

# Norfolk County Council

Date: **Monday 23 September 2019**

Time: **10.00 a.m**

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

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

## WEBCASTING

This meeting will be filmed and streamed live via YouTube on the NCC Democratic Services channel. The whole of the meeting will be filmed, except where there are confidential or exempt items and the footage will be available to view via the Norfolk County Council CMIS website. A copy of it will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy. Members of the public may also film or record this meeting. If you do not wish to have your image captured, you should sit in the public gallery area. If you have any queries regarding webcasting of meetings, please contact the committee Team on 01603 228913 or email [committees@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:committees@norfolk.gov.uk)

## Prayers

## AGENDA

### 1. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on (Page 5)  
22 July 2019

### 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
- any body-
  - (a) exercising functions of a public nature
  - (b) directed to charitable purposes: or
  - (c) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union);

of which you are in a position of general control or management.

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

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

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

Procedure note attached (Page 28)

**6. Cabinet Recommendations**

Meetings held on 5 August and 2 September 2019 (Page 30)

**7. Cabinet Report (Questions to Cabinet Members)**

Procedure note attached (Page 33)

Meetings held on 5 August and 2 September 2019 (Page 35)

- Strategy & Governance
- Growing the Economy
- Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention
- Children's Services
- Commercial Services & Asset Management
- Communities and Partnerships
- Environment & Waste
- Finance

- Highways, Infrastructure & Transportation
- Innovation, Transformation & Performance

## **8. Committee Reports**

### **Scrutiny Committee**

Meetings held on 22 & 30 July 2019 (Page 41)  
 Meeting held on 17 September 2019 (To Follow)

### **Corporate Select Committee**

Meeting held on 16 July 2019 (Page 43)

### **Infrastructure & Development Select Committee**

Meetings held on 17 July & 11 September 2019 (Page 45)

### **People and Communities Select Committee**

Meetings held on 19 July and 13 September 2019 (To Follow)

### **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Meetings held on 25 July & 5 September 2019 (Page 49)

### **Audit Committee**

Meeting held on 29 July 2019 (Page 52)

### **Planning Regulatory Committee**

Meetings held on 26 July & 6 September 2019 (Page 54)

## **9. Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees (Standard Item)**

- (i) To note any changes made under delegated powers since the last meeting;
- (ii) To consider any proposals from Group Leaders for changes to committee places or consequential positions.

## **10. Notice of Motions (Page 57)**

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

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

Date Agenda Published: 13 September 2019

**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](mailto:greg.insull@norfolk.gov.uk)

## **Norfolk County Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting Held at 10am on Monday 22 July 2019**

**Present:**

Mr A <b>Adams</b>	Mr K <b>Kiddie</b>
Mr T <b>Adams</b>	Mr M <b>Kiddle-Morris</b>
Mr S <b>Aquarone</b>	Mr B <b>Long</b>
Ms J <b>Barnard</b>	Mr I <b>Mackie</b>
Mr D <b>Bills</b>	Dr E <b>Maxfield</b>
Mr B <b>Borrett</b>	Mr G <b>Middleton</b>
Mr R <b>Brame</b>	Mr J <b>Mooney</b>
Mrs J <b>Brociek-Coulton</b>	Mr S <b>Morphew</b>
Mrs S <b>Butikofer</b>	Mr G <b>Nobbs</b>
Mrs P <b>Carpenter</b>	Mrs J <b>Oliver</b>
Mr M <b>Castle</b>	Mr R <b>Oliver</b>
Mr S <b>Clancy</b>	Mr G <b>Peck</b>
Ms K <b>Clipsham</b>	Mr G <b>Plant</b>
Mr D <b>Collis</b>	Mr R <b>Price</b>
Mr E <b>Colman</b>	Mr A <b>Proctor</b>
Mr E <b>Connolly</b>	Mr W <b>Richmond</b>
Ms E <b>Corlett</b>	Mr D <b>Roper</b>
Mr S <b>Dark</b>	Mr D <b>Rowntree</b>
Mrs M <b>Dewsbury</b>	Mr M <b>Sands</b>
Mr D <b>Douglas</b>	Mr E <b>Seward</b>
Mr P <b>Duigan</b>	Mr C <b>Smith</b>
Mr F <b>Eagle</b>	Mr T <b>Smith</b>
Mr J <b>Fisher</b>	Mr M <b>Smith-Clare</b>
Mr T <b>FitzPatrick</b>	Mr B <b>Spratt</b>
Mr C <b>Foulger</b>	Ms S <b>Squire</b>
Mr A <b>Grant</b>	Mr B <b>Stone</b>
Mrs S <b>Gurney</b>	Mrs M <b>Stone</b>
Mr R <b>Hanton</b>	Mr M <b>Storey</b>
Mr D <b>Harrison</b>	Dr M <b>Strong</b>
M Chenery of <b>Horsbrugh</b>	Mr H <b>Thirtle</b>
Mr H <b>Humphrey</b> (Chairman)	Mrs A <b>Thomas</b>
Mr B <b>Iles</b>	Mr V <b>Thomson</b>
Mr A <b>Jamieson</b>	Mr J <b>Timewell</b>
Mr T <b>Jermy</b>	Mrs K <b>Vincent</b>
Mrs B <b>Jones</b>	Mrs C <b>Walker</b>
Dr C <b>Jones</b>	Mr J <b>Ward</b>
Ms A <b>Kemp</b>	Mr B <b>Watkins</b>
	Mr A <b>White</b>
	Mr F <b>Whymark</b>
	Mr M <b>Wilby</b>
	Mrs S <b>Young</b>

**Present: 78**

## **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Askew, Cllr C Bowes, Cllr N Dixon.

## **1 Minutes**

- 1.1 The minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 7 May 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **2 Chairman's Announcements**

- 2.1 The Chairman announced with great sadness the passing of Roy Blower. Roy had served his community in so many ways, as a County Councillor, City Councillor and Lord Mayor of Norwich and was famous for his love of Norwich City Football Club. The Chairman also announced the recent passing of former County Councillor for Holt 2013-2017 and North Norfolk District Councillor, Michael Baker. The Council stood for moment's silence in their memory.
- 2.2 The Chairman had been fortunate enough to welcome to our County, HRH The Earl of Wessex who visited Banham Zoo as well as other venues. He had also welcomed HRH The Countess of Wessex at the Royal Norfolk Show who is President of the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association this year.
- 2.3 The Chairman travelled to Westminster Abbey to attend a service for Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell, the Norfolk nurse and heroine of the First World War. A service also took place at Norwich Cathedral on 15th May to commemorate the centenary of Edith Cavell's re-interment in the Cathedral
- 2.2 The Chairman outlined a few of the many visits he had undertaken since the last meeting, including:
- Attending the Lord Mayor Making in Norwich and the Mayor Making in King's Lynn.
  - Attending the Change of Command Ceremony at RAF Mildenhall.
  - Attended the Queens Dragoon Guards annual reception at Swanton Morley and to mark the beginning of Armed Forces Week, held a flag raising ceremony at County Hall.
  - Carers Support Day at The Forum in Norwich which Norfolk County Council held to celebrate the huge contribution that carers play in people's lives.
  - Choral Evensong at Norwich Cathedral giving thanks to Sir Richard Jewson, KCVO marking his retirement as HM Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk as well as acting as formal host for his official retirement reception at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse. Members agreed for the Chairman to write, on behalf of the Council, a letter to Sir Richard Jewson, KCVO to thank him for his remarkable and exemplary tenure as Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk
  - Taking part in the annual Lord Mayor's procession which was a very colourful event.
  - Attending the Kings Lynn Festival Civic Service and, the High Sheriff's reception at The Hippodrome Gt Yarmouth.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 Cllr B Long declared an interest in item 12.4 as, being registered disabled, was in receipt of a Personal Independence Payment (PIP).
- 3.2 Cllr B Spratt declared an interest as the Church Warden for Talconeston and member of the Upper Tas Valley Christian Group.
- 3.3 Cllr C Jones declared an interest in item 12.3 as he was a Governor of Future Education, a specialist SEND provider in Norwich.

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

- 4.1 There were no items of urgent business.

### **5 Questions to Leader of the Council**

#### **5.1 Question from Cllr D Douglas**

- 5.1.1 Cllr Douglas asked that bearing in mind Norfolk has seen many training providers close in the County over last few years, did the Leader feel that the administration in Norfolk was facing challenges in the provision of vocational training in Norfolk and if so, what was he doing about it?

- 5.1.2 The Leader replied that the most important thing with training is that everyone can get access to as much training as they possibly can. The Leader had recently spoken at a construction event about access to training which they can provide and others can provide and secondly how NCC can use their apprenticeship levy, and working with others using their apprenticeship levy to ensure there is sufficient training for everyone.

#### **5.2 Question from Cllr E Maxfield**

- 5.2.1 Cllr Maxfield asked if the Leader could provide an update on the preparations of a potentially no deal Brexit?

- 5.2.2 The Leader responded that in terms of preparations for Brexit regardless of the deal that was agreed, a considerable amount of preparation over a matter of time with the Local Enterprise Partnership and other organisations had happened. It was important to now focus on what was going to happen but unfortunately that was uncertain. He was confident that the plans are in place and whenever it happens there was a plan to meet the future.

#### **5.3 Question from Cllr M Castle**

- 5.2.1 Cllr Castle asked the Leader to agree that the abandonment of the Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Deal had seriously disadvantaged NCC's ability to prioritise infrastructure projects in the County, especially A47 dualling, in an era where devolved regions have secured greater influence over such matters. Cllr Castle asked if the Leader would re-visit the issue and talk to other East Anglian local authorities with a view to achieving progress on Devolution once Brexit is concluded.

- 5.2.2 The Leader replied that with regards to the dualling of the A47, there had been a huge amount of ongoing work to get the A47 dualled and there had been a commitment of £300 million. However, the regrettable position now was that the

agency that provided the development work had not delivered. With regards to devolution, the Leader explained that there had been attempts with the Norfolk Authorities to think about working better together for the future, and how NCC with other authorities in Norfolk and Suffolk work together with the Local Enterprise Partnership to get more money into the area. The Mayor of Peterborough and Cambridgeshire has had success with money brought down but now had the issue of how to spend it.

**5.3 Question from Cllr C Walker**

5.3.1 Cllr Walker explained that, as he may be aware, Pride was taking place on Saturday. She asked the Leader if he would send a message of welcome to Pride and its many supporters and help Norfolk embrace diversity.

5.3.2 The Leader responded that he embraced diversity from all perspectives but wouldn't be marching due to another commitment.

**5.4 Question from Cllr S Aquarone**

5.4.1 Cllr Aquarone asked the Leader what his advice to Cllr Adams would be as Chair of the Joint Highways Agency Committee if an elected councillor of another authority appointed to that committee wanted to attend whilst also being banned from the County Hall building.

5.4.2 The Leader responded that he hoped as a Councillor of many years standing, Councillor Adams wouldn't find himself in that situation.

**5.5 Question from Cllr J Ward**

5.5.1 Cllr Ward asked if the Leader would join him in congratulating Steve Miller and the Museums Service on the successful acquisition of the magnificent Turner painting 'Walton bridge' saved from export and purchased, helped by a £2.1million national lottery grant.

5.5.2 The Leader agreed and replied that the Museums Service had a record of good success rate in achieving a lot for the service and with this addition for Norfolk, it was demonstrating active work and being pro-active in what it was doing.

**5.6 Question from Cllr S Squire**

5.6.1 Cllr Squire explained that the Local Government Ombudsman had upheld 31 complaints against the Council in the last 12 months. She asked the Leader to tell the Council how much this had cost the Council in compensation and how many more cases were in the pipeline as a result of not doing jobs properly.

