

NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting: CABINET

Date and Time: WEDNESDAY, 2 MAY 2018, AT 10.00 AM*

Place: COUNCIL CHAMBER, APPLETREE COURT,
LYNDHURST

Telephone enquiries to: Lyndhurst (023) 8028 5000
023 8028 5588 - ask for Jan Debnam
Email: jan.debnam@nfdc.gov.uk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

*Members of the public may speak in accordance with the Council's public participation scheme:

- (a) immediately before the meeting starts, on items within the Cabinet's terms of reference which are not on the public agenda; and/or
 - (b) on individual items on the public agenda, when the Chairman calls that item.
- Speeches may not exceed three minutes. Anyone wishing to speak should contact the name and number shown above.

Bob Jackson
Chief Executive

Appletree Court, Lyndhurst, Hampshire. SO43 7PA
www.newforest.gov.uk

This Agenda is also available on audio tape, in Braille, large print and digital format

AGENDA

Apologies

1. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2018 as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To note any declarations of interest made by members in connection with an agenda item. The nature of the interest must also be specified.

Members are asked to discuss any possible interests with Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To note any issues raised during the public participation period.

4. DEMOCRATIC ARRANGEMENTS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

(Pages 1 - 6)

To consider a revised structure for the overview and scrutiny panels, to align them with the new portfolios.

5. DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENTS POLICY (Pages 7 - 16)

To consider revisions to the Council's policy on Discretionary Housing Payments.

6. INTERNET OF THINGS (Pages 17 - 20)

To consider whether to allow the Council's buildings to be used for siting stations for developing the "Internet of Things".

7. OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENT

RECOMMENDED:

That Cllr Penson be appointed to serve as this Council's deputy representative on the New Forest Citizens' Advice Bureau; and that Cllr Clarke be appointed to serve as this Council's Representative on the Hampshire Archives Trust.

To:

Councillors

Mrs D E Andrews
J E Binns
Mrs J L Cleary
M R Harris

Councillors

E J Heron (Vice-Chairman)
J D Heron
Mrs A J Hoare
B Rickman (Chairman)

CABINET – 2 MAY 2018

DEMOCRATIC ARRANGEMENTS - OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANELS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The current arrangements for overview & scrutiny have been in place since May 2011.
- 1.2 The Council has undergone much change in recent times as a result of the economic climate and increased responsibilities. A portfolio area which is currently facing major change is that responsible for housing and homelessness where significant new legislation has come into force. The Council has taken action to respond to these new challenges in various ways, and it is now considered appropriate to review the structure of the Overview & Scrutiny Panels to ensure that there is sufficient capacity for members to engage in new policy initiatives as they are developed and to scrutinise delivery of the Council's services.

2. CURRENT POSITION AND SUGGESTED WAY FORWARD

- 2.1 There are currently three Overview & Scrutiny Panels:

Corporate
Community
Environment

- 2.2 With the Council's significant new responsibilities under Housing and Homelessness legislation, it is considered that a Panel dedicated solely to "Housing" issues is required.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The composition of the Cabinet is currently:

Leader (Cllr Barry Rickman)
Community Affairs (Cllr Diane Andrews)
Environment & Regulatory Affairs (Cllr Alison Hoare)
Finance, Corporate Services & Improvement (Cllr Jeremy Heron)
Housing Services (Cllr Jill Cleary)
Leisure & Wellbeing (Cllr James Binns)
Local Economic Development, Property & Innovation (Cllr Michael Harris)
Planning & Infrastructure (Cllr Edward Heron)

- 3.2 Recommendations for a new structure for the Panels are set out below. These provide for the services falling within one or more Portfolios to be scrutinised by a single Review Panel.

