

Norfolk County Council

Date: **Monday 27 July 2015**

Time: **10.00 a.m**

Venue: **Council Chamber, County Hall, Norwich**

Persons attending the meeting are requested to turn off mobile phones.

This meeting may be recorded for subsequent publication via the Council's internet site – at the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's Records Management Policy.

Under the Council's protocol on the use of media equipment at meetings held in public, this meeting may be filmed, recorded or photographed. Anyone who wishes to do so must inform the Chairman and ensure that it is done in a manner clearly visible to anyone present. The wishes of any individual not to be recorded or filmed must be appropriately respected.

Prayers

To Call the Roll

AGENDA

1. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 18 May 2015

Page 5

2 To receive any announcements from the Chairman

3. Members to declare any interests

If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be considered at the meeting and that interest is on your Register of Interests you must not speak or vote on the matter. It is

recommended that you declare that interest but it is not a legal requirement.

If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be considered at the meeting and that interest is not on your Register of Interests you must declare that interest at the meeting and not speak or vote on the matter.

In either case you may remain in the room where the meeting is taking place. If you consider that it would be inappropriate in the circumstances to remain in the room, you may leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

If you do not have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest you may nevertheless have an Other Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects:

- your well being or financial position
- that of your family or close friends
- that of a club or society in which you have a management role
- that of another public body of which you are a member to a greater extent than others in your ward.

If that is the case then you must declare such an interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

4. **Questions to Leader of the Council**

5. **Notice of motions**

Notices of the following motion has been given in accordance with Rule 9 of the Council Procedure Rules:-

(a) Proposed by Toby Coke and seconded by Paul Smyth

That this Council reviews the governance options set out under the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill, at both county and district levels, with a view to identifying significant savings.

6. **Residential and Non-Residential Charging Policy Associated with War Veterans** Page 33

Report of the Executive Director of Finance

7. **Statutory Officers - Changes to the Standing Orders** Page 41

Report of the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer

8. Recommendations from Service Committees

- Policy & Resources – 1 June (any from 20 July to follow) Page **44**
- Children’s Services – 7 July 2015 Page **45**
- Environment, Development and Transport - 10 July 2015 Page **46**

9. Reports from Committees

(i) Service Committees (Questions to Chairs)

- Policy & Resources – 1 June & 20 July (To Follow)
- Adult Social Care – 11 May, 8 & 29 June 2015 Page **47**
- Children’s Services – 12 May & 7 July 2015 Page **53**
- Communities – 13 May & 1 July 2015 Page **61**
- Environment, Development and Transport – 15 May & 10 July 2015 Page **67**
- Economic Development Sub-Committee – 20 May & 13 July 2015 Page **72**

(ii) Other Committees

- Audit Committee
- 18 June 2015 Page **76**
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 28 May 2015 and 16 July 2015 (To Follow)
- Health & Wellbeing Board
- 15 July 2015 (To Follow)
- Planning (Regulatory) Committee
- 19 June 2015 Page **81**
- Standards Committee
- 26 June 2015 Page **84**
- Records Committee
- 19 June 2015 Page **85**
- Joint Museums Committee
- 19 June 2015 Page **87**
- Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee
- 4 June 2015 Page **89**

10 Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees (Standard Item)

- (i) To note appointments made under delegated powers;
- (ii) To consider any proposals from Group Leaders for changes to committee places

11. To answer Questions under Rule 8.3 of the Council Procedure Rules (only if any received)

Chris Walton
Head of Democratic Services
County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich
NR1 2DH

Date Agenda Published: 17 July 2015

For further details and general enquiries about this Agenda please contact the Assistant Head of Democratic Services:

Greg Insull on 01603 223100 or email greg.insull@norfolk.gov.uk



If you need this agenda in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact Greg Insull

Tel: 01603 223100
Minicom 01603 223833

Email: greg.insull@norfolk.gov.uk and we will do our best to help

Norfolk County Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 18 May 2015

Present:	Mr A Adams	Mr C Jordan
	Mr S Agnew	Mr J Joyce
	Mr C Aldred	Ms A Kemp
	Mr S Askew	Mr M Kiddle-Morris
	Mr M Baker	Mr J Law
	Mr R Bearman	Mrs J Leggett
	Mr R Bird	Mr B Long
	Mr D Blake	Mr I Mackie
	Mr B Borrett	Mr I Monson
	Dr A Boswell	Mr J Mooney
	Mr B Bremner	Ms E Morgan
	Mrs J Brociek-Coulton	Mr S Morphew
	Mr A Byrne	Mr G Nobbs
	Mr M Carttiss	Mr W Northam
	Mr M Castle	Mr R Parkinson-Hare
	Mrs J Chamberlin	Mr A Proctor
	Mr J Childs	Mr D Ramsbotham
	Mr S Clancy	Mr W Richmond
	Mr T Coke	Mr D Roper
	Mr D Collis	Mr M Sands
	Ms E Corlett	Mr E Seward
	Mrs H Cox	Mr N Shaw
	Mr D Crawford	Mr M Smith
	Mr A Dearnley	Mr R Smith
	Mrs M Dewsbury	Mr P Smyth
	Mr T East	Mrs M Somerville
	Mr T FitzPatrick	Mr B Spratt
	Mr C Foulger	Mr M Storey
	Mr T Garrod	Dr M Strong
	Ms D Gihawi	Mrs A Thomas
	Mr P Gilmour	Mr D Thomas
	Mr A Grey	Mr J Timewell
	Mrs S Gurney	Miss J Virgo
	Mr P Hacon	Mrs C Walker
	Mr B Hannah	Mr J Ward
	Mr D Harrison	Mr B Watkins
	Mr S Hebborn	Ms S Whitaker
	Mr M Chenery of Horsbrugh	Mr A White
	Mr H Humphrey	Mr M Wilby
	Mr B Iles	Mrs M Wilkinson
	Mr T Jermy	

Present: 81

Apologies for absence were received from Mr N Dixon, Mr J Dobson and Mr J Perkins.

(Mr B Hannah in the Chair)

- 1 The Rev Chris Copsey was leaving the County Council after seven years. On behalf of Norfolk County Council, the Chairman thanked her for all her hard work and support to Members and staff over that time and wished her well for the future and presented a bouquet of flowers. The Rev. Chris Copsey thanked Members for their best wishes and said she had enjoyed her time working at the County Council.

2 Election of Chairman

- 2.1 Upon the motion of Mr R Coke , seconded by Dr M Strong, it was

2.2 RESOLVED (unanimously)

That Mr R Parkinson-Hare be elected Chairman of the County Council for the ensuing year.

- 2.3 (Mr R Parkinson-Hare in the Chair)

- 2.4 Mr Parkinson-Hare, having made the statutory declaration of office, thanked the Council for the honour and privilege conferred upon him and formally took the Chair.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 April 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:
- 3.2 Paragraph 6.5.6 – Question from Mr Wilby. Mr Wilby had asked the Vice-Chairman if his answer was “yes” that all toilets would be reopened at all Park and Ride Sites. Mr Timewell had responded “yes”.

4 Election of Vice-Chairman

- 4.1 Mr I Mackie moved, seconded by Mr T Adams, that Mr J Ward be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 4.2 It was then moved by Mr Nobbs, seconded by Mr R Bearman, that Mr D Collis be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 4.3 On a show of hands, with 39 votes in favour of Mr J Ward and 40 votes in favour of Mr D Collis it was
- 4.4 RESOLVED**

That Mr D Collis be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

5 Vote of Thanks to the Outgoing Chairman

- 5.1 Mr Nobbs, as Leader of the Council, proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman and thanked him for his hard work and dedication and for all that he had done for Norfolk during his year of office. He added that Brian had performed his

duties with good humour and grace at all times.

- 5.2 Mr Jordan seconded the motion and Mr Coke, Dr Strong and Mr Bearman paid tribute to the hard work of Mr Hannah. Mr T Adams, in his capacity as Chairman of Broadland District Council, also paid tribute to Mr Hannah.

- 5.3 The motion having been carried unanimously, it was

RESOLVED

That the Council place on record its grateful thanks to Mr Hannah, stating that he had performed his duties admirably and was a great ambassador for the County.

- 5.4 Mr Hannah addressed the Council saying that it had been an honour and a privilege to serve as Chairman of Norfolk County Council during what had been a particularly demanding year. He paid tribute to the support that he had received from his wife Bev, from the Chairman's Officer, Karen Tyrrell, from the driver Mike Whitmore, and from the Communications Team. He said he had attended some wonderful engagements, the most notable of which was meeting some members of the royal family and meeting numerous community volunteers. He passed on his best wishes to the new Chairman and hoped he had an enjoyable year in office.

6 Chairman's Announcements

- 6.1 The Chairman welcomed Mr Derek Blake, Conservative Member for Loddon, to his first Council meeting, adding that he hoped Derek would enjoy his time at Norfolk County Council.

7 Urgent Motion from Leader

- 7.1 Following an urgent motion from the Leader of the Council, Mr G Nobbs, which was duly seconded by Mr C Jordan, Council recorded their congratulations to Norwich City Football Club, Alex Neill and all the players on their successful season and wished them every success at the play-off final on Monday 25 May.

8 Declarations of Interest

- 8.1 Ms E Corlett declared an interest in item 15 (Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 16 April 2015) as she was employed by Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.

9 Review of Governance Arrangements - Changes to the Constitution

- 9.1 Council received the report by the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer setting out the proposed changes to the Constitution recommended through the review process.
- 9.2 Following a question, the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer clarified that the Constitution Advisory Group (CAG) had asked her to include the additional wording to the recommendations contained in the report. The Leader added that, as Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee, he moved the report and in so doing he accepted all the amendments which had been suggested by CAG.
- 9.3 On a show of hands, Council **RESOLVED** to

Adopt the proposed changes to the Constitution, with the proposed amendments from the Constitution Advisory Group and asked the Monitoring Officer to make the adopted changes to the Constitution.

10 Election of Leader of the Council

- 10.1 Mr M Wilby moved, seconded by Mrs A Thomas, that Mr C Jordan be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 10.2 Mrs Walker moved, seconded by Mr R Coke, that Mr G Nobbs be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 10.3 There then followed a recorded vote (which can be found at Appendix A to these minutes) and with 39 votes in favour of Mr C Jordan, 42 votes in favour of Mr G Nobbs and 0 abstentions, it was **RESOLVED**
- 10.4 That Mr G Nobbs be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

11 Election of Deputy Leader of the Council

- 11.1 Mr G Nobbs moved, seconded by Dr M Strong, that Mr D Roper be elected Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 11.2 There being no other nominations, on being put to the vote (on a show of hands) it was

RESOLVED

- 11.3 That Mr D Roper be elected Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

12 Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees for 2015/16

- 12.1 Having received nominations from the political group leaders for places on Committees Sub-Committees and Joint Committees for 2015/16, the Council **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to make the appointments for 2015/16 that are set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

12.2 Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee – Election of Chairman

Mr G Nobbs moved, seconded by Mrs C Walker, that Mr S Morpew be elected Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

Mr A Proctor moved, seconded by Mr I Mackie, that Mr T Adams be elected Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

- 12.3 There then followed a recorded vote (which can be found at Appendix C to these minutes) and with 41 votes in favour of Mr S Morpew, 38 votes in favour of Mr T Adams and 2 abstentions, it was **RESOLVED** that
- 12.4 Mr S Morpew be appointed Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

13 Appointment of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Service Committees

- 13.1 The Leader, Mr G Nobbs, seconded by Mrs C Walker, put forward the following names for Chairs/Vice Chairs of Committees - (Alliance)

Adult Social Care

Chair: Sue Whitaker

Vice-Chair: Elizabeth Morgan

Children's Services

Chair: James Joyce

Vice-Chair: Emma Corlett

Communities

Chair: Paul Smyth

Vice-Chair: Richard Bearman

Environment, Development and Transport

Chair: Toby Coke

Vice-Chair: John Timewell

Economic Development Sub-Committee

Chair: Colleen Walker

Vice-Chair: Jonathon Childs

- 13.2 Mr Jordan, duly seconded, put forward the following names for Chairs/Vice Chairs of Committees (Conservative):

Adult Social Care

Chair: Bill Borrett

Vice-Chair: Margaret Somerville

Children's Services

Chair: Roger Smith

Vice-Chair: Brian Long

Communities

Chair: Harry Humphrey

Vice-Chair: Jason Law

Environment, Development and Transport

Chair: Martin Wilby

Vice-Chair: Brian Iles

Economic Development Sub-Committee

Chair: Beverley Spratt

Vice-Chair: Stuart Clancy

- 13.3 On being put to a recorded vote (which can be found at Appendix D to these minutes), and with 42 votes in favour of the proposal put forward by the Alliance, 38 votes in favour of the Conservative proposal and 1 abstention the proposal put forward by the Alliance was agreed.

- 13.4 Council then **RESOLVED** accordingly.

The meeting adjourned from 11.05 am until 11.15am to allow the new Committee Chairs to take their allocated seats in the Council Chamber.

14 Questions to Leader of the Council

14.1 Question from Mrs M Somerville

Mrs Somerville asked if the Council could expect the Leader to resign following the lead of the Labour Party Leader after losing the recent general election.

The Leader responded by asking that if someone loses an election, they should resign. Would Mrs Somerville be speaking to the Conservative Group leader after this meeting following today's election for Leader?

14.2 Question from Mr T Coke

Mr Coke asked what the Leader saw as the most pressing issue, not just facing Norfolk County Council, but Councils across the country.

The Leader replied that the most pressing problem was the continuation of the reduction in government grant and the increase in demand for services. He said he would not go over the past and speak about the loss of PFI credits, or the fact that Norfolk County Council had to pay £34m in compensation for the termination of a contract which was inherited. He added that the Council was in a more difficult position than other councils around the country because Norfolk had a growing number of older people in the county and there was also a growing number of young people, therefore the demands for the two most expensive services for the council – Adult Social Care and Children's Services – were both increasing at the same time. Added to that the Government had hit local authorities, by making four times as many cuts in local authorities than they had to government departments. This was not sustainable and every party here should be protesting this as local authorities could not continue working with the ever decreasing funding from the government.

14.3 Question from Dr M Strong

Dr Strong asked if the Leader would support the Adult Education Service to the extent it deserved.

The Leader replied that he did support Adult Education and added when the service was working properly it was a self-financing service, therefore there was a great incentive to ensure it worked well. The Leader referred to the Working Group set up by Communities Committee and asked Mr R Bearman, who was a member of the Working Group to provide the same reassurance that he was giving.

Mr Bearman confirmed that a report had been presented to the Communities Committee at its meeting on 13 May and that the Committee had agreed with the recommendation to appoint an Interim dedicated Head of Service for Adult Education, something that this Council had not had for the last 18 months. It was anticipated that the appointed officer would commence work with the department on 1 June which would strengthen the management of the service.

14.4 Question from Mr R Bearman

At the last AGM, Mr Bearman had asked the Leader what he was doing to achieve the aspiration that he had outlined in 2013 of introducing a Living Wage Policy for all directly employed Council staff. Mr Bearman asked again, what steps had been

taken, or did the Leader intend to take, to move this Council towards becoming an accredited Living Wage Employer?

The Leader replied that it was an aspiration of all members of the Personnel Committee to move to paying a living wage. He added that most of the staff working for Norfolk County Council at County Hall and other offices, actually received the living wage already. One difficult aspect was those staff who were not directly employed by the County Council, particularly those staff working in schools. Whilst the County Council was responsible for schools and did the payroll for school staff, the staff were employees of a school. Staff receiving less than the living wage were likely to be staff who were employed directly by school governors or headteachers and therefore to move to imposing the payment of a living wage would mean additional costs for the schools.

Another issue that had been raised at the Personnel Committee was the issue of fairness for those people that worked for the Council but were not directly employed by them, such as contractors and whether the living wage could be extended to cover those individuals.

The Leader added that this was a very complex issue which the Personnel Committee would be speaking with the Unions about. The aspiration was there and the Leader invited Mr Bearman to attend the next Personnel Committee meeting to discuss the issue further.

14.5 Question from Mrs C Walker

Mrs Walker asked the Leader what the prospects were for the Scottow Solar Farm and congratulated him in getting the venture underway.

The Leader thanked Mrs Walker and said there were several people to thank, in particular Mr B Spratt for overseeing the project. He added that Mr Timewell had been a tower of strength in supporting the solar panel farm. He also added that the first phase was now operational and was expected to bring £10m into Norfolk County Council. The second phase of the solar farm would commence in the near future, although he had a concern that the new Minister, Elizabeth Truss, did not appear to be as keen on supporting solar farms as the previous Minister had been. He suggested that Cllr Jordan, who he knew was a good friend of Miss Truss and had exchanged emails with her in the past, might ask her to be supportive.

14.6 Question from Mr C Jordan

Mr Jordan asked the Leader, following his re-election, what he was going to do differently from the previous year to close the large deficit in the budget.

The Leader replied that proposals for dealing with the ongoing cuts were in place. P&R workshops had been held to consider how services could be provided differently to deal with the reduction in government grant whilst at the same time facing an increase in demand for services.

14.7 Question from Ms A Kemp

Ms Kemp said that a city flourishing in its arts and heritage was fundamental to its investment, increasing exports and creating jobs and a very successful Hanse Festival had been held in King's Lynn recently. She added that King's Lynn had been through a great deal with the incinerator issue and certainty was now needed about the future of the Willows site. She asked what hope the Leader could give to provide certainty about the future of the Willows site.

The Leader said he had been unable to attend the Hanse Festival this year, although he had attended the Festival a few years ago. He agreed that King's Lynn needed all the help it could get but added that the Willows site was a complex matter. He added that some correspondence had taken place and that this was not a decision he could make. He added that the reason Norfolk County Council would not sell the site to King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council was for technical reasons to do with the Register of Sites. He asked Cllr Coke to reassure Cllr Kemp that the reason Norfolk County Council was not selling the site was not to build an incinerator, or to sign a new contract with Cory Wheelabrator, but due to other reasons.

