

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

19th February 2025

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 19th February, 2025 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

Councillor C. Watkins (Leader and Housing)
Councillor S. Hey (Resources & Customer Services)
Councillor T. Jenkins (Leisure, Communities and Health)
Councillor R. Roze (Planning & Enforcement)
Councillor N. King (Business and Regeneration)

CB86 **Apologies**

None received

CB87 **Declarations of Interest**

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interest for this meeting are as set out in the Schedule attached to these minutes.

CB88 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 29th January 2025, be approved, and signed by the Chair

CB89 **Updates to the Local Development Scheme**

The Assistant Director - Planning submitted a report to Cabinet recommending to Council that the Local Development Scheme be amended to reflect the future work required and the changes required due to the National Planning Policy Framework which was published on 12th December 2024.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council that

- a) the amendments to the report be noted; and
- b) the amended Local Development Scheme be adopted

Speakers:

Mr Keith Kondakor

Options

- a) To endorse the recommendations and adopt the amended Local Development Scheme.
- b) To not endorse the recommendations but recommend an alternative timetable.

Reasons

To enable the Council to comply with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and align the Local Plan with the new National Planning Policy Framework.

CB90 Procurement of a Legal Services Framework Agreement 2025 - 2029

The Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance submitted a report to Cabinet seeking approval to procure and award a Legal Services Framework Agreement 2025 - 2029

RESOLVED that

- a) the procurement of a Legal Services Framework Agreement be approved; and
- b) Delegated Authority be granted to the Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance to award and enter into a Framework Agreement.

Speakers:

Mr Keith Kondakor
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options

- a) To approve the recommendations
- b) To reject the recommendations and propose alternative actions

Reasons

Professional service roles across the Council have proven difficult to retain and recruit staff compared to larger public sector organisations and/or the private sector despite applying market supplements. Throughout 2024, the Legal Team has had at least two vacant solicitor positions and has relied upon agency cover for minimum levels of cover despite changing recruitment approaches such as applying market supplements.

Over the last few years, the Council has relied upon external legal advice for a range of matters of strategic nature (regeneration, leisure operator contract, property matters and construction matters).

Furthermore, the Council is in the process of setting its new Corporate Plan which will require the support of all services under the Corporate Resources directorate to deliver the aims under the finalised plan.

CB91 General Fund Budget 2025/26

The Strategic Director – Corporate resources submitted the General Fund Budget for 2025/26 report for Cabinet approval and to recommend to Council.

Councillor Hey moved the addition of the following recommendation:

‘the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2025/26 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution’

This was seconded by Councillor Watkins.

RESOLVED that

- a) the forecast outturn position for the General Fund for 2024/25 be noted;

- b) the Council Tax requirement for 2025/26 of £11,078,501, an increase of 2.99% on a Band D, be recommended to Council for approval in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- c) the NNDR1 has been completed and submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and included within the Budget for 2025/26 with a precept for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) of £18,079,252 in 2025/26 be noted;
- d) any increases in Fees and Charges for 2025/26 be approved (Appendix 3 of the addendum);
- e) the net General Fund revenue expenditure budget of £20,783,704 be agreed and recommended to Council for approval (Appendix 1 of the report);
- f) the changes to cost centres and service areas as a result of the Constitution review approved at Annual Council in May 2025 be agreed and recommended to Council for approval (Appendix 1 of the report); and
- g) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2025/26 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution

Speakers

Mr Keith Kondakor

Options

- a) Accept the recommendations
- b) Request further information

Reasons

To comply with regulations.

CB92 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2025/26 (inc. 30 year Business Plan)

The Assistant Director – Finance and the Strategic Director – Housing and Community Safety submitted the HRA budget for Cabinet approval and make recommendations to Council.

RESOLVED that

- a) the forecast outturn position for the HRA for 2024/25 be noted.
- b) the net budget position of £0 for 2025/26 be agreed and recommended to Council for approval.
- c) a rent increase on dwellings of 2.7%.be agreed and recommended to Council for approval.

- d) Fees and Charges for the HRA (Appendix 2 of the report) be recommended to Council for approval.
- e) the HRA Business Plan 2025/55, attached as Appendix 3 of the report be approved.
- f) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2025/26 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Speakers

Mr Keith Kondakor

Options

- a) Accept the recommendations
- b) Request further information having regard to the legal deadlines for setting of budgets

Reasons

To comply with recommendations

CB93 Capital Budget 2025/26

The Strategic Director – Corporate Resources submitted the proposed General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for 2025/26 for consideration and submission to Council for approval.

RESOLVED that

- a) the budget for 2025/26 be recommended to Council for approval.
- b) the forecasted capital programme for 2024/25 be noted.
- c) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Housing & Communities, Strategic Director – Public Services, Strategic Director – Place & Economy and Strategic Director – Corporate Resources to carry out procurement exercises in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in order to deliver the capital programme.
- d) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Place & Economy, Strategic Director – Public Services and Strategic Director – Corporate Resources to approve any new funding opportunities that arise to support the regeneration projects.
- e) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2025/26 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Speakers

Mr Keith Kondakor

Options

- a) Accept the recommendations
- b) Request further information having regard to the legal deadlines for setting of budgets

Reasons

To comply with the regulations.

CB94 **Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels**

- a) **Environment and Leisure OSP – 30th January 2025**
Revocation of Leicester Road Gyratory Air Quality Management Area

Speakers:

Mr Keith Kondakor
Councillor M. Kondakor

A Cabinet report regarding the revocation of Leicester Road Gyratory AQMA had previously been submitted in November 2024 but a decision was deferred in order for the above panel to consider the data regarding the monitoring of Air Quality in the Borough.

At the Environment and Leisure OSP meeting held on 30th January 2025 the panel considered the data contained in the report from the Senior Environment Health Officer and put forward the following recommendation:

It be recommended to Cabinet that the revocation of Leicester Road Gyratory AQMA 1 be approved.

Cabinet considered the OSP report and the above recommendation.

It was **RESOLVED** that the revocation of Leicester Road Gyratory AQMA 1 be approved.

CB95 **Any Other Items**

None

CB96 **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraphs 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CB97 **Sherbourne Recycling**

A report of the Strategic Director – Public Services was submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

RESOLVED that

- a) the revised gate fee per tonne for 25/26 financial year as per 5.5 of the report, for its residents recycling material be approved;

- b) provision be made in the 25/26 budget setting for the gate fee and delegated authority be given to Chief Executive in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Environment and Public Services, to approve any contractual changes; and
- c) the report be marked not for call in as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution due to the timeframes in meeting budget setting deadlines and implementation for 1st April 2025

Options

- a) Accept the recommendations
- b) Do not accept the recommendations

Reasons

To provide Cabinet with an update on the gate fee costs for Nuneaton and Bedworth, as one of eight shareholders for its recycling material to be processed at the Sherbourne Recycling facility.

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 25th FEBRUARY 2025

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 5th MARCH 2025

Cabinet - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2024/2025

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing matters - Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 - An allowance, payment given to members - An indemnity given to members - Any ceremonial honour given to members - Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - Planning and Licensing matters - Allotments - Local Enterprise Partnership
	S. Hey	Director – - Heywire Ltd - Brilliant Bookings Ltd	Member of the Labour Party, National Trust, CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale), Royal Photographic Society. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Employers Board (NBBC representative) • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board • West Midlands Employers • Nuneaton and Bedworth Older People's Forum 	
	T. Jenkins	Managing Partner – Gribblybugs LLP Employed by Mary Creagh MP (Coventry East)	The Labour Party (sponsorship) - Committee Member of Warwickshire Amphibian & Reptile Team - Member of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust - Member of Equity – Trade Union Members of National Trust and English Heritage Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Sports Forum, 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board, • Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board, • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel, • Biodiversity Champion • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • Exhall Education Foundation • Foleshill Charity Trustee – Proffitt's Charity 	
	N. King	Employed by Love Hair and Beauty	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Town Deal Board 	
	R. Roze	Director – InfiniTEN Ltd	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd • PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside of London) Joint Committee Services. • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Bedworth Town Deal Board 	
	J. Sheppard		Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • Nuneaton Neighbour Watch Committee 	
Director of Wembrook Community Centre.			Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre	
Member of Labour Party				
	C.M. Watkins	Employee of Nutri Pack	Representative on the following outside bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Association • Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership • Warwickshire Housing Support Partnership • West Midlands Combined Authority Board (WMCA) • West Midland Combined Housing and Land delivery Board 	