue to provide good local government services to the residents of Northampton.</p> <p>The Council has HR policies and procedures in place, which of course need to be understood and adhered to, in order to achieve the goal of retaining good members of staff.</p> <p>The Council recognises that there will always be staff who choose to move on, but during the past 18 months, in order to make NBC an attractive place for good staff to work, has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced the standard work hours from 40 to 37, to be competitive with other employers, with part-time staff reducing their by the same percentage if they chose to.</li> <li>• Removed the no pay for the first day of sickness • Improved various HR policies</li> <li>• Used the discretions policy on sick pay to honour commitments under the TUC 'Dying to work' charter</li> <li>• Anticipates a likely 2% pay award for 2019/20</li> <li>• Enhanced staff discounts and benefits arrangements</li> <li>• Maximised the use of apprenticeships and the apprenticeship levy</li> <li>• Transferred a significant proportion of the interim contract staff to more permanent types of fixed contract arrangements</li> <li>• Recruited a Learning and Development Manager to support personal development</li> <li>• Brought the HR service back in-house to be closer to the employees that it supports Council thanks its hard working staff for their dedication to supporting the town and serving its residents, and reaffirms its commitment to ensure that NBC is an attractive place for good staff to work.</li> </ul>	Chief Finance Officer	Cllr Brandon Eldred	<p>CMB continually review NBC policies.</p> <p>CMB is aware of the need to use all policies available to ensure the retention and motivation of staff during the transition period to formation of the Unitary Councils</p>

4	<p>Northampton has a strong and proud history of manufacturing, including its boot and shoe trade and heavy to medium engineering.</p> <p>Despite the demise of such important companies such as British Timken, Express lifts, Northampton Machinery Co, RHP Bearings and Plessy, we do still have centres of excellence with Cosworth, AMG Powertrain, Churches shoes, Trickers and many others.</p> <p>This Council is already very pleased to buy products and services from many local companies, and as part of continually seeking to get best value for the local taxpayer, is keen to work with more local companies and employers.</p> <p>There are now two national campaigns to promote manufacturing, the GMB Union “Making it” and “The Made in Britain” which is run for manufacturers.</p> <p>This Council therefore recognises both of these campaigns, and agrees to promote their membership to local companies, along with continuing to encourage potential manufacturers to site within the town. The Council will, wherever possible and cost effective, use local suppliers to support the local economy.</p>	<b>Chief Finance Officer</b>	<b>Cllr Brandon Eldred</b>	<p>NBC has had for some years a policy and practice to seek to procure services locally, within the legal constraints of the EU rules and the requirement for Value for Money.</p> <p>LGSS Procurement have been reminded of the need to include local suppliers wherever possible and practical.</p>
5	<p>The Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review with the intention of establishing two tiers of local government across Northampton when the new unitary arrangements come into force.</p> <p>This will constitute a major change to the way that services are delivered to local communities and the level of council tax that households are expected to pay in the currently unparished areas of the Borough.</p> <p>This Council therefore expects that in any literature provided to the public, setting out proposed new Parish / Town Council arrangements, will detail the options for service delivery by the new councils and give an indication as to the initial precept / council tax that will be levied, while recognising that going forward this will be a matter for the elected members of the new councils.</p>	Borough Secretary	Cllr Phil Larratt	<p>Borough Secretary – Discussion already begun with Opinion Research Services (ORS) as to format and method of 2nd stage of consultation which will be needed when finalised to be approved by cross party working group. This will include information on likely services to be delivered by new town council and the financial effects/precept etc. as necessary information to public.</p>

