



**AGENDA
for
MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL**

to be held on

Wednesday, 4th December, 2019

Enquiries to: Wendy Bolton
Committee Services Direct Dial: 024 7637 6000
Direct Email: wendy.bolton@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

For Public Questions:
member.services@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk
Copy to: brent.davis@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

For Member Questions:
brent.davis@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk
julie.jackson@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk
Copy to: member.services@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

Date: 26th November, 2019

Our Ref: WEB

To: All Members of the Borough Council

A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton, on **Wednesday, 4th December, 2019, at 6.00 p.m.**

All members of the Council are summoned to attend to determine the business as set out below.

Please note that meetings will be recorded for future broadcast.

AGENDA

1. **EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

A fire drill is not expected, so if the alarm sounds please evacuate the building quickly and calmly. Please use the stairs and do not use the lifts. Once out of the building, please gather outside the Yorkshire Bank on the opposite side of the road.

Please exit by the door by which you entered the room or by the fire exits which are clearly indicated by the standard green fire exit signs.

If you need any assistance in evacuating the building, please make yourself known to a member of staff.

Please also make sure all your mobile phones are turned off or set to silent.

2. **APOLOGIES** - to receive apologies for absence from the meeting.

3. FILMING - all Members are requested to turn on their microphones before speaking, to speak clearly into the microphone in front of them and remember to turn it off when they have finished speaking. A microphone will be provided for members of the public to use who have notified that they wish to speak.
4. MINUTES - to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September, 2019 (**Page 8**).
5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in matters under consideration pursuant to Council procedure Rule 4A.2(iii).

Declaring interests at meetings

If there is any item of business to be discussed at the meeting in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest (Other Interests), you must declare the interest appropriately at the start of the meeting or as soon as you become aware that you have an interest.

Arrangements have been made for interests that are declared regularly by members to be appended to the agenda (**Page 29**). Any interest noted in the Schedule at the back of the agenda papers will be deemed to have been declared and will be minuted as such by the Committee Services Officer. As a general rule, there will, therefore, be no need for those Members to declare those interests as set out in the schedule.

There are, however, TWO EXCEPTIONS to the general rule:

1. When the interest amounts to a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is engaged in connection with any item on the agenda and the member feels that the interest is such that they must leave the room. Prior to leaving the room, the member must inform the meeting that they are doing so, to ensure that it is recorded in the minutes.

2. Where a dispensation has been granted to vote and/or speak on an item where there is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, but it is not referred to in the Schedule (where for example, the dispensation was granted by the Monitoring Officer immediately prior to the meeting). The existence and nature of the dispensation needs to be recorded in the minutes and will, therefore, have to be disclosed at an appropriate time to the meeting.

Note: Following the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary or a Deemed Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, the Member must withdraw from the room.

Where a Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest but has received a dispensation from Audit and Standards Committee, that Member may vote and/or speak on the matter (as the case may be) and must disclose the existence of the dispensation and any restrictions placed on it at the time the interest is declared.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest as defined in the Code of Conduct, the Member may address the meeting as a member of the public as set out in the Code.

Note: Council Procedure Rules require Members with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests to withdraw from the meeting unless a dispensation allows them to remain to vote and/or speak on the business giving rise to the interest.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest, the Council's Code of Conduct permits public speaking on the item, after which the Member is required by Council Procedure Rules to withdraw from the meeting.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS - to receive announcements from the Mayor, Leader, Members of the Cabinet or the Executive Director.
7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - (Council Procedure Rule 9) - to hear and answer questions by any resident of the Borough concerning the work of the Council where notice has been given (maximum 20 minutes). A copy of Procedure Rule 9 is attached, **(Page 35)** and this is not subject to debate.
8. SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS - (Access to Information Procedure Rule)
The following decision was taken by Cabinet, under Special Urgency Powers, as set out in Paragraph 4.16.1 of the Constitution.

Minute CB44
13th November 2019

Draft Bedworth Town Centre Visioning Document -
Public Consultation

9. BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2019 – AGENDA ITEM 14 e)

The following Notice of Motion had been received by the Head of Paid Service for Council consideration:

Training for Mayor (copy attached **Page 37**)

“This Council resolves to amend the Constitution at Part 9 and insert the following paragraph as 9A.1(f)...

‘The Mayor is to attend mandatory training with the Director of Arts, Leisure and Democracy on the constitution, rules of debate and, the Mayors role in chairing meetings. Such training is to be held prior to the first substantive meeting of the Council following the Annual General Meeting; to ensure that the new Mayor is fully equipt and competent in the professional delivering of Council business’

Following the enactment of point one above, the Mayor for the municipal year 2019/2020 shall be required to undertake the training as set out in the constitutional amendment above by the next Full Council.”

10. CABINET – report by Leader of the Council attached. **(Page 38)**
Members may ask questions on the report and receive answers from the Leader or other Cabinet members, and this is not subject to debate.
11. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES – report by the Returning Officer, attached **(Page 47)**.
12. SUB REGIONAL RECYCLING FACILITY – report by the Executive Director - Operations and the Executive Director - Resources, **(Page 71)**.
13. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET OR OTHER COMMITTEES

a) Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2020/21

At its meeting on the 13th November, 2019, Cabinet considered a report on the above. A copy of the report is attached **(Page 74)** and the full scheme document is available in the Member rooms. Cabinet **RESOLVED** that:

- i. the consultation responses set out at section 5 and Appendices A and B of the report, be noted;
- ii. Cabinet recommend to Council that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for April 2020 onwards reduces the minimal contribution required from 20% to 15%, the technical changes set out in section 5.2. of the document be approved, and that the resultant costs as set out in the report be reflected in the Council Taxbase for 2020/21;
- iii. the Executive Director – Resources be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the scheme in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Civic Affairs; and
- iv. as the recommendations from this report require Council approval on the 4th December, this report be marked ‘not for call in’ on the grounds of urgency.

b) Treasury Management 2019/20 Mid Year Review

At its meeting on the 13th November, 2019, Cabinet considered a report on the above. A copy of the report is attached **(Page 91)**. It was **RESOLVED** that Cabinet recommend to Council that:

- i. the report be noted per the requirements of the CIPFA Code;
- ii. the changes to the prudential indicators as detailed within the report and summarised at Appendix A be approved; and
- iii. the updated General Fund Capital Programme at Appendix B be approved.

14. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Notices of Motion have been received by the Head of Paid Service for Council consideration:

a) Cross Party Climate Change Working Group (copy attached **Page 112**)

“This Council declares a climate emergency and in doing so commits to:

- establishing a cross party working group to investigate and subsequently advise on the actions and timescales required to make the Council's activities carbon neutral by 2030. The working group will report initial findings and recommendations back to Cabinet within 4 months with the ability to invite a relevant external expert as appropriate
- engaging with partner councils (specifically Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire's 5 District and Borough Councils), local businesses, environmental groups and residents to inform our future actions; and
- call on government to provide the resources and where required the powers to enable Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to help deliver the UK's carbon reduction targets."

b) Transforming Bedworth Cross Party Working Group (copy attached, **Page 113**)

"This council requests the Executive Directors to prepare a report for the next available cabinet to establish a Transforming Bedworth cross-party working group to take forward the regeneration of Bedworth Town Centre, and invites Warwickshire County Council to join as equal participants in the working group."

15. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS - (Council Procedure Rule 10). A copy of Procedure Rule 10 is attached. (**Page 114**) and this is not subject to debate.

NOTE: Points of Order and Personal Explanation can only be raised in accordance with Council Procedure Rules which are set out below:-

Point of order

A Member may raise a point of order at any time. The Mayor will hear them at the end of the speech of the Member speaking at the time the point is raised. A point of order may only relate to an alleged breach of these Council Rules of Procedure or the law. The Member must indicate the rule of law and the way in which he/she considers it has been broken. The Mayor shall consider the Point of Order and, if necessary, take advice on the matter from the Monitoring Officer and, shall then rule on the Point of Order raised. There shall be no discussion or challenge to the advice given or the Mayor's decision in the meeting. If a Member persistently seeks to raise a Point of Order but is unable to identify the procedure rule or legal principle infringed then, after having been warned by the Mayor, any further abuse of this procedure rule shall not be tolerated and the Mayor shall move that the Member not be heard further pursuant to Procedure Rule 4.19.13. The ruling of the Mayor on the matter will be final.

Personal explanation

A Member may make a point of personal explanation at any time. The Mayor will hear them at the end of the speech of the Member speaking at the time the point is raised. A personal explanation may only relate to some material part of an earlier speech by the Member which may appear to have been misunderstood in the present debate. The ruling of the Mayor on the admissibility of a personal explanation will be final.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

11th September, 2019

The meeting of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council was held at the Town Hall, Nuneaton, on Wednesday, 11th September, 2019.

Present

The Mayor (Councillor J. Tandy)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor W.J. Hancox)

Councillors, J.B Beaumont, K. Brindley-Edwards; D. Brown, S. Croft, G. Daffern, S. Doughty, P.M. Elliott, K. Evans, J. Glass, C. Golby, S. Gran, J. Gutteridge, I.K. Lloyd, L. Hocking, J.A. Jackson, K.A. Kondakor, A. Llewellyn-Nash, B. Pandher, N.J.P. Phillips, G.D. Pomfrett, M. Rudkin, A. Sargeant, J. Sargeant, J. Sheppard, T. Sheppard, R. Smith, R. Tromans, H. Walmsley, C. Watkins and K.D. Wilson.

Apologies – D. Brown, B. Longden and D. Gissane

CL24 **Minutes**

Councillor H. Walmsley indicated that the minutes were inaccurate as Councillor Evans' attempt to make an announcement at the previous meeting was not recorded.

Councillor S. Croft seconded the amendment.

A vote was taken to approve the minutes as altered by Councillor Walmsley.

The vote was lost.

[Councillors Walmsley and Evans voted in favour of the altered minutes.]

A vote was taken on the minutes of the last meeting held on 17th July, 2019 as printed on the agenda.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July, 2019 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

[Councillors Walmsley, Evans and Gran voted against the motion.]

CL25 **Interests**

Councillor R. Smith declared an other interest in regards to his recent appointment as Trustee for the Bulkington Sports and Social Club.

Councillor A. Llewellyn-Nash requested that her interest as a representative for the Hospice Charity be removed as she has never been a representative. She also declared an other interest by way of being a Governor at Newdigate Primary and Nursery School, Bedworth and a disclosable pecuniary interest by her employment in BMI Healthcare.

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interest for this meeting are as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes, and as above.

CL26 **Announcements**

Councillor A. Sargeant made the following announcement:

“Thanks be expressed to Council officers and residents of Attleborough for all the help they have given to the Attleborough Community Matters group, the help came in many ways from advice, organising and helping to set up events, turning up and supporting the events on the day as well. We have achieved a sense of belonging, getting people involved, talking positively and this is having a real positive impact on the community.”

CL27 **Public Participation**

Question 1

Mrs Michelle Kondakor asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder of Arts and Leisure:

“We urgently need to plant more trees for climate change mitigation, help with reducing the flooding risk, improving air quality and providing habitats for increased biodiversity however it seems financial and staffing limitations have prevented the Borough Council from planting significant number of trees in the last few years, not even replacing as many as have needed to be felled for safety reasons. There is massive public enthusiasm for planting trees and many members of the public, including myself, would be happy to assist the Council in planting trees. Will the portfolio holder request that staff identify suitable sites for tree planting and invite the public to help plant trees on such sites.”

Councillor I. Lloyd, Portfolio Holder for Arts and Leisure, responded as follows:

We would welcome the opportunity to work constructively with the local communities and groups. Whilst we have to take account of our financial responsibilities and available resources. I will ask, again, our officers to investigate and where appropriate, support the development of tree planting schemes can be placed and we will get them to look at all the land in our ownership across the Borough and identify areas where this can take place.

Question 2

Mr Lubs Cvetkovic asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

“Like many other residents I was pleased to hear that national government funding has been secured to help develop Nuneaton Town Centre. This was almost immediately followed by a sense of disappointment.

“The reason for my disappointment is that no funding had been bid for the two other settlements in the Borough. Why have bids not been placed for the development of Bedworth and Bulkington?”

“This Borough is becoming increasingly polarised in the way that NBBC treats its three settlements. Nuneaton is very much at the Core and has dominated the council’s plans for development and investment. Bedworth appears very much on the periphery with hardly any investment....a trip to the Town Centre on a Saturday afternoon with shops shutting up before 3 pm confirms that it is becoming a ghost town. Then there is Bulkington which isn’t even included in the Borough title (perhaps a change of name to Nuneaton, Bedworth and Bulkington Borough Council might help the ruling Labour group remember that there is a third and forgotten settlement) it appears that Bulkington is the forgotten settlement and is lucky to receive financial crumbs from NBBC.

“What I would like to know is putting aside any possible s106 that may or may not be given to Bulkington or Bedworth or even Nuneaton. What investment and what projects are currently in place or planned for the regeneration and improvement of Bedworth and Bulkington? I would also like to know what percentages of the NBBC budget over the last 5 years have been spent on redevelopment and Improvement projects which directly benefit the residents of each of the Boroughs three major settlements.

“I hope that NBBC will sit up and start thinking beyond the development of Nuneaton and remember its own motto “United to achieve”. At the moment the Borough is far from united. “Division and discontent “would perhaps be a more apt motto which more appropriately reflects the feelings of residents of Bedworth and Bulkington who feel left out and often forgotten and unheard by the ruling body of this Council.”

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

The very recently announced Town Funds for which Nuneaton was 1 of a 100 places invited to develop proposals was not subject to any application process. However, I am clearly very pleased that Nuneaton was selected along with the other towns to be able to bid for significant amounts of potential funding.

In contrast, the Future High Streets Fund was an application process, however the Round 1 scheme criteria only allowed each Local Authority to make one submission covering one town centre. As a lot of background work had already been completed as part of the Transforming Nuneaton program it was rightly considered that an application for Nuneaton Town Centre would stand a better chance of success in the first instance. However it has always

been my view, that I have stated this in public on previous occasions that an application for Bedworth Town Centre will be submitted as part of the 2nd round of applications that Government have indicated will open in 2020. This considered approach allows time for necessary strategic visioning work to be completed to support the Bedworth application. I am pleased to say this visioning work for Bedworth is currently in its final draft stages.

Separately to this bid, projects are underway to support Bedworth Town Centre. Bedworth market has been identified as a venue that has the potential to become a key attractor for Bedworth Town Centre and to provide incubation space for start-up businesses.

In the past two years two businesses have started as market traders, moved on to lock up units in the market and then on to the town centre stores. All the available lock up units were let and so we have recently added two further permanent cabins which were let immediately.

Additionally we have invested in making improvements cosmetically and operationally to Bedworth Market. Replaced fixed stalls with pop up stalls to provide more flexibility of layout and maximise revenue opportunities, introducing new events including craft fairs and classic car shows, and employing a dedicated Bedworth Market Officer.

The Council has a wide ranging programme of capital projects each year but it is not possible to break this down exactly by location. We have a capital investment that brings benefit borough-wide such as purchasing new refuse trucks. There are also projects that are demand led such as Disabled Facilities Grants, which are available to residents across the Borough. The HRA capital programme also includes investment in our stock across the Borough, including Bedworth and Bulkington. There are of course some capital projects in specific locations – for instance, during the last financial year we spent almost £80k on improvements to Bedworth's Miners Welfare Park.

Question 3

Mr Scott Harbison asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Central Services and Refuse:

“Can I ask the leader what she intends to do about the dog mess on Edward St, in particular but in many other places; the overhanging foliage causing mobility problems in various places; and the continuing litter problems?”

Councillor J. Sheppard, Portfolio Holder for Central Services and Refuse responded as follows:

The Council maintains its shrubs and hedges in accordance with the contractual specification set by the Council. Where overhangs occur for which the Council is responsible, they are cut back as part of a programme that commences from the end of the bird nesting season. Where the hedge is a private hedge, overhanging the public highway, this is a matter that is referred to the County Highway authority to deal with. If Mr Harbison has some specific locations in mind, it would be helpful if he reported them to the officers

through the Council's website, so that they can be investigated and, where necessary, addressed. Either way, appropriate action will be taken to resolve the issues".

Dog fouling and littering is a continued act of anti-social behaviour NBBC are working hard to address in all areas of the Borough. Additional cleansing and enforcement resource have been assigned to a number of 'hot spot' areas including Edward Street in order to tackle local issues and remove waste causing concern. Additional litter bin installations are planned for Edward Street which hopefully will help and be used to control the litter and dog waste problems.

Question 4

Mr Stephen Hey asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

"I welcome the Borough Council news mentioning success in a bid with a possible investment of up to £25million from a government fund. Would the leader of the council please advise me what has been the involvement of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in securing the Future High Street bid towards the town centre regeneration?"

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

Thank you Mr Hey for your question.

I am delighted that our Stage 1 application to the Future High Streets Fund for Nuneaton Town Centre has made it through to Stage 2 of the bidding process. This initial application was drawn up by a team of Borough Council officers supported by officers from Warwickshire County Council. The same team of Borough Council officers has now started working on putting together a much more detailed application that will be required at Stage 2 of the bidding process and they again will be working with colleagues from Warwickshire County Council. We will also be using money from the £150,000 grant provided to us by Government to engage appropriate consultants to help us pull all the required information together in what are very tight timescales we are committed to do so.

Question 5

Mr Joseph Bevan will ask the following question to the Leader of the Council:

"I note with great pride that 22nd November marks the bicentenary of the birth of George Eliot, arguably Nuneaton and Bedworth's most famous novelist. With this in mind, I ask for an update on what the borough is doing to mark this momentous occasion?"

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

Thank you Mr Bevan for your question.

This weekend we will see a host of events in homage to George Elliot as part of heritage weekend the George Elliot fellowship is organising a range of events in both Nuneaton and Bedworth including displays and residents in traditional costume at the Almshouses. A brand new exhibition at Bedworth Heritage Centre and the Bicentenary Flag festival. In Nuneaton on Sunday, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council will hold a George Elliot celebration day in George Elliot Gardens packed with family fun, live music and entertainment, to honour this special 200th anniversary, the Council will also be unveiling a new interactive town centre George Elliot quotation channel which will include fabulous modern day interpretations of the quotes by local school children.

In November we are hoping to honour the anniversary date with a plaque in Nuneaton Town Centre but I say to all residents please come along to these events at both Bedworth and Nuneaton, I am sure they are going to be fantastic, fun, and informative and I have had a sneak preview of the George Elliot trail videos that young children have done and they are absolutely fantastic, hope you enjoy them.

CL28 Special Urgency Decisions

RESOLVED that the Special Urgency Decision taken on the 15th July 2019 regarding the Council House Conversion – Increase to Capital Programme and Treasury Indicators 2019/20 be noted.

