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Meeting	CABINET
Time/Day/Date	5.00 pm on Tuesday, 9 November 2021
Location	Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville
Officer to contact	Democratic Services (01530 454512)

AGENDA

Item	Pages
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
Under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that in declaring disclosable interests you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is pecuniary or non-pecuniary.	
3. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION	
4. MINUTES	
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2021	3 - 6
5. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING	
Report of the Strategic Director Presented by the Housing and Customer Services Portfolio Holder	7 - 14
6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
The officers consider that the press and public should be excluded during consideration of the following items in accordance with Section 100(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 as publicity would be likely to result in disclosure of exempt or confidential information. Members are reminded that they must have regard to the public interest test and must consider, for each item, whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure outweighs the public interest in making the item available.	

7. FREEPORT UPDATE

Report of the Strategic Director
Presented by the Infrastructure Portfolio Holder

15 - 20

Circulation:

Councillor R Blunt (Chairman)
Councillor R Ashman (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor R D Bayliss
Councillor T Gillard
Councillor K Merrie MBE
Councillor N J Rushton
Councillor A C Woodman

MINUTES of a meeting of the CABINET held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville on TUESDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2021

Present: Councillor R Blunt (Chairman)

Councillors R D Bayliss, T Gillard, K Merrie MBE, N J Rushton and A C Woodman

In Attendance: Councillors J Legrys, D Everitt and S Sheahan

Officers: Mrs B Smith, Mr J Arnold, Mr D Bates, Miss E Warhurst, Mrs C Hammond, Mr P Wheatley and Ms R Haynes

Before the meeting started, Councillor R Blunt welcomed Councillor K Merrie to his first Cabinet meeting as the newly appointed Planning Portfolio Holder.

153. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Robert Ashman.

154. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No interests were declared.

155. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

No questions were received.

156. MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 31 August 2021.

It was moved by Councillor T Gillard, seconded by Councillor R Bayliss and

RESOLVED THAT

The minutes of the meetings held on 31 August 2021 be confirmed as accurate records of the proceedings.

Reason for decision: To comply with the Consultation.

157. 2021/22 QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Councillor R Blunt presented the report, which was based on The Council Delivery Plan, agreed in November 2020. It was noted that all future performance reports would be measured against the new delivery plan that had been agreed at Council on 7 September 2021.

Cabinet members were then invited to make comments on their portfolio areas.

It was moved by Councillor R Blunt, seconded by Councillor T Gillard and

RESOLVED THAT

The progress against the corporate objectives and performance indicators for quarter 1 2021/22 be noted.

Reason for decision: To report Q1 2021/22 Council Delivery Plan performance.

158. REVIEW OF MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Councillor N Rushton presented the report. He noted a number of uncertainties that would significantly impact on the budget and outlined planned approach for the 2022/23 budget setting process that would look to establish some savings.

It was moved by Councillor N Rushton, seconded by Councillor Bayliss and

RESOLVED THAT

1. The Council's revised medium term financial plan, in particular the uncertainty surrounding the general fund's funding position be noted.

2. The planned approach to budget setting this year be approved.

Reason for decision: To approve the planned approach to budget setting for 2022/23.

159. SPECIAL EXPENSES POLICY

Councillor N Rushton presented the report.

Members were pleased to support the report.

It was moved by Councillor N Rushton, seconded by Councillor A Woodman and

RESOLVED THAT

It be recommended to Council that the special expenses policy as detailed in Appendix B be approved.

Reason for decision: To enable the approval of the Special Expenses Policy.

160. ADOPTION OF FLEET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Councillor A Woodman presented the report and outlined how the fleet could achieve zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Members supported the pragmatic approach.

It was moved by Councillor A Woodman, seconded by Councillor N Rushton and

RESOLVED THAT CABINET

- a) The fleet management strategy, recommendations and action plan within Annex A be approved.
- b) The allocation of resources and a related procurement exercise to fund the initial 3 year fleet replacement plan (outlined in sections 5 and 6 of this report) be agreed.
- c) The allocation of resources to switch to an alternative fuel (outlined in sections 2 and 6 – split across the housing revenue account and the general fund) be agreed.
- d) Authority be delegated to the Head of Community Services, in consultation with the portfolio holder and Head of Finance, to award contracts for the fleet replacement programme within the approved budget scheme.

Reason for decision: To enable the Council to procure replacement vehicles and reduce CO2 emission across the fleet, embracing the Council's Zero Carbon commitments.

161. CARAVAN FIT & PROPER PERSON FEES POLICY

Councillor A Woodman presented the report, pertaining to the new legislation which had been published.

