

## **Cabinet**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 September 2023 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, at 10am**

**Present:**

Cllr Kay Mason Billig	Chair. Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Governance
Cllr Andrew Jamieson	Vice-Chair. Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance
Cllr Bill Borrett	Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing
Cllr Penny Carpenter	Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Cllr Margaret Dewsbury	Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships
Cllr Fabian Eagle	Cabinet Member for Economic Growth
Cllr Jane James	Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Innovation
Cllr Graham Plant	Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport
Cllr Alison Thomas	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Cllr Eric Vardy	Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste

**Deputy Cabinet Members Present**

Cllr Lana Hemsall	Deputy Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport
Cllr Greg Peck	Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance
Cllr Shelagh Gurney	Deputy Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

**Executive Directors Present:**

Harvey Bullen	Director of Strategic Finance
Caroline Clarke	Director of Democratic and Regulatory Service
Craig Chalmers	Director of Community Social Work
Grahame Bygrave	Interim Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services
Paul Cracknell	Executive Director of Transformation and Strategy
Tom McCabe	Chief Executive
Sara Tough	Executive Director of Children's Services

## **1 Apologies for Absence**

- 1.1 All Cabinet Members were present. Officer apologies were received from Kat Hulatt, Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer (substituted by Caroline Clarke) and Debbie Bartlett, Interim Head of Adult Social Services (substituted by Craig Chalmers).

## **2 Minutes from the meeting held on 7 August 2023**

- 2.1 Cabinet agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2023 as an accurate record.

## **3 Declaration of Interests**

- 3.1 Cllr Greg Peck, Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance advised he was the

Council's nominated Director on the Board of Norse Group.

**4 Matters referred to Cabinet by the Scrutiny Committee, Select Committees or by full Council.**

4.1 No matters were referred.

**5 Update from the Chair/Cabinet Members**

5.1 Cllr Penny Carpenter, Cabinet Member for Children's Services read the following statement in response to recent media coverage of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and Schools:

5.2 I thought it was important to make a statement today, as I recognise and share the concerns of parents and teachers about the issue of RAAC concrete in schools

We were made aware of this issue in 2018 and proactively worked with all of the county council's maintained schools to identify if RAAC was present and if there were any problems. Structural engineers from NPS carried out surveys of 83 buildings and found no concerns

As you would expect, we are keeping up to date with the changes and updates in DFE guidance and other information on RAAC as it comes through, in case any additional assessment is required to ensure the health and safety of pupils

As you know, most schools are academies, which are independent of the council and they are responsible for their own buildings. We have contacted academies three times since 2018 to flag the potential issues with RAAC and reminded them to complete the Department for Education's survey in June this year

On Friday (1 September), we were contacted by the Thomas Bullock academy school in Shipdham, where RAAC was found in the school hall. The start of term has been delayed by a day to enable checks to take place

We are awaiting further results from a number of other academy schools and the schools will inform parents and staff if any issues are found. We are, as always, ready to assist

I would encourage parents to speak to their schools if they have any concerns. I look forward to receiving further details about how the Government intends to deal with the issue of RAAC in schools

5.3 The Leader added that it was pleasing to see that the Council had undertaken the investigations and were taking the issue very seriously. The position would continue to be monitored closely.

**6. Public Question Time**

6.1 The questions received are published in appendix A to these minutes.

**6.2 Supplementary question from Jane Overhill**

- 6.2.1 Why did the Cabinet prioritise investment in refurbishment of offices, meeting rooms and a new car park for County Hall during Covid over the opportunity to begin transforming Wensum Lodge when it was closed during the pandemic?
- 6.2.2 The Chair responded that during Covid as most staff were absent from County Hall the opportunity was taken to upgrade the building to improve disability access and facilities. Whilst costs had been prepared for the Wensum Lodge project, suitable funding allocation had not been identified at that point. Since then, the Council has recognised that Wensum Lodge is no longer fit for purpose for Adult Education due to difficulties around disabled access. These access issues would have been difficult to overcome unlike those experienced at County Hall. The Chair provided reassurance that the Council would work with all stakeholders, including Norwich City Council who own part of the site, so that the building would continue to be used by the local community and it was pleasing to note that Wensum Lodge was in the process of being registered as a community asset. The Cabinet were still fully committed to delivering Adult Education courses across the county.

