



Council

Members of the council are hereby summoned to attend the
meeting of the council to be held in the
council chamber, City Hall, St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH

on

Tuesday, 24 July 2018

19:30

Agenda

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| 1 | Lord Mayor's announcements | |
| 2 | Declarations of interest | |
| | (Please note that it is the responsibility of individual members to declare an interest prior to the item if they arrive late for the meeting) | |
| 3 | Questions from the public | |
| 4 | Petitions | |
| 5 | Minutes
To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2018 | 5 - 28 |
| 6 | Questions to cabinet members / committee chairs

(A printed copy of the questions and replies will be available at the meeting) | |
| 7 | Amendment to the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy statement
Purpose - To approve an amendment to the wording of the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy | 29 - 38 |
| 8 | Members allowances and expenses
Purpose - To consider calling the members' expenses panel together to consider the expenses element of councillors allowances | 39 - 46 |

9	Local Government Boundary Review Purpose - To consider draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Norwich City Council from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England	47 - 90
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Information for members of the public

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For information about attending or speaking at meetings, please contact the committee officer above or refer to the council's website



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Council

19:30 to 21:15

20 March 2018

Present: Councillor Schmierer (Lord Mayor), Councillors Ackroyd, Brociek-Coulton, Button, Carlo, Coleshill, Davis, Driver, Fullman, Fulton-MacAlister (E), Fulton-McAlister (M), Hampton, Harris, Henderson, Huntley, Jones, Kendrick, Lubbock, Maguire, Malik, Maxwell, Packer, Peek, Price, Raby, Ryan, Sands (M), Sands (S), Smith, Stonard, Stewart, Stutely, Thomas (Va), Thomas (Vi), Trevor, Waters, and Wright

Apologies: Ms Ros Brown (Sheriff); and Councillors Bradford, Manning and Sands (S)

1. Lord Mayor's Announcements

The Lord Mayor gave an update on his first engagements of the civic year.

He noted that a motion had been withdrawn from the agenda.

The Lord Mayor said that Raymond Frostick, a previous Councillor and Lord Mayor had sadly passed away. He invited Councillor David Fullman to say a few words before a minute's silence was held.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Questions from the public

No public questions were received.

4. Petitions

No petitions were received.

5. Minutes

RESOLVED, unanimously, to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 20 March 2018 and 22 May 2018.

6. Questions to Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs

The Lord Mayor said that 12 questions had been received from members of the council to cabinet members for which notice had been given in accordance with the provisions of appendix 1 of the council's constitution.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Question 1 | Councillor Raby to ask the cabinet member for resources about the council's investment strategy. |
| Question 2 | Councillor Henderson to ask the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing about locks on blocks of flats. |
| Question 3 | Councillor Carlo to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment about the search for a new recycling centre for Greater Norwich. |
| Question 4 | Councillor Maxwell to ask the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing about replacing houses sold via Right to Buy. |
| Question 5 | Councillor Vaughan Thomas to ask the cabinet member for social inclusion about the Financial Inclusion Strategy. |
| Question 6 | Councillor Fullman to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment about partnership working to reduces anti-social behaviour. |
| Question 7 | Councillor Button to ask the cabinet member for social inclusion about the Switch and Save savings. |
| Question 8 | Councillor Stutely to ask the cabinet member for social inclusion about Better Off Norwich. |
| Question 9 | Councillor Malik to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment about the Rough Sleeping Strategy. |
| Question 10 | Councillor Stewart to ask the leader of the council about the National Writers Centre. |
| Question 11 | Councillor Mike Sands to ask the chair of licensing about maximum stakes fixed odds betting terminals. |
| Question 12 | Councillor Lubbock to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment about the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy. |

(Details of the questions and responses and any supplementary questions and responses are attached as Appendix A to these minutes.)

7. Annual review of the scrutiny committee 2017-18

Councillor Wright moved and Councillor Fullman seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED, unanimously to receive the annual review of the scrutiny committee 2018-19.

8. Annual report of the audit committee 2017-18

Councillor Price moved and Councillor Driver seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED unanimously to receive the annual report of the audit committee 2017-18

9. Appointment of representatives to outside bodies 2018-19

Councillor Kendrick moved and Councillor Peek seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED, unanimously, to:

- (1) make appointments to outside bodies for 2018-19 as set out in appendix A to the report; and,
- (2) delegate to director of business services, in consultation with the leaders of the political groups, to agree nominations to any vacancies arising during the year.

10. Motion: Refugee week

Councillor Ackroyd moved and Councillor Lubbock seconded the motion as set out on the agenda.

Following debate it was;

RESOLVED unanimously that:-

“Norwich has just celebrated the 20th anniversary of Refugee Week which ran from 18- 24 June 2018 and it is recognised that the refugee crisis has uprooted almost 50 million children from their homes who are now vulnerable to exploitation, abuse and trafficking.”

Council therefore **RESOLVES** to;

- (1) Acknowledge that this year's messaging for Refugee Week of 'Different Pasts, Shared Futures' is of great significance to ensuring refugees in our area are welcomed by us all
- (2) Formally thank the many organisations that supported Norwich Refugee Week this year.
- (3) Ask group leaders to write a joint letter to the City's MPs to call on the Government to do more to support the Refugee Crisis by:
 - a) Considering the extension of the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme; and
 - b) Acknowledging the importance of Family Reunification by reconsidering its position on not allowing children to sponsor their parents to be reunited with them in the UK.

11. Motion: Brexit

Councillor Wright moved and Councillor Ackroyd seconded the motion as set out on the agenda.

Councillor Waters proposed and Councillor Mike Sands seconded a motion to defer the debate on the item until a proper proposal was presented.

With 28 voting in favour, 6 against and no abstentions it was:

RESOLVED to defer debate on this motion.

12. Motion: Air quality

The Lord Mayor announced that notice had been received in advance of an amendment to the motion from Councillor Maguire set out as follows:

At the end of resolution (2) add the words:

'following research into Norwich specific fine particulate pollution in Norwich'

At resolution (3)(a) insert the words:

'consider extending' after 'review and..'

At resolution (3) (b) insert the words 'continue to' at the beginning of the resolution

Councillor Carlo had indicated that she was willing to accept the amendment and as no other member objected, it became part of the substantive motion.

Councillor Carlo moved and Councillor Henderson seconded the motion as amended.

The Lord Mayor agreed to include in the minutes Councillor Maguire's comments regarding the statement in the motion relating to 'high levels of nitrogen oxide...' were that the data was based on estimates rather than readings; the error margin was large enough that a snapshot reading could not reflect the readings of the entire year; and that once a correction had been applied only one site had been estimated to exceed targets and not sites had exceeded the one hour target.

Following debate it was:

RESOLVED unanimously that:

"Although improvements in the Norwich Air Quality Management Area have been shown, City Council monitoring still indicate levels exceeding Local Air Quality Management objectives for nitrogen dioxide. A report by the Anglia Square developer reveals even higher levels of nitrogen dioxide pollution on the nearby inner ring road which have not been picked up by Council monitoring. In relation to particulates, the World Health Organisation (WHO) named Norwich as one of 30 UK cities in breach of safe average limits. The EU is now taking the UK to the European Court of Justice on its poor compliance with the EU Directive."

RESOLVED to:-

(1) Ask council in relation to the Corporate Plan to:

- a) make air quality a priority and key action under 'A safe, clean and low carbon city';
- b) make Local Air Quality Management Area objectives for nitrogen dioxide a key performance measure and target;

(2) make WHO guideline values on fine particulate matter a key performance measure and target, following research into Norwich specific fine particulate pollution in Norwich.

(3) Ask cabinet to:

- a) review and consider extending the council's air quality monitoring network to cover the inner ring road and in areas of vulnerability;
- b) continue to work with partners to develop further measures to improve air quality across the Norwich built up area.

13. Motion: Consideration of a major planning application

The Lord Mayor reminded members that they should not discuss the details of any specific planning applications as part of the debate on this motion.

Councillor Lubbock moved and Councillor Wright seconded the following motion:

“The proposed Anglia Square development is significant for the city, with hundreds of comments received by the council as part of the consultation process.

Council therefore resolves to agree that the planning application for Anglia Square be determined by Full Council in order that all councillors can participate in taking this decision.”

Following debate, Councillor Ryan moved and Councillor Harris seconded a motion to move to the vote. The motion was passed with 28 voting in favour, six against and one abstention.

Being passed, the original motion was put to the vote (regrettably the mover of the original motion was denied the right to reply) and it was:-

RESOLVED with six voting in favour, one abstention and 28 against, the motion was lost.

LORD MAYOR

Questions to cabinet members / committee chairs

Question 1

Councillor Raby to ask the cabinet member for resources the following question:

“Over the last few months, we have heard about a string of major retailers, banks and restaurant groups either downsizing or folding altogether and Norwich has not been left unharmed by this trend, with premises formerly owned by Maplins, Natwest and Toys R Us now lying empty. A report by the Guardian last month found that the high street is currently shedding stores and jobs at a faster rate than during the recession in 2009 and major high-street names including Marks & Spencer, Debenhams, Topshop and House of Fraser are also struggling with all blaming ‘challenging’ conditions in the retail sector. Given the fragility of the retail market, does the cabinet member for resources still believe that Norwich City Council should be borrowing large sums of money to invest in retail premises in Norwich or across the UK?”

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resource’s reply:

“This question, or a variant of it, has been answered on numerous occasions in the past. In addition our strategy for buying commercial property is clearly set out in the cabinet report of 12 April 2017 where we said that:

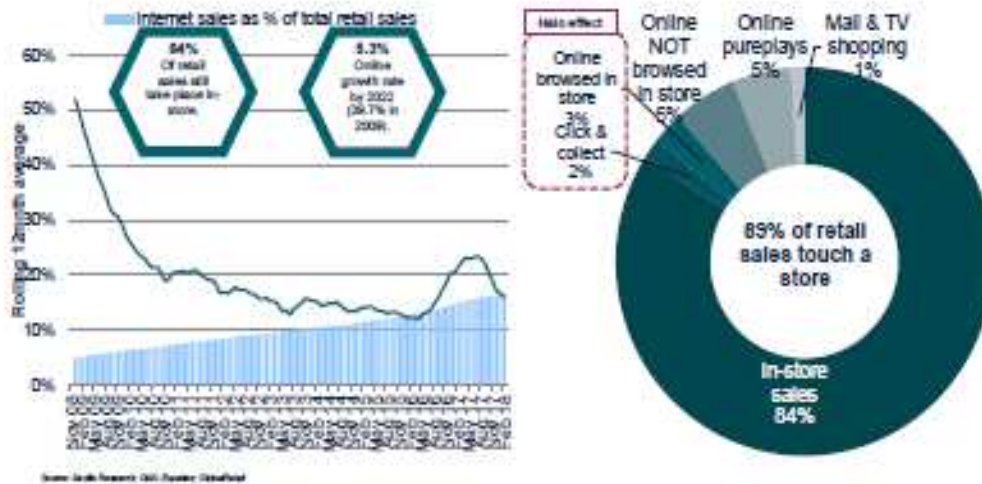
“Ideally the portfolio should be balanced with a spread of assets across different sectors, with a range of lot sizes so that one asset does not dominate the entire holding, and there is a combination of single and multi-let properties”.

Since starting this current programme of acquiring commercial property (although I would remind Members that we have held commercial property for decades) we have acquired 4 properties; namely one bank, a gym, a chilled food warehouse and one block of property in the centre of Norwich let to multiple retail tenants at ground floor.

We are therefore meeting our stated intentions by investing in property in good locations with a spread of tenancies in order to minimise the risks. We are not just investing in retail premises and in fact this element of our commercial property portfolio is a low percentage of the total.

Unfortunately the retail sector does seem to be hard pressed but this can be overstated. At a recent CIPFA investment conference attended by the council’s chief finance officer and the head of citywide services, Savilles gave details of how 89% of all retail sales in the UK still involve a physical store. The presentation slide is given below.

Online is creating a structural shift but the physical store still continues to play a key role....



In addition our officers learnt that primary retail shopping centres which can offer other 'experiences' in addition to retail outperform secondary smaller retail locations. Norwich can be considered to be such a primary location.

We have always acknowledged that investing in commercial property has its risks. That is why we proposed and got council agreement in February this year to put aside some of the new net rental income we receive from these acquisitions into an earmarked reserve to cover future voids, rent free periods, and future repairs on the property. In addition we have explained on many occasions the rigorous due diligence we take in considering acquisition opportunities including the buying in of independent expert advice from property agents, tax, and treasury management advisers.

Yes there is a risk in buying commercial property and in our other commercial activities; including lending to our wholly owned company, Norwich Regeneration Ltd, but there is also a risk of us not doing so. The risk of the latter is that we will not be able to find new income streams to subsidise the front line services we wish to provide to our citizens. If we can't diversify and increase our income base away from a high dependency on Business Rates and Council Tax income, then the likelihood is that we will need to reduce and cut our services. I would remind Members that the government is looking at how much funding and Business Rates income each tier of local government can retain as part of its Fairer Funding Review to be introduced in 2020 - 21. Very early indications seem to suggest that more Business Rates income will in the future be passed to unitary and county councils than kept by district councils.

