

# Norfolk County Council

Date: **Tuesday, 13 December 2022**

Time: **10 am**

Venue: **Council Chamber, County Hall, Martineau Lane,  
Norwich NR1 2DH**

**To: All members of the Council. You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council for the purpose of transacting the business set out in this agenda.**

## **Advice for members of the public (updated December 2022):**

This meeting will be held in public and in person.

It will be live streamed on YouTube and members of the public may watch remotely by clicking on the following link: [Norfolk County Council YouTube](#)

We also welcome attendance in person, but public seating is limited, so if you wish to attend please indicate in advance by emailing [committees@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:committees@norfolk.gov.uk).

We have amended the previous guidance relating to respiratory infections to reflect current practice but we still ask everyone attending to maintain good hand and respiratory hygiene and, at times of high prevalence and in busy areas, please consider wearing a face covering.

Please stay at home if you have tested positive for COVID 19, have symptoms of a respiratory infection or if you are a close contact of a positive COVID 19 case. This will help make the event safe for attendees and limit the transmission of respiratory infections including COVID-19.

## **Prayers**

## **AGENDA**

### **1 Apologies**

### **2 Minutes**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2022.

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### **3 To receive any announcements from the Chair, Leader or Head of Paid Service (maximum of 15 minutes)**

### **4 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 to a greater extent than others in your division:

- Your wellbeing or financial position, or
- that of your family or close friends
- Any body –
  - Exercising functions of a public nature.
  - Directed to charitable purposes; or
  - 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.

**5 Petitions presented to Council: none**

**6 Business (if any) remaining from the last Council meeting.**

Note: Motions not dealt with previously and not withdrawn have been incorporated into item 18 on the agenda. Motions are in the order laid out in Rule 10.1.2.

**7 Member questions to the Leader (a maximum of 15 minutes will be allowed for this item)**

Procedure Note attached.

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**8 Recommendations from Cabinet**

**8.1** Meeting held on 7 November 2022

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**8.2** Meeting held on 5 December 2022

**To  
Follow**

|             |   |                                  |
|-------------|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>9</b>    | <b>Cabinet Reports and questions to Cabinet Members</b>   |                                  |
| <b>9.1</b>  | Report from meeting held on 7 November 2022   | <b>Page 34</b>                   |
| <b>9.2</b>  | Report from Cabinet meeting held on 5 December 2022<br>Procedure Note attached                              | <b>To<br/>Follow<br/>Page 38</b> |
| <b>10</b>   | <b>Recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee and Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</b> none |                                  |
| <b>11</b>   | <b>Recommendations from Committees</b>  |                                  |
| <b>11.1</b> | Recommendations from the Corporate Select Committee meeting held on 14 November 2022                        | <b>Page 39</b>                   |
| <b>11.2</b> | Recommendations from the Governance and Audit Committee meeting held on 28 November 2022                    | <b>Page 50</b>                   |
| <b>12</b>   | <b>Specific Business Items:</b> none  |                                  |
| <b>13.</b>  | <b>Report from Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 19 October 2022 and 23 November 2022</b>                  | <b>Page 51</b>                   |
| <b>14</b>   | <b>Report from Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 10 November 2022</b>                          | <b>Page 54</b>                   |
| <b>15</b>   | <b>Reports from other Committees</b>  |                                  |
| <b>15.1</b> | <b>Governance and Audit Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 28 November 2022                                   | <b>Page 60</b>                   |
| <b>15.2</b> | <b>Planning (Regulatory) Committee:</b> none  | <b>N/A</b>                       |
| <b>15.3</b> | <b>Pensions Committee:</b> none   | <b>N/A</b>                       |
| <b>15.4</b> | <b>Employment Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 30 November 2022   | <b>To<br/>follow</b>             |
| <b>15.5</b> | <b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b><br>Meeting held on 9 November 2022  | <b>Page 64</b>                   |
| <b>16</b>   | <b>Reports from Select Committees</b>   |                                  |
| <b>16.1</b> | <b>Corporate Select Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 14 November 2022                                       | <b>Page 67</b>                   |
| <b>16.2</b> | <b>Infrastructure &amp; Development Select Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 16 November 2022                | <b>Page 70</b>                   |

|             |   |                |
|-------------|---|----------------|
| <b>16.3</b> | <b>People and Communities Select Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 18 November 2022                                    | <b>Page 72</b> |
| <b>17</b>   | <b>Reports about the business of joint arrangements and external organisations</b>                                    |                |
| <b>17.1</b> | <b>Norfolk Joint Museums Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 28 October 2022   | <b>Page 75</b> |
| <b>17.2</b> | <b>Norfolk Records Committee</b><br>Meeting held on 28 October 2022   | <b>Page 78</b> |
| <b>18</b>   | <b>Notice of Motions</b>  | <b>Page 80</b> |
| <b>19</b>   | <b>Questions on notice under Rule 9.3: none</b>   |                |
| <b>20</b>   | <b>Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees (Standard item).</b>                               |                |
|             | (i) To note any changes made under delegated powers since the last meeting.   |                |
|             | Cllr Long appointed to replace Cllr Annison as a substitute member on Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. |                |
|             | Cllr Long appointed to replace Cllr G Carpenter on the Scrutiny Committee   |                |
|             | Cllr G Carpenter appointed to fill vacancy on Corporate Select Committee  |                |
|             | Cllr Mason Billig appointed to fill vacancy on Governance and Audit Committee   |                |
|             | Cllr James and Cllr Whymark appointed to replace Cllr Thomas and Cllr Connolly on the Corporate Parenting Board       |                |
|             | (ii) To consider any proposals from Group Leaders for changes to committee places or consequential positions.         |                |
|             | A change in the Member Champion for Disabilities, from Cllr White to Cllr Long  |                |

Tom McCabe  
Head of Paid Service  
County Hall  
Martineau Lane  
NORWICH  
NR1 2DH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McCabe', with a stylized, cursive script.

Agenda Published: 5 December 2022

**Norfolk County Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting Held at 10am on Tuesday 11 October 2022**

|                 |                                     |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> |                                     |                         |
|                 | <b>ADAMS</b> Tim                    | <b>KIDDIE</b> Keith     |
|                 | <b>ADAMS</b> Tony                   | <b>LONG</b> Brian       |
|                 | <b>ANNISON</b> Carl                 | <b>MACKIE</b> Ian       |
|                 | <b>AQUARONE</b> Steffan             | <b>MASON BILLIG</b> Kay |
|                 | <b>BAMBRIDGE</b> Lesley             | <b>MAXFIELD</b> Ed      |
|                 | <b>BENSLY</b> James                 | <b>MORIARTY</b> Jim     |
|                 | <b>BILLS</b> David                  | <b>MORPHEW</b> Steve    |
|                 | <b>BIRMINGHAM</b> Alison            | <b>OLIVER</b> Rhodri    |
|                 | <b>BLUNDELL</b> Sharon              | <b>OSBORN</b> Jamie     |
|                 | <b>BORRETT</b> Bill                 | <b>PECK</b> Greg        |
|                 | <b>BOWES</b> Claire                 | <b>PENFOLD</b> Saul     |
|                 | <b>BROCIEK-COULTON</b> Julie        | <b>PLANT</b> Graham     |
|                 | <b>CARPENTER</b> Penny              | <b>PRICE</b> Ben        |
|                 | <b>CLANCY</b> Stuart                | <b>PRICE</b> Richard    |
|                 | <b>COLMAN</b> Ed                    | <b>PROCTOR</b> Andrew   |
|                 | <b>COLWELL</b> Robert               | <b>RICHMOND</b> Will    |
|                 | <b>CORLETT</b> Emma                 | <b>REILLY</b> Mathew    |
|                 | <b>DALBY</b> Michael                | <b>RILEY</b> Steve      |
|                 | <b>DARK</b> Stuart                  | <b>ROPER</b> Dan        |
|                 | <b>DAUBNEY</b> Nick                 | <b>RUMSBY</b> Chrissie  |
|                 | <b>DAWSON</b> Christopher           | <b>SANDS</b> Mike       |
|                 | <b>DEWSBURY</b> Margaret            | <b>SAVAGE</b> Robert    |
|                 | <b>DIXON</b> Nigel                  | <b>SHIRES</b> Lucy      |
|                 | <b>DUFFIN</b> Barry                 | <b>SMITH</b> Carl       |
|                 | <b>DUIGAN</b> Phillip               | <b>SMITH-CLARE</b> Mike |
|                 | <b>ELMER</b> Daniel                 | <b>STONE</b> Barry      |
|                 | <b>FISHER</b> John                  | <b>THOMAS</b> Alison    |
|                 | <b>FITZPATRICK</b> Tom              | <b>THOMPSON</b> Vic     |
|                 | <b>GRANT</b> Andy                   | <b>VARDY</b> Eric       |
|                 | <b>GURNEY</b> Shelagh               | <b>VINCENT</b> Karen    |
|                 | <b>HEMPSALL</b> Lana                | <b>WALKER</b> Colleen   |
|                 | <b>HORSBRUGH</b> Michael Chenery of | <b>WARD</b> John        |
|                 | <b>JAMES</b> Jane                   | <b>WATKINS</b> Brian    |
|                 | <b>JAMIESON</b> Andrew              | <b>WEBB</b> Maxine      |
|                 | <b>JERMY</b> Terry                  | <b>WHITE</b> Tony       |
|                 | <b>KEMP</b> Alexandra               | <b>WHYMARK</b> Fran     |
|                 |                                     | <b>WILBY</b> Martin     |
|                 |                                     |                         |
|                 |                                     |                         |

**Present: 73**

## **1 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Stephen Askew, Cllr Graham Carpenter, Cllr Ed Connolly, Cllr Fabian Eagle, Cllr Julian Kirk, Cllr Brenda Jones, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris, Cllr Paul Neale, Cllr Judy Oliver and Cllr Martin Storey.

## **2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- 2.1 The minutes of the County Council meeting held on 19 July 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **3 Chair's Announcements**

- 3.1 The Chair said that while all of the Chair's events could be found on the Chair's website she wished to highlight two recent events. Firstly, to thank Members and the Norfolk Museums Service for attending and hosting the Chair's reception at the Gressenhall Rural Life Museum where it was a great pleasure to present Youth Flourish Awards to some inspiring young people in recognition of what they had done over the last few years. Secondly, the Chair wished to place on record thanks to Caroline Clarke, Sharon Stone and Michelle Bede-Cox for ensuring that the proclamation of His Majesty the King was delivered professionally and seamlessly here at County Hall on Sunday 11 September 2022.
- 3.2 The Chair invited the Leader of the Council and the other Group Leaders to say a few words in joining with her to express their thoughts following the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and to celebrate the accession of our new King.
- 3.3 After the Leader of the Council, the other Group Leaders and the non-aligned Member had expressed their thoughts in remembrance of Her Majesty, the Chair asked Councillors to also remember former County Councillor Nigel Shaw, who was a sitting Broadland District Councillor and who died suddenly last month and The Viscountess Knollys, former High Sheriff, and former Vice Lord Lieutenant, who also served as a South Norfolk Councillor for many years.
- 3.4 Members of the Council then held a minute's silence in their memory.

## **4 Declarations of Interest**

- 4.1 Cllr Lesley Bambridge declared an "other interest" in the third motion on the agenda (helping rural Norfolk with the cost-of-living crisis) in that she was a trustee of West Norfolk carers.

## **5 Petitions presented to Council**

- 5.1 There were no items of petition for council to consider.

## **6 Business (if any) remaining from the last Council meeting.**

6.1 The Chair said that there were various committee reports which Council had not had time to discuss at the previous meeting which were added into relevant items that could be found further on today's agenda as this was the most pragmatic way of dealing with them.

6.2 The Chair then referred to the reports and recommendations from Cabinet (and other Committees) at Items 11.1 and 11.2 of the agenda that Council had previously been dealt with directly after questions to the Leader. The Chair said that under the revised constitution these items would continue to be considered in the same order and therefore she would use her discretion under rule 2.2a of the constitution to reorder business and take items 11.1 and 11.2 immediately after item 7 on the agenda (see minute 8).

## **7 Questions to the Leader**

### **7.1 Question from Cllr Steve Morphew**

Cllr Steve Morphew said that the 'next years' budget gap was originally £60m. Despite starting the process earlier than usual the headline figures fall way short of bridging the shortfall. The Leader had wasted millions on what they now classed as superfluous tiers, duplication and cost more millions in consultant fees and redundancy to dismantle. Inflation, soaring demand for services and relying on a succession of false hopes there would be a government bailout had left us woefully short of resilience and forward planning, and he had been unable to influence even his own government. Did he think his letter to the latest iteration of the Prime Minister would reside on the same spike as those to her predecessors as councils become the sacrificial lamb to her economic shambles? Did he agree the local government pay settlement, care sector fees to meet increased pay and tackle staffing crisis, fuel increases and general inflation that did not even feature in the figures were likely to push next year's budget gap close to £100m? The Leader had left Norfolk exposed with no answers at a time of national crisis. Was it not time the Conservative Group found somebody more up to the task?

In reply, the Leader said that the £100m budget gap identified at the start of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) arose from inflation, demographics and financial pressures that came before the Council from one year to the next. These pressures had to be dealt with before anything else could be done. The MTFS would be updated as the implications of the cost-of-living crisis on the Council became clearer. The Administration was getting on with its well-established annual budget setting process and taking constructive steps to grow the local economy along the lines that the Prime Minister and government policy had set out to grow the national economy. Cllr Jamieson and the finance team were developing a robust balanced 2023-24 budget for the Council.

### **7.2 Question from Cllr Brian Watkins**

Cllr Brian Watkins said that the Conservative Party Chairman Mr Jake Berry had said people struggling with bills should get a "new job." With the government u turns only to save their jobs rather than help people, why



could not a seemingly large number of prominent Conservatives understand what people were having to go through. What would the Leader's response be to an elector in his division who told him that they had to choose between eating and heating this winter?

In reply, the Leader said that he did not necessarily agree with all that was said by Mr Berry. However, it was important for everyone to take personal responsibility for how they ran their own lives and for the Government's approach to helping people in financial hardship to be placed in its proper context. This could best be seen in comments made by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions when she said that protecting the most vulnerable members of society was a top government priority. The Government had put in place an energy support scheme to help those in financial hardship and was doing all that it could to help achieve economic growth. Too often opposition political parties and those in the media talked the country down.

### **7.3 Question from Cllr Jamie Osborn**

Cllr Jamie Osborn said that the Conservatives' disastrous "mini-budget" had seen interest rates soaring and many contracts becoming more expensive as the value of the pound had tanked. This would make Norfolk's borrowing even more expensive, putting even more pressure on the County Council's budget. Could the Leader tell us whether the mini budget would mean that even more cuts beyond the £60m already planned would be brought forward?

In reply, the Leader said that there was still some way to go in terms of pulling together a comprehensive list of budget savings for the next financial year, but he remained confident that by February 2023 the Administration would have a robust, balanced, and strong budget for the year ahead.

### **7.4 Question from Cllr Carl Smith**

Cllr Carl Smith asked if the Leader could provide an update on progress with County Deals?

In reply, the Leader said that Norfolk remained a front runner in terms of concluding a county deal with the new Secretary of State. This might end up having many similarities with the published text for the North Yorkshire and York deal. The timing of any deal was in the hands of the Government, however, as the Prime Minister came from Norfolk and the Deputy Prime Minister from Suffolk there might be joint announcements regarding the outcomes of bids in both counties. The text of any proposed deal would be brought to Full Council for consideration and thereafter go out to formal public consultation probably in Spring 2023. Council would have a final say on a move to a directly elected leader, probably at the end of 2023.

### **7.5 Question from Cllr Alexandra Kemp**

Cllr Alexandra Kemp said that since the Chancellor had introduced unfunded tax cuts that led to financial markets taking fright many people had seen

their mortgage rates double and their rents go up. The help promised with energy bills was not going to be enough because people also needed help with food bills. What was the current position regarding the household support fund and food hubs in King's Lynn and West Norfolk?

In reply, the Leader said the mini-budget was about more than income tax reductions; it put in place measures to strengthen the economy and support those in financial difficulties. The household support fund was provided through government funding to upper tier authorities to spend with their partners. Nourishing Norfolk was an example of how the County Council had worked in collaboration with its partners to establish 15 food hubs across the county. The Norfolk Food Hubs were a good example of the many ways in which Norfolk County Council and its partners supported people with the cost-of-living crisis.

#### **7.6 Question from Cllr Alison Birmingham**

Cllr Alison Birmingham said that back in May 2022, the Corporate Select Committee were advised that a written response would be sent out about the low occupancy rate of the new tier of the car park at County Hall. Could the Leader confirm if this was forthcoming and, if not, could we have an update because it was not looking good, weed strewn, empty, and neglected and we need to know what the plan is?

In reply, the Leader said that there was a long-term plan to get people back into the County Hall campus as soon as possible and that he would speak to Cllr Peck and the property team to get a response to the question. (See comment made by Cllr Peck at paragraph 9.2 of these minutes).

#### **7.7 Question from Cllr Lucy Shires**

Cllr Lucy Shires said that with East Anglia Ambulance Service about to declare a critical incident as they were under too much pressure for services to cope and NHS England already identifying Norfolk as somewhere it feared could see 'system failure' during this winter (which was defined as when 999, A&E, hospitals and social care all collapse) should the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Social Care lose half of their allowances for gross mismanagement?

In reply, the Leader said that he could only provide an answer to such a question as this by talking about the huge amount of strategic support that the County Council (partly through the hard work of the Cabinet Member for Social Care) gave to the NMS and to the social care sector to help deliver essential social care services in Norfolk in the best possible way.

#### **7.8 Question from Cllr Ben Price**

Cllr Ben Price said that last week saw Norfolk MPs and the New Anglia LEP celebrating the Government's plans to accelerate fossil fuel gas development in Norfolk. Yet the International Energy Agency, the world's leading authority on energy, said last year that no new oil and gas fields could be developed if we were to stay within relatively safe climate change

limits. At the same time, renewables made up the fastest-growing energy sector and provided energy that was nine times cheaper than gas. Did the Leader agree with the economic and scientific conclusions that new gas facilities should be halted immediately, and that renewable energy should be accelerated to help with the cost of living and climate crises?