Mr Coke confirmed that the Willows site would remain under the ownership of the County Council because, as had already been agreed by full Council, the site was needed to provide waste plants that did not involve incineration. This had already been agreed by Council and therefore to sell the site back to the Borough Council would be asinine. Mr Coke added that there were rumours going around from various sources that there was an agenda that Norfolk County Council would be reconsidering incineration but this was absolutely not the case and he guaranteed that there would be no incinerator on the Willows site. He added that the site was required for the small area plants.

15 Recommendations from Service Committees:

15.1 Children's Services Committee – 10 March 2015 – Approval of the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2015-16.

15.2 Mr J Joyce, Chair of Children's Services Committee moved the recommendation for Council to approve the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2015-16.

15.3 Following discussion as to the reasons why the report needed to be considered by Council, and the fact that Children's Services had only considered a draft report which had been significantly altered, the Managing Director as, Chair of the Youth Justice Board, stated that this report was before Council because the statutory responsibility for it rested with the Youth Justice Board and formed part of the Policy Framework which the Constitution stated was a responsibility of full Council.

15.4 The Chairman of Children's Services said that if any Members had any questions relating to the Youth Justice Plan they should forward them to himself and he would provide a response.

15.5 Ms A Kemp asked the question as to why only 50% of Norfolk Youth Offending Team felt that they were able to be productive and highly engaged and that this was a reassuring and highly credible outcome. If the figures were compared to the Council and it had been reported that only 50% of people felt they were productive and able to be properly engaged, we wouldn't think we were a very high performing Council. How then was it possible that 50% of people feeling engaged was the right thing to be and was highly creditable, and what action was being taken to improve?

The Chair of Children's Services Committee agreed to provide a written response to the question.

15.6 Mrs J Leggett raised several questions she would like a response to and the Chairman of Children's Services asked Mrs Leggett to forward the questions in writing and he would provide a written reply.

- 15.7 Mr M Carttiss proposed, seconded by Mr B Long, that Council note the report and request that it comes back to Full Council for further discussion when the details discussed had been ironed out. The Chairman of Children's Services Committee accepted the amendment to the recommendation.
- 15.8 Council **RESOLVED** to **note** the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2015-16 and to request that the Plan comes back to Full Council once the details and recommendations contained in the report had been fully considered by the Children's Services Committee.

16 Questions to Service Committee Chairs

16.1 Adult Social Care

16.1.1 Question from Mr B Borrett

Mr Borrett asked about the very large overspend that had appeared in the Adult Social Care budget in the last 30 days of the financial year and whether the Chairman had requested the support from the rest of the Council to help make up the £3m extra deficit that had been left after Adult Social Care had used its own reserves to fill £4m of its overspend.

The Chair responded that, at the meeting she had actually been asked to remind the Leader that there was an overspend on the Adult Social Care budget and that the budget was not one that the Committee had approved. She added that the meeting had agreed that she remind the Leader and ask that the £3m overspend be made up by the rest of the Council.

As a supplementary question, Mr Borrett asked if the Chair had spoken to the Leader, to which she replied that she had.

16.1.2 Question from Ms A Kemp

Ms Kemp said that she followed the agenda of Adult Social Care Committee very closely and she hadn't seen anything about the state of Norfolk's adult social care homes. She added that there was a great deal of work to be done in promoting wellbeing, making sure elderly people had the opportunity to go out and were not incarcerated in care homes for great lengths of time. Ms Kemp asked what the Committee was doing about this and would the Chair make sure that an item was included on the Committee agenda and that if possible, a working group on improving wellbeing and healthcare in Norfolk's care homes be set up.

The Chair responded that the Council could not carry on providing services as it previously had as the money simply was not available and therefore a review of how services were provided in the county was being undertaken. One of the areas where there was significant spend was in care homes and a working group had already been set up with Norfolk Independent Care to review the costs of care. To date, the Group had met once. It was recognised that residential care was the most expensive form of care provided and consideration would be given to moving the whole emphasis away from care homes and back into the community. Under the new Care Act, one of the new obligations on the county was about wellbeing so that was at the forefront of everyone's mind, but the specific item referred to would be encompassed in an item that should have been discussed at the meeting on 11 May and which had been deferred to a reconvened meeting on 8 June when consideration would be given to the way adult social care would be provided in the future with the reduced resources

available.

16.1.3 Question from Mr B Watkins

Mr Watkins referred to reports by the local Police, highlighted in the press recently, which had revealed a rising number of incidents involving dementia patients from Norfolk's care homes had contributed to an increase in crime figures. Although this was a cause for concern, it was important that dementia sufferers were not stigmatised and that cases were dealt with appropriately and sensitively. He asked if the Chair of Adult Social Care would like to comment further?

The Chair replied that it was clearly part of the safeguarding responsibility of Norfolk County Council and Adult Social Care Committee and she thought it was healthy that there were more cases being reported because it meant more people were becoming aware of possible abuse that may be taking place, whether it was physical or financial. The figures for the last three years showed the number of referrals to adult social care on safeguarding issues had increased from just under 1400 to almost 3000. There had also been a large increase in the number of strategy discussions and assessments that had taken place, which the Chair thought was because people were now taking safeguarding seriously. The Chair added that the rise in incidents being reported was a result of more people becoming aware of abuse and that they were also more confident that a full investigation would take place after an incident had been reported.

16.1.4 Question from Mr M Sands

Mr Sands said that as the local Member, he had been invited to attend the topping out ceremony on 19 May of Norse Care's new Bowthorpe Care Village. He asked how the new facility would improve the provision of residential care in the Norwich area. He also added that the manager of the Bowthorpe Centre Supermarket had indicated that he would like to offer his staff an opportunity to undertake some dementia awareness training.

The Chair responded that she was pleased to hear that the manager of the local supermarket wanted to get involved. She added that when the care homes that had been formerly run by the County Council had been transferred into an arms length company (Norsecare) the rationale for it had been about upgrading the estate already owned by the County Council. The majority of the care homes run by the County Council had been built in the 1960's and had started to outdo their useful life. In modernising the estate, the really good homes in Gorleston, and the Lydia Reed Care Home had already been opened and the Bowthorpe care village was another step in that process. This care village would provide a brand new facility, where services would be provided for some of the most vulnerable of our customers.

16.1.5 Question from Mrs J Brociek-Coulton

The home care profession was characterised by poor terms and conditions for staff and short-timed visits to customers. Unfortunately it was often seen as a career of last resort. Given the absolutely essential contribution that staff played in helping residents continue care, could the Chair say what plans there were in Norfolk to help make homecare a career of choice?

The Chair responded that all the Homecare Contracts in Norfolk were due to be re-let over the next 18 months. The first one to be let would be in the west of the county in November this year, the second one would be in the east of the county, which would be put out to tender in April 2016 in conjunction with Suffolk County Council. The rest of the county would then follow in November 2016. The details of the contracts

would mean moving away from timed visits and working to the Unison ethical charter providing enhanced terms and conditions for staff. Staff would be paid for travelling, have proper lunch breaks and have a reasonable amount of time between calls, although the emphasis would remain on the care provider individually negotiating with the people that required the care about how much time was spent with a client. The Chair added that she had asked whether providers could be asked to tender two prices – one with the minimum living wage included and one without, in the hope that improved terms and conditions could be offered to staff.

16.2 Children's Services

16.2.1 Question from Mr S Askew

Mr Askew said that last month, he had a lot of correspondence with several distressed parents in his division. They had been informed that there were no spaces available for their 4-year-olds to enter the local primary school in East Harling, but they had been allocated places at another school at Great Hockham, some seven miles away, as local schools such as Banham and Kenninghall were at capacity and Eccles School, a couple of miles away, had been controversially closed last summer. Fortunately, to the great relief of those parents, a sensible solution had been found and he paid tribute to the officers, Richard Snowden and Sheila Lock, and the Headmaster and Governors of East Harling Primary School for their swift action in getting the matter resolved. He asked the Chairman if, bearing in mind the increase in housing and population and this administration's policy of closing small schools, he could give an assurance that this situation would not rise again.

The Chairman replied that he was unable to give an assurance that the same situation would not arise again, but he did give assurance that if Councillors contacted Children's Services, a viable solution would be sought. East Harling was a great example of how negotiations with the governing body and children's services had achieved the best outcome for the children concerned.

16.2.2 Question from Mr B Watkins

Mr Watkins asked the Chair of Children's Services whether there were any plans to extend the Restorative Approach for Families course to all schools across the county?

The Chair replied that in Children's Services, everything undertaken was embedded in restorative work.

16.2.3 Question from Mr B Bremner

The recent review of children's centres carried out by a working group of Children's Services Committee reiterated the commitment to Children's Centres as the heart of our early help to families. He asked the Chair what assurances could he give that we will support Earlham Early Years Children's Centre, Cadge Road, Wensum Division, as they were being unceremoniously removed from the school site they currently occupied by the Inspiration Trust. He asked where help for some of the most vulnerable families in Norwich would be provided from, and who would benefit from the public money spent on refurbishing the Children's Centre – would the money be handed to the Inspiration Trust?

The Chairman replied that negotiations were ongoing, but Earlham Early Years children's centre was a great children's centre and everything would be done to help it.

16.2.4 **Question from Mr R Bird**

Mr Bird said he represented North Coast Division, which included Hunstanton. He added that Hunstanton had two schools, one was Smithdon High School which was a senior school and the other was called Redgate Junior and Infants School. He said that it had come to his attention recently, that Smithdon High School intended to first close, then demolish, its swimming pool. He added that he had been in communication with Cllr Joyce about the matter. He said equally, Redgrave Infant School was being amalgamated with the junior school, and producing an additional 90 places within that geographical area. He continued that in both cases Norfolk County Council seemed to have no say in the actions - first the pool being closed, without consultation and no local input and it would also appear that the Governors and staff had decided to make this decision on their own. He also added that Redgate Junior School was in an area where there was going to be congestion and traffic issues and once again the Governors and staff seemed to have taken it upon themselves to make a decision. He asked the Chair of Children's Services Committee what NCC contributed to these factors?

The Chairman replied that the County Council had not made any contribution to these factors. The funding for swimming rested solely with schools and that Governing bodies needed to consider whether they could offer swimming within their budgets. He added that it was recognised that swimming was an important part of education and that all children should learn to swim for safety reasons. He added that Mr Bird should contact the Governors and other pressure groups to see if the Governors would reconsider their decision.

16.3 **Communities**

16.3.1 **Question from Mr T Garrod**

Mr Garrod said that on 14 April he had been honoured to be asked to cut the ribbon at the opening of the new community shop in Upton. He said that he had been delighted to see over 100 people attend the opening from Upton and surrounding villages and that it was a fine example of how working with local communities. He added that this Council had a vital role to play in reinvigorating the heart of our rural communities. Together with the, also community owned White Horse next door, the community shop in Upton now supported 18 jobs and could boast a 25% increase on trading compared to its first year. This showed that not only did these community run facilities have a great social impact, but had the potential to have a significant economic benefit within our rural county of Norfolk.

He asked the Chair if he could give assurance that, despite the tough financial pressures this council faced, he would continue to ensure that funding was available to our rural communities to enable them to have the power to shape their own destinies as the people of Upton had.

The Chair replied that he also came from a rural community and had a vested interest in making sure that rural communities were not neglected or ignored so there was no imbalance in the distribution of support and funding in the county. He added that he was not familiar with Upton so he was unaware of all the details. He added that in principle he agreed, but it would be for the Communities Committee to decide the manner in which it took the scheme forward. The County Council already supported the Pub is the Hub scheme, which was a nationwide scheme which had seen pubs around the country, particularly in rural areas, used in a variety of different ways, such

as providing post office facilities, or having a cash machine. There had also been places where the pub had taken on cooking duties for local schools now that schools had to provide lunches for primary school children and did not have their own facilities to be able to do that.

Another piece of work that was still burgeoning in the County Council, which was not just within the remit of the Communities Committee, although they would have lead political responsibility for it, was the Enabling Communities work. As yet it had not been fully defined by what was meant by Enabling Communities, but responsibility fell to everyone to ensure that people who lived in rural communities had a fair access to services and were not disadvantaged in any way.

Once the current working groups considering Fire and Rescue Service and Libraries had completed their work, the Committee could consider taking on a piece of work as to how we can work, in the context of falling resources, in partnership with communities to enable them to do more themselves which would be an inherent part of the Enabling Communities work.

16.4 Environment, Development and Transport and Economic Development Sub-Committee

16.4.1 Question from Dr A Boswell

Dr Boswell drew Members' attention to a new group which had been set up, a non-party political group called CHAIN (Climate, Hope, Action in Norfolk). It had been set up by health professionals to look at publicising the issue of climate change in the run up to the UN Climate talks in Paris later this year. One of the things they were doing was projecting short films on walls around the city. There were also a number of other initiatives taking place. Dr Boswell asked the Chairman whether he would support that initiative, perhaps with a press release from the Council and any other cost neutral ways, for example allowing premises and equipment to be used for showing these films without charge.

The Chair replied that if health professionals wanted to highlight what they felt was relevant to their profession, vis a vis climate change, they would be welcome to use the facilities we had but it was unlikely that any funds to such a project would be forthcoming.

16.4.2 Question from Mr M Wilby

Mr Wilby asked if the Chairman of Economic Development would agree that the previous Chairman had achieved so much over the last year, particularly with the Coltishall Scottow site and also for economic development in Norfolk.

The Chair replied that the whole team should be congratulated and also thanked Mr B Spratt, the previous Chairman.

16.4.3 Question from Mr T East

Would the Chairman welcome and perhaps explain in more detail the unanimous decision of EDT Committee to ask government for housing developer contributions for health care provision through Section 106 or CIL obligations which required the revision of Planning Law by writing to Brandon Lewis MP and copied to the new Health Minister and all Norfolk's MPs to highlight this anomaly in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)?

The Chair replied that this had been raised at the February meeting of the EDT

Committee. The Committee had written to Brandon Lewis MP, but his response had stated that the NPPF was being reviewed and the outcome was due to be reported in the autumn. At the last meeting of the Committee, on Friday 17 May, it was agreed to revisit this and to write to the Secretary of State to find out what they were doing to incorporate Section 106 and CIL money for infrastructure funding, with particular reference to hospitals and surgeries.

16.4.4 Question from Mr T Jermy

At both EDT Committee and Economic Development Sub-Committee meetings, we heard about the benefits of Tourism in Norfolk and were inspired to hear the presentation about Visit Norfolk. He added that he was less inspired that his own District Council, Breckland, was not financially supporting Visit Norfolk. It was the only one, although that accolade now fell to Broadland District Council who were now the only District Council not supporting Visit Norfolk. He asked what the Chairman could do to encourage all District Councils in Norfolk to get on board and to help realise the economic benefits of tourism for the whole of the county.

The Chair replied that both Breckland District Council and Broadland District Council now supported the Visit Norfolk initiative.

16.4.5 Question from Mr S Clancy

Mr Clancy asked the Chair of EDT to reassure him that in view of the election result, he would continue to work with the Chairman of the A47 Alliance to ensure that the unelected, unaccountable quango of Highways England would bring forward the money the Prime Minister had promised for the A47 improvements and not based on the timetable of maybe commencing in 2021. He said it was very important for Norfolk. It appeared that the money had been allocated, it appeared the money was there, the Prime Minister had given his personal assurances that the money was available, but unfortunately it also appeared that the unelected unaccountable quango was standing in the way. He encouraged the Chairman of EDT to work with the Chair of A47 Alliance to push forward with this fast and furious.

The Chairman replied that the A47 Alliance was an excellent cross-party group that had the interests and benefits of Norfolk at heart and party politics didn't come into it. He added that the Chair of the A47 Alliance had done an excellent job and the whole team was working to put pressure on the government to come up with the money and get the project underway. Work was also taking place to get the follow on projects from 2020, namely the Acle Straight and the King's Lynn section from Tilney to East Winch to follow on directly. He added that it beheld all Councillors to put as much pressure on the Government as possible by involving the local MPs.

16.4.6 Question from Mr J Mooney

Mr Mooney asked that when the review of the recycling centres in Norwich was carried out could it be extended to cover the Wymondham recycling centre as the centre was not fit for purpose and needed upgrading.

The Chair replied that the recycling review was already underway and included Wymondham. A report would be considered by the EDT Committee in the autumn.

16.5 Policy & Resources

16.5.1 Question from Mr B Bremner

Mr Bremner asked what the future was now for the Hewett School, Norwich?

The Chair responded that although this was not a matter for Policy & Resources Committee, he would answer the question. He added that the view of most members of the Children's Services Committee was that the decision to issue an Academy Order on the last possible day prior to purdah starting before the election had not inspired confidence among the local population.

He added that he hoped the consultation would be the fullest possible as the IEB had indicated would be the case, as it was essential that the views of everyone be taken into account before a final decision was reached. It was a sensitive issue and many people were concerned that if the last non-academy school in Norwich was removed, an element of choice about which school a child should attend had been removed.

The Chair referred to another issue about the land at the site being under the ownership of a Trust. The land had been purchased by Norwich City Council in the 1950s for educational use, as originally there had been three separate schools on the site.

The Chair said that he did have concerns, although he hoped that the consultation would be full and that the views of the County Council and the local community would be taken into account.

16.5.2 **Question from Mr C Jordan**

Mr Jordan asked the Chair of P&R for a list of his priorities to give some idea of where the savings were likely to come from. He asked what the way forward was. He added that workshops had been held although the priorities were still not known, to have an idea of where savings were likely to come from. We knew about Adults and Children taking up most of the resources, and modernising them would save some money but would not solve the whole problem, so what was the full way forward?

The Chair replied that the priorities had been spelt out in May 2013. At that time, Norfolk County Council had received results from about four Ofsted inspections, saying how far we lagged behind and what a disadvantage children educated in Norfolk were having. Therefore our very first priority was children and making sure they had the very best chance in life and had the best education. The Leader, immediately he had been elected Leader, had appointed two Cabinet Members, Mick Castle and James Joyce, to look into and take charge of Children's Services. That was a priority. We actually had to put money back into Children's Services in that first year because the Ofsted report said that too much had been taken out the year before. He added that the future of Norfolk's children would not be sacrificed in order to balance the budget and that the budget would be balanced, but without taking money out of children's services.