5.6.2 The Leader replied that wouldn't agree with the stance of not doing jobs properly and didn't have those figures to hand but they would be provided.

**5.7 Question from Cllr F Eagle**

5.7.1 Cllr Eagle asked the Leader to explain how Norfolk County Council as an organisation was promoting Norfolk as a place not just to visit but to come and live and promote the excellent career opportunities in Norfolk.

5.7.2 The Leader responded that it was important to think firstly about what Norfolk had to offer including jobs, businesses, housing developments and infrastructure and all other opportunities. No-one wanted the county to be spoiled by becoming an overdeveloped area but work was being carried out in conjunction with the

Chamber of Commerce and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), who know what businesses want in terms of their employment, plus further outreach work was being done. NCC were doing everything that they could do but there was a lot more than could be done. He suggested that one way of dealing with this in the future could be to take it to Corporate Select Committee via their work programme in conjunction with other questions and look into it further. He added that it was an important piece of work and to demonstrate that we were leading by providing that sort of advice to people and by providing those opportunities was a good thing for Norfolk

**5.8 Question from Cllr G Nobbs**

- 5.8.1 Cllr Nobbs asked, with reference to Cllr Maxfield's questions about preparations for a no deal Brexit, the Leader had referred to a huge amount of work that had been going on and planning over a considerable amount of time, therefore could the Leader provide one or two examples of the work that had he had referred to.
- 5.8.2 The Leader replied that one small example was the way that the Council had worked with the LEP with businesses. Businesses wanted information and it had been given through the LEP.

**5.9 Question from Cllr B Watkins**

- 5.9.1 Cllr Watkins asked what measures did the administration propose to take to carbon offset the cost of building the Norwich Western Link?
- 5.9.2 The Leader replied that the Norwich Western Link was a key priority and a key project of the County Council and it would be ensured that it wasn't just driving a road through the countryside which was not the intention. The whole point was to improve the infrastructure and to improve connectivity but to also ensure that the natural environment was respected.

**5.10 Question from Cllr A Kemp**

- 5.10.1 Cllr Kemp asked the Leader that considering he had promised there would never be a Saddlebow incineration disaster again in Norfolk, the preferred options plan that had come out for minerals and waste included incineration; didn't mention anything about West Norfolk; was criteria based not site based so would be a planning free for all and included fracking which would particularly affect West Norfolk and West Winch in particular. She added that there needed to be a district specific waste plan and needed to put in there that 65k people voted against incineration in West Norfolk. She asked what the Leader was going to do to make sure that the people promised to be safeguarded were safeguarded.
- 5.10.2 The Leader replied that as far as he was aware the draft minerals and waste plan was coming to the next Cabinet meeting, and if it did, all those particular elements could be considered at that time in the decision making process.

**5.11 Question from Cllr B Borrett**

- 5.11.1 Cllr Borrett asked the Leader if he would like to congratulate the Queens Dragoon Guards who were based at Swanton Morley as they celebrated 60 years this year. It had been the first time for a number of years that the whole regiment had been back at base together due to commitments.
- 5.11.2 The Leader replied 'definitely so'. He and the deputy leader had a very informative meeting at Swanton Morley a few months ago and were impressed with everything that was going on there, particularly how the service personnel

integrated in the community. He added that many of them came from far away but liked Norfolk and would choose to stay here once they leave the service.

**5.12 Question from Cllr S Morpew**

5.12.1 Cllr Morpew referred to the recent LGA conference that the Leader had attended and a motion passed unanimously there which signed up to the United Nations sustainability goals and which declared a climate emergency. He asked if it was unanimous, did the Leader vote for it and did he now agree that there was a climate emergency.

5.12.2 The Leader replied that he didn't vote for that motion.

**5.13 Question from Cllr D Roper**

5.13.1 Cllr Roper asked for assurance from the leader that the traffic monitoring survey which related to safety of the roundabouts on the Broadland Northway would be presented and put in the public domain. He had previously received assurance from the Chairman of the EDT Committee that this would happen and it was so far yet to materialise.

5.13.2 The Leader replied that he would liaise with the relevant Cabinet member for that area, but if there are safety reports then they must be considered properly.

**5.14 Question from Cllr D Harrison**

5.14.1 Cllr Harrison asked if Cabinet Members were responsible for the decisions they made and would meet the people that are affected by those decision, bearing in mind allocation of responsibility was a reason the Council moved back to the Cabinet system.

The Leader said that each Cabinet Member was responsible for the decisions that they made individually and collectively.

**6 Cabinet Recommendations**

6.1 Mr A Proctor, Chairman of Cabinet, moved the recommendations in the report from the meeting held on 10 June 2019.

6.2 Council **RESOLVED**

- To **APPROVE** the Annual Treasury Management Outturn Report 2018-19.

**7. Cabinet Reports (Questions to Cabinet Members)**

**Questions to Cabinet Member for Strategy and Governance**

**7.1.1 Question from Cllr S Butikofer**

Cllr Butikofer asked that having heard that the Leader wasn't able vote on the debate on Climate Emergency, would the Leader now listen to other Members of

his cabinet who were able to attend the conference and did vote in favour of climate emergency. She asked why it was acceptable to vote in favour of climate emergency when away from the County but not deliver it for the people of Norfolk.

The Leader responded that the focus on climate change could become distorted. He recognised there were issues around climate change, and the Government wished to be carbon neutral by 2050. He recognised the work that had been done by the Council and others to ensure it was adapted for the future but it was not the right way forward to put this in a motion around climate emergency.

#### **Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp asked as a matter of strategy on climate change, did the Leader agree that it was a deplorable measure to be proposing to put general traffic on any part of a bus lane such as Hardings Way in Kings Lynn. Bus travel should be increased and as £6.1 million had been spent on this in Norwich on new measures to increase public transport there with new cycle lanes, extra effort was also needed in King's Lynn.

The Leader replied that as far the overall strategy goes with any transport change there was a well worked process of dealing with this in greater Norwich as well as across the County. The Hardings Way issue had been exercised a number of times and he hoped that had come to a conclusion.

#### **Question from Cllr D Roper**

Cllr Roper explained that it was very common in this Chamber for council to pass motions where we make representations to Government over things that affect the residents of Norfolk. He had already heard from Cllr Aquerone that his motion had been ruled out by the Chairman in advance of this meeting. With this in mind did the Leader agree that every person in Norfolk would be affected by the manner in which the UK leaves the EU and that it was entirely reasonable for this Council to make a representation to Government with its views on the matter.

The Leader replied that it was a situation that would affect the whole country regardless of the deal. It would affect everyone, some positively and some negatively.

7.4

#### **Questions to Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy**

##### **Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp explained that she had the Nar Ouse Enterprise zone in her division and a building called the innovation centre which was an outstanding form of architecture but there was a need to have more innovation generally. In Norwich, there were places like agritech college and centre for food research and it would be good to have this in King's Lynn which would bring in more inward investment. People would come in and study and the spin offs would be commercially adapted to make money. She asked how the Cabinet Member could make applications to the funding agency to enable Kings Lynn to have a research institute on the innovation park.

The Cabinet Member replied that the Kings Lynn Borough Council Cabinet Member was already working on what was needed for that area. In his role he would be trying to find additional funding for the entire County. Although he

heard what Cllr Kemp was saying, he assured her that work was in progress with the LEP, University of East Anglia and with the Local Authorities to ensure that any investment that comes into the area was used in the most appropriate way and put in the right place. Across the County there was work going on to ensure that investment was coming into the County.

**Question from Cllr B Watkins**

Cllr Watkins asked the Cabinet Member that under the current uncertain economic times shouldn't we do as much as we can to protect jobs and help local businesses thrive. He asked if the Cabinet Member supported buying local and if he would use influence to help make this happen.

The Cabinet Member replied that under the procurement rules, whilst in the EU, they were limited but once Brexit had occurred more could be done to put contracts out to local suppliers.

**Questions to Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention**

**Question from Cllr D Harrison**

Cllr Harrison asked why the Cabinet Member was not present at a meeting held recently regarding an important decision that had been made.

The Cabinet Member explained that the decision had not been made by the Cabinet Member but had been made by Full Council. He had not been consulted when the meeting was going to be held and had family commitments on that day.

**Question from Cllr M Sands**

Cllr Sands explained that the green paper on the future funding of adult social care had been delayed six times since June 2018 and had now been delayed past 2020 elections. He asked if the Cabinet member remembered recent cross-party motions and would he still like to consider the offer of driving a deputation to directly lobby Westminster.

The Cabinet Member responded by thanking Cllr Sands for his generous offer, but as the Government was in a state of flux, it would be best waiting for the next few weeks to be over before deciding what happens.

**Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp asked if the Cabinet member agreed that lots needed to be done to improve social care and placements in residential homes. A couple in her division had to be separated in permanent social care because the family could not afford the £100 per week top-up fee. The Council should do something about this and making sure Government did fund social care properly when the social care paper comes out. They should forget about Brexit for a bit and sort out the country's problems first.

The Cabinet Member agreed that the residential care market was a precarious one at the moment which was why the County Council increased the fee levels well above inflation in the recent budget. As Cllr Kemp had accurately stated, it was a national issue and he shared enthusiasm and interest for a new green paper.

**Question from Cllr Jones**

Cllr B Jones asked how many members of the public had been turned down when they requested to meet about changes to the minimum income guarantee and the reasons why.

The Cabinet Member replied that everyone who had written to him had received a reply and had received an offer of a meeting.

7.6

**Questions to Cabinet Member for Children's Services****Question from Cllr C Walker**

Cllr Walker explained that, regarding Children's Centres, the contract didn't start until October and asked how much notice had staff been given and why had some left early and who decided. She also asked how were decisions being made about the capital funding for the remaining centres?

The Cabinet member replied that the first priority was sorting out HR and staff and that is what partners and stakeholders were doing at the moment.

**Question from Cllr M Smith-Clare**

Cllr Smith-Clare asked in 2018 how many of the 21,670 Norfolk Children under 16 living in low income families achieved 5 or more grade 5 GCSE's, including Maths and English and what percentage of Great Yarmouth's young people living in low income families progressed onto and achieved Level 3/A level equivalent qualifications?

The Cabinet member replied that he believed this question was being picked up under item 13 of the agenda.

**Question from Cllr E Corlett**

Cllr Corlett asked the Cabinet Member, in light of recent revelations revealed in a freedom of information request to the Department for Education about the degree of behind the scenes direct interference in Diversa academy trust and Bignold Primary School in her division, would the Cabinet Member welcome the intention of scrutiny to invite the Regional Schools Commissioner to scrutiny committee and if she had not agreed to do so by September would he commit to writing to all Norfolk MPs to ask for their help to put pressure on the RSC to attend and be more open and accountable, given that she failed to attend a Children's Services Committee despite us waiting nearly two years.

The Cabinet Member replied that the academy system was the responsibility of the Regional Schools Commissioner and they had little influence over her, but if he could encourage her to attend then he would do his best.

**Question from Cllr A Thomas**

Cllr Thomas explained that as the Cabinet Member was probably aware, regrettably a small school in her division, Shelton Primary School, was under consultation for closure. This was a request of the governing body of the school due to the falling roll of the school and regrettably there would be no children in Shelton from September. She added that this was partly because we had a planning system which disallowed developments in rural communities and this was an example of what happened when we didn't allow villages to grow

organically. She asked if the Cabinet Member could appraise the Council of the process that would go forward and when the community was likely to receive the final decision so that proper arrangements could be made.

The Cabinet Member replied that this was a small school and that the governors and parents had asked NCC to carry out a consultation for closure. There were certain statutory requirements that the Council had to go through and it was currently in the middle of those. The final decision rested with the Director of Children's Services who would have a discussion with the relevant Cabinet Member at the end of the consultation period. The closure of the school would proceed from there.