In reply, the Leader said the huge amount of work that was being done to support the production of renewable and other forms of energy production on and off the Norfolk coast added to the energy security of the whole country at a time when this issue was of increasing importance.

The Council considered item 11.1 on the agenda next.

**8 Reports and Recommendations to Council from Cabinet and other Committees**

**8.1 Recommendations to Council from Cabinet Meetings held on 8 August 2022, 5 September 2022, and 3 October 2022**

**8.1.1 Cabinet Meeting held on 8 August 2022  
Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P3: June 2022**

8.1.2 The recommendation from the Cabinet meeting held on 8 August 2022 about the Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P3: June 2022 was moved by Cllr Andrew Proctor, Chair of Cabinet, seconded by Cllr Graham Plant.

**8.1.3 Council RESOLVED on a show of hands**

- 1. That County Council approve the addition of £52.146m to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.1 of the Cabinet report as follows:**
  - £27.292m Department for Education Basic Need Grant funding for 2022-2025
  - £19.321m Department for Education High Needs Grant funding for 2022-2024
  - £4.875m Department for Education Condition Grant Funding profiled into 2023-24
  - £0.989m Department for Education Schools Grant funding for 2022-23
  - Offset by £0.330m release of capital budget in Fire Services.
- 2. That County Council approve the addition of £0.201m to the capital programme to fund the installation of electric vehicle charging points across the Council estate as set out in the Capital Appendix 3 paragraph 4.4 of the report and £3m for the Kings Lynn Multi-User Hub (Replacement Library Lyn LL1058) to fund the additional costs identified by the project team as set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report.**

8.1.4 **Cabinet Meeting held on 5 September 2022**  
**Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P4: July 2022**

8.1.5 The recommendation from the Cabinet meeting held on 5 September 2022 about the Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P4: July 2022 was moved by Cllr Andrew Proctor, Chair of Cabinet, seconded by Cllr Graham Plant.

8.1.6 **Council RESOLVED on a show of hands (with 7 votes against and 8 abstentions)**

1. That County Council approve the addition of £95.952m to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.1 of the Cabinet report as follows:
  - Disabled Facilities Grant funding received from the Department of Health £9.158m
  - £86.764m grant funding from the Department of Transport for various capital projects include £14.6m for the 3rd River crossing.
2. To note the key member decision and to approve the addition of £3.4m to the capital programme to fund the additional costs for the Great Yarmouth Operations and Maintenance Campus as outlined in paragraph 4.3 of the report and that the County Council's contribution towards this is £0.5m.

8.1.7 **Cabinet Meeting held on 3 October 2022**  
**Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P5: August 2022**

8.1.8 The recommendation from the Cabinet meeting held on 3 October 2022 about the Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P5: August 2022 (with the supplementary agenda) was moved by Cllr Andrew Proctor, Chair of Cabinet, seconded by Cllr Graham Plant.

8.1.9 **Council RESOLVED on a show of hands (with 1 vote against and 8 abstentions)**

**That County Council approve the addition of £177.144m to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.1 of the report as follows:**

- £1.044m uplift to Childrens Services capital projects, including £0.963m update to Section 106 Developer contributions
- £4.5m uplift to Section 106 Developer contributions to Highways capital projects for future years
- £171.599m grant funding updates from the Department of Transport for various capital projects

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

- 8.2.1 Cllr Andrew Proctor, Leader and Chair of Cabinet, moved the reports of the Cabinet meetings held on 3 May 2022, 6 June 2022, 4 July 2022, 8 August 2022, 5 September 2022 and 3 October 2022 (with the supplementary agenda).

Council **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the reports.

8.2.2 **Question from Cllr Terry Jermy to Cllr Andrew Jamieson, Cabinet Member for Finance**

Cllr Terry Jermy said that the most recent Cabinet papers outlined how Norfolk County Council was currently borrowing £850 million, with a further £80 million due to be borrowed before the end of this financial year. The interest payable was already £31 million a year. Could the Leader confirm when Norfolk County Council was likely to top £1 billion in borrowing and whether the recent Government mini-budget and interest rises would further increase the cost of that borrowing and what were the financial implications?

In reply, Cllr Andrew Jamieson said that most of the Council's borrowing was at a fixed interest rate of 1.8% over 50 years. The money was being used to put in place transformational changes. The Council had borrowed £850m with a possible further £80m to be added. Borrowing was expected to exceed £1 billion sometime in the next 4 years. The Council's capital receipts programme had a significant impact on when and how much the Council borrowed.

8.3 **Question from Cllr Brian Watkins to Cllr Bill Borrett, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention**

Cllr Brian Watkins said that in the last five years there had been a significant increase in the number of Norfolk care homes that were either inadequate or required improvement. Whilst there were many that provided a high- quality service to patients, the county now had the worst social care market in the country. How bad did it have to get before the Cabinet Member realised that the present approach to monitoring performance of care homes was not working, and that a lot of patients and their families felt badly let down?

In reply, Cllr Bill Borrett said that while the County Council wanted to do all that it could to help support the social care market in Norfolk, as well as the dedicated individuals who worked in the social care sector, it was important to remember that care homes were run independent of the County Council. Care homes in Norfolk tended to be smaller and more geographically spread-out than those elsewhere in the country. The County Council was at the forefront of a national campaign run by the Association of Care Providers to help support care home businesses with recruitment, mentoring and training of staff. The Cabinet Member also said that he looked forward to the radical changes that were being planned for social care across the country and wanted Norfolk to be at the forefront of the changes.

**8.4 Question from Cllr Ben Price to Cllr Graham Plant, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy**

Cllr Ben Price said that the Government's plans for so-called investment zones could mean a reduced commitment to affordable housing. This could have a major impact on Norfolk where many families were unable to afford housing and rent prices were rocketing. When the County Council submitted its expression of interest to the Government for a Norfolk Investment Zone, would it include a commitment not to reduce affordable housing as a proportion of overall development within Norfolk?

In reply, Cllr Graham Plant explained the purpose of the Government's plans for investment zones and how the County Council was working with partners to put forward a formal expression of interest on this matter to the Government by the deadline of 14 October 2022.

**8.5 Question from Cllr Lana Hemsall to Cllr Graham Plant, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy**

Cllr Lana Hemsall said that the Government had outlined its focus on growth; could the Deputy Leader explain the projects that the County Council were involved in to grow the Norfolk economy?

In reply, Cllr Graham Plant explained how the County Council was working with partners to expand the local economy through investment in local businesses, training skills and infrastructure projects. These projects provided for growth in the offshore wind sector, and in the job opportunities that came from it, and enabled Great Yarmouth and other areas of the county to rival other parts of the UK in terms of economic growth and accelerated the growth already seen in the Norfolk energy sector. The creative sector was another example of where the Norfolk economy was growing strong and growing almost 3 times faster than the national average. In partnership with the UEA, and the LEP, the County Council was awarded £1.25m by DCMS to help support 80 creative organisations in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, and Peterborough. In addition, Council funded targeted support programmes were in place such as for a retrofitting academy to develop the curriculum for a local retrofit skills infrastructure programme in the county.

**8.6 Question from Cllr Alexandra Kemp to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Alexandra Kemp spoke about the very poor public access arrangements to get on the West Lynn foot passenger ferry, particularly at low tide, and asked if the Cabinet Member would work with the Borough Council to rectify this situation given the vital role that the foot passenger ferry had in providing an alternative form of transport in the area to the car.

In reply, Cllr Martin Wilby said that he would see what could be done to improve the situation.

**8.7 Cllr Maxine Webb to Cllr John Fisher Cabinet Member for Children's**

## **Services.**

Cllr Maxine Webb said that the County Council had an Inclusion and SEND Team which mainstream schools could use for SEND support. This team was not available to families needing advice, who instead had to make a telephone appointment with the council's statutory SENDIASS service. When a parent tried to book an appointment with SENDIASS yesterday, the earliest slot for a phone call back was 15 November - 36 days away. Was the Cabinet Member aware that families were having to wait this long for support, and did he think this okay?

In reply, Cllr John Fisher said that he was aware of the situation and would investigate the matter and provide Cllr Webb with an answer.

### **8.8 Cllr Saul Penfold to Cllr Andrew Jamieson, Cabinet Member for Finance.**

Cllr Saul Penfold asked if Liz Truss had got her economic approach from the Cabinet Member to just borrow, borrow, borrow and not worry about the consequences of having a high level of debt?

In reply, Cllr Andrew Jamieson said the answer was no.

### **8.9 Cllr Jamie Osborn to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Jamie Osborn said that Norfolk's transport strategy was predicated on building roads, roads, roads. Yet the last few months had seen a series of legal challenges to major road-building projects in Norfolk, including the A47 and the Thickthorn roundabout. These and other transport plans were being challenged as they were incompatible with net zero legislation. What steps was the County Council taking to develop a Plan B for transport in Norfolk if road-building plans were deemed illegal?

In reply, Cllr Martin Wilby said that Norfolk deserved better quality roads and the road safety improvement measures planned for the A47 were long overdue.

### **8.10 Cllr Barry Duffin to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Barry Duffin asked if the Cabinet Member would join with him and Cllr Alison Thomas in welcoming both the Norwich Western Link Road and the Long Stratton bypass, both crucial projects to boost the local economy and air quality for residents.

In reply, Cllr Martin Wilby said that these were important road improvements and that he was pleased the Government recognised both schemes were priorities and that the Long Stratton bypass was going to happen. He thanked Cllr Duffin, Cllr Thomas, and Cllr Peck for their continuing support on these matters.

**8.11 Cllr Emma Corlett to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Emma Corlett said that passengers faced the whole winter having to wait for buses with no shelter on St Stephen's in Norwich. Where were the perfectly good bus shelters that were removed and why had they not been re-used while awaiting delayed delivery of the new ones?

In reply, Cllr Martin Wilby said that there were delivery issues and the new bus shelters would be put in place as soon as possible.

**8.12 Cllr Steffan Aquarone to Cllr Eric Vardy, Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste**

Cllr Steffan Aquarone asked if he thought the Bishop of Norwich was correct when he said that the plans to loosen planning rules were "an assault on nature" and demonstrated "a disdain for the planet"?

In reply, Cllr Eric Vardy said the answer to the question was no.

**8.13 Cllr Jamie Osborn to Cllr Graham Plant, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy.**

Cllr Jamie Osborn said that the "fiscal event" that marked the direction of the new Government omitted any mention of home insulation. Insulation was the most cost-effective and fastest way of reducing energy bills. Green councillors had repeatedly called for Norfolk County Council to work with districts to establish a retrofitting training programme for a home-retrofitting workforce. In the absence of Government policy on insulation, would NorfolkCC finally step up to fill the policy vacuum?

In reply, Cllr Graham Plant said that while the County Council would do all that it could to assist people with retrofitting their homes this was more of an issue for District Councils and homeowners themselves to address.

**8.14 Cllr Penny Carpenter to Cllr Bill Borrett, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention.**

Cllr Penny Carpenter asked if the Cabinet Member would join with her in welcoming the £500m adult social grant announced by the Government?

In reply, Cllr Bill Borrett said that he welcomed the announcement. While it was not yet clear how much of the grant would be made available to Norfolk, the announcement showed that the Government was listening to what Norfolk County Council and other top tier authorities had to say on this important issue.

**8.15 Cllr Jim Moriarty to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Jim Moriarty asked if the County Council had a Plan B transport



strategy as an alternative to more road building if this was deemed to be against the law?

In reply, Cllr Martin Wilby said that there were many reasons why Norfolk needed an improved road infrastructure without delay.

**8.16 Cllr Chrissie Rumsby to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Chrissie Rumsby asked if the Cabinet Member could provide an explanation of what had happened to the bus shelters at St Stephens in Norwich?

Cllr Martin Wilby said that he would provide Cllr Chrissie Rumsby with an answer outside of the meeting.

**8.17 Cllr Sharon Blundell to Cllr Martin Wilby Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport.**

Cllr Sharon Blundell said that she welcomed £50m of government money to help Norfolk with bus improvements but wanted to know when we would see the things that the public had asked for from the bus service, namely connectivity between travel hubs, better passenger comfort, improved ticketing, and the availability of bus drivers, so services were not cancelled at short notice or just did not show up?

In reply, Cllr Martin Wilby said that the County Council was working closely with bus operators to make sure that this significant level of investment was used to improve bus services throughout the county.

**8.18 Cllr Ian Mackie to Cllr Bill Borrett, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health, and Prevention.**

Cllr Ian Mackie asked if the Cabinet Member could confirm the excellent service that was provided in Norfolk by Norse Care?

In reply, Cllr Bill Borrett said that while Norse Care was an independent business the shareholder was Norfolk County Council: Norse Care was a key provider of social care, and he would like to join Cllr Mackie in congratulating all those associated with the running of this successful business.

9.1 On a point of order, after taking legal advice, the Chair confirmed that it was correct for round four of questions to Cabinet Members to have started with a question from the Conservative Group.

9.2 On a matter of accuracy that arose in relation to a question asked earlier by Cllr Birmingham, (see minute 7.6), Cllr Peck said that an answer to this was given at Corporate Select Committee.

10. At this point in the proceedings, the Chair asked the Council to take item 8 on the agenda next starting with the report from the Scrutiny Committee.

- 11        **Reports and Recommendations to Council from the Scrutiny Committee and Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
- 11.1      **Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 18 May 2022, 23 June 2022, 20 July 2022, and 22 September 2022.**
- 11.1.1    Cllr Steve Morphew, Chair, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 11.2      **Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 12 May 2022, 28 June 2022, 14 July 2022, and 8 September 2022.**
- 11.2.1    Cllr Alison Thomas, Chair, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 11.2.2    In reply to questions, Cllr Alison Thomas confirmed that the Committee would be given a further opportunity to consider the situation at the QEH at its next meeting.
- 11.2.3    Cllr Emma Corlett placed on record thanks to Cllr Thomas and the officers for the work they had done around issues facing the Norfolk and Suffolk Health Foundation Trust and the Committee not receiving the information that it needed. Cllr Thomas confirmed that she would write to the Secretary of State about another inpatient death.
- 12        **Select Committee Reports**
- 12.1      **Corporate Select Committee meetings held on 23 May 2022 and 11 July 2022**
- 12.1.1    The Chair moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 12.2      **Infrastructure & Development Select Committee meetings held on 25 May 2022 and 13 July 2022 and 26 September 2022**
- 12.2.1    The Chair moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 12.3      **People and Communities Select Committee meetings held on 27 May 2022 and 12 July 2022**
- 12.3.1    The Chair moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 13        **Reports about the business of Joint Arrangements and External Organisations**
- 13.1      **Norfolk Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 22 July 2022**  
  
Cllr John Ward moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 13.2      **Norfolk Records Committee**

Noted that no meetings were held since the previous meeting of Council.

#### 14 **Reports and Recommendations to Council from other Committees**

14.1 The Chair moved the following reports from other Committees listed below:

- **Audit Committee meeting held on 28 July 2022.**
- **Health and Wellbeing Board meetings held on 8 June 2022, 21 July 2022, and 21 September 2022.**
- **Pensions Committee meeting held on 27 September 2022.**
- **Planning (Regulatory) Committee meetings held on 20 May 2022 and 23 September 2022.**

Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports.

14.2 Cllr Bill Borrett reminded Members that an important on-line health briefing would be held the following day.

#### 15 **Specific Business Items**

##### 15.1 **Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and Norfolk Statement of Community Involvement**

15.1.1 Cllr Eric Vardy, seconded by Cllr Andrew Proctor, moved the recommendations contained in the report.

15.1.2 Following debate, Council **RESOLVED** (on a show of hands with 1 vote against and 1 abstention)

1. **That the 2022 Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (Appendix A to the report) shall have effect from 11 October 2022 and that this replaces the current MWDS (2019)**
2. **To formally adopt the 2022 Norfolk Statement of Community Involvement (appendix B to the report) and that this replaces the current SCI.**

##### 15.2 **Norfolk Youth Justice Plan**

15.2.1 Cllr John Fisher, seconded by Cllr Andrew Proctor, moved the recommendations contained in the report.

15.2.2 Following debate, Council **RESOLVED** (on a show of hands)

1. **That Council adopts the updated Norfolk Youth Justice Strategic Plan as part of the policy framework**
2. **That Council endorses the Youth Justice Board's vision for a child first youth justice system as follows:**
  - **Prioritise the best interests of children, recognising their particular needs, capacities, rights and potential and ensure all work is child focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers, and meets**

responsibilities towards children.

- Promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their prosocial identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.
- Encourage children's active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion, making sure meaningful collaboration with children and their carers is at the heart of our work with them.
- Promote a childhood that avoids coming into contact with the criminal justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion and minimal proportionate intervention, minimising criminogenic stigma.

15.3      **Accepting the delegation of a statutory function to determine an application to register a public right of way across county boundary**

15.3.1      Cllr Andrew Proctor, seconded by Cllr Graham Plant, moved the recommendations contained in the report.

15.3.2      Council **RESOLVED** (on a show of hands)

1. To accept the discharge of Cambridgeshire County Council's function with respect to the Definitive Map Modification Application; and
2. share the administrative costs of publicising any Order and of a venue for holding any potential public enquiry.

15.4      **Appointment of Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

15.4.1      Cllr Andrew Proctor, seconded by Cllr Steve Morpew, moved the recommendations contained in the report.

15.4.2      Council **RESOLVED** (on a show of hands)

**To approve the appointment of the following to the County Council's Independent Remuneration Panel for a five-year period to October 2027:**

- Gillian Bannister
- Mark Stanton
- Nicki Bramford
- Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA

Council took a break at this point in the proceedings of 40 minutes.

When Council reconvened, the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair, moved that the meeting be extended by 30 minutes to allow time for the motions to be considered.

On being put to the vote (on a show of hands) the motion was **LOST**

16        **Notice of Motions**

16.1      **Supporting People**

- 16.1.1    The following motion was proposed by Cllr Lana Hempsall and seconded by Cllr Stuart Clancy

Norfolk County Council is determined to work as hard as it can to help the residents of Norfolk in the cost-of-living challenge driven by Covid and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. This is what has led to rising energy and food prices.