Infrastructure was a priority but it was not one where a great deal of money would need to be spent because most of the funding for that came from the Government.

Economic Development was also a priority. We needed an educated workforce and we needed there to be jobs available for those leaving education. Again, that was not something which cost a great deal of money, but not enough had been done historically in terms of economic development.

At the budget meeting, it had been agreed to include a fourth priority which was to look after the most vulnerable in society.

The Chair invited all Members to attend the P&R Budget workshops and contribute to

the discussions and decisions made.

16.5.3 Question from Mr B Borrett

Mr Borrett referred to the question he had asked the Chair of Adult Social Care Committee about whether she had spoken to the Chair about the massive overspend in Adult Social Care which had come to light in the last 30 days of the financial year and she confirmed that she had spoken to the Chair. Could the Chair let me know what his response to Cllr Whitaker was?

The Leader replied that he had spoken with the Chair about what had occurred at Adult Social Care Committee.

17 Reports from Committees

17.1 Report of the Audit Committee meeting held on 23 April 2015.

Mr I Mackie moved the report.
Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports

17.2 Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 16 April 2015.

Mr M Carttiss moved the report and said he would arrange for an email to be circulated setting out the remit of the Committee and the work it carried out and how it differed from other Committees of the County Council.

Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

17.3 Report of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 29 April 2015

Mr D Roper moved the report.
Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

17.4 Report of the Norfolk Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 24 April 2015.

Mr J Ward moved the report.
Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

17.5 Report of the Records Committee meeting held on 24 April 2015.

Mr M Horsbrugh moved the report.
Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports

17.6 Report of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee meeting of 19 March 2015

Mr T Adams moved the report.
Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

18 To answer questions under Rule 8.3 of the Council Procedure Rules

18.1 There were none.

The meeting concluded at 12.55pm



If you need this document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact Customer Services on 0344 800 8020 or 0344 800 8011 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.

Norfolk County Council
18 May 2015

Recorded Vote – Item Number 8 – Election of Leader of the Council

CJ – Mr C Jordan. GN – Mr G Nobbs

CJ	GN	ABST.		CJ	GN	ABST	
X			ADAMS Tony		X		JERMY , Terry
	X		AGNEW Stephen	X			JORDAN , Cliff
	X		ALDRED Colin		X		JOYCE , James
X			ASKEW Stephen		X		KEMP Alexandra
	X		BAKER Michael	X			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
	X		BEARMAN Richard	X			LAW Jason
	X		BIRD Richard	X			LEGGETT Judy
X			BLAKE Derek	X			LONG Brian
X			BORRETT Bill	X			MACKIE Ian
	X		BOSWELL Andrew	X			MONSON Ian
	X		BREMNER Bert	X			MOONEY Joe
	X		BROCIEK-COULTON Julie		X		MORGAN Elizabeth
X			BYRNE Alec		X		MORPHEW Steve
X			CARTTISS Michael		X		NOBBS George
	X		CASTLE Mick	X			NORTHAM Wyndham
X			CHAMBERLIN Jenny		X		PARKINSON-HARE Rex
	X		CHILDS Jonathon	Absent			PERKINS Jim
X			CLANCY Stuart	X			PROCTOR Andrew
	X		COKE Toby		X		RAMSBOTHAM David
	X		COLLIS David	X			RICHMOND William
	X		CORLETT Emma		X		ROPER Daniel
X			COX Hilary		X		SANDS Mike
	X		CRAWFORD Denis		X		SEWARD Eric
	X		DEARNLEY Adrian	X			SHAW Nigel
X			DEWSBURY Margaret	X			SMITH Matthew
Absent			DIXON Nigel	X			SMITH Roger
Absent			DOBSON John		X		SMYTH Paul
	X		EAST Tim	X			SOMERVILLE Margaret
X			FITZPATRICK Tom	X			SPRATT Bev
X			FOULGER Colin	X			STOREY Martin
X			GARROD Tom		X		STRONG Marie
	X		GIHAWI Deborah	X			THOMAS Alison
	X		GILMOUR Paul		X		THOMAS David
	X		GREY Alan		X		TIMEWELL John
X			GURNEY Shelagh	X			VIRGO Judith
	X		HACON Pat		X		WALKER Colleen
	X		HANNAH Brian	X			WARD John
	X		HARRISON David		X		WATKINS Brian
	X		HEBBORN Stan		X		WHITAKER Sue
X			HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of	X			WHITE Tony
X			HUMPHREY Harry	X			WILBY Martin
X			ILES Brian		X		WILKINSON Margaret

With 39 votes in favour of Mr C Jordan and 42 votes in favour of Mr G Nobbs and 0 abstentions, it was duly **RESOLVED** that Mr G Nobbs be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

**Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees
and Joint Committees for 2015/16**

SECTION 1

SERVICE COMMITTEES AND POLICY AND RESOURCES

Policy and Resources Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

Cliff Jordan (Spk)
Andrew Proctor
Bill Borrett
Derek Blake
Roger Smith
Ian Monson
Judy Leggett
Alison Thomas

Labour (3)

Mick Castle
Steve Morphew
George Nobbs (Ch)

Liberal Democrat (2)

Marie Strong
Daniel Roper (v/Ch)

UKIP & Ind (3)

Fred Agnew
Michael Baker
David Ramsbotham (Spk)

Green(1)

Adrian Dearnley (Spk)

Adult Social Care Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

Margaret Somerville
Martin Wilby
William Richmond
Tom FitzPatrick
Tom Garrod
Andrew Proctor
Alison Thomas
Bill Borrett (Spk)

Labour (3)

Julie Brociek-Coulton
Mike Sands
Sue Whitaker (Ch)

Liberal Democrat (2)

Brian Watkins (Spk)
Eric Seward

UKIP & Ind (3)

Denis Crawford (Spk)
Alan Grey
Jim Perkins

Green(1)

Elizabeth Morgan (v/Ch)

Children's Services Committee- 17 plus 2 Church representatives (voting)

Conservative (8)

Judith Virgo
Jenny Chamberlin
Roger Smith (spk)
Tony Adams
Brian Long
Mark Kiddle-Morris
Beverley Spratt
Tony White

UKIP & Ind (3)

Denis Crawford
Paul Gilmour (Spk)
Jim Perkins

Labour (3)

David Collis
Emma Corlett (v/Ch)
Deborah Gihawi

Liberal Democrat (2)

James Joyce (Ch)
Brian Hannah

Green(1)

Richard Bearman (spk)

Communities Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

Harry Humphrey (Spk)
Hilary Cox
Margaret Dewsbury
John Ward
Nigel Shaw
Nigel Dixon
Wyndham Northam
Jason Law

UKIP & Ind (3)

Colin Aldred
Stan Hebborn
Paul Smyth (Ch)

Labour (3)

Julie Brociek-Coulton
Mike Sands
Margaret Wilkinson

Liberal Democrat (2)

David Harrison (Spk)
David Thomas

Green(1)

Richard Bearman (v/Ch)

Environment, Development & Transport Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

Colin Foulger
Stuart Clancy
Tony White
Brian Iles
Judy Leggett
Martin Wilby (Spk)
Bev Spratt
Ian Mackie

UKIP & Ind (3)

Toby Coke (Ch)
Jonathon Childs
Richard Bird

Labour (3)

Bert Bremner
Terry Jermy (Spk)
Colleen Walker

Liberal Democrat (2)

Tim East
John Timewell (v/Ch)

Green(1)

Andrew Boswell (Spk)

SUB-COMMITTEES

Economic Development Sub-Committee – 9

Conservative (4)

Martin Wilby
Stuart Clancy
Ian Mackie
Bev Spratt (Spk)

Labour (2)

Collen Walker (Ch)
Terry Jermy

Liberal Democrat (1)

John Timewell (Spk)

UKIP & Ind (2)

Richard Bird
Jonathon Childs (v/Ch)

OTHER COMMITTEES

Planning (Regulatory) Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

John Ward
Tony White
Jason Law
Stephen Askew
Wyndham Northam
Brian Long
Martin Storey
Colin Foulger (Spk)

Labour (3)

Bert Bremner
David Collis (Ch)
Mike Sands

Liberal Democrat (2)

Eric Seward
Brian Watkins (Spk)

UKIP & Ind (3)

Fred Agnew
Michael Baker
Alan Grey (v/Ch)

Green (1)

Elizabeth Morgan (Spk)

Panel of Substitutes for Regulatory Committees - 17

Conservative (8)

Brian Iles
Jenny Chamberlin
Adrian Gunson
Ian Monson
Alec Byrne
William Richmond
Margaret Somerville
Nigel Dixon

Labour (3)

Deborah Gihawi
Terry Jermy

Liberal Democrat (2)

Tim East
John Timewell

UKIP & Ind (3)

Colin Aldred
Rex Parkinson-Hare

Green (1)

Adrian Dearnley

Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 8

Conservative (4)

Michael Carttiss
Margaret Somerville
Jennifer Chamberlin
Michael Chenery
Judith Virgo (named substitute)
Nigel Dixon (named substitute)

Labour (1)

Bert Bremner
Margaret Wilkinson (named substitute)

Liberal Democrat (1)

David Harrison
Brian Hannah (named substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Colin Aldred
Paul Gilmour (named substitute)

Green (1)

Richard Bearman
Elizabeth Morgan (named substitute)

Audit Committee 7

Conservative (4)

Ian Mackie (Ch)
Roger Smith
Harry Humphrey
Shelagh Gurney

Labour (1)

Bert Bremner

UKIP & Ind (1)

David Ramsbotham

Liberal Democrat (1)

James Joyce

Standards Committee - 7

Conservative (4)

Alec Byrne
Ian Monson (Ch)
Mark Kiddle-Morris
William Richmond

Labour (1)

Patrick Hacon

UKIP & Ind (1)

Rex Parkinson-Hare

Liberal Democrat (1)

John Timewell

Emergency Committee - 5 (Must include the Leader of the Council)

Conservative (3)

Tom FitzPatrick
Wyndham Northam
Stephen Askew

Labour (1)

George Nobbs

Liberal Democrat (1)

Marie Strong

General Purposes (Regulatory) Committee – 5

Conservative (3)

Tom FitzPatrick
Ian Monson
Alec Byrne

Liberal Democrat (1)

Brian Watkins

UKIP & Ind (1)

Stan Hebborn

Pensions Committee 5

Conservative (3)

Judith Virgo
Martin Storey
John Dobson

Labour (1)

Steve Morphew (Ch)

UKIP & Ind (1)

David Ramsbotham

Personnel Committee - 5 (Must include the Leader of the Council)

Conservative (2)

Cliff Jordan
Andrew Proctor

Labour (1)

George Nobbs (Ch)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Toby Coke

Liberal Democrat (1)

Marie Strong

SECTION 2

Employment Appeals Panel – 11

When the Panel meets, it has a membership of 3 appointed by the Head of Human Resources and drawn from the wider Panel of 11

Conservative (5)

Cliff Jordan
Andrew Proctor
Bill Borrett
Tony White
Judy Leggett

Labour (2)

Emma Corlett
Steve Morphew

Liberal Democrat (1)

Marie Strong

UKIP & Ind (2)

Stan Hebborn
David Ramsbotham

Green (1)

Richard Bearman

Health and Wellbeing Board (3)

- Chairman of the Children's Services Committee –James Joyce
 - Chairman of the Adult Social Care Committee – Susan Whitaker
 - Brian Watkins
-

SECTION 3

JOINT COMMITTEES

Norfolk Joint Museums & Archaeology Committee – 9

Conservative (4)

Harry Humphrey
John Ward (Ch)
Mark Kiddle-Morris
Martin Storey
Jason Law (named substitute)

Labour (2)

Julie Brociek-Coulton
Margaret Wilkinson
Terry Jermy (named substitute)

Liberal Democrat (1)

James Joyce
Tim East (named substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Rex Parkinson-Hare
Alan Grey (named substitute)

Green (1)

Elizabeth Morgan
Adrian Dearnley (named Substitute)

Norfolk Records Committee – 3

Conservative (1)

Michael Chenery
Brian Iles (named Substitute)

Labour (1)

Margaret Wilkinson (1)
Mike Sands (named substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Paul Smyth
Fred Agnew (named substitute)

Eastern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority – 3

Conservative (1)

Hilary Cox

Labour (1)

Margaret Wilkinson

UKIP & Ind (1)

Michael Baker

Norfolk Police & Crime Panel – 3

Conservative (1)

Alec Byrne
Michael Chenery (named substitute)

Liberal Democrat (1)

David Harrison
James Joyce (named substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Fred Agnew
Colin Aldred (named substitute)

Note: The overall political composition of the Norfolk Police and Crime Panel is required to reflect the political balance across the whole County (County and District councils). That balance has to be reviewed after all the results of the District Council elections have been announced. If this affects the County Council's political representation on the Panel, the political groups will be advised in advance of the Council meeting.

SECTION 4

Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee – 2

Conservative – Tony Adams

Labour – Steve Morpew (Chair of NHAJC)

Non-Voting Advisors (3)

Conservative (1) - Nigel Shaw

Labour (1) - Mike Sands

UKIP & Ind (1) - Fred Agnew

Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation Joint Committee- 2

Conservative – Ian Monson

Labour – Mick Castle

Norfolk Parking Partnership Joint Committee (1 Member of the Council)

Mick Castle

Tony White (named substitute)

Planning and Traffic Regulation Outside London Joint Committee (1 Member of the Council)

Mick Castle

Tony White (named substitute)

National Bus Lane Adjudication Committee (1)

Bert Bremner

Mick Castle (named substitute)

Norfolk County Council 18 May 2015

Recorded Vote – Agenda Item Number 10 – Election of Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee.

SM – Mr S Morphew. TA – Mr T Adams

SM	TA	ABST.		SM	TA	ABST	
	X		ADAMS Tony	X			JERMY , Terry
X			AGNEW Stephen		X		JORDAN , Cliff
X			ALDRED Colin	X			JOYCE , James
	X		ASKEW Stephen			X	KEMP Alexandra
X			BAKER Michael		X		KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
X			BEARMAN Richard		X		LAW Jason
X			BIRD Richard		X		LEGGETT Judy
	X		BLAKE Derek		X		LONG Brian
	X		BORRETT Bill		X		MACKIE Ian
X			BOSWELL Andrew		X		MONSON Ian
X			BREMNER Bert		X		MOONEY Joe
X			BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X			MORGAN Elizabeth
	X		BYRNE Alec	X			MORPHEW Steve
	X		CARTTISS Michael	X			NOBBS George
X			CASTLE Mick		X		NORTHAM Wyndham
	X		CHAMBERLIN Jenny	X			PARKINSON-HARE Rex
X			CHILDS Jonathon	Absent			PERKINS Jim
	X		CLANCY Stuart		X		PROCTOR Andrew
X			COKE Toby	X			RAMSBOTHAM David
X			COLLIS David		X		RICHMOND William
X			CORLETT Emma	X			ROPER Daniel
	X		COX Hilary	X			SANDS Mike
X			CRAWFORD Denis	X			SEWARD Eric
X			DEARNLEY Adrian		X		SHAW Nigel
	X		DEWSBURY Margaret			X	SMITH Matthew
Absent			DIXON Nigel		X		SMITH Roger
Absent			DOBSON John	X			SMYTH Paul
X			EAST Tim		X		SOMERVILLE Margaret
	X		FITZPATRICK Tom		X		SPRATT Bev
	X		FOULGER Colin		X		STOREY Martin
	X		GARROD Tom	X			STRONG Marie
X			GIHAWI Deborah		X		THOMAS Alison
X			GILMOUR Paul	X			THOMAS David
X			GREY Alan	X			TIMEWELL John
	X		GURNEY Shelagh		X		VIRGO Judith
X			HACON Pat	X			WALKER Colleen
X			HANNAH Brian		X		WARD John
X			HARRISON David	X			WATKINS Brian
X			HEBBORN Stan	X			WHITAKER Sue
	X		HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		WHITE Tony
	X		HUMPHREY Harry		X		WILBY Martin
	X		ILES Brian	X			WILKINSON Margaret

With 41 votes in favour of Mr S Morphew and 38 votes in favour of Mr T Adams and 2 abstentions, it was duly **RESOLVED** that Mr S Morphew be elected Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

Norfolk County Council
18 May 2015

Recorded Vote – Agenda Item Number 11 – Appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Service Committees.

Con – Conservative or Alliance

Con	Alliance	ABST.		Con	Alliance	ABST	
X			ADAMS Tony		X		JERMY , Terry
	X		AGNEW Stephen	X			JORDAN , Cliff
	x		ALDRED Colin		X		JOYCE , James
X			ASKEW Stephen			X	KEMP Alexandra
	x		BAKER Michael	x			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
	x		BEARMAN Richard	x			LAW Jason
	x		BIRD Richard	X			LEGGETT Judy
X			BLAKE Derek	x			LONG Brian
X			BORRETT Bill	X			MACKIE Ian
	X		BOSWELL Andrew	x			MONSON Ian
	X		BREMNER Bert	x			MOONEY Joe
	X		BROCIEK-COULTON Julie		X		MORGAN Elizabeth
X			BYRNE Alec		X		MORPHEW Steve
X			CARTTISS Michael		X		NOBBS George
	X		CASTLE Mick	X			NORTHAM Wyndham
X			CHAMBERLIN Jenny		X		PARKINSON-HARE Rex
	X		CHILDS Jonathon	Absent			PERKINS Jim
X			CLANCY Stuart	X			PROCTOR Andrew
	X		COKE Toby		x		RAMSBOTHAM David
	X		COLLIS David	x			RICHMOND William
	x		CORLETT Emma		X		ROPER Daniel
X			COX Hilary		X		SANDS Mike
	x		CRAWFORD Denis		x		SEWARD Eric
	x		DEARNLEY Adrian	X			SHAW Nigel
X			DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SMITH Matthew
Absent			DIXON Nigel	X			SMITH Roger
Absent			DOBSON John		x		SMYTH Paul
	X		EAST Tim	X			SOMERVILLE Margaret
X			FITZPATRICK Tom	X			SPRATT Bev
X			FOULGER Colin	X			STOREY Martin
X			GARROD Tom		X		STRONG Marie
	X		GIHAWI Deborah	X			THOMAS Alison
	X		GILMOUR Paul		x		THOMAS David
	x		GREY Alan		X		TIMEWELL John
X			GURNEY Shelagh	X			VIRGO Judith
	X		HACON Pat		x		WALKER Colleen
	X		HANNAH Brian	X			WARD John
	X		HARRISON David		x		WATKINS Brian
	x		HEBBORN Stan		X		WHITAKER Sue
x			HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of	X			WHITE Tony
x			HUMPHREY Harry	X			WILBY Martin
x			ILES Brian		X		WILKINSON Margaret

With 38 votes in favour of the Conservative proposal and 42 votes in favour of the Alliance Proposal and 1 abstention, it was duly **RESOLVED** that the proposal put forward by the Alliance was agreed.