7.7

### **Questions to Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management**

#### **Question from Cllr S Gurney**

Cllr Gurney asked that with the launch of the Together for Norfolk programme, could the Cabinet Member outline specifically what the authority was doing to support quality housing and jobs in the Greater Norwich Growth Area.

The Cabinet Member replied that 2 weeks ago he had hosted a delegation from Homes England, CLG and their professional advisers as part of the £65.7 million housing infrastructure fund bid to support Rackheath and Beeston park. As part of this project, it supported Broadland District Council and Norwich Greater Growth Board and would bring forward much needed housing. It would include 7500 homes, 90k square metres of commercial space, 3 primary schools, 2 medical centres, 28 sports and play areas and 150 hectares informal open space. Since the HIF bids were first mooted, potential had been realised to unlock and support delivery of 2 major spaces which are ready to go and would provide much needed housing, support economic growth and encourage £1.2 billion of private sector investment in housing.

#### **Question from Cllr T Jermy**

Cllr Jermy asked the Cabinet Member what procedure was when NCC owned assets were sold and to what extent is the local Member consulted?

The Cabinet Member confirmed that it was the same as under the committee system, and that as soon as information was known to NCC, the Member was informed. Subsequent to the sale, if it was a controversial matter, the Member would also be informed. This had always been the procedure that was followed.

#### **Question from Cllr M Sands**

Cllr Sands asked, adding to question asked earlier by Cllr Gurney, how many new homes would be built by Repton?

The Cabinet Member responded that it was a different subject but there was some good news in that the first planning application in for Repton site would be submitted early next week with construction hopefully starting next March. The second site planning application would be submitted a couple of months later with construction following on from that. He added that this would represent 140 units on the first site and 200 units on the second site and would meet or exceed the affordable homes qualification that the Government gave them.

**Question from Cllr E Corlett**

Cllr Corlett asked if the Cabinet Member could clarify how many of the homes as percentage or a number would be available as social rent and how many would be built to passive house environmental standards?

The Cabinet Member replied that he didn't have those figures to hand but would give a written reply. With regards to the passive house environmental standards, he added that they already met the requirement in terms of code level 3, which was the minimum requirement in terms of ecological requirement for these houses. He added that they were always looking for improvement of the ecological build for houses such as these.

7.8

**Questions to Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships****Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp commended the greater collaboration between the Fire Service and Norfolk Constabulary. She asked how many large fire engines were due to be replaced by the new 4x4 vehicles and what was going to be the ongoing policy related to this. It was essential that the right appliance attended the emergency, so they could deal with what they faced when they arrived.

The Cabinet member replied that a decision had been made approximately ten years ago that it would be worth having a more agile vehicle than a fire engine. It was only 3-4 years ago that the implementation of this was thought about. Sandringham and Cromer had already got a 4x4 with three more which would be implemented at Wymondham, Diss and Fakenham. The Cabinet member was aware that Norfolk did not like change and that staff could be concerned with using a smaller vehicle when used to a large Fire Engine. The plan was to introduce the smaller 4x4 vehicle but to not take the Fire Engine immediately away but to evaluate what type of vehicle suits the emergency the Fire Services were called to. There would be no rush to change anything. The risk assessment was carried out before it had been decided to proceed to this route.

**Question from Cllr M Sands**

Cllr Sands asked if the Cabinet Member agreed that in a dispersed community such as Norfolk, reduced fire crews from 5 to 3 would put lives at risk.

The Cabinet Member had no practical knowledge apart from knowing that Lincolnshire Fire Service had reduced fire crews and it worked well for them. Suffolk Fire Service were also in talks regarding it. The Cabinet Member reiterated that there was an open mind and she would wait and see what happened. No decisions had been made. She added that she believed that Fire Unions had been consulted.

**Question from Cllr Timothy Adams**

Cllr Adams asked what real evidence was there that the new Fire Service 4x4 vehicles were needed in North Norfolk. He asked if there were new policies in place and where they will be used and when.

The Cabinet Member responded that, as she had already said, the decision had been made approximately 10 years ago but the Service had only just started

looking into implementing it. There were circumstances where emergencies would need a lot of water such as field fires but others where staff needed to be more mobile and get to places where bigger vehicles couldn't travel. There were always new ideas and innovations, and the Fire Service was always looking for new ideas to help with rescuing, move the Service forward and putting out fires and do the best they could for the people of Norfolk.

7.9

### **Questions to Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste**

#### **Question from Cllr J Barnard**

Cllr Barnard asked the Cabinet Member if he could explain how the decision regarding the Norwich Western Link road assisted in achieving the UN Sustainable Goals as adopted cross party by the LGA and the recent Government adoption of new climate targets for 2050. She asked if he also stood by comments made by cabinet members last week that building roads over green areas can 'improve' natural habitats.

The Cabinet Member replied that in terms of Wensum link the important part was the economy of the county. It was needed not only to help boost the transport and to help the economy grow but to ease traffic in that part of the county. In terms of impact on the environment, it was being mitigated where possible but ultimately the economy needed to grow and decisions which affected the environment would have to take place.

#### **Question from Cllr D Roper**

Cllr Roper asked the Cabinet Member if the proposals brought forward for the new recycling centre off Broadland Northway were of specific concern to the nearest parish of Newton and Horsham St Faiths, could he please have a commitment that the Parish Council would be engaged in dialogue at the earliest opportunity to allay their fears and so that the community could be informed.

The Cabinet Member replied that he hoped they would be consulted as part of the planning process but if not would ensure they are consulted early so their fears could be mitigated.

#### **Question from Cllr S Squire**

Cllr Squire asked the Cabinet Member when the Council were going to join others in recycling EPS and XPS (extruded and expanded) polystyrene, considering this was the most damaging kind of plastic on the marine environment and was more lucrative than PET as they are 100% recyclable.

The Cabinet member replied that it was purely the transportation costs involved as the vehicles would only hold half a tonne of light plastics. Compacters could be possible and he would ask for that to be looked into. The biggest issue was the lack of processors who were willing to recycle it.

#### **Question from Cllr M Sands**

Cllr Sands explained that recent decisions in planning had led to an increase in the export of waste due to capacity in some of the waste transfer stations which had led to an increase in the import and the capacity in some waste transfer stations. In recent national news some destinations for waste, which involve the waste in part going overseas, are seeing waste refused or even returned. He asked what the ongoing implications were from these for waste transfer stations

throughout Norfolk.

The Cabinet Member replied that Norfolk was one of a few counties that had never sent waste to the countries that had sent it back. In terms of storage, this was carried out by the in-house company Norse who stored the processed recycled waste and the general waste at the transfer stations and most of it was removed within 48 hours as per their licence anyway.

#### **Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp asked that with regards to historic environment attracting inward investment could this be enhanced by making the most of cultural assets. She asked what the policy was to help Districts to retain historical assets such as Brick Kiln in South Lynn which had a painting by Henry Baines in the 19<sup>th</sup> century which had innovation in it and was associated with a family whose son died at the Somme and was commemorated at the church. She added it was about flagging up the issues as a Conservative council should be trying to save these assets

The Cabinet Member replied that he wasn't sure which Cabinet Member historical assets was under. He was unaware of any historical assets under environment and waste. However, the environment team at Gressenhall had recently been successful obtaining another pot of cash to look into preserving historical assets, but he confirmed that he would seek clarification and provide a written answer.

### **7.10 Questions to Cabinet Member for Finance**

#### **Question from Cllr E Seward**

Cllr Seward asked that in light of Government announcements regarding the Public Sector pay increase and the caveat that came with it that it must be paid out of existing budgets, what were the implications for council budgets of public sector pay increases if there was no increase in budgets.

The Cabinet Member replied that 2% had been budgeted for in the next round but anything further would have to be found. Significant cost pressures had been put into budget going forward.

#### **Question from Cllr S Morphew**

Cllr Morphew asked that in response to a question earlier to the Cabinet member for Growing the Economy, the response had been misleading by stating that 'all procurement was governed by EU regulations' when in fact it was only over a certain threshold. Could the Cabinet member confirm that there was threshold beneath which council procurement is subject to entirely UK law.

The Cabinet Member replied that it was an area which was extremely important to smaller businesses and the council would look to Government to provide whatever support they could within the rules and regulations. It would be important to set up an early payment to ensure that payment was made as soon as possible to the small and medium enterprises.

**Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp asked that as there was a budget challenge process taking place, was he able to tell the Council if there were any planned cuts to buses and in particular rural buses as it was hoped that people would not end up in social care due to distress of being immobile and not able to get out.

The Cabinet Member responded that there was a robust process going on currently and any number of proposals were being put forward, looked at and rejected. He was not at liberty at this stage to say anything as the proposals would be brought to a future Council meeting.

7.11

**Questions to Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transportation****Question from Cllr D Douglas**

Cllr Douglas explained that 20% of Norfolk households didn't own a car. It wasn't just these families' lives but also many millions of pounds of county investment including the business case for the Western Link road that relied on the commercial operation of the local bus network. The majority of these journeys in the local bus network were actually operated by First which is now up for sale. He asked what effort the Cabinet Member had made to ensure that the sale was completed with due diligence that included the commitment that First Group had made to the County, and to ensure that we got a good new bus operator for the County that prioritised people over profit.

The Cabinet Member responded that the Council supported the buses and public transport across the county and had a good relationship with the bus companies to get the best for all the people across the County.

**Question from Cllr B Watkins**

Does the Cabinet member support the 'Schools Streets Initiative' which aimed to ease congestion, help poor air quality and improve road safety in our local communities particularly close to schools and, if he did, how was he looking to promote that scheme more widely across Norfolk in the future.

The Cabinet member explained that they worked closely with all schools on travel plans and air quality near schools was important for our children as well as the parents who took them to school.

**Question from Cllr M Castle**

Cllr M Castle explained that last year he and Stuart Clancy got the Environment, Development and Transport Committee to earmark up to £5000 to commission a desk top study for the dualling of the A47 Acle Straight in order to seek the best alignments for the dual carriageway with the Vauxhall Roundabout and Holiday Park, the Stracey Arms and Halvergate junctions and the Acle Approach. He asked if the Cabinet member agreed with him that action on this was going to be absolutely critical to delivering success with the Acle Straight dualling given the unacceptable delay and inaction of Highways England with regards to this project.

The Cabinet member replied that dualling of the Acle straight was one of the priorities and it would be pushed as much as possible. Council would find out later this year if they had been successful with the funding. They had recently

had assurance from Highways England that there was no hold up at all to this project.

**Question from Cllr T Jermy**

Cllr Jermy stated that it had been reported that the government expects the minimum contribution from Norfolk County Council on the Norwich Western Link would be 15% of the total project cost. He asked if the Cabinet Member could confirm how much that 15% currently equated to and what percentage did he think it would end up being.

The Cabinet Member replied that NCC was about to apply through the road network scheme to DFT for the funding and that would be for 85% of the funding towards the project. Option C was estimated to be around £153 million so NCC would have to find 15% of that. It could come from a variety of other sources such as LEP, local businesses and other people interested in supporting the scheme across the County.

**Question from Cllr E Seward**

Cllr Seward explained that Greater Anglia had recently put in place parking charges at a number of rural railway stations in Norfolk including his own town of North Walsham. He asked the Cabinet member if he was consulted over the proposals, considering Norfolk County Council was the leading transport authority in Norfolk; and, would he agree that charging people to park outside railway stations discourages them from using the railway stations and encourages them to use their cars.

The Cabinet Member responded that from personal experience of often using Diss train station it had costed £3 all day if parked after 10am which seemed very reasonable, and all day was £4 which would help pay for the upkeep and management of the car parks.