This Council thanks the Government for the significant work it has done to support the residents of Norfolk and across the Country, through the two-year energy price guarantee and the certainty it'll give residents across Norfolk, as well as the significant help that the £400 energy bill discount will provide to every household. This is in addition to the £650 cost of living payment for those in receipt of means-tested benefits, £300 for pensioner households and £150 for recipients of disability benefits in Norfolk and the £150 Council tax rebate.

Norfolk County Council thanks Officers who have delivered the Norfolk Household Support fund, totalling two allocations of £6.7m, providing valuable help to families, older people, and those with disabilities. Alongside, the Norfolk Assistance Scheme has provided both immediate and longer-term social and financial support.

The third allocation of £6.7m, between October 2022 and March 2023, is supplemented by an additional County Council fund of £1.2m.

Norfolk County Council has done, and is doing, all it can to provide help to our residents, especially for energy costs.

We applaud the actions Government is taking to help businesses with their energy costs, which in turn protects jobs in Norfolk. The offshore industry is an important part of Norfolk's economy and is well placed to further the Government's aim of domestic energy security and create local jobs.

This Council resolves to:

1.        Work with the Government to ensure that it delivers beyond the much-appreciated support to the residents of Norfolk as quickly as possible.
2.        Continue to identify, with partners, those most in need of support in Norfolk and ensure that they access all the help they are eligible for.
3.        Promote local opportunities in Norfolk for energy generation to help increase the supply of energy to further aid the long-term lowering of prices.

Cllr Jamie Osborn moved as an amendment seconded by Cllr Ben Price to read:

This Council resolves to:

1. Work with the Government to ensure that it delivers beyond the much-appreciated support to the residents of Norfolk as quickly as possible.
2. Continue to identify, with partners, those most in need of support in Norfolk and ensure that they access all the help they are eligible for.
3. Promote local opportunities in Norfolk for **renewable** energy generation ~~to help increase the supply of energy~~ and **energy efficiency measures such as insulating houses** to further aid the long-term lowering of prices.

16.1.2 Following debate and upon being put to a recorded vote (Appendix A), with 23 votes in favour, 36 votes against and 1 abstention the amendment was **LOST**.

16.1.3 Following further debate on the substantive motion, Cllr Terry Jermy moved as an amendment seconded by Cllr Emma Corlett to read:

Norfolk County Council is determined to work as hard as it can to help the residents of Norfolk in the cost-of-living ~~challenge driven by Covid and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. This is what has led to rising energy and food prices.~~ crisis driven by twelve years of austerity, bad economic management, Covid-19, and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. This is what has led to rising energy and food prices.

This Council thanks the Government for the significant work it has done to support the residents of Norfolk and across the Country, through the two-year energy price guarantee and the certainty it'll give residents across Norfolk, as well as the significant help that the £400 energy bill discount will provide to every household. This is in addition to the £650 cost of living payment for those in receipt of means-tested benefits, £300 for pensioner households and £150 for recipients of disability benefits in Norfolk and the £150 Council tax rebate.

However, council recognises that for many, domestic fuel bills will still increase beyond their means, and uncertainty created by the government's mini budget is increasing borrowing rates and driving up the cost of mortgage payments. Council is also concerned that funding support from borrowing has undermined the confidence of the market and as a result the pension pots of many have been significantly diminished. Council is very concerned at the suggestion the pledge to increase state pensions in line with the triple lock and benefits in line with inflation may not be honoured.

Norfolk County Council thanks Officers who have delivered the Norfolk Household Support fund, totalling two allocations of £6.7m, providing valuable help to families, older people, and those with disabilities. Alongside, the Norfolk Assistance Scheme has provided both immediate and longer-term social and financial support. The third allocation of £6.7m, between October 2022 and March 2023, is supplemented by an additional County Council fund of £1.2m.

Norfolk County Council has done, and is doing, all it can to provide help to our residents, especially for energy costs. However, council is concerned at

the statement by the chancellor that Spending Review allocations to local government may not increase to cover demand and inflationary pressures and would therefore mean a further real term cut in our budget that could wipe out the impact of the Household Support Fund and add further pressure to services already facing a huge budget challenge.

We applaud the actions Government is taking to help businesses with their energy costs, which in turn protects jobs in Norfolk. However, Council is concerned at reports that the limited period of that support, the increase in the cost of borrowing, inflation and economic uncertainty will force many businesses to close. The offshore industry is an important part of Norfolk's economy and is well placed to further the Government's aim of domestic energy security and create local jobs.

This Council resolves to:

1. Work with the Government to ensure that it delivers beyond the much-appreciated support to the residents of Norfolk as quickly as possible.
2. Continue to identify, with partners, those most in need of support in Norfolk and ensure that they access all the help they are eligible for.
3. Promote local opportunities in Norfolk for renewable energy generation to help increase the supply of energy to further aid the long-term lowering of prices while sticking to commitments to decarbonise our economy
4. Call on the Government to increase council funding to cover the costs of increased demand and inflationary pressures
5. Call on the Government honour the pledge to uprate pensions in accordance with the triple lock and other benefits in line with inflation.
6. Call on the Government to urgently review their policy of meeting costs of the protection measures through borrowing and extend the windfall tax so energy companies that are already supporting an increase in their tax in the name of fairness shoulder more of the burden.
7. Ask the Head of Paid Service to evaluate the impact of the Household Support fund and report his findings to the next round of cabinet and appropriate committees to identify gaps and areas for improvement, and to allow local members to influence how future support can best be targeted.

16.1.4 Following debate and upon being put to a recorded vote (Appendix B), with 23 votes in favour, 36 votes against and 1 abstention the amendment was **LOST**.

16.1.5 At this point in the proceedings the Chair moved, duly seconded by the Vice Chair, that the meeting be extended to allow for all amendments and other business of motion 1 (supporting people) to be heard, and on a show of hands this was **LOST**.

17 **Chair concluding remarks**

17.1 At this point in the proceedings, given that the time available for the meeting had come to an end and that several procedural issues raised by Members

during consideration of motion 1 had yet to be addressed, the Chair took legal advice on how to proceed.

17.2 The Chair said that the legal advice was that she had twice offered to extend the meeting, and, on both occasions, this was lost, therefore the meeting was now at an end.

17.3 It was noted that some of the business that was due to have been considered at this meeting was not dealt with in the time available. This business can be seen as an addendum to these minutes.

18 **Addendum to the minutes**

18.1 The following were not considered at this meeting:

**ITEM 13**

Motion 1 Supporting People (this was not moved to a vote)

Motion 2 Supporting opportunities for physical activity for children and young people living with a disability in Norfolk

Motion 3 Helping Rural Norfolk with the Cost-of-Living Crisis

Motion 4 A say for Norfolk residents on the County Deal

Motion 5 West Winch Bypass

Motion 6 Winter emergency planning

Motion 7 Public Ownership of energy

**Item 14**

To answer Questions under Rule 9.3 of the Council Procedure Rules

**There was one question under Rule 9.3 of the Procedural rules that Cllr Brociek-Coulton submitted to the Leader of the Council:**

**Member Champions have a duty to keep Members informed of relevant issues but there is no obligation on them to do so regularly under the Constitution. Can the Leader please assure me that he will work with the Member Champions on plans to provide regular communications to all Councillors and provide an approximate date when we can expect to see a report back from the twelve Councillors about their engagement activities and the work they are doing to encourage people to play a fuller role in their particular subject areas?**

Following the meeting the leader provided the following response:

**Thank you for your question. Member Champions have been working to support Cabinet Members in Key areas of the Council's work. It is my intention for them to report back to Members about the work they are doing and share information via the Members weekly briefing note. Though this is not in place yet you will start to see reports appearing soon highlighting the work they are doing.**



**Item 15**

Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees –there were none

**The meeting ended at 1.43 pm**

**Chair**

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**Norfolk County Council**  
**Date 11 October 2022 Appendix A**  
**RECORDED VOTE A (Supporting People) AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:**  
**13.1**

|  | For    | Against | Abstain |
|--|--------|---------|---------|
| <b>ADAMS</b> Timothy                   | x      |         |         |
| <b>ADAMS</b> Tony                      |        | x       |         |
| <b>ANNISON</b> Carl                    |        | x       |         |
| <b>AQUARONE</b> Steffan                | x      |         |         |
| <b>ASKEW</b> Stephen                   | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BAMBRIDGE</b> Lesley                |        | x       |         |
| <b>BENSLY</b> James                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BILLS</b> David                     | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BIRMINGHAM</b> Alison               | x      |         |         |
| <b>BLUNDELL</b> Sharon                 | x      |         |         |
| <b>BORRETT</b> Bill                    |        | x       |         |
| <b>BOWES</b> Claire                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BROCIEK-COULTON</b> Julie           | x      |         |         |
| <b>CARPENTER</b> Graham                | Absent |         |         |
| <b>CARPENTER</b> Penny                 |        | x       |         |
| <b>CLANCY</b> Stuart                   |        | x       |         |
| <b>COLMAN</b> Ed                       | Absent |         |         |
| <b>COLWELL</b> Robert                  | x      |         |         |
| <b>CONNOLLY</b> Ed                     | Absent |         |         |
| <b>CORLETT</b> Emma                    | x      |         |         |
| <b>DALBY</b> Michael                   |        | x       |         |
| <b>DARK</b> Stuart                     |        | x       |         |
| <b>DAUBNEY</b> Nick                    |        | x       |         |
| <b>DAWSON</b> Christopher              | Absent |         |         |
| <b>DEWSBURY</b> Margaret               | Absent |         |         |
| <b>DIXON</b> Nigel                     | Absent |         |         |
| <b>DUFFIN</b> Barry                    |        | x       |         |
| <b>DUIGAN</b> Phillip                  |        | x       |         |
| <b>EAGLE</b> Fabian                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>ELMER</b> Daniel                    |        | x       |         |
| <b>FISHER</b> John                     |        | x       |         |
| <b>FITZPATRICK</b> Tom                 |        | x       |         |
| <b>GRANT</b> Andy                      |        | x       |         |
| <b>GURNEY</b> Shelagh                  |        | x       |         |
| <b>HEMPSALL</b> Lana                   |        | x       |         |
| <b>HORSBRUGH</b> Michael<br>Chenery of |        | x       |         |
| <b>JAMES</b> Jane                      | Absent |         |         |
| <b>JAMIESON</b> Andrew                 |        | x       |         |
| <b>JERMY</b> Terry                     | x      |         |         |
| <b>JONES</b> Brenda                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>KEMP</b> Alexandra                  | x      |         |         |
| <b>KIDDIE</b> Keith                    |        | x       |         |

|                           | For    | Against | Abstain |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| <b>KIDDLE-MORRIS</b> Mark | Absent |         |         |
| <b>KIRK</b> Julian        | Absent |         |         |
| <b>LONG</b> Brian         |        | x       |         |
| <b>MACKIE</b> Ian         |        | x       |         |
| <b>MASON BILLIG</b> Kay   |        | x       |         |
| <b>MAXFIELD</b> Ed        | Absent |         |         |
| <b>MORIARTY</b> Jim       | Absent |         |         |
| <b>MORPHEW</b> Steve      | x      |         |         |
| <b>NEALE</b> Paul         | Absent |         |         |
| <b>OLIVER</b> Judy        | Absent |         |         |
| <b>OLIVER</b> Rhodri      | Absent |         |         |
| <b>OSBORN</b> Jamie       | x      |         |         |
| <b>PECK</b> Greg          |        | x       |         |
| <b>PENFOLD</b> Saul       | x      |         |         |
| <b>PLANT</b> Graham       |        | x       |         |
| <b>PRICE</b> Ben          | x      |         |         |
| <b>PRICE</b> Richard      |        | x       |         |
| <b>PROCTOR</b> Andrew     |        | x       |         |
| <b>RICHMOND</b> Will      |        | x       |         |
| <b>Reilly</b> Matthew     | x      |         |         |
| <b>RILEY</b> Steve        | x      |         |         |
| <b>ROPER</b> Dan          | x      |         |         |
| <b>Rumsby</b> Chrissie    | x      |         |         |
| <b>SANDS</b> Mike         | x      |         |         |
| <b>SAVAGE</b> Robert      |        | x       |         |
| <b>SHIRES</b> Lucy        | x      |         |         |
| <b>SMITH</b> Carl         |        | x       |         |
| <b>SMITH-CLARE</b> Mike   | x      |         |         |
| <b>STONE</b> Barry        |        | x       |         |
| <b>STOREY</b> Martin      | Absent |         |         |
| <b>THOMAS</b> Alison      |        | x       |         |
| <b>THOMSON</b> Vic        | Absent |         |         |
| <b>VARDY</b> Eric         |        | x       |         |
| <b>VINCENT</b> Karen      |        |         | x       |
| <b>WALKER</b> Colleen     | x      |         |         |
| <b>WARD</b> John          |        | x       |         |
| <b>WATKINS</b> Brian      | x      |         |         |
| <b>WEBB</b> Maxine        | x      |         |         |
| <b>WHITE</b> Tony         | Absent |         |         |
| <b>WHYMARK</b> Fran       |        | x       |         |
| <b>WILBY</b> Martin       |        | x       |         |

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| <b>For</b>         | <b>23</b> |
| <b>Against</b>     | <b>36</b> |
| <b>Abstentions</b> | <b>1</b>  |

**Norfolk County Council**  
**Date 11 October 2022 Appendix B**  
**RECORDED VOTE B (Supporting People) AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:**  
**13.1**

|  | For    | Against | Abstain |
|--|--------|---------|---------|
| <b>ADAMS</b> Timothy                   | X      |         |         |
| <b>ADAMS</b> Tony                      | Absent |         |         |
| <b>ANNISON</b> Carl                    |        | X       |         |
| <b>AQUARONE</b> Steffan                | X      |         |         |
| <b>ASKEW</b> Stephen                   | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BAMBRIDGE</b> Lesley                |        | X       |         |
| <b>BENSLY</b> James                    |        | X       |         |
| <b>BILLS</b> David                     | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BIRMINGHAM</b> Alison               | x      |         |         |
| <b>BLUNDELL</b> Sharon                 | X      |         |         |
| <b>BORRETT</b> Bill                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>BOWES</b> Claire                    |        | X       |         |
| <b>BROCIEK-COULTON</b> Julie           | x      |         |         |
| <b>CARPENTER</b> Graham                | Absent |         |         |
| <b>CARPENTER</b> Penny                 |        | X       |         |
| <b>CLANCY</b> Stuart                   |        | X       |         |
| <b>COLMAN</b> Ed                       | Absent |         |         |
| <b>COLWELL</b> Robert                  | X      |         |         |
| <b>CONNOLLY</b> Ed                     | Absent |         |         |
| <b>CORLETT</b> Emma                    | X      |         |         |
| <b>DALBY</b> Michael                   |        | X       |         |
| <b>DARK</b> Stuart                     |        | X       |         |
| <b>DAUBNEY</b> Nick                    |        | X       |         |
| <b>DAWSON</b> Christopher              | Absent |         |         |
| <b>DEWSBURY</b> Margaret               |        | X       |         |
| <b>DIXON</b> Nigel                     | Absent |         |         |
| <b>DUFFIN</b> Barry                    |        | X       |         |
| <b>DUIGAN</b> Phillip                  |        | X       |         |
| <b>EAGLE</b> Fabian                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>ELMER</b> Daniel                    |        | X       |         |
| <b>FISHER</b> John                     |        | X       |         |
| <b>FITZPATRICK</b> Tom                 |        | X       |         |
| <b>GRANT</b> Andy                      |        | X       |         |
| <b>GURNEY</b> Shelagh                  | Absent |         |         |
| <b>HEMPSALL</b> Lana                   |        | X       |         |
| <b>HORSBRUGH</b> Michael<br>Chenery of |        | X       |         |
| <b>JAMES</b> Jane                      |        | X       |         |
| <b>JAMIESON</b> Andrew                 | Absent |         |         |
| <b>JERMY</b> Terry                     | X      |         |         |
| <b>JONES</b> Brenda                    | Absent |         |         |
| <b>KEMP</b> Alexandra                  | X      |         |         |
| <b>KIDDIE</b> Keith                    |        | X       |         |

|                           | For    | Against | Abstain |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| <b>KIDDLE-MORRIS</b> Mark | Absent |         |         |
| <b>KIRK</b> Julian        | Absent |         |         |
| <b>LONG</b> Brian         |        | X       |         |
| <b>MACKIE</b> Ian         |        | X       |         |
| <b>MASON BILLIG</b> Kay   |        | x       |         |
| <b>MAXFIELD</b> Ed        | Absent |         |         |
|                           |        |         |         |
| <b>MORIARTY</b> Jim       | Absent |         |         |
| <b>MORPHEW</b> Steve      | X      |         |         |
| <b>NEALE</b> Paul         | Absent |         |         |
| <b>OLIVER</b> Judy        | Absent |         |         |
| <b>OLIVER</b> Rhodri      | Absent |         |         |
| <b>OSBORN</b> Jamie       | X      |         |         |
|                           |        |         |         |
| <b>PECK</b> Greg          |        | X       |         |
| <b>PENFOLD</b> Saul       | X      |         |         |
| <b>PLANT</b> Graham       |        | X       |         |
| <b>PRICE</b> Ben          | X      |         |         |
| <b>PRICE</b> Richard      |        | X       |         |
| <b>PROCTOR</b> Andrew     |        | X       |         |
| <b>RICHMOND</b> Will      |        | X       |         |
| <b>Reilly</b> Matthew     | X      |         |         |
| <b>RILEY</b> Steve        | X      |         |         |
| <b>ROPER</b> Dan          | X      |         |         |
| <b>Rumsby</b> Chrissie    | X      |         |         |
| <b>SANDS</b> Mike         | X      |         |         |
| <b>SAVAGE</b> Robert      |        | X       |         |
| <b>SHIRES</b> Lucy        | X      |         |         |
| <b>SMITH</b> Carl         | Absent |         |         |
| <b>SMITH-CLARE</b> Mike   | X      |         |         |
| <b>STONE</b> Barry        |        | X       |         |
| <b>STOREY</b> Martin      | Absent |         |         |
| <b>THOMAS</b> Alison      |        | X       |         |
| <b>THOMSON</b> Vic        |        | X       |         |
| <b>VARDY</b> Eric         |        | X       |         |
| <b>VINCENT</b> Karen      |        |         | x       |
| <b>WALKER</b> Colleen     | x      |         |         |
|                           |        |         |         |
| <b>WARD</b> John          |        | X       |         |
| <b>WATKINS</b> Brian      | X      |         |         |
| <b>WEBB</b> Maxine        | X      |         |         |
| <b>WHITE</b> Tony         | Absent |         |         |
| <b>WHYMARK</b> Fran       |        | X       |         |
| <b>WILBY</b> Martin       |        | X       |         |

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| <b>For</b>         | <b>23</b> |
| <b>Against</b>     | <b>36</b> |
| <b>Abstentions</b> | <b>1</b>  |

### **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 Chair will be prepared to intervene if they consider this principle is not being adhered to.