O&S Panel	Portfolio	Service responsibilities
Corporate	Leader (Cllr Barry Rickman)	Political Structures
		Employee Engagement
		Corporate Plan
		Staff Matters
		Organisational strategy
		Town & Parish matters
		Emergency Planning
	Finance, Corporate Services & Improvement (Cllr Jeremy Heron)	Medium Term Financial Plan
		Financial Services
		Business Rates & Council Tax
		Housing Benefits
		ICT
		Legal Services
		Democratic Services
		Human Resources
		Performance & risk management
	Local Economic Development, Business & Innovation (Cllr Michael Harris)	Economic Development Strategy
		Business Engagement & Growth
		New Forest Business Partnership
		Local Enterprise Partnerships
		Asset Management/Property Matters
		Smarter Working
		Collaboration & Innovation
Community & Leisure	Community Affairs (Cllr Diane Andrews)	Community Engagement
		Community Grants & Support
		Customer Services
		Elections & Electoral Registration
		Community Safety Partnership (Safer New Forest)
		CCTV
		Careline
		Communications

O&S Panel	Portfolio	Service responsibilities
Community & Leisure (Cont)	Leisure & Wellbeing (Cllr James Binns)	Health & Leisure Centres
		Local Leisure, Arts & Heritage
		Health & Wellbeing Board
		Older Persons' Affairs
		Children & Youth Affairs
Housing	Housing Services (Cllr Jill Cleary)	Housing Strategy (Local Housing Need)
		Council House Estate Management and Rent Accounting
		Council Housing Maintenance
		Homelessness
Environment & Infrastructure	Environment & Regulatory Affairs (Cllr Alison Hoare)	Refuse Collection & Recycling
		Street Cleaning
		Abandoned Vehicles
		Environmental Health Services
		Coastal Protection & Drainage Issues
		Grounds Maintenance Services
		Cemeteries
		Public Toilets
		Sustainability
		Improvement Grants & Private Sector Housing
	Planning & Infrastructure (Cllr Edward Heron)	Local Plan
		Development Control
		Building Control
		Listed Buildings & Conservation
		Open Space Infrastructure
		Car Parking & Traffic Management Matters

- 3.3 There will inevitably be occasions when decisions to be taken by the Council or the Cabinet affect matters being dealt with by more than one Portfolio Holder, but on these occasions, when input from Panels is required, joint meetings of the relevant Panels could be arranged. This happens now.

4. FREQUENCY OF PANEL MEETINGS

- 4.1 The Council's Standing Orders for Meetings provide, amongst other things, that each Panel shall fix dates and times for its meetings at least one year ahead. The Panels have traditionally met five times per year, with an additional annual meeting to elect the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. In view of the proposed increase in the number of Panels from three to four, it is suggested that each Panel meets four, instead of five, times per year, in addition to the annual meeting. If the need arises, special meetings may be arranged.
- 4.2 At present only one Panel, the Community Panel, meets in the evenings. This restricts choice for members who are in employment and who find it difficult to attend meetings during the day. It is therefore recommended that two Panels, the proposed Housing and the proposed Community & Leisure Panels, meet in the evenings, starting at 6.00 p.m.

5. PROPORTIONALITY ON COMMITTEES AND PANELS

- 5.1 Under the principles of proportionality, and with the composition of the Council prior to the vacancy in the Fawley, Blackfield and Langley ward, the allocation of seats should be as follows:

Total seats	107
Conservative Group	102
Liberal Democrat Group	3
Independent	2

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Appointing an additional O&S Panel will result in the payment of an additional Panel Chairman's allowance of £4,998 per year. Travel costs would be incurred by members attending meetings of an additional Panel but these would be offset by savings if the frequency of the existing Panels is reduced from 5 to 4 per year.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL; CRIME & DISORDER; AND EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There might be a marginal increase in the number of journeys councillors undertake to attend meetings, but this would not be significant. There are no crime & disorder or equality & diversity implications.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (a) That it be recommended to the Council:
- (i) That an additional Overview & Scrutiny Panel be introduced, and that the Portfolios reporting to each be as set out in paragraph 3.2 of this report;
 - (ii) That each Panel continues to comprise 10 members;
 - (iii) That the political proportionality be as set out in paragraph 4 of this report;
 - (iv) That each Panel meets four times per year, in January, March, June and September, with
 - an additional annual meeting to appoint the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Panel, and
 - special meetings as may be deemed necessary by the Chairman of that Panel.
- (b) That it be recommended to the O&S Panels that they meet on the following dates and times during 2018/19:

Panel	Day of meeting	Recommended dates	Start time
Corporate O&S Panel	Thursday	28 June 2018 27 September 2018 24 January 2019 28 March 2019	9.30 a.m.
Community & Leisure O&S Panel	Tuesday	19 June 2018 18 September 2018 15 January 2019 19 March 2019	6.00 p.m.
Environment O&S Panel	Thursday	14 June 2018 13 September 2018 10 January 2019 14 March 2019	2.00 p.m.
Housing O&S Panel	Wednesday	20 June 2018 19 September 2018 16 January 2019 20 March 2019	6.00 p.m.