**Question from Timothy Adams**

Cllr T Adams asked if the Cabinet Member would consider doing more to tackle the misuse of bus lanes outside of Norwich. Where this was causing an issue, such as in Cromer, it was causing a great deal of embarrassment and ridicule for Norfolk County Council on a local level, plus increased traffic congestion and reduced traffic movement. Police did not have resources to enforce and considering the upcoming pinch point fund recently announced by the Government would the Cabinet Member commit to increasing enforcement at these locations.

The Cabinet member replied that he would be happy to raise it with the appropriate people.

7.12

**Questions to Cabinet Member for Innovation, Transformation and Performance**

**Question from Cllr S Aquarone**

Cllr Aquarone explained that he had championed the idea of surveying not spots and then offering up sites from the council and communities to the networks, but it had appeared to have been taken off the boil. He asked why the Council was encouraging 5G development which was designed to let fridges talk to phones and was still in development to make it safe but ignoring the fact that many

villages in Norfolk such as Kettlestone which he represented still had no signal for phone calls.

The Cabinet member responded that the Council was hoping to re-survey those not spot areas again. Operators had carried this out at the beginning of 2019 and hopefully would be again in September. The Council had made the offer of making County buildings available to put masts on if they were not able to get other coverage. The Cabinet Member reassured Council that he was aware of the issue and it wasn't just Kettlestone that was affected, it was other places around the county as well. He added that it was a matter of concern and mobile phone companies would be asked for answers.

**Question from Cllr D Rowntree**

Cllr Rowntree explained that he had been asking for over two years for a casework management system so Councillors were able to deal with their casework whilst staying within their new data protection rules. As this was fundamentally an issue of Councillors staying within the law, he asked the Cabinet member if was able to now give a date by when the system would be in place.

The Cabinet Member replied that he was under impression that an answer had been given to Cllr Rowntree but would chase that up and get a response to him.

**Question from Cllr A Kemp**

Cllr Kemp expressed disquiet that as the Select Committees were there for performance as well as policy development, performance indicators should have been seen by the Committees, but they had not. She asked the Cabinet Member if he would take more of an interest to make sure that Select Committees had performance indicators available so that they could be published for Members and the public to see.

The Cabinet member replied that the Select Committees agenda was a matter of concern for the Chairman but the indicators were there for people to see. He added that Officers were looking at ways to make them more relevant and focused more on areas that go from amber to red, rather than amber to green and back again. If the Chairman wanted the indicators for their particular area, there was no reason why they couldn't be made available.

**Question from Cllr D Rowntree**

Cllr Rowntree explained that areas of the ward he represented had some of worst mobile phone coverage in the county despite being home to one of the most hi-tech institutions in the country. Bearing in mind the expensive survey the council undertook last year, he asked the Cabinet member if he could explain what work was underway for the infrastructure in his area.

The Cabinet Member replied that mobile phone coverage is a matter for the providers and not something that the County Council was able to invest money in but the possibility of resurveying some of the not spots was being looked into and the offer of the use of County buildings had been made. There was a commercial imperative and he said that the County Council would work with the providers to find out exactly where they were at. It was not good enough and it would be addressed.

## **8. Constitution Amendments**

- 8.1 Cllr A Proctor moved the recommendations in the report and referenced the recommendations from Corporate Select Committee held on 16 July 2019.
- 8.2 Following debate, and upon being put to a recorded vote, with 47 votes for, 27 against and 1 abstention, the Council **RESOLVED**;
- To **APPROVE** the amendments to the Constitution as set out in Appendix A of the report on page 40 of the agenda except to those prepared for Appendix 7.

## **9. Committee Reports**

### **9.1 Scrutiny Committee held on 4 June 2019**

- 9.1.1 Cllr S Morphew, Chair of Scrutiny Committee, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **9.2 Corporate Select Committee held on 28 May 2019**

- 9.2.1 Cllr K Vincent, Chairman, moved the report.

Cllr C Jones asked the Chairman why she had changed her attitude towards the constitutional amendments since voting against it at the Select Committee the previous week.

The Chairman of the Select Committee replied that it had been a difficult decision but after listening to the Leader that morning who had explained within the spirit of openness there would be more on white papers and less on pink papers; this had swayed her decision.

Cllr Jermy asked that as part of the ongoing role of committee to review decisions and review the constitutions, could he have assurance from the Chairman of the Select Committee that if there were examples of members being excluded from below the line items in which they had a valid interest would she commit to review this decision at a future meeting.

The Chairman replied that if it was working as expected there shouldn't be a need for it but would reserve judgement if and when it occurred.

- 9.2.2 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **9.3 Infrastructure and Development Select Committee held on 29 May 2019**

- 9.3.1 Cllr B Stone, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.4 **People and Communities Select Committee held on 31 May 2019**

- 9.4.1 Cllr S Gurney, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.5 **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 30 May 2019**

- 9.5.1 Cllr M Stone, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.6 **Health and Wellbeing Board 10 July 2019**

- 9.6.1 Cllr B Borrett, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

- 9.6.2 Cllr Timothy Adams said that the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board had explained recently that he had been leading discussion on the recording of late transfers of care figures to put adult social care in Norfolk in a better light yet recent figures showed that they were higher in Norfolk than they were 12 months ago. The adult social care element for Norfolk was 50.8% which was almost double the national average of 28.1%. He asked when the Chairman was going to accept responsibility for these figures and improve the Council's performance.

The Chairman replied that his role was to make the challenge and although he agreed, he explained that the figures weren't produced by the County Council, they were produced by the NHS. One of the issues going forwards, and he was keen to work to with the NHS on this, was the ownership of these figures. The Council has not recognised the figures that have been produced for a while, however, there had been a huge amount of progress recently and a proposal to completely reshape the DTOC (delayed transfer of care) service and this should produce the results that were being sought. It had been astonishingly difficult to make traction in this area.

- 9.6.3 Cllr Kemp asked the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board that with regards to the Autism Strategy and the new report being agreed, at the meeting the previous Saturday, the National Autistic Society not been consulted by NCC about the changes which affected a lot of parents. She asked what the Chairman was going to do about it.

The Chairman replied that The National Autistic Society had been consulted.

9.7 **Planning Regulatory Committee held on 7 June 2019**

- 9.7.1 Cllr C Foulger, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.8 **Joint Museums Committee held on 5 July 2019**

- 9.8.1 Cllr J Ward, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.9        **Norfolk Records Committee**

9.9.1       Cllr M Chenery of Horsbrugh, Chairman, moved the report.

9.9.2       Cllr Timothy Adams asked if figures regarding the footfall of the Norfolk Record Office since the last budget could be given at a future meeting. This was agreed.

9.9.3       Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

**10.        Electoral Review of Norfolk County Council – Draft Council Size Submission**

10.1       Cllr A Proctor, Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Electoral Review Working Group, moved the recommendations in the report.

10.2       Upon being put to the vote, with 57 votes for and 17 against, the recommendations were **CARRIED**.

**11.        Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees (Standard Item).**

There were none

**12.        Notice of Motions**

12.1.1     The following motion was proposed by Cllr M Castle and seconded by Cllr S Squire;

Although Council business by “custom and practice” has for many years been preceded by the Calling of the Roll and Christian Prayers, Council notes the increasingly diverse and multi-cultural make-up of 21st Century Norfolk and resolves from the start of the 2020-21 Municipal Year to dispense with the practice of conducting prayers at the start of Council meetings and to instead, conduct a short spiritual multi-faith service in an alternative room for those who wish to attend.

12.1.2     Following debate and upon being put to the vote, with 15 votes for and 7 abstentions, the motion was **LOST**.

12.2.1     Cllr A Proctor proposed an alteration to the published motion which was agreed by Council. The motion was seconded by Cllr G Plant.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is currently undertaking a boundary review of Norfolk to be implemented for the 2021 election.

This Council strongly supports the retention of single member electoral divisions to continue to maximise accountability and geographic representation. Multi Member divisions will inevitably increase the geographical areas covered and will exacerbate the challenges faced in a large rural county.

This Council therefore resolves to write to the Local Government Boundary Commission to state its settled intention to retain single member divisions in the forthcoming boundary review

- 12.2.2 Following debate and upon being put to the vote, with 57 votes for, 15 against and 1 abstention, the motion was **LOST**.

- 12.3.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr E Maxfield and seconded by Cllr Timothy Adams;

This Council notes that:

- The number of children with special educational needs and disabilities(SEND) in Norfolk is over 15,000
- Norfolk has a higher percentage of Children in Need receiving SEN Support than the national average
- Norfolk has seen a 230% increase in education, health and care plan(EHCP) assessments since 2015 compared with 55% in England

The Council has struggled to meet the requirement of completing new ECHP's within 20 weeks

- The Local Government Association estimates that we are facing a national shortfall in SEND funding of £1.6billion
- A number of local authorities such as Dorset have written to the Secretary of State seeking action

The Council welcomes the UK Parliament's Education Committee's SEND inquiry and looks forward to the publication of its final report.

The Council believes that:

- All Children have a right to an education.
- This is now a national crisis.
- Local authorities are being placed in an impossible position. They have a legal duty to plan high quality education for every child with SEND, but cuts have taken away the resources they need to educate children with complex needs.

Therefore, this Council agrees to:

- Thank those families who took part in the recent Norwich SEND protest march as well as those who showed support but were not able to march.
- Invite the Secretary of State for Education to visit Norfolk to see the impact that the current funding model has on children, young people, parents and schools.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Education to demand urgent action to fix the problem that should include the provision of adequate funding in Norfolk to meet its demand for SEND provision.

- 12.3.2 Cllr J Fisher proposed the following amendment, seconded by Cllr S Dark;

Therefore, this Council agrees to:

- ~~•Thank those families who took part in the recent Norwich SEND protest march as well as those who showed support but were not able to march.~~
- Thank everyone who has been supporting and making the case for more funding for SEND children
- Invite the Secretary of State for Education to visit Norfolk to see the impact that

the current funding model has on children, young people, parents and schools.

- Continue to lobby by a further letter ~~Write~~ to the Secretary of State for Education to demand urgent action to fix the problem that should include the provision of adequate funding in Norfolk to meet its demand for SEND provision.

12.3.3 As proposer of the original motion, Cllr E Maxfield did not accept the amendment.

12.3.4 Following debate and upon being put to the vote, with 50 votes for, 25 against and 1 abstention, the amendment was **CARRIED** and became the substantive motion.

12.3.5 The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was **CARRIED** unanimously.

12.4.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr M Smith-Clare and seconded by Cllr E Corlett;

This Council recognises the importance of Personal Independence Payments (PIP) in maintaining the lives of many of our County's most vulnerable residents.

The Council:

- acknowledges the many issues associated with the undertaking of assessments and reassessments and the related stress they can have on individuals
- recognises concerns at the fall in figures of those receiving the benefit and the impact this is having on their lives
- accepts the negative impact on those affected by the '20m rule'

In the interests of vulnerable local residents the Council will therefore write to the Minister for Work and Pensions to urgently review the 20m rule.

12.4.2 Following debate and upon being put a recorded vote (appendix B), with 27 votes for, 42 votes against and 6 abstentions, the motion was **LOST**.

10.5.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr B Jones and seconded by Cllr J Brociek-Colton.

Accountability is one of the key Nolan Principles of Public Life; the Council regrets that certain Councillors have not been willing to meet with individuals and their carers affected by the reduction to the Minimum Income Guarantee and subsequent increase in care charges. We call upon the Cabinet member for Adult Social Care and the member champion for disabilities to meet with them as soon as possible.

10.5.2 Following debate and upon being put to the recorded vote (appendix C), with 24 votes for, 44 votes against and 5 abstentions, the motion was **LOST**.