## **7 Local Member Questions/Issues**

- 7.1 The questions received are published in appendix B to these minutes.
8. Strategic Tourism: Supporting Visit East of England's Local Visitor Economy Partnership application.
- 8.1 Cabinet received the report which detailed how Visit East of England (VEE), the top-tier Destination Management Organisation (DMO) for the area was proposing to submit an application to become a Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) covering Norfolk and Suffolk. The new LVEP structure in England has been put in place this year by the national tourism authority, Visit England, to better coordinate resources and activity relating to the visitor economy across the country. The application requirements requested a £120,000 annual contribution from the Council.
- 8.2 The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Cllr Fabian Eagle introduced the report and advised:
- The new LVEP structure had been successfully applied in other areas such as The Peak District and had seen many economic benefits.
  - The contribution of £120,000 was seen as a worse case scenario as it was hoped to partner with Suffolk County Council in the future, although Norfolk had been first to initiate the proposal.
  - The opportunities for tourism in Norfolk were considerable from Norwich to the Broads National Park and the varied coastline, as well as the numerous country houses and market towns. It was felt that almost every member's ward would benefit from the proposal.
- 8.3 The Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, Cllr Bill Borrett fully supported the proposals and said the additional funding will open the door for more funding from central government which should provide larger returns than the initial sum, as 20% (£2bn) of the County's economy was provided through tourism. The proposals also supported Better for Norfolk and should be considered as an exciting step forward.

- 8.4 The Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste, Cllr Eric Vardy supported the proposals and added that it was important to recognise the valuable contribution tourism played within Norfolk's economy.
- 8.5 The Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport, Cllr Graham Plant supported this step forward and thought the proposals provided good strategic alliance with central government as 700,000 new jobs have been identified as an requirement in the UK within tourism in the future.
- 8.6 The Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships, Cllr Margaret Dewsbury supported the report and advised that these proposals would support the creative arts and museums within the county.
- 8.7 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Innovation, Cllr Jane James supported the proposals and emphasised the work of VEE in the county which has highlighted the many past famous people from Norfolk who had helped shape politics across the globe such as Thomas Payne and Princess Sophia Duleep Singh.
- 8.8 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Cllr Alison Thomas fully endorsed the proposals and thought the promotion of tourism in the county was something that would bring in additional funding and growth in the economy and jobs for local residents.
- 8.9 The Chair concluded by advising that the proposals had cross party support within the Council and all members were keen to promote our culture, heritage, countryside and coastline within the county.

8.10 Cabinet **RESOLVED:**

That Norfolk County Council supports the Visit East of England's application to become an LVEP covering Norfolk and Suffolk. This would include contributing an additional £110,000 per annum towards VEE's core costs, ending after five years.

8.11 **Evidence and Reasons for Decision**

See section 5 of the report.

8.12 **Alternative Options**

- 8.12.1 The Council could choose to develop an LVEP for just Norfolk. The minimum size for an LVEP is a county or city region meaning we could have an LVEP for just Norfolk. However, VEE currently covers both Norfolk and Suffolk, offering good economies of scale and impact in a competitive market.

- 8.12.2 The Council could choose to do nothing and not put forward an LVEP application. As a result, Norfolk would be the only major tourist destination in England not represented at the national table, with no access to Visit England and its expertise, resources, or international marketing campaigns.
- 8.12.3 The Council could run tourism 'in-house' as an NCC department. This model would not be recognised as a starting point to become an LVEP and would not project a picture of collective partnership working nor take advantage of pre-existing private investment. Norfolk, through VEE, is currently perceived by DCMS and Visit England as a national example of good practice in many areas including sustainable tourism and collective decision making, something which brings many benefits and access to national resources.

## **9. Modern Slavery Statement 2022-23**

- 9.1 Cabinet received the report which provided details of how it would provide appropriate arrangements which would be establish the delivery of cross cutting/cross departmental functions to include statements and procedures to tackle Modern Slavery risks. The proposed 22/23 statement provided at appendix A of the report explains the steps that the Council has undertaken to help ensure there is no slavery or human trafficking within the organisation, sub contractors, partners or supply chains.