6	<p>The Disability Confident scheme, run by the national government, promotes a disability-inclusive culture among employers across the UK.</p> <p>The scheme helps employers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• draw from the widest possible pool of talent</li> <li>• secure high quality staff who are skilled, loyal and hard working</li> <li>• improve employee morale and commitment by demonstrating that all employees are treated fairly.</li> </ul> <p>Disability Confident employers are changing behaviour and cultures within their organisations, networks and communities. Northampton Borough Council is serious about equal opportunities and proud of its proven track record of being an Equal Opportunity employer and, as such, it already carries out numerous actions to make a difference for disabled people. Nevertheless, we are aware this is only a part of a much broader journey.</p> <p>Therefore, this motion calls on the Council to commit to signing up as Disability Confident Committed and taking the necessary steps to become a Disability Confident Employer, playing an active role in changing attitudes for the better.</p> <p>Under the Disability Confident scheme, this Council will further commit to carry on learning and strengthening the networks it will need to continue to improve its offer to existing and future disabled employees.</p>	Chief Finance Officer	Cllr Jonathan Nunn	NBC renewed its membership of the previous two tick scheme, now known as Disability Confident on 11 January 2019
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**Meeting date: 11th March 2019**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
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4	<p>In September 2018 this Council expressed its concern about the number of housing developments that were failing to deliver open spaces and other amenities to adoption standards and transfer them to the relevant local authority but instead were establishing management companies to manage and maintain them with no democratic oversight or accountability.</p> <p>In order to protect residents from uncontrolled charges and poor levels of service this Council would like to see all open spaces and other amenities provided by developers built to the standard required by local authorities for adoption, and calls upon Planning Officers to do all that they can to achieve this in their negotiations with developers.</p> <p>This Council wishes to make it clear that it will aim for open space land on new residential developments to be transferred into the Council's ownership.</p> <p>Furthermore, this Council also calls on other public bodies, when offering their land for sale for potential residential development to make it a condition of sale that the relevant local authority retains ownership of the open space within the proposed development.</p> <p>Additionally, this Council will fully research the problems and issues that residents, Residents Associations, and Parish Councils have with management companies in Northampton and resolves to write to the Secretary of State expressing them as well as the views of the Council. Furthermore, this Council will work with the Local Government Association to lobby the Government for legislation to address the issue of Management Companies with a view to protecting residents from unreasonable maintenance charges, giving them the right to challenge such charges, as well as providing communities, including Town and Parish Councils, the opportunity to take on the role and responsibilities of the management companies.</p>	<b>Director of Planning and Sustainability</b>	<b>Cllr James Hill</b>	<p>Planning applicants proposing areas of open space and drainage which could be run by Management Companies are being challenged about the management of these spaces as part of the planning application determination process.</p> <p>Northamptonshire County Council has proposed a motion regarding the management arrangements of open space and drainage.</p> <p>Parish Councils and Residents Associations are to be approached* for evidence on the nature and scale of the issue faced by residents.</p> <p>*RAs have now been approached – results are currently being co-ordinated</p>
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**Meeting date: 22nd July 2019**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
1	<p>This Council recognises that the rapid growth of Hybrid and Electric vehicles.</p> <p>Council welcomes the recent news that it has been awarded a grant to put 2x new Rapid Charging Points in its Town Centre car parks to add to the network of points we already have in the Borough.</p> <p>Council also recognizes the contribution of the private sector in ensuring that Northampton already has a substantially larger network of points available compared to similar towns nearby. Council welcomes the work of companies such as Nationwide in providing an extensive network of points in the town for its employees and welcomes a recent announcement by BP that it intends to deploy publically available charging points at many of its forecourt sites.</p> <p>Council agrees to work with companies seeking to deploy such technology and to work with Northamptonshire County Council as the Highways Authority to aim to increase the amount of Rapid Charging Points available to the general public in Northampton</p>	<b>Director of Customers and Communities</b>	<b>Cllr Mike Hallam</b>	<p>Update Feb 2020 Contract for the installation of 4 pairs of rapid chargers in Council car parks has been let. Work is progressing and installation should be complete during March 2020. Official launch is provisionally scheduled for 25 March. Northamptonshire County Council are currently consulting on possible sites for the installation of on- street charging around the town.</p> <p>Work will be progressed to bring forward other opportunities for further installations on Council owned land</p>