### **13. To answer questions under Rule 8.3 of the Council Procedure Rules**

**13.1** Question submitted by Cllr Mike Smith-Claire to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services

In 2018 how many of the 21,670 Norfolk Children under 16 living in low income families achieved 5 or more grade 5 GCSE's, including Maths and English? What percentage of Great Yarmouth's young people living in low income families progress on to and achieve Level 3/A level equivalent qualifications?

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services replied that unfortunately, the County Council did not hold the details on the performance of those children who were classed as receiving free school meals. However, Norfolk did achieve 36% at achieving 5 or more grade 5 GCSE's.

With regards to the question about Great Yarmouth achievement at A levels, NCC once again did not hold that data as it was held at the post-16 institutions.

## 13.2

### Question submitted by Cllr Steve Morphew to the Leader of the Council

It's been over seven months since the Council agreed to write to government asking to extend the period over which council funding is abolished. We are already a third of the way through this financial year with a budget that has £25m included based on the assumption government will agree. However not only do we not have an answer from government or know when there will be an answer, we don't even know who will be making the decision. What contingencies has the Leader put in place if this £25m assumption becomes a £25m black hole this far into a financial year?

The leader replied that the Council had a robust budget process in place for 2020/21 which was currently underway. As was usual practice this included a full assessment of the risks and uncertainties contained within the budget assumptions which were made when the 2019/20 medium term financial strategy was agreed in February 2019. Ministers had recognised the value of certainty which was provided by the previous 4-year settlement and the Council continued to call for a further long-term funding announcement. There was undoubtedly now a heightened level of uncertainty about funding for 2020/21. The Council would not receive full information about allocation of funding until December 2019 and budget planning was therefore being undertaken on this basis recognising the uncertainty that existed. Further details about the Council's latest planning assumptions and forecast overall budget position would be reported to Cabinet in October alongside details of the proposals intending to assist in setting a balanced budget for 2020/21. The Council had lobbied for more money and regularly highlighted the significant financial challenges it faced to Government through the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Local MPs. This had included coverage of the upper tier of local authorities and the specific challenges posed by the level of uncertainty for 2020/21 which had been raised through a variety of channels directly during ministerial meetings and formal consultation responses and supporting collective lobbying of representative groups such as LGA, County Council Network and the Society of County Treasurers. The LGA's Council 'CAN' campaign calls for long term investment in local government but that was not just about more money. That campaign set out the case for a new localism settlement that empowers councils as the democratically elected leaders closest to their communities to take on greater responsibilities for their places.

### **13.3**      Question submitted by Cllr Terry Jermy to the Cabinet Member for Finance

How much has the council spent to date on the NDR overspend and what is the cost of borrowing to service that overspend? In addition, what does the council forecast the full cost of interest will be at the end of this year?

The Cabinet Member for Finance replied that the NDR was still forecast to be within the budget set which was £205 million. The actual borrowing to date stood at £28,755,000. If you took the average interest borrowing costs at 4.74% it would mean £1,363,000 interest per annum. However, it was possible to hypothecate at the recent borrowing costs of 2% and obviously interest cost would then be considerably lower.

The meeting concluded at 2.10pm.

### **Chairman**



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### **Procedure for Leader's Question Time**

In order to give as many people as possible the opportunity to put a question to the Leader, questions should be asked succinctly and in a business-like manner. They should not be preceded by lengthy preambles. Similarly, answers should be given succinctly, to make sure there is sufficient time for a reasonable number of questions to be dealt with. The Chairman will be prepared to intervene if he considers this principle is not being adhered to.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Questions to the Leader of the Council**

Questions to the Leader will be a 15-minute session for questions relating only to the role of Leader.

1. Questions to the Leader must be relevant to matters for which the Council has powers or duties. Members do not need to give prior notice of what they plan to ask and the Chairman's ruling as to relevance of questions will be final. If the Leader cannot give an immediate answer or feels that a written answer would be more helpful or appropriate, then the questioner will receive a written reply and this will be published to all members and to the public via the minutes. The Leader may ask Cabinet Members to answer questions where appropriate.
2. The Chairman will begin Leader's Question Time by inviting the Leader of the Labour Group to ask the first question. All Group Leaders may delegate the asking of their question to another member of their Group. There is no right to ask a supplementary question.
3. After the first question has been answered, the Chairman will invite the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group to ask a question.
4. When the second question has been answered, the Chairman will invite the Leader of the Independent Group to ask a question.
5. When the third question has been answered, the Chairman will invite and select a member of the Conservative Group to ask a question.
6. If the 15 minutes has not expired, the Chairman will then invite all members of the Council to indicate if they wish to ask a question, by raising their hands. The Chairman will select a member to ask their question and all other members should put down their hands until the Chairman next invites questions.

7. The Chairman will follow the same principle of selecting questioners alternatively from Groups as in paragraphs 2-5 above.
8. The session will be timed by the existing lights system for timing speeches. The amber light will be lit after 14 minutes and the red light lit after a further minute. If a question is being asked at the point at which the red light is lit, the Chairman will allow the question to be completed and the answer to be given.

## Recommendations from the Cabinet Meetings held on 5 August and 2 September 2019

### A: Recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on 5 August 2019.

#### 1 Norfolk Youth Justice Plan Refresh 2019-21

- 1.1 Cabinet considered the report by the Executive Director of Children's Services setting out how the existing Norfolk Youth Justice Plan had been refreshed to outline the actions, risks and opportunities identified to ensure that the desired outcomes for young people and the victims of their crime would be achieved by Norfolk Youth Offending Team and the Norfolk Youth Justice Board Partnership in 2019-21. The Plan also sets out the key priorities for the 2019-21 period which would be delivered in partnership with the required statutory agencies on the Norfolk Youth Justice Board (Health, Police and Probation) and others such as the County Community Safety Partnership, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and the Norfolk and Suffolk Criminal Justice Board.

#### 1.2 Decision

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to

- **recommend** the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan refresh 2019-2021 to Council for approval.

### Note from Head of Democratic Services.

The report considered by Cabinet can be found on pages 58 to 86 of the Cabinet agenda at the following link.

<https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/Meetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/496/Meeting/1585/Committee/169/Default.aspx>

#### 2 Finance Monitoring Report (P3 – June 2019).

- 2.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services providing a summary of the forecast financial position for the 2019-20 Revenue and Capital Budgets, General Balances and the Council's Reserves at 31 March 2020, together with related financial information.

#### 2.2 Decision

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. **Recommend** to County Council an addition of £7.766m to the CES capital programme in accordance with a proposed Norfolk Local Full

Fibre Network (LFFN) Capital grant agreement with DCMS, approved at 15 July 2019 Cabinet, as set out in appendix 2, paragraph 2.1 of the report.

2. **Recommend** to County Council an addition of £2m to the Children's Services Capital programme to replace revenue contributions. This will be used to support the 2019-20 Children's Services revenue budget as set out in appendix 2, paragraph 2.2 of the report.
3. **note** the period 3 forecast general fund revenue overspend of £6.108m noting also that Executive Directors will take measures throughout the year to reduce or eliminate potential over-spends;
4. **note** the period 3 forecast shortfall in savings of £4.706m noting also that Executive Directors will take measures throughout the year to mitigate savings shortfalls through alternative savings or underspends;
5. **note** the forecast General Balances at 31 March 2020 of £19.623m, before taking into account any over/under spends;
6. **note** the expenditure and funding of the revised current and future 2019-22 capital programmes.

#### **Note from Head of Democratic Services.**

The report considered by Cabinet can be found on pages 284 to 308 of the Cabinet agenda at the following link.

<https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/Meetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/496/Meeting/1585/Committee/169/Default.aspx>

#### **B: Recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on 2 September 2019.**

##### **1 Finance Monitoring Report (P4 – July 2019).**

- 1.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services providing a summary of the forecast financial position for the 2019-20 Revenue and Capital Budgets, General Balances and the Council's Reserves at 31 March 2020, together with related financial information. Subject to mitigating actions, the forecast revenue outturn for 2019-20 is an overspend of £5.008m on a net budget of £409.293m. General Balances are £19.6m and reserves and provisions are forecast to total £74.3m.

##### **2.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. **Recommend** to County Council the flexible use of £2m capital receipts to fund the Children's Services Demand Management & Prevention Strategy in 2019-20 as set out in Appendix 2, paragraph 3.4 of the report.
2. **note** the period 4 forecast general fund revenue overspend of £5.008m noting also that Executive Directors will take measures throughout the year to reduce or eliminate potential over-spends;

3. **note** the period 4 forecast shortfall in savings of £4.706m noting also that Executive Directors will take measures throughout the year to mitigate savings shortfalls through alternative savings or underspends;
4. **note** the forecast General Balances at 31 March 2020 of £19.623m, before taking into account any over/under spends;
5. **note** the expenditure and funding of the revised current and future 2019-22 capital programmes.

**Note from Head of Democratic Services.**

The report considered by Cabinet can be found on pages 101 to 128 of the Cabinet agenda at the following link:

<https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/Meetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/496/Meeting/1586/Committee/169/Default.aspx>

**Cllr Andrew Proctor  
Chairman, Cabinet**

### **Procedure for Questions to Cabinet Members**

Questions to the Cabinet Members for

- Strategy & Governance
- Growing the Economy
- Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention
- Children's Services
- Commercial Services & Asset Management
- Communities and Partnerships
- Environment & Waste
- Finance
- Highways, Infrastructure & Transportation
- Innovation, Transformation & Performance

A maximum overall period of 30 minutes shall be allowed for questions to Cabinet Members, with a maximum of 5 minutes for questions to an individual Cabinet member both periods to be extendable at the discretion of the Chair. Questions to Cabinet Members can relate to anything within the remit of the Cabinet Member's portfolio and are not limited to items in the Cabinet reports.

1. The Chairman will begin Questions by inviting members to indicate, by raising their hands, if they wish to ask a question.
2. The Chairman will select a member to ask their question and all other members should put down their hands until the Chairman next invites questions. **Questions will not be taken in a prescribed portfolio order and can be to any Cabinet Member.**
3. The Chairman will follow the principle of selecting the first questioner from the Labour Group, followed by the Liberal Democrat Group, the Independent Group and the Conservative Group. The Chairman will then revert to the Labour Group etc.
4. The session will be timed by the existing lights system for timing speeches. The amber light will be lit after 29 minutes and the red light after a further minute. If a question is being asked at the point at which the red light is lit, the Chairman will allow the question to be completed and the answer to be given.
5. Questions should be asked succinctly and in a business-like manner. They should not be preceded by lengthy preambles. Similarly, answers should be given succinctly, so that there is sufficient time for a reasonable number of questions to be dealt with. The Chairman of the

Council will be prepared to intervene if he considers this principle is not being adhered to.

N.B The Group Leaders have requested that the procedure be amended on a trial basis as indicated in paragraph 2. This means that there will not be separate 5 minute question sessions for each Cabinet Member. Questions can be to any Cabinet Member. The Chairman will be invited to use his discretion to amend the procedure as suggested.

## Report of the Cabinet Meetings held on 5 August and 2 September 2019

### A: Meeting held on Monday 5 August 2019

#### 1 Norfolk Fire and Rescue Authority Statement of Assurance 2018-19.

- 1.1 Cabinet considered the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services setting out how the statement of assurance provided an accessible way in which communities, Government, local authorities and other partners may make a valid assessment of their local fire and rescue authority's performance.