Further information:
Rosemary Rutins
Service Manager, Democratic Services
and Member Support
Tel: 023 8028 5588
E-mail: rosemary.rutins@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:
None

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CABINET – 2 MAY 2018

**PORTFOLIO:
HOUSING SERVICES**

DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENTS POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Local Authorities can award Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP's) where there is a shortfall between the rent a landlord is charging and the amount of Housing Benefit or the housing element of Universal Credit being awarded, or to help with housing costs.
- 1.2 The legislation covering Discretionary Housing Payments is the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001. The policy gives full regard to the Department for Work and Pensions Guidance Manual for Discretionary Housing Payments.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Discretionary Housing Payments scheme is administered locally. Due to welfare reforms, most notably the introduction of Universal Credit, this policy has been updated to reflect these changes.
- 2.2 The purpose of the policy is to assist those claimants on a low income who are getting Housing Benefit or Universal Credit and who have a shortfall between the amount of support they are receiving and their actual rent, with that shortfall causing financial hardship.
- 2.3 The award could be for a number of reasons including loss of employment, change in household composition, landlord increasing the rent, the reduced benefits cap or welfare reforms.
- 2.4 The Government provide funding each year and any funding which is not spent cannot be carried over to the following year. The funding is always fully utilised to ensure we support as many households as possible and this includes proactively working with stakeholders. The funding for 2017/18 was £324,613.00 and all of the funding was used to make 765 awards.
- 2.5 The government funding for 2018/19 is £278,541.00.

3. DELEGATIONS

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Council's Discretionary Housing Payment Policy is administered by the Benefits Manager and appeal decisions made by the Service Manager Revenues and Benefits.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications in awarding a Discretionary Housing Payment as the scheme is fully funded by the Government.

5. PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS

- 5.1 I fully endorse this policy and how we use this funding to work with our partners to support as many people as possible who are struggling to pay their rent.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That the Discretionary Housing Payments policy, as attached as Appendix 1 to this report, is approved and adopted; and
- 6.2 That the Service Manager Revenues and Benefits, Benefits Manager and Senior Benefits Officer be given delegated authority to make decisions under the above policy.
- 6.3 That an annual report be submitted to update the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Panel on funding allocation, policy delivery and appeals.

For further information contact:

Ryan Stevens
Service Manager – Revenues and Benefits
023 8028 5588
ryan.stevens@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:

Discretionary Housing Payments Policy



New Forest District Council

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)

Policy

Contents

1. What are Discretionary Housing Payments
2. Statement of objectives
3. What are Housing costs?
4. Welfare Reform
5. Claiming a DHP
6. What a DHP cannot help with
7. Awarding a DHP
8. Period of award
9. Paying a DHP
10. Notifying an award of DHP
11. What if the claimant disagrees with a decision
12. Changes in circumstances
13. Overpayments
14. Fraud
15. Publicity

1. What are Discretionary Housing Payments?

The legislation covering Discretionary Housing Payments is the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001. This policy gives full regard to the Department for Work and Pensions Guidance Manual for Discretionary Housing Payments.

Local Authorities can award Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP's) where there is a shortfall between the rent a landlord is charging and the amount of Housing Benefit or the housing element of Universal Credit being awarded, or to help with housing costs. Where Universal Credit is awarded and housing costs refer to support for mortgage interest payments, owner-occupiers are not eligible to receive DHP's.

The main features of DHP's are that:

- the scheme is purely discretionary,
- there is no right to a payment,
- there must be an entitlement to Housing Benefit,
- they cannot be awarded to pay for ineligible service charges,
- the total amount of DHP's that can be awarded in any financial year is limited by the Secretary of State. Once this budget is spent the Council cannot make any more awards.
- The council is allowed to spend up to 2½ times the funding allocations. However, the extra money must be sourced from the council's own finances.
- Any unspent Discretionary Housing Payment funding will have to be returned to the Department for Work and Pensions.

The Council will help to assist potential beneficiaries of DHP's to claim them.