**Meeting date: 16th September 2019**

Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
1	<p>We are concerned that the borough council, local organisations and residents are, generally speaking, using non-renewable energy suppliers, incurring high bills, and using up precious resources.</p> <p>We agree that a Big Switch to a green energy company would be much better for the environment and help reduce bills.</p> <p>Noting that the value of a new contract to provide energy to this Council will be in excess of £0.5M per annum, Council notes that this will require a full procurement exercise to be undertaken, and that such an exercise will take up to 18 months, by which time the Council will no longer exist. Northampton Borough Council therefore resolves to propose to the future Unitary Council that it makes the big switch to a green energy company, lead from the front and show its commitment to renewable future.</p> <p>While this Council can only operate within its own scope of control and influence, it resolves that as a key place leader, it commits to searching for best ways to encourage and work with local organisations, residents and businesses across the borough to see how they can make a difference to the environment through all relevant technologies, including options to switch to green energy companies. Therefore, this Council resolves to ask the Air Quality and Management Change Working Group to pursue this.</p>	Director of Customers and Communities	Cllr Mike Hallam	<p>Update Feb 2020 This work will be taken forward as part of the development of the Carbon Neutral Northampton programme</p>
4	<p>This Council discussed and declared a Climate Emergency at its meeting on the 3rd June 2019.</p> <p>Council notes that over the August Bank Holiday weekend DEFRA declared at their Northampton Monitoring Station the Highest Pollution figures across the country had been recorded. These pollution figures relate to ozone, which is a secondary pollutant produced by the action of sunlight on other pollution sources. The pollution is transboundary and generally affected by the high temperatures such as those experienced over the Bank Holiday weekend.</p> <p>This is therefore addressed at a national rather than a local level and they are not likely to be directly attributable to pollution levels in Northampton.</p> <p>This Council notes, that it is possible to publish a draft report on “the adjusted Air Quality Readings for 2018”, which figures can be used to initiate further actions to continue to work hard to protect the health of Northampton residents, the content has not yet been approved by DEFRA and would, therefore, likely be subject to comments and amendments in due course. Council therefore agrees to share with all Group Leaders and the next meeting of the Climate Change Forum – if the full report has not been received back by DEFRA.</p> <p>The timescales for 2020, including the projected publishing time for 2019 adjusted Air Quality Figures to be at the end of June, are likely to be similar to this year’s, as DEFRA’s work load has been highly impacted by and dependent on external factors. Council therefore agrees in future years to share a draft report with Group Leaders and the Climate Change Forum prior to the publication of the finalised DEFRA report.</p>	Director of Customers and Communities	Cllr Tim Hadland	<p>Update Feb 2020 Air quality results for 2019 were been published on the Council website in February, see <a href="https://www.northampton.gov.uk/downloads/file/11796/nitrogen-dioxide-results-raw-data---full-year-2019">https://www.northampton.gov.uk/downloads/file/11796/nitrogen-dioxide-results-raw-data---full-year-2019</a></p> <p>The annual status review will be submitted to DEFRA before the end of June deadline, the draft report will be shared with the climate change forum and the report published as soon as it is ratified</p>



6	<p>The County Council is responsible for on street parking charges in the Town Centre and the Borough Council is responsible for the parking charges in the car parks that it operates.</p> <p>This Council believes that Car Parking charges are a factor in the vitality and prosperity of the Town Centre.</p> <p>The County Council has initiated consultation with the Public and Stakeholders regarding the increases that it is proposing.</p> <p>This council agrees that it wishes to express concern and opposition to the proposed increases as it believes that it will have a detrimental effect on the Town Centre economy at a time when this council is trying to address the downturn in footfall and look for ways of investing in the Town Centre in support of its long term prosperity.</p> <p>This council urges the County Council to confirm that, before implementing any changes to its on street parking charges, it will work with NBC to develop a set of objectives and priorities towards a full parking strategy, reflecting the views of residents and businesses, to ensure that parking charges across the town centre fairly reflect their needs and the needs of the town.</p>	<b>Director of Customers and Communities</b>	<b>Cllr Tim Hadland</b>	Update Feb 2020 The County Council have placed on hold their proposed changes to their on-street parking fees.
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**Meeting date: 20th January 2020**

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Motion no.	Motion	Responsible Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member	Actions
4	<p>We encourage the celebration of religious, cultural, and historical occasions, of which fireworks can be an integral part, but we discourage public nuisance. Unsocial hours, and prolonging periods over which fireworks are used, can cause anxiety to many people and to their pets. We believe in keeping our town and its residents safe, for them to be able to enjoy a peaceful life, whilst ensuring that their health and wellbeing is maintained.</p> <p>Well promoted and supervised, public firework events are one way in which fireworks can be enjoyed safely and responsibly, such as the council's bonfire night which 10,000 attended and enjoyed last year.</p> <p>This Council resolves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to request all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people</li> <li>• to actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks</li> <li>• Well-meaning celebration can become public nuisance</li> </ul>	<b>Director of Customers and Communities</b>	<b>Cllr Brandon Eldred</b>	Update Feb 2020 The Borough will contact any / all event organisers whose event plans includes a 'fireworks display' and request they advertise the details of their displays so resident's, stables, farms and other interested parties are made aware. The Borough will actively raise public awareness of the impact fireworks displays have on animal welfare and vulnerable people