#### 1.2 Decision

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. **Note** the assurances that financial, governance and operational management of Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service meet statutory requirements.
2. **Approve** the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Authority Statement of Assurance 2018/19 (Appendix A)

#### 2 Transformation of Mental Health Services for Children and Young People.

- 2.1 Cabinet considered the report by the Executive Director of Children's Services updating Cabinet on progress with the transformation of Children and Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS) and seeking decisions on a small number of issues that would enable the programme to move to the next phase.

#### 2.2 Decision

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

- **Agree** to the development of an Alliance approach to commissioning and provision;
- **Agree** to the establishment of revised system governance arrangements.
- **Delegate** to the Executive Director of Children's Services authority to enter into a revised Section 75 agreement with the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) that will enable and support the Alliance model, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services.
- **Note** the progress with the transformation of mental health services for children and young people;
- **Note** the emerging service model ("THRIVE");

- **Note** the importance of effective engagement and communications to the programme and the potential requirement for consultation on the service model;
- **Note** the proposed next steps for the programme.

### **3 Autism Strategy**

- 3.1 Cabinet considered the report by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services providing an update on the All-Age Autism Partnership Board (NAPB) and the workstreams in place to support the implementation of a coproduced local All-Age Autism Strategy 'My Autism, Our Lives, Our Norfolk'.

#### **3.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

- **Agree** the Strategy, 'My Autism, Our Lives, Our Norfolk'.
- **Promote** and champion the strategy within the County Council.
- **Agree** that Cabinet Members complete the Autism e-learning training to lead by example.

### **4 Adult Social Care Annual Quality Report 2018-19**

- 4.1 Cabinet considered the report by the Executive Director of Adult Social Services providing a detailed evaluation of quality in the market both in terms of Care Quality Commission (CQC) ratings and the Council's quality assurance team risk ratings and our proposals for continuous improvement going forward.

#### **4.2 Decision**

Cabinet considered the findings presented in the Annual Quality Report and **RESOLVED** to:

- **Approve** the proposals for improving quality in 2019-20 in Section 5 of the report.

### **5 Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review – Preferred Options Consultation.**

- 5.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services providing information about the proposed 'Preferred Options' consultation stage and including the proposed planning policies for minerals and waste management development and the proposed mineral extraction sites. The next stage in the process would be to consult with stakeholders, including parish councils and the public, on the preferred options consultation.

#### **5.3 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to

- 1
  - a) **Agree** that the revised Minerals and Waste Development Scheme shall have effect from 1 September 2019;
  - b) **Agree** to the publication of the Preferred Options Consultation Document (and associated background documents).
  - c) **Agree** to carry out the Preferred Options consultation using the methods detailed in the report (ie for a six-week formal consultation period).
- 2 **Delegate** responsibility to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste (in consultation with the Executive Director of CES) to make minor corrections and non-material changes to the consultation document that are identified prior to publication, if required.

## 6 Delegated Decisions Reports

6.1 Cabinet **noted** the following Delegated Decisions:

Cabinet Member for Commercial Services & Asset Management:

- Bryggen Road, King's Lynn.
- Site 1
- Site 2

Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport:

- Improvements to Thickthorn Junction
- Hardings Way, King's Lynn.

## B: Meeting held on Monday 2 September 2019

### 1. Proposed Updates to Planning Obligations Standards 2019.

1.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services setting out a series of proposed amendments to the Standards reflecting the Government's amended Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations, which came into force on 1 September 2019 and addresses member issues raised at the Environment, Development and Transport Committee in March 2019; and the Infrastructure & Development Select Committee in July 2019.

### 1.2 Decision

Cabinet **RESOLVED**:

1. **That** the updated Standards set out in the Appendix 1 are adopted from 2 September 2019 and that officers write to the respective District Councils to inform them of the new Standards;
2. To **agree** that officers work with the District Councils to consider the wider implications of the Government's reforms in respect of infrastructure delivery to support growth in the county; and
3. To **incorporate** any further amendments into the 2020 Standards Review.

## **2 Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework Update.**

- 2.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services setting out how the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework helped to demonstrate that, in the development of Local Plans, the authorities had discharged the “duty to co-operate”.

### **2.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to

- **Endorse** the updated Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework as part of our ongoing “duty to co-operate”.

## **3 Business Rates Pool Funding for West Winch Housing Access Road design work (and other strategic transport priorities).**

- 3.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services asking it to approve Norfolk County Council’s element of the local match-funding for the West Winch Housing Access Road and the Pullover Roundabout for scheme development so they could be added to the Capital Programme.

### **3.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

- **Approve** the match-funding for the BRP bids for the West Winch Housing Access Road (£1.1m) and the Pullover Roundabout (£100k) for scheme development. If the BRP bid is successful, then these schemes would be added to the capital programme for 2020/21 and 2021/22.

## **4 Future Mobility Zone Fund**

- 4.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services setting out that out of 14 applicants, Greater Norwich was one of 7 areas that had successfully reached the second stage of the funding application process.

### **4.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to **agree**:

1. The proposed programme of activity to be delivered as part of the Future Mobility Zone Project.
2. The outline of the business case as set out in the report.
3. To delegate sign-off of detailed submission to the Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure & Transport.

#### **4 France-Channel-England Government Guarantee of funding.**

- 4.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Community & Environmental Services setting out that Norfolk County Council (NCC) had requested, and had now received, a written guarantee from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) confirming that the UK Government would cover all the costs of NCC in ensuring delivery of the programme in the event of a no deal Brexit to ensure the smooth transition into whatever new arrangements apply as a result.

#### **4.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to **agree**:

1. that NCC continue management and delivery of the France (Channel) England (FCE) programme in the event of a no deal Brexit until the future of the programme is resolved.
2. that the treasury guarantee is sufficient to provide assurance that the programme will be managed at no cost to the Norfolk County Council budget.

#### **5 Leases for Early Childhood and Family Service Bases and leasing out of repurposed Children's Centres.**

- 5.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services setting out the 12 sites owned, plus 2 sites leased by Norfolk County Council that, following the service redesign, will be leased to Action for Children to provide the Early Childhood and Family Service for the Council. The Priory Centre site, Great Yarmouth would be leased directly to Action for Children by Great Yarmouth Community Trust. The Priory Centre site, together with the 14 NCC controlled sites would form the 15 early childhood and family support bases proposed in the report to Children's Services Committee in January 2019.

#### **4.2 Decision**

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to

1. **Agree** to enter into leases with Action for Children for 13 of the sites listed in table 1 of the report on the terms as detailed in the table in Appendix 1, with the NAR property remaining as a tenancy at will pending resolution of outstanding legal issues.
2. **Agree** to enter into leases for the sites and with the organisations as listed in table 2 of the report on the terms as detailed in the table in Appendix 2.
3. **Agree** to accept the surrender and re-granting of a lease or the granting of a supplemental lease for the sites and with the organisations as listed in table 3 of the report.
4. **Delegate** to the Head of Property the authority to make minor changes to affected leases to ensure each lease is completed in a timely manner.

## **5 Corporately Significant Vital Signs Report – August 2019**

5.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Strategy & Governance presenting the current performance information for corporately significant vital signs.

### **5.2 Decision**

Cabinet reviewed and commented on the performance data and **RESOLVED** to **agree** the recommended actions.

## **6 Risk Management Framework**

6.1 Cabinet received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services setting out how the Risk Management Policy Framework was being updated to reflect the governance changes and setting out the latest corporate risks under its remit.

### **6.2 Decision**

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to **agree**:

1. the key messages (2.1) and key changes (Appendix A) and the risks presented at Appendix B of the report.
2. the proposed approach to risk management for the Council.

## **7 Delegated Decisions Reports**

7.1 Cabinet **noted** the following Delegated Decisions:

### **Cabinet Member for Communities & Partnerships:**

- Period Poverty
- NFRS – Improvement Plan in response to 2019 inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

**Cllr Andrew Proctor**  
**Chairman, Cabinet**

## **Report of the Extraordinary Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 22 July 2019 and the Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 30 July 2019**

### **A: Items from Extraordinary Meeting of 22 July 2019**

#### **1. Norwich Western Link**

1.1 The Committee received the report considered by Cabinet on 15 July 2019 bringing together all the work completed by the County Council on the Norwich Western Link to establish the need for a road-based transport solution and to evaluate each of the options developed following completion of an options appraisal process.

1.2 The Committee reviewed the presentation and recommendations considered by Cabinet at their meeting of the 15 July 2019.

After discussion on the item the Chair **PROPOSED** that the meeting was adjourned at 16.30 for discussion to continue at the meeting the following week, on the 30 July 2019

1.3 The Scrutiny Committee

- **NOTED** the decision of Cabinet
- **ADJOURNED** the discussion to resume at the meeting of 30 July 2019

### **B: Items from Meeting of 30 July 2019**

#### **1. Call ins**

1.1 No call ins had been received

#### **2. Strategic and Financial Planning Scrutiny**

2.1 The Committee had agreed to invite Cabinet Members and Executive Directors to future Scrutiny Committee meetings to discuss underlying risks and activities on any firm budget proposals before they were presented to Cabinet

2.2 Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships Cllr Margaret Dewsbury gave background to her portfolio and the associated budgets and answered the Chairman and Scrutiny Committee's questions

2.3 Cabinet Member for Innovation, Transformation and Performance Councillor Tom Fitzpatrick gave background to his portfolio and answered the Chairman

and Committee's questions

- 2.4 Cabinet Member for Finance Cllr Jamieson gave background to his portfolio and answered the Chairman and Committee's questions
- 2.5 The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Cabinet Member for Innovation, Transformation and Performance and that the Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships quantified the value added of projects for other departments and services within the Council carried out by departments in their portfolios as part of planning for the future
- 3. Norwich Western Link**
  - 3.1 The Committee continued discussion from the extraordinary Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 22 July 2019 on the process and examination on the evidence by which the decision had been made at the Cabinet meeting of 15 July 2019.
  - 3.2 The Chairman and Committee Members questioned Cllr Jamieson on the Financial Aspects of the Norwich Western Link project.
  - 3.3 The Committee **AGREED** that the Chair and Vice-Chair would discuss with Officers how to take discussion on this item forward in the future, and would bring back a suggested approach to Committee at an appropriate time
- 4. Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan**
  - 4.1 The Committee considered and **AGREED** the forward work plan

**Steve Morpew  
Chair, Scrutiny Committee**

## Report of the Corporate Select Committee meeting held on 16 July 2019

### 1. Health, Safety and Well-being Annual Report 2018/19

- 1.1 The Committee received and discussed the report providing data and analysis on the Health, Safety and Well-being performance of Norfolk County Council as an employer and activity undertaken by the Health, Safety and Well-being Service to support the management of risks for 2018/19
- 1.2 The Committee:
- **CONSIDERED** the actions committed to by Corporate Board
  - **CONSIDERED** the actions identified for the Health, Safety and Well-being team for the forthcoming year
  - **CONSIDERED** and **COMMENTED** on the current approach to cost recovery and the impact this may have on services to NCC
  - **CONSIDERED** and **AGREED** there were no further recommendations to cabinet following presentation of the report
  - **REQUESTED** that the next Health, Safety and Well-being annual report include narrative about outcomes of courses attended by staff and actions completed

### 2. Constitution Amendments

- 2.1 At this meeting of the Corporate Select Committee, Members considered and discussed the proposed amendments outlined in Appendices A and B of the report.
- 2.2 The resolution made by the Committee at this meeting was presented as a recommendation to Full Council at its meeting of the 22 July 2019.

### 3. Digital Transformation and Customer Service Strategy

- 3.1 The Committee discussed the report giving an overview on the existing Customer Service Strategy and digital developments to date and seeking input from the Select Committee in shaping the way forward and next iteration of the strategy.
- 3.2 The Select Committee **RESOLVED** to:
1. **NOTE** progress to date on the digital transformation element of the Customer Service Strategy.
  2. **AGREE** for a further report to Select Committee on 14 November on the development of the Strategy, with a view to recommending a final version to Cabinet for approval in March 2020.