It was moved by Councillor A Woodman, seconded by Councillor K Merrie and

RESOLVED THAT

1. The continued use of the fees policy for fit & proper person checks for owners of residential park home sites be approved.
2. Authority be delegated to the Head of Community Services to annually review and amend the fees policy for fit & proper person checks for owners of residential park home sites

Reason for decision: The Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) (England) Regulations 2020

162. CORPORATE DISPOSALS POLICY

Councillor R Bayliss presented the report.

Members fully supported the report

It was moved by Councillor R Bayliss, seconded by Councillor N Rushton.

RESOLVED THAT

Corporate disposals policy attached as Appendix 1 be approved.

Reason for decision: To approve an updated and consolidated disposal policy document

163. REVIEW OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICIES

Councillor N Rushton presented the review, noting that the policies had been updated to take into account any legislative changes required.

It was moved by Councillor N Rushton, seconded by Councillor K Merrie.

RESOLVED THAT

1. The comments from the Audit and Governance committee its meeting on the 21 July 2021 be noted.
2. The Corporate Governance Polices listed in paragraph 2 be approved.

Reason for decision: To ensure that the Council has an up to date suite of governance policies in place reflecting the law and best practice.

164. FORMER TENANT RENT ARREARS, CURRENT TENANT RENT ARREARS, COUNCIL TAX, NON DOMESTIC RATES AND SUNDRY DEBTOR WRITE OFFS

Councillor N Rushton presented the report, and outlined the process the authority took when considering write offs.

It was moved by Councillor N Rushton, seconded by Councillor R Bayliss and

RESOLVED THAT

The information contained within the report as a true representation of write offs undertaken during 2020/21 be noted.

Reason for decision: To comply with proper accounting practices.

165. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved by Councillor T Gillard, seconded by Councillor A Woodman and

RESOLVED THAT:

In pursuance of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that the public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Reason for decision: To enable the consideration of exempt information.

166. THE RECOVERY OF OUR LEISURE CENTRES AND THE PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT WITH EVERYONE ACTIVE

Councillor A Woodman presented the report. It received broad support from members of the Cabinet.

It was moved by Councillor A Woodman, seconded by Councillor N Rushton and

RESOLVED THAT

The recommendations as detailed in the report be approved.

Reason for decision:

To agree a financial support package detailed in the report from October 2021 to March 2022 inclusive on an open book basis to continue to rebuild the community access to our leisure centres in a Covid safe environment.

The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 5.38 pm

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET – TUESDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2021



Title of Report	RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING	
Presented by	Councillor Roger Bayliss Housing and Customer Services Portfolio Holder	
Background Papers	Papers for the Task and Finish Group meetings	Public Report: Yes
		Key Decision: No
Financial Implications	No direct financial implications from the recommendations of this report at this stage though if accepted further work will take place in respect of the financial implications arising from the housing strategy.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The report is satisfactory	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	No direct impact on staffing or corporate implications apart from those being addressed in the Housing Strategy	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To advise Cabinet of the outcome of the work of the Community Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, and allow them to consider the recommendations from that Group which were supported by the Community Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 26 October 2021.	
Reason for Decision	To inform the production of the updated Housing Strategy.	
Recommendations	<p>THAT CABINET CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND IF SUPPORTED DELEGATED IMPLEMENTATION TO THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER.</p> <p>THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE –</p> <p><i>RECOMMENDED TO CABINET THAT:</i></p> <p><i>1) THE COUNCIL WRITE TO GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGING A REFORM OF THE LAND COMPENSATION ACT.</i></p>	

	<p>2) A TARGET LEVEL OF 199 NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES (RENTED AND LOW-COST HOME OWNERSHIP) BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW HOUSING STRATEGY FOR NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT SUBJECT TO:</p> <p>a) AN ENHANCED JOINT WORKING PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER HOUSING PROVIDERS, INCLUDING INCREASING THE FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS WITH REGISTERED PROVIDERS ACTIVE IN THE DISTRICT.</p> <p>b) OFFICERS LOOKING INTO WAITING TIMES TARGETS FOR THE VARIOUS HOUSING NEED BANDS ON THE HOUSING WAITING LIST.</p>
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1.0 BACKGROUND

Attached as Appendix 1 to this report is the final report of the Task and Finish Group established to scrutinise the area of “Increasing the supply of affordable housing”.

The report details the work undertaken by the group and their subsequent recommendations to Community Scrutiny Committee. The report was considered by Community Scrutiny on 26 October 2021.

The report recommendations were approved, and the draft minutes of the meetings relating to this item are included below for reference.