- 9.2 The Chair introduced the report and advised that this was an annual statement being provided for consideration and approval. Central government had alluded that such statements were to be mandatory but so far this suggested had not happened. The report had already been considered by the Corporate Select Committee. The Council considers this is a very important policy and as a result are providing a voluntary annual statement to meet that acknowledgement.

- 9.3 Cabinet **RESOLVED:**

### **To agree:**

The Modern Slavery Statement for the year 2022/2023 (in Appendix A) including the approach to the action plan; and

To note the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) at Appendix B.

To review the Action Plan (at 4.5) and the progress on modern slavery activity, that there is adequate governance, management of risks and effective communication on this topic with its residents and stakeholders.

- 9.4 **Evidence and Reasons for Decision**

See section 4 of the report.

## 9.5 **Alternative Options**

- 9.5.1 Although the content of the statement could differ, the Council is expecting a requirement to produce and publish a statement, so no alternative option has been considered.

## 10. **West Winch Housing Access Road – Project Update**

- 10.1 Cabinet received the report which provided an update on the project to provide the West Winch Housing Access Road (WWHAR) which includes improvements to the Hardwick Interchange, dualling of a section of the A47 and a new road between the A47, just east of Hardwick Interchange and the A10 to the south of the village of West Winch. The report included a project update, outlined the next key stages including revisions to the budget and delivery programmes.
- 10.2 The Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport, Cllr Graham Plant introduced the report and additionally advised:
- The report provided an update on the project since the government approved the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOC) in July 2022 including an update of cost estimates and the results of the public consultation.
  - The Outline Business Case (OBC) was to be submitted before the end of September 2023 (subject to approval for submission) and if approved the majority of the funding for the WWHAR project would be provided by the Department for Transport (DfT). There would also be a local contribution that would be funded by future housing developments.
- 10.3 The Deputy Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport, Cllr Lana Hemsall and the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste Cllr Eric Vardy both acknowledged the hard work of officers and Cabinet Members to keep the forward momentum in the project given the myriad of ever changing issues in delivering this important piece of infrastructure growth for the area.
- 10.4 The Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing, Cllr Bill Borrett was pleased to see large sums of money invested in West Norfolk and by working together with King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, the local district target for new housing would be largely met by the West Winch project, which demonstrated the Council's commitment to the residents in the west of the county.
- 10.5 The Cabinet Member for Finance, Cllr Andrew Jamieson, supported this investment in the west of the county and advised that after budget profiling in July had taken place, officers had indicated the project would require an additional temporary uplift of £1.05m for the period to the end of November 2023. From that point the outcome of the OBC is expected to be known and the Council can drawdown from the Business Rates Pool to virtually offset all of the Council's contribution of £4.14m

10.6 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Cllr Alison Thomas noted that the proposals provided early mitigation to relieve pressures before more substantive highway infrastructure could be built.

10.7 The Chair advised that meetings had taken place with herself and Cabinet Members from King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, together with the Cabinet Member for Finance Andrew Jamieson to establish good working relationships for both councils. This offer had been extended to all Cabinet Members of district authorities across the county.

10.8 Cabinet **RESOLVED:**

1. To note the details presented in this report, including the results of the public consultation, and approve the continued delivery of the WWHAR project;
2. Delegate to the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services (CES), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure & Transport, the authority to agree the finalised OBC and submit it to the DfT.
3. Agree to continue the development of the Planning Application and Side Roads Order and to note that a further report will be presented to Cabinet to seek agreement to submit the applications and will also include details regarding the procurement strategy for the project;
4. To note the proposals for Land Acquisition;
5. To agree to temporarily increase the Council's contribution by £1.05m until this is reimbursed when DfT (and Homes England) funding is approved.

10.9 **Evidence and Reasons for Decision**

10.9.1 To deliver the large-scale growth in the West Winch area, as set out in the Local Plan for the King's Lynn and West Norfolk, the evidence shows that additional highway capacity is required to accommodate the traffic generated from the planned 4,000 new homes. The WWHAR will also provide a high- quality new route that will provide relief for West Winch village that can accommodate the longer distance strategic traffic movements which comprises a high proportion of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV).