2. Statement of objectives

The Benefits Service will operate the DHP scheme and consider making a DHP to customers who meet the qualifying criteria as detailed below. Every application will be treated on its merits and all customers will be treated equally and fairly. The Benefits Service is committed to work closely with the Council's Homelessness Team, Social Landlords, the local voluntary sector, and other organisations where appropriate, and seek, through the operation of this policy, to:

- alleviate poverty
- prevent homelessness
- reduce the need for temporary accommodation for homeless households
- encourage and sustain New Forest residents in employment
- support the vulnerable in the local community
- help claimants through personal crisis and difficult events
- safeguard New Forest residents in their homes
- encourage and sustain people in employment
- keep families together
- help claimants with their rent whilst they seek cheaper/smaller accommodation

The DHP scheme should be seen as a short term emergency fund to help New Forest residents. However, in some cases long term awards may be appropriate.

3. What are “Housing costs”?

Housing costs are not defined in the regulations and this approach purposely allows broad discretion and interpretation. In general, “housing costs” usually refers to rental liability, although the term can be interpreted to include:

- Rent in advance
- Deposits, and
- Other lump sum costs associated with a housing need such as removal costs.

Council Tax liability cannot be met by DHP, even where a claimant is receiving Council Tax Support.

A DHP can be awarded for a rent deposit or rent in advance for a property that the claimant is yet to move into if they are already entitled to Housing Benefit or Universal Credit at their current property. When awarding a DHP, The Benefits Service will ensure that:

- The rent is affordable for the tenant, and
- The tenant has a valid reason to move, and
- The deposit or rent in advance is reasonable

The Benefits Service will establish if the claimant is due to have a rent deposit returned to them in respect of their existing tenancy, and other assistance available to them, for example the Council's Rent Deposit Scheme.

4. Welfare Reform

The Government has been implementing a number of welfare reforms. This includes:

- Size criteria in the social rented sector
- Local Housing Allowance
- Benefits Cap
- Universal Credit

The Benefits Service will work with claimants affected by welfare reforms. This may include awarding a DHP. Before some awards are made the Benefits Service will look to work in partnership with agencies and the claimants to offer the appropriate support.

5. Claiming a DHP

Before an award is made, the Council must be satisfied that the claimant is entitled to:

- Housing Benefit (HB) or the Housing Element of Universal Credit; and
- Requires further assistance with their housing costs

Where there is no entitlement to Housing Benefit or Universal Credit a DHP cannot be awarded. To claim DHP's the applicant, or someone acting on their behalf, must fill in and sign an

application form, or complete an e-form, detailing all their income and expenditure. The Council may accept details of income and expenditure not on its own application form.

Any supporting evidence or information must be included with the form. On receiving the application form the Council will date stamp it and this will be the date of application. The Benefits Service will usually request bank statements for the previous two months, showing all transactions.

The Benefits Service may request further information or evidence to assist in making a decision. The claimant will be asked to provide the evidence within one month of the date of request, although this may be extended in appropriate circumstances. If the claimant fails to provide the requested evidence, the council will make a decision on the information available. An interview or home visit may be necessary.

Before a decision is made, the Benefits Service will seek to ensure the claimant maximizes their income by checking entitlement to other state benefits or financial assistance that may be available to them, for example Personal Independence Payments. The Benefits Service will also give budgeting advice where appropriate.

6. What a DHP cannot help with

A DHP cannot help with the following:

- Ineligible service charges which are included in the rent
- Mortgage payments
- Shortfalls in HB due to overpayment recovery
- Payments towards a council tax bill

7. Awarding a DHP

In making a decision the following factors will be considered:

- what steps the claimant is taking to move to smaller or more affordable accommodation
- the amount of the shortfall between the Housing Benefit or the Housing Element of Universal Credit awarded and the amount of rent
- how long the shortfall is likely to be for
- the household of the claimant and their circumstances and whether they are likely to change
- the financial circumstances of the household, including all income, the types, amounts and reasonableness of expenditure
- what steps the claimant is taking to reduce expenditure and engage in budgeting support if appropriate
- the amount of household savings and debts
- any social or medical issues in the household or adaption's due to a disability which may make moving to a suitable alternative accommodation difficult
- the impact on the claimant and the council if the application is refused
- whether the claimant contributed to the shortfall
- if tied to an existing tenancy

- if a rent deposit is needed to assist in moving to affordable accommodation
- if there has been a previous award of DHP
- if the claimant is engaging with their work coach if receiving Universal Credit
- any other special circumstances

The Benefits Service will consider the above and decide on how much DHP to award.

