

Dear Councillor

**COUNCIL - MONDAY, 11 APRIL 2022**

Please find attached, for consideration at the meeting of the Council on Monday, 11 April 2022, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Please bring this document with you to the meeting.

**Agenda No    Item**

6.     **Report of the Cabinet (Pages 3 - 6)**  
      To consider the report of the Cabinet dated 6 April 2022.
  
8.     **Questions To Portfolio Holders Under Standing Order 22A (Pages 7 - 8)**  
      To ask questions of Portfolio Holders. Questions received by the deadline are enclosed.
  
10.    **Allocation of Seats and Appointments to Committees and Panels (Pages 9 - 12)**  
      To receive the wishes of the political groups in making appointments to Committees and Panels.

Yours sincerely

**Kate Ryan**  
**Chief Executive**

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## REPORT OF CABINET

(Meeting held on 6 April 2022)

### 1. SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES (MINUTE NO 75)

The Cabinet, following the consideration of the Corporate Affairs and Local Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel, approved the utilisation of government funding towards Citizen Advice New Forest (CANF) of £35,000, to fund a debt supervisor for two years to build up resilience with debt advice and support to residents.

The Cabinet agreed to continue to work with our partners to explore further funding options and initiatives to support New Forest communities.

In response to COVID-19, the government allocated funding to provide additional support to council taxpayers which could also be used to deliver increased financial assistance through local support mechanisms. Consideration will be given to utilise the residual funding, with the first initiative being the support CANF with their debt advice service.

In 2020/21 CANF supported 5,600 clients with 14,000 issues. Of these, 47% were disabled or had long term health conditions (including mental health). Debt was one of the most common problems. Whilst the general advice CANF provide can support people onto the pathway on sorting out their debts, it is focused, local face-to-face specialist in depth debt casework that can properly support people with their complex debt issues.

The Cabinet welcome the investment which ensures that one of the Council's highly valued community organisations can add targeted support to the most vulnerable residents in the District and develop further training of their volunteers.

### 2. ADOPTION OF THE PARKING STANDARDS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD) (MINUTE NO 76)

The Cabinet, having considered the detailed work of a Task and Finish Group, adopted a new Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This supersedes the existing SPD of October 2012.

The SPD has been updated to take account of the step changes in national and local policy, ensuring that the standards achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, acknowledging the Council's recent declaration of a Climate Change and Nature Emergency, and other drivers.

The Cabinet would like to thank the Task and Finish Group for its input in this work, particularly in reflecting the Council's declaration of a Climate Change and Nature Emergency.

Striking the right balance between providing sufficient parking to meet future needs and minimising the amount of land surfaced and set aside for parking is challenging. However, Cabinet consider that this SPD strikes that balance and will provide valuable guidance to planners, developers, communities, Town and Parish Council's and the Planning Committee. Importantly the SPD will contribute to delivering sustainable development across the District and addressing the climate and nature emergency.

At the Cabinet meeting, a number of Members welcomed the SPD and hoped that further electric vehicle charging points would be installed throughout the District, in both Council owned car parks and in new and existing development.

### **3. LOCAL PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PLAN 2022 (MINUTE NO 77)**

The Cabinet, following the consideration of the Environment and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Panel, approved the formal adoption of the new Local Enforcement Plan 2022.

The Local Enforcement Plan 2022 outlines New Forest District Council's approach to encouraging compliance with its regulations and policies in a way that is in line with current government legislation and guidance.

The Plan sets out the proposed principles the Council should adopt towards Planning Enforcement, namely:

- Fairness
- Efficiency and Timeliness
- Professionalism and Integrity
- Confidentiality

Effective enforcement is important to maintain public confidence in the planning system, it is therefore important that the Council maintains an up to date plan. This Plan sets out clearly to all those that might become involved in planning enforcement how the Council manages enforcement proactively, in a way that is appropriate to the District area. The Plan has been written in plain English and sets out clearly a positive approach to planning enforcement. The Council will, when it is considered appropriate and proportionate to do so, take a robust approach to enforcing against confirmed breaches of planning control.

As part of effective monitoring, the Council is considering the introduction of regular reports to the Planning Committee on enforcement.

### **4. INTRODUCTION OF S106 MONITORING CHARGES (MINUTE NO 78)**

The Cabinet, following the consideration of the Environment and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Panel, agreed to the introduction of S106 monitoring charges as set out in Cabinet Report 7 of the Cabinet Agenda.

The Local Government Act 2003 (Section 93) provides the legislative basis for local authorities to charge for discretionary services such as the administration/monitoring of Section 106 Agreements. An amendment to the CIL Regulations in September 2019 clarified that monitoring contributions could be sought through a S106 agreement, and it is in this context it is considered appropriate to recover the cost of administration and monitoring Section 106 obligations.