Finally we are not alone in our commercial approach. The National Audit Office's report 'Financial sustainability of local authorities 2018' published 5 March 2018 comments that in reaction to the 49.1% real terms cut in local government funding from central government from 2010/11 to 2017/18:

“Local authorities have changed their approach to managing reductions in income, shifting away from reducing spending on front-line services, to looking for other savings and alternative income source, such as income from commercial activities.”

Information obtained from our property advisers Carter Jonas, who subscribe to information sets produced by propertydata.com, shows that there were 166 commercial property acquisitions by 150 different local authorities during 2017/18 (47 of these were out-of-borough purchases).”

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Kendrick said that he would join calls for fairer business rates schemes.

Question 2

Councillor Henderson to ask the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing the following question:

“Since 2014 residents have been calling for the installation of secure entry systems in communal blocks of flats across the city. Despite repeated promises, little progress has been made over the last 4 years in this regard. It has reached the point where some residents have considered joining together to organise secure entry systems themselves. What would the cabinet member say to reassure residents blighted by anti-social behaviour (e.g. people taking drugs, urinating and defecating) in these blocks?”

Councillor Harris, deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing’s response:

“The council is currently in year two of a five year rolling programme, which started in 2017/2018, to upgrade existing door entry systems. This includes all eight high rise tower blocks and the installation of two new door entry systems at Paragon Place and West Pottergate as there were no door entry systems in place on these. The upgraded system being installed will give additional security to existing blocks, with better control of access and fob management.

To date access control/door entry systems have been upgraded in 81 blocks which includes eight high rise tower blocks and two large areas of low and medium rise flats, Suffolk Square and Johnson Place. At 15 locations, new steel doors have been installed to provide additional security as current timber frames were due for replacement. This work was delivered in year one of the programme. In year 2, which the council is currently in, a further 47 blocks are due to be upgraded.

In summary, over the 5 year programme 398 existing blocks will be upgraded with new doors also being installed in 31 of these blocks. By the end of year 5 new installations of access control/door entry will also have delivered to 20 blocks within Paragon Place and West Pottergate.

This 5 year programme is based on reports and evidence of crime and anti-social behaviour and the budget of £236,000 was apportioned between 75% for upgrading and 25% for new installations. The priority sites, for new installations, were identified at this time as Paragon Place and West

Pottergate due to incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) related incidents in the areas.

Officers are aware of enquires and information from residents, both tenants and leaseholders, in other housing areas and this is currently under review. The council will also be working across teams regarding the ASB issues, including encouraging residents to report issues to help identify the areas most at risk. Residents are also encouraged to report issues of criminality to Norfolk Police. From internal discussions officers are aware that the installation of a door entry system is not always the 'cure' to any persistent ASB issues in an area and additional work is undertaken to try and pinpoint causes and other solutions that may be more appropriate and successful.

The council does not encourage the installation of residents own door entry systems due to this raising other security issues, access requirements and costs involved. Scheme priority is dependent on the available evidence of ASB and crime reporting which is analysed to identify persistent hotspots. Also, any review which could lead to identifying new installation areas will need to take into account any consultation requirements with tenants and leaseholders in the blocks."

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Harris said that spending had to be prioritised and that there was no easy answer to this issue.

Question 3

Councillor Carlo to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment the following question:

"Norfolk County Council is presently consulting the public on a future site for a new recycling centre for Norwich and what people would like to see. The County Council search is focused on the greater Norwich area on the basis of finding a site within a 20 minute drive time for residents. Land at Norwich Airport off the NDR is being considered as a possible site. The County Council questionnaire asks people to comment on the importance of parking availability but it makes no mention of access by foot and cycle. Currently, the Mile Cross depot is accessible to people who rely on foot and cycle. Relocating the depot to a site on the edge of Norwich off the fast moving NDR would seriously disadvantage the 33% of households in Norwich who do not own a car. Can the Cabinet Member comment on how the needs of Norwich residents without access to a car will be met in the selection of a new site and can different additional forms of collection be considered for those who don't have a car?"

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment's response:

"As Councillor Carlo points out in her question the provision of a new household waste and recycling centre is a matter for Norfolk County Council and the consultation which runs until 27 July is asking the public and other stakeholders to provide information about what they want to see on any replacement site. I would therefore recommend Cllr Carlo to ask the question

to them directly as they will be best placed to answer it. I would also encourage all Councillors and residents to contribute to the consultation.

Whilst the present centre is fairly central within the urban area I understand the county council are not able to continue to use it. Therefore they have to find a new site, which is convenient for people to use and above all available. The latter is significant as locating such a centre can be challenging taking into account neighbour issues and traffic generation for example. The location of a new site is yet to be confirmed but I understand that consideration will be given as part of the design to the safe movement of pedestrians and bike users arriving at the recycling centre. The final site chosen will also have to meet planning and logistical considerations, for example site availability and transport issues.

Apparently the existing centre is used mainly by people in a car or van and with very few visitors arriving on foot or cycle. It is difficult to separate those that walk to the site from those that park further down the road and walk in to the recycling centre but anecdotal evidence is that the number is very low, perhaps understandable when one considers:

- (1) The limited bulk of waste it is possible to transport via these means;
- (2) That more often than not items that one could transport on foot or cycle can be readily disposed of via domestic waste collection provision or via the mixed recycling bring banks; and
- (3) The present site is equally a long walk or cycle ride for much of the urban area's population.

In terms of alternative options, householders in Norwich have the most extensive kerbside recycling service in Norfolk. There are regular collections of mixed recycling, electrical products and batteries, food waste, garden waste and textiles. There are also a number of bring banks across the city, a well-used and relatively inexpensive bulky item collection service and many charity and re-use organisations. There is extensive information on the City Council and the Recycle for Norfolk websites on recycling options.

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Maguire said that he would consult officers for timescales on communal recycling for small electrical items. He would also raise the issue of the location of the new recycling centre with the chair of the sustainable development panel.

Question 4

Councillor Maxwell to ask the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing the following question:

"I was concerned by research from the Local Government Association (LGA) which found local authorities only have enough money to replace less than one-third of the number of homes sold over the past six years through RTB. More than 60,000 houses have been sold, some at half the market rate. With

the Government taking some of the sale cash, councils have been left with enough for just 14,000 replacements, prompting the LGA to call for a 'fundamental reform of the way the scheme is funded'. The LGA says two thirds of councils in England will not be able to replace the same number of homes they sell under the scheme in five years' time. Can the cabinet member for social housing comment on the impact of this policy upon Norwich since 2010?"

Councillor Harris, deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing's response:

"Thank you for the question and yes the LGA research demonstrates the worrying impact of the right to buy legislation nationally. In Norwich this council has had to sell 955 homes through right to buy from 37 in 2010 to a high of 187 in 2017-18. The details of this can be seen in the table below which shows the number of properties sold through Right to Buy since 2010-2011:

Financial year	Number of properties sold
2010-2011	37
2011-2012	38
2012-2013	90
2013-2014	139
2014-2015	149
2015-2016	151
2016-2017	164
2017-2018	187

In April 2012 the government increased the discount cap that applies to Norwich from £32,000 to £75,000 which resulted in a dramatic increase in sales - from an average of 38 to 90 in a year, more than doubling the loss of properties. Having previously been static at £32,000, the discount figure now increases annually by a percentage equal to the percentage change in the consumer price index (rounded down to the nearest £100) and is now £80,900 for the current financial year (up to 70% or the cash maximum – whichever is lower).

The number of sales in the next year 2013-2014 increased again dramatically to 139 and has been steadily increasing since.

The qualifying period also reduced from 5 years to 3 years in April 2015 which means a greater risk of the council losing council properties. If the council is unable to utilise the retained RTB receipts within this three year time scale, we will always try to work with a registered provider to contribute funds to a scheme they may lead on. As portfolio holder for social housing, I want people to have homes, not to have to give money to the government with interest because we have failed to spend these receipts.

Whilst I fully understand some residents desire to own their own home in Norwich, this should not be paid for by this council from a discount on the value of the property where right to buy applies and the restrictions placed on the council by government on how new council homes can be built.”

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Harris said that the Right to Buy figures were horrifying and that she would continue to speak to the government about issues such as lifting the one percent rent cap.

Question 5

Councillor Vaughan Thomas to ask the cabinet member for social inclusion the following question:

“A poll commissioned by the *Independent* found that nearly 4m adults in the UK have been forced to use food banks. The poll comes as a major report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows that more than 1.5m people were destitute in the UK last year, more than the populations of Liverpool and Birmingham combined. Will the cabinet member for social inclusion comment on the increasing food bank use in Norwich and the importance of the financial inclusion strategy in underpinning the effective work this local authority takes to partly mitigate this problem?”

Councillor Davis, cabinet member for social inclusion’s reply:

“The city council has worked closely with the city’s Foodbank since its inception and, as Councillor Vaughan has stated, the council’s Financial Inclusion Strategy guides the council in its work with vulnerable people throughout the City.

The end of the 17-18 financial year showed an increase in need for help with food of 5%, as well as an increase of 9% in donations. For the first time however there has been a change in the main reason that people are approaching the Foodbank. There can be many reasons why people find themselves in need of help from the Foodbanks and these have been closely monitored. While benefit delays (25%) and benefit changes (16%) remain significant drivers, low income (31%) has become the number one reason for people turning to Foodbanks in a crisis. This suggests that more and more people in work are struggling to afford to feed themselves and their families, and this problem has been growing and is likely to continue to grow.

The council’s Financial Inclusion Strategy has focussed, firstly, on supporting people to maximise their income, including by ensuring that they get all of the benefits they are entitled to and, secondly, on addressing issues around the efficient use of their money. The below sections summarise some of the work the council is doing in these areas.

Maximising income

Work to support people to maximise their income has included:

- Support for the Real Living Wage (as opposed to the legal minimum wage) by signing up as a Living Wage employer and acting as an advocate for the living wage across the city
- Running a Jobs Fair to support residents to get into work, or better work
- Benefits take up campaigns, including the recent roll out of the successful pupil premium/free school meals uptake campaign which was funded by Norfolk County Council following our successful pilot in Lakenham
- Support for people in claiming and challenging benefits entitlements through the financial inclusion consortium funded by the council (including Age UK, MAP, Citizens Advice, NCLS, Shelter and Equal Lives)
- Wider work to support increased incomes through the council's reducing inequality action plan, including through development of a social value framework for procurement and wider work with partners around promoting a more inclusive economy in Norwich

Affordability and efficient use of money

Work in this area has included:

- Money and budgeting advice provided for tenants by our housing service
- Support for sharing of resources through the council's community enabling programme, for example the stuff hubs being funded in local neighbourhoods which will allow residents to borrow equipment rather than buying it
- Increasing focus on food poverty in the City – the council has been working with a range of organisations involved in food (supply, provision, growing and healthy eating) to establish a network which will further increase coordination within the sector and develop skills and initiatives designed to use food resources more efficiently
- Promotion of council home contents insurance for tenants to raise awareness about options around this
- Provision of the Go For Less card allowing residents on low income to access leisure facilities at a lower cost"

Question 6

Councillor Fullman to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment the following question:

"Rising crime, anti-social behaviour and the negative consequences of drug dealing connected to Operation Gravity have plagued my ward of Mancroft. Will the cabinet member for safer, stronger neighbourhood's comment on the ongoing work this council takes to support the police and other agencies to tackle this problem?"

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment reply:

"Crime and disorder linked to County Lines drug dealing is a national problem, which presents challenges both in terms of scale and complexity to police forces working closely with a range of partners. The council continues to work

closely with the Norfolk Constabulary response called Operation Gravity, through the joint council and police, operational partnership team. This involves sharing information and intelligence and working with front line police teams to address drug related disorder linked to properties within the city, some of which are council tenancies.

However, the vulnerability of many people involved in County Lines means that a purely enforcement based approach by the police or council is neither appropriate or possible. Each case is different and requires a tailored set of interventions. For example these can include support from the council's Specialist Support Team, enforcement action by the ABATE team (including the absolute ground for possession in some cases), as well as managed moves where appropriate to protect those at particular risk of harm. There will of course be police action required due to the seriousness of the criminality that is occurring.

The council is also working with other partners including the newly formed Child Criminal Exploitation team in Norwich, which seeks to address another facet of the County Lines problem, and has input from a number of different agencies within the city. Similarly, the ABATE team has an ongoing input into the Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation Forum coordinated by the Home Office. This forum brings together local authorities, housing providers, youth offending teams, police and NHS workers from across the country, who share good practice and initiatives intended to tackle issues caused by County Lines.

Finally, the Norfolk community safety partnership which is led by the council's chief executive officer has identified County Lines as one of its three priorities. The partnership is developing an action plan that will identify the interventions required across Norfolk that will support those who are or are at risk of being vulnerable to County Lines and the resources available or required from partners to contribute to this activity."

Question 7

Councillor Button to ask the cabinet member for social inclusion the following question:

"I was impressed by the recent Big Switch and Save savings achieved for a constituent I was supporting, and experiencing fuel poverty. Now that the latest tranche has closed can the cabinet member for social inclusion comment on the savings achieved so far?"