An award of DHP does not guarantee that a further award will be made at a later date, even if the claimants circumstances have not changed.

8. Period of award

In all cases, the Benefits Service will decide the length of time of any awards made. The start date of the award will normally be:

- the Monday following receipt of the application form, or
- the date HB or Universal Credit entitlement starts, providing the application is received within one month of this date, or
- an earlier date if the Benefits Service considers reasonable

The DHP award will:

- normally award DHP's for a three month period when on expiry the award can be reviewed or a new application made. A DHP may be made for a shorter period of time where appropriate.
- not normally award a DHP for more than a year. Awards may be extended if the claimant's circumstances are unlikely to change.
- consider any reasonable requests for backdating an award of DHP, usually limited to the current financial year, so long as there is an award of Housing Benefit or Universal Credit.

A DHP shall not be awarded for any period where the customer has no entitlement to either Housing Benefit or the Housing Element of Universal Credit.

9. Paying a DHP

The Benefits Service will decide who the most appropriate person to pay any award of DHP to. This will normally be to whoever is receiving the Housing Benefit. However, the Benefits Service may decide to pay the landlord if appropriate. Payments will be by electronic transfer (BACS) or by crediting the claimants rent account. Records of payments will be held on our system to ensure the amount of DHP paid.

Payment frequency will normally be in line with Housing Benefit payments. Where a claimant is receiving Universal Credit, payments will be monthly.

10. Notifying an award of DHP

On receipt of an application for a DHP the Benefits Service will aim to inform the claimant of its decision within two weeks of receiving all the evidence and information, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

Where the application is successful the notification will advise the claimant:

- the weekly amount of DHP awarded,
- the start and end date of the award and the need to re-apply on expiry if appropriate
- how, when and whom the DHP will be paid
- the requirement to report any changes in circumstances
- any actions that need to be undertaken by the claimant and/or partner

Where the application is not successful, the notification will state this, along with an explanation for the decision and the right for a review.

The Benefits Service will keep a record of all decisions.

11. What if the claimant disagrees with a decision?

DHP's are not payments of Housing Benefit and are therefore not subject to an appeal. However, the Council will operate the following approach following a refusal to award a DHP or a decision not to backdate an award of DHP:

- A claimant (or appointee) who disagrees with a DHP decision can request an explanation of the decision. This must be done by e-mail, letter or phone within one month of the date of the decision. The Benefits Service will explain its decision to the claimant and aim to resolve the matter.
- Where the claimant disagrees with the decision this must be done by e-mail, letter or phone within one month of the date of the decision. This decision will be made by the Service Manager Revenues and Benefits. This decision is final and may only be challenged via judicial review or by complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman.

In exceptional circumstances the one month time limit to appeal a decision can be extended.

12. Changes in circumstances

On awarding a DHP any changes in circumstances must be notified to the Benefits Service straight away. The Benefits Service may revise the award of DHP or decide to end the award. The decision will be notified to the claimant.

13. Overpayments

Where a DHP is overpaid, officers will consider whether it is appropriate to recover in full, or in part, or not at all. The Council will seek to recover any DHP which has been overpaid as a result of misrepresentation or failure to disclose a material fact, fraudulently or otherwise.

Overpaid DHP's will be recovered from the claimant or payee. This is normally done by sending an invoice. Under no circumstances will recovery be made from Housing Benefit payments due to the claimant.

The Council does have discretion not to recover an overpayment of DHP.

The Benefits Service will notify the claimant of a decision to recover an overpayment of DHP, along with the offer of a review of the decision.

14. Fraud

New Forest District Council is committed to combating fraud. Anyone who tries to fraudulently claim a DHP by failing to disclose their true circumstances, or providing false statement or information in support of their application, may have committed an offence and the Council will investigate the matter. If fraud is found to have occurred, action will be taken including the recovery of overpaid DHP and, if appropriate, criminal proceedings.

15. Publicity

The Council will publicise the scheme and proactively work with claimants. The Benefits Service will actively work with all interested parties, including the Council's Homelessness Team, Social Services, Citizens Advice, voluntary organisations and Housing Associations.