### **Agenda Item 7 – 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 Chair'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 Chair 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 Chair will invite the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group to ask a question.
4. When the second question has been answered the Chair will invite the Leader of the Green Group to ask a question.
5. When the third question has been answered, the Chair will invite and select a member of the Independent Group to ask a question.
6. When the fourth question has been answered, the Chair will invite a Member of the Conservative Group to ask a question.
7. When the fifth question has been answered, the Chair will invite Cllr Alexandra Kemp (Non-aligned Member) to ask a question.
8. If the 15 minutes has not expired, the Chair will then invite questions from Group Members in the following order:

Labour Group  
Liberal Democrat Group  
Green Group  
Independent Group

Conservative Group

Following round:

Labour Group

Liberal Democrat Group

Green Group

Conservative Group

9. The session will be timed by Democratic Services officers. If a question is being asked at the point time is up, the Chair will allow the question to be completed and the answer to be given.

## Recommendations from the Cabinet Meeting held on 7 November 2022

### 1 Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P6: September 2022

1.1 Cabinet received the report giving a summary of the forecast financial position for the 2022-23 Revenue and Capital Budgets, General Balances, and the Council's Reserves at 31 March 2023, together with related financial information.

### 1.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED**

1. To recommend to full Council the addition of **£33.425m** to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.1 as follows:
  - £0.062m uplift to Childrens Services capital projects, mainly from S106 developer contributions in the current year and £3.009m for future years
  - £0.040m uplift to ICT budgets for Fire Services IT requirements, funded by NCC borrowing
  - £22.096m grant funding updates from the Department of Transport for various capital projects, including the Great Yarmouth 3<sup>rd</sup> River Crossing and the Long Stratton Bypass
  - £1.544m uplift to S106 and developer contributions to Highways capital projects
  - £0.827m reduction in NCC borrowing for Highways capital projects
  - £7.500m for LED streetlighting upgrade to be funded by NCC borrowing in 2023-24 and 2024-25.
2. Subject to full Council approval of recommendation 1 to delegate:
  - 3.1) To the Director of Procurement authority to undertake the necessary procurement processes including the determination of the minimum standards and selection criteria (if any) and the award criteria; to shortlist bidders; to make provisional award decisions (in consultation with the Chief Officer responsible for each scheme); to award contracts; to negotiate where the procurement procedure so permits; and to terminate award procedures if necessary.
  - 3.2) To the Director of Property authority (notwithstanding the limits set out at 5.13.6 and 5.13.7 of Financial Regulations) to negotiate or tender for or otherwise acquire the required land to deliver the schemes (including temporary land required for delivery of the works) and to dispose of land so acquired that is no longer required upon completion of the scheme.
  - 3.3) To each responsible chief officer authority to:
    - (in the case of two-stage design and build contracts) agree the price for the works upon completion of the design stage and direct that the works proceed; or alternatively direct that the works be recompeted



approve purchase orders, employer's instructions, compensation events or other contractual instructions necessary to effect changes in contracts that are necessitated by discoveries, unexpected ground

- conditions, planning conditions, requirements arising from detailed design or minor changes in scope
- subject always to the forecast cost including works, land, fees and disbursements remaining within the agreed scheme or programme budget.
- That the officers exercising the delegated authorities set out above shall do so in accordance with the council's Policy Framework, with the approach to Social Value in Procurement endorsed by Cabinet at its meeting of 6 July 2020, and with the approach set out in the paper entitled "Sourcing strategy for council services" approved by Policy & Resources Committee at its meeting of 16 July 2018.

[Please click here to view the reports considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 7 November 2022 and the minutes of that meeting](#)

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

**Report from the Cabinet  
meeting held on 7 November 2022**

**A: Meeting held on Monday 7 November 2022**

**1. Update from the Chairman/Cabinet Members**

- 1.1 The Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management gave an update to Cabinet:
- The path in commercial activity and asset disposal was not straightforward. Changes to the market, sales taking place across different financial years and delays in transactions could occur.
  - The Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management was pleased to confirm that Norfolk County Council had exceeded its target of £8.1m in capital receipts. £22.3m capital receipts had been achieved in this financial year, including £5m sold subject to contract, trebling the target on this ambitious programme.
  - This showed the intent of the council to make the best use of assets.
  - The Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management provided an update on Holt Hall, which had been running at a £277k loss and had high maintenance costs. The Council had agreed to sell the site to Gresham School in Holt. This school is an asset to the educational environment and a key part of the local economy, and this would allow the site to be secured with a local organisation.
  - There would be a period for the legal transaction to take place and for the school to undertake work on the site and integrated it into their campus.
- 1.2 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention gave an update on the Warm and Well campaign being launched across Norfolk:
- The Warm and Well campaign was being launched which aimed to ask people in the County prepare for Winter.
  - This winter, Norfolk residents were facing challenges from the onset of cold weather, respiratory and winter illnesses including Covid-19 and flu combined with the global economic crisis caused by the war in Ukraine. This would have a major impact on the health of Norfolk residents' health and put services under greater strain.
  - Partners of the Integrated Care System were launching a system wide winter prevention campaign to address the challenges of keeping people warm and well over winter and prevent excessive demand on services. The NHS, county council, district councils and health partners had raised money to pay for adverts to raise awareness of the steps residents could take to stay healthy, warm and well, which included:
    - Reminding people of the importance of their flu and Covid-19 vaccines
    - The importance of keeping active and keeping a well-stocked medicine cabinet at home.
    - Taking steps to make homes more energy efficient.

- Take steps to look after mental health.
- Signposting to support available to those in hardship was part of the campaign, and encouraging people to use the 111 service, community pharmacies, minor injuries units and GP practices to signpost them away from A&E which would be under stress this winter.
- To become a success, the campaign would need support of partners across the county, communities and from people across Norfolk.

## **2. Transport East Transport Strategy Endorsement**

2.1 Cabinet received the report setting out the Transport East Transport Strategy, setting out the challenges and opportunities in the region, Transport East's Vision, the outcomes Transport East are seeking to achieve and the four core priorities the interventions are focussed around.

2.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to endorse the Transport East Transport Strategy

## **3. Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board – Annual Report 2021-2022**

3.1 Cabinet received the report summarising the key activities and achievements of the Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board and the wider partnership's adult safeguarding activity during 2021/21

3.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to

- a) Note and endorse the contents of the NSAB 2021/22 annual report
- b) Where possible promote the work of NSAB to partner organisations and stakeholders
- c) Where possible use media and communications channels to promote the safeguarding messages

## **4 Annual Review of Norfolk Adoption Service 2021-2022**

4.1 Cabinet received the report providing an update on the performance of and outcomes achieved by Norfolk's Adoption Service, and a summary of the Adoption Annual Report, encompassing the Statement of Purpose amended by the previous years' data.

4.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to accept the Annual Report for the Norfolk Adoption Service for year 2021/22 and endorse the Statement of Purpose for 2022/23

## **5. Statement of Purpose and annual review Norfolk Fostering Service**

5.1 Cabinet received the report setting out the annual review of the Norfolk Fostering service and the Statement of Purpose, outlining the key developments of the service and setting the direction of travel by demonstrating how its aims and objectives would be achieved.

5.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to accept the combined Annual Report and Statement of Purpose 2021/2022 for the Norfolk Fostering Service

## **6. Annual Review of NCC Residential Children's Homes**

- 6.1 Cabinet received the report providing an update on the performance of and outcomes achieved by Norfolk's Residential Children's Homes Service.
- 6.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to accept the Annual Report for the Residential Service for year 2021/22 and endorse the Statements of Purpose as found on the Members Portal.
- 7. Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P6: September 2022**
- 7.1 Cabinet received the report giving a summary of the forecast financial position for the 2022-23 Revenue and Capital Budgets, General Balances, and the Council's Reserves at 31 March 2023, together with related financial information.
- 7.2 *For recommendations 1 and 2 please refer to the "Cabinet recommendations to full council" report.*
- Cabinet **RESOLVED**
3. To recognise the period 6 general fund revenue forecast of a £0.936m overspend (0.2% of net budget), noting also that Executive Directors will take measures to reduce or eliminate potential over-spends where these occur within services
  4. To recognise the period 6 forecast of 95% savings delivery in 2022-23, noting also that Executive Directors will continue to take measures to mitigate potential savings shortfalls through alternative savings or underspends.
  5. To note the forecast General Balances at 31 March 2023 of £23.840m, assuming the Council will mitigate the overspends reported in P6.
  6. To note the expenditure and funding of the revised current and future 2021-26 capital programmes.
- 8. Disposal, acquisition and exploitation of property**
- 8.1 Cabinet received the report setting out proposals aimed at supporting Norfolk County Council priorities by exploiting properties surplus to operational requirements, pro-actively releasing property assets with latent value where the operational needs can be met from elsewhere and strategically acquiring property to drive economic growth and wellbeing in the County.
- 8.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED**
1. To formally declare the Land to the rear of Orbit Site, Flowerdew Meadow, Scole (7085/018) amounting to 64m<sup>2</sup> surplus to County Council requirements and instruct the Director of Property to dispose of the property on the terms agreed. In the event of the disposal receipt exceeding the valuation figure the Director of Property in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services and Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management is authorised to accept the most advantageous offer.
  2. To formally declare the Land at Terrington Fern House Estate (part), Terrington St Clement (2078/108A) (edged red on plan) amounting to 1.65 hectares surplus to County Council requirements and instruct the Director of Property to dispose of the property. In the event of the disposal receipt the valuation figure limits the Director of Property in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services and Cabinet Member for Commercial

Services and Asset Management is authorised to accept the most advantageous offer.

3. To note the progress of the property disposal programme.

**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 Chair will begin Questions by inviting members to indicate if they wish to ask a question.
2. The Chair will select a member to ask their question and all other members wait until the Chair next invites questions. Questions will not be taken in a prescribed portfolio order and can be to any Cabinet Member.
3. For the first round, the Chair will follow the principle of selecting the first questioner from the Labour Group, followed by the Liberal Democrat Group, the Green Group, the Independent Group, the Conservative Group, then the Non-aligned Member. For the second round, the Chair will then revert to the Labour Group, the Liberal Democrat Group, the Green Group, the Independent Group and the Conservative Group. For the third round, the Chair will revert to the Labour Group, the Liberal Democrat Group, the Green Group and the Conservative Group, etc. For the fourth round, the Chair will revert to the Labour Group, the Liberal Democrat Group and then the Conservative Group.
4. The session will be timed by Democratic Services officers, who will notify the Chair if questions to an individual Cabinet Member has in total exceeded 5 minutes or that the overall time is up. If a question is being asked at the point at which time is up, the Chair 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 Chair of the Council will be prepared to intervene if they consider this principle is not being adhered to.

## **Recommendations to Council from the Corporate Select Committee meeting held on 14 November 2022**

### **1. Amendments to the Constitution to include Financial Regulations update 2022-23 & changes to statutory officer designations**

1.1 The report was received and introduced by Helen Edwards, Director of Governance. The report included proposed changes to the Constitution before recommendations are made to Full Council. These proposals included the annual review and update of Financial Regulations as well as changes to statutory roles following the resignations of the Director of Governance and Executive Director for Finance and Commercial Services.

1.3

The Select Committee **resolved** to:

- **Recommend to Full Council** the proposed amendments to Financial Regulations.
- **Recommend to Full Council** the proposed amendments to statutory officer designations set out in para 2.2 of **Appendix A**

The Select Committee also **resolved** to:

- **Note** the proposed amendments to Financial Regulations
- **Note** the proposed amendments to statutory officer designations set out in para 2.2 of Appendix A.
- **Agree** that later changes required following the departure of the Executive Director for Finance and Commercial Services, to go directly to Full Council without needing to be brought first to the Select Committee.

### **2.0 Policy for Parental Leave for Councillors**

2.1 The committee received the report from the Director of Governance and was presented by Karen Haywood, Democratic Services Manager.

2.2 The report outlined details of a draft policy for parental leave, to include sickness, for Councillors which makes appropriate provision for the payment of allowances. At the suggestion of Cllr Birmingham, which was unanimously agreed by the committee, that a clause to include still births should be added to the policy.

2.3 The Select Committee **agreed** to:

- **Recommend** the policy to full Council for adoption.
- **Recommend** to Council that it agrees to authorise the Director of Governance (in consultation with the Leader of the Council) to make

any minor or consequential amendments to the Constitution necessary for, or incidental to, the implementation of these proposals.

The Select Committee also agreed to:

- **Endorse** the attached draft policy for parental leave, which includes cover for extended periods of leave for Councillors.

[Please click here to view the agenda and the reports considered by the Corporate Select Committee at their meeting of 14 November 2022](#)



## Corporate Select Committee

Item No:7

**Report Title: Strategic and financial planning 2023-24**

**Date of Meeting: 14 November 2022**

**Responsible Cabinet Member: Cllr Andrew Jamieson (Cabinet Member for Finance)**

**Responsible Director: Simon George, Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services**

### Executive Summary

The appended report, which was considered by Cabinet in October 2022, represents a key milestone in the Council's budget setting process for 2023-24. Cabinet has already sought Select Committee input into the 2023-24 budget process, in respect of the overall planning context, and broad approach to the development of saving proposals.

This Select Committee report now appends the latest Cabinet report in order to provide details of the saving proposals identified to date for 2023-24 Budget setting. This is intended to support the Select Committee's discussion of the specific proposals and enable the Committee to provide its feedback and input to a future meeting of Cabinet and thereby to inform budget decisions.

This report therefore forms an important part of the process of developing the 2023-24 Budget, representing a key opportunity for the Select Committee to provide its views on priorities and the budget proposals for the services within its remit.

### Recommendations / Action Required

The Select Committee is asked:

1. To consider the latest Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy position as reported to Cabinet in October 2022 (Appendix 1), noting in particular the emerging risks and uncertainties within the Council's planning position.
2. To consider and comment on the savings proposals for 2023-24 as set out in Appendix 1, which fall within the Committee's remit.

3. To note the significant budget gap which remains to be closed for 2023-24 and in this context to comment on any areas the Select Committee would recommend exploring for savings development in relation to the services within the Select Committee's remit, in order to provide further input to the 2023-24 budget process and inform the final package of saving proposals put forward to Cabinet later in the year. In particular the Committee is asked to consider savings opportunities under the following headings:
  - a. New initiatives which would deliver savings;
  - b. Activities which could be ceased in order to deliver a saving;
  - c. Activities which the Council should seek to maintain at the current level as far as possible (i.e. areas where the Committee considers there is limited scope for savings);
  - d. Commercialisation opportunities.

## **1. Background and Purpose**

- 1.1 Cabinet has sought input from the Council's three Select Committees in relation to developing budget proposals for the 2023-24 Budget. This continues the approach adopted to setting the budget in previous years. Select Committees therefore received an update on the Council's budget setting process in May 2022, and in particular were invited to:
  - Note the overall Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy position as reported to Cabinet in April 2022.
  - To consider and comment on the overall service strategies as set out within the 2022-23 Budget Book.
  - To consider and comment on the key issues for 2023-24 budget setting and the broad areas the Select Committee would recommend exploring for savings development.
- 1.2 Select Committee comments from the May 2022 meeting cycle were reported to Cabinet in July and October. Following the May Select Committee meetings, in July, Cabinet considered an initial list of savings proposals for 2023-24, totalling £13.007m. In October, Cabinet then considered a further £19.508m of proposals. Due to the timing and sequence of Select Committee meetings, there has not been an earlier opportunity for Select Committees to offer specific comments on the proposals set out in July, however Select Committees now have an opportunity to consider all of the detailed proposals, totalling £32.515m for 2023-24 in the round and following Cabinet's decisions about the package of measures to be consulted on.
- 1.3 This report therefore represents the key opportunity for Select Committees to provide input to 2023-24 budget setting and the Committee is invited to comment on the substantive proposals which have been developed and are currently undergoing public consultation.

- 1.4 Any comments from Select Committees will be reported to Cabinet later in the budget setting process in order to inform final budget recommendations to Full Council.

## **2. Proposal**

- 2.1 The report to April 2022 Cabinet reproduced as Appendix 1 provides an update on the financial planning context for the County Council, including:
- the 2023-24 Budget proposals which have been developed so far;
  - the proposed approach to public consultation on, and equality impact assessments of, the 2023-24 Budget;
  - the emerging service and other budget pressures which have been identified to date; and
  - key areas of risk and uncertainty.
- 2.2 The Select Committee's views are particularly sought in relation to the services within its remit on (1) the new proposals identified for 2023-24 budget setting and currently undergoing public consultation, and (2) further areas for savings development to bridge the remaining 2023-24 budget gap. The Committee's feedback will help shape budget and saving proposal development for 2023-24, assist in the identification of key pressures and priorities for the 2023-24 Budget, and (ultimately) inform Cabinet's recommendations on the budget proposals to Full Council later in the year.
- 2.3 The financial approach and key strategies for Directorates delivering services which fall broadly within the remit of this Committee have been set out within the County Council's [2022-23 Budget Book](https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/budget-and-council-tax/budget-book-2022-26.pdf)<sup>1</sup>.

## **3. Impact of the Proposal**

- 3.1 Select Committee input will support in shaping budget proposals and thereby contribute to the 2023-24 budget setting process. Individual recommendations from Select Committees will help to inform budget proposals and will therefore ultimately impact on Departmental budgets and service delivery for 2023-24. Details of specific impacts will be identified and reported in later stages of the budget process. Further impacts are also set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

## **4. Evidence and Reasons for Decision**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/budget-and-council-tax/budget-book-2022-26.pdf>

- 4.1 As set out in the appended report. Select Committees have a specific role in policy development and therefore are invited to comment and advise Cabinet on budget options within their remit as in previous years.