The proper administration of a Section 106 monitoring regime is resource intensive, and it is considered appropriate to ensure that monitoring is cost neutral to the Council.

Given the scale of development that will be delivered across the District through the Adopted Local Plan, to ensure that developments are maintained in the way the planning permission set out, future monitoring of completed developments plays a key role. It is appropriate to introduce a charging schedule so that developers pay for the resource needed to undertake this work rather than local residents. The Cabinet consider that this charging schedule sets the right balance around covering the additional cost of this work against the additional cost to the development. This is another positive step by the Council to ensure that it delivers sustainable development and contribute to addressing the climate and nature emergency.

**5. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER (MINUTE NO 79)**

The Cabinet, following the detailed monitoring of the Audit Committee, adopted the latest version of the Strategic Risk Register, noting that it will remain under constant review. The Cabinet also agreed to formally consider the report on a quarterly basis.

Risk management aims to identify the risks that may impact on the Council achieving its objectives. Its purpose is to evaluate, design and implement effective measures to reduce both the likelihood and potential impact of these risks occurring.

The Strategic Risk Register (Appendix 1 of Cabinet Report 8 of the Cabinet Agenda), contains the significant risks, as identified by senior and executive council officers in consultation with the Portfolio Holders, in the Council achieving the priorities set out in the 'Community Matters Corporate Plan 2020-24'.

The Cabinet welcome the mitigation measures which bring strategic risks to either green or amber.

**COUNCILLOR E HERON  
CHAIRMAN**

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## **FULL COUNCIL – 11 APRIL 2022 – QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22A**

### **First Questions**

#### **Question 1**

**From Cllr Andrew Gossage to the Leader of the Council, Cllr Edward Heron**

In light of the invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces, some entering Ukraine from Belarus, can the Portfolio Holder advise if this Council has any financial arrangement with any Russian or Belarusian company?

#### **Question 2**

**From Cllr Hilary Brand to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness Services, Cllr Jill Cleary**

The Government is reforming the Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme (EVHS) to speed up the provision of charge points in flats and rental accommodation.

From the 1 April 2022, local authorities that own social housing will be able to apply to the EV charge point grant for landlords. This will provide grants of up to £350 towards the cost of purchasing and installing a charge point, with up to 200 grants a year available for each local authority.

Can the Portfolio Holder outline their progress with this so far and the ongoing strategy especially for residents in flats and social housing with limited access to private parking?

#### **Question 3**

**From Cllr Stephanie Osborne to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness Services, Cllr Jill Cleary**

In the corporate plan the priority for your portfolio is, and I quote “Putting residents at the centre of what we do and how we do it “. Therefore, taking that point following the huge numbers of complaints in 2020 to 2021 in Housing, tenant relations and other areas please describe what review process you have taken and what change actions came out of that process is to address this increase?

#### **Question 4**

**From Cllr Caroline Rackham to the Portfolio Holder for People and Places, Cllr David Russell**

There is an increasing reliance by NFDC on voluntary and community organisations to take on vital services for residents such as food banks and debt advice. As these become increasingly important services because of the rising cost of living crisis mounts, I wonder what reassurance we have that the wages and support costs of these organisations will be met, to ensure that they can continue to function as they become even more vital service providers.

#### **Question 5**

**From Cllr Mark Clark to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure, Cllr Diane Andrews**

I refer to the “Special, Planning Committee Meeting” held on Monday 27 July 2020.

Members were considering a proposed outline major re-development application, submitted by Fawley Waterside Ltd number: 19/10581 for 1,380 new homes on the site of former Fawley Power Station.

The decision was taken (as stated in the confirmed minutes) to: “Delegated Authority be given to the Chief Planning Officer to grant permission subject to:” 4 separate matters to be agreed and completed. Currently, this Local Planning Authority no longer has an appointed “Chief Planning Officer”.

Will the Portfolio Holder please explain to me in detail, the reasons why after 21 months, this Council has not agreed and completed with the applicant, the “Section 106 Agreement”, referred to by the Case Officer in the latest “Extension of Time Agreement” dated 28 March 2022. Therefore, the status of this application still indicates “Awaiting decision” and NO DECISION NOTICE has been issued. Why the delay? Is this our version of Jarndyce vs Jarndyce?

#### **Question 6**

**From Cllr Jack Davies to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure, Cllr Diane Andrews**

The New Forest is ancient and beautiful, and, for as long as we’ve had a council, it has been New Forest Councillors who have decided planning matters. Can the Portfolio Holder please reassure me that the establishment of any combined authority as part of a wider pan-Hampshire deal will keep planning decisions within the New Forest?