Councillor Davis, cabinet member for social inclusion's response:

"Thank you for your question. I am glad our scheme was able to help your constituent achieve savings on their bills. While people may not think about switching while the weather is good, it is a great time to do so as people are more likely to be in credit with their suppliers, and it means they can get onto a good deal before the winter begins. Our current tranche is running until July

3, with an average saving of £230 for residents. As well as this a 100% renewable energy company has won our auction to supply online tariffs.

Over 1,400 people have signed up to the current tranche of the Big Switch and Save, and over the past 5 years over 10,000 people in Norwich have registered with our scheme with a cumulative saving of over £480,000. As you can see our scheme has been very successful in helping people make savings on their bills.

Please help us to assist as many people as possible by spreading the good news.”

Question 8

Councillor Stutely to ask the cabinet member for social inclusion the following question:

“The Labour led City Council purchased Better off Norwich last year and I am aware of many constituents which have set up accounts and used the services which it can provide, in particular the claiming of entitled unclaimed social security benefits. Can the cabinet member comment on the additional entitled support and benefits now claimed by this valuable resource?”

Councillor Davis cabinet member for social inclusion’s response:

“The city council purchased the suite of programmes collectively known as Betteroff Norwich the system going live from October 2017.

It is primarily designed for people to self-help. To clarify what if any benefits they may be entitled to, to assist with the claiming process including demystifying some of the language used and to keep track of the claiming process. In addition to this, an important feature of the system was a package that allowed people to search for employment or even volunteering opportunities (especially useful for people who are returning to the labour market after a prolonged absence). This is tied in to completing a ‘Journal’ to readily show your activities completed in your search for work.

Finally, there is a wealth of local and national information available for people to help search for childcare options or budgeting methods.

As Councillor Stutely has stated individuals have the ability to create their own accounts which can record their activities and can help people towards deciding on different strategies including ‘What If’ scenarios and the options which will impact on their overall impact and resources.

In addition to helping people who are confident in dealing with the claiming process, Betteroff Norwich is an invaluable tool for advice agencies across the city to help and advise their clients. The city council has promoted its use throughout the advice sector and officers have provided training in all of its aspects to advisors.

Finally, the programmes are very easy to update and new, local information is regularly put onto the site.

The latest statistics available for the end of the financial year clearly indicate that the most visited pages are those related to job searching and checking on benefit entitlements. In keeping with Data Protection legislation, the city council cannot access any personal information put into the system however results show over 900 accounts were created by new users to the site, 449 entitlement calculations were carried out for people and there were 2,535 views of job pages. Each month has shown an increase in its useage."

Question 9

Councillor Malik to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment the following question:

"Rough sleeping is a growing issue within the city, and I was particularly pleased by the launch of the new Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) pathways strategy in February, securing nearly £1m of additional funding. Can the cabinet member for safe city environment comment on progress with the scheme since then?"

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment's response:

"Norwich city centre, like many urban centres, faces a number of issues from increased levels of homelessness, rough sleeping and at times anti-social behaviour, which is due in part to a reduction in the level of public services and the impacts of welfare reform.

Particular points are that:

- There is an increasing number of people sleeping rough in Norwich
- The people seen sleeping rough and those congregating in the city centre during the day and evenings may have a set of complex needs including drug and alcohol dependency, mental illness and a history of offending
- Some people sleeping rough may not be homeless and may display or have some vulnerability
- Some individuals congregating in the city centre may be experiencing food or financial poverty, loneliness or social isolation.

Many of these issues are the responsibility of other organisations including Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Public Health and the Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust and the council's approach to respond to these issues, is to work with these organisations to ensure the services are available in Norwich.

In December the Council endorsed a rough sleeping strategy which sets out to reduce the numbers of people who are homeless and sleeping rough and to ensure that services are accessible for those who are homeless and have complex needs so they can move away from being homeless.

In March cabinet awarded funding for a three year period to a consortium of organisations led by St Martins Housing Trust to deliver a new service to

address many of these issues and problems. The Pathways service will provide access to accommodation as well as the support services for drug and alcohol dependency and mental health to tackle and prevent rough sleeping in the city.

The Pathways will focus on the following outcomes:

- An overall reduction in numbers of rough sleepers in Norwich
- Former rough sleepers with multiple and complex needs sustaining accommodation
- Numbers of people prevented from rough sleeping
- Helping sustain former rough sleepers with complex and multiple needs in their own accommodation
- Improving the quality of day centre provision for rough sleepers
- Enable rough sleepers and people who have experienced homelessness to give back to services who helped them.

The Council is also putting additional resource into Home Options as a result of the homelessness reduction act for those who are or at risk of homelessness and seeking additional bed spaces for those who require them.

Progress

The partners are currently mobilising the new service. There is currently 5.5 staff in the Pathways team providing two early morning outreach counts per week and increased daytime outreach on the streets and providing in-reach into services. Recruitment for four more outreach posts is underway covering criminal justice liaison with prisons and probation service; a nurse practitioner, and a housing advice and rights worker and a young person worker. Two additional staff are also due to be recruited (by early autumn) including an additional young person and day centre worker.

St Martins with other members of the partnership including Norwich City Council have been meeting with stakeholders to open up discussions of how the new service will work alongside existing services. These meetings have/will include the following agencies:

- Norfolk constabulary
- DWP – who have committed to provide a specialist homelessness work coach
- Probation service
- New drug and alcohol service provider - Change Grow Live (CGL)
- Emmaus Norfolk and Waveney (homelessness charity)

An official launch is planned for July 2018. St Martins and the Council are in discussion regarding the details and interested parties will be invited to attend. This will tie in with communications, web and some printed information providing advice for and to rough sleepers, the public and businesses.

Government rough sleeping fund

The Council is one of 82 local housing authorities who have been awarded funding by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government from a £31m rough sleeping initiative fund. The Government is targeting areas with rough sleeping populations to award the funding.

The purpose of this funding is to bring about a reduction to rough sleeping levels this coming winter. The council was asked to identify service gaps over and above and complementary to, existing provision with these being identified as:

- A rough sleeper mental health nurse clinician (this service was closed 4-5 years ago)
- Crash bed provision at YMCA Norfolk to mirror provision at St Martins direct access hostel
- Dry house provision with clinical staff
- Hostel link tenancy support workers (to encourage flow through the supported housing system)
- Winter shelter co-ordinator (a review of the SWEP arrangements from last winter is in progress).

The Council submitted a bid totalling £260,000 for spend in 2018-19 which has been agreed. Whilst funding beyond this current financial year is not guaranteed, it is possible and better to be part of the overall programme.

Providing indoor evening food and support

The current outdoor food provision which whilst well meaning, perpetuates issues of dependency and does not allow the individuals to move on from rough sleeping. The food provision on Haymarket also results in the area being a significant hotspot for crime, drugs, street drinking and ASB. There have also been safeguarding concerns raised about some of the client group with attendees and volunteers being at risk.

The providers distribute food to individuals and families who may be poor and short of food or lonely who come into the city centre for the provision as well as rough sleepers. The council's work on food poverty is focussing on encouraging the development of VCSE led neighbourhood food and advice hubs hosted, or highlighting the many that already exist through a Norwich food network.

In order to address the issues on Haymarket and the eventual removal of the two market stalls once the new service provision becomes available, the council have commissioned *The Feed* to develop an evidence base of why people are using the food provision to inform alternative provision. A survey to identify users started on 12 June.

There is already considerable provision at various locations in the neighbourhoods which can be promoted better, but further provision in the city centre area is required. The Feed have been exploring a model for a social enterprise sandwich shop which is also used as training and food provision for

the homeless in Norwich in the evening with support from the council. This is based on the successful [Social Bites](#) model in Scotland (*this is a web link*).

The Feed are the Lord Mayor and Sheriff's charity for the 2018-19 civic year and have had their offer accepted on a property in Prince of Wales Road for this. A Crowdfunding campaign to fit out the venue has been launched [Off-the-street-into-the-kitchen](#) and the Feed has also been notified that the Norfolk and Suffolk LEP have confirmed funding for a further year to fund [the feed academy](#) work which will support the facility."

Question 10

Councillor Stewart to ask the leader the following question:

"Representing Thorpe Hamlet ward, as the first Labour City Councillor since 1982, I am particularly proud of the historic Dragons Hall and the National Writers Centre, opened earlier this month by the Leader. Can the Leader comment on the importance this centre offers, building on the establishment of Norwich as a UNESCO city of literature?"

Councillor Waters, leader's response:

"The National Centre for Writing at Dragon Hall marks an important milestone in our city's story as England's first UNESCO City of literature. For Norwich to host the National Centre for Writing, yes, the national centre is a tremendous accolade. This is testament to our great literary history and current status as a creative writing hothouse. It is also testament to the hard work and tenacity of all those who have helped to make this a reality.

Over £2.6m investment has been used to upgrade Dragon Hall, a Grade 1 listed, 15th century Merchant's Hall. Owned by the City Council, and lovingly restored by the previous custodians, the Norfolk and Norwich Heritage trust.

This investment in the National Centre for Writing will bring new spaces for collaborative working, accommodation for writers-in-residence and make the building a unique new venue for public engagement with literature. The new south wing will house a purpose built education centre. This education centre will act as the base for work to engage young people in and out of school to overcome barriers to participation in literary and culture, develop skills, improve life chances and employability. It will promote best practice in education, tolerance and understanding and freedom of expression.

As a local, regional, national and international hub, the National Centre for Writing will develop education and outreach work in collaboration with existing partners, as well as through new partnerships with national and international organisations.

Engagement with children and young people identified as having low access to the arts is projected to increase from 10,000 to 20,000. In total the five-year business plan projects that the national Writers Centre's physical space and partnerships will reach a total of 1.3 million people (or an average of 260,000 people per year) across all audiences and platforms and will have a positive

economic impact on the local economy. Including employment, capital investment, additional spends of visitors and cultural tourists – in the region of £500,000-£1,000,000 per annum.

Norwich has a long and proud history of recognising the importance of culture in helping to enrich people's lives, bring enjoyment and making Norwich the place it is.

The National Centre for Writing will contribute to keeping culture at the heart of everything we do."

Question 11

Councillor Mike Sands to ask the chair of licensing the following question:

"Like many councillors who care about the negative impacts of the gambling industry upon residents in my community, I was disappointed that the government's recent promise to reduce the maximum stake on fixed odds betting terminals from £100 to £2 has been delayed by their granting the gambling industry a two year stay of execution. Will the chair of licensing join me in voicing these concerns to both our City MP's and ensuring the LGA continues to lobby on this important issue?"

Councillor Malik, chair of licensing's reply:

"The government's consultation on gaming machines and social responsibility measures ran from 31 October 2017 to 23 January 2018.

The government's response to this review was to suggest the need to ensure the right balance is in place between a sector that can grow and contribute to the economy, and one that is socially responsible and doing all it should to protect consumers and communities from harm.

The council's response to the consultation, completed in consultation with the cabinet member for safe city environment, supported the proposal to reduce the maximum stake on B2 gaming machines (Fixed Odds Betting Terminals) from £100 to £2.

Underlying this, the council has duty under the Gambling Act objective "*to protect children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.*"

The potential delay of introducing the reduction in the maximum stake will impact on achieving the gambling objective to protect vulnerable persons and inevitably impact on our residents.

With the high levels of financial exclusion and inequality occurring in certain parts of the city, this decision means that for some of our most vulnerable residents, there remains a continued risk of being drawn into the false lure of a quick win from the use of fixed odds betting terminals resulting in spiralling levels of debt.

I fully support the proposal to raise this matter with both our MP's and give our support to the LGA to continue to lobby the minister on this important issue which will affect all communities."

Question 12

Councillor Lubbock to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment the following question:

"In my ward of Eaton neighbours have been plagued by anti-social behaviour (ASB) both inside a council property and outside in the streets. These problems have been extremely distressing for the community over many months and also for myself as an advocate for that community. Whilst I accept the complexity of this particular issue I am sure this is not an isolated problem.

Can the cabinet member for safe city environment comment on the council's process for dealing with ASB, how it works with other agencies, how it communicates with the individuals and communities affected and the effectiveness of its approach?"

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment's response:

"Antisocial behaviour (ASB) covers a broad range of issues, which can vary greatly in terms of seriousness, complexity, and impact on local residents.

ASB complaints can be raised via the council website, or by calling the customer contact centre, and these reports are initially passed to the area management team in citywide services to investigate. When reports of criminal behaviour are reported, the complainants are encouraged to report these to the police. All noise complaints are sent directly to the team via the 'noise app' and are passed to an area management officer (AMO) to investigate.

For reports of other ASB which are not noise related, the council contacts the complainant to gain an understanding of the situation, and to assess the level of risk posed. All information is recorded accurately on a case file, and the complainant updated as the case progresses. Officers ensure that any safeguarding concerns such as mental health issues, mental capacity, domestic abuse or substance misuse, are raised with the relevant agencies, and advice is given to the complainant about what action may be taken in the case.

Where possible it's the council's aim to resolve issues in an informal manner using letters, visits and mediation, or a combination of interventions. If this is not effective then more formal action may be considered.