10.10 **Alternative Options**

10.10.1 The alignment of the WWHAR is largely dictated by the proposed growth area as set out in the local plan and already published/consulted masterplan. This includes the WWHAR to the east of the proposed new housing. With regard to alternative options, slight variations of the alignment to provide the best fit were

investigated and these are reported in the SOC document.

10.10.2 There are no significant alternative highway solutions that would be effective in enabling the housing growth and providing relief to the existing A10 through the village of West Winch. There are also no non-highway transport schemes or policy options that could accommodate the transport impact of the planned growth in isolation. However, since the SOC, work has been undertaken to develop a sustainable transport strategy that supports both the OBC submission and the planning application for the WWHAR

10.10.3 Notwithstanding, alternative options for the WWHAR have been investigated and a preferred option selected. The options investigated include:

- 5 different alignments at the northern end of the new road between the A10 and A47
- 2 different alignments at the southern end of the new road between the A10 and A47
- A number of options for junction alterations at the Hardwick A10/A47/A149 junction

## **11. Disposal, acquisition and exploitation of property: West Winch Landowner Collaboration Agreement**

11.1 Cabinet received the report which outlined the approval required for the Council to enter into this collaboration agreement and work with the Borough Council in supporting the delivery of the West Winch Growth Area.

11.2 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Innovation introduced the report and advised that the collaboration agreement was vital to the success of the growth area of West Winch and to service that growth area all landowners will need to contribute to the site wide costs.

11.3 The Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport supported the agreement which he advised was a vital stepping stone for the delivery of the project, the access road and the subsequent new housing to be built.

11.4 The Chair acknowledged the hard work by all involved to bring the project to that stage and the agreement would help the Council deliver the project.

11.5 Cabinet **RESOLVED:**



1. For the land at North Runcton / West Winch – Mill Farm Lane, PE33 0LT (2054/100), to delegate authority to the Director of Property and subject to the agreement of final terms to:
  - 1.1 To enter into the Landowner's collaboration agreement as set out in Appendix A
  - 1.2 To enter into the promotion agreement as set out in Appendix A
  - 1.3 To enter into the S106 agreement as set out in Appendix A
2. To delegate to the Director of Property authority to act on behalf of the County Council in meeting the obligations of the landowner and related agreements.

## 11.6 Evidence and Reasons for Decision

- 11.6.1 Entering into the Collaboration agreement supports a significant housing and regeneration scheme in Kings Lynn.

## 11.7 Alternative Options

- 11.7.1 NCC could not sign the collaboration agreement. However, this would cause a significant issue in the delivery of the WWHAR, which would not proceed without the estimated housing growth in the area.

## 12. Finance Monitoring Report 2023-24 P4: July 2023

- 12.1 Cabinet received the report which provided a summary of the forecast financial position for the 2023-24 Revenue and Capital Budgets, General Balances, and the Council's Reserves at 31 March 2024, together with related financial information.
- 12.2 The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced the report and advised:
- At the close of July 2023 the Council continues to forecast a **balanced net revenue budget** of £493.707m.
  - A review of capital requirements has resulted in £167m being reprofiled by either removal or deferring to a later period.
  - The review had also been adjusted to allow for an additional £90.724m in both Council borrowing and external grant funded projects.
  - This additional £90.724m was helping to provide funding for projects such as King's Lynn STARS, retro fitting the majority of Council owned buildings, various highways schemes including West Winch Bypass, Costessey- Bowthorpe Mobility Hub, Thickthorn Park and Ride and improvements to Harfreys Roundabout in Great Yarmouth.
  - The proposed resolution to the outstanding balances in both receivables and payables was considered to be pragmatic and would avoid countless of hours of wrangling with the Council and Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB).
  - The bad debt provision of £2.419m had already been accounted for and that the NHS had agreed to pay the Council £6m against

outstanding debts providing much needed cash flow. £1.14m of debt had already been resolved. In total the Council would receive £7.092m.