#### **Question 7**

**From Cllr Mahmoud Kangarani to the Portfolio Holder for People and Places, Cllr David Russell**

What is the NFDC current litter bin and street sweeping strategy? In Totton, two centre bins have gone missing since around middle of last year and not been replaced. Does this mean Totton residents have become the best in the Forest for not leaving litter?

#### **Question 8**

**From Cllr Malcolm Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Business, Tourism and High Streets, Cllr Michael Harris**

Given the extensive promised job creation in the proposed Freeport, 20,000 and rising according to Conservative members of this administration, which will in effect create local wage inflation, staff retention issues and competitive disadvantage for existing industries and businesses in the New Forest. What mitigation strategy might the NFDC be considering putting in place to assist our local existing businesses overcome these issues?

### **Second Questions**

#### **Question 9**

**From Cllr Stephanie Osborne to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness Services, Cllr Jill Cleary**

We desperately need more affordable homes and social housing for young people. Whilst we appreciate the proposed housing on the Hythe hospital site what other actions are being taken to utilise other sites such as the Hythe police station site for this?



## APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS – WISHES OF THE POLITICAL GROUPS

### APPEALS COMMITTEE (20 MEMBERS)

**Conservative (15)**

Alan Alvey  
Ann Bellows  
Sue Bennison  
Fran Carpenter  
Steve Clarke  
Keith Craze  
Barry Dunning  
Allan Glass  
David Hawkins  
Maureen Holding  
Alexis McEvoy  
Neville Penman  
Alvin Reid  
Derek Tipp  
Neil Tungate

**Liberal Democrat (4)**

Alex Brunsdon  
Mark Clark  
Sandra Delemare  
Philip Dowd

**Non-aligned (1)**

Jacqui England

### AUDIT COMMITTEE (8 MEMBERS)

**Conservative (6)**

Alan Alvey  
Emma Lane  
Martyn Levitt  
Alan O'Sullivan  
Ann Sevier  
John Ward

**Liberal Democrat (2)**

Hilary Brand  
Jack Davies

### GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE (15 MEMBERS)

**Conservative (11)**

Steve Clarke  
Keith Craze  
Arthur Davis  
Barry Dunning  
Allan Glass  
David Hawkins  
Maureen Holding  
Alvin Reid  
Joe Reilly  
Neil Tungate  
John Ward

**Liberal Democrat (3)**

Sandra Delemare  
David Harrison  
Mahmoud Kangarani

**Non-aligned (1)**

Barry Rickman

## **HR COMMITTEE (8 MEMBERS)**

### **Conservative (6)**

Jill Cleary  
Keith Craze  
Kate Crisell  
Michael Harris  
Edward Heron  
Maureen Holding

### **Liberal Democrat (2)**

Hilary Brand  
Mahmoud Kangarani

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE (16 MEMBERS)**

### **Conservative (12)**

Ann Bellows  
Sue Bennison  
Anne Corbridge  
Kate Crisell  
Allan Glass  
David Hawkins  
Maureen Holding  
Christine Hopkins  
Joe Reilly  
Tony Ring  
Ann Sevier  
Christine Ward

### **Liberal Democrat (3)**

Hilary Brand  
Mahmoud Kangarani  
Malcolm Wade

### **Non-aligned (1)**

Barry Rickman

## **COMMUNITY, PARTNERSHIPS AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 MEMBERS)**

### **Conservative (7)**

Louise Cerasoli  
Steve Clarke  
Keith Craze  
Arthur Davis  
David Hawkins  
Alan O'Sullivan  
Neville Penman

### **Liberal Democrat (2)**

Caroline Rackham  
Alex Wade

### **Non-aligned (1)**

Richard Frampton

## **CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND LOCAL ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 MEMBERS)**

### **Conservative (7)**

Alan Alvey  
Keith Craze  
Alison Hoare  
Martyn Levitt  
Alexis McEvoy  
Alan O'Sullivan  
Derek Tipp

### **Liberal Democrat (2)**

Jack Davies  
Mahmoud Kangarani

### **Non-aligned (1)**

Richard Frampton

**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 MEMBERS)**

**Conservative (7)**

Ann Bellows  
Sue Bennison  
Allan Glass  
Andrew Gossage  
Tony Ring  
Steve Rippon-Swaine  
Derek Tipp

**Liberal Democrat (2)**

Stephanie Osborne  
Malcolm Wade

**Non-aligned (1)**

Jacqui England

**HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 MEMBERS)**

**Conservative (7)**

Anne Corbridge  
Kate Crisell  
Andrew Gossage  
Joshua Kidd  
Ann Sevier  
Neil Tungate  
Christine Ward

**Liberal Democrat (3)**

Sean Cullen  
Jack Davies  
Alex Wade

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