For noise related issues, noise abatement notices can be issued if there is proof that a statutory nuisance has occurred (this does not include ordinary domestic living noise, such as loud voices, doors banging etc). A statutory

notice can be issued on amplified music/noise, mechanical noise and animal noise e.g. barking dogs. In order to gain evidence, officers from environmental protection will work with AMOs and may need to deploy detection equipment to prove a nuisance exists.

For other forms of ASB, initial enforcement interventions could include a community protection warning (CPW) or community protection notices (CPN) that were introduced as part of the anti-social behaviour and policing act 2014. Subsequent breach of a CPN can result in a fine or prosecution. If initial interventions are not successful in resolving the issue, the case may be referred to the Antisocial Behaviour and Tenancy Enforcement (ABATE) team for further action.

The ABATE team has a number of tools and powers available including a variety of notices (relating to housing tenancies) and injunctions. The team are co-located with Norfolk police, with whom they have a very close working relationship. Together they form the Norwich Operational Partnership Team (OPT).

Upon referral, the case is allocated to a specific ABATE case officer who contacts the complainants, and gathers information from them and other sources. The risk to the complainant is re-assessed, and the most appropriate response to the reported problems is considered. If enforcement action is believed to be the most appropriate solution, the officer completes an equality and community impact assessment. This is to demonstrate that council has taken an all round view of the case, including any vulnerabilities of the perpetrator or their household, and to ensure the council's responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 are met.

The ABATE team also deals with some serious ASB cases from the outset, for example where there has been a particularly serious incident of violence at a property, or where the police have informed the council of a significant drugs seizure or arrest at a tenanted property.

The team also receives and handles all 'hate' related cases reported to the council in our capacity as a third party reporting agency. The team then shares that information with the police for action and monitoring. Similarly the police also share information with ABATE regarding hate incidents and crimes which have been reported to them and are linked to the council's housing stock.

All cases are different and must be treated on their own merits, and some incidents may be so serious that once a notice is served the ABATE team will progress it to court immediately. However, more generally, progress to court will depend on the behaviour of those subject to the notice after it has been served. The most serious sanction available to the council is eviction, and that decision ultimately rests with a judge.

Both AMOs and ABATE officers liaise with a number of different agencies as part of their casework. Clearly there is ready access to police colleagues via the OPT, but for those cases where early intervention is required, both teams

regularly attend the Norwich Early Help Hub, where a wide variety of agencies and organisations are available to offer advice and signposting. Similarly where significant safeguarding concerns are raised, all officers within the ASB service regularly contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), who can offer support and advice in relation to issues such as concerns for childrens welfare, adults being exploited, and individuals at significant risk from domestic abuse. Furthermore, the ABATE team also have direct access to the Mental Health Assessment Team (from NSFT) who are based at the police control room,

Where ASB cases are particularly complex, and may feature some of the issues mentioned above, professionals meetings are held at which solutions are sought and actions set. Ultimately the effectiveness of interventions in more complex high level cases, relies not only upon actions taken by the council, but also the appropriate input and assistance of partner agencies.”

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Maguire said that in many cases, reports of anti-social behaviour should be dealt with by the police.

Report to	Council	Item
	24 July 2018	
Report of	Chief finance officer (Section 151 Officer)	7
Subject	Amendment to the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy statement	

Purpose

To approve an amendment to the wording of the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy

Recommendation

To approve an amendment to and rewording of the existing MRP policy, which came into effect in the 2017/18 financial year, as set out at paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority value for money services.

Financial implications

The financial implications are set out in the main body of the report.

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Kendrick - resources

Contact officers

Karen Watling, chief finance officer	01603 212440
Tina Stankley, senior technical accountant interim	01603 212562

Background documents

None

Report

1. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy Mid-year Review Report 2017/18 report was presented to Cabinet on 17 January 2018. The report included proposals to make changes to the MRP policy.
2. The report recommended and received Council approval to back-date the application of the annuity basis calculation of MRP from 2007/08 onwards (up to then the revised calculation had only applied from 2015/16 onwards).
3. It has become apparent however, from the external audit process of the 2017/18 Statement of Accounts, that a proofreading error was made in the January 2018 report. The report and MRP Policy incorrectly states “that the MRP charge was to be calculated on a 2% annuity basis”, when it should have read “that the MRP charge was to be calculated on an annuity basis.” In addition to this correction it is proposed that the sentence is changed to “that the MRP charge would be calculated on an annuity basis using the prevailing rate of interest at the time.”
4. The external auditors have also proposed revised wording as detailed below. The proposed deletions are shown crossed out and the proposed insertions are underlined.

(A) Before 1st April 2008 or which in the future will be Supported Capital Expenditure ~~including the Adjustment A~~, the MRP policy will be to charge MRP on an annuity basis (using the prevailing rate of interest at the time) so that there is provision for the full repayment of debt over 50 years. Adjustment A has not been applied.

(E) Expenditure in respect of loans made to third parties ~~the council's wholly owned companies~~ will not be subject to a minimum revenue provision as the council will have undertaken sufficient due diligence to expect these loans will be repaid in full to the council by a capital receipt either during the loan agreement term or at the end of the agreement. Therefore the council considers that it can take a prudent view that the debt will be repaid in full at the end of the loan agreement (or during if it is an instalment loan), so MRP in addition to the loan debt repayments is not necessary. Each loan will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that is no change in the expectation that there will be a full repayment of the loan. If, upon review, this is no longer found to be the case then the a minimum revenue provision will be made to cover the repayment of the loan.

This is subject to the following details:

- An average asset life for each project will normally be used. There will not be separate MRP schedules for the components of a building (e.g. plant, roof etc.). Asset life which will be determined by the Chief Finance Officer based on the A standard schedule of asset lives provided by an appropriately qualified asset valuer will generally be used (as stated in the Statement of Accounts accounting policies).

- Other methods to provide for debt repayment may occasionally be used in individual cases where this is consistent with the statutory duty to be prudent, as justified by the circumstances of the case. Where this is the case the chief finance officer will first seek approval from full council. ~~at the discretion of the Chief Finance Officer.~~
- There is no requirement on the HRA to make a minimum revenue provision but there is a requirement for a charge for depreciation to be made. ~~Transitional arrangements with respect to depreciation, revaluation and impairments; put in place at 1 April 2012 were due to expire on 31 March 2017. However the Item 8 determination released on 24 January 2017 has extended indefinitely the ability to charge depreciation, revaluations and impairments to the HRA but reverse in the Movement in Reserves Statement.~~

This will make the policy clearer and remove any ambiguity from the policy.

5. MRP charges for 2017/18 and onwards have been calculated on the intended basis i.e. on an annuity basis (using the prevailing rate at the time). So in correcting this error in the MRP Policy there is no financial impact to the council. Not correcting the MRP Policy would however have an adverse financial impact.
6. The report correctly stated that the asset life was deemed to begin once the asset becomes operational, and that MRP will commence from the financial year following the one in which the asset becomes operational.
7. Council is recommended to approve the amendment to and proposed rewording of the MRP Statement, the corrected formal wording for which can be found at Appendix 1.

Integrated impact assessment



NORWICH
City Council

The IIA should assess **the impact of the recommendation** being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with the completion of the assessment can be found [here](#). Delete this row after completion

Report author to complete	
Committee:	Council
Committee date:	24 July 2018
Director / Head of service	Karen Watling
Report subject:	Amendment to the minimum revenue provision policy statement
Date assessed:	16 July 2018
Description:	This integrated impact assessment covers proposals for an amendment to the minimum revenue provision policy statement

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The amendment to the minimum revenue provision policy statement will secure continuing value for money to the council.
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Impact			
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Natural and built environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment
Positive
None
Negative
None
Neutral
None
Issues
None

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy statement

For capital expenditure incurred:

(A) Before 1st April 2008 or which in the future will be Supported Capital Expenditure, the MRP policy will be to charge MRP on an annuity basis (using the prevailing rate of interest at the time) so that there is provision for the full repayment of debt over 50 year. Adjustment A has not been applied;

(B) From 1st April 2008 for all unsupported borrowing (excluding finance leases) the MRP policy will be to charge MRP on an annuity basis (using the prevailing rate of interest at the time) so that there is provision for the full repayment of debt over 50 years; Asset life is deemed to begin once the asset becomes operational. MRP will commence from the financial year following the one in which the asset becomes operational.

(C) MRP in respect of unsupported borrowing taken to meet expenditure, which is treated as capital expenditure by virtue of either a capitalisation direction or regulations, will be determined in accordance with the asset life method as recommended by the statutory guidance.

(D) Expenditure in respect of the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme will not be subject to a minimum revenue provision as this is a temporary arrangement and the funds will be returned in full.

(E) Expenditure in respect of loans made to third parties will not be subject to a minimum revenue provision as the council will have undertaken sufficient due diligence to expect these loans will be repaid in full to the council by a capital receipt either during the loan agreement term or at the end of the agreement. Therefore the council considers that it can take a prudent view that the debt will be repaid in full at the end of the loan agreement (or during if it is an instalment loan), so MRP in addition to the loan debt repayments is not necessary. Each loan will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that is no change in the expectation that there will be a full repayment of the loan. If, upon review, this is no longer found to be the case then a minimum revenue provision will be made to cover the repayment of the loan.

This is subject to the following details:

- An average asset life for each project will normally be used. There will not be separate MRP schedules for the components of a building (e.g. plant, roof etc.). Asset life will be determined by the Chief Finance Officer based on the standard schedule of asset lives provided by an appropriately qualified asset valuer will generally be used (as stated in the Statement of Accounts accounting policies).
- MRP will commence in the year following the year in which capital expenditure financed from borrowing is incurred, except for single assets

when expenditure is being financed from borrowing the MRP will be deferred until the year after the asset becomes operational.

- Other methods to provide for debt repayment may occasionally be used in individual cases where this is consistent with the statutory duty to be prudent, as justified by the circumstances of the case. Where this is the case the chief finance officer will first seek approval from full council. at the discretion of the Chief Finance Officer.
- There is no requirement on the HRA to make a minimum revenue provision but there is a requirement for a charge for depreciation to be made.
- Repayments included in annual finance leases are excluded from MRP as they are deemed to be a proxy for MRP.

Report to Council
24 July 2018
Report of Director of business services
Subject Members allowances and expenses

Item

8

Purpose

To consider calling the members' expenses panel together to consider the expenses element of councillors allowances

Recommendation

To:-

- (1) Call the members' expenses panel to consider the current members allowances and identify any expenses element of the allowance; and
- (2) Delegate to the director of business services authority to appoint individuals to the members' expenses panel.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority value for money services

Financial implications

None directly

Ward/s: All Wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Kendrick - Resources

Contact officers

Anton Bull	01603 212326
Stuart Guthrie	01603 212055
Lucy Palmer	01603 212416

Background documents

None

Report

Background

1. On 24 January 2017 Council considered the members allowances scheme.
2. The panel would not normally convene every four years to consider the scheme and make recommendations for any changes.
3. An issue has arisen regarding member's allowances and housing benefit that requires consideration by the panel.

Housing benefit and allowances

4. Guidance from the Department for Work and Pensions requires councillors' allowances to be treated as income. The guidance can be found here:
5. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/236962/hbqm-bw2-assessment-of-income.pdf
6. Paragraphs W2.83 to W2.95 are applicable.
7. W2.87 states - the councillor or the LA may be able to provide a breakdown when deciding if all or part of the allowance should be disregarded as expenses which have been wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred.
8. The council has not considered if any part of the allowance should be considered as expenses.

Current members' allowances scheme

9. The current members' allowances scheme gives basic allowances and special responsibility allowances.
10. Members are also able to claim travel and subsistence as well as care for dependents.
11. No assessment has been made by the council as to the other expenses that councillors incur and therefore how much of the allowance could be disregarded as income for housing benefit purposes.

Members expenses panel

12. The panel can be asked by Council to consider the current allowances and consider whether there is a reasonable proportion of the allowance that could be considered expenses.
13. The panel can also be asked by Council to consider the current separation of allowances and travelling and whether there should be a fixed allowance for travelling.
14. Convening the panel would allow further discussion on this and a recommendation to be brought back to council for consideration.

15. The previous panel would be the starting point for the composition of the panel. However, one previous member of the panel is the current Sheriff and would therefore not be asked to be part of the panel.

Integrated impact assessment



NORWICH
City Council

The IIA should assess **the impact of the recommendation** being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with the completion of the assessment can be found [here](#). Delete this row after completion

Report author to complete

Committee:	Council
Committee date:	24 July 2017
Director / Head of service	Anton Bull, director of business services
Report subject:	Members allowances and expenses
Date assessed:	6 July 2018

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Impact			
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Natural and built environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment
Positive
Negative
Neutral
Issues

Report to	Council	Item
	24 July 2018	
Report of	Director of business services	9
Subject	Local Government Boundary Review	

Purpose

To consider draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Norwich City Council from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Recommendation

To agree a response on the draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Norwich City Council

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority a fair city

Financial implications

None

Ward/s: All Wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Kendrick - Resources

Contact officers

Anton Bull Director of business services 01603 212326

Stuart Guthrie Democratic and elections manager 01603 212055

Background documents

None

Report

1. This report sets out the draft recommendations to Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) published on 3 July 2018.
2. The consultation period on the draft recommendations finishes on 10 September 2018.
3. The publication of final recommendations will be published on 6 November 2018 and subject to parliamentary approval, the new arrangements will be in effect as of May 2019.
4. The full draft proposals are attached to appendix A. Council is invited to review these proposals and agree a response to the draft recommendations to form the council's submission.
5. Submissions to the LGBCE can still be made by individuals, members, party groups and any other organisations.