## **5. Alternative Options**

- 5.1 As set out in the appended report, a range of options remain open at this stage. The purpose of this report is to provide Select Committees with an opportunity to engage with the budget process and inform the development of specific options for the 2023-24 Budget.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 Immediate financial implications are highlighted in the appended report. Any implications arising from the Select Committee's comments will be reported to a future meeting of Cabinet as part of 2023-24 budget setting as appropriate.

## **7. Resource Implications**

### **7.1 Staff:**

There are no direct implications arising from this report although existing and proposed saving plans will include activities linked to staffing budgets. In addition there is a potential that further staffing implications may arise linked to specific saving proposals developed, including the Strategic Review. These implications will be identified and reported as they arise later in the budget planning process. Further details are set out in the appended report.

### **7.2 Property:**

There are no direct property implications arising from this report although existing and proposed saving plans will include activities linked to property budgets and assumptions around capital receipts to be achieved. In addition there is a potential that further property implications may arise linked to specific saving proposals developed and these implications will be identified and reported as they arise later in the budget planning process. Further details are set out in the appended report.

### **7.3 IT:**

There are no direct IT implications arising from this report although existing and proposed saving plans include activities linked to IMT budgets. In addition there is a potential that further IT implications may arise linked to specific saving proposals developed and these implications will be identified and reported as they arise later in the budget planning process. Further details are set out in the appended report.

## **8. Other Implications**

**8.1 Legal Implications:**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**8.2 Human Rights Implications:**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**8.3 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) (this must be included):**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**8.4 Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA):**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**8.5 Health and Safety implications (where appropriate):**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**8.6 Sustainability implications (where appropriate):**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**8.7 Any Other Implications:**

As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**9. Risk Implications / Assessment**

9.1 As set out in the appended Cabinet paper.

**10. Recommendations**

The Select Committee is asked:

1. To consider the latest Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy position as reported to Cabinet in October 2022 (Appendix 1), noting in particular the emerging risks and uncertainties within the Council's planning position.
2. To consider and comment on the savings proposals for 2023-24 as set out in Appendix 1, which fall within the Committee's remit.
3. To note the significant budget gap which remains to be closed for 2023-24 and in this context to comment on any areas the Select Committee would recommend exploring for savings development in relation to the services within the Select Committee's remit, in order to provide further input to the 2023-24 budget process and inform the final package of saving proposals put forward to Cabinet later in the year. In particular the Committee is asked to consider savings opportunities under the following headings:
  - a. New initiatives which would deliver savings;
  - b. Activities which could be ceased in order to deliver a saving;

- c. Activities which the Council should seek to maintain at the current level as far as possible (i.e. areas where the Committee considers there is limited scope for savings);
- d. Commercialisation opportunities.

## 11. Background Papers

11.1 As set out in the appended Cabinet paper, plus

Norfolk County Council Budget Book 2022-23 <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/budget-and-council-tax/budget-book-2022-26.pdf>

Norfolk County Council Constitution, [Article 5 – Overview and scrutiny bodies](#), para 5.7 – Membership and Areas of Responsibility of Select Committees.

Strategic and Financial Planning reports considered by Select Committees in May 2022 as follows:

- [Corporate Select Committee, 23/05/2022](#)
- [Infrastructure and Development Select Committee, 25/05/2022](#)
- [People and Communities Select Committee, 27/05/2022](#)

### Officer Contact

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## **Norfolk County Council**

### **Policy for parental leave and extended periods of leave for Councillors**

#### **Introduction**

Norfolk County Council aims to encourage and make it as easy as possible for as wide a range of people to stand as a Councillor. One of the ways in which we can do this is to ensure that as far as we can we make it possible for Members as parents to be able to take appropriate leave at the time of birth or adoption and to make sure that reasonable and adequate arrangements are in place to provide cover for portfolio-holders and those Members in receipt of a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) during any leave they take.

There is currently no legal right for Councillors to parental leave and any provision is voluntary on the part of the Council.

#### **Maternity leave**

Members giving birth will be entitled to up to 6 months maternity leave from the due date, with the option to extend up to 52 weeks by agreement if required. In addition, where the birth is premature, the Member is entitled to take leave during the period between the date of the birth and the due date in addition to the 6 months' period. In such cases any leave taken to cover prematurity of 28 days or less shall be deducted from any extension beyond the initial 6 months. **Where a baby is stillborn after the 24<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy the Member is entitled to take leave of up to 6 months from the date of birth with the option to extend up to 52 weeks by agreement if required.**

In exceptional circumstances, and only in cases of prematurity of 29 days or more, additional leave may be taken by agreement, and such exceptional leave shall not be deducted from the total 52-week entitlement.

#### **Paternity leave**

Members shall be entitled to take a minimum of 2 weeks paternity leave if they are the biological father or nominated carer of their partner/spouse following the birth of their child(ren). A Member who has made Shared Parental Leave arrangements through their employment is requested to advise the Council of these at the earliest possible opportunity. Every effort will be made to replicate such arrangements in terms of leave from the Council.

Where both parents are Members leave may be shared up to a maximum of 24 weeks for the first six months and 26 weeks for any leave agreed thereafter, up to a maximum of 50 weeks. Special and exceptional arrangements may be made in cases of prematurity.

## **Adoption Leave**

A Member who adopts a child through an approved adoption agency shall be entitled to take up to six months adoption leave from the date of placement, with the option to extend up to 52 weeks by agreement with the Monitoring Officer if required.

## **Legal and procedural responsibilities**

Any Member who takes maternity, shared parental or adoption leave retains their legal duty under the Local Government Act 1972 to attend a meeting of the Council within a six-month period unless the Council Meeting agrees to an extended leave of absence prior to the expiration of that six month period.

Any Member intending to take maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave will be responsible for ensuring that they comply with the relevant notice requirements of the Council, both in terms of the point at which the leave starts and the point at which they return.

Any member taking leave should ensure that they respond to reasonable requests for information as promptly as possible, and that they keep officers and colleagues informed and updated in relation to intended dates of return and requests for extension of leave.

## **Allowances**

Norfolk County Council have agreed that Members shall continue to receive their Basic Allowance in full whilst on maternity, paternity or adoption leave. Those Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) shall continue to receive their allowance in full in the case of maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave.

Where a replacement is appointed to cover the period of absence that person shall receive an SRA on a pro rata basis for the period of the temporary appointment. The payment of Special Responsibility Allowances, whether to the primary SRA holder or a replacement, during a period of maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave shall continue for a period of six months, or until the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Council, or until the date when the member taking leave is up for election (whichever is soonest). At such a point, the position will be reviewed, and will be subject to a possible extension for a further six-month period with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer.

Should a Member appointed to replace the member on maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave already hold a remunerated position, the ordinary rules relating to payment of more than one Special Responsibility Allowances shall apply.

Unless the Member taking leave is removed from their post at an Annual General Meeting of the Council whilst on leave, or unless the Group to which they belong loses control of the Council during their leave period, they shall return at the end of their leave period to the same post, or to an alternative post with equivalent status and remuneration which they held before the leave began.



## **Resigning from Office and Elections**

If a Member decides not to return at the end of their maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave they must notify the Council at the earliest possible opportunity. All allowances will cease from the effective resignation date.

If an election is held during the Member's maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave and they are not re-elected, or decide not to stand for re-election, their basic allowance and SRA if appropriate will cease from the Monday after the election date when they would technically leave office.

## **Extended periods of leave**

In addition to taking periods of leave Councillors may also need to have temporary cover for a variety of personal reasons and adequate arrangements need to be in place to provide cover for any Cabinet Members or recipients of an SRA during this period.

Norfolk County Council have agreed that Members shall continue to receive their Basic Allowance in full in cases of long-term sickness or special leave of absence for a period of up to six months.

Those Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) shall continue to receive their allowance in full in the case of long-term sickness or special leave of absence for a period of up to six months.

Where a replacement is appointed to cover the period of absence that person shall receive an SRA on a pro rata basis for the period of the temporary appointment. The payment of Special Responsibility Allowances, whether to the primary SRA holder or a replacement, during a period of long term sickness or special leave of absence shall continue for a period of six months, or until the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Council, or until the date when the member taking leave is up for election (whichever is soonest). At such a point, the position will be reviewed, and will be subject to a possible extension for a further six-month period.

Should a Member appointed to replace the member on maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave already hold a remunerated position, the ordinary rules relating to payment of more than one Special Responsibility Allowances shall apply.

## **Monitoring**

In applying the provisions within this policy the County Council's Monitoring Officer will consider any absences and ensure that all provisions are applied correctly and any arrangements for remuneration are appropriate.

## **Recommendations to Council from the Governance & Audit Committee meeting held on 28 November 2022**

### **1. Terms of Reference for the Governance and Audit Committee**

1.1 The Committee received the report by the Director of Governance which outlined the new terms of reference for the committee since the merging of the Audit and Standards committees. The report also detailed the procedure for dealing with standards hearings should the occasion arise and nplaw's standard guidance for undertaking investigations.

1.2 The Governance & Audit Committee **resolved** to **recommend** to Full Council:

- 1. Full Council is asked to confirm that the Committee be titled, 'Audit and Governance Committee' and that the Director of Governance make such consequential changes as are required.**

The committee also **resolved** to:

2. **Endorse** the current procedure for dealing with standards hearings set out in Appendix B
3. **Establish** a hearings sub-committee as set out at 4.3 (2) (f) of its terms of reference to be selected from committee members trained in dealing with standards hearings
4. **Note** nplaw's guidance for carrying out standards investigations (Appendix C)

[Please click here to view the agenda and the reports considered by the Governance & Audit at their meeting of 28 November 2022](#)

## **Report of the Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 19 October 2022 and 23 November 2022**

### **Items from the meeting of 19 October 2022**

#### **1 Strategic Review Update**

1.1 The Committee discussed with Cllr Andrew Proctor (the Leader of the Council), Cllr Andrew Jamieson (Cabinet Member for Finance), Tom McCabe (Head of Paid Service) and Paul Cracknell (Executive Director, Strategy and Transformation) a report that provided an update on progress towards the organisation wide strategic review commenced by Cabinet on the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

1.2 The Chair said that he would be seeking further information after the meeting to explain the process whereby the organisational changes would happen and to what timetable.

#### **1.3 It was RESOLVED**

**That the Committee note the current position in relation to the issues mentioned in the Strategic Review Update report received by Cabinet on the 3 October 2022 and ask that they be kept informed of developments as the review progresses.**

#### **2 Strategic and Financial Planning 2023-24**

2.1 The Committee received an update report on the Council's process for developing the 2023-24 Budget which provided an opportunity for the Committee to consider savings proposals identified to date, the approach to public consultation, and the overall timeline and activity required to deliver a balanced budget.

#### **2.1 It was RESOLVED**

- 1. That the Committee note the current position in relation on the Strategic and Financial Planning 2023-24 report to Cabinet on 3 October 2022, including:**
  - a. Budget proposals identified to date;**
  - b. The proposed approach to public consultation;**
  - c. Service and budget related pressures identified to date;**
  - d. Key areas of risk and uncertainty related to development of the 2023-24 budget.**
- 2. Note the implications for scrutiny of the overall NCC budget setting process.**

#### **3 Quarterly update on Adult Social Care Performance Review Panel**

3.1 The Committee discussed with Cllr Shelagh Gurney (Chair of the Adult Social Care Performance Review Panel) an update report on recent work undertaken,

key actions, updates on actions from scrutiny, and an overview of the forward programmes of work for the Adult Social Care Performance Review Panel.

**3.2 It was RESOLVED**

**That the Committee note the progress and activity of the Adult Social Care Performance Review Panel.**

**4 Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme**

**4.1 It was RESOLVED**

**That the Committee note the current forward work programme as set out in the appendix to the report subject to the next meeting being structured to include the item on flooding and sewage discharge in the morning and other scheduled items that afternoon.**

**Items from the meeting of 23 November 2022**

**5 Review of Norfolk Flood Prevention Activity**

5.1 The Scrutiny Committee received a report that presented the progress made on flood mitigation and alleviation by the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance and by the County Council in its role as the Lead Local Flood Authority for Norfolk and as a Highways Authority.

5.2 The Committee discussed the report with General The Lord Dannatt (Chair of the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance), Nick Tupper (Consultant to the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance), Joel Hull (Assistant Director of Waste and Water Management), Grahame Bygrave (Director of Highways, Transport and Waste) and Mark Ogden (Flood and Water Manager).

5.3 The biggest success of the Alliance was that Norfolk now had a single strategic body that enabled an integrated conversation around flooding and water resource management. However, the delivery of many of the solutions required successful funding bids to be secured from a variety of external sources.

**5.4 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend to Cabinet**

**That Cabinet lobby directly with the Government, and through the work of the Norfolk MPs, for the implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and for a direct and adequate funding stream for the work of the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance.**

**5.5 It was also RESOLVED**

- 1. That the Committee note the nature and speed of progress made with flood prevention activities in Norfolk.**
- 2. That representatives of Anglian Water and the Environment Agency be invited to discuss sewage and stormwater overflow issues with Members of the Scrutiny Committee.**
- 3. That officers be invited to attend a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee in one year's time to discuss progress with flood prevention activity.**

4. That the Committee place on record the Council's thanks to General The Lord Dannatt, Chair of the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance, who was due to give up the chairmanship of the flooding Alliance in January 2023.
5. That the Cabinet Member be asked to implement the widest possible use of slow release water butts to store flood water and make it available for use by agriculture, industry, communities, and the environment.

## **6 Norfolk Rural Economic Strategy – Impact on Market Towns**

- 6.1 The Scrutiny Committee received a report that outlined the elements of the Norfolk Rural Economic Strategy 2021-24 that related to market towns. The report set out the activity to date, since Cabinet endorsed the Strategy in December 2021, and described the broader policy context in which the Strategy was being delivered, including the changing funding landscape and role of partnership working in delivery.

### **6.2 It was RESOLVED**

**That the Scrutiny Committee note the market towns element of the Norfolk Rural Economic Strategy.**

## **7 Quarterly update on Children's Services Performance Review Panel**

- 7.1 The Committee received an update on recent work undertaken, key actions, updates on actions from scrutiny, and an overview of the forward programmes of work for the Children's Services Performance Review Panel.

- 7.2 Cllr Daniel Elmer, the Chair of the Children's Panel, was present to answer questions about meetings of the panel and the actions that were being taken as a result of the issues raised.

- 7.3 The detailed comments made by the Scrutiny Committee can be found in the minutes that are published on the Scrutiny Committee pages website.

### **7.4 It was RESOLVED**

**That the Committee note the progress and activity of the Children's Services Performance Review Panel.**

## **8. Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme**

### **8.1 It was RESOLVED**

**That the Committee note the current forward work programme as set out in the appendix to the report.**

**Steve Morpew  
Chair**

## **Report of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022,**

### **1. Access to Dentistry**

The Committee received the report from Dr Liz Chandler, Scrutiny & Research Officer, which provided an update from the NHOSC meeting in March 2022. The report from commissioners NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) provided details regarding access to dentistry services across Norfolk and Waveney.

- 1.1 The Committee received evidence in person from David Barter, Head of Commissioning, NHS England (East of England) and Jessica Bendon, Senior Dental Contract Manager, NHS England (East of England)
- 1.2 Dr Mark Ter-berg, a member of the public and dental surgeon of 30 years standing, addressed the committee and advised of the difficulties he had experienced and observed in dealing with NHS contract procurement. The NHS dental practice in Long Stratton had gone into liquidation in the summer and he offered to take on the practice and patients under an NHS contract. Months later he had yet to receive a reply from the NHS. He advised that only 4 tenders had been allocated from the 7 new contracts issued for Norfolk. Dr Ter-berg was particularly concerned about the provision of dental services for children and vulnerable groups in Norfolk.
- 1.3 The Chair thanked Dr Ter-berg for his comments. During the ensuing discussion the following points were noted:
  - School dentistry was a service that could be provided by Public Health who had a statutory duty for oral health prevention and received the funding for such aims. It was not within the remit of NHS England to provide school dentistry.
  - Services for vulnerable groups, such as those with mental health issues or disabilities, was provided by Community Dental Services Community Interest Company (CDS CIC) and worked on a referral model from high street dentists unable to provide the services required. The service was offered on clinical need and triage by the referring dentist. The funding for the CDS CIC service was provided by the Public Health department of the local authority, which holds the statutory duty for oral health and prevention.
  - Strategies were being developed with ICBs to engage with children and young people on oral health and prevention. This work was funded by the Public Health department of the local authority, which holds the statutory duty for oral health prevention.
  - Members provided numerous examples of where their constituents had contacted the NHS 111 service for urgent dental treatment which referred them to a local NHS dentist who was unable or unwilling to help.
  - David Barter advised that since 2006, NHS contracts did not allow the registration of patients such is a requirement of GP surgeries. There was no need to register at an NHS dentist and anyone can receive NHS treatment at any NHS dentist. No NHS dentist should be closing lists (as they should not

exist) although often NHS practices did contact patients for regular check up appointments where capacity existed. Members offered evidence that NHS dentists were not behaving in this manner.