Norfolk County Council

Item No. 6

Report title:	Residential and Non-Residential Charging Policy Associated with War Veterans¹
Date of meeting:	27 July 2015
Responsible Chief Officer:	Simon George, Executive Director of Finance
Strategic impact This report provides the Council with a review of the charging policy for Residential and Non-Residential care that is associated with War Veterans. The report highlights the representations made by the Royal British Legion as part of the national campaign, and identifies funding options as directed by the Policy and Resources Committee.	

Executive summary

The national campaign launched by the Royal British Legion on perceived unfairness around the policy of determining how much War Veterans in receipt of compensation following an injury in service prior to 5 April 2005 pay for social care has gained considerable local and national press exposure. To respond to the questions being raised, the Council has undertaken a review of existing charging policies as they affect War Veterans.

Changing the Council's policy on charging War Veterans who have returned to civilian life with serious injuries, to recognise the significant sacrifices they have made in the course of their duties, is a fair and proper response to this serious issue.

Following consideration by the Adult Social Services and Policy and Resources committees, this report has been remitted to Full Council for decision. At its meeting 23 March 2015, Policy and Resources Committee discussed the charging policy associated with War Veterans, and resolved that:

After the final Accounts have closed for the year, officers are asked to prepare considered funding options to be brought to the next available Council meeting after the Annual General Meeting.

This report accordingly makes recommendations as to how a revision of the charging policy as it relates to War Veterans could be funded.

Recommendations:

Full Council is asked to:-

- 1. Authorise officers to make the necessary policy changes to be able to fully disregard pre 1 April 2005 War Disablement Pensions when determining how much an individual must pay towards their residential and non-residential care costs, (save for the additional attendance allowance paid to some War Veterans to cover some of the costs of their care).**

¹ The term "War Veterans" in this report covers military personnel sustaining injuries in the course of their duties, who are in receipt of war disablement pensions.

- 2. Note that this policy change is estimated to affect 104 individuals (as at March 2015) and cost approximately £400k annually to implement.**
- 3. Approve that any 2015/16 cost relating to this policy change be funded from the additional £1.7m transferred to the Adults Reserve at the end of the 2014/15 financial year (as approved by P&R Committee).**
- 4. Note that this change will be effective from 6 April 2015 (the start of the current tax year) and that further work will be required to review the arrears and apply them to each individual affected.**
- 5. Note that the full year budget pressure from this policy change will be addressed as part of the budget setting process for 2016/17.**

1. Proposal

- 1.1 The Royal British Legion launched a national campaign in October 2013 that has received extensive local and national press coverage, which urges changes to charging policies around the treatment of War Veterans pensions and compensation to ensure consistency for all War Veterans in that all income derived from these sources is disregarded.
- 1.2 The War Pensions Scheme, which predates the introduction of the welfare state, provides a range of allowances in addition to the basic war disablement pension. Some of these allowances are designed to specifically pay for the ongoing care costs associated with an individual's disability and these are paid at a preferential rate, meaning that a war pensioner does not have to use their basic war disablement pension to meet these costs or seek other benefits to cover them.
- 1.3 In calculating how much an individual pays for their care, the current policies in place for charging for residential and non-residential care fully disregards compensation received by War Veterans made under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) but disregards only the first £10 of any pension awarded under the Armed Forces Pension Schemes (AFPS).
- 1.4 The current policies for charging for residential and non-residential care were recently reviewed to deal with the changes brought about by the Care Act, and are considered to be consistent with the Council's statutory policies. In addition the Council's charging policies are broadly consistent with most councils across England.
- 1.5 However, in recognising the significant sacrifices made by War Veterans who have returned to civilian life following an injury, it is the right thing for the Council to amend its policy to fully disregard War Disablement Pensions from income assessments carried out when means testing to determine how much an individual must pay towards their residential and non-residential care costs. This will help to ensure fair and consistent treatment for all War Veterans.

2. Evidence

- 2.1 The following table sets out details of the Royal British Legion's campaign alongside the Council's current policy.

Comment or statement from Royal British Legion	Current Charging Policy Treatment
<i>“Military compensation is awarded as recompense for the pain, suffering and loss of amenity experienced by injured Service personnel and veterans; it should not be treated as normal income.”</i>	Under current charging policies all Guaranteed Income Payments (GIP) made under Armed Forces Compensation Scheme are disregarded.
<i>“Veterans who were injured in Service on or before 5 April 2005 receive a War Disablement Pension, and are known as War Pensioners. Should a War Pensioner have social care needs, they will routinely find that their local authority takes all but the first £10 per week of their military compensation to cover the costs of their care.”</i>	Pensions awarded to former military personnel under the Armed Forces Pension Schemes or war widows pensions are paid as a Welfare Benefit rather than a compensation. The council will disregard £10 of this (in line with the guidance), any War Pension Mobility Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance above the middle rate of care, any payments made for the spouse or dependent children and any supplementary pensions paid to war widows /widowers.
<i>“This is despite the fact that a veteran with a similar injury, but who was injured on or after 6 April 2005 and therefore receives compensation through the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, is able to keep all of their compensation payments.”</i>	As above under current charging policies, Guaranteed Income Payments made to veterans under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme are fully disregarded.
<i>“It is unfair that War Pensioners are treated differently to other injured veterans. It is also unacceptable that War Pensioners are treated less favourably than civilians who have been injured in the work place, who are able to place compensation awarded into a trust fund, which is exempt from means tests for social care. This last point is in clear breach of the Armed Forces Covenant, which states that Service personnel, veterans and their families should face no disadvantage as a result of Service.”</i>	The council is following the national guidelines and are applying the same approach as neighbouring authorities including Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Thurrock.

2.2 The Royal British Legion has called upon the Government to:

“... amend the law to provide that local authorities must fully disregard both War Disablement Pensions and AFCS payments from income assessments carried out when means testing to determine how much an individual must pay towards their care costs, residential or otherwise; save for the additional attendance allowance paid to some War Pensioners to cover some of the costs of their care.”

2.3 The recommendation to Council set out in this report recognises that this is a fair and proper request and implements the changes called for by the Royal British Legion.

2.4 It should be recognised that the Department of Health has been working closely with the Royal British Legion to assess how the disregard for payments under the War Pension Scheme may be applied under the social care charging rules in the future. There has been an opportunity to address the fairness of the current system and how much individuals pay for social care through proposals that were out for consultation as part of the Care Act. This consultation closed on 30 March 2015 and the Government is currently considering the responses.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 A high level review of the 104 War Veterans identified, indicates that the approximate contribution they make to their care is £400k per annum. Officers have reviewed the options for funding this loss of income and it is recommended that the 2015/16 cost relating to this policy change be funded from the additional £1.7m transferred to the Adults Reserve at year-end (as approved by Policy and Resources Committee 1 June 2015).

3.2 It should be noted that if it is agreed to backdate the change in policy for this financial year, these changes would be effective from 6 April 2015. This is the date when any changes have been applied for the new tax year. In addition, further work will need to be undertaken to review the arrears and apply them to each individual case.

3.3 The full year budget pressure from this policy change will be addressed as part of the budget setting process for 2016/17.

4. Background

4.1 Appended is the policy paper from the Royal British Legion. (Appendix 1)

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

Officer Name:	Tel No:	Email address:
Simon George	01603 222400	simon.george@norfolk.gov.uk
Neil Sinclair	01603 228843	neil.sinclair@norfolk.gov.uk
Titus Adam	01603 222806	titus.adam@norfolk.gov.uk



If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 0344 800 8020 or 0344 800 8011 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.

Caring for our future: Consultation on reforming what and how people pay for their care and support

Submission from The Royal British Legion: Social care disregards for War Pensioners

Introduction

1. We welcome this opportunity to feed into the Government's consultation on social care funding. Although there is much to say on the topic, many of those arguments are being made concisely by other organisations with a more concentrated social care policy remit (e.g. Age UK and Leonard Cheshire Disability). The focus of this briefing is on one issue of specific concern to many veterans and those who work in the Service charity sector: namely, the need for the Government to provide a full disregard of military compensation payments when means testing to determine how much an individual has to pay towards their care costs.
2. Military compensation should not be regarded as income. The Oxford Dictionary definition of income is "money received, especially on a regular basis, for work or through investments".¹ The Government appears to have accepted this in principle, since military compensation is fully disregarded when means testing for Universal Credit. As laid out in further detail below, we believe that social care means testing must be brought in line with other Government policies, and to avoid doing so represents a failure to deliver on the Armed Forces Covenant principle of 'no disadvantage'.
3. We do, however, accept that the additional attendance allowance paid to some War Pensioners, which *is* designed to cover some of the costs of care, could be included in local authorities' income assessments, to ensure that the state is not paying out twice for the same care needs. The remaining payments, however, should be fully disregarded

About The Royal British Legion

4. The Royal British Legion (the Legion) safeguards the welfare, interests and memory of those who are Serving or have Served in the Armed Forces. We are one of the UK's largest membership organisations and are recognised as the custodian of Remembrance. The Legion is the largest welfare provider in the Armed Forces and veterans charity sector. We provide financial, social and emotional support to millions of Service personnel and veterans, as well as their dependants. In 2011/12, we spent, on average, £1.6m per week on our health and welfare work. For further information, please visit www.britishlegion.org.uk.
5. According to research commissioned by the Legion in 2006, around 60 per cent of adults in the ex-Service community were then thought to be aged over 65 years – a total of five million people in the UK. This constitutes around half of the UK population over retirement age. By 2020, it is forecast that the 85+ age group of veterans will increase by almost 220 per cent, from 290,000 to 920,000. This is the result of the final National Service generation reaching old age at a time when life expectancy is increasing.²
6. The Legion provides long- and short-term care to older people from the ex-service community across the UK in our six registered care homes. All homes provide personal and nursing care, and some also provide dedicated dementia care and respite care. Lister House currently has a specially designed wing to meet the needs of beneficiaries between the ages of 18 and 64

years. We also provide a number of community-based support services, including a handy van service and a community dementia support service through our Admiral Nurses.

7. The Legion also provides a number of welfare services to wounded, injured and sick Service personnel and veterans, and other working age disabled individuals. As well as investing in the development of the Battle Back Centre at Lilleshall and MOD Personnel Recovery Centres, we also assist disabled beneficiaries with accessing state benefits to enable independent living, and with War Pensions and compensation claims.

Policy context

8. The Legion was the key player in the Government's decision in 2011 to enshrine the Armed Forces Covenant in statute. The Covenant is the nation's recognition of its moral obligation to members of the Armed Forces and their families, and establishes how they should be treated, stating that the Armed Forces and their families "deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment". The two key principles underlying the Covenant are:
 - **'No disadvantage'**: the Covenant commits the Government to removing, where possible, disadvantage experienced as a result of Service. For example, when Service personnel and their families are posted somewhere new, they should not experience difficulty in getting their children into local schools.
 - **'Special treatment'**: for personnel and veterans who are injured as a result of their Service, or for families bereaved by Service, it is sometimes appropriate for the principle of 'special treatment' to be applied e.g. the provision of higher grade prosthetics for those who lose limbs as a direct result of their Service.
9. Service personnel and veterans who are injured or develop an illness as a result of Service, wholly or partly, can access compensation from the MOD. Those injured prior to on or before 5 April 2005 are eligible to claim under the [War Pensions Scheme](#). Those injured on or after 6 April 2005 can make a claim under the [Armed Forces Compensation Scheme](#) (AFCS).
10. The War Pension scheme provides regular payments to individuals dependent on the percentage of whole body injury, from 20 to 100 per cent. It also provides supplementary allowances to recipients. Many of these, such as the Constant Attendance Allowance, which provides for personal assistance at home, mirror the DWP payments of the same name. Those who develop these needs as a result of other illnesses or old age, and not the Service-induced condition for which they receive the War Pension, are not eligible for these additional allowances.
11. The AFCS pays a lump sum to all recipients and a non-taxable payment for life, known as the Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP), to the most severely injured. This scheme does not have additional supplements attached, but the Government has recently legislated to provide those with very high awards (50 per cent GIPs) automatic entitlement to a new benefit, the Armed Forces Independence Payment, which mirrors the new Personal Independence Payment (replacing Disability Living Allowance).
12. We recommend contacting the Service, Personnel and Veterans Agency at the MOD for further details of these schemes and their allowances.
13. Both compensation schemes are examples of the Armed Forces Covenant in action. Recognising that Armed Forces personnel take far greater risks with their health, as well as their lives, military compensation seeks to provide some recompense for the sacrifices made. **It is not, and should never be treated as, 'income'**. To do so would undermine the very

purpose of the scheme and, in treating military compensation in a different manner from compensation gained through civil litigation, would contradict the Armed Forces Covenant principle of 'no disadvantage'.

Social care disregards

14. It is not the purpose of the basic War Pension, nor the AFCS, to cover the costs of care needs which might arise from the Service-induced condition. Both are compensation payments for pain, suffering and loss of amenity; not occupational pensions or benefits. This is in part recognised by the Government's decision, in October 2012, to direct local authorities to exclude AFCS GIPs from social care means testing:

"In recognition of the contribution made by armed forces personnel injured whilst on active service, from 29th October 2012, they will no longer need to use Guaranteed Income Payments (GIPs) paid under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) to pay for care and support services arranged by local authorities."³

15. In contrast, when War Pensioners undergo the means testing process to determine how much they should pay towards their care costs, only the first £10 is disregarded. The rest is regarded as income. Why should social care means testing continue to regard all but the first £10 of War Pension payments as 'income', when Government policy elsewhere is clearly in favour of excluding it from this category? We see no justification for this disparity.
16. Parity between AFCS GIPs and War Pensions has already been achieved in relation to Universal Credit (UC), which rolls six different benefits into one payment. The means testing process for UC will fully disregard both AFCS GIPs and War Pensions, demonstrating that the Government recognises that neither should be viewed as 'income'.
17. When civilians pursue their employers for civil damages through the civil justice system, compensation is usually awarded as a lump sum, which is then disregarded as income for the first year, and then must be placed in a trust fund to ensure continued disregard. Alternatively, they may receive regular payments to cover the costs of future care. This places War Pensioners at a disadvantage compared with many civilians who are injured at work; a) because their basic compensation payments are not calculated to cover the costs of care; and b) because only the first £10 of their compensation payments are disregarded, whereas, if they had received a large lump sum and placed it in a trust fund, it could be disregarded.
18. The £10 disregard is also inconsistent with local authorities' other means testing policies. Legion research found that almost every council uses its discretion to provide a full disregard of military compensation from means assessments for council tax and housing benefit.
19. We recognise that there are complexities involved in assessing War Pensioners, due to the payment of an additional attendance allowance to some disabled veterans. But we would argue that a veteran receiving a War Pension for a condition which did not lead to any additional care needs, and thus did not receive any extra allowances for these care needs, should not be forced to pay more towards their care costs on the basis of compensation payments which bear no relation to their care needs.
20. We do accept that the additional attendance allowance paid to some War Pensioners, which is designed to cover some of the costs of care, could be included in local authorities' income assessments, to ensure that the state is not paying out twice for the same care needs. The remaining payments, however, should be fully disregarded.

Case study

At the age of 34, Roger Day sustained a severe injury to his leg when deployed to the Falklands during the conflict of 1982, resulting in a below-knee limb amputation. He subsequently left the Army and took over his father's butcher's shop, spending the rest of his working life running the shop. He received a War Disablement Pension for his injuries, to recognise the sacrifices that he made, but had no additional care needs, so did not receive any extra allowances under the War Pension Scheme. He suffered pain and discomfort throughout his working life but, with the assistance of an NHS prosthesis, he was able to continue working in a physical job until he retired in 2011, at the age of 63.

Aged 65, Roger has recently been diagnosed with early-onset dementia and requires additional care at home. He has not yet reached the needs threshold for residential nursing care, but his family applied to the local authority for assistance with meeting his care needs at home. Under current arrangements, only the first £10 of his War Pension is disregarded, and the rest is included in his income assessment. Essentially, the money he is being paid to recognise the suffering caused by his Service-induced injury is being treated as 'income'. As a result, his income is considered high enough for him to be able to cover his own care costs in full, and his family must find another way of paying for his care. This represents a failure to deliver on the Armed Forces Covenant principle of 'no disadvantage'.⁴

Recommendation

We urge the Government to amend the law to provide that local authorities must fully disregard both War Disablement Pensions and AFCS payments from income assessments carried out when means testing to determine how much an individual must pay towards their care costs, residential or otherwise; save for the additional attendance allowance paid to some War Pensioners to cover some of the costs of their care.