Integrated impact assessment



NORWICH
City Council

The IIA should assess **the impact of the recommendation** being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with the completion of the assessment can be found [here](#). Delete this row after completion

Report author to complete	
Committee:	Council
Committee date:	24 July 2018
Director / Head of service	Anton Bull Director of business services
Report subject:	Local Government Boundary Review
Date assessed:	6 July 2018
Description:	Local Government Boundary Review

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Impact			
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Natural and built environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment
Positive
Negative
Neutral
Issues

Draft recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Norwich City Council

Electoral review

July 2018

Translations and other formats

To get this report in another language or in a large-print or Braille version contact the Local Government Boundary Commission for England:

Tel: 0330 500 1525

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

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Summary

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

2 Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

Electoral review

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed
- How many wards or electoral divisions should there be, where are their boundaries and what should they be called
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division

Why Norwich?

4 We are conducting a review of Norwich City Council as the value of each vote in city council elections varies depending on where you live in Norwich. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

Our proposals for Norwich

- Norwich should be represented by 39 councillors, the same number as there are now.
- Norwich should have 13 wards, the same number as there are now.
- The boundaries of 11 wards should change, two will stay the same.

Have your say

5 We are consulting on our draft recommendations for a 10-week period, from 3 July 2018 to 10 September 2018. We encourage everyone to use this opportunity to contribute to the design of the new wards – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be when analysing all the views we received.

6 We ask everyone wishing to contribute ideas for the new wards to first read this report and look at the accompanying map before responding to us.

You have until 10 September 2018 to have your say on the draft recommendations. See page 25 for how to send us your response.

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

7 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹

8 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors OBE (Chair)
- Susan Johnson OBE
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Amanda Nobbs OBE
- Steve Robinson
- Andrew Scallan CBE

- Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

1 Introduction

9 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in Norwich are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the city.

What is an electoral review?

10 Our three main considerations are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

11 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

12 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Norwich. We then held a period of consultation on warding patterns for the city. The submissions received during consultation have informed our draft recommendations.

13 This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
23 January 2018	Number of councillors decided
30 January 2018	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
9 April 2018	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
3 July 2018	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
10 September 2018	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
6 November 2018	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

14 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in and which other communities are in that ward. Your ward name may also change.

2 Analysis and draft recommendations

15 Legislation² states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors³ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

16 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

17 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2018	2023
Electorate of Norwich	101,380	109,823
Number of councillors	39	39
Average number of electors per councillor	2,599	2,816

18 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'good electoral equality'. All of our proposed wards for Norwich will have electoral equality by 2023.

19 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the city or result in changes to postcodes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. The recommendations will not have an effect on local taxes, house prices, or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

20 See Appendix C for details of the submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices by appointment, or on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

21 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2023, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2018. These forecasts were broken down to polling district level and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 8% by 2023.

² Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

³ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

22 We considered the information provided by the Council and are satisfied that the projected figures are the best available at the present time. We have used these figures to produce our draft recommendations.

Number of councillors

23 Norwich City Council currently has 39 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that keeping this number the same will make sure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

24 We received a submission on the number of councillors from the Green Party Group. They proposed that Norwich would be best served by 39 councillors. However, their submission was mainly concerned with changing the electoral cycle for Norwich from thirds to four-yearly all-out elections which we are unable to consider at this stage of the review.

25 For councils like Norwich that elect by thirds, there is a statutory presumption in favour of a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards across the area. This ensures that voters have an equal opportunity to vote in all council elections. Electors in single-councillor wards in a council that elects by thirds will only get to vote once every four years whilst an elector in a three-councillor ward in the same council would get three opportunities to vote in the same period. The Commission will move away from a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards where there is evidence that an alternative pattern would better reflect the statutory criteria (detailed in paragraph 39). Otherwise, the Commission is clear that it will try to achieve a uniform pattern.

26 We invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 39 councillors – in this case 13 three-councillor wards.

Ward boundaries consultation

27 We received 30 submissions to our consultation on ward boundaries. These included four detailed city-wide proposals from the Labour Group, Norwich Green Party, Norwich Conservatives and a local resident. The scheme from the Labour Group was supported by a local MP. It also had support from the Liberal Democrat Group, with the exception of some minor amendments in Thorpe Hamlet, Sewell and Crome. All were based on a pattern of 13 wards to be represented by 39 elected members.

28 During the course of formulating our draft recommendations, we encountered some small anomalies between the electoral register supplied by the Council and the electorate proforma across each polling district. After consulting the Council, they confirmed that the discrepancies were registered electors that lived overseas or did not have a fixed address. The electoral forecast was therefore amended, with the Council's agreement, so that the figures in each polling district only took into account electors that were of fixed address within the polling district. Each of the schemes and submissions that we received were re-considered against the amended electoral forecast.

29 We received a number of submissions regarding the forecast electorate around the University of East Anglia campus area, particularly with regards to the polling district UN2. The respondents felt that the current electorate figure of 141 was too low, and instead proposed that either a variable figure based on monthly fluctuations in the student population or that a figure of around 1,000 electors would be more appropriate.

30 The variable number of registered voters in polling districts and wards surrounding universities is always a challenging issue which the Commission is aware of. When it comes to the baseline electoral figures that we use to underpin a review process it is vital that our current electorate figure matches exactly the supplied electoral register. The date at which these are generated is not rigidly defined by the review process and in this case the Council chose to use its 1 December 2017 register. This figure was then used to project a five-year forecast which we also need as part of the review to ensure that the recommendations we put in place will withstand the test of time.

31 We accept that forecasting is an inexact science, however, we will always endeavour to use the best figures available to us at the time. We have discussed the electorate figures at length with the Council, who are confident that those published are accurate and fit for purpose based on the timeline we made available. We are therefore not proposing to alter the electorate figures for the polling district UN2.

32 We received a detailed submission from a local resident that commented on the number of councillors, as well as detailing a number of different proposals for Norwich that were outside the scope of this review; these included changing the Council's electoral cycle and the creation of a single-tier council. The submission did describe areas that might be recognised as communities, but did not go on to provide any specific boundaries. We have where possible drawn on this evidence in making our proposals.

33 The city-wide schemes received from the political groups each provided for a uniform pattern of three-councillor wards for Norwich. We carefully considered the proposals received and concluded that the proposed ward boundaries would mainly have good levels of electoral equality. We also considered that they generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

34 The scheme received from the local resident did not use the originally published set of electorate figures as the respondent considered that the electorate in the polling district UN2, located in the existing University ward, was too low. The resident proposed an alternative set of figures in putting together their proposals; however, we are of the opinion that the Council's figures for registered number of electors in UN2 were the best available at the time of release and should have been considered as accurate. As discussed, the electoral figures were slightly revised following the close of consultation and we reviewed this warding proposal and found that it still did not have good levels of electoral equality. We have, however, taken into account the community evidence within the submission and used it to help form our draft recommendations across the area.

35 Our draft recommendations are based on a combination of the city-wide proposals that we received. In some areas of the city we have also taken into account local evidence that we received, describing established community links and locally recognised boundaries. In some areas we considered that the proposals did not provide for the best balance between our statutory criteria and so we identified alternative boundaries. We also visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of Norwich helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

36 Our draft recommendations are for 13 three-councillor wards. We consider that our draft recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

37 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on page 23 and on the large map accompanying this report.

38 We welcome all comments on these draft recommendations, particularly on the location of the ward boundaries, and the names of our proposed ward.

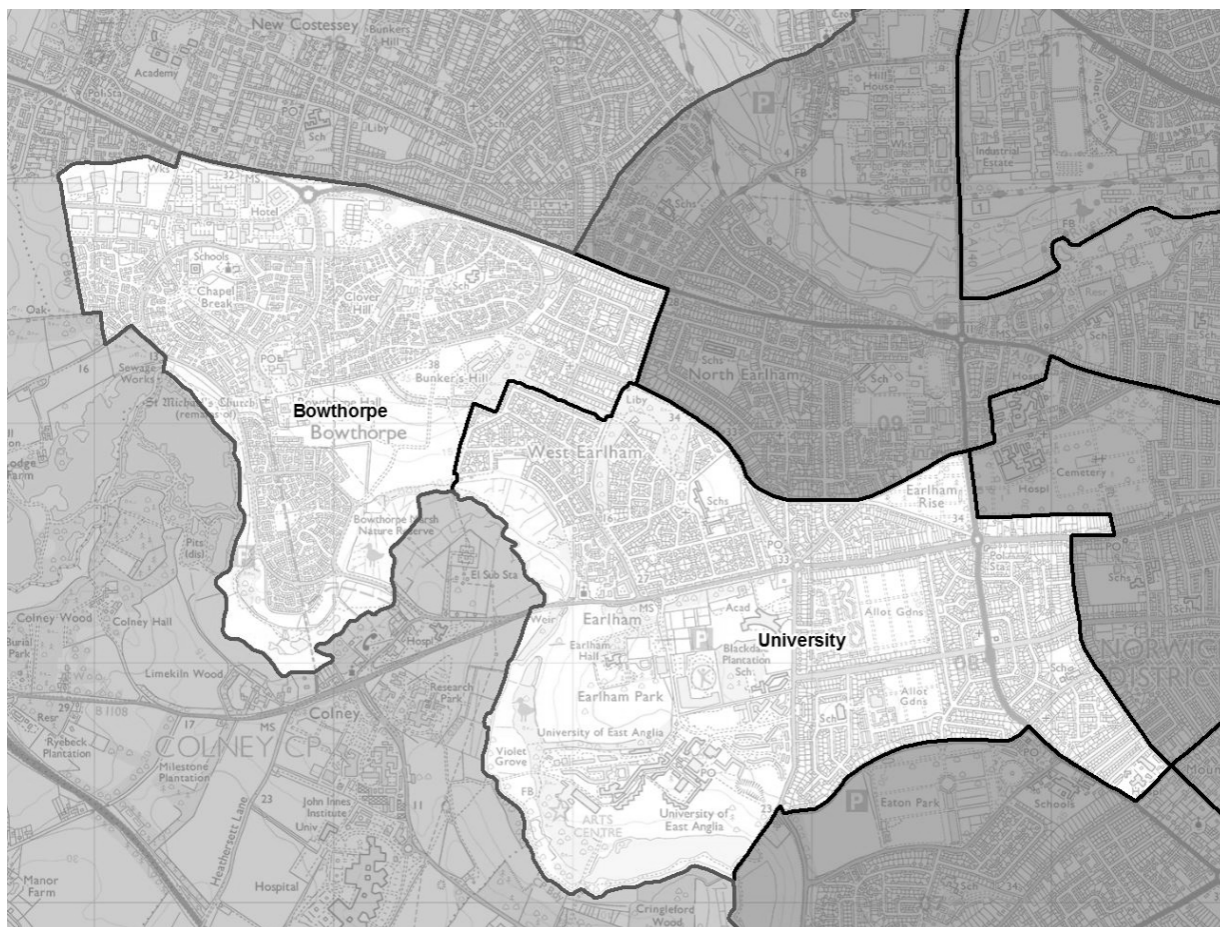
Draft recommendations

39 The tables and maps on pages 10–22 detail our draft recommendations for each area of the Norwich. They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁴ criteria of:

- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for effective and convenient local government

⁴ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Bowthorpe and University



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Bowthorpe	3	-10%
University	3	-3%

Bowthorpe

40 In addition to the four city-wide schemes that we received regarding Bowthorpe, we received two submissions from local residents. One respondent stated that the ward was becoming 'too large' and proposed that the polling district B03 be moved into a neighbouring ward. No community evidence was provided to support this proposal. We visited this area on our tour of Norwich and felt that the Dereham Road acted as a strong and clearly identifiable boundary between Bowthorpe and Wensum wards and, therefore, decided against moving the polling district of B03 into Wensum. The other local resident argued that the ward should comprise Bowthorpe, Chapel Break and Three Score, but did not propose any specific boundaries.

41 The four schemes we received for Bowthorpe proposed moving part or all of the polling district B04, covering the West Earlham area from Bowthorpe into University ward. However, each of the submissions proposed slightly different boundaries. We have modified Norwich Conservatives' proposed boundaries and have moved the majority of B04 into University ward as part of our draft recommendations for Norwich.

42 The Labour Group proposed to use the centre of Calthorpe Road as the boundary between Bowthorpe and University, with Freshfield Close and its surrounding roads remaining in Bowthorpe. This was supported by the Liberal Democrat Group. The Labour Group stated that the electors they proposed to move into University share the same secondary shopping centre at West Earlham, and that many of the children attend the same schools, share the same local library and that much of this area contains a high proportion of social housing.