CABINET – 2 MAY 2018

**PORTFOLIO: LOCAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY AND
INNOVATION**

INTERNET OF THINGS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides detail on the proposed roll-out of an Internet of Things local network that would involve small aerials being fitted to the roofs of New Forest District Council premises.
- 1.2 The work would be carried out by local Hampshire based company Barter for Things Ltd. Alex Barter, CEO and Founder, and David Pickett, Managing Director, presented and explained the project to EMT on 17th April.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Barter for Things Ltd. is a local company based in Eastleigh who specialise in the Internet of Things technology. The Internet of Things is a network of devices that can connect and exchange data, but aren't dependent upon broadband and/or cellular connections.
- 2.2 Alex Barter approached this Council in autumn 2017 about the company installing their aerials on council buildings across the district to spread their Internet of Things coverage and in turn create a new revenue stream for the Council.
- 2.3 Barter for Things Ltd. have already installed aerials on buildings owned by 2 other neighbouring authorities, and are close to coming to agreements with an additional 2 local authorities in Hampshire..
- 2.4 Relevant personnel from leisure, car parks, Appletree Court site management, ICT, the New Forest National Park Authority, and town and parish councils have all been consulted on the project to give opportunity for issues/queries to be raised. None have been raised.

3. KEY INFORMATION

- 3.1 The aerials are 60cm tall and pole-mounted with a base station. The aerials are not like TV aerials or those typically seen on houses, but rather are a small, thin stick-like object that protrudes into the air.
- 3.2 The aerials work by listening for tiny transmissions from anonymous, secured, connected 'things' (devices, sensors etc.). Once received the messages are then transmitted over the internet to the 'things' owner. The transmissions are less than 1/10,000 radio power of a mobile antenna.
- 3.3 The devices operate on a Low-Power Wide-Area Network (LPWAN), meaning this is not a replacement for broadband, but does have its uses.

3.4 Examples of application include but not limited to:

- *Asset Tracking* – Businesses and individuals can utilise GPS/LPWAN tracking devices attached to their property, e.g. fleet of vehicles, livestock, boats, to know where their things are even in remote locations.
- *Remote Monitoring* – Devices can remotely monitor water pressure, water leakages, water levels, pest traps etc. to eliminate unnecessary commuting
- *Homecare* – Connecting medicine dispensers, smoke alarms, movement detectors etc. to increase care for elderly or vulnerable (even those in the sticks).

3.5 From the Council's perspective the project could have applications for Appletree Careline and pest control services.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 This project provides the Council with the opportunity of increasing connectivity in the district and creating a new revenue stream at no taxpayer cost. Subject to approval the next steps involve the two parties coming to agreement on a 5-year license, seeking final confirmation for the suitability of the eleven proposed sites, and then allowing Barter for Things Ltd. to begin site inspections with a view to pinpointing the location of aerial erection.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The project would involve zero capital or operational cost to the Council. Barter for Things Ltd. would pay for the installation, electricity costs and continued monitoring of the aerials.

5.2 The project would provide the Council with a new revenue stream. Barter for Things Ltd. forecast that by end of financial year 5 New Forest District Council will net approximately £55,300 from the project.

6. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There is a chance of visual pollution, but such is the small nature of the aerials this level of pollution is minimal.

7.2 Through improved efficiency of monitoring, the project has the potential to deliver reduced carbon emissions from vehicles currently used for this purpose. For instance, pest control businesses no longer requiring manual inspections as devices even in remote places can transmit open/closed messages over the LPWAN.

8. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None

9. PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS

I support this initiative. It will facilitate the work of local businesses and public organisations within the District and will provide the Council with a new income stream.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That the Cabinet accepts the contents of this report; and
- 10.12 That subject to the satisfactory outcome of further investigations to ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect the Council's interests, the Service Manager, Estates and Valuation, be authorised to agree the suitability and location of the proposed sites, to secure all necessary authorisations and assessments, and to agree a 5 year licence to permit the installations in accordance with the terms set out in this report.

For further information contact:

Russell Phillips
Economic Development Officer
Tel: 023 8028 5588
E-mail: Russell.Phillips@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:

EMT Briefing Note: Internet of Things

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