- NHS dentists are advised to hold open some appointments each day for urgent treatment which would be triaged by the NHS 111 number. A committee member advised that one constituent had contacted 42 NHS dentists in Norfolk without being able to obtain an appointment, despite the work required being urgent.
- NHS dentists that withdrew from their contracts had their workload offered to nearby NHS dentists to see if any capacity existed to take on more patients. If capacity could not be found, then Public Commission Regulation 2015 must be adhered to for a new dentist to take on that contract. This took considerable time and effort, and often created gaps in services whilst the process was undertaken.
- In response to a question about what the committee could do to help support the access to dentists, the need for joint working amongst all stakeholders was thought to be key. David Barter gave an example of messaging as a need for joint working to ensure patients keep their appointments they make. In King's Lynn, where one of the new NHS tenders was being established, 1294 appointments were made between July 2021 and October 2021, but only 902 were attended. This meant that almost 30% of appointments went unfilled and patients need to be encouraged from all stakeholders to attend their appointments.
- The King's Lynn new NHS practice is currently running a 9am to 5pm service but from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 it will offer an 8am to 8pm service 365 days a year including weekends and bank holidays . This should increase capacity for urgent appointments.
- New NICE guidelines indicate that routine dental check ups for an orally healthy patient could be undertaken every 12 to 18 months rather than the anticipated historical 6 months considered previously. This could mean if NHS dentists prioritised patients on clinical need, then many more patients could be seen and conditions such as oral cancers could be spotted and treated earlier.
- A limiting factor to increasing NHS dentistry capacity was workforce constraints. Many NHS dentists had a mixed practice providing both private and NHS services. Where practices have struggled to attract dentists the NHS contract is often relinquished as service standards dictated by the NHS contract cannot be met.
- One aspect of the dental contract reform recently announced was the move towards a Dental Clinical Professional Model (DCP). This will allow patients to be seen by a variety of oral health care specialists and not necessarily just by a dentist. The upskilling of staff to move towards this model will help increase capacity for NHS dentists. This sort of model had worked well for GP surgeries where nurses, specialist staff and other clinicians provide services to patients where appropriate rather than requiring the time of a GP for routine health care.
- The possibility of setting up a dental school in Norfolk has been looked at previously. A school has a lead in time of 7 to 11 years and requires large amounts of funding. A school would have to be commissioned by the Department of Health and was not within the remit of NHS England. It takes 5 years for a dentist to train and so given the lead in time, a school would not increase capacity in the short to medium term. The approach to encourage NHS dentists to become multi-skilled practices was thought to offer the best solution to increasing access to NHS dentistry.
- The ICB from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 will be responsible for the delegated commissioning

of NHS dentistry. The ICB will be shortly working on a dental needs assessment, as they take over the service, to ascertain what services are available and what services need to be contracted.

- Jessica Bendon committed to look at the issue of school dentistry but commented that school dentists offered a very limited service and whilst an oral examination can take place, any work identified would still need to be undertaken in an NHS dental practice.
- Parents of children with special needs or learning difficulties were recommended to contact the CDS CIC service in Norfolk to arrange an appointment. Their request would be triaged according to clinical need.
- It was thought that the business mix for dentists to offer both private and NHS services was not working well. Some dental contract reform had helped, but there were still areas to consider to increase access and a new contract needed to be negotiated. Responsibility for contract reform would switch to the ICB in April 2023.
- Adding fluoride to the water supply was within the gift of the County Council, but it was acknowledged that this would be a controversial decision as individuals could not opt out.
- The report indicated NHS waiting time for dentists was reducing. David Barter explained that every time a patient received NHS care a FP17 form was completed which detailed the appointment and treatment received. It was from this data, when compared to numbers waiting for treatment, that the evidence to the statement in the report provided.

1.4 The Chair concluded the discussion:

- School and special needs dentistry commissioning was delivered from the preventative funding given by Public Health to NHS England. This commissioning would pass to the ICB in April 2023. The Chair suggested she wrote to the Director of Public Health and ask whether the funding would be prioritised for schools and special needs children and in addition seek opinion to the fluoridisation of the water supply.
- The new NHS contracts were due to move to an 8am to 8pm service 7 days a week from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.
- The Chair advised she would also write again to the Secretary of State for Health and all Norfolk MPs advising them of the committee's thoughts and proposed actions. A request for the Secretary of State to attend a future HOSC meeting would be included. The letter written in February 2022 had yet to receive an answer.

**2. Re-examination of the Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) improvement plan following the Care Quality Commission inspection from November – December 2021**

- 2.1 The Committee received evidence in person from representatives of Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust: Stuart Richardson Chief Executive Officer, Cath Byford, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Chief People Officer, Kathryn Ellis, Director of Strategy & Partnership, Diane Hull, Chief Nurse and Nicky Shaw Lead Nurse. Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB); Tricia D'Orsi, Director of Nursing, and Emma Willey Head of Mental Health.



- 2.2 Stuart Richardson apologised that the previous report had not been of the required standard and was late and thanked the committee for the opportunity to revisit the item. He added that much work had been completed since the CQC inspection and that changes implemented to address the “must dos” (section 29A warning notices) were only the start and that the Trust needed to look at the deep rooted-causes that had created the issues and address these so changes become sustainable and are embedded in the culture of the Trust and its work.
- 2.3 The reports submitted were taken as read and during the ensuing discussion the following points were noted:
- The committee was pleased to see the improvements made and detailed in the report.
  - Sustaining improvements was key to phase 2 of the recovery plan and accountability was a key driver to ensure changes were embedded. Learning from QEH colleagues had been taken forward in allowing wider stakeholders to check whether improvements had been sustained. An improvement board had also been established to ensure that partners within the system can help resolve issues both internally within NSFT and externally so that service users receive holistic care from across the health sector.
  - A broad range of measures had been introduced by the Trust to support its staff who are struggling in the current economic climate. These include measures such as increasing mileage allowances and offering £150 supermarket vouchers, as well as establishing a £25,000 hardship fund.
  - Improvements were also being made with Primary Care to help identify and support people as early detection and intervention are key to ensuring NSFT was not overwhelmed with demand at a later point down the patient’s pathway. Voluntary groups and wider health sector partners were being considered to help those currently on waiting lists.
  - It was acknowledged that mental health was an issue across the entire health care and voluntary sector and not that just of NSFT. There was a collaborative partnership approach particularly to offering community-based services such as the drop-in sessions at every wellbeing hub which often acted as a gateway for individuals into other services.
  - The Trust confirmed that no individual would be discharged into unsafe and inappropriate housing. If wrap around care packages were not fully in place the Trust would not permit a discharge of that patient.
  - The Independent Mortality Review was currently a desktop review to collect the data and did not require co-production at this stage. Once the data had been verified this would be published.
  - There were significant numbers awaiting discharge that was causing a backlog for those on the list waiting for a bed. If discharge could work effectively then supply would be able to meet demand. There were approximately 18 patients awaiting discharge.
  - Improved measures to ensure safety on wards had been introduced. Any agency staff employed must have undertaken the Prevention of Management and Aggression training (PMA). Twice a day safety huddles are held to ensure there is adequate PMS trained staff on wards. All staff have comprehensive inductions before they start work, which includes safety protocols and procedures.
  - Retention of staff is key as recruitment to roles at the Trust was very difficult and demanding. Several initiatives have been introduced to increase retention rates such as a more robust exit interview for management to learn why staff are leaving. The culture within the Trust needed to change and extensive training, as well as encouraging individuals to speak out against bullying and intimidation,

was being promoted by senior management.

- It was acknowledged that well motivated, respected and content staff provided a better service for patients and their families.
- All assessments were undertaken face-to-face, but initial introduction to the assessment process may be carried out by telephone or video call.
- It was acknowledged that people who are taken to custody when experiencing a mental health crisis are spending too long in a custody environment although the Police do have mental health workers within custody suites to provide advice and guidance.
- There was support for the REST hubs which are delivered in conjunction with Mind and the voluntary sector. The Police often spend a lot of time with Section 136 cases and these hubs were providing an opportunity for individuals to receive care and advice for a few days without needing to occupy police officers' time.
- The centralisation of Section 136 cases had been requested by the Police to help the flow of individuals they often have to deal with.
- It was acknowledged that individuals with drug and alcohol dependency need to be given support and treatment for their mental health and addiction issues at the same time as often the two issues were intertwined.
- There was a need to undertake a clinical harm review so that data could be collated as to how many are waiting in the system and for what services. Reform in the community services could help individuals receive treatment and guidance and not necessarily wait for services to be delivered by NSFT which may be unsuitable.

2.4 The Chair concluded the discussion and thanked all from NSFT for their input.

- The Chair thanked the NSFT representatives for attending and for providing detailed answers to the committee's questions. It was encouraging to see the progress made in respect of the plan, but this was only at a first phase stage and many challenges still lie ahead.
- Culture issues across the Trust had been acknowledged and were being addressed at a senior level.
- Housing requirements to increase patients' timely discharge was a wider issue for all stakeholders but was key to providing a better flow of patients.
- The Chair felt that the NSFT should return to the committee once the CQC had undertaken a follow-up inspection (due January 2023) and the outcome of this inspection was known. This should be updated to the committee in a briefing first with a view to the Trust returning in the summer of 2023.

#### 4. Forward Work Programme

The Committee received a report from Peter Randall, Democratic Support and Scrutiny Manager which set out the current forward work programme and briefing details that were **agreed** subject to the following additions:

##### Meetings

- It was agreed that in January 2023, as there was only one item on the programme, that the remainder of the meeting would be set aside for discussion about possible topics to be included in the future programme. It was agreed that the following topics would be included as part of this discussion:
  - COPD

- Provision of health services to the LGBTQ+ community.
- NNUH – data indicating the Trust has one of the highest death rates in England. Why is this happening?
- Pharmacy provision within Norfolk.
- QEH – impact on residents if funding not secured for new hospital.
- Cancer detection rates for disabled people.
- End of life care provision.
- Long-terms effect of vaping.

**Cllr Alison Thomas, Chair,  
Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

## Report of the Governance and Audit Committee Meeting held on 28 November 2022

### 1 Terms of Reference for the Governance and Audit Committee

1.1 The Committee received the report by the Director of Governance which outlined the new terms of reference for the committee since the merging of the Audit and Standards committees. The report also detailed the procedure for dealing with standards hearings should the occasion arise and nplaw's standard guidance for undertaking investigations.

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

1. For recommendation 1 please refer to agenda item 'Recommendations from Committees'.
2. **Endorse** the current procedure for dealing with standards hearings set out in Appendix B
3. **Establish** a hearings sub-committee as set out at 4.3 (2) (f) of its terms of reference to be selected from committee members trained in dealing with standards hearings
4. **Note** nplaw's guidance for carrying out standards investigations (Appendix C)

### 2. Monitoring Officer Annual Report 2021-22

2.1 The Committee received the report by the Director of Governance which summarises the internal governance work carried out by the Monitoring Officer (MO) in 21/22 and provides assurance that the organisation's control environment which are the responsibility of the MO is adequate and effective.

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

- Note the contents of the report and the key messages in the above Executive Summary and Appendix A section 2.1;.and
- Continue to review information on the effectiveness of the management processes and corporate control functions (legal, financial, health and safety and human resources services performed) as provided by internal audits, self-assessment, customer feedback and any existing external performance reviews.

### 3 Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Report for the Quarter ending 30 September 2022

3.1 The Committee received the report by the Director of Governance which provided an update in respect of anti-fraud, bribery and corruption activity undertaken during the 22/23 financial year to date.

3.3 The committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

- **Agree** the key messages featured in this report, that the work and assurance meet their requirements and advise if further information is required.

The Director of Governance was moving on to pastures new in early 2023 and the Chairman, on behalf of the committee, thanked her for the support and guidance given to the committee in her role during the past 5 years.

#### **4. External Audit Update**

4.1 The Committee received the annexed report (8) by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services which provided an update on the audit of the Annual Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2021-22.

4.2 Due to national issues relating to accounting for infrastructure assets, the UK Government plans to push through statutory changes for Local Authorities regulations that will override the accounting standards relating to infrastructure assets temporarily. This legislation is expected to come into force in the next few weeks and as a result the completion and approval of the accounts will be delayed.

Debbie Hanson, External Auditor from Ernest Young LLP gave a verbal update around the complexities of the regulations and how historical differences in accounting procedures across local authorities have created issues. Good progress had been made on the audit, although there was still some work to consider once the regulations were in force. Currently no significant concerns to date had arisen. The audit is not expected to conclude until January / February 2023.

4.3 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to **agree**:

- The plans to conclude the annual statement of accounts audit and their approval.

#### **5 External Auditors Update: Norfolk Pension Fund Audit Results Report**

5.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services setting out the External Auditor's (Ernst and Young) Norfolk Pension Fund Provisional Audit Results Report for consideration of matters which may be raised by the Council's external auditors.

5.2 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to **agree**:

- The plan to conclude the audit; where that results report is presented to the Pensions Committee later this year for their consideration to allow the Pensions Committee to make final recommendation that the draft financial statements for the Norfolk Pension Fund be approved/not approved by the Governance and Audit Committee, before Ernst & Young issue their audit opinion.

#### **6 Yearly Update of the Audit Committee 2021-22**

6.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services which summarises the work of the Audit Committee for year end 31 March 2022.

6.2 The committee had demonstrated a high degree of performance against good practice principles set out in Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) guidelines.

6.3 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to agree:

- that the arrangements are satisfactory and note that the Committee has terms of reference which are consistent with guidance and best practice;
- the key messages on the [CIPFA's position statement](#) for 'wider roles' reported on in October 2021 have been actioned
- the two-stage approach to engage member input into the CIPFA 'assessment tool – evaluating effectiveness', in particular appendix E of the toolkit.

## **7 Norfolk Audit Services Report for the Quarter ending 30 September 2022**

7.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services updating it on the overall opinion on the effectiveness of risk management and internal control and setting out the work to support the opinion and any matters of note.

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

- the key messages featured in this quarterly report, that the work and assurance meet their requirements and advise if further information is required.

## **8. Norfolk Audit Services' Terms of Reference (Charter) and Code of Ethics 21/22**

8.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services presenting the revised terms of reference and code of ethics.

8.3 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to agree:

- the NAS Terms of Reference (Charter) as set out in Appendix A, and the Code of Ethics as set out in Appendix B of this report.

## **9 Risk Management Quarterly Report to November 2022**

9.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services referencing the corporate risk register as it stood in November 2022, following the latest review conducted during October 2022.

9.2 In introducing the report, the Risk Management Officer highlighted those risks which had been updated and agreed by Cabinet.

9.3 The Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to agree

- a. key messages as per paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of this report
- b. key changes to the corporate risk register (**Appendix A**);
- c. corporate risk heat map (**Appendix B**);
- d. generic corporate risks (**Appendix C**);
- e. background Information (**Appendix D**);

f. information in this report is sufficient.

**10. Governance and Audit Committee Work Programme**

10.1 The Committee received the report by the Executive Director of Finance & Commercial Services.

10.2 The Committee considered and **noted** the report and **agreed** to the programme. The date for the training session of the annual accounts would be agreed and circulated in due course.

**Ian Mackie**  
**Chairman, Governance & Audit Committee**

## **Report of the Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board Meeting held on 9 November 2022**

### **Items from 9 November 2022**

#### **1. Norfolk Safeguarding Childrens Partnership Annual Report**

- 1.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board received the annual report which summarises the local arrangements for safeguarding children. The HWB has governance oversight of the Norfolk Safeguarding Childrens Partnership (NSCP) and the report detailed the Partnership's activities, achievements and challenges for the period July 2021 to June 2022.
- 1.2 Chris Robson, the Chair of the NSCP and Nathan Adams, a person with lived experience of the Partnership's involvement, undertook a presentation that is [available on the Board's website pages](#).
- 1.3 **The HWB resolved to:**
- Endorse the contents of the NSCP 2021/22 annual report.

#### **2. Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board received the report which detailed the annual Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). There is a requirement for the HWB to approve the assessment before it could be published. There is also a legal requirement to undertake this assessment and publish the findings within three years of any previous publication. The report records the assessment of the need for NHS pharmaceutical services within Norfolk and details when and where services are available, any changes likely to affect future needs and identifies current or future gaps in pharmaceutical services.
- 2.2 The report was presented by Suzanne Meredith, Deputy Director of Public Health who advised:
- The assessment had found no gaps in pharmaceutical provision currently or within the next three years.
  - Although the assessment is only published every three years, monitoring took place on a regular basis and updates were produced to ensure it remains current.
  - The Waveney area was not covered in the report and was included within the report for the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board.
  - Currently there are 157 dispensing community pharmacies and 15 GP practice pharmacies in Norfolk.
  - Norfolk's number of pharmacies per population of 100,000 was close to the national average.



- The PNA does not assess quality of services provided. It was acknowledged that there were national issues in the supply of some drugs and medicines and that this issue could be pursued by Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC).

2.3

**The HWB resolved to:**

- Approve the PNA for publication as part of the Norfolk Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- Note the concerns about difficulties people in some areas are experiencing, in relation to reliable opening hours of pharmacies and supply of medicines and recommend this is taken forward by Healthwatch Norfolk and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

### 3. **Norfolk Drug & Alcohol Partnership Formation and Governance**

3.1

The HWB received the report which informed members on the plans for developing a new strategic substance misuse partnership. The strategy would require the formation of a multi -agency partnership to meet the proposed goals of enforcement, treatment, and prevention.

Diane Steiner Deputy Director of Public Health presented the report and advised:

- The proposed strategy was in line with the Government's 10 year strategy released in September 2021, and it was anticipated that local partnerships would form to help achieve the aims.
- There was a desire to be ambitious in the aims of the partnership to tackle the issues of drug and alcohol dependency in Norfolk and built on the already existing initiatives within the county.
- The cost to the local economy because of drug and alcohol misuse could not be underestimated across all levels.
- The partnership strategy would cover the footprint of Norfolk (Waveney would be covered by Suffolk HWB), Dr Louise Smith, Director of Public Health would lead the partnership for Norfolk and the Norfolk HWB would provide governance oversight.
- Service users would be embedded into the pathways adopted by the partnership so their voice would be heard. It was acknowledged that mental health issues often accompany addiction and that treatment plans would include all needs of the service users.

3.2

**The HWB resolved to:**

- Agree the proposal for the formation of the Norfolk Drugs and Alcohol Partnership to increase our ability to respond to drugs and alcohol issues by combining prevention, treatment, and enforcement:
  - Reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Board to provide elected official and senior leader oversight.
  - With a footprint of the county of Norfolk.
  - With the Director of Public Health as the Senior Responsible Owner and

- The partnership is to cover alcohol as well as drugs.
- Agree to delegate the ratification of the Terms of Reference for the Norfolk Drugs and Alcohol Partnership to the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Advise on priorities for the new Norfolk strategic partnership.

#### 4. **Better Care Fund 2022/23**

4.1 The HWB received the report which provided the submission details of the 22/23 Better Care Fund (BCF) plan. Bethany Small, Commissioning Manager, Social Care and Health Partnerships and Nick Clinch, Assistant Director of Social Care and Health Partnerships, Adult Social Care presented the report and advised:

- The plan was the final submission following discussions that took place at the last meeting of HWB.
- The BCF plans had been created using the five priorities of the BCF and the principles agreed by HWB.
- The plan included expected performance against the four BCF metrics, BCF income and spend, as well as detailing approaches to keeping people well at home and supporting discharges and how carers would be supported and inequalities addressed.
- BCF would be targeted for use at place level and each Health and Wellbeing Partnership received concurrent funding for projects which matched the aims of the BCF.
- For the first time a plan of capacity and demand has been requested which looks at system capacity for discharge and care and expected demand.