43 The Green Party proposal used the middle of Malbrook Road down to the River Yare as the boundary between Bowthorpe and University. They argued that this would allow for further potential growth in Bowthorpe ward in the future.

44 Norwich Conservatives proposed moving the area south of West Earlham and Enfield Road into University, so that the historic links between North Earlham and Bowthorpe might be retained. They argued that West Earlham looks firmly towards the wider Earlham estate and the University of East Anglia; also, that residents make use of bus routes that travel through the campus towards the city centre and many local children attend City Academy in University ward. They cited a close alignment between West Earlham and University, with electors using the university amenities including the campus shops as their hubs for socialising and convenience retail. They highlighted that through road access for West Earlham to the rest of the current Bowthorpe ward was circuitous.

45 On visiting the area, we felt that the Conservative Group proposal to use the green area between Freshfield Close and St Mildreds Road as a boundary would be the most appropriate. We felt there was a clear link between the electors in Calthorpe Road and its surrounding streets and that dividing this area as proposed by Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Green Party would not be an adequate reflection of community identity. We have, however, made a small change to the Conservative's proposal, to include electors in Douglas Haig Road in University ward. We believe that electors here would naturally use the amenities located around Earlham West Centre, including local shops, the library and health centre. In

addition to this, we have made a slight modification to the boundary around Bunker's Hill, to reflect ground detail. This modification does not affect any electors.

46 Our proposed Bowthorpe ward will have good electoral equality by 2023.

University

47 As discussed in paragraph 29, we received a number of submissions querying the forecast electorate of University ward, with particular reference to polling district UN2 being underestimated. We are happy that the figures supplied by the Council are correct and are therefore not amending the current or forecast number of electors for this area.

48 As discussed in paragraph 41, we have made an amendment to the northern boundary of University to include electors in West Earlham within our University ward. We feel this better reflects community identity in the area, as well as improving electoral equality.

49 The Labour Group, the Liberal Democrats and Norwich Conservatives all proposed using Bowthorpe Road as the northern boundary of University. In addition, all three schemes proposed using the current southern boundary of North Park Avenue.

50 The schemes from the Green Party and the local resident proposed slightly differing boundaries, predominantly using Earlham Road as the northern boundary and adding the polling district EA1 to the south. We visited this area on our tour of Norwich and felt that the proposed boundary along Judges Drive, Herd Road and Osborne Road neither provided a strong boundary nor a noticeable definition between the communities that would exist either side of it. We believe that there is a continuity in the housing and demographic of the roads between South Park Avenue and Unthank Road and to draw the boundary through the centre of this would neither reflect communities here nor promote effective and convenient local government. In addition, electors in this area would be separated from the remainder of the University ward by Eaton Park. On balance, we felt that the boundaries proposed by the Labour Group, Liberal Democrats and Norwich Conservatives were stronger.

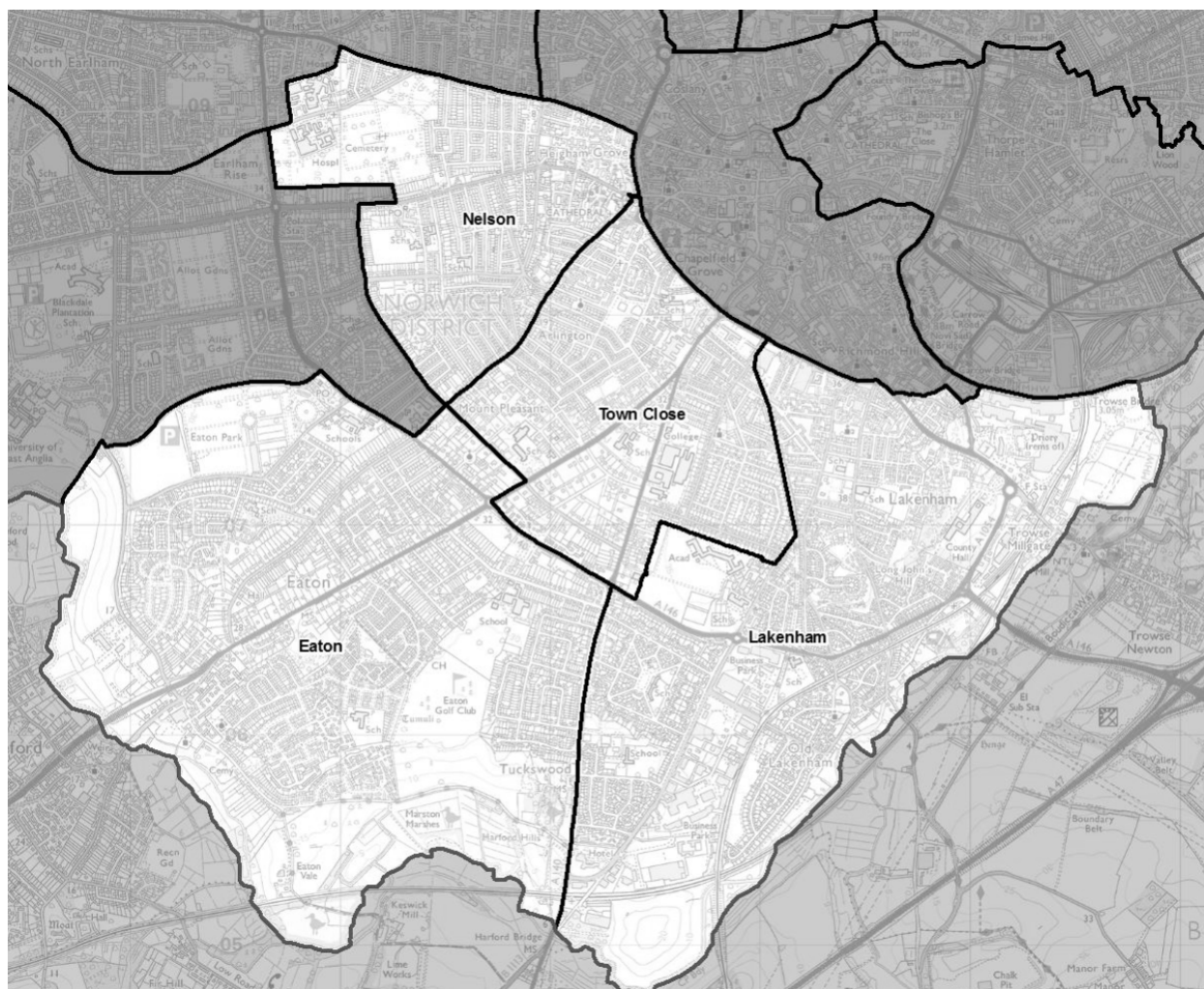
51 Norwich Conservatives also suggested that the name of the ward should be changed to 'University & Earlham', but did not provide compelling evidence to support this therefore we have not adopted this proposal. We would, however, be interested to receive feedback from local residents on this proposed name change.

52 Lastly, we are recommending moving the part of the polling district NE4 that covers the area around Mornington Road, Muriel Road and Highland Road from Nelson ward into University ward. This was suggested by the Council's scheme and supported in part by the Liberal Democrats and the Green Party. The Council stated that it made geographic sense to move this area into University, given that it shares a number of features with the neighbouring UN5 polling district which is already part of University ward. It has been argued that residents share the same secondary

shopping centre in Colman Road and are of predominantly a similar demographic i.e. professional workers and owner-occupiers.

53 Our University ward is forecast to have an electoral variance of -3% by 2023, which we consider to be good electoral equality. This means that the ward is proposed to have 3% fewer electors per councillor than the average for the city. It is hoped that in proposing a ward with a lower variance any significant fluctuations in the electorate caused by changes in the predominantly student population of the area can be accommodated.

Eaton, Lakenham, Nelson and Town Close



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Eaton	3	-8%
Lakenham	3	3%
Nelson	3	0%
Town Close	3	-6%

Eaton

54 Four of the schemes we received for this area proposed boundaries very similar to the current ward boundaries in Eaton. We also received a submission from a local organisation that suggested that the current boundaries well reflect the communities in the area. They also argued that based on the history of the area, the name should remain the same.

55 The Green Party proposed significantly different boundaries around Mount Pleasant, proposing that electors in Arlington, around Gloucester Street, should also move into Eaton ward. This was on the basis that the streets south of York Street are largely made up of similar housing and populated by a community that demographically is not too dissimilar to Eaton. As discussed in paragraph 50, we did not consider that the Green Party proposal to move electors in the polling district EA1 out of Eaton ward provided for the best balance of our statutory criteria. If we were to retain EA1 in Eaton and add electors from the Arlington area into our draft Eaton ward, Eaton would have poor electoral equality at 16%. We are therefore not adopting this proposal.

56 The Labour Group supported this proposal and suggested that electors in Mount Pleasant should move into Eaton ward, as residents in this area have more affinity with Eaton than Town Close. However, this would result in poor electoral equality in the ward Town Close at -11%. On visiting the area, we felt that the current ward boundary along Christchurch Road was both strong and clearly identifiable. We are therefore recommending an Eaton ward based on the current boundaries. Eaton will have good electoral equality by 2023.

57 We are particularly interested in hearing feedback from residents in the Mount Pleasant area regarding the Labour Group's proposal to include them in an Eaton ward, as opposed to Town Close.

Town Close and Lakenham

58 Four of the schemes we received proposed broadly similar boundaries for Town Close. The schemes from both Norwich Conservatives and the local resident proposed to use Brazen Gate as a more natural and historic boundary between Town Close and Lakenham wards. The Green Party and the Labour Group, supported by the Liberal Democrats, however, proposed using the existing ward boundary of Hall Road.

59 We visited both Brazen Gate and Hall Road on our tour of Norwich and whilst we felt they were both suitable boundaries, we were of the opinion that the Brazen Gate boundary was stronger. We have adopted the proposal to run the boundary along the disused railway line and Lakenham Way footpath so that the residents around Southwell Road and Hall Road would be in the ward most closely aligned with their cultural, housing and shopping habits. The Town Close ward would also be centred on the traditional Town Close Estate. Our draft Town Close ward will have good electoral equality by 2023.

60 However, we would be particularly interested to receive submissions from local residents and community groups regarding the use of either Brazen Gate and the

Lakenham Way footpath or Hall Road as the boundary between Town Close and Lakenham.

61 Our Lakenham ward is based on the current ward boundaries, with the exception of the change detailed in paragraph 59 and an amendment to include a small number of residents near Trowse Millgate station. We felt that this made more sense given the geographical separation between these electors and the rest of our draft Thorpe Hamlet ward. Retaining the same boundaries for Lakenham was supported by a submission received from a local organisation that stated that Lakenham and Tuckwood should remain within the same ward.

62 Lakenham will have good electoral equality by 2023.

Nelson

63 In addition to the city-wide schemes that were submitted, we received a joint submission from two of the ward councillors for Nelson. The submission argues that Nelson has a high student population and that this should be taken into account when looking at the forecast electorate. However, as discussed in paragraphs 29–31, we are content that the electorate figures provided by the Council represent the best available data. The councillors suggested alternative ward boundaries based on determinants that included shopping centres, transport networks and schools.

64 The councillor's submission argued that the streets south of Portersfield Road and Jessop Road should move into Town Close as Unthank Road is their community focus. This was supported by the schemes from the local resident and the Green Party. However, moving electors from this area to Town Close ward would result in a Nelson ward at -19% and a Town Close ward at 13%. We did not consider that sufficient evidence had been provided to justify two wards with such poor electoral equality. We therefore chose not to adopt this proposal. We did, however, agree with the councillors' proposal to move the electors in Mornington Road, Muriel Road and Highland Road into University ward, as discussed in paragraph 52.

65 It was also proposed that the area covered by polling districts WE2 and MA4 between Waterworks Road and Old Palace Road should be moved into Nelson ward. The councillors argue that this area is an entire community and looks towards Nelson, rather than Wensum, for its shopping needs. This was supported by the submission from the Green Party. However, these changes would result in poor electoral equality in both Nelson and Wensum wards at 36% and -29% respectively. We also received evidence from other respondents that electors in these polling districts identified more closely with the Wensum ward than the Nelson ward, as discussed further in paragraph 75.

66 Lastly, it was suggested that the electors in Bond Street, Merton Road and Holly Drive who are bordered by Dereham Road, Bowthorpe Road and Norwich Community Hospital look to Nelson for their services. We visited this area on tour and felt that Dereham Road acted as a strong boundary between the Nelson and Wensum wards. We are therefore recommending this proposal.