#### 4. Period Poverty

4.1 The committee considered the report which presented the findings of a review requested by Full Council at its meeting of 15 April 2019 regarding whether sanitary products should be provided at no charge in toilets of its premises for staff and service users to access.

4.2 The select committee discussed the options outlined in the [report at item 10 of the agenda](#)

4.3 With 6 votes for option 3 and 2 votes for option 4 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. **AGREE**, from the four options set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report, option 3 supplemented with option 1 in the 27 public facing premises to ensure service users can easily access sanitary products in those premises:  
*option 3: "purchase supplies and make them available to access free of charge in facilities"*  
*option 1: "Include a poster or other suitable information within all toilets in public facing buildings and in staff toilets in all NCC Buildings to promote the service already available in Norfolk libraries (the Tricky Period initiative), and direct service users there."*
2. **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet that a one-off budget provision of up to £5k is made available to enable officers to put arrangements in place to deliver the preferred option identified

#### 5. Corporate Select Committee Forward Work Plan

5.1 The committee considered and discussed items they would like to add to the forward work plan.

5.2 The Committee **AGREED** the forward plan.

**Karen Vincent**  
**Chairman**

## **Report of the Infrastructure and Development Select Committee Meetings held on 17 July and 11 September 2019**

### **A Report from the meeting held on 17 July 2019**

#### **1. Environment Policy for Norfolk**

- 1.1 The Select Committee received a verbal update from the Chairman of the task and finish group.

#### **2. Local Transport Plan 4**

- 2.1 The Select Committee received a verbal update from the Chairman of the Transport task and finish group.

#### **3. Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service – HMICFRS Inspection Outcomes**

- 3.1 The Select Committee received the report which set out the findings of the recent inspection of our Fire and Rescue Service by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services. It highlighted four areas where NFRS were providing a good service to Norfolk communities. It also highlighted some areas where they needed to make improvements.
- 3.2 The Select Committee **REVIEWED** and **COMMENTED** on the draft Improvement Plan set out in Appendix A of the report. Challenge and input was given around whether the Improvement Plan was robust in addressing the improvement areas identified, and realistic in terms of delivery.

#### **4. Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service – Emergency Services Collaboration**

- 4.1 The Select Committee received a presentation regarding the collaboration that had been taking place.
- 4.2 The Select Committee **NOTED** the presentation and the work that had been ongoing.

#### **5. Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review – Preferred Options Consultation**

- 5.1 The Select Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services which provided information about the proposed 'Preferred Options' consultation stage of the Minerals and Waste Local Plans Review, which included the proposed planning policies for minerals and waste management development and the proposed mineral extraction sites. The report also provided information on the revised Minerals and Waste Development Scheme.

- 5.2 The Select Committee **RESOLVED** to;
1. Comment on the revised Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) and recommend Cabinet resolve that the MWDS shall have effect from 1 September 2019.
  2. Comment on the draft Preferred Options document and recommend Cabinet agreement to publish the Preferred Options document for consultation.
  3. Comment on the consultation methods proposed in this report and recommend Cabinet agreement to carry out the Preferred Options consultation using the methods detailed in this report.

## 6. Highway Asset Performance

- 6.1 The Select Committee received the report which provided an annual summary of how well NCC were managing their highway assets. Highway asset performance was assessed on an annual basis against a set of previously agreed service level priorities to inform decisions and make the best use of capital funding available. Revenue budgets, used for general maintenance and repair, were not part of the report. The capital budget for 2019/20 was £34 million and the estimated budget for 2020/21 was £35 million.
- 6.2 The Select Committee;
- a) **NOTED** the progress against the Asset Management Strategy Performance framework and the continuation of the current strategy and targets (Appendix A and B of the report)
  - b) **ENDORSED** the proposed realignment of the Asset Management Policy (Appendix C of the report) with the council plan agreed in May 2019
  - c) **ENDORSED** the enhanced detail in the Asset Management Strategy (Appendix D) and revised targets to 2021-22 (Appendix E of the report)
  - d) **NOTED** the performance against Key Performance Indicator's in Highway Contracts (Tarmac, WSP & Dynniq) (Appendix F of the report)

## 7. Proposed Update to Planning Obligations Standards 2019

- 7.1 The Select Committee received the report which set out a series of suggested / proposed amendments to the Standards reflecting Government's proposals on reforming developer contributions and addressed members issues raised at the EDT Committee in March 2019. The report also suggested further joined-up working with the district councils to consider the wider implications of the Government's reforms.
- 7.2 The Select Committee **AGREED**;
- (1) To recommend the amended Planning Obligations Standards (as set out in Appendix A) to Cabinet on 2 September 2019 for approval;
  - (2) That officers work with the District Councils to consider the wider implications of the Government's reforms in respect of infrastructure delivery to support growth in the County;
  - (3) That any further amendments will be incorporated into the next annual review of the Standards for 2020.

## 8. Forward Work Programme

- 8.1 The Select Committee received the report which set out the forward work programme

for the Committee.

- 8.2 The Select Committee **AGREED** the work programme.

## **B Report from the meeting held on 11 September 2019**

### **1. Presentation from the King's Lynn - Hunstanton Railway Campaign**

- 1.1 The Select Committee received the presentation from the King's Lynn - Hunstanton Railway Campaign which made the case for reconnecting Hunstanton to King's Lynn via a new rail line, utilising the previous alignment where appropriate.
- 1.2 The Select Committee **RECEIVED** the presentation from the King's Lynn - Hunstanton Railway Campaign and **ENDORSED** officers to commission technical work to assess the likely viability of reopening the railway and to report back to this Committee for recommendations and comments.

### **2. Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan**

- 2.1 The Select Committee received the annexed report which set out the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan for 2020 onwards and the five areas of development and change at appendix B and a public consultation on the proposals.
- 2.2 The Select Committee **REVIEWED** and **COMMENTED** on the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan set out in Appendix B, in particular the five areas for development and change that would form the basis of public consultation.

### **3. Environment Policy for Norfolk**

- 3.1 The Select Committee received the report which set out the progress to date of the Task and Finish Group in advance of presenting its final conclusions and findings, including a new Environmental Policy, to Full Council in November.
- 3.2 The Select Committee **NOTED** the progress to date and that the Task and Finish Group is on track to report its conclusions and findings to Full Council at the meeting on 25 November 2019.

### **4. Residual Waste Procurement Strategy**

- 4.1 The Select Committee received the report which set out the proposed approach to securing new services for County's residual waste from 1 April 2021.
- 4.2 The Select Committee **CONSIDERED** and provided any comment on the proposed waste procurement strategy, including the evaluation model at Appendix A of the report.

### **5. Forward Work Programme**

- 5.1 The Select Committee sets out the Forward Work Programme for the Committee.

- 5.2 The Select Committee;
1. **REVIEWED** and **AGREED** the Forward Work Programme for the Select Committee.
  2. **AGREED** the Terms of Reference for the Local Transport Plan Member Task and Finish Group, as set out in Appendix B of the report.

**Cllr Barry Stone, Chairman  
Infrastructure and Development Select Committee**

## Report of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 25 July and 5 September 2019

### A: Items from the meeting of 25 July 2019

#### 1. Election of Vice Chairman

- 1.1 Cllr Nigel Legg was duly elected as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing Council year

#### 2. Future of primary care (GP) services for residents of Fairstead, King's Lynn

- 2.1 The Committee received the consultation from Vida Healthcare supported by West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group regarding their preferred option of closure of Fairstead Surgery and expansion of Gayton Road Health Centre and St Augustine's branch surgery. The Committee also heard from Cllr Thomas Smith, Local Member for Gaywood South and Mr Watkins, Chairman of Fairstead Patient Participation Group.
- 2.2 The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the CCG and Vida Healthcare meet with King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Councillors to explain and discuss the proposed option for the future of primary care service for residents of Fairstead.

#### 3. Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust

- 3.1 The Committee discussed the report received as a follow-up to previous scrutiny of Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) and examination of the Trust and commissioners' response to the report of the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) inspection between 3 and 27 September 2018, published on 28 November 2018
- 3.2 The Committee:
- **ASKED** NSFT to return to NHOSC with an update after publication of the next Care Quality Commission full inspection report, expected by October 2019.
  - **AGREED** that An NHOSC Members' visit to Samphire Ward, the new facility at Chatterton House, King's Lynn, would be arranged

#### 4. Local action to address health and care workforce shortages

- 4.1 The Committee received the report examining the Norfolk and Waveney Sustainability Transformation Partnership workforce workstream's local action to address and mitigate the effects of national workforce shortages affecting health and care services. This report followed on from discussions held at the meeting on 30 May 2019.
- 4.2 The Committee **ASKED** for:
- (a) Information from a national study on where healthcare professionals choose to work and why to be shared with NHOSC Members (i.e. the reasons why so few from the study were choosing East Anglia as the place they wished to live and work), so that County and Borough Councillors can consider what more their councils can do to

attract people to the area.

- (b) Representatives from the STP workforce workstream to return to NHOSC next year (2020) with an update on local actions to mitigate the effects of national workforce shortages

## **5. Forward Work Plan**

- 5.1 The Committee considered and discussed the forward workplan
- 5.2.1 The Committee **CONFIRMED** appointments to link and substitute link members
- 5.2.2 The Committee **AGREED** the forward work plan with additional information

## **B: Items from meeting of 5 September 2019**

### **1. Access to palliative and end of life care**

- 1.1 The Committee received the report, which outlined information to allow them to examine progress to improve specialist and generalist palliative and end of life care commissioned and provided for adults in Norfolk.
- 1.2 The Committee:
  - (a) **ASKED** Norfolk & Waveney STP Palliative and End of Life Care Collaborative Group partners to return to NHOSC with a progress update in 6 months' time (i.e. at 19 March 2020 meeting).
  - (b) **AGREED** that the Queen Elizabeth Hospital should be approached to arrange an NHOSC Member visit to better understand the action underway to improve end of life care.

### **2. Physical health checks for adults with learning disabilities**

- 2.1 The Committee received the report giving detail on progress on work to improve the take-up of physical health checks for adults with learning disabilities in Norfolk and the quality of health checks received
- 2.2 The Committee **REQUESTED** progress updates to be provided via the NHOSC Briefing, including total numbers of patients registered and health checks delivered at each GP practice.

### **3. Ambulance response and turnaround times in Norfolk**

- 3.1 The Committee received and discussed the report examining action to improve ambulance response and turnaround times since February 2019 and preparations for winter 2019-20.
- 3.2 The Committee:
  - (a) **REQUESTED** Information on waiting times at the N&N A&E to be provided, including numbers of patients waiting up to 6 hours.
  - (b) **ASKED** The East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST), Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (NNUH), Norfolk & Waveney CCGs and Adult Social Care representatives to return to NHOSC

- with a progress update in a year's time.
- (c) **AGREED** that a date in 2020 will be arranged for NHOSC Members' follow-up visit to the NNUH Older People's Emergency Department. (The original visit was in January 2018).

#### **4. Forward work programme**

- 4.1 The Committee considered and discussed the forward workplan
- 4.2.1 The Committee **CONFIRMED** appointments to link and substitute link members
- 4.2.2 The Committee **AGREED** the forward work plan with additional information.

**Chair,  
Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

## Report of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 29 July 2019

### 1 Annual Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2018-19

1.1 The Committee considered the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services presenting the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2018-19.

1.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

- **Note** that, following annual reviews, the systems of internal control and internal audit are considered adequate and effective;
- **Approve** the Annual Governance Statement.
- **Approve** the Council's 2018-19 Statement of Accounts.

### 2 Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Pension Fund Audit Results Reports – Audit Committee Summary for the year ended 31 March 2019

2.1 The Committee considered the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services introducing the External Auditor's (Ernst & Young) Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Pension Fund Audit Results Reports – Audit Committee Summary for the year ended 31 March 2019.

2.2 The Committee considered and **noted** the matters raised in the Ernst & Young Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Pension Fund Audit Results Reports before Ernst & Young issued their audit reports.

### 3 Audit Letters of Representation 2018-19

3.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services introducing the letters of representation of Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Pension Fund for 2018-19. The letters of representation covered matters material to the financial statements and possible non-compliance with laws and regulations.

3.2 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

- **Endorse** the letters of representation in respect of the Pension Fund and of Norfolk County Council, and
- **Authorise** the Chairman of the Audit Committee and Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services to sign the letters on behalf of the Council.

#### **4 Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Progress Report**

- 4.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services and the Chief Legal Officer introducing the NAS Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Audit Committee Progress Report (including Whistleblowing).
- 4.2 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to **agree**:
- The key messages featured in this update.
  - The content of the Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption and Whistleblowing Audit Committee Progress Report (Appendix A) and that the progress was satisfactory, and arrangements were effective.
  - The updated activity plan at Appendix B of the report.
  - The CIFAS Fraudscape report at Appendix C of the report.

#### **5 Norfolk Audit Services Report for the Quarter ending 30 June 2019**

- 5.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services supporting the remit of the Audit Committee in providing proactive leadership and direction on audit governance and risk management issues. The report updated the Committee on the progress with the delivery of the internal audit work and advised on the overall opinion on the effectiveness of risk management and internal control, by setting out the work to support the opinion and any matters of note.
- 5.2 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to **agree**:
- The key messages featured in the report.
  - That the Chief Internal Auditor review procedure meets Public Sector Internal Audit (PSIA) Standards.

#### **6 Work Programme**

- 6.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services setting out the work programme.
- 6.2 The Committee considered and **noted** the report and agreed to receive a report on the overall preparations of Brexit at its October meeting

**Ian Mackie**  
**Chairman, Audit Committee**

## Report of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee Meetings held on 26 July and 6 September 2019

### A: Items from Meeting of 26 July 2019

- 1 **C/1/2018/1016, Pinkney's Field, Breck Farm, Stody Estate, Melton Constable; C/1/2018/1017, Breck Farm Reservoir, Stody Estate, Melton Constable; and C/1/2018/1018, Breck Farm Reservoir, Stody Estate, Melton Constable**
  - 1.1 The Committee considered the three interlinked planning applications that sought permission to relocate one of two previously approved agricultural reservoirs to the adjacent Pinkney's field. In addition to the main application itself, two section 73 applications had also been lodged in order to facilitate this proposal
  - 1.2 The Committee took a vote on each application, C/1/2018/1016, C/1/2018/1017, and C/1/2018/1018
  - 1.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** in respect of each application unanimously that the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services be **AUTHORISED** to:
    - i. Grant planning permission for all three applications subject to the conditions set out in section 13 of the Officer's report.
    - ii. Discharge conditions where the permissions detailed above requires the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commences, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
    - iii. Delegate powers to Officers to deal with any non-material amendments to the applications that may be submitted.
2. **C/3/2018/3001: Anglian Business Centre, West Carr Road, Attleborough**
  - 2.1 The Committee considered the application for a recycling facility for construction, demolition and excavation waste
  - 2.2 The Committee unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services be **AUTHORISED** to:
    - i. Grant planning permission subject to the conditions outlined in section 13 of the Officer's report.
    - ii. Discharge conditions where those detailed above require the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commences, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
    - iii. Delegate powers to Officers to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.

## **B: Items from meeting of 6 September 2019**

### **1. FUL/2019/0005: Hethersett Junior School, Queens Road, Hethersett, Norwich, Norfolk NR9 3DB**

- 1.1 The Committee considered the proposal for expansion of the existing 240 pupil place junior school to a 420-pupil place primary school by way of a new stand-alone building incorporating 8 new class bases, studio hall and other ancillary accommodation. Improved vehicular and pedestrian access to the school off Queen's Road leading to 44 no. space car park including 3 no. disabled car parking spaces, creation of a secondary pedestrian access route to the school from Admiral's Way and minor refurbishment works to existing school
- 1.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** to **DEFER** the application to the next Planning (Regulatory) Committee to allow the applicant to reconsider the design of the building on the grounds of public amenity and in particular to consider whether the design could be altered to reduce the amount of shadowing in neighbour's gardens.

### **2. Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing, being considered as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)**

- 2.1 The Chairman declared a non-pecuniary interest as Chair of the Third River Crossing Member Working Group and chose not to take part in discussion, voting or chairing of the item; this Item was Chaired by the Vice-Chairman.
- 2.2 The Committee received the proposal for a dual carriageway road with a double leaf bascule bridge crossing the River Yare, Great Yarmouth, connecting Harfrey's roundabout to the west of the River Yare with South Denes Road (A1243) to the east of the River Yare, and associated works
- 2.3 The Committee **RESOLVED** that The Head of Planning on behalf of Norfolk County Council as County Planning Authority be **AUTHORISED** to
  - 1. submit responses to the Planning Inspectorate in relation to the application for a Development Consent Order for the Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing in consultation with the Vice Chairman of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee (or Cllr White if the Vice-Chairman is unavailable) and
  - 2. to delegate powers to Officers to determine the applications to Discharge the Requirements (equivalent to planning conditions) of the Development Consent Order should it be made

### **3. C/2/2019/2009: Land adjacent to Riverside Farm, Garage Lane, Setchey, King's Lynn**

- 3.1 The Committee received the proposal for a retrospective change of use of agricultural land to extension of existing waste facility for storage purposes and screening operations for soils and hardcore to remove aggregates for resale and create screened topsoil with additional associated landscaping and provision of 2 no. modular office/welfare units (Skippy Skip Hire)

3.2

The Committee **RESOLVED** to

- a) **DELEGATE** authority to the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services, after consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee to grant planning permission subject to appropriate conditions,
- b) delegate authority to the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services to deal with any conditions that need to be discharged and any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.
- c) The reasons for the Committee's resolution were that the following material considerations outweighed the departure from the development plan:
  - 1. The need for the waste management facility at this location;
  - 2. The employment the waste management facility provides; and
  - 3. That there were no objections from statutory consultees.

**Colin Foulger**

Chairman, Planning (Regulatory) Committee

### **Notice of Motions**

Notice of the following motions has been given in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules:

1. Proposed by Steff Aquarone, seconded by Brian Watkins

This Council notes that:

- The Government's Operation Yellow Hammer documents state that a No deal Brexit could result in a reduction in choice and availability of food, and potential price increases for utilities, food and fuel.
- It also states that there could be a rise in public disorder and community tensions resulting from a shortage of food and drugs.
- These views are confirmed in Norfolk County Council's EU "No deal" Exit Strategy which also raises other issues such as disruption to care provision and food supply chain problems to Norfolk schools and care homes.

The Council believes that Norfolk's people should be protected as far as possible from the effects of a No Deal Brexit.

Therefore, this Council agrees to:

- Report to all members and the public through its normal media channels weekly on what measures the County Council has in place for coping with the effects of a no deal Brexit. These reports should include how much money the County Council is spending on these preparations.
- Report to all members and the public through its normal media channels weekly on the work that is being done to protect Norfolk's public should a no deal Brexit happen.

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2. Proposed by Steve Morphew, seconded by Brenda Jones

Council regrets the publication and circulation to families affected by the minimum income guarantee reduction of the Money Advice leaflet that among other things advises eating a big breakfast in order to reduce spending on lunch, inviting friends round to reduce the cost of going out and shopping at online discount food shops. Council believes that the hardship being imposed on disabled young people and their carers should not be made worse by

disrespectful, patronising and condescending suggestions to mitigate hardship created by the choice to cut MIG made by Council.

Council resolves to request the appropriate cabinet member to immediately stop the circulation of this leaflet and instead work with the disabled people and carers to ensure they get the advice they need rather than the advice other people think they need.

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3. Proposed by Tim Adams, seconded by David Harrison

This Council notes that:

- The Charity Scope have created a Disability Price Tag that calculates the average additional monthly income that a disabled person would need in order to achieve the same standard of living as a non-disabled person. They have calculated that on average, disabled people face extra costs of £583 a month related to their impairment or condition, even after receiving welfare payments designed to help meet these costs.
- For one in five disabled people, extra costs amount to over £1,000 per month.
- It is £528 per month for one disabled child in a family and £823 for 2 or more disabled children in a family.
- The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman undertook 61 detailed investigations into Norfolk County Council for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. It upheld 67% of those complaints. That is a higher than average figure of upheld decisions compared to similar authorities.
- Some of the cases upheld against the council were to do with its charging policies such as the 29 April 2019 decision 18 012 762 where the Council gave incorrect advice to Mrs X about her mother's residential care and refused to meet the full cost of the care and required Mrs X to pay a top up or the 2 April 2019 decision 18 012 892 where the Council reduced Mr X's personal budget without properly considering his individual needs and wishes.
- Whilst accepting that the statutory guidance provides an indicative list of disability-related expenditure examples and it is not possible for the list to be comprehensive, as it will vary from person to person, residents have expressed concern over gaps in the Council's Disability Related Expenditure policy such as what happens to a physically disabled couple that become parents.
- The Government has met the Local Government Association's call for £1 billion of funding nationally for Adult Social Care in the next financial year.

The Council believes that:

- The incorrect assessment of needs and implementation of charging policies causes unnecessary distress and anxiety to people the council should be supporting.
- Vice President Hubert Humphrey was right when he said, "The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped."

Therefore, this Council agrees to

- Review its Adult Social Care charging policies to ensure that gaps in advice can be closed so that there is clarity of information being given to the public.
- Undertake an urgent assessment of the effect of the Council's Adult Social Care charging policies over the last three years to understand what effect those policies have had on vulnerable and disabled people across Norfolk.
- Request the Executive Director of Adult Social Services to submit that assessment to the full council meeting on 20 January 2020.

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#### 4. Proposed by Marie Strong, seconded by Ed Maxfield

This Council notes that:

- The European Union (EU) asked nations to grade rivers between poor, moderate, good and high. Governments should aim for rivers to be "good" - meaning relatively unaffected by human activity.
- The EU's Water Framework Directive set a target for all rivers to be "good" by 2027.
- The UK government in its 25-year environment plan aims for 75% of rivers to be in good health "as soon as is practicable".
- The Environment Agency states that currently 8% of rivers in the Anglian river basin meet a good ecological status.
- By 2027, the Environment Agency estimates that 43% of Anglian rivers will be "good."
- The Environment Agency permits water companies to spill untreated sewage into rivers during extreme rainfall. The World Wildlife Fund claim that water companies are discharging even when there is light rain due, the charity says, due to "insufficient capacity in the system."
- Norfolk Broads Authority states that clear water now only occurs in about five of the 63 broads.
- Norfolk Broads Authority says that by 2027, it wants to see Norfolk's rivers and broads meeting the requirements of European legislation and local aspiration.
- The Government's Water Environment Grant scheme that provided funding to improve the water environment in rural England ended in May 2018.

The Council believes that:

- The East Anglian region should be renowned for its beautiful wetlands and rivers.
- Unpolluted rivers are essential for human health and for wildlife. More needs to be done to make our rivers clean enough for swimming and pollution free for fish, birds, insects and mammals.

Therefore, this Council agrees to:

- Call on the Government to fast-track flagship legislation to better protect and restore our waterways and invest in effective monitoring and enforcement to ensure that all our rivers are once again clean and healthy.