CL29 Urgent Decisions

RESOLVED that Annual Review of Urgent Decisions taken in 2018/19 as printed below be noted

<u>Item</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Outturn 2017/18	13/06/2018
Kerbside Recycling Collection	13/06/2018
Borough Plan – Consultation on Main Modifications	25/07/2018
Borough Plan – Consideration of Further Main Modifications	05/09/2018
Draft General Fund and HRA Budgets 2019/20	31/10/2018
Procurement of Single Supplier Framework – Modular Housing	31/10/2018
Procurement of Insurance Policies	28/11/2018
Local Council Tax Support Scheme	06/02/2019
Housing Revenue Account Budget and Capital Programme – 2019/20	13/02/2019
General Fund Budget and Capital Programme 2019/20	13/02/2019
The Allocation of Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) Funding	10/04/2019

Timetable of Meetings 2019/20 and 2020/21	10/04/2019
Sub-Regional Materials Recycling Facility	10/04/2019

CL30 **Annual Report 2018/19 of Overview and Scrutiny Panels**

The Council gave consideration to the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels during this municipal year.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

CL31 **Sub-Regional Material Recycling Facility**

The report of the Executive Director – Operations and Executive Director – Resources was submitted for consideration by Council.

Councillor K. Wilson proposed the following amendment to the recommendations:

“Insert recommendation 2.2:

2.2 The Executive Director – Operations and Director for Arts, Leisure and Democracy prepare a report for the next Full Council to outline recommendations for establishing a robust method of scrutinising and overseeing the establishment and work of the Sub Regional Material Recycling facility, and how NBBC’s shareholding in the new Asset Co is exercised.”

Councillor H. Walmsley seconded the amendment.

A vote was taken and the amendment was carried.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Borough Council’s capital programme and treasury management strategy be appropriately amended, as set out in Appendices 1a and 1b of the report, to allow a capital loan of up to £3.3m to be made and up to £96,000 of shares in the Local Authority owned MRF operating company to be purchased to allow the new MRF to be built and become operational; and
- b) the Executive Director – Operations and Director for Arts, Leisure and Democracy prepare a report for the next Full Council to outline recommendations for establishing a robust method of scrutinising and overseeing the establishment and work of the Sub Regional Material Recycling facility, and how NBBC’s shareholding in the new Asset Co is exercised.

CL32 **Cabinet**

The Leader of the Council submitted her report on behalf of Cabinet. The report highlighted matters considered at the Cabinet meeting held on 24th July 2019, and also details of reports from the West Midlands Combined Authority

Board, which have a direct impact on NBBC, namely the Board meeting of the 26th July, 2019.

CL33 **Recommendations from Cabinet and other Committees**

a) **Overview and Scrutiny Guide 2019**

Councillor T. Sheppard, Chair of External Overview and Scrutiny Panel, reported on the recommendations made at the External Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 4th July, 2019, in respect of the above and moved a motion for their approval.

Councillor Evans seconded the motion.

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

For: Councillors K.L. Brindley-Edwards, S. Croft, K. Evans, C. Golby, S. Gran, J. Gutteridge, K.A. Kondakor, A. Llewellyn-Nash, B. Pandher, A. Sargeant, J. Sargeant, R. Smith, R. Tromans, H. Walmsley and K.D. Wilson.

Against: Councillors J. Beaumont, G. Daffern, S. Doughty, P.M. Elliott, J. Glass, W.J. Hancox, L. Hocking, J.A. Jackson, I.K. Lloyd, N.J.P. Phillips, G.D. Pomfrett, M. Rudkins, J. Sheppard, T.E. Sheppard, J.A. Tandy and C.M. Watkins

Absentions: None

RESOLVED that the Overview and Scrutiny Guide as amended with additional amendments, as stated in the agenda be rejected.

b) **Annual Treasury Management Report 2018 - 2019**

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council, reported on the recommendations made at the Cabinet meeting held on 4th September, 2019 in respect of the above and moved a motion for their approval.

Councillor I. Lloyd seconded the motion.

A vote was taken and the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that

- a) the actual 2018/19 Treasury and Prudential Indicators detailed in the report and summarised in appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- b) the Annual Treasury Management report for 2018/19 be noted.

CL34 **Notice of Motions**

a) **Future High Street Fund**

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following motion:

“This Council welcomes the Government’s announcement that Nuneaton is one of 50 towns to benefit from the Future High Streets Fund. This Council requests the Leader of the Council to confirm in a statement to the Council, that the Council intends to prepare a separate bid for Bedworth Town Centre, ahead of the second round of applications in 2020.”

Councillor S. Gran seconded the motion.

Councillor J. Jackson moved a procedural motion 4.13.11 that Council move to the vote as enough debate had taken place.

This was seconded by Councillor N.J.P Phillips.

A vote was taken, the motion was lost and debate continued.

A recorded vote was taken on the motion as follows:

For: Councillors, J.B Beaumont, K. Brindley-Edwards; D. Brown, S. Croft, G. Daffern, S. Doughty, P.M. Elliott, K. Evans, J. Glass, C. Golby, S. Gran, J. Gutteridge, I.K. Lloyd, L. Hocking, J.A. Jackson, K.A. Kondakor, A. Llewellyn-Nash, B. Pandher, N.J.P. Phillips, G.D. Pomfrett, M. Rudkin, A. Sargeant, J. Sargeant, J. Sheppard, T. Sheppard, R. Smith, R. Tromans, H. Walmsley, C. Watkins and K.D. Wilson.

Against: None

Abstentions: None

RESOLVED that the motion was carried.

b) **Bedworth Civic Hall**

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following motion:

“This Council is seriously concerned that the Bedworth Civic Hall has shown a consistent inability to operate within an approved budget over consecutive financial years. Therefore this council resolves to procure the services of an independent external auditor to conduct a detailed review, into financial operation and management of the Bedworth Civic Hall. With the view to improving value for money and service delivery to residents. The funding for the external audit shall be taken from the unallocated general reserves (General Fund).”

Councillor K. Evans seconded the motion.

(Councillor K. Wilson moved in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4A.21 to suspend standing orders, as the maximum time for the meeting should not normally exceed 3 hours and that this amount of time had passed. Members were in agreement to continue the meeting until the motions on notice were completed.)

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

For: Councillors K.L. Brindley-Edwards, S. Croft, K. Evans, C. Golby, S. Gran, J. Gutteridge, K.A. Kondakor, A. Llewellyn-Nash, B. Pandher, A. Sargeant, J. Sargeant, R. Smith, R. Tromans, H. Walmsley and K.D. Wilson.

Against: Councillors J. Beaumont, G. Daffern, S. Doughty, P.M. Elliott, J. Glass, W.J. Hancox, L. Hocking, J.A. Jackson, I.K. Lloyd, N.J.P. Phillips, G.D. Pomfrett, M. Rudkins, J. Sheppard, T.E. Sheppard, J.A. Tandy and C.M. Watkins

Absentions: None

RESOLVED that the motion be rejected.

c) Section 106 Contributions

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following motion:

“This Council believes that there should be a general assumption in favour of section 106 contributions being spent within the locality, where the development that has generated such funding has taken place”

Councillor N.J.P Phillips seconded the motion.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that the motion was carried.

d) Adoption of the IHRA definition of Anti-Semitism

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following motion:

“The Council is alarmed by the rise of Anti-Semitism across the UK. Nuneaton and Bedworth has a diverse community that we are very proud of, and therefore we must ensure that racism and hate crime is tackled in all forms. Therefore this Council resolves to:

- 1) Reaffirm its condemnation of all forms of hate crimes and racism
- 2) Adopt the IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance) definition of anti-Semitism as the working model for

challenging and confronting incidents of this form of hate crime and racism.”

Councillor C. Golby seconded the motion.

Councillor J. Jackson moved the procedural motion 4.13.11 that Council move to the vote as enough debate had taken place.

Councillor N.J.P. Phillips seconded the procedural motion.

The Mayor suspended the meeting pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 4.19.5 of the Council’s Constitution and left the Chamber.

After an interval the Mayor re-entered the Chamber and recommenced the meeting.

A vote was taken on the procedural motion to move to the vote. The motion was carried.

A vote was take on the substantive motion.

RESOLVED that the motion was carried.

The Mayor moved pursuant to Council procedure Rule 4.13.11(a)(iv) that the meeting be adjourned and item 14e. be considered at the next meeting of Council.

Councillor I. Lloyd seconded the motion.

A vote was taken on the procedural motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried.

RESOLVED that the motion was carried and the meeting be adjourned.

[Councillor K. Evans voted against the motion.]

CL35 **Questions by Members**

The following questions were submitted by members of the Council and received the following written responses.

Question 1

Councillor Keith Kondakor will ask the following question of the Leader of the Council:

“Earlier this year BBC Coventry and Warwickshire asked councils how much the spent on non-disclosure agreements (commonly known as gagging orders) in the last five years. The figure reported for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council was £209,154.96p.

“Can the leader give us a breakdown of this total by council department, tell us how these are authorised and tell us why it is in the public interest to use these agreements so widely?”

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council responded as follows:

The £209k referred to in the BBC article was for non-disclosure agreements – “NDA’s” - across 4 council Directorates - Housing, Communities & Economic Development; Business Improvement; Regeneration & Public Protection and Governance & Recreation.

To ensure that the Council does not fall foul of privacy and confidentiality laws we cannot provide a breakdown of individual NDA’s for each Directorate.

The Borough Council does not use NDA’s widely.

Any NDA’s that are used are authorised in accordance with Borough Council policies and procedures.

Question 2

Councillor Anne Llewellyn-Nash will ask the following question of the Leader of the Council:-

"Many months ago the External Overview and Scrutiny Panel agreed plans set out by the Town Centres Manager to create a Bedworth Town Team. This would be a group of Residents, Councillors, and local business owners who get around the table to discuss how we can improve Bedworth Town Centre; to date I have not been told about developments with this initiative. Can the Leader of the Council give us an update on when the Town Team initiative will commence, and will Bedworth Councillors be given the chance to join the Team?"

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council responded as follows:

Our Town Centre Manager was asked in February to report on the feasibility of a Town Team for Bedworth, the report was submitted as requested during February EOSP.

It was RESOLVED that:

- a) the content of the report be noted; and
- b) an update be brought back to Panel as and when necessary.

EOSP made no recommendations to Cabinet at the time of the report and no recommendations have been received from OSP to Cabinet on the topic of a Town Team for Bedworth.

Support has been offered to help facilitate a BID feasibility study for Bedworth Town Centre. Should any such report indicate the support from the business community for a BID, at that point a constituted body would need to be formed by the business community to develop the BID proposal.

Question 3

Councillor Kyle Evans will ask the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities:-

"Can he outline what steps the Housing Department take to ensure the grounds and gardens on our housing complexes are kept to a high standard?"

Councillor C. Watkins, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities, responded as follows:

Thank you for your question and the answer is that the Housing Officers will continue with their Estate Walks and I will also try to attend every Estate Walk whilst I am Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities. The Housing Officers will continue to report any problems that they find on our housing estates and from November we have the new ground maintenance contract guide to follow (see attached) I have also attached a list of Estate Walks for you to take a look at and the Housing Officers will email the Ward Councillors, myself and anyone else who has shown an interest in doing the Estate Walks in the past.

I hope this answers your question in full, however if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Question 4

Councillor Sebastian Gran will ask the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Central Services and Refuse:-

"My residents have to put up with extortionate amounts of fly tipping on Woodlands Lane in Bedworth on a regular basis; a problem we've now been experiencing for many years. I'm asking the Portfolio Holder why the Waste Department will not conduct weekly pickups on Woodlands Lane to collect the fly tipping, and for the Waste Department to install CCTV on Woodlands Lane to identify those who dump the rubbish, so the Council can serve a penalty notice on those individuals who wish to ruin the image of our Borough?"

Councillor J. Sheppard, Portfolio Holder for Central Services and Refuse responded as follows:

Councillor Gran, thank you for your question.

Woodlands Lane has no council land, there is highways land which we have a statutory duty to remove littering, the rest of the land in Woodlands Lane is private land owned by Arbury Estates, I have asked officers to write to land owners to ensure they remove any fly tipping littering.

At present cleansing resource is needed to respond to all area of the Borough with regard to littering and fly tipping issues it is not always possible to target area's on a weekly frequency.

Enforcement is another reason why fly tipping is not removed automatically as there is a need to investigate incidents with a view to collecting evidence from waste in order to build a prosecution case this requires a co-ordinated approach with waste officers and our enforcement partners.

Cleansing are in the process of procuring CCTV to be deployed to hotspots within the borough with the intention to utilise footage in order to prosecute offenders for illegally disposing waste.

Question 5

Councillor Kris Wilson will ask the following question of the Leader of the Council:

“Given the recent exciting news that we have been earmarked by the Conservative Government for investment up to £25 million in Nuneaton Town Centre from the new Government Towns Fund, can the Leader outline how she intends to work positively with our partners at Warwickshire County Council, CWLEP, our MP and other agencies to ensure that we maximise the opportunity for this once in a generation investment in Nuneaton Town Centre?”

Councillor J. Jackson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

We are very pleased to hear that Nuneaton town centre is one of the 100 towns shortlisted for the new towns fund, this fund is in addition to the news received last month that Nuneaton has been short listed for phase 2 of the Future High Streets Fund.

It is understood that the government will shortly publish a prospectus to guide towns through the funding process and set eligibility criteria for the new fund, at which stage we will be putting a teams to development both applications.

We are grateful to Warwickshire Council, the CWLEP and our MP for their support for our initial applications to the Futures High Street Fund and we will be inviting these and other stakeholders to further support our application to the new town centres fund.

We will continue to work closely with Warwickshire County Council at both Senior Officer and cross party Elected Members levels, as well as CWLEP in developing the Transforming Nuneaton program which will gives the overall strategic context in which our detailed bids will be developed. I have also asked Officers to set up meetings with our MP to ensure that he has the opportunity to make appropriate inputs into the bids and also to be able champion them with Government.

Question 6

Councillor Daniel Gissane will ask the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Arts and Leisure:-

“Glendale's latest lucrative deal for the upkeep of grounds maintenance across our Borough is set to come into effect in November yet they are still

struggling to cope with the current workload and with rumours of problems with staffing, equipment, and finances, it already seems as if we are going to receive the same old service with the same old excuses.

“I would ask all members when was the last time you walked around your wards and didn't notice an issue that Glendale should have dealt with, like overgrowth covering important signage, or nettles protruding from hedges ready to sting anyone that dares to walk along a footpath?”

“Whilst it is clear we are never going to be in the running for any In Bloom awards any time soon with Glendale massacring our green areas I would ask the Portfolio Holder if he agrees that we are in a crisis due to his own poor management of the grounds maintenance contract and if he will do the honourable thing of resigning so that one of his colleagues can at least try to enforce the terms of the latest contract and salvage something before the time comes to hand it over to a Conservative member to try to sort out after the elections next May.”

Councillor I. Lloyd, Portfolio Holder for Arts and Leisure, responded as follows:

No

Mayor

Council - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2019/2020

	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
	J. Beaumont		Board member of Bulkington Community Library CIC in addition to an unpaid Manager of the library. Board member of Bulkington Village Centre Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Older People's Forum 	
	K. Brindley-Edwards	Teacher and Head of 6 th Form at Beauchamp College	Representative on the following Outside Body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Edward VI College Foundation - Trustee 	
	D. Brown	Employed by H.M Land Registry		
	S. Croft	Employed at Holland & Barrett Retail Ltd	Treasurer of the Conservative Association	
	G. Daffern	Trainee teacher at Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry; Teacher of History, Etone College, Nuneaton	Co-opted Governor at Newdigate Primary School	
	S. Doughty	People in Action Cherville Limited	Unite the Union	
	P. Elliott	Employee of CW Mind ASD Support Service Mentor	Governor at Stockingford Nursery Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship Project for Children 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	K. Evans	Employee of Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Ltd.	Executive Officer at the North Warwickshire Conservative Association	
	J. Glass	None	None	
	D. Gissane		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	C. Golby		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	S. Gran		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	J. Gutteridge	Startin Tractors	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age UK (Warwickshire Branch) 	To speak and vote on any matters involving the Borough Plan related to land at Leyland Road Bulkington
	W.J. Hancox		Unite the Union Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Hammersley Smith & Orton Charity 	
	L. Hocking	Employed by Openreach	Unite the Union Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Groun 	
	J.A. Jackson	Any matter relating to the employment policies and procedures of Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council or any matter relating to the contractual arrangements with Sport & Leisure Management Ltd.	 Non Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coventry, Warwickshire & Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee • District Leaders • Local Government Association • Local Enterprise Partnership West Midlands Combined Authority	Dispensation to speak and vote on matters that do not relate specifically to her husband's contract of employment. Dispensation to speak and vote
	K.A. Kondakor		Member of Warwickshire County Council	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	A. Llewellyn-Nash	Employee of BMI Healthcare	Treasurer of Exhall Multi-cultural Group Representative of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospice Charity 	
	I. Lloyd	Employee of Jaguar Land Rover	Non Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited.	Dispensation to speak and vote
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton & Bedworth Sports Forum • Camp Hill Urban Village and Pride in Camp Hill • Poor's Piece Charity • Committee of Management of Hartshill & Nuneaton Recreation Group 	
	B.J. Longden		Daughter and son-in-law work in the NHS	
			Member of the Stockingford Community Centre	
			Ex-Officiate of the Veterans Contact Point Board	
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust – Public/User Board • George Eliot Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors • Armed Forces Covenant Meeting • Astley Charity 	
	B. Pandher		Member of Warwickshire County Council Treasurer & Trustee of Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple; Coordinator of Council of Sikh Temples in Coventry; Secretary of Coventry Indian Community; Trustee of Sikh Monument Trust Vice Chair Exhall Multicultural Group	
	G.D. Pomfrett	None	None	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	N. Phillips	Employee of DWP	Member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Sterling Group (Council Representative) • Nuneaton Labour CLP • The Fabian Society • The George Eliot Society • The PCS Union • Nuneaton Credit Union Non-Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited.	NABCEL – to speak and vote on any matter where the Council or Cabinet is asked to approve any funding arrangement; grant; or other legal instrument with the company but this dispensation shall not apply where any Non-Executive Director benefits from the arrangements in a personal capacity.
	M. Rudkin	Employee of Coventry City Council	Unite the Union Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership • PATROL Joint Committee • Warwickshire Health & Wellbeing Board • Building Control Partnership Steering Group 	
	A. Sargeant		Member of Warwickshire County Council Chairman of The Nook (Nuneaton) Residents Association. Chair of Attleborough Community Matters group. Volunteer at Volunteer Friends Bulkington. Member of Nuneaton Carnival Committee Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice Rights 	
	J. Sargeant	SATCOL Charity Project Manager		To speak and vote on any matters related to the Salvation Army Charity (SATCOL) or related bodies, unless the matter directly affects the contract of employment of the Councillor
	J. Sheppard		Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local.	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			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 the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop in.	
			Champion for Safeguarding (Children & Adults) Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • West Midland Employers • Nuneaton Neighbour Watch Committee 	
	T. Sheppard	Employee of Dairy Crest	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel 	
	R. Smith		Director of Volunteer Friends, Bulkington; Board of Directors at Bulkington Village Community and Conference Centre	
	J.A. Tandy		Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Festival of Arts • Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership • Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership • West Midlands Combined Authority Audit Group 	
	R. Tromans	Director of RTC Ltd		
	H. Walmsley	Chief of Staff to Julian Knight MP Self-employed Public Relations Consultant.	Chartered Institute of Public Relations	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	C.M. Watkins	Landlord of a privately rented property	Representative on the following outside bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency. • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership. • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board. • Warwickshire Housing Support Partnership. • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel. 	
	K.D. Wilson	Employee of the Courts Service	Non Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited	Dispensation to speak and vote