- Moving forward the Council's finance department has assigned a dedicated credit control facility to manage the ICB relationship which included a joint working group between the organisations.
- The Cabinet Member highlighted the level of scrutiny and transparency in the resolutions with the ICB.
- The construction of the Operations and Maintenance Facility had continued to be delayed by reasons outside of the Council's control. The overall budget had increased by £3.4m to £24.8m. This increase would be underwritten by the Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council but would be repaid from the Enterprise Zone Business Rates Pool.
- There was an requirement to increase capital funding by £1.05m to the West Winch Housing Access Road project until the end of November 2023 pending approval of the scheme by the Department of Transport (DfT).
- Norse Group required funding of £10m to transform its HR and Finance systems and had approach the Council for a loan at market rates. This would provide returns in both interest and capital repayment which would not impact the Council's revenue budget.
- Norse Group had also requested a £10m increase in its treasury management limit to £25m.
- Whilst the Norse Group's requests would increase exposure to the Council the overall ratio of total debt (£25.9m) to turnover (£359m) and assets base (£192.9m) was considered low at 6%.
- An overspend within CES department, due to rising utility costs has been offset within Finance mainly by increased interest received.
- Reserves and provisions indicate forecast reserves held departmentally as £144.493m. Cash balances remained similar to last year's level. External debt at end of July 2023 was £842.455m and is expected to be £894.333m at the year end although it was anticipated the work by the Capital Review Board would lower this figure.

12.3 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Cllr Alison Thomas fully supported the arrangements concerning the ICB debt resolution and commented that it was important to note that care was provided when required for individuals and the financial arrangements did not affect this. The new joint working group would provide robust governance arrangements for a service which often has differing and complex issues to overcome.

12.4 The Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance, Cllr Greg Peck added his support for the loan to Norse Group of £10m which will provide efficiencies that should increase dividend payments to the Council which currently stood at £2.7m.

12.5 The Cabinet Member for Public Health & Wellbeing, Cllr Bill Borrett stated that it had been more important to provide the correct care for vulnerable people rather than delaying services whilst the funding position was established. The new arrangements for the future, working together with all stakeholders across the sector would ensure that vulnerable people would continue to be protected.

12.6 The Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport, Cllr Graham Plant applauded the continued high level of investment in the whole county by the Council. This investment would see the county's economy grow and develop.

12.7 The Deputy Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport, Cllr Lana Hemsall thanked the Cabinet Member for Finance for his continued sage stewardship of the Council's finances which had provided excellent direction and avoided potential pitfalls and problems which had been experienced by other Council's elsewhere.

12.8 The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for Finance for his report which demonstrated how the Council had been both responsible and supportive of current and future capital projects in particular. The Chair commented that those that seek to delay projects, especially highways related, just added to the costs, something of which they were often critical about in the first instance. The Chair also thought it was also important to note that the financial resolutions with the ICB did not mean money had been lost and to suggest so was disingenuous. This money was in the hands of the NHS and had been carefully spent to provide services.

12.9 Cabinet **RESOLVED:**

1. To note the addition of **£90.724m** to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded mostly from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3, paragraph 1.4 as follows:
  - £26.474m King's Lynn Sustainable Transport and Regeneration Scheme (STARS) supported by £24.480m external funding and £1.994m NCC Borrowing recommended at Cabinet on 3 July 2023 and approved at Full Council on 18 July 2023
  - £16.7m Corporate Property Retrofitting Plan recommended at the 5 June 2023 Cabinet meeting and approved at Full Council on 18 July 2023
  - £1.8m external funding allocated to the Estates Decarbonisation programme
  - £1.250m uplift to the flexible use of capital receipts to fund the Adult Social Care Transformation programme, bringing the total ASC Transformation Programme funded through capital receipts to £2.250m
  - £0.139m DEFRA funding received for the eCargo Bike Library scheme
  - £44.452m DfT funding allocated to various Highways improvement and maintenance schemes including £4.6m for the West Winch Bypass, £3.5m for the Norwich Heartsease Fiveways Junction, £3m for the Costessey – Bowthorpe Mobility Hub. Further details of the various Highways projects budgets impacted are listed in Appendix A.
  - (£0.092m) net reduction in various other schemes

2. To recommend that the Council approves the addition of a net £8.94m to the P6 capital programme on 26 September 2023 for the following schemes as set out in Capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.2-4.4 as follows:

- £10m new capital loan for the Norse Group Project One replacement and integration of its HR and Finance systems as set out in Appendix 3, note 4.2
- £3.4m uplift to the Great Yarmouth O & M Campus project to fund the cost pressures identified in the latest forecast including inflationary cost pressures and additional drainage, decontamination and remedial works identified as set out in Appendix 3, note 4.3.
- £1.05m temporary uplift to the NCC Borrowing contribution to fund the West Winch Housing Access Road project up to the end of November 2023, as set out elsewhere in the agenda
- Offset by £5.515m reduction in the Adult Learning capital programme following the decision to pursue alternative more accessible venues for the delivery of the Adult Learning programme and dispose of the Wensum Lodge site.