The next stages included how feedback would be received from service users on how the BCF had helped meet the aims. Healthwatch Norfolk had agreed to help with this. In addition, both the ICB and other local authorities had also supported the need to feed back how BCF was making a difference. This learning would be a key part of preparation for submissions in the future.

#### 4.2 **The HWB resolved to:**

Approve the BCF submission for 2022/23 which included:

1. A narrative plan, describing our approach to integration, discharge, housing, and health inequalities.
2. An excel template, describing the BCF income and expenditure, our planned performance against the four key metrics and affirmation that we are meeting the national conditions as set out in the current BCF Planning Guidance.
3. A Capacity and Demand plan for supported discharge and intermediate care services. (it was suggested the data should be revisited before submission)

**Meeting Concluded at 11.14am**

**Cllr Bill Borrett Chair, Health and Wellbeing Board**

## Report of the Corporate Select Committee meeting held on 14 November 2022

### 1. Strategic and Financial Planning 2023-24

1.1 The report by the Executive Director for Finance and Commercial Services was received and presented by Cllr Andrew Jamieson, Cabinet Member for Finance. The report, following on from the latest Cabinet report, provided details of the saving proposals identified to date for the 2023-24 budget setting process.

1.2 The Select committee **reviewed and:**

- **Considered** the latest Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy position as reported to Cabinet in October 2022 (Appendix 1), **noted** in particular the emerging risks and uncertainties within the Council's planning position.
- **Considered and commented** on the savings proposals for 2023-24 as set out in Appendix 1, which fall within the Committee's remit.
- **Noted** the significant budget gap which remains to be closed for 2023-24 and in this context **commented** on any areas the Select Committee would recommend exploring for savings development in relation to the services within the Select Committee's remit, in order to provide further input to the 2023-24 budget process and inform the final package of saving proposals put forward to Cabinet later in the year. In particular, the Committee **considered** savings opportunities under the following headings:
  - a. New initiatives which would deliver savings;
  - b. Activities which could be ceased in order to deliver a saving;
  - c. Activities which the Council should seek to maintain at the current level as far as possible (i.e. areas where the Committee considers there is limited scope for savings);
  - d. Commercialisation opportunities.

### 2. Amendments to the Constitution to include Financial Regulations update 2022-23 & changes to statutory officer designations

Please refer to "Recommendations to Council from Corporate Select Committee" report.

### 3. Policy for Parental Leave for Councillors

Please refer to "Recommendations to Council from Corporate Select Committee" report.

#### 4. **Digital Strategy Update**

- 4.1 The report by the Executive Director for Finance and Commercial Services was received and introduced by the Cabinet Member for Innovation, Transformation & Performance.
- 4.2 The report provided an update on the NCC Digital Strategy and Roadmap for the 2020s which had been approved by cabinet in April 2021. Geoff Connell, Director of Information Management Technology (IMT) undertook a presentation which is [available on the committee's website pages](#).
- 4.3 The Select Committee **resolved to**:
1. **Note** the updates contained in the report.
  2. **Commented** on whether the Committee would wish to consider any alterations or additions to the current plans.
  3. **Consider** options to improve mobile coverage.

#### 5. **2022 Staff Survey 'Our Voice Our Council': Summary Report and Next Steps**

- 5.1 The report (11) by the Executive Director for Strategy and Transformation and Director for People was received. The report provided the headline findings from the 2022 survey and an overview of action plans at Directorate and organisational level.
- 5.2 Rob Stafford, Head of Organisation Effectiveness & Learning presented the report and advised that the period covered by the survey was when employees were working under some level of Covid restrictions and the results reflect a stabilising environment, following actions that had been put in place following previous survey results. The current results placed NCC in the top quartile of comparable organisations. Key drivers of openness and honesty, wellbeing, goal setting, leadership and empowerment all featured highly within the survey. The 2022 survey is the fourth year a survey has been undertaken, and the focus for action is switching away from new initiatives to embedding and developing existing ones. The survey also reflected the employees were adapting well to hybrid working in the post pandemic world of work.
- 5.3 The committee **resolved to**:
- **Note** both the key messages from this year's survey and the actions being taken in response
  - **Provide** support for the performance, engagement and wellbeing of colleagues.

#### 6.0 **Organisational Performance Framework**

The report by the Executive Director for Strategy and Transformation was Received and introduced by Cabinet Member for Innovation, Transformation and Performance. The report provided the committee with an update on the Council's Organisational Performance Framework. The Framework lays out the approach and expectations against the following areas:

- Performance Framework Principles
- Performance Governance
- Performance Management Culture
- Vital Signs measurement, reporting, target setting and trend analysis
- Performance Reporting Cycle

7. Stacey Palmer, Organisational performance Lead gave a presentation which is [available on the committee's website pages.](#)

The committee **resolved** to:

- **Endorse** the accompanying framework document and **recommend** to Cabinet for approval

8. **Forward Work Programme 2022/23**

- 8.1 A report by the Executive Director for Strategy and Transformation was received. The committee **resolved** to agree the forward work programme.

Cllr Ed Colman – Chair, Corporate Select Committee

## Report of the Infrastructure and Development Select Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2022

### 1. Strategic and Financial Planning 2023-24

- 1.1 The Select Committee received the report which included the latest Cabinet report which provided details of the savings proposals identified for the 2023-24 Budget setting. This enabled the Committee to provide its feedback and input to a future meeting of Cabinet and thereby to inform budget decisions. This report therefore formed an important part of the process of developing the 2023-24 Budget, representing a key opportunity for the Select Committee to provide its views on priorities and the budget proposals for the services within its remit.
- 1.2 The Select Committee;
1. **CONSIDERED** the latest Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy position as reported to Cabinet in October 2022 (Appendix 1 of the report), noting in particular the emerging risks and uncertainties within the Council's planning position.
  2. **CONSIDERED AND COMMENTED** on the savings proposals for 2023-24 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, which fell within the Committee's remit.
  3. **NOTED** the significant budget gap which remained to be closed for 2023-24 and in this context **COMMENTED** on any areas the Select Committee recommended exploring for savings development in relation to the services within the Select Committee's remit, in order to provide further input to the 2023-24 budget process and inform the final package of saving proposals put forward to Cabinet later in the year. The Committee **CONSIDERED** savings opportunities under the following headings:
    - a. New initiatives which would deliver savings;
    - b. Activities which could be ceased in order to deliver a saving;
    - c. Activities which the Council should seek to maintain at the current level as far as possible (i.e. areas where the Committee considers there is limited scope for savings);
    - d. Commercialisation opportunities.

### 2. Review of Norfolk Speed Management Strategy

- 2.1 The Select Committee received the report which included the latest version of The Norfolk Speed Management Strategy (NSMS). The NSMS was an important policy document that provided a local, countywide strategic direction and guidance on how speed was safely managed on Norfolk's roads. It was based on central government guidance and aligned to other local policies and strategies. Recently there had been a marked increase in local, community-based involvement, resulting in the expansion or introduction of several NCC initiatives. For these reasons, a review had been necessary to capture these changes and latest approaches.
- 2.2 Having **REVIEWED** the revised Norfolk Speed Management Strategy, the Select

Committee **COMMENTED** accordingly.

### **3. Waste Services Review**

- 3.1 The Select Committee received the report which provided an overview and update on the services delivered by the County Council in its role as the Waste Disposal Authority for Norfolk. This role included the provision of recycling centres, the disposal of residual waste, and making payments to the District, City and Borough Councils to help support the costs of the recycling services that they delivered.
- 3.2 The Select Committee;
1. **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the review including the County Council's current waste policies.
  2. In accordance with the County Council's second Waste Policy **REVIEWED** the arrangements outside Norfolk for the *'incineration of waste or fuel derived from waste'* set out in section 6.4.2 of the report.

### **4. Progress with delivering Norfolk Access Improvement Plan (NAIP)**

- 4.1 The Select Committee received the report which provided an update on progress with delivering the NAIP. The report also covered advice offered by the Norfolk Local Access Forum ([www.norfolk.gov.uk/nlaf](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/nlaf)) to the Council on key issues to ensure delivery of the NAIP. The Norfolk Local Access Forum was an independent forum which advises Norfolk County Council and other organisations on ways to improve public access to Norfolk's countryside.
- 4.2 The Select Committee **CONSIDERED**;
1. Officers' ongoing work to deliver the Norfolk Access Improvement Plan (NAIP) which was presented in two monitoring reports (March 2022 (Appendix 1 of the report) and September 2022 (Appendix 2 of the report) and processes which were in place to monitor the plan.
  2. Advice from the Norfolk Local Access Forum (NLAFF) regarding the need for increased resources for public rights of way maintenance and processing of Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) claims, detailed in Appendix 3 of the report.

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

- 5.1 The Select Committee received the report which set out the Forward Work Programme for the Committee to enable the Committee to review and shape.
- 5.2 Having reviewed the forward work programme, the Committee **AGREED** it as set out in Appendix A of the report.

**Cllr James Bensly, Chair  
Infrastructure and Development Select Committee**

## Report of the People and Communities Select Committee meeting held on 18 November 2022

### 1. Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant Annual Report

- 1.1 The Select Committee received the report setting out the year-end progress report on Norfolk's independent Armed Forces Covenant Board's Strategy and Action Plan 2019/22, the Board's forward strategy for 2022/2023 and giving an update on national policy developments.
- 1.2 The Select Committee **AGREED**:
1. To note the local and national developments set out in Section 1 of the report, particularly the Government's Armed Forces Act 2021 which brings in legislation for a new duty of due regard for local authorities, requiring them to consider the impact of their policies for health, housing and education on the armed forces community. Further information about the implications of this will be brought to the committee once the Government has issued the Statutory Instrument containing guidance for implementing the legislation.
  2. To review and comment on the progress made in 2021/2022 to deliver the Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant Action Plan 2019/2022, as summarised in Section 2 of the report.
  3. To endorse the Armed Forces Covenant Board's forward strategy for 2022/2023, as set out in Section 3 of the report.

### 2. Tackling alcohol and drugs misuse in Norfolk

- 2.1 The Select Committee received the report setting out Norfolk County Council's Public Health Team's approach to tackling harm caused by alcohol and drugs.
- 2.2 The Select Committee:
1. **Endorsed** our approach to developing a new strategic substance misuse partnership to increase our ability to respond to drugs and alcohol issues by combining prevention, treatment and enforcement. The partnership would have a footprint of the county of Norfolk and the Director of Public Health would be the Senior Responsible Owner
  2. **Endorsed** our proposal to include alcohol in the remit of the new strategic partnership
  3. **Advised** on priorities for the new strategic partnership to consider
  4. **Endorsed** the range of interventions and increased investment to tackle alcohol and drug misuse in order to improve health outcomes and community safety.
  5. **AGREED** to set up a working group to look at ways to change social attitudes towards excessive alcohol consumption and recreational drug use

### 3. Strategic and financial planning 2023-24

- 3.1 The Select Committee received the report representing the key opportunity for Select



Committees to provide input to 2023-24 budget setting and the Committee was invited to comment on the substantive proposals which had been developed and currently undergoing public consultation.

### 3.2 The Select Committee:

1. **Considered** the latest Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy position as reported to Cabinet in October 2022 (Appendix 1 of the report), noting in particular the emerging risks and uncertainties within the Council's planning position.
2. **Considered** and commented on the savings proposals for 2023-24 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, which fall within the Committee's remit.
3. **Noted** the significant budget gap which remains to be closed for 2023-24 and in this context commented on any areas the Select Committee would recommend exploring for savings development in relation to the services within the Select Committee's remit, in order to provide further input to the 2023-24 budget process and inform the final package of saving proposals put forward to Cabinet later in the year. In particular the Committee considered savings opportunities under the following headings:
  - a. New initiatives which would deliver savings;
  - b. Activities which could be ceased in order to deliver a saving;
  - c. Activities which the Council should seek to maintain at the current level as far as possible (i.e. areas where the Committee considers there is limited scope for savings);
  - d. Commercialisation opportunities.

## 4. Tobacco Control and Stop Smoking

4.1 The Select Committee received the report setting out why tackling smoking tobacco remains a priority, a fact highlighted by the 'Khan Review; making smoking obsolete', which had made several recommendations to Government to tackle smoking. Considering the review, the impact of smoking in Norfolk was outlined, highlighting the need to continue to address this persistent and significant health issue and setting out our current work and plans to innovate services.

4.2 The Select Committee **AGREED** the following statement:

1. NCC continues to support tobacco control and initiatives to help people to stop smoking. We will:
  - a) refresh, in conjunction with stakeholders, the Council's tobacco control policy aimed at promoting staff wellbeing and supporting healthy behaviours.
  - b) Pledge to protect children, by trialling an incentive scheme to support quitting smoking for pregnant women in Norfolk, as part of the delivery NCC's FLOURISH public health pledge.
  - c) Continue to engage with colleagues across NCC, to identify additional interventions to support stop smoking, and with Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System, for a system wide approach to prevention prioritising smoking and tobacco control.
  - d) Continue to invest in stop smoking and tobacco control services and commit to maintain this year's budget (2022/23) for the next 2 years.
  - e) Continue to offer vaping as a tool for quitting smoking, alongside accurate information on the benefits of switching and stopping smoking, including to healthcare professionals.

## **5. Health and Adult Social Care Reforms**

- 5.1 The Select Committee received the report setting out the further work underway in readiness for the implementation of social care reform and explaining how the significant changes associated with reform are being managed and governed, and the challenges associated with change.
- 5.2 The Select Committee **discussed** and **considered** the implications for Social Care Reform for Norfolk adult social care.

## **6. Connecting Communities**

- 6.1 The Select Committee received the report giving information about the Connecting Communities Programme and the work carried out so far.
- 6.2 The Select Committee:
- a) **Discussed** and consider the three main workstreams in section 4.0 of the report
  - b) **Identified** further areas of focus that could be considered as part of these workstreams
    - Ensuring it was clear when people needed to come to Adult Social Services for an assessment and when they did not

## **7. Forward Work Programme**

- 7.1 The Committee considered and **AGREED** the forward work programme.

**Cllr Fabian Eagle, Chair  
People and Communities Select Committee**

## **Report of the Norfolk Joint Museums Committee meetings held on 28 October 2022**

### **1 Area Museums Committees**

- 1.1 The Joint Committee received updates about Museums activities in Breckland, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and West Norfolk and Norwich.
- 1.2 From the Breckland update, the Committee noted that the events programme at Gressenhall for the 2022 season continued to run across four operational models (special event days, Days with a Difference, Norfolk School Holiday Activities, and Ticketed Events) which would be reviewed at the end of the calendar year to assess visitor attendance and feedback.
- 1.3 From the Great Yarmouth update, the Committee noted that the next stage in the development of Time and Tide Museum was to build on core values of community engagement by encouraging more co-production of events, collections, displays, engagement programmes and exhibitions and make sensitive adaptations to the courtyard space to accommodate increased demand from visitors, schools, event organisers and other community groups. This work included direct partnership working with the National Maritime Museum (Royal Museums Greenwich).
- 1.4 From the King's Lynn and West Norfolk update, the Committee noted a new exhibition entitled Hoards: Archaeological Treasures from West Norfolk which featured some of the best treasure finds unearthed in north-west Norfolk and that ran at the Lynn Museum until 11 June 2023.
- 1.5 From the Norwich update, the Committee noted that the Area Committee meeting was preceded by a tour of Norwich Castle. There would be further opportunities for tours by Members of the Area Committee and the Joint Committee as work on the Keep progressed and milestones were reached.

### **2 Norfolk Museums Service – Finance Monitoring Report for 2022/23**

- 2.1 The Joint Committee received a report that covered the Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) forecast budget out-turn for 2022/23 and detailed the latest monitoring position of the revenue budget, capital programme, reserves and provisions.
- 2.2 The Committee's attention to the following issues:
  - The Service was currently projecting an over-spend of £0.850m as it continued to face significant uncertainty in relation to the main income streams following a slower than hoped for return to normal, pre-pandemic visitor numbers and patterns. A rise in energy costs, the very hot summer, and the reduced visitor offer in place at Norwich Castle Museum, because of the ongoing work for the Keep re-development, were also reasons for the overspend.
  - The Service was expected to see a positive return to museum visiting in the

new year, with income from new exhibition programmes and the renewed publicity given to the museum visitor pass helping to alleviate the current financial pressures.

- NMS budgetary pressures continued to be managed by the County Council at CES departmental level.

## 2.3 The Joint Committee resolved:

**To note the latest monitoring position of the revenue budget, capital programme, reserves and provisions and forecast out-turn for 2022/23.**

## 3 Norfolk Museums Service - Risk Management Report

3.1 The Joint Committee received a report that provided Members with the latest Norfolk Museums Service Risk Register. The Norfolk Museums Service risk register was last reported to the Joint Museums Committee in July 2022.

3.2 The Committee's attention was drawn to the following issues:

- There were no material changes to the risk register in terms of scores or mitigations since this matter was last reported to the Committee. However, the target dates for risks RM14286 (Reduction of centralised support services) and RM14364 (Failure to deliver Arts Council England business plan 2018-22) had changed.
- The outcome of the application for future funding by Arts Council England (ACE), was expected to be made public on 4 November 2022. This would be reported to JMC Members by email shortly afterwards.

## 3.2 The Joint Committee resolved:

**To agree the active and dormant risks as per appendices A and B of the report.**

## 4 Norfolk Museums Service – Performance & Strategic Update Report

4.1 The Joint Committee received a report that provided progress with performance of Norfolk Museums Service over the current financial year 2022//23, including the Service's award-winning learning programmes and the Service's work with key identified groups including Looked After Children, carers and foster families, and vulnerable older residents across the County. The report also provided an update on all major projects, including the *Norwich Castle: Gateway to Medieval England* project and the National Lottery Heritage Fund supported youth development programme, *Kick the Dust Norfolk*.