Council - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2019/2020

	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
	J. Beaumont		Board member of Bulkington Community Library CIC in addition to an unpaid Manager of the library. Board member of Bulkington Village Centre Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Older People's Forum 	
	K. Brindley-Edwards	Teacher and Head of 6 th Form at Beauchamp College	Representative on the following Outside Body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Edward VI College Foundation - Trustee 	
	D. Brown	Employed by H.M Land Registry		
	S. Croft	Employed at Holland & Barrett Retail Ltd	Treasurer of the Conservative Association	
	G. Daffern	Trainee teacher at Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry; Teacher of History, Etone College, Nuneaton	Co-opted Governor at Newdigate Primary School	
	S. Doughty	People in Action Cherville Limited	Unite the Union	
	P. Elliott	Employee of CW Mind's Autism Support Service	Governor at Stockingford Nursery Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship Project for Children 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	K. Evans	Employee of Academics Ltd	Executive Officer at the North Warwickshire & Bedworth Conservative Association Association Representative of Warwickshire Conservative Area Association	
	J. Glass	None	None	
	D. Gissane		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	C. Golby		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	S. Gran		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	J. Gutteridge	Startin Tractors	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: • Age UK (Warwickshire Branch)	To speak and vote on any matters involving the Borough Plan related to land at Leyland Road Bulkington
	W.J. Hancox		Unite the Union Representative on the following Outside Bodies: • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Hammersley Smith & Orton Charity	
	L. Hocking	Employed by Openreach	Member of: • Unite the Union • Communication Workers Union	
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground	
	J.A. Jackson	Any matter relating to the employment policies and procedures of Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council or any matter relating to the contractual arrangements with Sport & Leisure Management Ltd.	Unite the Union	Dispensation to speak and vote on matters that do not relate specifically to her husband's contract of employment.
			Non Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited	Dispensation to speak and vote
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: • Coventry, Warwickshire & Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee • District Leaders • Local Government Association • Local Enterprise	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Partnership • West Midlands Combined Authority	
	K.A. Kondakor		Member of Warwickshire County Council	
	A. Llewellyn-Nash	Employee of BMI Healthcare	Treasurer of Exhall Multi-cultural Group Governor at Newdigate Primary and Nursery School, Bedworth	
	I. Lloyd		Non Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited.	Dispensation to speak and vote
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: • Nuneaton & Bedworth Sports Forum • Camp Hill Urban Village and Pride in Camp Hill • Poor's Piece Charity • Committee of Management of Hartshill & Nuneaton Recreation Group	
	B.J. Longden		Daughter and son-in-law work in the NHS	
			Member of the Stockingford Community Centre	
			Ex-Officiate of the Veterans Contact Point Board	
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: • George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust – Public/User Board • George Eliot Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors • Armed Forces Covenant Meeting • Astley Charity	
	B. Pandher		Member of Warwickshire County Council Treasurer & Trustee of Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple; Coordinator of Council of Sikh Temples in Coventry; Secretary of Coventry Indian Community; Trustee of Sikh Monument	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Trust Vice Chair Exhall Multicultural Group	
	G.D. Pomfrett	None	None	
	N. Phillips	Employee of DWP	<p>Member of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Sterling Group (Council Representative) • Nuneaton Labour CLP • The Fabian Society • The George Eliot Society • The PCS Union • Nuneaton Credit Union <p>Non-Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited.</p>	<p>NABCEL – to speak and vote on any matter where the Council or Cabinet is asked to approve any funding arrangement; grant; or other legal instrument with the company but this dispensation shall not apply where any Non-Executive Director benefits from the arrangements in a personal capacity.</p>
	M. Rudkin	Employee of Coventry City Council	<p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership • PATROL Joint Committee • Warwickshire Health & Wellbeing Board • Building Control Partnership Steering Group 	
	A. Sargeant		<p>Unite the Union</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedworth Neighbourhood Watch Committee 	
	J. Sargeant	SATCOL Charity Project Manager	<p>Member of Warwickshire County Council Chairman of The Nook (Nuneaton) Residents Association. Chair of Attleborough Community Matters group. Volunteer at Volunteer Friends Bulkington. Member of Nuneaton Carnival Committee</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice Rights 	<p>To speak and vote on any matters related to the Salvation Army Charity (SATCOL) or related bodies, unless the matter directly affects the contract of employment of the Councillor</p>

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	J. Sheppard		<p>Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local.</p> <p>Director of Wembrook Community Centre.</p> <p>Member of the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop in.</p> <p>Champion for Safeguarding (Children & Adults)</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • West Midland Employers • Nuneaton Neighbour Watch Committee 	<p>Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre</p>
	T. Sheppard	Employee of Dairy Crest	<p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel 	
	R. Smith		<p>Chairman of Volunteer Friends, Bulkington;</p> <p>Board member of Bulkington Village Community and Conference Centre</p> <p>Trustee of Bulkington Sports and Social Club</p>	
	J.A. Tandy		<p>Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local.</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Festival of Arts • Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership • Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership • West Midlands Combined Authority Audit Group 	
	R. Tromans	Director of RTC Ltd		

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	H. Walmsley	Chief of Staff to Julian Knight MP Self-employed Public Relations Consultant.	Chartered Institute of Public Relations	
	C.M. Watkins	Landlord of a privately rented property	Representative on the following outside bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency. • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership. • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board. • Warwickshire Housing Support Partnership. • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel. 	
	K.D. Wilson	Employee of the Courts Service	Non Executive Director with Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Limited	Dispensation to speak and vote

4A.9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4.9.1 General

At each Ordinary Meeting or Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council, 20 minutes (which can be extended at the discretion of the Mayor) shall be set aside for questions or statements from the public gallery by any resident of the Borough in relation to matters in respect of which the Council has powers or duties, or which affect the Borough. In the case of an Extra Ordinary Meeting the question or statement must relate to the business of that meeting.

4.9.2 Notice of Questions and Statements

No such question shall be asked, or statement made, unless it shall have been delivered in writing to the Head of Paid Service no later than 12 noon on the day before the meeting of the Council.

4.9.3 Scope of Questions and Statements

The Head of Paid Service may reject a question or statement if it:

- a) is not about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility or which doesn't affect the Borough;
- b) is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- c) is substantially the same as a question or statement which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months;
- d) requires or involves the disclosure of confidential or exempt information; or
- e) It is not a question nor a statement, as provided for in these Procedure Rules.

4.9.4 For these Procedure Rules a question shall comprise of a small paragraph of no more than 3 sentences, with the purpose of seeking information on a single matter. A statement shall be an expression of opinion which does not seek nor require an answer or response.

4.9.5 The Mayor will invite the relevant Cabinet Member or Committee Chair to give a reply. Such reply shall not exceed three minutes.

4.9.6 Time Limit and Number of Questions

No question or statement shall exceed three minutes. In the event of there being more than one question or statement, the Head of Paid Service will ensure that questions and statements are dealt with in the order received. At the expiry of the 20 minute period, or such period as

may be agreed by the Mayor, or after the reply to the final question or statement, whichever shall first occur, the Council will proceed to the next business.

4.9.7 Record of Questions and Statements

The question or statement and the reply given shall be minuted.

4.9.8 Reference of Question to the Cabinet or a Committee

Unless the Mayor decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question, but any Member may move that a matter raised by a question be referred to the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee. Once seconded, such a motion will be voted on without discussion.

4.9.9 Any question or statement which cannot be dealt with during Public Participation because of lack of time will be dealt with in writing, and recorded in accordance with paragraph 9.6

Training for Mayor-

This Council resolves to amend the Constitution at Part 9 and insert the following paragraph as 9A.1 (F)...

"The Mayor is to attend mandatory training with the Director for Arts, Leisure & Democracy on the Constitution, rules of debate and, the Mayors role in chairing meetings. Such training is to be held prior to the first substantive meeting of the Council following the Annual General Meeting; to ensure that the new Mayor is fully equipt and competent in the professional delivering of Council business".

Following the enactment of point one above, the Mayor for the municipal year 2019/2020 shall be required to undertake the training as set out in the constitutional amendment above by the next Full Council.



Cabinet Report to Council, 4th December, 2019

1. Introduction

This report deals with the Cabinet meetings held on 4th September, 9th October and 13th November, 2019.

It also includes details of any reports from the West Midlands Combined Authority Board meetings of 13th September and 8th November 2019, which have, or may have in the future, a direct impact on NBBC.

2. 4th September, 2019 Cabinet Meeting

a) Planning, Development and Health Portfolio – Councillor N. Phillips
Local Development Scheme Update

A report regarding the above was submitted seeking Cabinet approval on the updated Local Development Scheme (LDS).

Cabinet approved that the timescales identified within the revised LDS are noted and the LDS be approved and published on the Council's website.

b) Housing and Communities Portfolio – Councillor C. Watkins
Homeless Reduction Act 2017 – One Year On

A report regarding the above was submitted to update Cabinet on the impact of the implementation of the Homeless Reduction Act 2017, which commenced in April 2018, one year on, in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Cabinet approved that the content of the report be noted and a further update be brought to Cabinet in July 2020, in order to keep Members informed on progress and achievements in reducing homelessness in the Borough.

c) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Annual Treasury Management Report 2018/19

A report was submitted to inform Cabinet of the results of the Council's Treasury Management Activities for 2018/19 as required by the Prudential Code.

Cabinet approved that it be recommended to Council that the actual 2018/19 Treasury and Prudential Indicators detailed in the report and summarised in Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2018/19 be noted.

d) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Quarterly Budget Monitoring
Report – Q1 2019/20 Update

A report was submitted to Cabinet detailing the forecast outturn position for 2019/20 as at the end of June 2019 for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budgets and updated capital programmes for the year.

Cabinet approved that the forecast outturn position for 2019/20 for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account be noted with regard to the key variances; the variances for the Housing Revenue Account as detailed at Appendix C of the report be approved; and delegated authority be given to the Executive Directors to carry out procurement exercises in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in order to deliver the Capital Programme for both the Housing Revenue Account and the General Fund.

e) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Procurement of Electricity

A report was submitted to Cabinet to seek approval for the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to remain in a service agreement with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) as agents for the procurement of electricity when our current arrangements with them expire at the end of September 2020.

Cabinet approved the continuation of the service agreement with Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) as agents for the procurement of electricity when current arrangements with them expire at the end of September 2020, for the period 1st October 2020 to 30th September 2024.

f) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Procurement of Gas

A report was submitted to Cabinet to seek approval for the Council to renew its service agreement with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) as agents for the procurement of gas until 31st March 2023.

Cabinet approved that Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council continues its service agreement with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) as agents for the procurement of gas until 31st March 2023; and due to the need for the Borough Council to confirm at the earliest opportunity that it wishes to continue its service agreement with ESPO as agents for the procurement of gas, this decision be marked "not for call in" by virtue of its urgency.

g) Recommendation from Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Monitoring delivery of the Borough Plan and consideration of the data around the land supply targets

A recommendation was submitted to Cabinet from the Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting of 9th May 2019 relating to the monitoring of the Local Plan and land supply targets.

Cabinet approved that a yearly monitoring report, including details of spend of Section 106 monies and biodiversity net gain within and external to the sites, be provided to the Panel; training be provided to all members on habitat biodiversity; and a corporate exploration to increase tree planting schemes within the Borough be approved.

h) Housing and Communities Portfolio – Councillor C. Watkins
Temporary Accommodation Provision

A report was submitted to Cabinet to present a proposal to enter into a contract for the provision of temporary accommodation in the private rented sector.

Cabinet approved that the Contract be established, as detailed at section 4 of the report; and the report be marked not for call in due to the timescales involved to put in place the contract and realise the provision of accommodation.

i) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Town Centre Regeneration – Procurement of a Development Partnership

A report was submitted to Cabinet following the announcement on the 26th August that the Council had been shortlisted for the expanded Future High Streets Fund. The report sought Cabinet's approval to carry out a procurement exercise to engage a suitable development partner for the conversion of the Co-op building in Nuneaton Town Centre. This is in order to support the Council's business case for the Future High Street Fund.

Cabinet approved that a procurement process be undertaken in order to engage with a suitable development partner for the regeneration of the Co-op building with the potential to expand this to other sites of the Transforming Nuneaton Masterplan; income and expenditure budgets of £150,000 be created within the Finance and Civic Affairs portfolio to enable the Future High Street Fund business case development grant that is to be awarded to the Borough Council to be spent in the most appropriate way to ensure a comprehensive business case is prepared within the timescales; the report be marked not for call in due to the Government's timescales involved in developing and submitting a business case for the Future High Street Fund; and thanks be expressed to the very hard working officers who were involved in producing our successful bid.

j) Central Services and Refuse Portfolio and Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio - Councillor J Sheppard and Councillor J. A Jackson
Sub Regional Recycling Facility

A report was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval for the Council to continue as a “Partner Council” in a project to deliver a Local Authority owned and operated Material Recycling Facility (MRF) within the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Area.

Cabinet approved that the Borough Council continues to be a Partner Council in the new Local Authority owned and operated Sub Regional Material Recycling Facility as outlined in the report and set out in more detail in the final draft version of “Joint Working Agreement 2” attached at Appendix 1 of the report; a total revenue contribution of £275,000 be approved for feasibility works, of which approximately £138,000 is anticipated to be required in 2019/20 and will be funded from earmarked reserves; a capital loan of up to £3.3m and the purchase of up to £96,000 of shares in the Local Authority owned MRF operating company be approved to allow the new MRF to be built and become operational; it be recommended to Council that the Borough Council’s capital programme and treasury management strategy be appropriately amended, as set out in Appendices 4a and 4b of the report, to allow a capital loan of up to £3.3m to be made up to £96,000 of shares in the Local Authority owned MRF operating company to be purchased to allow the new MRF to be built and become operational; and in order to allow the formal joint procurement process for the construction and operation of the Sub Regional MRF to commence as soon as possible the report be marked “not for call in”.

3. 9th October, 2019 Cabinet Meeting

a) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Medium Term Financial Plan Interim Update – 2019-23

A report was submitted to Cabinet presenting an interim update of the Council’s Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), covering revenue and capital forecasts for 2019-23. A further update of the Plan would need to be carried out when further information on local government funding post 2021 was available.

Cabinet approved that the updated Medium Term Financial forecast for 2019-23 and the actions required to close the funding gap and maintain a prudent level of reserves, be noted; and a more comprehensive update of the MTFP is undertaken and reported to Cabinet once further information on the Fair Funding Review, Business Rates Review and longer term Spending Review become available.

b) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Quarterly Review of Strategic Performance Report (First Quarter 2019/20)

A strategic performance report and commentary was submitted to provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's position for Quarter 1 2019/20 under the following key categories:

- Finance
- People and Service Delivery
- Processes
- Improvement

Cabinet approved that the report be noted.

4. 13th November, 2019 Cabinet Meeting

a) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Draft Bedworth Town Centre Visioning Document – Public Consultation

A report was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval for an eight week consultation exercise to take place in order to seek views on the draft Bedworth Town Centre Visioning Document, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, which had been jointly funded by the Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council and produced by IDP Associates.

Cabinet approved that the draft Bedworth Town Centre Visioning document be noted; delegated authority be given to the Executive Director – Operations, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Civic Affairs, to undertake an eight week public consultation exercise on the draft Bedworth Town Centre Visioning Document, attached as Appendix 1 to the report; and in order to allow an eight week public consultation exercise to commence as soon as possible, this report be marked 'not for call in'.

b) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Procurement of Election Printing

A report was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval to carry out a procurement exercise through the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) process in conjunction with North Warwickshire Borough Council, for the provision of election printing.

Cabinet approved that the Director – Arts, Leisure and Democracy undertake a procurement exercise in conjunction with North Warwickshire Borough Council for the provision of election printing.

c) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Local Council Tax Support

A report was submitted presenting to Cabinet the outcome of the recent public consultation and to request that Cabinet determine the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21 to be recommended to Council for approval.

Cabinet approved that the consultation responses set out at section 5 and Appendices A and B of the report, be noted; Cabinet recommend to Council that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for April 2020 onwards reduces the minimal contribution required from 20% to 15%, the technical changes set out in section 5.2. of the document be approved, and that the resultant costs as set out in the report be reflected in the Council Taxbase for 2020/21; the Executive Director – Resources be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the scheme in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Civic Affairs; and as the recommendations from this report require Council approval on the 4th December, this report be marked 'not for call in' on the grounds of urgency.

d) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Draft General Fund and HRA Budgets 2020/21

A report was submitted to Cabinet presenting the draft General Fund budget position for 2020/21, along with a number of savings proposals to ensure a balanced and sustainable budget be maintained. The report also gave an update on the HRS budget process for 2020/21.

Cabinet approved that the draft General Fund budget position for 2020/21, as set out at section 3.18 of the report, be noted; the savings proposed for 2020/21, as set out at section 3.19 of the report, be approved and the remaining budget deficit for 2020/21 be noted; delegated authority be granted to the Director – Housing and Communities to undertake a consultation exercise under the Warwickshire Compact to review contributions to voluntary organisations; due to the budget implications and the timescales required to either implement the savings at 3.19 or seek alternative savings, that the item be marked not for call-in; and to comply with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules in Part 4 C of the Council's Constitution, the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels be notified of the budget proposals, as set out in paragraph 3.23 of the report.

e) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Treasury Management 2019/20 Mid Year Review

A report was submitted to present to Cabinet a mid year review of the treasury management activities of the Council, to meet the requirements of both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

It was approved that Cabinet recommend to Council that the report be noted per the requirements of the CIPFA Code; the changes to the prudential indicators as detailed within the report and summarised at Appendix A be approved; and the updated General Fund Capital Programme at Appendix B be approved.

f) Finance and Civic Affairs Portfolio – Councillor J. Jackson
Quarterly Review of Strategic Performance Report (second quarter 2019/20)

A report was submitted to provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's position for Quarter Two of 2019/20, under the following key categories:

- Finance
- People and Service Delivery
- Processes
- Improvement

Cabinet approved that the Strategic Performance Report, addressing issues arising and potential improvement actions, be noted.

g) Recommendation from Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel
I13 Monitoring of the Grounds Maintenance Contract – 12th September, 2019

The Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel recommended to Cabinet that Glendale Grounds Maintenance be requested to arrange a demonstration for all Members of the Council, of its grounds maintenance microsite at the earliest opportunity. Councillor Jackson informed Cabinet that this demonstration had already been scheduled for Wednesday, 27th November, 2019 commencing at 6 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Cabinet approved that the date of the demonstration be noted.

h) Recommendation from Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel
I15 Local Council Tax Support Scheme – 12th September, 2019

The Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel recommended to Cabinet that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme report submitted to Cabinet with the final proposals, together with any comments made by Cabinet, be brought back to the Panel at its meeting on 14th November, 2019.

Cabinet approved that the final report, as attached at Agenda Item No. 8, and comments from Cabinet be fed back to the Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 14th November, 2019.

i) Recommendation from Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel
118 Work Programme 2019/2020 – 12th September 2019

The Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel recommended to Cabinet that the Constitution Review Working Party consider ways of engaging further with co-opted members in Council related matters.

Cabinet approved that the Constitution Review Working Party consider ways of engaging further with co-opted members in Council related matters.

5. **West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA)**

5.1 The WMCA Board meeting of 13th September 2019 covered the following items which have, or may have in the future, a direct impact on NBBC:

- a) A financial monitoring report that provided a summary of the revenue and capital spend against approved budget.
This showed a year to date position at the end of July of a minor £0.003m favourable variance from budget. This consisted of a favourable variance of £0.143m within transport largely due to staffing variations and lower infrastructure costs than budget, offset by an adverse variance of (£0.140m) within the operational budget. This adverse position being due to lower investment income than budgeted.