3. 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.
- 4. To recognise the period 4 general fund forecast revenue of a **balanced position**, noting also that Executive Directors will take measures to reduce or eliminate potential over-spends where these occur within services.
- 5. To recognise the period 4 forecast of 95% savings delivery in 2023-24, noting also that Executive Directors will continue to take measures to mitigate potential savings shortfalls through alternative savings or underspends.
- 6. To note the forecast General Balances at 31 March 2024 of **£25.410m**.
- 7. To note the expenditure and funding of the revised current and future 2023-28 capital programmes including the significant reprofiling undertaken to date and the increase in the capital programmes of £90.724m in P4.
- 8. To approve the appointment of directors to Norfolk County Council owned companies and joint ventures as set out in section 2.3, as required by the Council's Financial Regulations.
- 9. To note the update regarding financial arrangements in place with the Norse Group as set out in Appendix 3 – section 4.2 and to:
  - 9.1. Recommend to Full Council the amendment to the [Annual Investment and Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24 adopted by Full Council on 21 February 2023](#) to increase the treasury management investment limit for Norse Group to £25.000m in order to maintain the existing level of cash flow facility available to the company. (See also Appendix 2, paragraph 1.12)
  - 9.2. Approve the timetable for adoption of amendments to the Annual investment and Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24 as set out paragraph 2.4.3 below.
  - 9.3. Recommend to Full Council to approve the addition of £10.000m to the capital programme to provide for a capital loan facility for the Norse Group
  - 9.4. Delegate to the Director of Strategic Finance to agree the details of the £10.000m capital loan to the Norse Group for the implementation of a Finance and HR system (Project One) subject to the provision of appropriate security, the completion of financial and legal due diligence, and compliance with subsidy control requirements.

10. To approve the recommended NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Norfolk County Council receivables and payables outstanding balances resolution arrangement described in Appendix 5.

## 12.10 Evidence and Reasons for Decision

- 12.10.1 Four appendices were attached to the report giving details of the forecast revenue and capital financial outturn positions and the background information concerning the other recommendations included in the report:
- 12.10.2 Appendix 1 summarised the revenue outturn position, including:
  - Forecast over and under spends.
  - Changes to the approved budget
  - Reserves
  - Savings
- 12.10.3 Appendix 2 summarised the key working capital position, including:
  - Treasury management
  - Payment performance and debt recovery.
- 12.10.4 Appendix 3 summarised the capital outturn position, and includes:
  - Current and future capital programmes
  - Capital programme funding
  - Income from property sales and other capital receipts.
- 12.10.05 Appendix 4 summarised the key points taken into consideration in the proposed resolution of outstanding receivables and payables between NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB) and the Council

Additional capital funds will enable services to invest in assets and infrastructure as described in Appendix 3 section 4 of the report.

## 12.11 Alternative Options

To deliver a balanced budget, no viable alternative options had been identified to the recommendations in the report. In terms of financing the proposed capital expenditure, no further grant or revenue funding had been identified to fund the expenditure, apart from the funding noted in Appendix 3

## 13. Reports of the Cabinet Member and Officer Delegated Decisions made since the last Cabinet meeting:

- 13.1 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to **note** the Delegated Decisions made since the last Cabinet meeting

**14. Exclusion of the Public**

- 14.1 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting under section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 to discuss item 15 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**14.2 Evidence and Reasons for Decision**

The appendix to Item 11, Disposal, acquisition and exploitation of property: West Winch Landowner Collaboration Agreement is exempt from public disclosure under paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act as it contains the heads of terms for a commercially confidential legal agreement.

**15. Disposal, Acquisition & Exploitation of Property: Exempt Appendix**

- 15.1 Cabinet **RESOLVED** to approve the Exempt Appendix

The meeting ended at 10.57am

**Chair of Cabinet**