4.2 The following points were discussed and noted:

- Visitor numbers for the first five months of the financial year were above target but below pre-Covid levels. School visits to museum sites had increased significantly and work in this area of NMS activity was running at full capacity.
- Members were encouraged to explore the links to YouTube sites and Museums blogs that could be found in the report.
- The Teaching Museum Trainees continued to make a valuable contribution to the core work of the service by helping to deliver the objectives set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

- The Joint Committee received an update on how the Kick the Dust: Norfolk project, funded through the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and delivered in partnership with a range of organisations including YMCA Norfolk, had continued to engage with young people aged 11 to 25.
- While the current NLHF-funded Kick the Dust project was due to end in March 2023, the lessons learnt from the project had clearly demonstrated the positive impact on young people and staff who had engaged in project activity. The project had seen young people move through the programme, gaining the confidence to take on volunteering roles within NMS. The service was continuing to work with the Y Heritage project in Leicester to develop a future funding bid that would be based on the lessons learnt from the current project.
- Members drew attention to the Singh Twins: Slaves of Fashion exhibition that ran at Norwich Castle until 22 January 2023 that had received many acclaimed media reviews.
- Danny Keen gave an update on Norfolk Black History Month activities which included supporting the telling of the Duleep Singh story at the Ancient House Museum. The telling of black history stories was an area of NMS activity that presented significant opportunities beyond the strong work already delivered in this area. Members of the Black History Month Committee were happy to help the Service in any way that they could.
- The Joint Committee received an update on progress of the Norwich Castle: Gateway to Medieval England project for which construction work had started. The steelwork was fully erected in the Keep and the first of the three-stage handover process was complete, with the return of the new schools' entrance, toilets and Changing Place facility, and pop-up café.

#### **4.3 RESOLVED**

**That the Joint Committee note:**

- 1. An update on the 2022/23 position to date.**
- 2. Progress regarding development of the Norwich Castle: Gateway to Medieval England project.**

**Progress in terms of NMS key Arts Council England and National Lottery Heritage Fund programmes for 2022/23 and the Service's planning relating to its future Arts Council England funding.**

**John Ward  
Chair**

## Report of the Norfolk Records Committee Meeting held on 28 October 2022

### 1 Election of Chair

Cllr Michael Chenery of Horsburgh was elected Chair for the ensuing Council year.

### 2 Election of Vice-Chair

Cllr Robert Kybird was elected Vice-Chair for the ensuing Council year.

### 3 Finance and Risk

3.1 The Committee received a report that covered the Norwich Record Office revenue budget for 2022/23, capital programme and reserves and provisions and an update on the service risk register.

3.2 The following points were discussed and noted:

- The Record Office was currently forecast to achieve a balanced budget position.
- The Risk Register contained six key risks: one had a risk rating of red, four were amber and one was green.
- The County Archivist reported regularly to the Records Committee and the Director of Culture and Heritage on the risks that were included in the Risk Register.

3.3 The Committee **CONSIDERED** and **COMMENTED** on:

**1. Forecast position of the revenue budget, capital programme, reserves and provisions.**

**2. Management of risk for 2022/23.**

### 4 Performance Report

4.1 The Committee received a report that outlined progress towards delivering the Norfolk Record Office (NRO) Service Plan between 1 April 2022 and 30 September 2022.

4.2 The following points were discussed and noted:

- The Committee's attention was drawn to the creative ways in which the Change Minds partnership between the Restoration Trust and the NRO was working to support organisations around the UK and beyond to run Change Minds projects.
- The County Archivist explained how the proposals for Norfolk County Council savings presented to Cabinet on 4 July 2022 included a reduction in the NRO budget of £22,000 coming from a reduction in opening hours at the

Archive Centre in Norwich. This section of the report provided the data upon which the proposed changes in opening hours were based. This proposal would be going out to public consultation later this year. The results would be presented to the Records Committee in the new year.

- The Committee placed on record their concern that the continuing constraints on local government finances threatened attempts to make the Norfolk Record Office's unique and important collections and services accessible to the public.
- The Committee then carefully considered the set of objectives and benefits for addressing the NRO's physical (as opposed to digital) storage needs and how these were being developed along with the benefits they would deliver.

**4.3** The Committee **CONSIDERED** and **COMMENTED** on the contents of the report and the actions taken by the Record Office to provide a service during this period between 1 April 2022 and 30 September 2022 and **APPROVED** the project objectives and associated benefits proposed for the Storage Project.

**Michael Chenery of Horsbrugh, Chair,  
Norfolk Records Committee**

## Notice of Motions

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

### **1. Supporting People**

**Proposer: Cllr Hempsall**

**Seconder: Cllr Clancy**

Norfolk County Council is determined to work as hard as it can to help the residents of Norfolk in the cost of living challenge driven by Covid and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. This is what has led to rising energy and food prices.

This Council thanks the Government for the significant work it has done to support the residents of Norfolk and across the Country, through the two-year energy price guarantee and the certainty it'll give residents across Norfolk, as well as the significant help that the £400 energy bill discount will provide to every household. This is in addition to the £650 cost of living payment for those in receipt of means-tested benefits, £300 for pensioner households and £150 for recipients of disability benefits in Norfolk and the £150 Council tax rebate.

Norfolk County Council thanks Officers who have delivered the Norfolk Household Support fund, totalling two allocations of £6.7m, providing valuable help to families, older people and those with disabilities. Alongside, the Norfolk Assistance Scheme has provided both immediate and longer-term social and financial support.

The third allocation of £6.7m, between October 2022 and March 2023, is supplemented by an additional County Council fund of £1.2m.

Norfolk County Council has done, and is doing, all it can to provide help to our residents, especially for energy costs.

We applaud the actions Government is taking to help businesses with their energy costs, which in turn protects jobs in Norfolk. The offshore industry is an important part of Norfolk's economy and is well placed to further the Government's aim of domestic energy security and create local jobs.

This Council resolves to:

1. Work with the Government to ensure that it delivers beyond the much-appreciated support to the residents of Norfolk as quickly as possible.
2. Continue to identify, with partners, those most in need of support in Norfolk and ensure that they access all the help they are eligible for.
3. Promote local opportunities in Norfolk for energy generation to help increase the supply of energy to further aid the long-term lowering of prices.

### **2. Supporting opportunities for physical activity for children and young people living with a disability in Norfolk**



**Proposer: Cllr Maxine Webb**  
**Seconded: Cllr Mike Smith-Clare**

In February 2022 the Government published its first ever activity guidance for disabled children and young people, Physical activity guidelines: disabled children and disabled young people - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) described by the four Chief Medical Officers as “an important step forward in addressing the gap in physical activity guidelines for disabled children and disabled young people.” The guidance recommends weekly and daily levels of physical activity including walking and cycling as well as structured activities such as indoor wall climbing, yoga, swimming and modified sports like basketball and football.

The Chief Executive of Activity Alliance (the national charity and leading voice for disabled people in sport and activity) welcomed the guidance with the warning, “It is absolutely imperative that all opportunities are welcoming, appealing and accessible so no child feels forgotten or misses out. The people working in these environments must be aware and skilled in knowing how to genuinely include disabled children. There is no use recommending increased levels of activity if the opportunities are not there for disabled children and young people in every community.”

In line with its Flourishing in Norfolk strategy, Flourish - Norfolk County Council this Council is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of disabled children and young people.

To strengthen our commitment and deliver our four key FLOURISH priorities this Council resolves to work across all internal departments, with commissioned partners such as Active Norfolk, colleagues in Public Health and the wider community to form a framework that ensures:

- Activity providers and community organisations in Norfolk offer appropriate inclusive physical activity opportunities to children and young people with disabilities
- Create a disability-friendly protocol, in coproduction with families and parent/carer groups, to enable the award of disability-friendly status to inclusive activities, providers and venues
- Publish a list of inclusive activities, providers and venues and ensure this is refreshed regularly (at least yearly) in collaboration with families and parent/carer groups

### **3. Helping Rural Norfolk with the Cost-of-Living Crisis**

**Proposer: Saul Penfold**  
**Seconded: Brian Watkins**

The Council notes that people in rural areas often have no choice but to drive due to poor public transport provision across Norfolk. Department of Transport data shows that Saham Toney is the 43rd worst area in the country for the length of time it takes to reach public services by public transport or walking.

Norfolk County Council’s own figures estimate that in 2018 there were around 45,600 Norfolk households, 12% of Norfolk’s population, who were experiencing fuel poverty.

The End Child Poverty Coalition found that 9,497 youngsters in Norwich were living in poverty - households on less than 60% of the average UK income, once housing costs had been considered - in the year up to the end of March 2020. That is one in three children across Norfolk is living in poverty households. Both of these figures are higher than the East of England average and the average for England as whole and were getting worse not better.

Norfolk's residents earned an average annual salary of £28,571 in 2020 which is lower than both the East of England (£32,944) and England (£31,766). Average workplace earnings in Norfolk were £28,424 in 2020 which is also lower than both the East of England (£31,044) and England (£31,777).

Norfolk's recent population growth has been concentrated in older age groups (aged 65+), with this cohort growing by 23% in the last decade with the more rural districts experiencing the greatest population growth since 1991. The population aged 65+ accounts for 25% of Norfolk's total population which is higher than both East of England (20%) and England (19%) figures.

The Norfolk and Waveney Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy says that in Norfolk and Waveney there are an estimated 114,000 unpaid carers who are looking after a family member or friend. The amount of people affected is only going to increase over this winter as after huge increases in prices for petrol and diesel; household and business energy bills about to double; runaway inflation causing the prices of food and other essential goods to rocket. This will mean further costs for households.

Emily Holzhausen OBE, Director of Policy and Public Affairs at Carers UK said, "Many carers are telling us they are unable to pay essential bills, they are cutting back on food and heating and remain desperately worried about this winter, which will undoubtedly mean bigger costs for Government and society further down the line."

This Council should

1. Show leadership on this issue and arrange an emergency cost of living summit in Norfolk to bring together people and organisations on the front line of dealing with local poverty including Citizens Advice, Food Banks, Local Trades Unions, and Chambers of Commerce to figure out how best to tackle the problems
2. Authorise the Head of Paid Service to increase the staff mileage rate by 0.15p as a temporary increase for the remainder of the 2022/2023 financial year. The Head of Paid 251 Service would review the rate each month, and if circumstances dictate, have the flexibility to reduce the enhanced rate reflecting any significant fall in petrol and diesel prices
3. Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking the Government to introduce a £500 Unpaid Carers Support payment scheme in England as there is in Scotland and Wales to help with the effects of the cost-of -living crisis
4. Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking for the Winter Fuel Allowance payment to all pensioners to be doubled for this year
5. Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking for an emergency cut to VAT from 20% to 17.5% that would on average save families £600
6. Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking for rural fuel duty relief to be doubled to 10p a litre and for the rural fuel duty relief scheme to be expanded to include Norfolk

#### **4. Support for Asylum Seekers**

Proposer: Cllr Jamie Osborn

Seconder: Cllr Neale

Since it became apparent that conditions for migrants at the Home Office's Manston Detention Centre could be illegal, an unknown number of migrants have been transferred to hotels in Norfolk. Local councils were not consulted on these transfers and have been offered little or no funding or guidance from the Home Office or Government to help them in supporting these vulnerable people.

This Council notes that:

- The UK Government's treatment of migrants could be in breach of international and national law and is inhumane;
- Migrants being held in the UK without status are denied legal rights to work, which leaves them vulnerable to exploitation;
- The accommodation provided for migrants and asylum seekers is often overcrowded and inadequate support is given for people who have often fled traumatic conditions;
- Norfolk has a proud history of welcoming migrants and refugees, including via the work of many voluntary, charity and other civil society organisations, but also structural racism in the UK means many migrants are discriminated against, including in the immigration system.

This Council resolves to:

1. Identify, with the Home Office, the number of asylum seekers who have been transferred to Norfolk and ensure that appropriate safeguarding measures are in place to protect them;
2. Work with district councils to identify the housing and support needed for asylum seekers and write to Government for the necessary funding to provide these;
3. Write to the Home Office and the Prime Minister to:
  - a. Demand safe and legal routes into Britain for all asylum seekers;
  - b. Call for the ban on asylum seekers working to be lifted;
  - c. Call for an end to the "hostile environment" and for an amnesty for undocumented migrants already living and working in the UK.

## **5. Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn**

**Proposer: Alexandra Kemp**

**Secunder: To be confirmed**

This Council once more unites in support of West Norfolk, in its hour of need. In May 2021, this Council unanimously voted for a Motion, calling on the Government to place the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn on the list of hospitals for rebuild, because the concrete roof, constructed with built-in obsolescence, is now collapsing, incapable of permanent repair and is only held up with the support of over 3,000 metal and wooden props and fail-safes. But the Government has not yet listened. The situation is now critical. Even with the £130 million safety programme that has made the QEH the most propped-up hospital in the country., It is now known that the RAAC-riddled roof of the QEH cannot survive beyond 2030 and that parts of the hospital would then start to close. This would devastate Kings Lynn. This Council therefore calls on the Government to place the QEH on the rebuild list now.

## **6. 20 Minute Neighbourhoods**

**Proposer: Cllr Hemsall**

**Secunder: Cllr Bensley**

A 20 minute neighbourhood is typically defined as a place where people can meet most of their everyday needs through a pleasant, fully accessible, 20 minute return journey undertaken without the use of a car (ie. 10 minutes there and 10 minutes back). Such

neighbourhoods are generally defined by the communities that live there and each will be unique in terms of what services and facilities they want to access. Typically, a 20-minute neighbourhood approach should help to disperse investment, jobs and services more widely across a town or city rather than just focusing on the centre. Making sure that neighbourhoods are compact and fully accessible, as well as containing a mix of different shops, services and amenities will make it easier for more people to move around on foot, by wheelchair, by bike, by bus or other non-car means and research shows that people are generally happy to travel for 20 minutes to get to and from the places they need to go. It will still be possible to make driving trips, but these may not be as direct as walking, cycling or using public transport. Reduced traffic levels will create safer environments for all users of the transport network, irrespective of whether you are a resident of the local area or are visiting the area. This latter point highlights how a 20 minute neighbourhood approach can also support sustainable tourism and help to boost the visitor economy.

It should be noted that 20-minute neighbourhoods may be difficult to implement in rural villages, so public transport options between these villages would be essential, to access places outside of the neighbourhood and to support those who could find it challenging to make a trip on foot or by cycle.

The Council resolves to work with Transport East, District Councils and stakeholders to review the evidence for, and benefits of, trialling a number of 20 Minute Neighbourhoods in Norfolk in both rural and urban areas.

## **7. Winter emergency planning**

**Proposer Cllr Steve Morpew**  
**Seconder Cllr Emma Corlett**

Council recognises that the impact of this winter will be significant and while we hope for the best we must prepare for the worst. Norfolk faces serious challenges from the cost of living, climate, covid/influenza and struggling care services. What we don't yet know is just how harsh each of those challenges will be and how they will interact.

Shortages in goods, capacity, logistics and staff were problems we faced and learned lessons from during the covid pandemic restrictions. Soaring costs are a new factor adding stress to residents and businesses in Norfolk as they try to recover from the pandemic.

Council believes Norfolk residents need to understand how they will be supported through the crisis we face this winter and, recognising this may not be short term or a one off, how the emergency plan fits in as part of making Norfolk resilient and able to manage challenges in future. Council therefore resolves to

1. Request the Norfolk Resilience Forum to publish relevant emergency planning scenarios for this winter together with an assessment of resources required to deliver support to services, residents and businesses and advice on how to strengthen resilience
2. Request the Head of Paid Service to produce and publish an assessment of the help available to Norfolk residents and businesses, areas of concern and options for the county council to increase resilience
3. Request the Executive Director of Resources to produce an assessment of the likely capacity of community groups and charities to support those in need in worst case scenarios and what steps the council could take to help them respond.
4. Ask cabinet to bring forward consideration of the winter pressures plan from December to its November meet.

## **8. A say for Norfolk residents on the County Deal**

**Proposer: Cllr Price**

**Seconder: Cllr Osborn**

Discussions regarding the “County Deal” for Norfolk have been ongoing between Government officials and county leaders for months. These discussions are over what has been described as “the most fundamental and far reaching change in governance of the county for the next 50 years.”

Council notes:

1. The public has had no direct say over county deal discussions, no opportunity to provide their views, and no opportunity to scrutinise the proposals;
2. While there are some potential benefits to devolution, including greater control over public transport, there are risks in concentrating more power in the hands of a single county council leader;
3. The decision over the political future of Norfolk should not be made by a handful of county councillors from a single political party and with no input from other parties or the people of Norfolk;
4. District council leaders have expressed their discontent with the way the negotiations are being run;

Council resolves to:

1. Immediately publish details of the proposed county deal and the options being considered;
2. Ensure Norfolk residents get a say over the future of our democracy by:
  - a. Establishing a Citizens’ Assembly to determine what form of county deal would offer the best outcomes for Norfolk; and
  - b. Subjecting the final decision of the Citizens’ Assembly to a referendum by Norfolk residents.

## **9 West Winch Bypass**

**Proposer Cllr Kemp**

**Seconder TBC**

This Council agrees no major development can start along the A10 in West Winch and Setchey until the West Winch Bypass is fully built.

## **10. Social Care Emergency**

**Proposer – Cllr Brenda Jones**

**Seconder - TBC**

Council regrets:

1. The continuing failure of the Government to solve the crisis in social care;
2. While the £4.7 billion committed to social care in the Autumn Statement is a welcome start, it falls short of the £7 billion identified by the former Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee, now Chancellor of the Exchequer, Jeremy Hunt MP, as the minimum funding increase required in 2023/24 for adult social care;
3. Short term financing that is at best a sticking plaster, fails to address the underlying issues in the care workforce and capacity in the care sector;
4. The absence of an emergency winter plan for Norfolk that reflects the urgency and extent of the crisis facing the county.

Council resolves to

1. Commit all the money made available for winter pressures and short-term support to alleviating need this winter, not using any for corporate funding or reserves
2. Ask Cabinet to urgently formulate with our partners a comprehensive costed plan to deliver support and services required to take us through the winter so Norfolk can understand the needs, provision and shortfall
3. Ask Cabinet to formulate a costed long-term plan for tackling capacity and staffing issues in the care sector with partners, including milestones and evaluation criteria
4. Lobby MPs and Government to provide adequate financial support to enable the care sector to meet the cost of delivering the short and long-term plans in 2 and 3 above.