Following the first reforecast of the year there was an overall end of financial year adverse variance from budget projection of (£0.627m) for 2019/20. This consisted of an adverse variance of (£0.664m) within the operational budget mainly due to lower investment income than budgeted offset by a minor favourable variance of £0.037m within Transport Activities.

As part of WMCA financial planning, the Director of Finance advised that an organisation operational efficiency review is being undertaken with the aim of negating this adverse forecast revenue position fully during the current financial year and regular updates will be provided in future reports.

5.2 The WMCA Board meeting of 8th November September 2019 covered the following items which have, or may have in the future, a direct impact on NBBC:

- a) A report that presented a summary of progress against the actions and activity set out in the WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20. The Annual Plan 2019/20 sets out the priorities of the WMCA, provides a strategic context for the WMCA as an organisation, and articulates what is being delivered and planned across each of the portfolios of:
- Transport
 - Housing & Land □ Productivity & Skills
 - Economy & Innovation
 - Environment, Energy, HS2

- Public Service Reform & Social Economy
- Culture & Digital
- Wellbeing
- Inclusive Communities

Overall there is good progress against the WMCA delivery milestones and activities set out in the Annual Plan with most milestones having been met or being on target to be met.

- b) A financial monitoring report that provided a summary of the revenue and capital spend against approved budget. This showed a year to date position at the end of September of a £0.250m adverse variance from budget. This consisted of a favourable variance of £0.144m within Transport, again largely due to staffing variations and lower infrastructure costs than budget, although this was partly offset by increased cost pressures within Subsidised Bus activities following the collapse of ATG. The combined favourable Transport variance was offset by an adverse variance of (£0.394m) within the Operational budget again due to lower investment income than budgeted.

There has been no change in the full year forecast position during September.

- c) The minutes of the Housing and Land Delivery Board held on Monday 30 September 2019
- d) The minutes of the Investment Board held on Monday 21 October 2019, at which the award of £1,175,000 from the WMCA Brownfield Land Fund was approved towards the cost of land remediation, asbestos removal and viability for the Abbey Street regeneration project.,

6. Conclusion

This report is presented on behalf of Cabinet, and, as always, my colleagues and I are only too happy to take any questions in relation to this report.

Councillor J.A. Jackson
Leader of the Council on behalf of Cabinet

Agenda item: 11.

COUNCIL

Report Summary Sheet

Date: 4 December 2019
Subject: **Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places**
Portfolio: Finance and Civic Affairs [Councillor J. A. Jackson]
From: Returning Officer

Summary: To inform members of the comments received from the recent consultation exercise in respect of polling district and polling places and identifies the responses received.

Recommendation:

It is recommend that:

- (a) the schedule of polling districts and polling places as amended attached at Appendix C to the report be approved and published in accordance with the statutory requirements;
- (b) the Returning Officer be asked to consider the additional proposal arising from the consultation and a further report outlining the conclusions be brought to a future meeting of Council

Reasons: The review is statutory requirement under EAA 2013

- Options:**
- 1. Comply with statutory requirement
 - 2. Not to comply with the statutory requirement

Subject to call-in: Yes

Forward plan: No.

Delivering our Future Theme: 3

Delivering our Future Priority Aim 1 Priority 4

Relevant statutes or policy: EAA 2013

Equal opportunity implications:
No direct equal opportunities implications.

Human resources implications:
No direct human resources implications.

Financial implications: None

Health Inequalities Implications:

The review had regard for the equality of access and the needs of voters

Section 17 - Crime and Disorder Implications:

No direct Section 17 – Crime and Disorder implications.

Risk management implications:

None

Environmental implications:
None

Legal implications: The review must be completed by 31 January 2020

Contact details:

Debbie de Ville
Head of Elections
Telephone No. 02476 37 6221

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Council – 4 December 2019

From: Returning Officer [Simone Hines]

Subject: **Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places**

Portfolio: Finance and Civic Affairs [Councillor J. A. Jackson]

1. Purpose of Report

Under the Electoral Administration Act 2013 the Council is required to carry out a review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations by 31st January 2020.

What is the difference between a polling district, a polling place and a polling station?

A polling district is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area, i.e. a UK Parliamentary constituency, a European Parliamentary electoral region, a ward or an electoral division.

A polling place is a geographical area in which a polling station is located. However, as there is no legal definition of what a polling place is the geographical area could be defined as tightly as a particular building or as widely as the entire polling district.

A polling station is the actual area where the process of voting takes place, and must be located within the polling place designated for the particular polling district.

- 3.2 The council is required to provide polling stations throughout its area for use at election time and they should be convenient and accessible for use by the electorate. The Returning Officer has the authority (contained in statute) to require schools to make themselves available for use as a polling station.
- 3.3 However, the Council has no such power in respect of private premises and can only request the use of privately owned facilities.
- 3.4 In an ideal world, electoral administrators would have the choice of a range of fully accessible buildings conveniently located for the electors in the area. In practice however, this not always the case and there

may be little choice available. If it is necessary to use a place where access is not ideal then the Returning Officer has a duty to make reasonable adjustments to provide safe access for the electors.

- 3.5 The current scheme has been in place since the last review. The majority of electors are happy with the location and suitability of their polling place and station. It is not tenable financially or from an accessibility point of view to move to temporary stations when a perfectly suitable building is currently being used within the polling district. In fact, it is the Electoral Commission's view that the use of temporary stations should be avoided if at all possible.

4.1 **The Process**

- 4.2 The process of undertaking the review and who should be consulted are determined by legislation

- 4.3 The consultation for the review commenced on 17 July 2019 and concluded on 20 September 2019. A public notice and full details of the review were placed on the Council's website.

- 4.4 The Acting Returning Officers for the parliamentary constituencies partly contained within the Borough were consulted on the Council's proposals and invited to make comments on them. Neither had any comments.

5. **Responses to Consultation**

- 5.1 Attached Appendix A(1) and Appendix A(2) are the results from the survey. Appendix B is comments received from disability groups. Appendix C list of polling stations

6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 In line with the Polling Station Review, an Equality Analysis was carried out on the results & comments of the review to ensure the Council is complying with its requirements under the Public Sector Equality Duty and ensure the service had no adverse impact on any of the Protected Characteristics.

- 6.2 Following this assessment, there were a few comments received suggesting minor amendments to Polling Stations, however these did not suggest adverse impact due to a Protected Characteristic.

- 6.3 The Analysis concluded that the Boroughs Polling stations are fit for purpose. The consultation identified no major issues in relation to any of the Protected Characteristics. The service is accessible and provides various mechanisms to ensure people can vote at a Polling Station.

6.4 The Polling Station service should be continued as standard, with minor amendments being incorporated, considered and introduced as appropriate.

6.5 Equality considerations will be continually considered throughout the Elections process as Presiding Officers are required to identify any accessibility issues at their Polling Stations along with any other areas of concern.

7. **Proposed Change**

7.1 From May 2019 the Kumon Centre, Marlborough Road has closed, therefore it is proposed to change the polling station to Abbey Sikh Community Centre, Unit 1, Marlborough Road, Nuneaton.

8. **Recommendations**

8.1 The schedule of polling districts and polling places as amended attached at Appendix C to the report be approved and published in accordance with the statutory requirements; and

8.2 the Returning Officer be asked to consider the additional proposal arising from the consultation and a further report outlining the conclusions be brought to a future meeting of Council

Simone Hines
Returning Officer

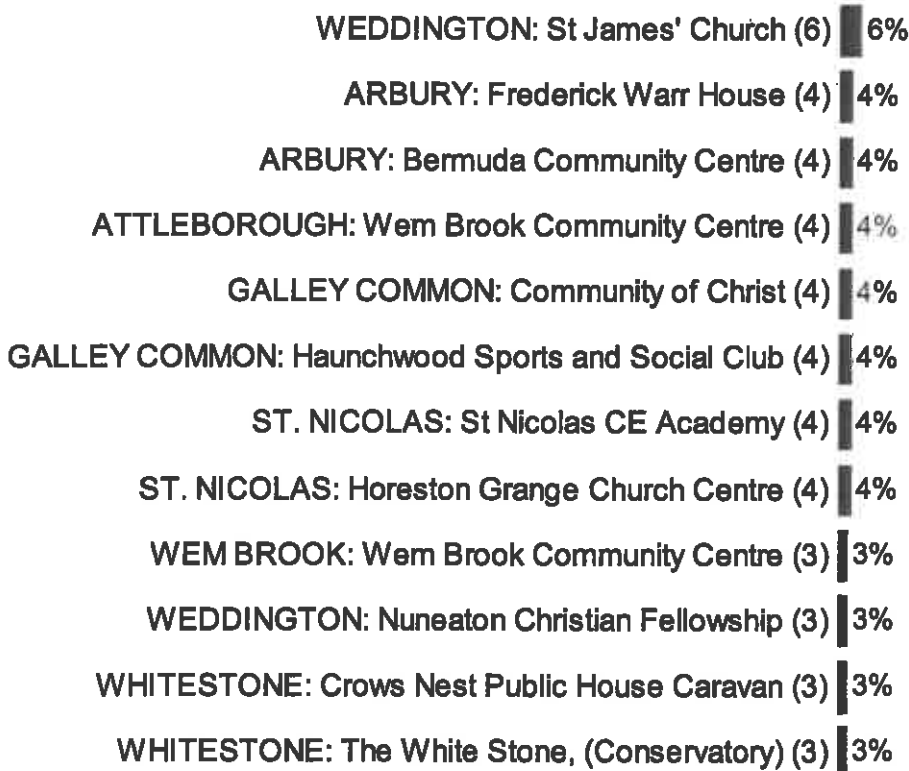
Polling Station Review 2019

Polling Station Review 2019

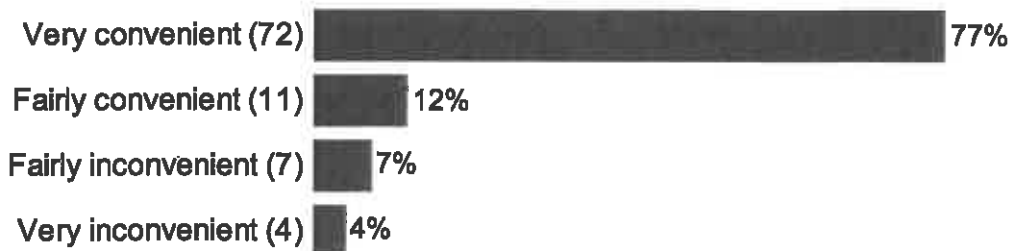
This report was generated on 23/09/19. Overall 94 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Polling station

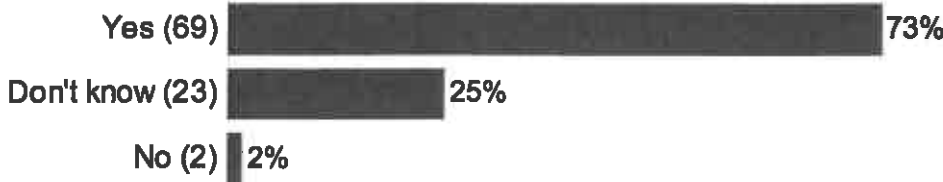


How convenient is the location of your polling station?

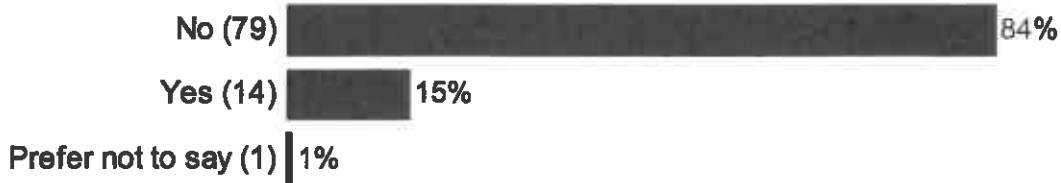


Polling Station Review 2019

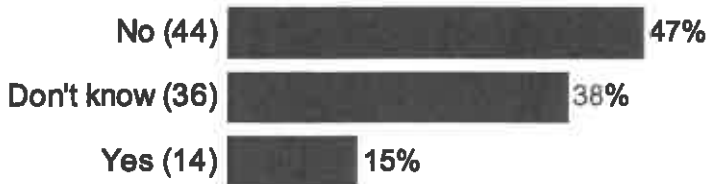
Is there disabled access to the polling place?



Do you have a disability?



Are there more suitable premises within the same polling district that could potentially be used?



If yes, please specify

The School children should not suffer because of an election and this is not an ideal place for people in the Kingswood Ward.

Church hall on the green maybe

Bermuda Phoenix Community Centre is closer to our estate (Heritage Park) as well as Sargasso Way and Bermuda Road from Heath End Road. It would also ease the load on Fred Warr House which can get overwhelmed in the evening.

I live within 2 minutes of Bermuda Community centre and my polling station is Frederwick Warr House some 10-15 mins away.

The CHESS centre

Edward St Day Centre

Wembrook community centre. Arches pub. Jubilee sports centre, Pingles, Pingles stadium

Eddie Miller Court

I don't think any schools should be closed for polling at all. Plenty of other places that can be used.

No schools should be used, absolutely no reason for this!

Blackatree Court

Church hall on Church Lane. Wouldn't have to close the school then

Why ask this question if the existing premises is suitable? Don't count this as a yes!

Polling Station Review 2019

If yes, please specify

i dont whether there is anything but there is nowhere else to put any comments. When the school is open and they lock the gates to the car park, this makes it very difficult to get into the polling station as we have to park on the road which is a very thin road with barely room for cars to get past when there are parked cars there but we have no choice as there is nowhere else to go. The car park should be available if the school is going to be the polling station

Oakwood Gardens, only for half of the polling districts covered by Alderman Gee Hall, you will find break down in my submission.

Group or organisation you represent:

Residents	Nuneaton and Bedworth Brexit Party
Arbury Ward Labour Party	None
Wem Brook In Focus	NBBC
Individual	

DE-VILLE Debbie

From: SHEPPARD Jill
Sent: 05 August 2019 13:43
To: DE-VILLE Debbie
Subject: polling station review

Debbie

Abbey councillors would like to add an additional polling station using the church corner of fife st and Clarence st
To take in part of queens rd upper, high st pool bank st, and part of ABF Clarence st, duke st little duke st fife st
mount st mount st passage and York st

The reason is only a small amount vote from those areas, residents have told us, as they have to cross very busy
roads with pedestrian lights a long way from where the polling station is situated priory court,

The church building is an ideal location

Regards jill and nell

DE-VILLE Debbie

From: Gran, Sebastian <seb.gran@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 September 2019 14:47
To: Elections
Subject: Re: Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places

Dear Debbie

Please find my response to this review.

I would recommend amalgamating polling districts along county division boundaries, for example in Heath, Part of HEE and part of HEF which share polling stations are split across bedworth west and north.

It would make sense for the split parts to become new polling districts, for example HEE being the name of the polling district that votes at Newdigate School within bedworth north and HEF being the polling district that votes at newdigate school within bedworth west.

Likewise, small polling districts such as SLD and SLF in slough ward which vote at alderman gee hall but are within bedworth north could merge with SLH as they share both a division and a polling station with each other. These are just examples, but abolishing and merging tiny polling districts could help from an administrative point of view.

I hope this helps

Cllr. Seb Gran

DE-VILLE Debbie

From: Longden, Barry <barry.longden@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 August 2019 22:15
To: Elections; WATKINS Christopher; Caroline Phillips
Subject: Re: Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places

Hi
In Kingswood Ward there is a problem on Grove Farm.
People living at the top end of the estate, Ansley Rd, Brendon Way, Thorntons Way, Cromdale Close, will not walk down to the Community Centre on Kingswood Rd, and they certainly won't walk back up, especially anyone with walking difficulty.
There was Polling Station outside Park Lane School, but it was a portacabin and not DDA compliant. I understand that the Banardo Childrens Centre located in Park Lane will be willing to host elections. On this basis I request that this option be brought into use for the 2020 elections.
We may need to met to determine the extent of the coverage as not all properties mentioned above need to be shifted to the new station if it goes ahead.
Best regards
Barry

To whom it may concern,

Thank – you for giving me the opportunity to respond to the Polling District review which is currently being carried out by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. I am responding to this consultation as the Ward Councillor for the Bedworth Slough Ward.

Firstly, the three polling stations within my ward are convenient for members of the public. They are easily accessible, provide disabled access, offer car parking near to the polling station and also have toilets available for the electorate. However, in order to provide an even better service for our residents and inevitably to increase voter turnout, there are a number of recommendations I wish to make to this Consultation.

Slough Ward-

Regarding to polling districts SLG (2) and SLD (1), many residents have state they find it difficult to reach Alderman Gee Hall. Therefore, I would like to make a suggestion that the polling station for these two polling districts be moved to Oakwood Gardens Housing Complex on Margaret Avenue. Such move would make It easier for elderly residents in Oakwood Gardens itself and the surround streets (such as Linden Lea) to reach the polling station to vote.

Bede Ward-

At present residents in the BEH polling district, areas like the Gatehouse and Gibson Crescent vote at the Bedworth Civic Hall. It would make far more sense for this polling district to be covered by the Grove Housing Complex on Tower Road. The Grove is already used as a polling station for other polling districts within the Bede Ward. Residents in this polling district will most probably have to drive or walk past the Grove complex to reach the Civic Hall. In addition, if you go to vote at the Civic Hall, voters will need to pay £1 to park, the Grove Housing complex offers free parking. Therefore, I believe it makes common sense for the BEH polling district to use the Grove Housing complex as its polling station.

Poplar Ward-

Regarding polling district POC in the Poplar Ward, at present residents in this polling district use the Bedworth Civic Hall as a polling station. With similarly reasons to the BEH district, it would make far more sense for this polling district to use the Pine Tree Community Library on Pine Tree Road, this polling station is used currently for polling districts in the Bede ward. It would make it far easier for residents on streets such as Acacia Crescent and Tewkesbury Drive to get to the Pine Tree Community Library both by foot and by car. In addition, if you go to vote at the Civic Hall, voters will need to pay £1 to park. The Pine Tree Community library offers free parking.

Heath Ward-

Polling district HEA is awkwardly shaped, there may be historical reasons for this. However, elderly residents in Bede village currently find it difficult to walk down to Goodyers End Lane to get to Goodyers End Primary School. It would make far more sense to use Bede Village itself as a polling station. Firstly, using the Bede Village communal rooms over a School

means less disruption to parents who have to find alternative arrangements for children on election days. Secondly, Bede Village would provide parking, where at present parking around Goodyers End Primary school is an increasing issue for local residents. I feel the Elections Department should explore Bede Village as a potential new location for a polling station.

I hope you will consider some of the ideas I have presented in this document, and look forward to the final report being sent to Full Council in December. I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank the staff in the Elections Department for their continued hard work.

Yours sincerely,

(Originally signed)

**Councillor Kyle Evans,
Bedworth Slough Ward,
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council.**

APPENDIX A2.