October 2013

Further information:

Harriet Deane, Policy Adviser – Health and Social Care
hdeane@britishlegion.org.uk – 020 3207 2126

¹ www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/income

² The Royal British Legion (2006). Profile and Needs of the Ex-Service Community 2005-2020: www.britishlegion.org.uk/media/33526/summary%20and%20cons.%20report.pdf

³ Department of Health (2012). Local Authority Circular 03: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/213043/Local-Authority-Circular-DH201231.pdf

⁴ This is a fictional case study and is included for illustrative purposes.

Norfolk County Council

Item No.7

Report title:	STATUTORY OFFICERS - CHANGES TO STANDING ORDERS
Date of meeting:	27 July 2015
Responsible Chief Officer:	Victoria McNeill Head of Law and Monitoring Officer
Strategic impact To comply with the mandatory standing orders prescribed in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015/881 (the “Regulations”)	

Executive summary

To inform members of a mandatory change in standing orders relating to the statutory officers and report on their implementation within the Council's Constitution.

Recommendations:

1. To note the report and to instruct the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer to implement the necessary changes to the Council's Constitution so as to comply with the Regulations.
2. To instruct the Acting Head of HR to establish a procedure for the appointment of, and the process to be followed by, the Panel in accordance with the Regulations.

Background

1. Every local authority is empowered to adopt standing orders to regulate its business and proceedings. The Secretary of State has the power to prescribe specific standing orders which must be incorporated in an authority's standing orders. The Council's standing orders are, in turn, part of the Council's Constitution.
2. Since 1993 mandatory standing orders have required that local authorities adopt particular provisions relating to the dismissal and disciplining of the council's statutory officers – the Head of Paid Service (the Managing Director at the County Council), the Monitoring Officer (the Head of Law at the County Council) and the Chief Finance, or Section 151, Officer, (the Director of Finance at the County Council).

These provisions gave some additional protection to those officers who have legal duties to act in the public interest. In a political environment that legal duty sometimes obliges those statutory officers to advise the Council against taking certain decisions that it wants to take.

The current regime in relation to Statutory Officers

3. The 2001 Standing Orders regulations required that prior to dismissal or the disciplining of these officers a “designated independent person” (“DIP”) be appointed by the authority to investigate the matter and make a binding recommendation to the Council in relation to that disciplinary action.
4. These provisions are reflected in the County Council’s current standing orders which say that no disciplinary action (apart from suspension) may be taken by the Council in respect of the Head of the Council's Head of Paid Service, its Monitoring Officer or its Chief Finance Officer, other than in accordance with a recommendation in a report made by a DIP.
5. The DIP has to be a person agreed between the authority and the relevant officer or, in default of such agreement, nominated by the Secretary of State.
6. The provisions have been changed by the new Regulations.

Context

7. The rationale for the proposed change, introduced under the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles, at the end of the last Government, was that the existing DIP process was bureaucratic and time consuming and often led to authorities making inflated severance payments to senior officers in order to avoid the need to follow the DIP process.
8. DCLG wrote to a limited number of stakeholders in 2013 seeking views on draft amendment regulations which would remove the requirement for a DIP. However the particular form of the legislation was laid before Parliament without any notice to the LGA or to local authorities.
9. Many statutory chief officers, including at present all Heads of Paid Service (through current JNC terms of employment) have contractual rights to the appointment of a DIP which continue unless the Council and the relevant officer agree otherwise.

The 2015 Changes

10. The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) Regulations 2015 remove the requirement for a DIP and provide that any decision to dismiss the relevant statutory officer must be taken by full Council.
11. The 2015 Regulations establish new procedures for the dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance.
12. The authority must invite independent persons (meaning persons appointed under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011), including the Council’s own independent person (currently Stephen Revell) to be considered for appointment to a Panel, with a view to appointing at least two such persons to a Panel.

13. The authority must appoint any Panel at least 20 working days before the Council meeting at which the disciplinary issue is considered.
14. Before deciding whether or not to approve a dismissal, the full Council must take into account, in particular -
 - (a) any advice, views or recommendations of the Panel;
 - (b) the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal; and
 - (c) any representations from the relevant officer.
15. In deciding what action to take in relation to one of the officers covered by the new Regulations the Council would need to be aware of any contractual obligations owed to that officer and, as the decision in relation to dismissal or disciplinary action is now that of the Council rather than a binding recommendation from a DIP, the susceptibility to legal challenge.

Recommendations:

1. To note the report and to instruct the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer to implement the necessary changes to the Council's Constitution so as to comply with the Regulations.
2. To instruct the Acting Head of HR to establish a procedure for the appointment of, and the process to be followed by, the Panel in accordance with the Regulations.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

Officer Name: Victoria McNeill **Tel No: 01603 223415**
Email address: victoria.mcneill@norfolk.gov.uk



If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 0344 800 8020 or 0344 800 8011 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.

Recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 1 June 2015

1. Annual Treasury Management Outturn Report 2014-15

The Committee **RESOLVED:**

To endorse and recommend to County Council, the Annual Treasury Management Report 2014-15.

Note by Head of Democratic Services

A copy of the report considered by the Committee (at item 11 of the 1 June agenda) can be viewed on the committee papers area on the County Council's website. A full copy will also be placed in the Members' Room.

George Nobbs
Chairman, Policy and Resources Committee

Recommendation from the Children's Services Committee Meeting held 7 July 2015

1 Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2015-16

- 1.1 The Committee received a report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services. The Norfolk Youth Justice Plan had been presented to Children's Services Committee on 10 March 2015 and subsequently to full Council on 18 May 2015. Council noted the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2015-16 and requested it be re-presented to Children's Services Committee for discussion and for further consideration of the details and recommendations contained in the report.
- 1.2 The Committee considered and **noted** the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2015-16 and recommended the Plan to full Council.

1.3 Note by Head of Democratic Services

A copy of the report considered by the Committee (at item 8 of the 7 July agenda) can be viewed on the committee papers area on the County Council's website. A full copy will also be placed in the Members' Room.

James Joyce
Chairman, Children's Services Committee

Recommendations of the Environment, Development and Transport Committee Meeting held on 10 July 2015

1. Norfolk's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

- 1.1 The Committee received the report from Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which sought the recommendation for the draft of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and accompanying documentation, following the previously approved public consultation process and subsequent draft amendments, for its adoption by Full Council. The Committee also agreed to authorise the Executive Director, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, to make any additions, corrections or non-material changes to the Strategy prior to it being considered by the Full Council,
- 1.2 The Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitats Regulation Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment is adopted by the Full Council.

Note by Head of Democratic Services

A copy of the report considered by the Committee (at item 13 of the 10 July agenda) can be viewed on the committee papers area on the County Council's website. A full copy will also be placed in the Members' Room.

Toby Coke
Chairman, Environment, Development and Transport Committee

Report of the Adult Social Care Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2015, 8 June 2015 and 29 June 2015

A Items from the meeting of 11 May 2015

1 Safeguarding Adults Annual report, presentation of Safeguarding DVD and Training Update

1.1 The report by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report presented the Safeguarding Adults Annual Report for 2014/15, introduced the Safeguarding Adults training video to address item 1.1 on the Safeguarding Adults Peer Review action plan, and addressed questions posed by the Adult Social Care Committee about Safeguarding Adults training.

1.2 The Committee **RESOLVED**;

- To note the Safeguarding Adults Annual Report for 2014/15.
- To note that the Safeguarding Adults DVD had been presented and discussed.
- To note that Councillors had received the information about Safeguarding Adults training, in response to their queries at the Adult Social Care Committee (ASCC) meeting held on 9 March 2015.

2. Update from Members of the Committee regarding any internal and external bodies that they sit on.

2.1 Members of the Committee reported on meetings they had attended.

3. Executive Director's Update

3.1 The Executive Director of Adult Social Services reported that since the last meeting of the Committee the department had focused on the financial pressures on the service, especially for purchase of care. Placement targets had been set within locality teams with the aim to reduce the number of individuals in residential care.

3.2 The Care Act had been implemented with all deadlines met. Approximately 700 staff had been trained on the aspects of the new legislation and the changes to delivering adult social care.

3.3 Time had also been spent on the new strategy Promoting Independence and working more with communities to strengthen independence and support people to stay in their own home. Work was continuing with integration with the NHS including Norfolk Community Health and Care.

4. Chair's Update

4.1 The Chair reported on meetings she had attended.

5. County Council decision making protocol in relation to the NorseCare

Liaison Board

- 5.1 The report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Service was received.
- 5.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Authorise the Executive Director of Adult Social Services in consultation with the Chair, together with spokespersons, to make the necessary arrangements to deliver the 'Building a Better Future' strategy in line with all legislative requirements and to delegate to him the power to take decisions on behalf of the Council that arise from time to time under the contract with NorseCare.

6. Adult Social Care Finance Monitoring Report Year End 2014-15

- 6.1 The report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report provided the Committee with financial monitoring information, based on information to the end of March 2015. It provided an analysis of variation from the revised budget, recovery actions taken in year to reduce the overspend and the use of the ASC reserves.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to note with concern;
- The draft revenue outturn position for 2014-15 was an overspend of £3.316m.
 - The recovery actions being taken in year to reduce the overspend.
 - The use of reserves.
 - The capital outturn position for the 2014-15 capital programme.

7. Risk Management

- 7.1 The report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report provided the Committee with an update on the Departmental Risk register since the update at the last Committee meeting.
- 7.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the changes to the risk register
 - Comment on the departmental risks and add, amend or remove any risks as appropriate.
 - Consider if any further action is required.
 - Request a further update at 29 June meeting.

8. ICT Developments in Adult Social Care

- 8.1 The report from the Executive Director was received. The report provided Members with an overview of ICT within Adult Social Care indicating what activity was planned, how it would help meet the objectives, timescales and whether the plan was on track.
- 8.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Request a report for the 29 June meeting which detailed ICT in Adult Social Services and how it affected the service.

9. Citizens Advice Bureaux

9.1 The report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The proposals to maintain and extend Norfolk County Council support for third sector information, advice and advocacy will contribute to promotion of individual wellbeing through preventing, reducing or delaying the need for care and support with early access to advice and information. The proposal would enable the Council to comply with statutory duties placed on local authorities by the Care Act 2014 to ensure the provision of information and advice relating to care and support for the whole population, not just those with care and support needs.

9.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;

- Approve that Norfolk County Council continue to invest at the current annual level (£363,837) in generalist advice for a further three years including CABx but develops a new funding agreement with CABx that requires bureaux to evidence their commitment to:
 - Offering consistent levels of service in all districts
 - Partnership working
 - Working with local communities to develop new and innovative ways to access advice particularly in rural areas and areas of deprivation
 - Recruiting and retaining volunteers
 - Measuring their impact and outcomes for people
- Approve that the Norfolk CAB and Mid Norfolk CAB services are partially decommissioned with a proportion of the total amount above, based on a fair per capita funding formula, being used to jointly commission and procure a generalist advice service with North Norfolk District Council from October 2015 for a period of up to three years.
- Approve that the rest of the funding is used to continue to fund generalist advice provision through Norfolk CAB, Mid-Norfolk CAB and Diss and Thetford CAB in their respective areas by working with the remaining district councils to jointly fund or align funding arrangements for CAB services in their area to meet both county and local priorities from 1 October 2015 on three year funding agreements.

10. The New Approach to Social Care – Promoting Independence in Norfolk

10.1 The Committee **AGREED** to defer this item to a meeting to be held on 8th June 2015 at 1pm.

B Items from the meeting of 8 June 2015

1 The New Approach to Social Care – Promoting Independence in Norfolk

1.1 The annexed report was received from the Executive Director Adult Social Services. The report proposed setting a new Council strategy for Adult Social Care with the aim of helping people to live independently wherever possible. The new Promoting Independence strategy would be part of the County Council's strategic approach, Re-imagining Norfolk.

1.2 The Committee **RESOLVED**;

- To endorse and champion the proposed development of a new strategy for adult social care and the associated development of a medium term financial plan.

C Items from the meeting of 29 June 2015

1. The Cost of Care in Adult Social Services – supplementary report

- 1.1 The report by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received.
- 1.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** (as an item of exempt business) to agree the recommendations set out in the report.

2. The Cost of Care in Adult Social Services – interim report

- 2.1 The report by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report explained that the Adult Social Care Committee considered a report on 9 March 2015 and approved a proposal to carry out a fundamental review of the usual cost this Council would expect to pay for the different groups of customers. In order to inform that decision, an exercise was being carried out to understand the actual costs of providing care in the residential care market which would set the benchmark for the cost of continuing health care in care homes.
- 2.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
 - Note the commencement of the review of the cost of care exercise and agree to receive a further interim report at the 7th September 2015 meeting.

3. Update from Members of the Committee regarding any internal and external bodies they sit on

- 3.1 Members of the Committee reported on meetings they had attended for internal and external bodies.

4. Executive Director's Update

- 4.1 The Executive Director of Adult Social Services reported that the efforts and the key focus of the department had been the budget. This included focusing on placement rates in residential care and home care.
- 4.2 Another key area of the Department's activity was transformation. They were promoting the independence strategy by strengthening work with communities, working with front door services to ensure that all needs in the communities were met, creating a business case for the reablement expansion, and reviewing the system for allocating personal budgets.

5. Chair's Update

- 5.1 The Chair reported on meetings she had attended and visits made in her capacity as Chair plus media events.

6. Exercise of Delegated Authority

- 6.1 The Executive Director of Adult Social Services reported that since the Committee had agreed to consult on the NorseCare Board plan, the consultation was underway. The results of the consultation would be brought to a future meeting of

the Committee

7. Internal and External Appointments

- 7.1 The report from the Executive Director of Resources was received. The report set out the internal and external appointments that were relevant to the Adult Social Care Committee.
- 7.2 The Committee **AGREED** the following appointments;
- The Chair and Cllr Julie Brociek-Coulton (replacing Cllr Gurney) be appointed to the Independence Matters Enterprise Development Board.
 - Cllr Sue Whitaker would remain on the Norfolk Council on Ageing.
 - Cllr Jim Perkins be appointed to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Trust – Governors' Council.
 - Cllr Sue Whitaker would remain on Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust – Partner Governor.
 - Cllr Elizabeth Morgan would remain on Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust Shadow Council of Governors.
 - Cllr Brian Watkins be appointed to Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Trust – Council of Governors.
 - Cllr Julie Brociek-Council would remain on the Governors Council of James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.
- 7.3 The Committee **AGREED** the following Adult Social Care Committee Champions;
- Mental Health – Emma Corlett
 - Carers – Julie Brociek-Coulton
 - Older People – Denis Crawford
 - Learning Difficulties – Elizabeth Morgan
 - Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment – Jonathan Childs

8. Performance Monitoring Report

- 8.1 The annexed report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. Performance monitoring and management information was designed to help the Committee undertake its key responsibilities – informing Committee Plans and providing contextual information to many of the decisions to be taken.
- 8.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9. Finance Monitoring Report Period 2 (May) 2015-2016

- 9.1 The annexed report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report provided the Committee with financial monitoring information, based on information to the end of May 2015. It provided an analysis of variations from the revised budget and recovery actions taken in year to reduce the overspend.
- 9.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the forecast outturn position at period 2 for 2015-16 Revenue budget

- of an overspend of £5.608m
- Note the planned recovery actions being taken in year to reduce the overspend
- Note the planned use of reserves
- Note the forecast outturn position at period 2 for the 2015-16 Capital Programme.

10. Re-Imagining Norfolk – Service and Financial Planning 2016-2019 for Adult Social Care

- 10.1 The annexed report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report explained that Re-Imagining Norfolk sets out a strategic direction for the Council which would radically change the role of the County Council and the way it delivers services. The report provided more detailed financial information specific to Adult Social Services to help inform planning. The Committee also received a presentation from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services.
- 10.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the framework and milestones for delivering Re-Imagining Norfolk and the Council's multi-year financial strategy
 - Note that Promoting Independence is the key response of this Committee to the Council's strategy, Re-Imagining Norfolk.
 - Commission the Executive Director to investigate potential models of 'services for the future' and prepare options of what these services could look like in three years' time, with 75% of addressable spend, for consideration by the Committee in September 2015.

11. ICT Planning within Adult Social Care

- 11.1 The report was received from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services. The report provided the Committee with details of the Adult Social Services ICT plan, indicating how the plan supported departmental priorities, how projects on the plan were progressing and monitored, any ICT budget overspends, whether departmental savings were impacted by delays in ICT delivery, and whether there were blockages with ICT delivery that impact on Adult Social Care.
- 11.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the contents of the report
 - Agree that a report would be brought to the next meeting.

12. Risk Register

- 12.1 The report from the Executive Director of Adult Social Services was received. The report provided the Committee with an update of the Departmental Risk Register.
- 12.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the changes to the risk register

Sue Whitaker
Chair, Adult Social Care Committee

Report of the Children's Services Committee Meetings held on 12 May 2015 and 7 July 2015

A Items from the meeting of 12 May 2015

1 Items of Urgent Business

- 1.1 The Interim Executive Director of Children's Services updated the Committee on the latest position with regard to the Hewett School. The Interim Executive Board (IEB) were finalising details of the consultation and had asked the Interim Executive Director and the Chairman of Children's Services Committee for their views. The minutes from the meeting held on 17 March would be used to feed back to the IEB and the Interim Executive Director agreed to keep the Committee updated on any developments.
- 1.2 Members were advised that the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services had sought assurance from the IEB that standards for the current pupils at the school were being maintained whilst the decision on the future of the school was awaited. She reassured Members that the Authority was regularly challenging the IEB to ensure this remained the case.

2 Children's Services Integrated Performance and Finance Monitoring Report

- 2.1 The Committee received and noted the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services providing an update on operational performance within Children's Services including Support for School Improvement, Social Care and Safeguarding and finance monitoring information for the 2014/15 financial year. The report also set out financial monitoring data for the period ending 31 March 2015 as well as the variations between the approved budget for 2014/15 and the actual spending during the year. The paper included an update on the Children's Services Revenue Budget, Capital Budget, School Balances and Children's Services Reserves and Provisions.