EXTRACT FROM DRAFT MINUTES OF

COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 26 OCTOBER 2021

Item ID	11925
Item Title	Recommendations from the Increasing the Supply of Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group
Summary	<p>The Strategic Director presented the report to Members.</p> <p>During discussion, a query was raised on the confidence from officers that the proposed annual figure of 199 new affordable homes could be deliverable. The Strategic Director reported that data indicated the target would be met in the current year as numbers were projected at 220 new affordable homes but acknowledged that it was an aspirational figure as guarantees could not be made on the amount developers would build. Members were reminded that this figure was recommended following the work of the Task and Finish group but ultimately was a decision of the Committee.</p> <p>Members congratulated the work of the Task and Finish Group as it was felt that a thorough review had been undertaken.</p> <p>It was moved by Councillor T Eynon, seconded by Councillor J Simmons and it was</p>

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET THAT:

- 3) The Council write to Government encouraging a reform of the Land Compensation Act.
- 4) A target level of 199 new affordable homes (rented and low-cost home ownership) be included in the new Housing Strategy for new affordable housing development in the district subject to:
 - c) An enhanced joint working partnership with other housing providers, including increasing the frequency of meetings with registered providers active in the district.
 - d) Officers looking into waiting times targets for the various housing need bands on the housing waiting list.

Cabinet are invited to consider the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group, and if they are supported, to delegate implementation to the Strategic Director and Portfolio Holder.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	<p>Insert relevant Council Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing a clean and green district - Local people live in high quality, affordable homes - Our communities are safe, healthy and connected
Policy Considerations:	Decision will influence the Housing Strategy which is currently being updated for consideration by Cabinet December 2021.
Safeguarding:	N/A
Equalities/Diversity:	The provision of affordable housing is an important part of the Councils role in promoting equality and diversity for our communities.
Customer Impact:	Providing affordable housing is an important part of the role of the Council in terms of providing both housing choices for people on our Housing Register, and
Economic and Social Impact:	No issues
Environment and Climate Change:	New affordable homes will be provided to the highest environmental standards, demonstrating community leadership in this area and making a significant contribution towards the Councils Zero Carbon 2030 target.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Community Scrutiny Committee
Risks:	Risks associated with the deliver of affordable housing are managed through the Councils performance management systems.
Officer Contact	<p>Chris Lambert Head of Housing chris.lambert@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p>

Title of Report	RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK AND FINISH GROUP	
Presented by	Report of the Task and Finish Group (Chris Lambert, Head of Housing, Lead Officer)	
Background Papers	Notes of meetings of the Task and Finish Group available from Committee Administration Team	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications		
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The Land Compensation Act 1961 has been the subject of discussion on reform for a number of years, including a report from the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee. The enclosure to this report covers the Government's response to that report.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications		
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Reason Agenda Item Submitted to Scrutiny Committee	The Task and Finish Group formed to review the subject of "increasing the supply of affordable housing" has concluded its work and produced the attached final report with recommendations to be considered by Community Scrutiny Committee.	
Recommendations	<p>That the Community Scrutiny Committee consider the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group and determine the recommendation they wish to make to Cabinet on the matter.</p> <p>Recommendation from the Task and Finish Group -</p> <p><i>1. That Community Scrutiny recommends to Cabinet that the Council writes to Government encouraging a reform of the Land Compensation Act. Exact wording to be drafted by officers and included in the final report for agreement.</i></p>	

	<p>2. <i>That a target level of 199 new affordable homes (rented and low cost home ownership) be proposed for inclusion in the new housing strategy for new affordable housing development in the district subject to:</i></p> <p>a. <i>An enhanced joint working partnership with other housing providers, including increasing the frequency of meetings with registered providers active in the District.</i></p> <p>b. <i>Officers looking into waiting times targets for the various housing need bands on the housing waiting list.</i></p>
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1. REPORT

- 1.1 Attached to this covering report is the final report of the Task and Finish Group formed to examine increasing the supply of affordable homes.
- 1.2 The final report includes a series of recommendations for the Committee to consider and determine what recommendation to make to Cabinet on the matter. The outcome is scheduled to be considered by Cabinet at their meeting in November 2021.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Insert relevant Council Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing a clean and green district - Local people live in high quality, affordable homes - Our communities are safe, healthy and connected
Policy Considerations:	Local Plan Housing Strategy
Safeguarding:	N/A
Equalities/Diversity:	Detail any equalities/diversity considerations made.
Customer Impact:	Detail any impact the decision will have on customers
Economic and Social Impact:	Increasing the supply of affordable homes will enhance the housing choices available for local residents in housing need
Environment and Climate Change:	New affordable homes will be constructed to an appropriately high level of thermal efficiency as part of our wider Zero Carbon Roadmap approach to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	None
Risks:	As part of its Corporate Governance arrangements, the Council must ensure that Risk management is considered and satisfactorily covered in any report put before elected Members for a decision or action.
Officer Contact	Chris Lambert Head of Housing chris.lambert@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

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