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q5a
Polling station	How convenient is the location of your polling	Is there disabled access to the polling	Do you have a disability?	Are there more suitable premises	If yes, please specify
KINGSWOOD: Stockingford Primary School	Fairly inconvenient	Yes	No	Yes	The School children should not suffer because of an election and this is not an ideal place for people in the
CAMP HILL: Craddock Court	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
BARPOOL: Byford Court	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WEM BROOK: All Saints CE Primary School	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	Yes	
GALLEY COMMON: Haunchwood Sports and Social Club	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ATTLEBOROUGH: Wem Brook Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	Yes	Church hall on the green maybe
WEDDINGTON: Milby Primary School	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ARBURY: Bermuda Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WEM BROOK: Middlemarch Foundation School	Fairly convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
ARBURY: Bermuda Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
CAMP HILL: Craddock Court	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
KINGSWOOD: St Paul's Church Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WHITESTONE: The White Stone, (Conservatory)	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
					Bermuda Phoenix Community Centre is closer to our estate (Heritage Park) as well as Sargasso Way and Bermuda Road from Heath End Road. It would also ease the load on Fred Warr House which can get overwhelmed
ARBURY: Frederick Warr House	Fairly convenient	Yes	No	Yes	
ST. NICOLAS: Horeston Grange Church Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WEM BROOK: Chilvers Coton Community Infant School	Fairly convenient	Yes	No	No	
WHITESTONE: Whitestone Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ABBEY: Hatters Space Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ABBEY: Abbey CE Infant School	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
					I live within 2 minutes of Bermuda Community centre and my polling station is Frederick Warr House some 10-15
ARBURY: Frederick Warr House	Fairly inconvenient	Yes	Yes	Don't know	
KINGSWOOD: Grove Farm Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ABBEY: Priory Court	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
ST. NICOLAS: Horeston Grange Church Centre	Very convenient	Don't know	Prefer not to say	Don't know	
WHITESTONE: The White Stone, (Conservatory)	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
CAMP HILL: Camp Hill Mission Church Room	Very convenient	Yes	No	Yes	The CHESS centre
ARBURY: Bermuda Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ARBURY: The Nuneaton Academy	Fairly convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
CAMP HILL: Camp Hill Mission Church Room	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
EXHALL: Alwynne Freeman Court	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ST. NICOLAS: North Warks & Hinckley College, (Main Entrance)	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
BEDE: Pine Tree Centre	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	Don't know	
WHITESTONE: The White Stone, (Conservatory)	Very inconvenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
ABBEY: Nuneaton Kumon Study Centre	Fairly inconvenient	Yes	No	Yes	Edward St Day Centre
WEM BROOK: Middlemarch Foundation School	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Yes	Wembrook community centre. Arches pub. Jubilee sports centre, Pingles, Pingles stadium
GALLEY COMMON: Haunchwood Sports and Social Club	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: St James' Church	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: Higham Lane School (Shanklin Drive Entrance)	Very inconvenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
GALLEY COMMON: Community of Christ	Very convenient	Don't know	No	No	
GALLEY COMMON: Community of Christ	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
GALLEY COMMON: Haunchwood Sports and Social Club	Fairly convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
BEDE: The Civic Hall	Fairly inconvenient	Yes	No	Yes	Eddie Miller Court
BULKINGTON: Bulkington Village Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
GALLEY COMMON: Community of Christ	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
HEATH: Bedworth Heath Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	Yes	
WEM BROOK: Wem Brook Community Centre	Very inconvenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	I don't think any schools should be closed for polling at all. Plenty of other places that can be used.

WEDDINGTON: Nuneaton Christian Fellowship	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
ABBEY: The Veterans Contact Point - The Horsa Building	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
CAMP HILL: Trafford Drive/Bucks Hill Caravan	Very convenient	Don't know	No	No	No schools should be used, absolutely no reason for this!
ST. NICOLAS: Horeston Grange Church Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WHITESTONE: Whitestone Community Centre	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
BARPOOL: Byford Court	Very convenient	Yes	No	Yes	Blackatree Court
SLOUGH: Catherine Ward Hall	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WHITESTONE: Crows Nest Public House Caravan	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ST. NICOLAS: St Nicolas CE Academy	Fairly convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: St James' Church	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
BEDE: Collycroft Methodist Chapel	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ARBURY: Frederick Warr House	Fairly convenient	Yes	Yes	Don't know	
ST. NICOLAS: St Nicolas CE Academy	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	No	
ATTLEBOROUGH: Wem Brook Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
BARPOOL: Sunnyside Court	Very convenient	No	No	Don't know	
ARBURY: The Nuneaton Academy	Very convenient	Don't know	No	No	
ATTLEBOROUGH: Wem Brook Community Centre	Fairly inconvenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
ATTLEBOROUGH: James Diskin Court	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	No	
WHITESTONE: Crows Nest Public House Caravan	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: Nuneaton Christian Fellowship	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
ST. NICOLAS: Horeston Grange Church Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
WHITESTONE: Crows Nest Public House Caravan	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: St James' Church	Very convenient	Don't know	No	No	
WEDDINGTON: Weddington Primary School	Very convenient	Yes	No	Yes	Church hall on Church Lane. Wouldn't have to close the school then
WEDDINGTON: St James' Church	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: Nuneaton Christian Fellowship	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ABBEY: Stan Williams Court	Fairly convenient	Yes	Yes	Yes	Why ask this question if the existing premises is suitable?
ST. NICOLAS: St Nicolas CE Academy	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	Don't count this as a yes!
WEDDINGTON: Higham Lane School (Shanklin Drive Entrance)	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
GALLEY COMMON: Haunchwood Sports and Social Club	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	No	
KINGSWOOD: Stockingford Primary School	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
ST. NICOLAS: St Nicolas CE Academy	Fairly convenient	Yes	Yes	Yes	
GALLEY COMMON: Community of Christ	Fairly inconvenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
BARPOOL: Sunnyside Court	Very inconvenient	Yes	Yes	Don't know	
WEM BROOK: All Saints CE Primary School	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	No	
WEM BROOK: Wem Brook Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	No	
BULKINGTON: Oakham Hall (Sheltered Housing)	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	
WHITESTONE: Whitestone Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	Yes	No	
KINGSWOOD: St Paul's Church Community Centre	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
ATTLEBOROUGH: Wem Brook Community Centre	Fairly convenient	Don't know	No	No	
WEDDINGTON: St James' Church	Fairly convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know	
WEDDINGTON: St James' Church	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know	
WEM BROOK: Wem Brook Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No	

i dont whether there is anything but there is nowhere else to put any comments. When the school is open and they lock the gates to the car park, this makes it very difficult to get into the polling station as we have to park on the road which is a very thin road with barely room for cars to get past when there are parked cars there but we have no choice as there is nowhere else to go. The car park should be available if the school is going to be the polling station

ARBURY: Frederick Warr House	Very convenient	Yes	No	No
ARBURY: Bermuda Community Centre	Very convenient	Yes	No	No
ABBEY: Stan Williams Court	Very convenient	Yes	No	Don't know
POPLAR: Exhall Cedars Infant School	Very convenient	Don't know	No	Don't know
SLOUGH: Alderman Gee Hall	Fairly inconvenient	Yes	No	Yes
KINGSWOOD: Grove Farm Community Centre	Very convenient	No	No	No

Oakwood Gardens, only for half of the polling districts covered by Alderman Gee Hall, you will find break down in my submission.

Q1 Polling station

ST NICOLAS SCHOOL WINDERMERE AVENUE

Q2 How convenient is the location of your polling station?

- Very convenient
- Fairly convenient
- Fairly inconvenient
- Very inconvenient

Q3 Is there disabled access to the polling place?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q4 Do you have a disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q5 Are there more suitable premises within the same polling district that could potentially be used?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes, please specify

AMBLESIDE CLUB

The following information is not mandatory, but if you wish to be kept informed and view comments from the Electoral Registration Officer, you need to provide an email address.

Q6 Name:

[Empty text box for Name]

Q7 Email:

[Empty text box for Email]

Q8 Group or organisation you represent:

[Empty text box for Group or organisation]

Thank you for completing the survey.

Q1 Polling station

CATHOLIC HALL

Q2 How convenient is the location of your polling station?

- Very convenient
- Fairly convenient
- Fairly inconvenient
- Very inconvenient

Q3 Is there disabled access to the polling place?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q4 Do you have a disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q5 Are there more suitable premises within the same polling district that could potentially be used?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes, please specify

The following information is **not** mandatory, but if you wish to be kept informed and view comments from the Electoral Registration Officer, you need to provide an email address.

Q6 Name:

Q7 Email:

Q8 Group or organisation you represent:

Thank you for completing the survey.

Q1 Polling station

ATTLEBOROUGH

Q2 How convenient is the location of your polling station?

- Very convenient
- Fairly convenient
- Fairly inconvenient
- Very inconvenient

Q3 Is there disabled access to the polling place?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q4 Do you have a disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q5 Are there more suitable premises within the same polling district that could potentially be used?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes, please specify

The following information is **not** mandatory, but if you wish to be kept informed and view comments from the Electoral Registration Officer, you need to provide an email address.

Q6 Name:

Q7 Email:

Q8 Group or organisation you represent:

Thank you for completing the survey.

Q1 Polling station

CATHOLIC HALL

Q2 How convenient is the location of your polling station?

- Very convenient
 Fairly convenient
 Fairly inconvenient
 Very inconvenient

Q3 Is there disabled access to the polling place?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

Q4 Do you have a disability?

- Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

Q5 Are there more suitable premises within the same polling district that could potentially be used?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

If yes, please specify

The following information is **not** mandatory, but if you wish to be kept informed and view comments from the Electoral Registration Officer, you need to provide an email address.

Q6 Name:

Q7 Email:

Q8 Group or organisation you represent:

Thank you for completing the survey.

List of polling stations – Nuneaton and Bedworth wards

Wards	District(s)	Polling Place
Abbey	ABA	Abbey CE Infant School, Aston Road
Abbey	ABB	Hatters Space Community Centre, Upper Abbey Street
Abbey	ABC(1),ABC(2)	Stan Williams Court, Glebe Road
Abbey	ABD	Abbey Sikh Community Centre, Unit 1, Marlborough Road
Abbey	ABE	The Veterans Contact Point - The Horsa Building, Bentley Road
Abbey	ABF	Priory Court, Countess Road/Earls Road
Arbury	ARA,ARB	The Nuneaton Academy (Reception), Radnor Drive
Arbury	ARC,ARD	Glendale Infant School, Skye Close
Arbury	ARE,ARF,ARG	Frederick Warr House, Orkney Close
Arbury	ARH	Bermuda Community Centre, Bermuda Road
Attleborough	ATA,ATB	Wem Brook Community Centre, Donnithorne Avenue
Attleborough	ATC	Hall End Housing Complex, Hall End
Attleborough	ATD(1),ATD(2),ATE	James Diskin Court, Highfield Road
Attleborough	ATF,ATG	Whitestone Community Centre, Magyar Crescent
Barpool	BAA,BAD	Stockingford Community Centre, Haunchwood Road
Barpool	BAB,BAC	Byford Court, Byford Street
Barpool	BAE,BAF	Sunnyside Court, Croft Road
Barpool	BAG	Croft Junior School, Northumberland Avenue
Barpool	BAH,BAI	Jubilee Centre, Greenmoor Road
Bede	BEA,BED	Pine Tree Centre, Pine Tree Road
Bede	BEB	The Grove Housing Complex, The Grove
Bede	BEC	Collycroft Methodist Chapel, Orchard Street
Bede	BEE,BEF	The Canons C of E Primary School, Derwent Road
Bede	BEG	Eddie Miller Court, Tower Road
Bede	BEH,BEI	The Civic Hall, High Street, Bedworth
Bulkington	BUA	Catholic Parish Hall -Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Weston Lane
Bulkington	BUB	St James CE Junior School, Barbridge Road
Bulkington	BUC	Oakham Hall (Sheltered Housing), Oakham Crescent
Bulkington	BUD	Bulkington Village Centre, School Road
Bulkington	BUE	Leonard Perkins House, Elm Tree Road
Bulkington	BUF	Corner House Hotel Caravan, Corner House Hotel, 454 Nuneaton Road

List of polling stations – Nuneaton and Bedworth wards

Camp Hill	CHA	Trafford Drive/Bucks Hill Caravan, Trafford Drive/Bucks Hill
Camp Hill	CHB,CHC	Craddock Court, Craddock Drive
Camp Hill	CHD,CHE	Camp Hill Mission Church Room, Cedar Road
Camp Hill	CHF	Windsor Court, Queen Elizabeth Road
Camp Hill	CHG	Camp Hill Primary School, Hall - Early Years Centre, Hollystitches Road
Exhall	EXA,EXB	Ash Green School, Ash Green Lane
Exhall	EXC	Keresley Village Community Centre, Howat Road
Exhall	EXD	Alwynne Freeman Court, Somers Road
Exhall	EXE	John Haynes Court, School Lane
Exhall	EXF	Armson Road/Butler Crescent Caravan, Armson Road/Butler Crescent
Galley Common	GCA,GCB	Community of Christ, Whittleford Road
Galley Common	GCC,GCD	Haunchwood Sports & Social Club, Valley Road, Galley Common
Galley Common	GCE,GCF	Community of Christ, Whittleford Road
Heath	HEA,HEB	Goodyers End Primary School, Bowling Green Lane
Heath	HEC	Bedworth Heath Nursery School, Glebe Avenue
Heath	HED(1),HED(2)	Bedworth Heath Community Centre, 181 Smorrall Lane
Heath	HEE(1),HEE(2),HEF(1),HEF(2)	Newdigate Primary School, Anderton Road
Kingswood	KIA,KIB	St Paul's Church Community Centre, St Paul's Church, Church Road
Kingswood	KIC	Grove Farm Community Centre, Kingswood Road
Kingswood	KID,KIF	Stockingford Primary School, Cross Street
Kingswood	KIE	Stockingford Community Centre, Haunchwood Road
Poplar	POA,POC	The Civic Hall, High Street, Bedworth
Poplar	POB	All Saints CE Infant School, The Priors, off Mitchell Road
Poplar	POD	Poets Corner Housing Complex, Drayton Road
Poplar	POE	Hawkesbury Village Meeting Place, entrance via the Boat Inn, Blackhorse Road
Poplar	POF,POG	Exhall Cedars Infant School, Trenance Road
Slough	SLA,SLB,SLE	Catherine Ward Hall, Mill Terrace
Slough	SLC	Woodlands Working Mens` Club, Woodlands Road
Slough	SLD(1),SLD(2),SLF,SLG(1),SLG(2)	Alderman Gee Hall, Newdigate Road
Slough	SLH	Alderman Gee Hall, Newdigate Road
St Nicolas	SNA	Etone Sports Centre, Leicester Road

List of polling stations – Nuneaton and Bedworth wards

St Nicolas	SNB(1),SNB(2)	North Warks & Hinckley College, (Main Entrance), Hinckley Road
St Nicolas	SNC,SND	St Nicolas CE Academy, Windermere Avenue
St Nicolas	SNE,SNG	Horeston Grange Church Centre, Camborne Drive
St Nicolas	SNF	North Warks & Hinckley College, (Main Entrance), Hinckley Road
Wem Brook	WBA	Middlemarch Foundation School, College Street
Wem Brook	WBB	Chilvers Coton Community Infant School, Fitton Street
Wem Brook	WBC	Chilvers Coton Community Infant School, Fitton Street
Wem Brook	WBD	All Saints CE Primary School, Knebley Crescent
Wem Brook	WBE,WBF,WBG	Wem Brook Community Centre, Donnithorne Avenue
Weddington	WEA	Milby Primary School, Milby Drive
Weddington	WEB,WEC	Nuneaton Christian Fellowship, 58 Pallett Drive, St. Nicolas Park Estate
Weddington	WED	St James Church, Church Lane, Weddington
Weddington	WEE	Weddington Primary School, Winchester Avenue
Weddington	WEF,WEG	Higham Lane School, [Shanklin Drive Entrance]
Whitestone	WHA	Crows Nest Public House Caravan, Crows Nest Public House, Crowhill Road
Whitestone	WHB	Portia Close Caravan, Portia Close
Whitestone	WHC(1),WHC(2)	The White Stone, [Conservatory], Meadowside
Whitestone	WHD,WHE	Whitestone Community Centre, Magyar Crescent

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Council – 4th December 2019

From: Executive Director – Operations, and
Executive Director - Resources

Subject: Overseeing and Scrutinising the Exercise of the Borough Council's Shareholding in, and the Establishment and Operation of, the Local Authority Owned and Operated Sub-Regional Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)

Portfolio: Central Services and Refuse [Councillor J Sheppard]

**Delivering our
Future Theme:** 1, 2 and 3

**Delivering our
Future Priority:** 1.4, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report presents suggestions for establishing a robust way for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to scrutinise and oversee the establishment and operation of the local authority owned and operated Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) located in Coventry, and to assess how the Borough Council's shareholding in the new Asset Co. is exercised.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That half yearly reports be presented by the Executive Director – Operations to the Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel in regard to the establishment and ongoing operation of the local authority owned and operated Sub-Regional Materials Recycling Facility.
- 2.2 That other Partner Councils be approached to set up a Joint Shareholder Committee to enable regular scrutiny of how their shareholdings in the new Asset Co. are being exercised to take place.

3. Background

3.1 At its meeting of 11th September 2019, Council considered a report from the Executive Director – Operations, together with an addition to the recommendation in that report, and resolved that:

- a) the Borough Council's Capital Programme and Treasury Management Strategy be appropriately amended, as set out in Appendices 1a and 1b of the report, to allow a capital loan of up to £3.3m to be made, and up to £96,000 of shares in the local authority owned MRF operating company to be purchased to allow the new MRF to be built and become operational; and
- b) the Executive Director – Operations, and the Director - Arts, Leisure & Democracy prepare a report for the next Full Council to outline recommendations for establishing a robust method of scrutinising and overseeing the establishment and work of the Sub-Regional Material Recycling Facility, and how the Borough Council's shareholding in the new Asset Co. is exercised.

3.2 This report deals with b) above.

4. Report

4.1 The physical creation of the Sub-Regional MRF, including its construction; the purchase of appropriate equipment, and its initial commissioning; together with its ongoing operation as a facility that is able to deal with the various types of recyclable materials delivered to it in an efficient and consistent manner, are operational matters that are very clearly a part of the Borough Council's overall kerbside recycling service. Given this, it is suggested that, as is the case for the actual kerbside collection of dry recyclable materials, the most appropriate mechanism for scrutinising how well the Sub-Regional MRF is operating, would be for regular reports to be presented to the Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

4.2 The above approach would be consistent with the way in which the Borough Council scrutinises delivery of other services, such as Leisure Management and Grounds Maintenance, that are provided by external organisations. It is suggested, that for the foreseeable future, reports relating to the Sub-Regional MRF should be presented to the Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel on a six monthly basis.

4.3 In order to allow the Borough Council to be able to regularly scrutinise how its shareholdings in the new Asset Co. that will operate the Sub-Regional MRF are being exercised, it is suggested that a Shareholder Committee is established to receive reports from the Asset Co., and scrutinise these reports. This approach would be consistent with the arrangements that the Borough Council has in place for Nuneaton and

Bedworth Community Enterprise Limited (NABCEL). Following discussions that have been held with senior officers from Coventry City Council on the subject of how to ensure that effective scrutiny can take place on how Nuneaton and Bedworth's shareholding is being exercised (and for that matter, the shareholdings of other partner councils), the establishment of a Shareholder Committee would also be consistent with the approach that Coventry City Council has in place for shareholdings it has in other arms-length companies such as Coventry and Solihull Waste Disposal Company [CSWDC] which operates the Waste to Energy plant at Whitley.