3 Signs of Safety Policy Statement and Outcome Framework Update

- 3.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services providing an update on the current position regarding the signs of safety outcomes framework.
- 3.2 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the Signs of Safety Policy Statement and **NOTED** the current position with regard to the Signs of Safety Outcomes Framework

4 Working together to support young carers and families.

4.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services. From 1 April 2015, the Children and Families Act 2014 and The Care Act 2014 introduced new duties for Local Authorities to adopt a whole family approach to the identification, needs assessment and provision of support to young carers, young adult carers and their families. The report set out the progress made to date in responding to the new duties and made proposals to support the strategic plans for ongoing implementation.

4.2 The Committee considered the report and **AGREED** that:

- The Committee endorsed the principles of the approach as set out in the report.
- The Director of Children's Services ensures that young carers, young adult carers and their families were a specific twelve month focus in the plans of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board and its sub-groups;
- There was a similar discussion with the Norfolk Safeguarding Children's Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board as to how they would prioritise the needs of young carers in their respective plans.
- The Chair of Children's Services Committee works with the Chair of Adult Social Care Committee to improve joint working across Directorates in respect of young carers and families.
- The Assistant Director of Early Help engages in a review of multi-agency commissioned services for young carers and their families.
- The Assistant Director of Education provides a strategy and action plan to achieve the improved identification, attendance, attainment, achievement and support of young carers by Norfolk's Education Service, Early Years providers, schools and colleges as part of the new inclusion service.
- Public Health be asked to update the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) in respect of young carers and families.
- The Director of Children's Services worked with the Chair of NSCB to deliver a programme of specialist multi-agency training and workforce development activities in 2015.
- A Joint Task and Finish Group with Adult Social Care be appointed to consider the recommendations made by Norfolk Young Carers Forum "Getting our voices heard" (as set out in section 5 of the report as a background paper).

5 Developing the children's system in Norfolk – working across the partnership

5.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services setting out how existing arrangements would be

strengthened and recommending the streamlining and refocusing of the work of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board, specifying its relationship with the Health and Wellbeing Board and clarifying the accountability and oversight provided by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children's Board. The report also suggested a methodology for continuous improvement that developed from effective planning for children as a whole partnership system. The report sits alongside the Signs of Safety work and supported the delivery of new approaches.

5.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** :

- To support the partnership developments outlined in the report and in particular endorsed the sub-group structure outlined at Appendix 1 of the report.
- Members requested an update on the work across the partnership at its next meeting on 7 July 2015.

6 Schools Capital Programme 2015-18

6.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services proposing the annual revision of the schools capital programme, originally approved by Cabinet in April 2014. The report detailed the new funding allocations received from the Education Funding Agency. The report was based upon the advice and recommendations of Capital Priorities Group at their meetings in January and March 2015.

6.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** to

- Approve the proposed revision of the 2014-17 schools capital programme, as set out in Annex A of the report, to become the working 2015-18 programme.
- Approve the overall direction of travel for capital prioritisation in forward years (as set out in section 3 of the report).

7 Consultation on a major change to School Organisation requiring the publication of a Statutory Notice

7.1 The Committee received the report by the Assistant Director for Education informing Members about the reasons behind, and the current progress of a statutory consultation on a proposal by Norfolk County Council, in agreement with the Diocese of Ely and the governors, to close William Marshall Voluntary Controlled Primary School in Welney.

7.2 The Committee agreed that the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services should remain in the meeting and listen to the discussion as this would assist her in making a decision on whether or not she should agree to publish a statutory public notice on the proposals to close William Marshall Voluntary Controlled Primary School in Welney.

7.3 Mr H Humphrey, County Councillor for Marshland South, spoke as Local Member about the possible closure.

7.4 The Committee **RESOLVED** to

- Note the contents of the report.
- Ask that the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services, after listening to the debate, using delegated powers, considers publishing a formal notice to propose the closure of William Marshall Voluntary Controlled Primary School in Welney.

8 Norfolk Safeguarding Children's Board (NSCB) Update

8.1 The Committee received the annual report and verbal update from David Ashcroft, Chair of the NSCB.

8.2 The Committee **noted** the report and that it had also been reported to the Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board, Norfolk County Council's Managing Director, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk and to partner agencies.

9 Healthy Child Programme

9.1 The Committee received and noted a verbal update from the Interim Director of Public Health.

10 Children in Care Sufficiency Strategy 2015-17

10.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services setting out the council's response to the statutory duty to ensure there were sufficient places for children who came into the care system. The strategy document set out how it was intended to meet the Sufficiency Duty as laid down in Section 22G of the Children Act 1989.

10.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to endorse the Children in Care Sufficiency Strategy as part of the policy framework for Children in Care in Norfolk and recognised the links to the Early Help Strategy.

11 Update to Committee on Norfolk Fostering

11.1 The Committee received a report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services updating the Committee on the current position regarding fostering. As part of the introduction of a Signs of Safety methodology, a number of procedures and policies in the Directorate were being revised. Given the contentious nature of fostering, these were being brought to committee to ensure appropriate oversight. The approach was aimed at improving practice and working towards preventing disruptions in foster care. The approach to revising the procedures was wholly in line with a sequenced piece of work

across the Directorate to bring the procedures in line with signs of safety approaches.

- 11.2 The Committee **noted** the report and update.

12 Accommodation Strategy

- 12.1 The Committee received the report from the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services setting out a proposal to support the strategic aims of the Children's Services improvement programme, deliver financial savings through reducing demand by meeting need better and align with corporate developments to deliver services more locally. Children's Services would ensure their accommodation strategy was at least cost-neutral in impact on revenue budgets within the current financial year by balancing additional accommodation costs with reduced costs of delivering services.

- 12.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to

- Endorse the principles of the approach set out as being essential to the implementation of the Children's Services improvement programme and the Getting in Shape restructure and agreed the Director of Children's Services proceed to implement the proposals in Section 1 of the report.
- Recommend that Policy & Resources Committee note this development of the Council's strategy for management of its property assets as complementing previous decisions to concentrate office services in three locations (Norwich, King's Lynn and Great Yarmouth) by providing suitable accommodation for the delivery of services direct to children and families on a locality footprint.

13 Exclusion of the Public

- 13.1 The Committee considered excluding the public whilst agenda item 18 was discussed and was presented with the public interest test, as required by the 2006 Access to Information Regulations for consideration.

- 13.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded whilst the report was considered.

14 Final Report by Members of the Children's Centres Task and Finish Group (re-convened).

- 14.1 The Committee received the report by the Chairman of the Children's Centres Task and Finish Group presenting it with options for the re-procurement of the service provided by Children's Centres at the end of the four year contract.

- 14.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to support the recommendations from the Task and Finish Group as set out in the report. Officers were delegated to progress options 1a or 2 and if these proved to be unsuccessful, bring a further report back to the Committee before option 4 was implemented.

- 15 The Committee placed on record its thanks to Michael Rosen and Andrew Haley for their work as Interim Directors over the last 18 months. Michael and Andrew would be leaving Norfolk County Council at the end of June and the Committee wished them well for the future.

The Committee also thanked Helen Wetherall for her service as an Interim Director and noted that Helen would remain at Norfolk County Council as Interim Director for the Adult Education Service.

B Items from the meeting of 7 July 2015

1 Chairman's Announcements

- 1.1 The Committee agreed to adjourn the meeting at 11.25 to allow Members to participate in the 1 minute silence for the victims of the 7/7 bombing attack in London on its 10th anniversary at 11.30am.
- 1.2 As this would be the last meeting Sheila Lock would be attending as the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services, the Committee placed on record its thanks for all the work Sheila had undertaken whilst in post. It was noted that although the new Executive Director of Children's Services, Michael Rosen, would not be formally taking up the role until 28 September, he would be taking the Director of Children's Services role for the next meeting.

2 Items of Urgent Business

- 2.1 The Interim Executive Director updated the Committee on the latest position with regard to the Hewett School. The consultation had now closed and a final report was being prepared which would be submitted to the Department for Education by Haslem Dodds.

Members also noted that the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services had met with a representative from the DfE and the Chief Executive of the Inspiration Trust regarding the ownership of the land where she had expressed the opinion that emerged from the children's spokespersons that the County Council should assume the freehold of the land.

The Local Authority was also working with the IEB to ensure that the standards for the current pupils at the school were maintained.

- 2.2 The Interim Executive Director updated the Committee about the progress of the Parker Review. 41 referrals had been made, with 25 of those meeting the criteria of the review. The Committee would receive an update at its meeting in September with the final report being presented to the Committee at its October meeting.

3 Child Sexual Exploitation

- 3.1 The Committee received and **noted** a presentation by Assistant Chief Constable Nick Dean about Child Sexual Exploitation and invited ACC Dean to provide the Committee with an update at a Children's Services Committee meeting in early 2016.

4 Children's Services Integrated Performance and Finance Monitoring Report

- 4.1 The Committee received and **noted** the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services providing an update on operational performance within Children's Services including Support for School Improvement, Social Care and Safeguarding and finance monitoring information for the 2014/15 financial year. The report also set out financial monitoring data for the period ending 31 May 2015 as well as the variations between the approved budget for 2014/15 and the actual spending during the year to date. The paper included an update on the Children's Services Revenue Budget, Capital Budget, School Balances and Children's Services Reserves and Provisions.

5 Fostering Agency Partnership

- 5.1 The Committee received and **noted** the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services detailing the development of the Fostering Advisory Partnership whose aims were to improve best practice and outcomes for Looked after Children and was asked to scrutinise and advise on the development of the Partnership.
- 5.2 The Committee welcomed Julia Spinks and Mark Buckle, two foster carers to the meeting. Mr Buckle was Chair of the Fostering Advisory Partnership.
- 5.3 The Committee requested an update of the work of the Partnership at its November meeting.

6 Internal and External Appointments

- 6.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Resources setting out the internal and outside appointments relevant to Children's Services Committee.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to appoint Members to the external bodies, internal bodies and Champions positions as set out in Appendix B of the minutes.

7 Developing Norfolk's self-improving school system in the light of the Education and Adoption Bill 2015.

- 7.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services summarising existing Council policy on sustaining high

quality leadership, providing a snapshot of the Norfolk school system, it outlined pertinent features of the Education and Adoption Bill and it described work underway by the Local Authority's partners. The paper outlined the role of the Local Authority in responding to the likely new environment.

7.2 Members were asked to support the direction of travel described in this paper. Specifically members were asked to support the proposed role for Local Authority officers in helping to forge strong, collaborative and local leadership to enable the required support for weaker schools from stronger schools through the local partnerships described in this paper.

7.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** to support the direction of travel as outlined in the report. Specifically, to support the proposed role for Local Authority officers in helping to forge strong, collaborative and local leadership to enable the required support for weaker schools from stronger schools through the local partnership described in the report.

8 Re-imagining Norfolk – service and financial planning 2016-19 for Children's Services.

8.1 The Committee received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services, which was presented to each service committee to set out the plans in relation to the budget. The report provided detailed financial information specific to Children's Services to inform planning. The Committee received a presentation from the Interim Executive Director of Children's Services highlighting the context, opportunities, risks and performance challenges to help inform future scenario planning for the service.

8.2 The Committee **agreed** to hold a series of workshops to try to agree how services could be redesigned to meet the requirement to provide services with only 75% of the current budget by 2018/19. Members asked that consideration should also be given to inviting relevant Partners to attend the workshops to take part in the discussions.

8.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** to

- Note the framework and milestones for delivering Re-imagining Norfolk and the Council's multi-year financial strategy.
- Agree the outcomes – or results – that the Committee plans to achieve in its areas of responsibility in pursuit of the Council's priorities.
- Commission executive directors to investigate potential models of 'services for the future', and prepare options of what these services could look like in three years time, with 75% of addressable spend for consideration by the Committee in September 2015.

James Joyce
Chairman, Children's Services Committee

Report of the Communities Committee Meetings held on 13 May and 1 July 2015

A Items from the meeting of 13 May 2015

1. To receive any items of business which the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency

- 1.1 The Chair reported that there was an item of urgent business which would be deferred to the end of the meeting as an exempt item titled 'Health Child Programme 0-19'. It had to be taken as urgent due to the time sensitivity of the report.

2. Update on Key Service Issues and Activities

- 2.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided Members with fortnightly updates about key service issues and activities. The update enabled Members to discuss the latest position and identify any areas where the Committee would like to receive further information or update.

2.2 The Committee **RESOLVED:**

- To review the latest service update at Appendices A to E and identify any areas where the Committee would like to receive further information or update.

3. Norfolk Domestic Abuse Change Programme

- 3.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report explained the Norfolk Domestic Abuse Change Programme which would improve how Domestic Abuse was identified and tackled. The focus of the Change Programme is on prevention and early intervention, ensuring a non-acceptance culture.

3.2 The Committee **RESOLVED to:**

- Agree the four key improvement areas identified in the report.
- To note that the help could be given through libraries, registrars and the Customer Service Centre. Updates could also be given to the Committee via the fortnightly update that the Committee receives.
- To note that Cllr Harry Humphrey was a member of the Norfolk County Community Safety Partnerships Scrutiny Sub-Panel.

4. Norfolk Adult Education Service – Member Steering Group Update

- 4.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report updated the Committee on the work of the Steering Group for Norfolk Adult Education Service.
- 4.2 The Committee heard that the Adult Education service had appointed an Interim Head of Service, Helen Wetherall, whom it was anticipated would be in post until the next Ofsted inspection.
- 4.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the progress being made by the Adult Education Steering Group.

5. Interim Report of the Norfolk Library and Information Service Review Group

- 5.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The interim report updated the Committee on the progress being made on the Member review of the Norfolk Library and Information Service (NLIS).
- 5.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:
- Note the progress being made with the review of the Norfolk Library and Information Service.
 - Encourage elected members to use libraries (including the mobile service) for holding their surgeries.
 - Approve the definition of a ‘comprehensive and efficient’ service.

6. Fire and Rescue Review – Interim Report from the Member Working Group

- 6.1 The report from the member working group was received. The working group had been established to undertake a strategic review of Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service and present recommendations on its future.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:
- Review the initial report at Appendix A of the report and identify any additional areas for consideration by the working group.
 - Agree the draft strategic vision for 2020 which would inform the future direction of the service.
 - Approve Councillor Harry Humphrey as a replacement for Councillor Hilary Cox on the working group.

7. The Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014 SI 2014/2848 Scheme Manager Discretions

- 7.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report was presented to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014.
- 7.2 The Committee **AGREED** the following:
- Discretion Pensionable Pay Regulation 17: continual professional payments would be treated the same.

- Discretion contributions during absence from work due to illness, injury, trade dispute, or authorised absence (regulation 111): the Scheme employer would require the Scheme member to pay employer contributions in the case of trade dispute or authorised absence and may require the Scheme member to pay employer contributions in the case of absence from work due to illness, but will not require the scheme member to pay employer contributions in the case of injuries sustained whilst carrying out authorised duty.
- Discretion Delegation (Regulation 5): that the Chief Fire Officer, or his / her nominated deputy, is given delegated authority to authorise all other scheme discretions as they arise, subject to the agreement of the Executive Director of Finance.

8. Establishment of Local Pension Board for the Firefighter's Pension Scheme

- 8.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report was presented to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Public Services Pensions Act 2013 as it relates to the establishment of local pension boards.
- 8.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:
- Agree that, in order to comply with the requirements of the Public Services Pensions Act 2013, a Local Pension Board is established for the Fire-Fighter Pension Schemes with effect from 1st April 2015.
 - Agree that a terms of reference for the Board would be based on the model terms of reference produced by the LGA, as attached to the report.
 - Agree that the Chief Fire Officer, or nominated deputy, is given delegated authority to establish the Board and make decisions on the daily administration of the Scheme.

9. Retirement of the Chief Fire Officer

- 9.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report requested consent for the retirement of the Chief Fire Officer. Under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 Norfolk County Council is the Fire and Rescue Authority for the County.
- 9.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:
- Approve the request to retire and note the final date of employment as 29 September 2015.

10. Forward Plan for Communities Committee

- 10.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report set out the Forward Plan for the Committee. The Forward Plan is a key document for the Committee to use to shape future meeting agendas and items for consideration, in relation to delivering communities issues in Norfolk.
- 10.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;

- Review the Forward Plan and identify any additions, deletions or changes to reflect key issues and priorities the Committee wishes to consider.

11. Exclusion of the Public

- 11.1 The Committee excluded the public from the meeting under section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 for consideration of the item below on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.
- 11.2 The Committee was presented with the conclusions of the public interest tests carried out by the report author and resolved to confirm the exclusion.

12. Healthy Child Programme 0-19

- 12.1 The exempt report from the Interim Director of Public Health was received.
- 12.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Agree on the award of the contract to Cambridgeshire Community Health Trust.

B Items from the meeting of 1 July 2015

1. Update on Key Service Issues and Activities

- 1.1 The Committee received and **noted** the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided Members with fortnightly updates about key service issues and activities. The update enabled Members to discuss the latest position and identify any areas where the Committee would like to receive further information or updates.

2. Re-Imagining Norfolk – Service and Financial Planning 2016-19 for Communities

- 2.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report provided detailed financial information specific to Communities Committee to inform planning. To help frame the discussion for the Committee, the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services gave a short presentation highlighting context, opportunities, risks and performance challenges to help inform future scenario planning for the service.
- 2.2 The Committee discussed various ways in which it could work with other service departments to provide support and recognised that there would need to be some very difficult decisions made to meet the very challenging demand for services, whilst at the same time making the necessary budget savings.
- 2.3 The Committee agreed that it was too early in the process to agree the outcomes, or results, that the Committee planned to achieve in its areas of responsibility in pursuit of the Council's priorities.

- 2.4 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:
- Note the framework and milestones for delivering Re-imagining Norfolk and the Council's multi-year financial strategy.
 - Commission Executive Directors to investigate potential models of 'services for the future' and prepare options of what these services could look like in three years' time, with 75% of addressable spend, for consideration by the Committee in September 2015.
- 3. The Director of Public Health Annual Report**
- 3.1 The Committee received and **noted** the presentation on the Public Health Annual Report from the Interim Director of Public Health.
- 3.2 The Interim Director of Public Health would be presenting the Annual Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board at its next meeting on 15 July. Once finalised, the report would be circulated to all Members and published on the JSNA (Joint Special Needs Assessment) website.
- 3.3 The Committee **noted** the presentation.
- 3.4 As this was the last Communities Committee Lucy MacLeod would be attending before she left the County Council, the Committee thanked her for the work she had carried out whilst Interim Director of Public Health and wished her well for the future.
- 4. Communities Committee Finance Monitoring Report at Period 02 2015-16.**
- 4.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report provided the Committee with information on the latest monitoring position for the Committee for 2015-16 and information on emerging issues and the position on the expected use of reserves for Communities purposes.
- 4.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to note:
- The forecast revenue outturn position for 2015-16 as at Period 02.
 - The forecast capital outturn position for the 2015-16 capital programme.
 - The current forecast for use of reserves.
- 5. Performance and Risk Monitoring Report – Q4**
- 5.1 The report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received. The report reviewed the Quarter 4 (January to March 2015) performance results for the service areas covered by the Communities Committee as well as giving a year-end review of performance as a whole during the year 2014-15.
- 5.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the report.

6. Internal and External Appointments

- 6.1 The report from the Executive Director of Resources was received. The report set out in the appendix to the report, the outside and internal appointments relevant to Communities Committee.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the appointments to the external bodies, internal bodies and Champions position as set out in Appendix C of the minutes.
- 7. In response to a question from the Chair, the Conservative Group Spokesperson briefly confirmed his party's position on participation in committee working groups.

Paul Smyth
Chair, Communities Committee

Report of the Environment, Development and Transport Committee Meetings held on 15th May 2015 and 10th July 2015.

A – Items from the meeting of 15th May 2015

1. Items of Urgent Business

- 1.1 The Chairman allowed Cllr East to raise an issue regarding a matter that had been raised at the January EDT meeting regarding the provision of healthcare on new housing developments. The Committee had written to the relevant member in DCLG but agreed that the response that had been received from central government was not satisfactory. The Committee agreed unanimously that the Chairman would write another letter to Brandon Lewis MP as the Minister for Housing and Planning and that the letter should also be sent to the Minister for Health, Mr Alistair Burt and also to all the Norfolk MP's.
- 1.2 The Chairman allowed Cllr Bird to raise an issue regarding the repairs being carried out along the coast following the Tidal Surge in December 2013 and whose responsibility this was; local communities, Environmental Agency or the local authority. The Chairman assured the members that this issue would be coming to a future meeting.

2. Public Rights of Way: feedback on a new approach to service design and community engagement.

- 2.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which updated members on progress being undertaken and the new ways of working that had been introduced in regards to the Public Rights of Way.

3. Finance Monitoring Report

- 3.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided information on the outturn for the relevant services from the Community and Environmental Services department, for 2014-15. It provided information on variances from the original budget, emerging issues and the position on the use of reserves for those services.

4. Update from the previous Economic Development Sub Committee

- 4.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which gave an update from the Economic Development Sub-Committee (EDSC) meeting on 19 March 2015.

5. Rail investment and improvement in Norfolk: Update on current Position

5.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which set out in detail the current position relating to rail improvements and how these might be secured.

5.2 The Committee **agreed** that Members continue to work with government and the rail industry to secure the best outcomes for Norfolk.

6. Recommendations of the Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum

6.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which outlined the Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum terms of reference and recommendations.

6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to support the recommendations of the Norfolk Duty to Cooperate Member Forum to:-

1. develop a non-statutory strategic framework addressing the identified strategic matters; and
2. To appoint Mr Richard Coke as the representative and Mr John Timewell as the substitute for Norfolk County Council on the Norfolk Duty to Cooperate Member Forum.

7. Decisions taken under delegated authority – update

7.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided an update on decisions taken under delegated powers by the Director in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman up to 30 April 2015.

8. Forward Plan for Environment, Development and Transport Committee

8.1 The Committee received and **agreed** the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which set out the items/decisions programmed to be brought to this Committee for consideration in relation to environment, development and transport issues in Norfolk.

B – Items from the meeting of 10th July 2015.

1. Items of Urgent Business

- 1.1 The Chairman brought to the Committees attention the response that had been received from Brandon Lewis MP regarding the Committee's letter about growth, development and health care provision.
The Committee **Agreed** that the response was unacceptable and another letter should be written by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee to Mr Lewis to firmly ask for a thorough response.
- 1.2 The Chairman brought to the Committee's attention that at the recent A47 Alliance meeting it had been mentioned that to ensure that the next phase of A47 projects would immediately follow on from those already agreed (Acle Straight and Tilney to East Winch sections) a business plan had to be brought and presented to the Minister. The Committee **Agreed** the business plan should be produced.
- 1.3 The Chairman brought to the Committee's attention that with the Northern Distributor Road possibly getting the green light in the next couple of months a report should be produced which would include a business plan for extending the last section of the road to join the A47 to the west of Norwich.
Mr S Clancy proposed, seconded by Mr A White that a report should be produced. This was **Agreed** by the Committee.

2. Developing Re-imagining Norfolk

- 2.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which set out the strategic direction for the Council which would radically change the role of the County Council and the way it delivered services.
- 2.2 The Committee **AGREED** to:-
- Note the framework and milestones for delivering Re-imagining Norfolk and the Council's multi-year financial strategy
 - the outcomes – or results – that the Committee plans to achieve in its areas of responsibility in pursuit of the Council's priorities.
 - Commission executive directors to investigate potential models of 'services for the future', and prepare options of what these services could look like in three years' time, with 75% of addressable spend, for consideration by the Committee in September 2015.

3. Update from the previous Economic Development Sub Committee

- 3.1 The Committee received and noted the update from the May 2015 Economic Development Sub-Committee meeting.

4. Better Broadband for Norfolk – 6 Monthly Update

- 4.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which outlined the progress made in the

delivery of the first Better Broadband for Norfolk contract, and the procurement of the second.

5. Broadband and Mobile Phones – update from the Member Working Group

- 5.2 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which set out an update from the Broadband, Mobile Phone and Digital Members Working Group in relation to mobile phone coverage in Norfolk.
- 5.3 The Committee noted the progress that had been made and **Agreed** the next update to Committee will be in six months to coincide with the Better Broadband for Norfolk update.

6. Internal and External Appointments

- 6.1 The Committee received the report from the Head of Democratic Services which outlined the outside and internal appointments relevant to the EDT Committee.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to appoint the Members as set out in Appendix A of the minutes.

7. Norwich Area Transportation Strategy (NATS)/Northern Distributor Route (NDR) update

- 7.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided an update on progress made so far on NATS ('Transport for Norwich' - TfN) and set out the forward plans for delivery in the short, medium and longer term periods.
- 7.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:-
- re-confirm commitments already made in delivering the proposals as part of the NATS Implementation Plan ('Transport for Norwich'), which were updated and agreed by Cabinet in November 2013 and to endorse the projects set out in the report as part of the ongoing commitment to deliver the Transport for Norwich plan. This was required for DfT full approval funding for the NDR.
 - to delegate the Director of CES, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, the Executive Director of Finance and Head of Law, to agree details to be submitted to DfT as part of the Full Approval process.
 - note that a further report will be brought back to members following on from the agreement of the target cost and completion of the Full Approval Process with DfT, to confirm their funding contribution. It should be noted that a special meeting of the Committee will be convened if necessary to align with the construction timescales set out in this report.

8. Review of the Norfolk Rights of Way Improvement Plan

- 8.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which outlined the review of the Norfolk Rights of Way

Improvement Plan.

- 8.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to endorse the Norfolk Rights of Way Improvement Plan Strategic Review document.

9. Property Level Protection Grant Scheme

- 9.1 The Committee received the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which outlined the proposed grant scheme which would help install measures at up to 17 eligible properties within the Eastern Regional Flood & Coastal Committee boundaries, flooded during 2014, which would significantly lower their risk of internal flooding.
- 9.2 The Committee **AGREED** the suggested delivery process for the grant scheme, as detailed in the report.

10. Finance Monitoring report

- 10.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided the Committee with information on the latest monitoring position for the relevant services from the Community and Environmental Services department, for 2015-16. It provided information on variances from the original budget (revenue & capital) emerging issues and the position on the use of reserves for those services.

11. Q4 performance and risk monitoring report

- 11.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which reviewed quarter four (January to March 2015) performance results for service areas that were covered by the Committee.

12. Decisions taken under delegated authority – update

- 12.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided an update on decisions taken under delegated powers by the Director in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman up to 22 June 2015.

13. Forward Plan for Environment, Development and Transport Committee

- 13.1 The Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which set out the items/decisions programmed to be brought to this Committee for consideration in relation to environment, development and transport issues in Norfolk.

Toby Coke
Chairman, EDT Committee

Report of the Economic Development Sub-Committee Meetings held on 20 May 2015 and 13 July 2015.

A - Items from the meeting of 20 May 2015

1 Items of Urgent Business

- 1.1 The Chair proposed that Mr J Timewell be appointed as interim Chair of the Scottow Enterprise Members Working Group until the official appointments at the July round of Committee meetings; this was considered urgent as an important meeting for the group was taking place the following week and new leadership needed to be in place.
- 1.2 The Chair proposed that a new task and finish group that would focus on areas of poor economic opportunity. It was Agreed that Mr R Bird would chair this task and finish group and that the terms of reference would be brought to the meeting in July for the Sub-Committee to agree.

2 Update from Member Working Groups

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee received verbal updates from members for the following outside bodies:-

Norfolk Rail Group

- The franchise was expected to be completed in 2016.
- The Sub-Committee **Agreed** that a paper should be brought to the next meeting which would outline the priorities to be inputted into the franchise so that members could discuss.
- The Ely loop was recognised as a constraint and studies were considering what could be done to improve this important junction at the smallest cost was being looked into.

Scottow Enterprise Park Working Group

- The first phase of the solar farm built on the Scottow Enterprise Park had been completed.
- A potential new entrance to the site was under negotiation with landowners.

Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex China Partnership

- There had been discussions about the possibility of Norwich Museum receiving a Terracotta Warriors exhibition from Nanjing but the logistics required meant it may not be feasible.
- Ex-Officio member Mr G Nobbs agreed that he would speak with Mr S Miller, Head of Norfolk Museum Service and report back to the Chair of the Sub-Committee.
- Leader of the Council Mr G Nobbs reappointed Mrs C Walker to deputise for him on this body.

3. Member Champion for Apprenticeships

- 3.1 The Sub-Committee received the report from the Executive Director, Community

and Environmental Services, which outlined the role of the Member Champion for Apprenticeships and invited members to elect one of their number to carry out the role.

- 3.2 The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** to appoint Mrs C Walker to the role of Member Champion for Apprenticeships.

4. Finance and Performance Monitoring report

- 4.1 The Sub-Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services, which provided the Sub-Committee with the financial position for the service to the end of April, including the planned use of reserves.

5. Norfolk Infrastructure Fund – Future Investment

- 5.1 The Sub-Committee received the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services, which responded to a proposal to use the NIF to improve the coverage of mobile phone signals in Norfolk. The report explained that this would not be possible for legal and practical reasons but instead outlined a suggested proposal for using the NIF to enable businesses to access superfast or ultrafast (100 Mbps+) broadband.
- 5.2 The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED:-**
1) That members agree to develop the benefits of a scheme to enable identified clusters of businesses to access Superfast or Ultrafast broadband.
2) That a more detailed proposal will be brought to July Economic Development Sub-Committee.

6. Forward Plan

- 6.1 The Sub-Committee received the report which set out the Forward Plan for the Economic Development Sub-Committee.
- 6.2 The Sub-Committee **Agreed** the updated Forward Plan.

B – Items from the meeting of 13th July 2015

1. Items of Urgent Business

- 1.1 The Chair allowed Mr B Spratt to raise a matter regarding the disruption to email service for Members for the last 7 days and asked that a paper be provided to explain the reasons for this.
The Sub-Committee **Agreed** that ICT should report to all members the reasons for the disruption to the email service.
- 1.2 The Chair allowed Mr M Wilby to raise a query regarding the re-opening of Great Yarmouth Racecourse as any delay would cause disruption to local businesses. Mr J Childs informed the Sub-Committee that he had been made aware that the Racecourse should re-open on 30 August 2015.

2. Updates from Member Working Groups

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee received updates from the following member working groups:-

Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex China Partnership

Mrs C Walker informed the Sub-Committee that the next meeting was due to be held on the 18th August.

Mrs C Walker also reported that she had been to a meeting at the House of Commons with Mr D Dukes, organised by EEEgr (East of England Energy Group) to raise the profile of the energy sector in our area with ministers and civil servants. The new decommissioning facility at Great Yarmouth was also announced.

In response to a comment from Mr S Clancy about the need to lobby for the third river crossing in Great Yarmouth, she reported that the Chair of the LEP, Mark Pendlington, had offered to help produce the business case for the Crossing and would attend an all-party meeting with the minister responsible – to be requested..

Mr Clancy proposed, seconded by Mrs C Walker that the Chair write to the LEP and to Brandon Lewis MP to show that the Norfolk County Council Economic Development Sub-Committee supported this important issue and to help gain support from the local MP. This was **Agreed** by the Committee.

3. Internal and External Appointments

- 3.1 The Committee received the report from the Head of Democratic Services which outlined the outside and internal appointments relevant to the Economic development Sub-Committee.
- 3.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to appoint the Members as set out in Appendix A of the minutes.

4. Scottow Enterprise Park Update

- 4.1 The Sub-Committee received the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services, which provided the Sub Committee with an overview of the progress made in regenerating Scottow Enterprise Park.
- 4.2 The Sub-Committee noted the update and **Agreed** that:
- In the event a Charitable Heritage Trust is formed in relation to the former RAF Coltishall, the Sub-Committee would wish to nominate three representatives to act as Trustees and representatives of the Council
 - The Scottow Working Group should nominate these representatives.

5. Economic Opportunity in North West Norfolk

- 5.1 The Sub-Committee received the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services which outlined the proposed approach for the new task and finish group.

5.2 The Sub-Committee **Agreed**:

- That the proposed list of officers and Members to be involved in the new task and finish group would be e-mailed to the Sub-Committee Chair that the Group start with a review of the economic opportunity in an area of North West Norfolk, to be defined at the first meeting, reporting back to the Sub-Committee in due course.

6. East Anglia Rail Franchise

- 6.1 The Sub-Committee received the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services, which outlined the current position of the East Anglia Rail Franchise.
- 6.2 The Sub-Committee **Agreed** to continue to work with government and the rail industry to secure the best outcomes for Norfolk.

7. Finance and Performance Monitoring report

- 7.1 The Sub-Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services which provided the Sub-Committee with the financial position for the service to the end of June, including the planned use of reserves.

8. Forward Plan

- 8.1 The Sub-Committee received and noted the report from the Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services, which set out the Forward Plan for the Economic Development Sub-Committee.

Colleen Walker
Chair, Economic Development Sub-Committee

Report of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 18 June 2015

1 Election of Chairman

- 1.1 Mr I Mackie was elected Chairman of the Audit Committee for the ensuing year.

2 Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr R Smith was elected Vice-Chairman of the Audit Committee for the ensuing year.

3 Risk Management Report (1st Quarter 2015-16)

- 3.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance providing it with an update of the Corporate Risk Register and other related matters following the latest review conducted. The update also included details of the twenty risks currently included within the Corporate Risk Register.
- 3.2 The Committee received an update from Janice Dane, the Assistant Director Early Help and Prevention on risk number RM14079 (Failure to meet the long-term needs of older people) and the initiatives being undertaken by Adult Social Care Department to address the risk.
- 3.3 The Committee considered and **noted** the report.

4 Report on Business Continuity

- 4.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director Community and Environmental Services providing an overview of Norfolk County Council's Business Continuity arrangements to ensure the Authority had the capability to continue service delivery at acceptable predefined levels following a disruptive incident.
- 4.2 The Chairman welcomed Jan Davis, Resilience Manager, to the meeting who answered questions from the Committee on the work of the Resilience Team and how they worked with partners and agencies to ensure business continuity and emergency plans were in place in the event of serious incidents.
- 4.3 Members considered that the link between officers and Members in the event of an emergency or incident should be strengthened and asked that

some thought be given as to how senior Members could be more effectively engaged in resilience preparation, response and recovery.

- 4.4 The Committee noted that the Communities Committee had overall responsibility for Business Continuity and Resilience and would therefore take the lead committee role in the event of any emergency. The Chairman would write to the Chairman of Communities Committee, asking that the Committee review all Business Continuity arrangements, in particular how the role of senior members could be strengthened.
- 4.5 The Committee **noted** the report and recognised the importance of Business Continuity Management to the continued effective delivery of council services following a disruptive incident.

5 Norfolk Pension Fund – External Auditor’s Audit Plan 2014-15.

- 5.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance introducing the External Auditor’s Audit Plan 2014-15. The plan was one of certain communications that EY must provide to the Audit Committee of the audited client. The Pensions Committee will receive the plan for approval at its meeting on 8 July 2015.
- 5.2 Mr P King from External Auditors EY attended the meeting to answer questions from the Committee.
- 5.3 The Committee considered the External Auditor’s Audit Plan and **NOTED** the plan would be reviewed by the Pensions Committee for approval at its meeting on 8 July 2015.

6 Monitoring Officer’s Annual Report 2014-15

- 6.1 The Committee received and **noted** the report by the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer summarising the internal governance work carried out by the Monitoring Officer in 2014-15 and providing assurance that the organisation’s control environment, in the areas which were the responsibility of the Monitoring Officer, were adequate and effective. The Annual Report supported the assurance statements included in the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2014-15.

7 Anti-Fraud and Corruption Update

- 7.1 The Committee received the report by the Practice Director Norfolk Public Law (NPLaw) providing an update for the Committee on the Council’s Anti-Fraud and Corruption activity for the period from January to May 2015.
- 7.2 The Committee **recommended** again that all staff be mandated to undertake e-learning training on fraud awareness.
- 7.3 The Committee **noted** the report, in particular that

- A statement regarding the adherence to the Code had been included in the Council's Annual Governance Statement, as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Managing the Risk of Fraud.

There were no actions arising from the:

- The Government's UK Anti-Corruption Plan which had no direct actions for Local Councils and direction was awaited from DCLG in due course.
- The NFI progress report.
- The Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy 2014 remained fit for purpose.
- The work to date by Norfolk Audit Services, that there had been adequate progress and the plan for future work as set out in Appendix D of the report.

8 Norfolk Audit Services Quarterly Report for the Quarter ended 31 March 2015.

- 8.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance setting out how Norfolk Audit Services fulfils the internal audit function for the Council as required by the relevant regulations and confirmed that the audit opinion was 'acceptable'; there was satisfactory progress with the High Priority Findings action plans and that changes had been required to the agreed Internal Audit Plan 2015-16 and that the Plan still met its purpose.
- 8.2 The Committee requested an update on traded services at its next meeting, particularly Traded Schools Audit services and how these services could be promoted to academies and free schools as an opportunity to generate income.
- 8.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** that:
- The overall opinion on the effectiveness of risk management and internal control being 'acceptable' and therefore considered 'sound'.
 - The changes to the approved 2015-16 Norfolk Audit Services Plan, as set out in Appendix C of the report.
 - Satisfactory progress with the traded schools audits and the preparations for an Audit Authority for the France Channel England Interreg Programme.

9 Norfolk Audit Services Annual internal Audit Report 2014-15

9.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance, updating the Committee on the work of the team and how the work of Internal Audit had made a significant contribution to the Council's priorities.

9.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to note:

- The overall opinion on the effectiveness of risk management and internal control for 2014-15 was 'acceptable' and therefore considered 'sound'.
- The internal audit function had fulfilled its Terms of Reference, Strategy and provided assurance and added value through its substantial (90%) delivery of the Committee's approved Internal Audit Plan for 2014-15, including traded schools audits and grant certifications.
- Work was continuing to manage performance and the cost of audit assignments.
- The work of Norfolk Audit Services for the year and the assurance provided assisted the Committee to reasonably assess the risk that the Financial Statements were not materially mis-stated due to fraud.
- The Annual Governance Statement for 2014-15 would make reference to this report and would be reported to the Committee in September 2015 for approval.
- The Internal Audit Function continued to comply with the Accounts and Audit Regulations and recognised standards including the United Kingdom Public Sector Internal Audit Standard (UKPSIAS).

10 Annual Update of the Audit Committee 2014-15

10.1 The Committee received the report by the Chairman of the Audit Committee, setting out the details of the work carried out by the Audit Committee in the year ended 31 March 2015 and confirming that the Committee's Terms of Reference, purpose and core functions were consistent with best practice, demonstrated the impact of its work and how it added value.

10.2 The Committee **noted** the report, in particular that the Committee:

- Was independent of the executive function, reported directly to full Council and had terms of reference that were consistent with CIPFA's guidance and best practice as set out in the CIPFA Position Statement 2013;
- Provided effective challenge across the Council and independent assurance on the system of internal control, including the management of risk to members of the public.

- Could demonstrate the impact and value of its work, and
- Was monitoring the Secretary of State's plans for the Future of Local Public Audit.

11 Financial Regulations Update

11.1 This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

12 Audit Committee Work Programme

12.1 The Committee received and **noted** the report by the Executive Director of Finance (Interim) setting out the programme of work for the Committee.

Ian Mackie
Chairman, Audit Committee

Report of the Planning Regulatory Committee Meeting held on 19 June 2015

1 Election of Chairman

Mr B Long was elected Chairman of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee for the ensuing year.

2 Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr M Sands was elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

3 Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk: C/2/2015/2006: Tottenhill: Extension to quarry (MIN 75) with installation of ground conveyor with culvert to accommodate conveyor: Watlington Quarry, Land at Home Farm, Tottenhill Row, Watlington, King's Lynn, PE33 OJN: Frimstone Ltd.

- 3.1 The Committee received a report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services outlining the planning application for an extension to Watlington Quarry, on land to the south of Home Farm, near Tottenhill Row. The proposed extension contained approximately 335,000 tonnes of mineral which would take four years to extract. Permission was sought for a five year time period in order to allow extraction of the existing quarry to be completed.
- 3.2 The Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was authorised to:
- i) Grant planning permission subject to a Section 106 Legal Agreement in respect of ensuring Home Farm was not occupied during extraction, and the conditions in section 12 of the report.
 - ii) Discharge conditions (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) where those detailed in the report required the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commenced, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
 - iii) Delegate powers to officers (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.

- 4 Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk: C/2/2015/2007: Tottenhill: Variation of conditions 1 and 3 of planning permission C/2/2011/2013 to allow continued use of plant site until 1 August 2020 to service the proposed quarry extension (MIN 75): Watlington Quarry, Watlington Road, Watlington, King's Lynn, PE33 0RG: Frimstone Ltd.**
- 4.1 The Committee received a report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services outlining the planning application to extend the life of the plant site to accommodate the processing of mineral from the proposed quarry extension at Home Farm, Watlington (MIN 75 planning ref C/2/2015/2005). The variation application was considered in tandem with the quarry extension application at Home Farm as the two were inherently linked.
- 4.2 The Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was authorised to:
- i) Grant planning permission subject to a deed of variation to an existing Section 106 relating to long term aftercare and the provision of a permissive footpath and the conditions outlined in section 12 of the report.
 - ii) Discharge conditions (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) where those detailed in the report required the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commenced, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
 - iii) Delegate powers to officers (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.
- 5 C/7/2014/7030: Southern Extension to Mangreen Quarry and ancillary works with progressive restoration to agriculture and nature conservation by the importation of inert restoration material; Retention of existing consented facilities, establishment of a crossing point over Mangreen Lane and proposed variation to the approved restoration scheme. Development by Lafarge Tarmac.**
- 5.1 This item was withdrawn.
- 6 C/2/2015/2010: Methwold: Application for an underground gas pipeline and associated compound/structures (additional works in conjunction with approved anaerobic digestion plant)**
- 6.1 The Committee received a report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services outlining the planning application for a development of a 2.8 kilometre underground gas pipeline and associated compound, in order to connect a permitted anaerobic digestion (AD) plant (the planning permission had been implemented but the development not completed) to the National Grid.

- 6.2 The application had been submitted to the Planning (Regulatory) Committee as it had been submitted with an Environmental Statement and assessed in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011.
- 6.3 The Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was authorised to:
- i) Grant planning permission subject to the conditions outlined in section 12 of the report.
 - ii) Discharge conditions (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) where those detailed in the report required the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commenced, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
 - iii) Delegate powers to officers (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.
- 7 C/5/2015/5008: Frettenham: Variation of condition 1 of permission ref. C/5/2009/5019 to extend the timescale for the retention of storage containers, mess unit, fenced compound and car parking for a further 5 years (until 30 March 2020)**
- 7.1 The Committee received a report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services outlining the planning application to vary condition 1 of permission reference C/5/2009/5019 to extend the timescale for the retention of storage containers, mess unit, fenced compound and car parking for a further five years until 30 March 2020. The application was being considered by the Planning (Regulatory) Committee because it had been made on behalf of the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services.
- 7.2 The Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was authorised to:
- i) Grant planning permission subject to the conditions outlined in section 12 of the report.
 - ii) Discharge conditions (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) where those detailed in the report required the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commenced, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
 - iii) Delegate powers to officers (after discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee) to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.

Brian Long
Chairman, Planning (Regulatory) Committee

**Report of the Standards Committee
Meeting held on 26 June 2015**

1. Election of Chairman

- 1.1 The Committee elected Ian Monson as Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman

- 2.1 The Committee elected Alec Byrne as vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

3. Standards and Conduct: Performance and Monitoring Report

- 3.1 The Committee received a report from the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer which updated the Committee on member standards and conduct at the County Council from the period 1 October 2015 to 26 June 2015.
- 3.2 The Committee **RESOLVED**
- To note the Council's performance in relation to member standards and conduct during the period 1 October 2014 to 26 June 2015.

4. Member's Interests

- 4.1 The Committee received a report from the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer which updated Members on declarations of interest compliant with the Localism Act 2011.
- 4.2 The Committee **RESOLVED**
- To note the report.

5. Standing Orders and Statutory Officers

- 5.1 The Committee received a report from the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer which updated Members on a mandatory change in standing orders.
- 5.2 The Committee **RESOLVED**;
- To note the report.

6. Training Update for Standards Committee Members

- 6.1 The Committee received a report and presentation from the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer which provided Members of the Standards Committee with up-to-date training on matters of standards and ethical conduct.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED**;
- To note the report.

**Ian Monson
Chairman, Standards Committee**

Report of the Norfolk Records Committee Meeting held on 19 June 2015

1. Appointment of Co-Opted Members

- 1.1 The report from the Head of Democratic Services was received. The Committee were asked to take the opportunity to consider the appointment of all three co-opted Members and one observer Member (all without voting rights) for the period 2014/2015.
- 1.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Appoint Mr M Begley, Prof C Rawcliffe and Prof R Wilson as co-opted Members, and Dr V Morgan as an observer.

2. Performance and Risk Report

- 2.1 The report received covered the final financial position and risk management assessment for the Norfolk Records Committee in 2014/15 as at 31st March 2015.
- 2.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the performance with the revenue budget and reserves and provisions for 2014/15.
 - Note the management of risk for 2014/15.

3. Norfolk Records Committee Annual Accounting Statements 2014-15

- 3.1 The report was received by the Committee which introduced the Annual return required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011.
- 3.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Approve the accounting statements as set out in Appendix A, Section 1 of the report and approve its signing by the Chairman.
 - Approve the Annual Governance Statement as set out in Appendix A, section 2 of the report and approve its signing by the Chairman and County Archivist.
 - Note the Annual Internal Audit Report as set out in Appendix A, section 4 of the report together with the note set out in Appendix B of the report.

4. Norfolk Record Office Fees and Charges

- 4.1 The report was received by the Committee which presented the annual review of charges made by the Norfolk Record Office.
- 4.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Approve the charges outlined in the appendix to the report.

5. Medium and Long term Planning for Norfolk Record Office

- 5.1 The report was received by the Committee which provided Members with background information on the Re-Imagining Norfolk proposals which were presented to NCC Policy and Resources Committee on 1 June 2015 and to afford Members an opportunity of providing input into that process at an early stage.
- 5.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the contents of the report.
- 6. Partnership Project Updates**
- 6.1 The report was received by the Committee which highlighted that the NRO was working with various partners to secure funding for archive projects.
- 6.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to;
- Note the contents of the report.

Dr C. J. Kemp, Chairman

Report of the Norfolk Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 19 June 2015

1 Norfolk Museums Service – Integrated Finance and Risk Monitoring Report for 2014/15

- 1.1 The Joint Committee noted the NMS final revenue budget, capital programme and reserves and provisions positions for 2014/15 and that the NMS had achieved a break-even budgetary position at year-end. The Joint Committee also noted progress with the management of risk within the NMS.

2 Norfolk Audit Services Annual Internal Audit Report 2014/15

- 2.1 The Joint Committee noted the Norfolk Joint Museums Committee Annual Internal Audit Report for 2014/15, and the key message, based on an analysis of the audit work carried out and reports issued, meant that Norfolk Audit Services could assure the Joint Committee of the adequacy and efficiency of internal control, including the arrangements for Risk Management during 2014/15 were “acceptable” and therefore considered sound.

3 Norfolk Museums Service – Performance & Strategic Update Report

- 3.1 The Joint Committee received a report that provided an update on early performance against the NMS Service Plans for 2015/16.
- 3.2 The Joint Committee **Resolved-**
1. To note progress with the delivery of the 2015/16 budget and performance against 2015/16 Service Plans, especially the new income generation targets.
 2. To note progress with the ongoing review of the Joint Museums Agreement which was expected to be completed shortly, following individual approval by all the partners, and that an update on the latest position regarding the renewal process would be emailed to Members of the Joint Committee following the meeting.
 3. To note progress regarding the Voices from the Workhouse project at Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse and that Members would be kept fully informed of developments at future meetings of the Area Museums Committee and of the Joint Committee.
 4. To approve the Norfolk Museums Development Foundation Fundraising Strategy and Action Plan for 2015-18 following detailed comments from the Trustees of the Norfolk Museums Development Foundation.
 5. That the Joint Committee place on record thanks to all the Friends organisations for the continued and valued support that they provide to the NMS.

4 NMS Collections Management Strategy 2015-18

- 4.1 The Joint Committee approved a revised Collections Management Strategy which ensured that NMS accreditation policy documents met the current standards of the Museums Accreditation Scheme and were in line with national standards.

5 Progress with Development and Re-Display of the Medieval Keep at Norwich Castle Keep

- 5.1 The Joint Committee received a report and a PowerPoint presentation that updated Members on progress with the development and re-display of the Medieval Keep at Norwich Castle Keep.
- 5.2 The Joint Committee noted that a key element of the project would be the partnership with the British Museum to establish a permanent regional presence through a British Museum Early Medieval Gallery in the Castle Keep. NMS staff were working with officers from Historic England towards the release from HM Treasury of the £1 million start-up grant for the project.
- 5.3 The Joint Committee **Resolved-**
1. That the report be noted.
 2. That the Joint Committee be asked to consider at its next meeting a submission that the NMS could make in December 2015 of a Stage 1 application to the HLF for the development and re-display of the Medieval Keep at Norwich Castle.
 3. That the Joint Committee also be updated at its next meeting on other possible sources of funding for this project.

**John Ward
Chairman**

Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee Report of the meeting held on 4 June 2015

1 Transport for Norwich (Norwich Area Transportation Strategy) Delivery Update.

- 1.1 The Committee received and **noted** the report updating members on the progress of the implementation of Transport for Norwich (TfN), the implementation plan for the NATS strategy and to highlight recent successful funding bids resulting in further schemes to be taken forward to consultation and delivery in the future.
- 1.2 During discussion members commented on the various elements of the strategy and its implementation and welcomed the new title for the strategy, Transport for Norwich. The Committee was advised that the strategy had been reviewed in 2013 and the implementation plan updated.
- 1.3 The Committee discussed the Northern Distributor Road (NDR) and its impact on the city centre and also considered concerns about the effect of out-of-town retail centres.

2 Norwich Area Transportation Strategy / Implementation Plan Golden Ball Street and Westlegate.

- 2.1 The report by the Head of City Development Services and Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services was received by the Committee. The report sought approval to consult on the proposals for the Golden Ball Street and Westlegate project and Members were also asked to approve the advertisement of Traffic Regulation Orders that would be required to enforce the final scheme.
- 2.2 The Committee noted that it was intended that the consultation would be conducted over four weeks from the end of June 2015. There was a tight timescale for implementation and it was intended that works would commence in January 2016 and last for 20 to 25 weeks. There would be a clear communications strategy for this scheme.
- 2.3 **RESOLVED** with 3 voting members voting in favour (Councillors Morpew, Stonard and Harris) and 1 voting member voting against (Councillor Adams) to:

- (1) approve for consultation the proposals included in the Golden Ball Street project, including:
- (a) conversion of Golden Ball Street to two-way for general traffic.
 - (b) pedestrianisation of Westlegate with access for deliveries and cyclists only.
 - (c) removal of general traffic from Red Lion Street to create a bus, cycle and taxi only route with access for deliveries only.
 - (d) reconfiguration of John Lewis car park access on Ber Street to enable right turn in and out in addition to existing movements.
 - (e) conversion of Farmers Avenue to two-way for general traffic between the Castle Mall car park entrance and its junction with Golden Ball Street.
 - (f) reconfiguration of Rouen Road/Cattle Market Street junction to remove traffic signals and improve cycle/pedestrian facilities.
 - (g) removal of traffic on Farmers Avenue between its junctions with Castle Meadow and Orford Street, with access for cyclists and pedestrians retained.
 - (h) removal of through traffic from All Saints Green, from its junction with Surrey Street northwards, and removal of all traffic from All Saints Street, except for use by buses when St Stephens Street, Red Lion Street or Castle Meadow are closed.
 - (i) removal of traffic signals at St Stephens Plain - Westlegate/St Stephens Street/Red Lion Street/Rampant Horse Street junction.
 - (j) removal of existing turning bans at St Stephens Plain, with provision of right turn for buses from Rampant Horse Street into St Stephens Street, and left turn from St Stephens Street into Rampant Horse Street.
 - (k) closure of Thorn Lane at its junction with Ber Street, with the provision of a turning area at the closed end.
 - (l) removal of the signal controlled pedestrian crossing at Castle Meadow/Farmers Avenue junction, with provision of a raised table crossing in its place.
 - (m) provision of raised table crossing on Ber Street at junction with Golden Ball Street/Timberhill.
 - (n) the removal of the banned left turns for cyclists from St Stephens Street into Rampant Horse Street, and from Westlegate into St Stephens Street.
 - (o) the ability for buses to use All Saints Green and All Saints Street on occasions when Castle Meadow is unavailable on occasions such as during events i.e. Lord Mayor's Procession, or when closed for maintenance works.
 - (p) alterations to the on-street waiting restriction in Ber Street and Rouen Road to remove the two existing disabled

parking spaces from the east side of Ber Street, and replacing them with 4 spaces on the east side. Removing the existing bus stop, and providing a coach bay, removing 2 'Pay and Display' parking spaces from the east side of Ber Street, and adding 9 additional P&D spaces on at the northern end of Rouen Road;

- (2) ask the transportation and network manager, Norwich City Council, to carry out the necessary statutory procedures associated with advertising the Traffic Regulation Orders that would be required for the implementation of the scheme as described in this report;
- (3) agree that the outcome of the proposed consultation will be reported to a future meeting of the committee.

3 Major road works – regular monitoring

The Committee received and **noted** the report updating Members of the current and planned future roadworks in Norwich.

Steve Morpew
Chairman, Norwich Highways Agency Committee