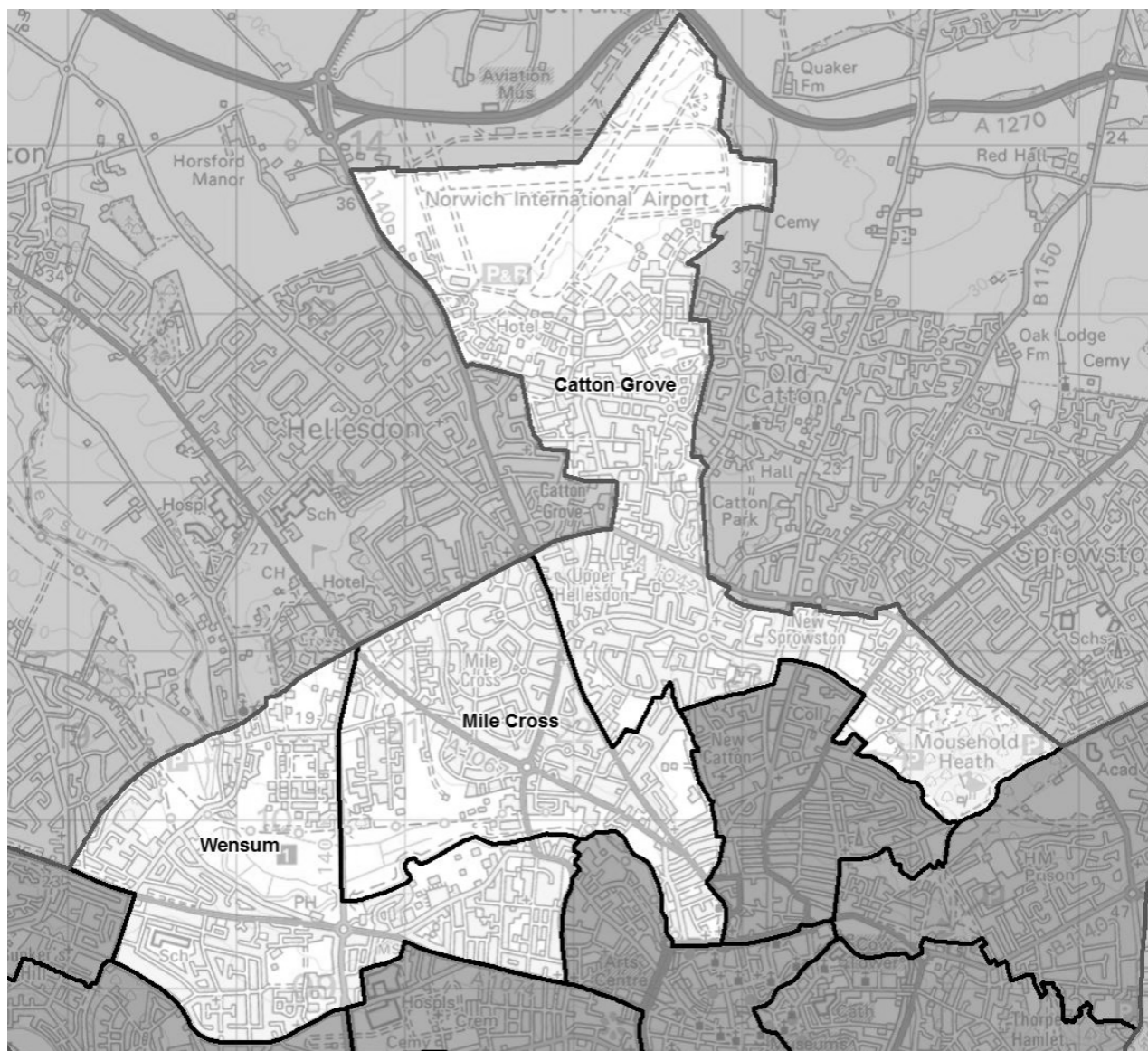
67 The Labour Group, Liberal Democrat and local resident schemes all proposed to include electors south of Armes Street and east of Nelson Street in Nelson ward.

However, as detailed in paragraph 75, we received a submission from Wensum Residents' Association that argued that this area identified as one community and that it should be included within one ward. We are therefore proposing to use Dereham Road as the boundary between the Nelson and Wensum. This was supported by the scheme received from Norwich Conservatives.

68 There was some disagreement between the schemes we received regarding whether electors in the polling district MA1, around Heigham Grove, should be included in Nelson ward or a Mancroft ward. However, if they were to remain in Mancroft Ward as proposed by the two ward councillors for Nelson, the result would be a Nelson ward at -10% and a Mancroft ward at 17%. We are therefore proposing to include these electors in our draft Nelson ward to improve electoral equality. This was supported by the Labour Group, Liberal Democrats, Norwich Conservatives and a local organisation.

69 Nelson will have good electoral equality by 2023 at 0%. This should also allow for fluctuations in the electorate referenced in the ward councillors' submission.

Catton Grove, Wensum and Mile Cross



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Catton Grove	3	2%
Mile Cross	3	3%
Wensum	3	7%

Catton Grove

70 All of the schemes we received proposed retaining the current ward boundaries in Catton Grove. Catton Grove is forecast to have good electoral equality by 2023 at 2%. We are therefore not recommending any changes to the current ward boundaries.

Mile Cross

71 Our Mile Cross ward is based on the existing ward boundaries, with the addition of electors north of St Crispins Road, who we are proposing to move from Mancroft into Mile Cross to improve the electoral equality in Mancroft. This modification to the southern boundary was proposed by the Labour Group and supported by the Liberal Democrats.

72 Mile Cross will have good electoral equality by 2023.

Wensum

73 In addition to the four city-wide schemes, we received a submission from the Wensum Residents' Association and a local resident regarding the future warding pattern for Wensum ward.

74 The Green Party and local resident proposed to split the existing Wensum ward in two, with electors east of Sweet Briar Road moving into Nelson ward and electors west of Sweet Briar Road moving into a new ward to be called Earlham. The reasoning provided was on the basis that Wensum ward currently comprises two distinct communities and therefore a split along Sweet Briar Road made geographical sense. On balance, we did not feel that sufficient evidence was provided to recommend dissolving the current ward.

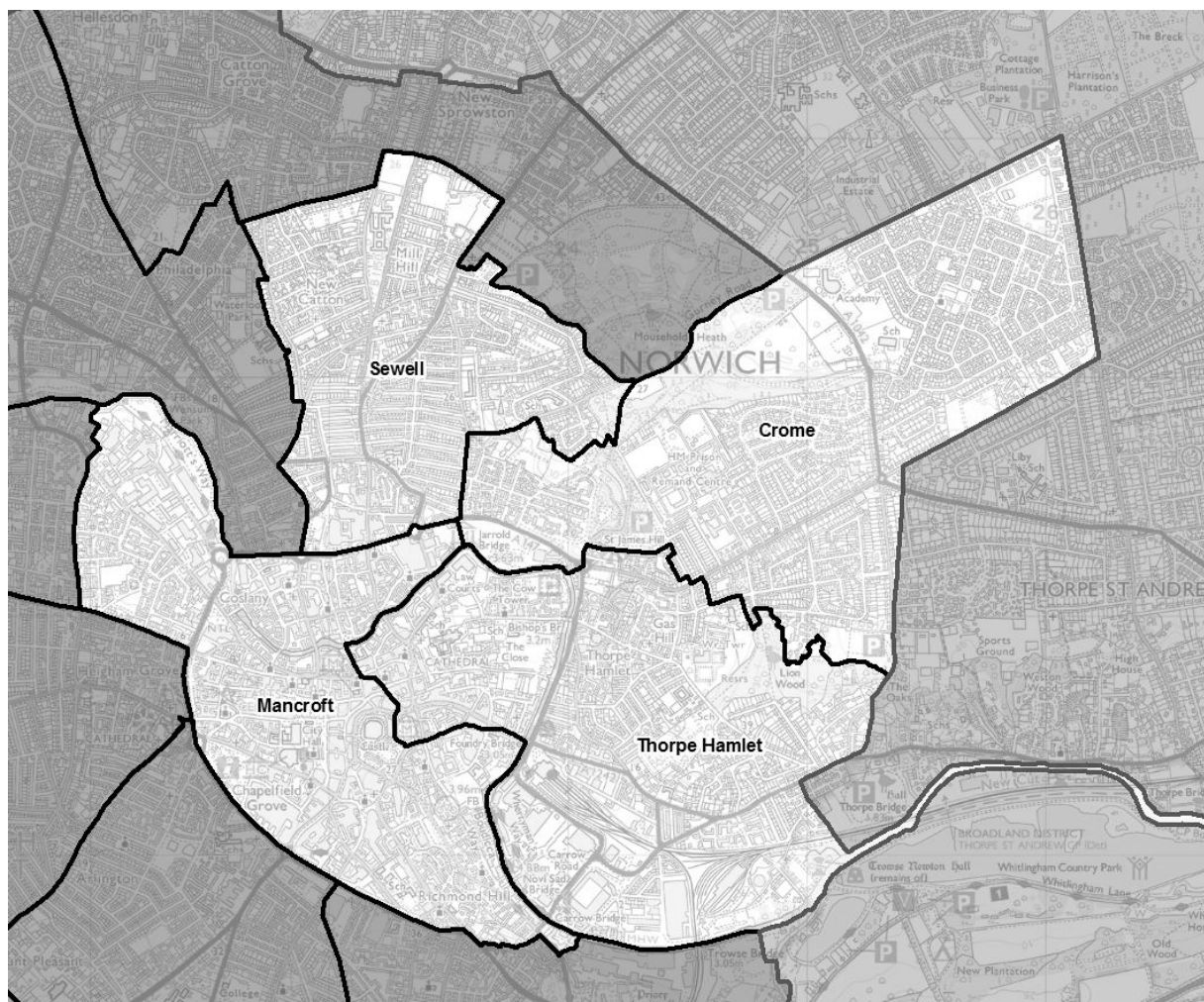
75 The Wensum Residents' Association argued that the electors between Waterworks Road and Old Palace Road in polling districts WE2 and MA4 had a strong feeling of community and strong ties with Wensum ward. They proposed that this natural community should be included wholly within one ward and not be split between Nelson and Wensum wards as it is under the current arrangements. This proposal was supported by the scheme submitted by Norwich Conservatives and two councillors. We visited this area on our tour of Norwich and felt that Dereham Road and Old Palace Road acted as strong boundaries. We are therefore adopting this proposal, with a small amendment to include electors in Horsford Street, Helford Street and Old Laundry Court to retain their access into the rest of the Wensum ward.

76 The local resident suggested the alternative name of Outer Wensum but did not provide any evidence as to why this ward name was more appropriate, therefore we are not proposing to adopt this change at this stage.

77 We would be keen to hear views from residents and community groups regarding the two different proposals for the Wensum area and to understand which would better reflect community identities. We would also like to know whether Wensum or Outer Wensum would be a more appropriate ward name.

78 Our draft Wensum ward will have good electoral equality by 2023.

Crome, Mancroft, Sewell and Thorpe Hamlet



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2023
Crome	3	4%
Mancroft	3	7%
Sewell	3	9%
Thorpe Hamlet	3	-8%

Mancroft and Thorpe Hamlet

79 The Thorpe Hamlet and Mancroft wards in their current form are forecast to have significantly higher than the average electors per councillor for Norwich, at 22% and 36%. We therefore need to move some electors out of these wards to secure a better level of electoral equality for the future.

80 These wards cover the city-centre area of Norwich. The four city-wide schemes submitted during consultation for the Mancroft and Thorpe Hamlet wards proposed boundaries that are very similar to the existing arrangements. We also received 10 other submissions for this area, from three councillors, one local organisation and six local residents.

81 Five of the submissions that we received from local residents argued that they were part of the city and, in fact, should form part of a city-centre ward. They cited issues such as anti-social behaviour and noise pollution that did not affect the wider residents of the Thorpe Hamlet ward in the same way. As such, the respondents argued that their representation was not as effective as electors in other areas of Norwich.

82 Three of the local residents' submissions suggested that the city centre should be included entirely in one ward. This was supported by a submission from a local organisation. However, a ward such as this would result in poor electoral equality in both Mancroft (26%) and Thorpe Hamlet (-27%) and we are not therefore minded to recommend this proposal.

83 We are not able to include electors in the entire city area within one ward and achieve a good level of electoral equality. However, we are able to move the city-based electors in the polling district TH3, that sit between the river and Rouen Road, into our proposed Mancroft ward. We believe that this is a good balance of our statutory criteria in that it offers good electoral equality for both wards and better reflects the community here.

84 The Labour Group submission proposed that electors around Ber Street and King Street should move from Mancroft into Lakenham ward on the basis that there was some disconnection between these electors and the rest of the Mancroft ward. This was supported by a councillor for Mancroft. However, following our tour of the area, we felt that retaining the current boundary in this area, along Carrow Hill, provided a stronger boundary. We would be keen to hear views from local residents and organisations regarding whether electors south of Mariners Lane and north of Carrow Hill identify more with Mancroft or Lakenham.

85 Our draft Mancroft and Thorpe Hamlet wards will have good electoral equality by 2023.

Crome

86 The Labour Group proposed moving electors north of Yarmouth Road in Wellesley Avenue South and the surrounding roads from Thorpe Hamlet into Crome to improve electoral equality in Thorpe Hamlet. The Liberal Democrats submission had been broadly written in support of the Labour Group's city-wide proposal, aside from in this area where they argued that these electors had a lack of contact and

affinity with the rest of Crome ward, as well as being physically separated from the rest of the ward by woodland.

87 A local resident, the Green Party, Norwich Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats all proposed broadly similar boundaries for Crome. All argued that electors in the polling district of TH1, north of Barrack Street, currently in Thorpe Hamlet ward, should move into Crome from Thorpe Hamlet using St James Hill as the boundary. This was on the basis that electors here have more in common with Crome than Thorpe Hamlet in terms of demographics and community.

88 Norwich Conservatives also placed electors in TH1 in Crome ward, although they suggested using Kett's Hill as the boundary as opposed to St James Hill. On balance, we are persuaded by the evidence that electors in TH1 should be moved into Crome ward and that St James Hill provides for a clear boundary.

89 The Liberal Democrats also proposed that electors south of Plumstead Road and north of Wolfe Road should be placed in Thorpe Hamlet ward rather than Crome; however, they did not supply any community-based evidence to support this. On balance, we felt that the existing boundary around Wellesley Avenue North and Wolfe Road was a more effective boundary between Crome and Thorpe Hamlet. This proposal also allows us to retain all the electors along Wellesley Avenue North within the same ward. However, we would be interested to hear from local residents and community groups about whether this area should be in Crome or Thorpe Hamlet.

90 Crome will have good electoral equality by 2023.

Sewell

91 Four of the schemes that we received proposed retaining the existing ward boundaries in Sewell. The Liberal Democrats proposed adding a small number of electors in the south-east of the ward, along Silver Road, although they did not supply any community evidence to support this. We felt that the existing ward boundary down the middle of Silver Road provided for a clearer boundary, but we would be keen to hear from residents or organisations in this area regarding whether they felt they would be better placed in Crome or Sewell.

92 Our draft Sewell ward is based on the existing ward boundaries. However, the Commission have proposed to modify the boundary slightly to include the electors north of St Crispins Road and south of Magpie Road. This will improve electoral equality in the neighbouring ward of Thorpe Hamlet. Sewell will have good electoral equality by 2023.

Conclusions

93 The table below shows the impact of our draft recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2018 and 2023 electorate figures.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Draft recommendations	
	2018	2023
Number of councillors	39	39
Number of electoral wards	13	13
Average number of electors per councillor	2,599	2,816
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	4	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	0	0

Draft recommendation

Norwich City Council should be made up of 39 councillors serving 13 three-councillor wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping

Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Norwich.

You can also view our draft recommendations for Norwich City Council on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

3 Have your say

94 The Commission has an open mind about its draft recommendations. Every representation we receive will be considered, regardless of who it is from or whether it relates to the whole city or just a part of it.

95 If you agree with our recommendations, please let us know. If you don't think our recommendations are right for Norwich, we want to hear alternative proposals for a different pattern of wards.

96 Our website has a special consultation area where you can explore the maps and draw your own proposed boundaries. You can find it at consultation.lgbce.org.uk

97 Submissions can also be made by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to:

Review Officer (Norwich)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
1st Floor, Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0TL

98 The Commission aims to propose a pattern of wards for the Norwich which delivers:

- Electoral equality: each local councillor represents a similar number of voters
- Community identity: reflects the identity and interests of local communities
- Effective and convenient local government: helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively

99 A good pattern of ward should:

- Provide good electoral equality, with each councillor representing, as closely as possible, the same number of voters
- Reflect community interests and identities and include evidence of community links
- Be based on strong, easily identifiable boundaries
- Help the council deliver effective and convenient local government

100 Electoral equality:

- Does your proposal mean that councillors would represent roughly the same number of voters as elsewhere in the council area?

101 Community identity:

- Community groups: is there a parish council, residents' association or other group that represents the area?

- Interests: what issues bind the community together or separate it from other parts of your area?
- Identifiable boundaries: are there natural or constructed features which make strong boundaries for your proposals?

102 Effective local government:

- Are any of the proposed wards too large or small to be represented effectively?
- Are the proposed names of the wards appropriate?
- Are there good links across your proposed wards? Is there any form of public transport?

103 Please note that the consultation stages of an electoral review are public consultations. In the interests of openness and transparency, we make available for public inspection full copies of all representations the Commission takes into account as part of a review. Accordingly, copies of all representations will be placed on deposit at our offices and on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk A list of respondents will be available from us on request after the end of the consultation period.

104 If you are a member of the public and not writing on behalf of a council or organisation we will remove any personal identifiers, such as postal or email addresses, signatures or phone numbers from your submission before it is made public. We will remove signatures from all letters, no matter who they are from.

105 In the light of representations received, we will review our draft recommendations and consider whether they should be altered. As indicated earlier, it is therefore important that all interested parties let us have their views and evidence, **whether or not** they agree with the draft recommendations. We will then publish our final recommendations.

106 After the publication of our final recommendations, the changes we have proposed must be approved by Parliament. An Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in draft in Parliament. The draft Order will provide for new electoral arrangements to be implemented at the all-out elections for the Norwich in 2019.

Equalities

107 The Commission has looked at how it carries out reviews under the guidelines set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It has made best endeavours to ensure that people with protected characteristics can participate in the review process and is sufficiently satisfied that no adverse equality impacts will arise as a result of the outcome of the review.

Appendix A

Draft recommendations for Norwich City Council

	Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2018)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1	Bowthorpe	3	6,895	2,298	-12%	7,601	2,534	-10%
2	Catton Grove	3	8,184	2,728	5%	8,615	2,872	2%
3	Crome	3	8,428	2,809	8%	8,766	2,922	4%
4	Eaton	3	7,333	2,444	-6%	7,762	2,587	-8%
5	Lakenham	3	8,374	2,791	7%	8,740	2,913	3%
6	Mancroft	3	6,284	2,905	-19%	9,031	3,010	7%
7	Mile Cross	3	8,260	2,753	6%	8,700	2,900	3%
8	Nelson	3	8,010	2,670	3%	8,448	2,816	0%
9	Sewell	3	8,820	2,940	13%	9,223	3,074	9%
10	Thorpe Hamlet	3	6,632	2,211	-15%	7,809	2,603	-8%
11	Town Close	3	7,625	2,542	-2%	7,923	2,641	-6%
12	University	3	7,962	2,654	2%	8,199	2,733	-3%

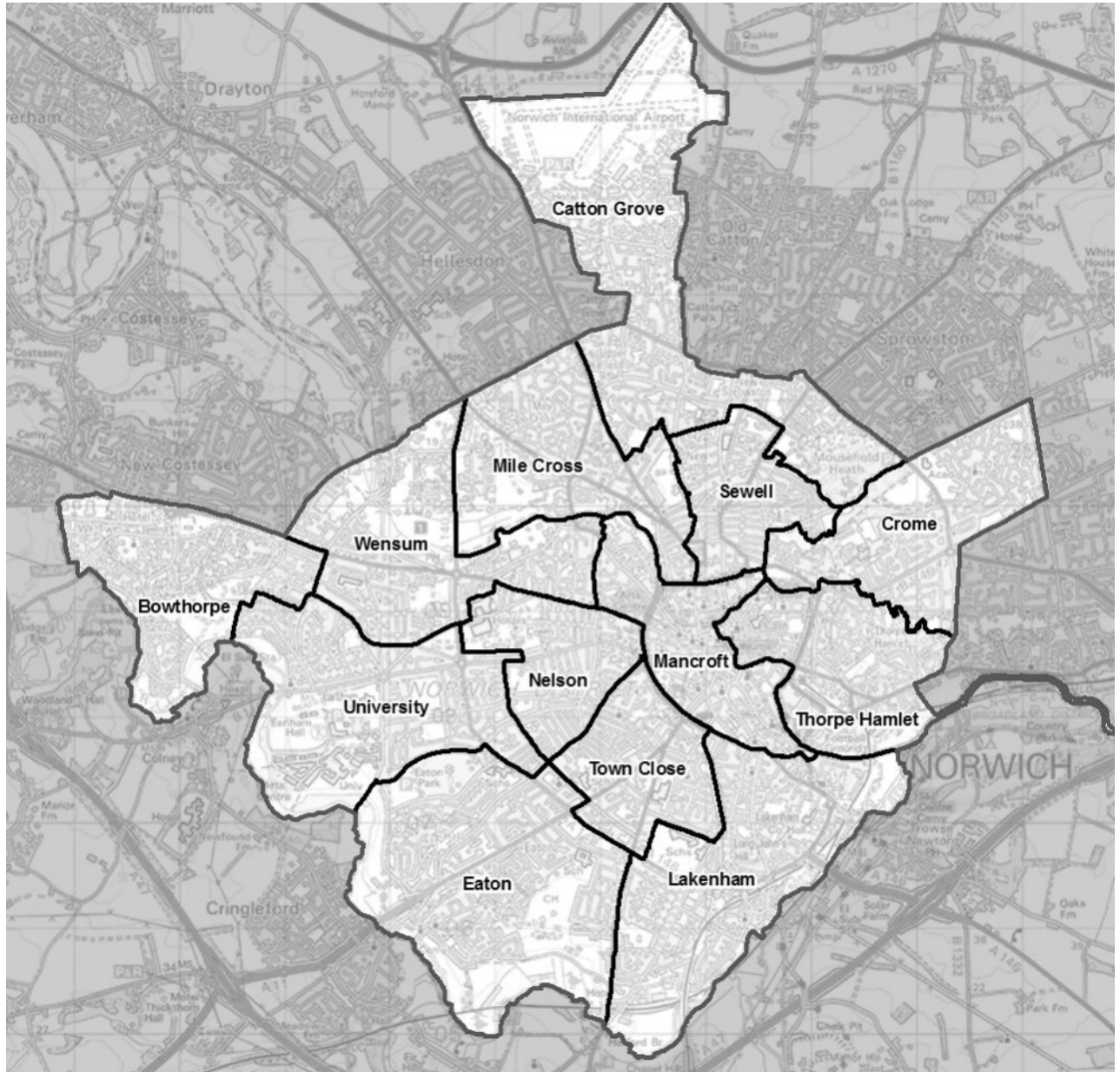
Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2018)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2023)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Wensum	3	8,573	2,858	10%	9,006	3,002	7%
Totals	39	101,380	–	–	109,823	–	–
Averages	–	–	2,599	–	–	2,816	–

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Norwich City Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the city. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Outline map



A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the large map accompanying this report, or on our website: <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/norfolk/norwich>

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/norfolk/norwich>

Local Authority

- Norwich City Council

Political Groups

- Norwich Labour Party
- Norwich Liberal Democrats
- Norwich Green Party
- Norwich Conservatives

Councillors

- Norwich City Councillor S. Bogelein (Wensum)
- Norwich City Councillors D. Carlo & T. Jones (Nelson)
- Norwich City Councillor S. Jackson (Mancroft)
- Norwich City Councillor M. Schmierer (Mancroft)

Member of Parliament

- Clive Lewis MP

Local Organisations

- Eaton Village Residents' Association
- St Augustine's Community Together Residents' Association
- United Benefice of Old Lakenham & Tuckswood
- Wensum Residents' Association

Local Residents

- 16 local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents
Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or Town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average

Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council
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Motion to Council
24 July 2018
Subject Police cuts
**Proposer
and
second** Councillor Maguire to move
Councillor Jones to second

Item
10(a)

“Nationally, police numbers are now at the lowest level in three decades, crime is soaring and the independent inspectorate starkly warned that the lives of vulnerable people are at risk as there are not enough officers to respond to emergency calls. Locally, eight consecutive years of cuts have helped damage community safety and public security in our city culminating last month in what Chief Constable Simon Bailey said was the first time a firearm "had been discharged in the county under these circumstances" and a critical incident.”

Council **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Write to both Norwich Members of Parliament and the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner to raise concerns that;
 - a) A £2.3bn real term cut in government funding between 2010-15, leading nationally to the national loss of 21,000 police officers, 18,000 police staff, 6,800 Police Community Support Officers and reduction in the number of armed officers has damaged community safety and public security.
 - b) The local loss of 143 police, 150 PCSOs in Norfolk, the cut of £30m government funding to Norfolk Constabulary's budget since 2010 and still another £10m demanded by 2020, will further weaken the police service.
 - c) The severe consequences of organised crime embedding within the city, particularly through the emergence of 'County Lines', placing all statutory agencies tasked with helping to provide community safety under further strain.
 - d) Continual severe funding cuts to local government which has reduced the capacity to carry out associated works and activities which both directly and indirectly contribute to local safety.

Motion to Council
24 July 2018

Item

10(b)

Subject EU Nationals' right to stand at local elections 2019

Proposer Councillor Raby

Seconder Council Carlo

"Currently EU citizens living in the UK can stand for and vote in local elections. Last month the Government outlined its Statement of Intent for EU nationals living in the UK post-Brexit. The intention is that they will be allowed to remain in the UK subject to certain conditions, and will be given Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) status. Commonwealth citizens are eligible to stand in local elections but there has been no confirmation from the Government on these rights for EU citizens post Brexit.

Council therefore **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Recognise that EU citizens have contributed a great deal to the democratic process in Norwich, as candidates, councillors and voters.
- (2) Recognise that the government's response thus far to the question of the rights of EU citizens living in the UK, especially vis-a-vis their democratic rights is insufficient, disruptive and potentially stressful for many sitting councillors and potential candidates, with EU citizenships; and
- (3) Ask all group leaders to write to the LGA and Norwich's MPs to lobby the government for urgent clarity on this matter and to ensure that EU citizens continue to be able to vote in and stand for local elections post Brexit."