- 4.4 Reports that are presented to the Shareholder Committee could also be presented, in confidential session, to the Internal Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
- 4.5 Given that all of the Partner Councils will have an interest in effectively scrutinising the way in which their shareholdings in Asset Co. are being exercised, and learning from the approach that Coventry City Council has in place for CSWDC, it is suggested that the Shareholder Committee should be set up with a membership that includes all of the Partner Councils.
- 4.6 Given the above, it is therefore proposed that the other Partner Councils be approached to seek their views on setting up a Joint Shareholder Committee to enable regular scrutiny of how shareholdings in the new Asset Co are being exercised to take place

CABINET

Report Summary Sheet

Date:	13 th November 2019
Subject:	Local Council Tax Support 2020/21
Portfolio:	Finance and Civic Affairs (Councillor J. Jackson)
From:	Executive Director – Resources
Summary:	The report presents the outcome of the recent public consultation to Cabinet and requests that Cabinet determine the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21 and recommend to Council for approval.
Recommendations:	<p>That Cabinet note the consultation responses set out at section 5 and Appendices A and B of the report.</p> <p>That Cabinet determine and recommend to Council a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21, taking into account the consultation responses and the financial implications</p> <p>That the Executive Director – Resources be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the scheme in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Civic Affairs.</p> <p>As the recommendations from this report require Council approval on the 4th December, this report be marked not for call in on the grounds of urgency.</p>
Reasons:	The council is required to publish a Local Council Tax Support Scheme by the 13 th March each year.
Options:	To accept the recommendations above scheme for 2020/21, taking into consideration timescales for implementation.

Subject to call-in:	Yes
Forward plan:	Yes
Delivering Our Future:	Theme One, Priority Two
Relevant statutes or policy:	Local Government Finance Bill Council Tax Reduction Scheme Policy Section 13A and Schedule 1a of the Local government Finance Act Hardship Payment Policy

Equal Opportunity Implications:	None
Human Resources Implications:	None
Financial Implications:	Depending on the option implemented, there could either a small saving or cost to the Council.
Health Inequalities Implications:	None
Risk Management Implications:	The Council may be open to legal challenge if appropriate consultation is not carried out and the scheme is not published prior to the 13 th March each year.
Environmental Implications:	None
Section 17 Implications:	None
Legal Implications:	The Council may be open to legal challenge if appropriate consultation is not carried out and the scheme is not published prior to the deadline each year

Contact Details:	Rachael Dobson (Head of Revenues and Benefits Shared Services) 024 7637 6167
-------------------------	---

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet – 13th November 2019
From: Executive Director – Resources
Subject: Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21
Portfolio: Finance and Civic Affairs (Councillor J. Jackson)

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report presents Cabinet with the outcome of the recent consultation on potential changes to the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21 and asks that a scheme be determined and recommended to Council for approval.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Cabinet note the consultation responses set out at section 5 and the Appendices A and B of the report.

2.2 That Cabinet determine and recommend to Council a Local Council Tax Support Scheme from April 2020, taking into account the consultation responses and the financial implications included in the report.

2.3 That the Executive Director – Resources be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the scheme in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Civic Affairs.

2.4 As the recommendations from this report require Council approval on the 4th December, this report be marked not for call in on the grounds of urgency.

3. Background

3.1 The Local Government Finance Bill, which came into force during 2012 required Council's to design and implement a Local Council Tax Support scheme to replace Council Tax Benefit from 1st April 2013

3.2 The main elements of the Local Council Tax Support scheme were:

- Funding was by way of a fixed grant rather than demand led subsidy. The grant was 90% of the cost of providing Council Tax Benefit
- Local Council Tax Support operates as a discount rather than a benefit. This reduces the amount of council tax collected and the risk is shared with other receiving bodies

- Pensioners were protected from any changes as a result of introducing a Local Council Tax Support Scheme
- Consideration be given to protecting other vulnerable groups
- The scheme can be changed annually but only at the start of each year

- 3.3 Under the Council's Local Council Tax Support Scheme, all working age customers are required to pay a minimum of 20% of their Council Tax liability each year. For 2019/20, this equates to approximately £250 pa at Band A and £295 pa at Band B. Pensioners continue to be fully protected, as required by regulations.
- 3.4 Minor changes have been made to the scheme in recent years but a more fundamental review of the scheme is being undertaken for 2020/21, taking into account current caseload figures and the impact of Universal Credit.
- 3.5 As Local Council Tax Support operates through the Collection Fund, the cost is shared with major preceptors - Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner – in proportion to Council Tax shares. This means that NBBC picks up approx. 13% of the cost of the scheme, WCC 75% and WPCCC the remaining 12%

4 Caseload

- 4.1 The current caseload figures (Table A) since the introduction of LCTS can be found in the table below along with the cost of the scheme:-

Table A

	Working Age	Pension Age	Total	Cost of Scheme
2013/14	6,081	5,576	11,657	£8,803,202
2014/15	6,069	5,169	11,238	£8,520,726
2015/16	5,763	4,883	10,646	£8,235,366
2016/17	5,825	4,674	10,499	£8,380,535
2017/18	6,257	4,370	10,627	£8,123,251
2018/19	6,264	4,128	10,392	£8,049,041
2019/20 (forecast)	6,264	4,128	10,392	£8,485,451
2019 with Caseload as at 1st September	6,087	4,019	10,106	£8,380,664 (Live spending current in year)

- 4.2 Whilst the table above demonstrates that LCTS caseload has fallen since the start of the scheme, it should also be noted that the funded provided to fund the cost has also fallen. The grant has now been rolled in to RSG and Baseline Funding, meaning it has been subject to local government funding reductions each year and cannot be separately identified. The Council, along with others, are finding that Universal Credit is leading to a reduction in claims for LCTS, because applicants do not always understand that they have to apply to the Council for LCTS separately to their Universal Credit claim with the DWP. We are liaising with the DWP to mitigate this issue going forward. This may lead to an increase in the caseload again, as could other changes to the local and national economy

(a large local employer moving elsewhere or closing down for instance). This is a risk that will need to be considered by the Council when considering proposals from April 2020 onwards.

5. Consultation on the 2020/21 Scheme

5.1 In July of this year Cabinet agreed a public consultation exercise on potential options to review the scheme and the amount of support that working age claimants can apply for.

5.2 The following technical changes were also consulted on to align the scheme closer to Universal Credit and make the administration process more efficient:

- Increase Automation
- Claiming and evidence
- Self-employment
- Date changes
- Backdating

5.3 A public consultation was carried out on the Council's website and social media pages and Voluntary Organisations were also contacted to make them aware of the consultation.

5.4 The council's major preceptors were also consulted, in line with regulations. No consultation responses were received.

5.5 There was a relatively small response rate to the consultation with 59 completed responses to the online consultation form. Enclosed in Appendix A (LCTRS Consultation Data) and Appendix B (LCTRS Consultation Comments) are the results to the questions asked and of the comments made to each question asked.

Overall from the response provided there was a higher percentage to the following:

- Increasing the maximum level of support up to 85%. -YES
- Removing the backdating restrictions. -YES
- Using a set income for self-employed earners after 1 year's self-employment -YES
- Changing the claiming process for all applicants who receive Universal Credit. -YES
- Any new claim or change in circumstances which grants, or changes Council Tax Reduction entitlement will be made from the date on which the claim is made /change occurs, (rather than on a weekly basis as at present) -Yes
- Do you think that the Council should make the changes proposed -Yes

6. LCTS and Hardship Schemes for 2020/21

6.1 Any decision to alter the amount of support given to customers claiming Council Tax Support (i.e. reducing the minimum contribution expected from 15% to up to 20%) will have financial implications for the Council and Major Preceptors.

6.2 The modelling below sets out the financial implications of different options and the impact on the customer. The different options refer to the Council Tax liability that all working age customers are expected to pay (currently 20%):

Table B

Scenario Costs	Working Age Costs	Pension Age Costs	Total Cost	Saving or Cost compared to Forecast	Change per week to the customer (Average)
20% (forecasting run for taxbase)	£4,416,064	£4,069,387	£8,485,451	N/A	
20% scheme with reduced caseload (Live At End September 2019)	£ 4,370,914	£ 3,933,292	£ 8,380,664	+£104,787 Saving	
18%	£4,530,144	£4,069,387	£8,555,023	£69,572 Cost	£0.48*
15%	£4,715,075	£4,069,387	£8,739,954	£254,503 Cost	£1.21*

*Reduction in Council Tax Liability on a weekly basis

6.3 There is also a hardship fund provided for within the scheme and is available for claimants to apply to should they be experiencing hardship as a result of their LCTS award. The current Hardship fund as shown in Table C is £60k and as the value of the awards in recent years:-

Table C

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 so far
TOTAL	£34,155	£25,532	£6,754	£27,537	£27,138	£14,904

6.4 The cost/savings shown in Table B refer to the cost to the Collection Fund as a whole. As the fund has consistently been underspent in recent years, it is suggested that it could be reduced to £30,000. This would release a saving to the Collection Fund which could be used to reduce the cost in some of the options above.

For example:

- £69,572 cost for the 18% scheme would reduce to £39,572 of which approx. £5k would relate to NBBC, being its 13% share of Council Tax.
- £254,503 cost for the 15% scheme would reduce to £224,503 of which approx. £29k would relate to NBBC, being its 13% share of Council Tax.

6.5 In Accordance with legislation transitional protection has been considered for those affected by any changes. As a hardship scheme is available for those experiencing hardship as a result of the LCTS scheme it is recommended that transitional protection is not applied.

6 Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached at Appendix C. The equality issues and areas of impact would remain the same (being age, disability and family with dependents) if the minimum payment were to be altered and the technical changes introduced.

7 Conclusion

7.1 The Council will need to agree a Local Council Tax Support scheme on the 4th December 2019, for implementation from 1 April 2020.

7.2 A hardship fund is still within the scheme for any claimant to apply should they experience financial hardship as a result of these changes. Further support and advice is available from our Financial Inclusion Support Officers should the claimant be experiencing severe financial hardship.

Rachael Dobson

Question Number	Question	Yes	%	no	%	Don't Know	%	Not Answered	%
Q1.	I have read the background information about the Council Tax Reduction Scheme	59	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Q2	Should the Council keep the current Council Tax Reduction scheme? (Should it continue to administer the scheme and have the same level of support as it does at the moment?)	21	36.0%	18	30.0%	19	32.0%	1	2.0%
Q4	Option 1 – Increasing the maximum level of support up to 85%. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	34	58.0%	19	32.0%	6	10.0%	0	0.0%
Q6	Option 2 – Removing the backdating restrictions. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	37	63.0%	19	32.0%	3	5.0%		
Q8	Option 3 - Using a set income for self-employed earners after 1 year's self-employment. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	29	49.0%	16	27.0%	14	24.0%		
Q10	Option 4 – Changing the claiming process for all applicants who receive Universal Credit. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	52	88.0%	4	7.0%	3	5.0%		
Q12	Option 5 - Any new claim or change in circumstances which grants, or changes Council Tax Reduction entitlement will be made from the date on which the claim is made /change occurs, (rather than on a weekly basis as at present). Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	56	95.0%	2	3.0%	1	2.0%		
Q14	Do you think that the Council should make the changes proposed?	41	69.0%	11	19.0%	6	10.0%	1	2.0%
Q18	Are you, or someone in your household, getting a Council Tax Reduction at this time?	21	36.0%	34	58.0%	2	3.0%	2	3.0%

Male	21	36.00%
Female	32	54.00%
PNTS	3	5.00%
U/A	3	5.00%

Working Age	54	92.00%
Pension Age	1	2.00%
PNTS	2	3.00%
U/A	2	3.00%

Health Issues		
Yes	13	22.00%
No	38	64.00%
PNTS	6	10.00%
U/A	2	3.00%

	Appendix B
I have read the background information about the Council Tax Reduction Scheme	This support is vital to single people in low income groups
	I would not be able to pay any more than I already do on this scheme. I am a full time unpaid carer.
	It says it will affect people like me, of working age and in receipt of some CTS, but doesn't say HOW. Are you making it easier or harder for me???
	I wouldn't want to see a reduction in the level of support. If you can change the scheme to provide more support that would be good.
	I think its useful to consider low income families who do work
	Those who work have to pay. This single and alone or old have to pay. Why should those who refuse to work get assistance
	Find it annoying how and why my council tax bill always fluctuates when I'm only in and working a 16 hour week work contract.
	It doesn't support those who can not afford to pay
	Changes will effect the poorest again
	It should have a higher level of reduction
	it should be easier for people to get more help. I know of many people who have missed payments due to hardship and then been subject to court fines which have put them in more debt
	The background does not make it clear is proposed, so it is impossible to assess whether to continue as now or to change.
	The Council Tax reduction needs to be adjusted so that the maximum benefit is achieved. The rate that people on low income pay needs to at the lowest possible level. That way the fewest number of people will struggle to pay. The amount in any fund for those who are sturggling needs to be such it is all distributed. The claim needs to be simple.
	Administration should remain in the local area.
Depends on whether the current scheme is effective	

Increasing the maximum level of support up to 85%. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	A hardship fund and discretionary schemes are already available for cases of hardship. I do not feel that an additional 5% support will make a difference between causing hardship or not in individual cases. Other council services would suffer if the costs of the scheme increased?
	The support should be left at the current level of 80%
	Why should it be set at 85%? Without understanding who can afford the 15%. It should be means tested full stop. All you will get is people that are unable to afford it so will not pay it. It is disgusting that council tax benefit stopped.
	stay the same
	it should be kept the same. it's fair. just help more people who fall behind due to benefits changes
Removing the backdating restrictions. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	If an individual requires support they should apply in a timely manner. Removing backdate restrictions would not encourage this behaviour.
	There is no logical reason why someone hasn't been able to claim I'm a month so I wouldn't change it at all
	Council tax rates for actual rate payers is disgustingly high as it is, maybe the support should be reduced to help the tax payer
	This may cause claimants to delay claiming if they believe there is an unlimited time for a backdate.
	The back date should apply as far back as it needs to. You are otherwise penalising people who wish to come forward.
	an indefinite backdate is open to abuse
	No alternative time frame has been mentioned I would be happy back dating no more than 3 Months.
	I think one month is enough time
	Timescales are needed and if this is changed this could lead to all inequalities and fluctuations
The one month rule should stay in place. Those in need to reduce should be we well informed and encouraged and supported to apply as soon as they are in need.	
Using a set income for self-employed earners after 1 year's	The council tax support scheme should not supplement failing businesses, if they are not capable of supporting the self employed person.

self-employment. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	
	Should be based on actual income where possible and not based on assumptions relating to working hours as many in this group may not meet the 30 hour scenario for many reasons
	It can take a couple of years for a new business to start making a profit, use the actual income or loss for the first 5 years to support people trying to start a business
	Self employed fiddle their earnings hiding money
	Consider reducing the hours worked per week to take into account those who work for other employers but on a self employed basis where their hours fluctuate (like those people employed on zero hour contracts whom are struggling to get more than 16 hours per week employment). Not everyone who is self employed starts their own business but contracts to companies on self employed terms.
	It should be based on each individual person's circumstance. Means tested on their expected annual income.
	I am not convinced that all small businesses owners declare all of their turnover. I therefore disagree with small businesses getting a reduction in their Council Tax.
Should be based on the actual amount earned. You cannot assume that people have a particular income if they don't have that money. Self-employed people may be balancing it with child care or other caring duties.	
Changing the claiming process for all applicants who receive Universal Credit. Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	This is already implemented
	I hate the way the sharing of people's data becomes so easy.
	universal credit is a joke. It puts people in more debt. Most people who are claiming have issues with forms and knowing their entitlements. It should be paid straight from their credits directly to the council
	What happens if the benefits system changes again? People would have to do another new system
Any new claim or change in circumstances which grants, or changes Council Tax Reduction entitlement will be made from the date on which the claim is made /change occurs, (rather than on a weekly basis as at present). Do you agree with this change to the scheme?	No comments

<p>Do you think that the Council should make the changes proposed?</p>	<p>The financial burden of an additional 5% support would be great to the council. On an individual case basis, this would only amount to a few pounds a week, which would not be the difference between hardship or not.</p> <p>I would be interested to see any proposals prior to comment</p> <p>universal credit has caused difficulties since its introduction as it is very complicated and any help for applicants is welcome, well done for making life a little easier for U C recipients</p> <p>More support, than the suggested proposals, are needed for those on low income. Bring back council tax benefit.</p> <p>Ticked the "don't know" because some changes I agree with and some I don't.</p> <p>I think adding council tax to universal credit applications is a brilliant idea as my tax is currently double what it should be because it adds confusing claiming separate and is not clearly explained</p> <p>this will help more people in need</p> <p>Not all of the changes, as increases to reduction amounts will obviously impact on services available in area.</p> <p>Any administration should be kept at a local level that is accessible to all who might apply.</p> <p>Should be made easier to claim and not wait weeks for a decision</p>
<p>Please use the space below if you would like the Council to consider any other options (please state).</p>	<p>Focus on changing the culture of continued non payment by many households. Many individuals have no intention of paying anything anyway, so an additional 5% support would not make any difference.</p> <p>Make working, WORK. I work, I parent, I'm single, I have to use childcare... I am in social housing but it's BAND C, and I get 18p a week help on 21 hours a week. All social/council houses should be BAND A.</p> <p>Consider those people who receive UC and working but their hours are less than 30 hrs per wk. UC claimants are encouraged to increase there working hours to eventually come off the benefit, however due to the industry in the Borough many people have zero hour contracts, min wage but cannot increase there hours, this includes single people, couples and families. They find it difficult to manage their money when their hours fluctuate and this affects their entitlement - income taken into account for the previous assessment period 1 month in arrears. This is causing hardship and many people whether single, couples or families are relying on food banks, or having to take out UC advances to cover their basic living costs - this advance is then deducted from their benefits and repaid over a 12 month period. Also consider comments in options 3.</p>

	<p>The council get a small percentage of the council tax - the best way to keep council tax affordable is to stop the police authority from stealing the maximum increase from us each year under the false masquerade of consultation.</p>
<p>If you have any further comments or questions to make regarding the Council Tax Reduction scheme that you haven't had opportunity to raise elsewhere, please use the space below.</p>	<p>the council payments should be taken directly from universal credits. it is far to complicated to set up. it is one less bill to worry about. it will stop people getting in debt as they can't use the money to pay for other things</p>
	<p>What about support for people on zero hours contracts or agency work who if working full time hours wouldn't be entitled to claim but who aren't actually getting the hours on a regular basis?</p>
	<p>If disabled a 95 % reduction should be granted</p>
	<p>What processes are being out in place to prevent fraudulent claims?</p>

Name of Function being assessed	Local Council Tax Support Scheme Review
Service Unit	Resources
Officer/Officers completing Analysis	Craig Dicken – Equality and Safeguarding Officer
Date of assessment	6th October 2019 to 4 th November 2019
Publication date	4 th November 2019

Executive Summary
<p>The revised Local Council Tax Support Scheme is to go ahead as planned.</p> <p>No new equality considerations have been identified since the last assessment conducted.</p> <p>The Scheme will continue to provide support for those in the greatest need to support e.g. low incomes, disability. An exceptional hardship fund is available for those in the most severe financial need.</p>

Section 1 – Preparation

What protected characteristics may this function impact upon? *(Tick all that apply)*

Group	This may have a positive impact	This may have a negative impact	No adverse impact
Age	X		
Disability		X	
Gender			X
Gender Reassignment			X
Marriage and Civil Partnership			X
Pregnancy and Maternity			X
Race – which includes ethnic or national origins, colour, caste or nationality			X
Religion or Belief – this also includes no religion/belief			X
Sexual Orientation (Including LGBT)			X

	This may have a positive impact	This may have a negative impact	No adverse impact
Does the policy/practice/change to current service provision have any particular impact to Serving and Ex Serving Armed Forces Personnel and their families			X

What is the aim/purpose of the Function?
To review the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme provided by the Authority.
What impact will this Function will have on a particular group or the Borough as a whole?

There are no new impacts with this review as the scheme has been in place already for a number of years.
Is it anticipated that any group benefit from this Function?
Age – Legislative requirements protect people of pensionable age.
Is it anticipated that any group will be disadvantaged from this Function?
As identified during the last review, the following groups have been identified: Age – The current proposal continues to provide a reduction in support given to certain working age groups. Disability – Some applicants will continue to experience a reduction in support due to the scheme Family with dependents – The scheme proposed will still see a continued reduction in support given to families with dependents.

Section 2 - What data has been collected?

From the consultation
The Consultation period for the review ran from 6th October 2019 to the 25th October 2019. A total of 59 responses were received. Comments were received in respect of the scheme and suggestions as to how it can be improved, but no specific equality issues were raised. The results of this are contained within the main Cabinet report.

Section 3 - Conclusions

Have there been any positive impacts due to the Function?
No new positive impacts (on Equality grounds) have been identified from the consultation.
Is there any negative impact on any group/s?
No new negative impacts have been identified since the last review undertaken.
If there is adverse impact, can this be justified?
The Council will ensure that it operates within a lawful and balanced budget. The financial impact on the Council due to the reduction in the grants received from Central Government require the

Council to have a local scheme that takes into account the need to protect the most vulnerable in the community and all local taxpayers. This scheme will provide the Council with the opportunity to apply the principles to ensure that the Council meets its requirements under the Public Sector Equality Duty, the Child Poverty Act 2010 and other relevant legislation.

The reduction in financial support is necessary to protect the interests of taxpayers general and to preserve the overall finances of the council and services it provides

Can anything be done to minimise any adverse or differential impact?

The Council's Local scheme will continue to provide additional protection to vulnerable groups. These will take the following forms:

- The existing means tested scheme will be maintained and the most support will be given to those on lowest income.
- Certain groups will continue to receive addition help under the scheme through the provision of premiums and allowances, e.g. Disability related benefits
- The Council will continue to provide an exceptional hardship fund which would be available for those claimants in most severe financial need

Section 4 – Conclusion

Please indicate which of the following best describes the outcome of this EIA:

This function is to go ahead as planned X


Section 5 - The Equality Duty

Does this function have due regard to:

Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010 X

Advance equality of opportunity between people from different group's □

Foster good relations between people from different group's □

Signed (Completing Officer):	Print Name:	Date:
	Craig Dicken	4 th November 2019

Cabinet/Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Report Summary Sheet

Date: 13th November 2019

Subject: Treasury Management 2019/20 – Mid Year Review

Portfolio: Finance and Civic Affairs (Councillor J Jackson)

From: Executive Director - Resources

Summary: This Council is required through regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce a mid-year review report on treasury management activities of the Council. This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

Recommendations:

That Cabinet recommend to full Council that

- i the report be noted per the requirements of the CIPFA Code and;
- ii the changes to the prudential indicators as detailed within the report and summarised at Appendix A be approved and;
- iii the updated General Fund Capital Programme at Appendix B be for approved.

Reasons: To comply with the CIPFA Code of Treasury Management

Options: To accept the report or request further information

Subject to call-in: Yes

Forward plan: Yes

Delivering Our Future Theme 3
Priority 3

Relevant statutes or policy: CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management

Equal opportunity implications:	None
Human resources implications:	None
Financial implications:	Included throughout the report
Health Inequalities Implications:	None
Section 17 - Crime and Disorder Implications:	None
Risk management implications:	Any investment and borrowing decisions will be based on the approved strategy and with approved counterparties
Environmental implications:	None
Legal implications:	The CIPFA Code on Treasury Management requires Local Authorities to report to their full Council a mid-year review of their treasury management activities.

Contact details:

Craig Pugh – Head of Financial Services
Craig.pugh@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk
024 7637 6104

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet – 13th November 2019

From: Executive Director – Resources

Subject: Treasury Management 2019/20 – Mid Year Review

Portfolio: Finance and Civic Affairs (Councillor J Jackson)

Delivering Our Future Theme: 3

Delivering Our Future Priority: 3

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This Council is required through the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management to report to full Council a mid-year review report.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet recommend to full Council that
- i the report be noted per the requirements of the CIPFA Code and;
 - ii the changes to the prudential indicators as detailed within the report and summarised at Appendix A be approved and;
 - iii the updated General Fund Capital Programme at Appendix B be for approved.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet its cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operations ensure this cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies being invested in low risk counterparties, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering optimised investment return.
- 3.2 The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer term cash flow planning to ensure the Council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer term cash may involve arranging long or short term loans, or using longer term cash flow surpluses, and on occasion any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.

- 3.3 Accordingly treasury management is defined as:
“The management of the local authority’s investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”
- 3.4 The primary requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management are as follows:
- i Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy Statement which sets out the policies and objectives of the Council’s treasury management activities.
 - ii Creation and maintenance of Treasury Management Practices which set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives.
 - iii Receipt by the full Council of an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement – including the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy – for the year ahead, a Mid-year Review Report (this report) and an Annual Report covering activities during the previous year.
 - iv Delegation by the Council of the responsibilities for implementing and monitoring treasury management policies and practices and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions.
 - v Delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny of treasury management strategy and policies to a specific named body. For this Council the delegated body is the Audit & Standards Committee.
- 3.5 This mid-year report has been prepared in compliance with the CIPFA Code and covers the following:
- i An economic update for the first six months of 2019/20;
 - ii A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
 - iii The Council’s capital expenditure (prudential indicators);
 - iv A review of the Council’s investment portfolio for 2019/20;
 - v A review of the Council’s borrowing strategy for 2019/20;
 - vi A review of any debt rescheduling undertaken during 2019/20;
 - vii A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2019/20.
- 3.6 Detailed reports of treasury activity are reported to the Audit & Standards Committee with Quarter 1 information presented on 3rd September 2019 and Quarter 2 presented to the committee on 5th November 2019.

4. Economic Update.

- 4.1 This first half year has been a time of upheaval on the political front as Theresa May resigned as Prime Minister to be replaced by Boris Johnson on a platform of the UK leaving the EU on or 31 October, with or without a deal. However, in September, his proroguing of Parliament was overturned by the Supreme Court and Parliament carried a bill to

delay Brexit until 31 January 2020 if there is no deal by 31 October. MPs also voted down holding a general election before 31 October. So far, there has been no majority of MPs for any one option to move forward on enabling Brexit to be implemented. At the time of writing the whole Brexit situation is highly fluid and could change radically by the day. Given these circumstances and the likelihood of an imminent general election, any interest rate forecasts are subject to material change as the situation evolves.

- 4.2 The first half of the year also saw UK economic growth fall as Brexit uncertainty took a toll. The Bank of England has been downbeat about the outlook for both UK and major world economies.
- 4.3 As for inflation, CPI has been hovering around the Bank of England target of 2% during 2019, but fell to 1.7% in August and held at that level in September. It is likely to remain close to that level over the next 2 years and so it does not pose any immediate concern to the Monetary Policy Committee at the current time. However, if there was a no deal Brexit, inflation could rise towards 4%, primarily as a result of imported inflation.

4.4 Interest Rate Forecasts

The Council's treasury advisor, Link Asset Services, has updated their interest rate forecast:

	Bank Rate	6Mth LIBID	12Mth LIBID	5yr PWLB	25yr PWLB	50yr PWLB
Dec 19	0.75	0.80	1.00	2.30	3.30	3.20
Mar 20	0.75	0.80	1.00	2.50	3.40	3.30
Jun 20	0.75	0.80	1.00	2.60	3.50	3.40
Sep 20	0.75	0.90	1.10	2.70	3.60	3.50
Dec 20	1.00	1.00	1.20	2.70	3.70	3.60
Mar 21	1.00	1.10	1.30	2.80	3.70	3.60
Jun 21	1.00	1.10	1.30	2.90	3.80	3.70
Sep 21	1.00	1.20	1.40	3.00	3.90	3.80
Dec 21	1.00	1.30	1.50	3.00	4.00	3.90
Mar 22	1.25	1.40	1.60	3.10	4.00	3.90

- 4.5 This forecast is the central assumption and assumes that there will be some form of agreement on a reasonable Brexit. If this assumption does not materialise (e.g. a no deal Brexit) then this could well prompt the Monetary Policy Committee to do an immediate cut of 0.5% in Bank Rate to 0.25%.
- 4.6 The PWLB forecasts above includes the recent 1% increase in borrowing rates across the Board following a decision by HM Treasury in early October.

4.7 The overall balance of risks to the UK in terms of economic growth is probably to the downside due to the weight of all the uncertainties over Brexit.

5. Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy update.

5.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2018/19 was approved by Council on 13 February 2019.

5.2 There are no policy changes to the TMSS; the details in this report update the position in the light of the updated economic position and budgetary changes.

6. The Council's Capital Position (Prudential Indicators)

6.1 This part of the report is structured to update:

- i The Council's capital expenditure plans;
- ii How these plans are being financed;
- iii The impact of the changes in the capital expenditure plans on the prudential indicators and the underlying need to borrow; and
- iv Compliance with the limits in place for borrowing activity.

6.2 Prudential Indicator for Capital Expenditure

This table shows the revised estimates for capital expenditure (which require approval) and the changes since the capital programme was agreed at the Budget in February.

Capital Expenditure by area	2019/20 Original Estimate £m	2019/20 Last Approved Programme £m	2019/20 Latest Estimate for Approval £m
Arts, Leisure & Economic Development	0.10	0.21	0.30
Central Services & Refuse	0.72	4.36	4.48
Finance & Civic Affairs	2.55	3.84	3.84
Housing, Health & Communities	5.88	10.17	10.17
Planning & Development	0.53	0.56	0.56
Future Schemes	0.10	0.06	0.06
Subtotal non-housing	9.88	19.20	19.41
Commercial Activities/ Non-financial investments	2.65	3.63	3.63
Total non-housing	12.53	22.83	23.04
Housing Revenue Account	23.64	26.06	26.06
Total Expenditure	36.17	48.89	49.10

6.3 The changes in the current capital programme of £48.89m from that originally reported to Council in February 2019 were reported to Cabinet meetings on 26th June 2019 and 4th September 2019 and Council on 11th September.

6.4 The changes to the Non Housing (General Fund) programme can be summarised below:

Base Programme	£12.53m
Amounts re-profiled from 18/19	£ 6.05m
New approvals/ adjustments:	
- Council House Conversion	£ 0.85m
- Sub Regional Recycling Facility	<u>£ 3.40m</u>
Revised Programme	£22.83m

6.5 The changes to the Housing Revenue Account capital programme are wholly from amounts re-profiled from the previous financial year.

6.6 It is highly probable that the actual amount of capital spend that will be incurred in this financial year is less than the amounts reported above which are the total resources committed to specific projects. The drawdown of spend for some of the projects will most likely fall into 2020/21 due to the scale and nature of the schemes, although the profiling of these cash flows is uncertain at this time. The projects most likely to see some re-profiling into 2020/21 will be HRA New Build, Council House Conversion and the Sub Regional Recycling Facility.

6.7 As part of this report, a number of new capital schemes are proposed for inclusion in the General Fund capital programme to take the total budget to £23.04m (an increase of £0.21m). The full detailed programme can be seen in Appendix B

6.8 These changes include:

- i Replacement software systems to ensure compliance with PSN certification requirements and to improve efficiencies. These are to be funded from earmarked reserves that have been set aside for these schemes
- ii Replacement print room equipment to allow staff to work more efficiently and to replace equipment that is at the end of its useful life and subject to risk of failure. This equipment is also to be funded from reserves set aside for these projects.
- iii Improvements to pavilions and a community centre car park. These are mostly funded from grants and external contributions with £2k being a contribution from reserves.

6.9 Changes to the financing of the Capital Programme

The table below draws together the main strategy elements of the capital expenditure plans, highlighting the original supported and unsupported elements of the capital programme, and the expected financing arrangements of this capital expenditure. The borrowing element of the table increases the underlying indebtedness of the Council by way of the

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), although this will reduce in part by revenue charges for the repayment of the debt (the Minimum Revenue Provision). This direct borrowing need may also be supplemented by maturing debt and other treasury requirements.

Capital Expenditure	2019/20 Original Estimate	2019/20 Last Approved Programme	2019/20 Latest Estimate for Approval
	£m	£m	£m
Non-housing	12.53	22.83	23.04
Housing	23.64	26.06	26.07
Total spend	36.17	48.89	49.10
Capital Receipts	3.45	5.45	5.45
Capital Grants	5.58	9.19	9.23
Capital Reserves/ Revenue	20.39	23.17	23.34
Total unfinanced (borrowing)	6.75	11.08	11.08
<i>Analysed between:</i>			
<i>Non-housing (general)</i>	<i>1.25</i>	<i>5.58</i>	<i>5.58</i>
<i>Non-housing (commercial)</i>	<i>1.00</i>	<i>1.00</i>	<i>1.00</i>
<i>Housing (HRA)</i>	<i>4.50</i>	<i>4.50</i>	<i>4.50</i>

6.10 Any amount of unfinanced expenditure is an estimate of the borrowing need required to fund the capital programme. The current programme has a need for some borrowing, primarily to finance the HRA New Build programme, conversion works to the Council House to provide additional temporary accommodation facilities within the borough, and for the Sub Regional Recycling Facility.

6.11 Changes to the Prudential Indicators for the Capital Financing Requirement and External Debt and the Operational Boundary.

The table shows the CFR, which is the underlying need to incur borrowing for a capital purpose. It also shows the expected debt position over the period. The increase in the revised indicator (as included) is due to the additional borrowing requirement to fund the general fund capital programme.

Prudential Indicators	2019/20 Original Indicator £m	2019/20 Revised Indicator £m
Capital Financing Requirement		
Opening CFR		
- non housing (GF)	11.61	11.53
- non housing (commercial)	2.10	2.10
- housing (HRA)	76.66	76.66
Total Opening CFR	90.37	90.29
Movement in CFR		
- non housing (GF)	0.87	5.20
- non housing (commercial)	0.94	0.94
- housing (HRA)	4.50	4.50
Total Movement in CFR	6.31	10.66
Closing CFR		
- non housing (GF)	12.48	16.73
- non housing (commercial)	3.04	3.04
- housing (HRA)	81.16	81.16
Total Closing CFR	96.68	100.93
Borrowing	85.20	89.53
Other long term liabilities (Finance Lease)	-	-
Total debt 31 March	85.20	89.53
Internal borrowing position (Under-borrowing)	11.48	11.40
Operational Boundary	96.68	100.93

6.12 Changes in the CFR occur as part of capital financing transactions:

- i Increases when Prudential Borrowing is used to fund the capital programme
- ii Increases/ Decreases where land/ property is transferred between the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account
- iii Decrease when funds are applied to outstanding debt:
 - ◆ There is a statutory requirement for the General Fund to charge a Minimum Revenue Provision to its revenue account, however, there is no requirement for the HRA to be charged with such a charge but if a charge is made it is classed as a Voluntary Revenue Provision for the repayment of principal.

6.13 The Operational Boundary is set to the Capital Financing Requirement to allow the externalisation of the internal borrowing position should the economic situation suggest that the optimum time is during the remainder of this financial year.

6.14 Changes to the Prudential Indicators for the Ratio of Financing Costs to the Net Revenue Stream.

This indicator identifies the cost of capital (borrowing costs and other long term obligations net of investment income) against the net revenue streams (amounts due from government grants and taxpayers and housing rents).

	2019/20 Original Estimate	2019/20 Revised Estimate
Non-housing (GF)	3.4%	3.4%
Housing (HRA)	9.2%	9.2%

At the present time there is no reason to amend this indicator.

6.15 Limits to Borrowing Activity

The first key control over the treasury activity is a prudential indicator to ensure that over the medium term, gross borrowing will only be for a capital purpose. Gross external borrowing should not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the CFR in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional CFR for 2019/20 and next two financial years. The Council has approved a policy for borrowing in advance of need which will be adhered to.

	2019/20 Original Estimate 31st Mar' 2020 £m	2019/20 Revised Estimate 31st Mar' 2020 £m	Position as at 30th Sep' 2019 £m
Gross borrowing	85.20	89.53	78.21
Other long term liabilities	-	-	-
Gross Borrowing	85.20	89.53	78.21
CFR	96.68	100.93	89.87

6.16 The Executive Director for Resources reports that no difficulties are envisaged for the current or future years in complying with this prudential indicator.

6.17 A further prudential indicator controls the overall level of borrowing. This is the Authorised Limit which represents the limit beyond which borrowing is prohibited, and needs to be set and revised by Members. It reflects the level of borrowing which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term. It is the

expected maximum borrowing need with some headroom for unexpected movements. This is the statutory limit determined under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003.

Authorised limit for external debt	2019/20 Original Indicator	2019/20 Latest Indicator	Position as at 30th Sep' 2019
	£m	£m	£m
Borrowing	106.68	110.93	78.21
Other long term liabilities	4.00	4.00	-
Total	110.68	114.93	78.21

The Authorised Limit was increased to £114.93m as part of the report presented to the Cabinet on 4th September as part of the Sub Regional Recycling Facility report and does not require amending from the current approved value.

7. Investment Portfolio 2019/20

- 7.1 In accordance with the Code, it is the Council's priority to ensure security of capital and liquidity, and to obtain an appropriate level of return which is consistent with the Council's risk appetite.
- 7.2 The Council's investments are made up of cash resources such as general fund and HRA balances, earmarked reserves, grants & contributions not yet spent and capital receipts not yet utilised. Therefore, looking at the total amount of investments held does not directly reflect actual cash available to spend on day to day services.
- 7.3 The Council held £41.42m of investments as at 30th September 2019 (£48.00m at 30th September 2018) and the investment yield for the first six months of the year is 1.15% against a benchmark (6 month LIBID) of 0.73%.
- 7.4 Cash balances invested are significantly higher in the middle of a financial year compared to the end as money is raised and collected during the initial months and held to cover expenditure later during the financial year.
- 7.5 The weighted average investments held for the first half of the year totalled £40.29m and the table below details the performance of the portfolio by deposit category:

	Average Return	Weighted Average Balance Invested to 30 th Sep' 2019
Short Dated investments (< 1 year)		
Fixed Term Deposits	1.05%	£14.49m
Certificate of Deposits	1.05%	£9.38m
Bank/ Money Market Funds (liquid)	0.70%	£5.94m
Notice Accounts	0.95%	£8.00m
Total Short Dated	0.97%	£37.81m
Long Dated Deposits		
Fixed Term	2.40%	£0.48m
Property Fund	4.18%	£2.00m
Total Long Dated	3.84%	£2.48m
Total Investments	1.15%	£40.29m

- 7.6 The Executive Director - Resources confirms that the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the first six months of 2019/20.
- 7.7 The Council's budgeted investment return (treasury investments only) for 2019/20 is £433k. It is currently estimated that the full year investment interest return will be £444k, therefore generating £11k more interest than budgeted. This is due to a view that interest rates will fall and therefore a decision has been taken to lock some investments into longer dated periods (6mths – 1 year) to take advantage of good returns before the rates start to fall. Investments were only placed after consideration of cash flow forecasts to ensure that sufficient liquidity is available to service expenditure.
- 7.8 The property fund investment is a long term deposit with variable returns. Revenue returns are in the form of quarterly dividends issued by the fund, generated from rental yields from the property that the fund owns and manages net of fees. The deposit also sees changes in capital value and at the present time, these fluctuations are held on the balance sheet and do not impact on the revenue resources of the council. However, recent changes to accounting regulations will potentially have a revenue impact in the future. This is covered in section 11 of this report. The variable returns and changes in capital value of the deposit can be seen in the following table which shows the overall position since the original deposit:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Deposit</u> £000	<u>Entry</u> <u>Charges</u> £000	<u>Capital</u> <u>Growth/</u> <u>(Loss)</u> £000	<u>Closing</u> <u>Value</u> £000	<u>Quarterly</u> <u>Yield</u>	<u>Financial</u> <u>Year</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Return</u>	<u>Return</u> <u>(since</u> <u>inception)</u>
2015/16	1,000	(54)	10	956	4.26% - 4.81%	4.59%	4.28%
2016/17	0	0	(15)	941	4.17% - 4.52%	4.30%	
2017/18	0	0	45	986	4.25% - 4.88%	4.47%	
2018/19	1,000	(63)	26	1,949	3.99% - 4.27%	4.15%	
2019/20 - Q1	0	0	1	1,950	4.01%	4.18%	
2019/20 - Q2	0	0	(19)	1,931	4.35%		

7.9 A list of all investments held as at 30th September 2019 is shown below:

	Amount Invested	Deposit Period	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
Fixed Term Deposits:				
Coventry Building Society	£2.00m	6 Month	03 Oct 19	0.93%
Coventry Building Society	£2.00m	6 Month	15 Oct 19	0.93%
Coventry Building Society	£1.00m	6 Month	03 Dec 19	0.93%
Lloyds Bank Plc (RFB)	£1.00m	3 Month	09 Dec 19	0.80%
Lloyds Bank Plc (RFB)	£2.00m	1 Year	23 Dec 19	1.10%
Lloyds Bank Plc (RFB)	£1.00m	1 Year	30 Jan 20	1.10%
Coventry Building Society	£2.00m	6 Month	28 Feb 20	0.84%
Coventry Building Society	£1.00m	6 Month	09 Mar 20	0.79%
Lloyds Bank Plc (RFB)	£2.00m	1 Year	01 Apr 20	1.25%
Lloyds Bank Plc (RFB)	£1.00m	1 Year	08 May 20	1.25%
Lloyds Bank Plc (RFB)	£1.00m	1 Year	02 Jun 20	1.25%
Total Fixed Term Deposits	£16.00m			1.01%
Certificate of Deposit				
Nat' West' Bank PLC (RFB)	£1.00m	1 Year	10 Feb 20	1.14%
Nat' West' Bank PLC (RFB)	£1.00m	1 Year	11 Mar 20	1.11%
Nat' West' Bank PLC (RFB)	£2.00m	1 Year	02 Apr 20	1.06%
Nat' West' Bank PLC (RFB)	£2.00m	1 Year	23 Apr 20	1.08%
Nat' West' Bank PLC (RFB)	£2.00m	1 Year	02 Jun 20	0.99%
Nat' West' Bank PLC (RFB)	£1.00m	1 Year	12 Jun 20	0.97%
Total Certificate of Deposit	£9.00m			1.05%
Notice Accounts				
Santander (180 day)	£8.00m	n/a	n/a	0.95%
Total Notice Accounts	£8.00m			0.95%
Property Funds:				
CCLA Local Authority Prop' Fund	£2.00m	n/a	n/a	4.21%
Total Property Fund	£2.00m			4.21%
Instant Access Funds:				
Lloyds Current Account	£1.72m	n/a	n/a	0.65%
Federated MMF	£4.70m	n/a	n/a	0.69%
Total Instant Access	£6.42m			0.68%
Grand Total	£41.42m			1.11%

* RFB denotes Ring Fenced Bank

8. Investment Counterparty Criteria

- 8.1 The investment counterparty criteria as approved in February for 2019/20 has been fit for purpose during the first half of the financial year with sufficient counterparties being available to ensure that we maintain sufficient diversification within our portfolio. No changes to the counterparty selection criteria or limits are proposed within this report.

9. Borrowing

- 9.1 The Council's closing Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) for 2019/20 is now forecast to be £100.93m. The CFR denotes the Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes. If the CFR is positive the Council may borrow from the PWLB or the market (external borrowing) or from internal balances on a temporary basis (internal borrowing). The balance of external and internal borrowing is generally driven by market conditions. The Council's external borrowing position as at 30th September 2019 was £78.21m with the closing position predicted to be £89.53m due to the level of prudential borrowing required this year.
- 9.2 The predicted borrowing need for the remainder of this year for the whole council (i.e. GF & HRA) is £11.3m as a result of prudential borrowing and a need to replace naturally maturing HRA debt. However, on the morning of 9th October 2019, HM Treasury issued a notice to all Section 151 Officers to advise that with immediate effect the rate of borrowing on PWLB debt will increase by 1% across all loan periods. PWLB borrowing rates are linked to treasury gilt yields plus a margin and are set twice a day. To put the change in policy into context the following table shows the annual interest due on £11m for 25 year debt had the loan been taken on 8th October compared to 9th October (being the date of change):

	Advance 8 th October	Advance 9 th October	Difference
25 year maturity loan			
Annual interest rate applicable	1.98%	3.00%	1.02%
Annual interest due on £11m	£218k	£330k	£112k

- 9.3 The 1% increase in the underlying borrowing rate actually means a real terms increase of approx. 50% in interest cost per annum in the above scenario. For shorter dated periods the impact is greater as 5 year debt changed from 1.19% to 2.22%, an 87% increase in annual debt costs.
- 9.4 Due to the above, additional work is needed to calculate if it is more cost effective to:
- Take the borrowing need at the increased rate;
 - Increase the internal borrowing position for the funding need subject to ensuring cash flow stability and future financing risk is managed or;

iii A mix of the two scenarios above.

- 9.5 It is likely that the 3rd of the three scenarios will be the final outcome and the final debt position may therefore be lower than that included in this report. However, the amount as reported at 9.1 is our expected maximum borrowing scenario.
- 9.6 The difference between external debt and CFR (when CFR is greater than debt) means that the Council has therefore utilised cash flow funds in lieu of borrowing (internal borrowing). This is a prudent and cost effective approach in the current economic climate but will require ongoing monitoring in the event that upside risk to gilt yields prevails.
- 9.7 A summary of the debt portfolio as at the start of the year, the mid year position and the end of year position based on our **current portfolio**, plus the maturity analysis of these forecast closing debt holdings can be seen in the following tables:

	Opening 2019/20		Mid year position (30 th Sept 19)		Forecast Closing (based on current portfolio) 2019/20	
	Debt	Rate	Debt	Rate	Debt	Rate
General Fund						
PWLB	£7.75m	4.67%	£7.75m	4.67%	£7.75m	4.67%
Market Debt	£2.00m	4.10%	£2.00m	4.10%	£2.00m	4.10%
Interest Free Debt	£0.01m	0%	£0.00m	0%	£0.00m	0%
Total GF	£9.76m	4.55%	£9.75m	4.55%	£9.75m	4.56%
HRA						
PWLB	£70.95m	2.96%	£68.46m	3.00%	£67.46m	2.97%
Total HRA	£70.95m	2.96%	£68.46m	3.00%	£67.46m	2.97%
Grand Total	£80.71m	3.15%	£78.21m	3.19%	£77.21m	3.17%

Based on current portfolio:	Debt Holdings 31 st March 2020	Percentage of total portfolio	Approved Limit
Maturity Profile			
Under 12 months	£4.50m	6%	20%
12 months to 2 years	-	-	20%
2 to 5 years	£26.00m	33%	50%
5 to 10 years	£38.71m	50%	75%
10 to 20 years	£4.00m	5%	100%
20 to 30 years	-	-	100%
30 to 40 years	£2.00m	3%	100%
Over 40 years	£2.00m	3%	100%
Grand Total	£77.21m		

- 9.8 The significant difference in average rates between the General Fund and HRA debt portfolios is due to the HRA having had access to preferential PWLB rates as part of the self financing settlement in 2012. These preferential rates were only available for debt taken for this transaction and could not be accessed for any other purpose.
- 9.9 No external borrowing was taken during the first six months of 2019/20. The markets will continue to be monitored to ensure that, should interest rates rise rapidly, that the Council is not exposed to potential future high debt interest costs should there be a specific borrowing need.
- 9.10 As the HRA is now fully self financed a local indicator is now included to inform Members of the HRA debt against the number of dwellings. The following table provides this information updated to account for the movement in stock count during the year.

Dwellings as at 30th September 2019	5,702
CFR (Debt) per dwelling	£13,444
Financial cost per dwelling (<i>debt interest cost plus cost of under-borrowed position</i>)	£375 per annum (£7 per week)

10. Debt Rescheduling

10.1 Debt rescheduling opportunities have been limited in the current economic climate and consequent structure of interest rates. Therefore, no debt rescheduling was undertaken during the first six months of 2019/20 although the situation is monitored on a regular basis.

11. Accounting Regulation Updates

11.1 The accounting standard laying down the accounting for investments (IFRS 9 – Financial Instruments) was updated and came into effect from 1st April 2018. This updated standard means that the category of investments valued under the available for sale category has been removed and any fluctuations in market valuations would impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, rather than being held on the Balance Sheet.

11.2 The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) consulted for a temporary override for English local authorities to mitigate any potential impact on balances. As a result of that consultation, a temporary override will be in place for five years to mitigate any impact on revenue resources for investments that currently see capital fluctuations charged to the Available for Sale Reserve.

11.3 The property fund falls within this category and the following table shows the property fund returns before the current statutory override and after for the first half of this financial year:

				£000	Return (based on deposit amount)
Property Fund Dividends Received				42	
Capital Gains / (Losses)				(18)	
Net Return				24	2.36%
Statutory Override				18	
Return as reflected in the accounts of NBBC				42	4.18%

11.4 Despite the change to the accounting treatment of this type of investment, mitigated in the short term by the statutory override, this does not change the view of officers with regards to utilising these types of funds to ensure that there is sufficient spread across investment types to manage risk.

12. Conclusion

12.1 The first half of 2019/20 has seen opportunities for investments to be placed strategically at fixed rates for periods up to 12 months before a probable downturn in returns occurs later in this year. This has provided

some certainty of investment income for the remainder of this financial year and part of next.

- 12.2 Despite borrowing rates remaining low for the first half of the year, there have not been any financially viable opportunities for debt rescheduling, and the recent unexpected change in PWLB loan pricing policy has made borrowing rates less attractive. However, it is likely that there will be a need for new borrowing to be taken later this year and this will be reported to the Audit and Standards Committee following any borrowing decisions, and will also be included in the Treasury Outturn Report presented to the Cabinet and Council following the financial year end.
- 12.3 No treasury or prudential limits have been breached and there have been no instances of delays in repayments from investment counterparties.
- 12.4 The management of the Council's cash flows, debt and investments remains a crucial element of the finance function and the economic situation at home and further afield will be monitored closely, with the assistance of Link, to ensure that interest rate and counterparty risks can be effectively managed.

Simone Hines

Appendix A

Prudential and Treasury Indicators requiring amendment from those approved as part of the Annual Treasury Strategy Report 2019/20.

The only indicator that required updating as part of this report is the Capital Expenditure Indicator. All others are unchanged from those approved as part of previous update reports to Cabinet and Council.

	2019/20 Latest Approved Indicator	2019/20 Updated Indicator	
Capital Expenditure:			
Non-housing (General)	£19.20m	£19.41m	Section 6.2
Non-housing (commercial)	£3.63m	£3.63m	
HRA	£26.06m	£26.06m	
Total	£48.89m	£49.10m	

Appendix B

Updated General Fund Capital Programme

General Fund Capital Programme	Current 2019/20 Approved Programme £	Adjustments £	Updated 2019/20 Programme £
Arts Leisure & Economic Development			
Miners Welfare Park Environment Improvements & Green Gym	12,300	-	12,300
Haunchwood Pavilion	5,000	-	5,000
Pingles Electronic Timing Equipment	50,000	-	50,000
Pauls Land Pavilion	10,500	-	10,500
Sandon Park/Jack Whetstone Pavilion	5,000	37,770	42,770
Cycle Storage - Miners Welfare Park	10,000	-	10,000
Target Hardening	100,000	-	100,000
Kersley Community Centre Car Park Improvements	18,000	7,000	25,000
Replacement Cemeteries Software System	-	34,900	34,900
Tree Management Software	-	7,750	7,750
Central Services & Refuse			
ICT Strategy Programme	100,000	-	100,000
Major Repairs	250,000	-	250,000
Vehicle & Plant Replacement	598,900	-	598,900
Council Chamber - Audio/Visual System	11,000	-	11,000
Waste Management - In Cab Technology	5,100	-	5,100
Sub-Regional Materials Recycling Facility	3,396,000	-	3,396,000
Civica APP (Flare)	-	76,220	76,220
Print Room Equipment	-	48,440	48,440
Finance and Civic Affairs			
Camp Hill - Early Final Phase	3,569,235	-	3,569,235
Purchase of Investment Properties (incl' properties to lease)	3,460,000	-	3,460,000
Revenues and Benefits - System Enhancement & Rationalisation	84,200	-	84,200

General Fund Capital Programme	Current 2019/20 Approved Programme £	Adjustments £	Updated 2019/20 Programme £
Adjustment to Council's Property Portfolio	167,500	-	167,500
Bedworth Market Improvements	27,720	-	27,720
Valley Farm Refurbishments	150,000	-	150,000
Chilvers Coton Craft Centre	5,500	-	5,500
Housing, Health & Communities			
HEART	7,634,300	-	7,634,300
Empty Homes & Works in Default	40,000	-	40,000
Empty Property Loans	100,000	-	100,000
Mobile Home Sites	300,000	-	300,000
Conversion of the Council House	2,100,000	-	2,100,000
Planning & Development			
Replacement CCTV Cameras	9,700	-	9,700
Jodrell Street - Unadopted Road	17,100	-	17,100
Bermuda Connectivity Programme	413,390	-	413,390
CCTV Wireless Technology	120,000	-	120,000
Miscellaneous Schemes	60,400	-	60,400
Total Capital Programme	22,830,845	212,080	23,042,925
Financed by:			
Capital Receipts	4,929,235	-	4,929,235
Earmarked Reserves	2,968,477	172,310	3,140,787
Grants & External Contributions	8,353,383	39,770	8,393,153
Prudential Borrowing	6,579,750	-	6,579,750
Total	22,830,845	212,080	23,042,925

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council:



- notes the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 'Special Report on Global Warming' (2018) and The Committee on Climate Change's report 'Net Zero - the UK's contribution to stopping global warming' (May 2019);
- recognises the importance of this issue and the role which it has in responding to climate change;
- recognises the significant progress the Borough Council has made in reducing its carbon footprint through its Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plans over the last 10 years;
- notes that the UK Parliament, the West Midlands Combined Authority, other Warwickshire councils and numerous councils across the UK have declared a climate emergency, and in doing so, have committed to action to combat climate change.


This Council therefore declares a climate emergency and in doing so, commits to:

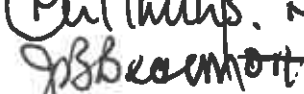
- establishing a cross party working group to investigate and subsequently advise on the actions and timescales required to make the Council's activities carbon neutral by 2030. The working group will report initial findings and recommendations back to Cabinet within 4 months with the ability to invite a relevant external expert as appropriate
- engaging with partner councils (specifically Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire's 5 District and Borough Councils), local businesses, environmental groups and residents to inform our future actions; and
- call on Government to provide the resources and where required the powers to enable Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to help deliver the UK's carbon reduction targets.

 Tricia Elliott

 Lydia King

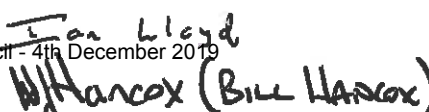
 C. Watkins
 E. Tandy

 Neil Phillips. NEIL PHILLIPS.

 JOHN BEAUMONT.

 M. R. Baker

 K. Kinnear

 Bill Hancock (Bill Hancock)

 J. A. Jackson (J. A. JACKSON)

Motion to Full Council

To: Brent Davis, Head of Paid Service

We request that the following motion be placed on the next Full Council agenda for debate:

"This council requests the Executive Directors to prepare a report for the next available cabinet to establish a Transforming Bedworth cross-party working group to take forward the regeneration of Bedworth Town Centre, and invites Warwickshire County Council to join as equal participants in the working group."



A collection of handwritten signatures in black ink, arranged in two columns. The signatures are: (left column) K. Shilton, Clare Gouby, H. Hinchley, K. B., M. A. H., J. H. H., and T. G. M.; (right column) a large circular signature, J. G. H., D. O. H., A. H. H. H. H. H. H. H., and K. G. H.

4A.10 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

4.10.1 A Member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or the Chair of a Committee any question without notice upon an item of the report of the Cabinet or a Committee (respectively) when that item is being received or under consideration by the Council.

4.10.2 Questions on Notice at Full Council

At each meeting a Member of the Council may ask no more than one question (but see 10.3(b) below) on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties, or which affects the Borough. For questions from Members, Paragraph 4.9.4 shall apply. A Member may choose to ask their permitted question of either:

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chair of any Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee

4.10.3 No such question under paragraphs 10.2 or 10.3 shall be asked unless:
(a) the question has been delivered in writing to the Head of Paid Service and Leader before 12 noon on the day before the meeting of the Council; or
(b) where the question relates to urgent matters, they have the consent of the Mayor or the Leader of the Council or the Portfolio Holder to whom the question is to be put or in the case of a Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee, the Chair, and the content of the question is given to the Head of Paid Service at least three hours before the time that the meeting is due to start.

4.10.4 Response

An answer may take the form of:

- (a) a direct oral answer;
- (b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- (c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner.

4.10.5 Time Limit

The maximum time for Members' questions shall not normally exceed 24 minutes, and the Mayor shall have discretion to limit the questions as he or she shall see fit.

4.10.6 Reference of Question to the Cabinet or a Committee

Any Member may move that a matter raised by a question be referred to the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee. Once seconded, such a motion will be voted on without discussion.

4.10.7 Any question or statement which cannot be dealt with because of lack of time will be dealt with in writing in accordance with paragraph 10.5 (c).

4.10.8 Questions on Notice at Committees, Panels or Sub- Committees

A Member of a Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee may, upon giving notice, ask the Chair of it one question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties, or which affect the Borough and which falls within the Terms of Reference of that Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee