



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, 27 November 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 Public questions/petitions

To receive questions / petitions from the public.

Please note that all questions must be received by the
committee officer detailed on the front of the agenda by
10am on Thursday 22 November 2018.

Petitions must be received by the committee officer detailed
on the front of the agenda by **10am on Monday 26
November 2018.**

For guidance on submitting public questions or petitions
please see appendix 1 of the council's constitution.

4 Minutes

5 - 38

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting hold
on 25 September 2018.

5 Questions to cabinet members / committee chairs

(A printed copy of the questions and replies will be available at the meeting)

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| 6 | Introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy
Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy
Purpose - To consider whether to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy. | 39 - 56 |
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Purpose - To consider an increase in the housing revenue account capital programme. | 57 - 66 |
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Purpose - To consider motions for which notice has been received in accordance with appendix one fo the council's constitution. | 75 - 82 |



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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



If you would like this agenda in an alternative format, such as a larger or smaller font, audio or Braille, or in a different language, please contact the committee officer above.



Council

19:30 to 21:55

25 September 2018

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

Apologies: Ms Ros Brown (Sheriff); and Councillors Coleshill, Hampton, Henderson, Fulton-MacAlister (E), Manning and Smith

1. Lord Mayor's Announcements

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Davis to address the meeting. Councillor Davis thanked Boyd Taylor for his over 25 years of service as a local government officer working at Norwich City Council. She said his contribution to residents of the city had been incalculable and he operated within the very best traditions of public service.

The Lord Mayor said it had been a busy period for public engagements. The recent Battle of Britain commemoration had been particularly poignant coming on the 100 year anniversary of the battle. He celebrated the fact that Norwich's recent Pride event was the third largest held in the UK. He highlighted the recent visit of the Japanese ambassador

2. Declarations of interest

The Lord Mayor noted that the Monitoring Officer had granted dispensation to a number of members in relation to item 9, Members Allowance Panel whose income tax may be affected by the recommendations within the report. He asked all those granted dispensation to indicate; Councillors Ackroyd, Bradford, Brociek-Coulton, Fullman, Fulton-McAlister (M), Harris, Huntley, Jones, Kendrick, Lubbock, Maguire, Malik, Maxwell, Packer, Peek, Price, Raby, Ryan, Sands (M), Sands (S), Schmierer, Stewart, Stonard, Thomas (Va), Thomas (Vi), Trevor, Waters, and Wright indicated.

Councillors Button, Davis, Driver and Stutely declared a pecuniary interest in item 9, Members Allowance Panel.

3. Questions from the public

The Lord Mayor said that four public questions had been received.

Question 1

Ms Laura McCartney-Gray

“Under the Sustainable Communities Act, I would like to ask the leader to write to James Brokenshire MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to make the government share what it knows about what Brexit will mean for our services and the citizens of Norwich. Is he content to do so?”

Councillor Waters, leader’s response:

“Thank you for your very pertinent and timely question and taking the time to attend full council this evening.

Norwich is a city that voted to remain in 2016 and values our links with Europe and the great contribution of EU citizens who have made their lives in Norwich and Norfolk.

At the start of the Brexit negotiations the Conservative government’s position was that leaving the European Union would be a breeze and we could somehow have our cake and eat it. The dispiriting negotiations which have dragged on for the best part of two years are at a point where the prospect of a ‘no deal’ cannot be ruled out.

The vote to leave the EU and stalled negotiations has created considerable uncertainty. Belatedly the government has trickled out a number of impact assessments, including the possible consequences for key economic sectors; public services and citizenship and immigration. These assessments have been generalised, often vague and woolly. They have certainly done little to address what Brexit might mean for Norwich and its citizens.

If the government is floundering about what a post Brexit Britain will look like, Norwich City Council needs to make its own preparations and for this it needs the fullest information (including that which is being withheld) to help us plan ahead.

I will therefore be writing this week to James Brokenshire MP, Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government, using the Sustainable Communities Act, to demand the immediate receipt by Norwich City Council of all government departmental information and analysis pertaining to the impacts upon Norwich’s communities and businesses of the UK’s withdrawal from the European

Union, including any information deemed by the government to be confidential.

Upon receipt of this information it will go straight into the public domain to both inform the debate about the options that should be open to us in terms of our future relationship with other parts of the European Union and work with our partners across the city to put in place the strategies and if necessary contingency planning to respond in the most effective way to what remains a very uncertain Brexit endgame.

I would finally add, that I am grateful to Councillor Tudor Evans, Labour leader of Plymouth City Council, for being the first council to invoke the Sustainable Communities Act in the context of the impact of withdrawal from the European Union on individual local authority areas and their communities.”

Question 2

Ms Maxine Webb

“What impact will the closing of 46 children's centres across Norfolk have on the children and families of Norwich and is there anything the city council can do to protect services for Norwich children?”

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

“Thank you for your question.

On Tuesday 17 September, the county and city councillors found out, through the EDP, that Norfolk County Council plan to close all but 7 Children’s Centres in the county – that’s 46 out of the current 53 which are currently running. If agreed, the proposals will be implemented from October 2019 - 1 year after Norwich is hit by the full roll out of Universal Credit.

The impact to the whole of Norfolk, not just Norwich will be catastrophic. Just one centre will remain to serve the whole of the Norwich area

The remaining children’s centre (City and Eaton) is in my ward of Town Close; which is great – at least for my residents. But consider the residents of Mile Cross, Heartsease, North Earlham. How do they now access the services they have relied on to be free and local?

Children’s Centres are essential services run by highly qualified staff who are trained to look for attachment issues, to monitor milestones in your child’s development, to spot hidden signs of abuse. Services which in-reach into the Children’s Centres include:

- Midwives delivering ante natal courses
- Speech and language therapy
- Domestic violence services
- The Wellbeing service

- Educational psychologists

They also signpost to advice services – including benefits, housing, charities which can provide furniture and white goods, foodbanks.

If Children's Centres are forced to move into community centres – and I don't believe there has been any consultation with the districts on this – the Children's Centres will pay higher admin fees to generate invoices. They will not provide a child led and child friendly environment. There will be nowhere to store equipment without a base – will the workers be expected to drive around with all the necessary equipment in their cars?

Children's Centres are as much support for whole families as they are for children. Community and peer support – parents meeting in each other's houses – is not necessarily a safe and supportive environment. There are huge safeguarding risks. Parents are not childhood development experts and there is a risk of replacing skilled jobs with volunteers. If you put parents with similar problems in a group, who are they learning from? Who teaches people who have never been parented to parent? Who can refer to specialist services if needed? Who, in a professional capacity sees these children before they start school? Nobody. If these children have not had access to universal services, it is unlikely issues will be picked up. Early intervention is key. It is too late when children are starting school, these centres offer an opportunity to engage with a positive learning environment from birth to help children be as school ready as possible.

The Tories bang on about social mobility, yet here they are undermining social inclusion. You cannot have one without the other. The first 1001 critical days cross-party manifesto was launched at each party conference in 2013, which put forward the moral, scientific and economic case for the importance of the conception to age 2 period. This period of life is crucial to increase children's life chances, and they pledged their commitment to ensure all babies have the best possible start in life. All parties agreed agree that society is missing an opportunity if we don't prevent problems before they arise and that it is vital that a focus on the early years is at the heart of the policy making process.

The Manifesto highlighted the importance of acting early to enhance outcomes for children. Too many children and young people do not have the start in life they need, leading to high costs for society, and too many affected lives. Every child deserves an equal opportunity to lead a healthy and fulfilling life, and the 1001 Critical Days Manifesto supported this.

So what happened? Fast forward 3 years and Norwich was identified as one of 12 Opportunity Areas in October 2016 by the then Education Secretary Justine Greening to improve social mobility, who said, "Opportunity areas will help local children get the best start in life, no matter what their background. Ensuring all children can access high-

quality education at every stage is critical. We will focus not just on what we can do to help inside schools, but also create the opportunities outside school that will raise sights and broaden horizons for young people.

The best start in life? High quality education at every stage? How does the proposal to axe 88% of the county's Children's Centres provide the best start in life and the highest quality education at every stage?

Chloe Smith, Member of Parliament for Norwich North, was, on Friday 15th September 2017 appointed chair of the new Norwich Opportunity Area Youth Board. Ms Smith was appointed to the role by Robert Goodwill MP, Minister of State for Children and Families, who praised her for her "enthusiasm for your constituency and the social mobility of young people who live in Norwich." The new Youth Board was set up to oversee the engagement with young people of the Government's flagship policy to improve social mobility. The Social Mobility Commission's Index 2016 research indicated that these young people had some of the worst life-chances in England.

So, where is the money for the vital first 1001 critical days at the heart of the policy making process?

Professor Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England, says of the first 1001 critical days, 'We know that not intervening now will affect not just this generation of children and young people but also the next. Those who suffer multiple adverse childhood events achieve less educationally, earn less, and are less healthy, making it more likely that the cycle of harm is perpetuated, in the following generation.'

Clive Lewis, has also criticised the proposals, which follow the county council's previous decision to end the Connexions youth service. He said: "They took an axe to the youth service. They got rid of careers advice for school and college students. And now they want to shut almost every Children's Centre in the county?"

"What exactly have Norfolk's Tories got against our children and young people? Locally, Norfolk Tories blame it on reduced funding from central government even though it's their own party running the country.

What can we do as a city council to protect services for Norwich children?

Very little. All children's services are run by the county council who seem hell-bent on making cuts whatever the consequences. But we will be asking for information about how they expect these services to be delivered – as yet, we have the final dish, but not the recipe. We will give robust views on the consultation. We will be writing to the Education minister, the Norwich Opportunity Area board, to Chloe Smith, in her capacity as Youth chair and we will work with voluntary agencies to gain evidence of the increase in their workload as a result

of these cuts. We will also ask Scrutiny committee to identify where the biggest risks are for the children of Norwich so that the council can respond to the consultation – in a city which has some of the most disadvantaged children in Norfolk and some of the worst social mobility in the country.”

Question 3

Mr Phil Di Palma

"As a Norfolk County Council trained "Love Food Hate Waste" volunteer, I was pleased to read in a recent copy of The Citizen magazine that the city council is encouraging use of its caddy system to collect whatever food waste households do produce.

However, I'm concerned that people are being told they can use non-biodegradable plastic bags in their food caddies - bags which are then incinerated rather than recycled. Can the cabinet member please tell me why bags need to be used at all?"

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

"The good news is that you do not have to use bags at all. It is a resident's choice whether to use a liner or not. Where residents choose to use a liner we do, encourage residents to reuse existing plastic bags, such as shopping bags that are coming to the end of their life or food bags such as those used for bread, salad or cereals. Residents can also continue to use compostable liners.

As part of its drive to improve recycling performance on food waste, the city council identified that one of the barriers to householders using the service was being able to use liners for their caddies. A campaign to encourage more residents to recycle their food waste and stop throwing it into the rubbish bin was launched called 'Feed your caddy.' As part of this campaign free caddy liners were delivered to 55,000 properties across Norwich to encourage residents to take part.

The campaign has been so successful that we are now seeing a 42% rise in the amount of food waste being collected for recycling. This will see an extra 800 tonnes of food waste being recycled over the year instead of being sent for disposal.

This is waste, including the reused plastic bags that would have been sent for disposal if it wasn't recycled. The waste is disposed of by Norfolk County Council by turning it into fuel which is used in combined heat and power facilities in Suffolk and Europe where it is burnt to generate electricity and heat.

Further information on the 'Feed your caddy' campaign and how caddies are used can be found on the council's website."

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Maguire said he was confident plastic waste did not end up on farmers land.

Question 4

Ms Margaret Todd

"Everyday there are new reports of the effects of air pollution on our health caused by vehicles in cities. This pollution produced by diesel and petrol engines causes harm at levels, especially to babies and children, below the current "national objectives" for air quality. Particulates from diesel engines, tyres and brakes are seen by the public as a major health hazard. There are no safe limits for particulates. Electric cars will not be an answer as they still produce particulates from tyres and brakes.

The Government does not set a lead in tackling pollution, and we recognise that the resources of a Highway or Public Health Authority are not available to the City Council.

Norwich City Council is required by law to measure air pollution and where concentrations exceed 'national objectives' to produce an action plan. But these measurements give a very limited picture of the hazards we face because the monitored area is only within the inner ring road. Outside this is where schools and commuting bring a lot of vehicle traffic through residential areas, especially a concern for children.

Planning applications give information about current pollution and projections are made about the impact of the proposed development. It is clear from these that many streets in Norwich should have warning notices displayed, as well as urgent action taken.

We congratulate the City Council for encouraging an increase in cycling and this has helped to make the city centre a far pleasanter, quieter and more enjoyable environment. But more needs to be done.

One of the main actions for tackling air pollution in the Air Quality Action Plan 2015 was to reduce through vehicle traffic in the City Centre. Westlegate has been closed to motor traffic but the other, to remove traffic from Prince of Wales Road after the NDR was built, was abandoned last year. As far as we are aware, there are no significant proposals to improve air pollution in Norwich.

Norwich Cycling Campaign would like to see the City Council:-

- Share all the information it has on air pollution, including hot spots and pollution incidents, not just the legally required minimum information on 'national objectives' in the whole of Norwich, to increase public awareness

- Produce an ambitious and comprehensive plan for reducing air pollution by motorised traffic throughout the urban area; drawing on recent actions and good practice by other councils and ensuring this is a priority in transport and planning policies.
- Promote the health of Norwich inhabitants as a priority, when working with partners such as Norfolk County Council and the LEP, so that transport changes and other developments are not at the expense of the health of those who live and work in the city.

Does the Council agree and what are its plans to improve air pollution in the city?"

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

"Thank you for your question which I welcome. I am pleased to see and hear that you share the City Council's enthusiasm to continue the work that we do in order to protect and improve the city's environment for all those living, working, and visiting in the city.

There is increasing medical concern about the impact of very small particulate pollution (PM_{2.5}) of the type referred to. Presumably it is for this reason that the World Health Organisation (WHO) now makes a recommendation that levels of such pollution should be below 10 micrograms per cubic metre annual mean concentration.

In Norwich background levels of pollution are measured at a site in Lakenfields. Here the background PM_{2.5} level in 2016 was 11 micrograms per cubic metre. Whilst levels have declined since 2012 it is clearly higher than the WHO target – alongside 46 other towns and cities in the UK that have background levels at or above the 10 microgram target.

PM_{2.5} is also measured on Castle Meadow close to the bus stops at the junction with Opie Street. In 2016 the level of PM_{2.5} was also 11 micrograms per cubic metre despite its proximity to vehicles producing exhaust, and particles from tyres and brakes. In the previous year the level was within the WHO target at 9 micrograms.

I would therefore caution people in assuming that PM_{2.5} pollution is simply to do with motor vehicles. National data suggests that road transport contributes to around 12% of PM_{2.5} pollution, whereas industrial processes and combustion (including agriculture) makes up 29%, domestic wood and coal burning 38% and around 15% is naturally occurring.

Whilst therefore it is vitally important to have cleaner transport action, is likely to be required across a number of fronts. Government, for example, are considering how, with local government, to clean up or regulate the use of wood stoves.

Turning your specific points:

Norwich City Council undertakes the monitoring of air quality which satisfies the national objectives. This monitoring is reported annually via a report to DeFRA, and once authorised by them, is made available via the city council website at: -

https://www.norwich.gov.uk/downloads/download/1917/air_quality_monitoring_reports_and_assessments

Details of pollution incidents are retained by the Environment Agency. Further information is available on their website - <http://apps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/37821.aspx>

As regards a plan to reduce air pollution I am pleased that steps are being taken to a) ensure it becomes a central feature of the council's wider corporate planning and b) that it is likely to be a central feature of the new transport strategy for the city which Norfolk County Council is developing in partnership with the city council and other neighbouring districts.

There was recent consultation on the latter, which highlighted public concern about air quality – and this information is being used to develop a new strategy which it is hoped to consult on in about 12 months' time. In the meantime the councils will be working with stakeholders to develop the strategy.

Finally, the council is always keen to promote the health of the city's inhabitants. We already have very close working relationships with Norfolk County Council, the LEP and a variety of key partners and we will continue to work with them so as to hopefully ensure all transport changes and other developments are not at the expense of the health of those who live and work in the city."

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Maguire said the council would continue to maintain a dialogue with partners and stakeholders.

4. Petitions

No petitions were received.

5. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2018.

6. Questions to Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs

The Lord Mayor said that thirteen 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 Carlo to the cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth about alleyway surfacing. |
| Question 2 | Councillor Raby to the cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth about the National Planning Policy Framework. |
| Question 3 | Councillor Button to the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing about National Practitioner Support Service Gold Standard Award. |
| Question 4 | Councillor Hampton to the cabinet member for safe city environment about food waste recycling. |
| Question 5 | Councillor Trevor to the cabinet member for safe city environment about the Pathways project. |
| Question 6 | Councillor Stewart to the cabinet member for safe city environment about CO2 admissions data for Norwich. |
| Question 7 | Councillor Ryan to ask the cabinet member for health and wellbeing about the new customer contact centre. |
| Question 8 | Councillor Vaughan Thomas to the cabinet member for social inclusion about the introduction of universal credit in Norwich. |
| Question 9 | Councillor Peek to the deputy leader and cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth about Cycle City Scheme. |
| Question 10 | Councillor Brociek-Coulton to the cabinet member for safe city environment about Norfolk Fire Service. |
| Question 11 | Councillor Malik to the leader about Britivic. |
| Question 12 | Councillor Lubbock to the cabinet member for safe city environment about the Community Pay back Scheme. |
| Question 13 | Councillor Ackroyd to the leader about WASPI. |

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

7. Treasury management full year review 2017-18

Councillor Kendrick moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor Peek seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED unanimously to note the report and the treasury activity for the year to 31 March 2018.

8. Adjustments to Capital Programme 2018-19

Councillor Kendrick moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor Stutely seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED unanimously to:

- 1) approve the additions to the 2018/19 General Fund capital programme as set out in this report; and
- 2) note changes to the way the capital programme is presented in future budget monitoring reports.

9. Mile Cross Depot redevelopment project

Councillor Stonard moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor Kendrick seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve an increase in the General Fund capital budget of £1.975m (£0.550m in 2018/19 and £1.425m in 2019/20) to undertake the required works at the Mile Cross depot site.

10. Members allowance panel

(Councillors Button, Davis, Driver and Stutely having declared an interest in this item left the room.)

Councillor Kendrick moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor Harris seconded the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor Waters moved an amendment to the recommendation on the report to include the words “for the purposes of housing benefit” at the end of resolution (2).

This was seconded by Councillor Peek. Councillor Kendrick indicated that he would accept the amendment to the recommendations.

RESOLVED, unanimously to approve the amended recommendations as below:

- 1) amend the members allowances scheme to consider (but not be limited to) the following as expenses:

- a) Mobile phone
 - b) Landline
 - c) Telephone calls
 - d) Broadband costs
 - e) Parking permits
 - f) Stationery
 - g) Stamps
 - h) Flyers
 - i) Newspapers
 - j) Printing
 - k) Ink cartridges
 - l) Heating and lighting
 - m) Office accommodation
 - n) Aids to physical participation in meetings
 - o) ICT and office equipment
 - p) Other items of expenses which are wholly and necessarily incurred in the role of a councillor
- 2) agree that fifty percent of the basic member's allowances should be considered as expenses for the purposes of housing benefit; and
- 3) agree that the travel and subsistence element of the members allowances scheme should remain unchanged

(Councillors Button, Davis, Driver and Stutely were readmitted to the meeting.)

10a. Motion: Brexit

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

Councillor Waters proposed and Councillor Harris seconded a motion to adjourn the debate on the item, under paragraph 52(k), appendix 1 of the council's constitution.

Councillor Wright moved to call for a recorded vote on the adjournment of this item. As per the council's constitution Councillors Ackroyd, Carlo, Lubbock, Price and Raby supported him in this motion.

With 26 voting in favour (Councillors Bradford, Brociek-Coulton, Button, Davis, Driver, Fullman, Fulton-McAlister (M), Harris, Huntley, Jones, Kendrick, Maguire, Malik, Maxwell, Packer, Peek, Ryan, Sands (M), Sands (S), Stewart, Stonard, Stutely, Thomas (Va), Thomas (Vi), Trevor and Waters) and 7 against (Councillors Ackroyd, Carlo, Lubbock, Price, Raby, Schmierer and Wright) and no abstentions it was:

RESOLVED to adjourn debate on this motion.

(Councillors Ackroyd, Lubbock and Wright left the meeting at this point.)

10b. Motion: Modern Slavery

Councillor Jones moved and Councillor Huntley seconded the motion as set out on the agenda.

RESOLVED, unanimously:-

“Though slavery was abolished in the UK in 1833, there are more slaves today than ever before in human history. Figures from the International Labour Organisation suggest that there are more than 40 million people in modern slavery across the world, with nearly 25 million held in forced labour. There were 3805 victims of modern slavery identified in the UK in 2016. Modern Slavery is happening nationwide and within our city. Slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. This can include sexual and criminal exploitation.

Council **RESOLVES** to:

(1) acknowledge that:

- a) action needs to be taken to raise awareness of modern slavery and the fact that it is happening all over the UK.
- b) the current support for victims is not sufficient and needs to go beyond the 45 days they are currently given by the government.
- c) councils have an important role to play in ensuring their contracts and supplies don't contribute to modern day slavery and exploitation.

(2) To adopt the Co-operative Party's Charter against Modern Slavery, set out below, to ensure our procurement practices do not support slavery.

- a) Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
- b) Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
- c) Continue to challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.

- d) Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
- e) Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
- f) Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
- g) Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
- h) Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
- i) Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
- j) Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually."

10c. Motion: Opposing Voter ID

Councillor Kendrick moved and Councillor Maguire seconded the motion as set out on the agenda.

RESOLVED, unanimously:-

"There is a proposal to introduce voter identification (Voter ID) requirements in polling stations through the use of pilots at local government elections in 2019.

Council therefore **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Condemn the Government's plan to carry out further pilots that will introduce restrictive ID requirements at local elections in 2019;
- (2) Not to take part in any voluntary pilot scheme that could prevent legitimate voters from taking part in our democratic process;
- (3) Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Cabinet Office expressing the concerns of the council as set out in this motion, and asking them to halt the Voter ID pilots until such point as it can be proven that no voter will be disenfranchised;

- (4) Ask the Leader of the Council to write to our local MPs expressing the council's concerns and to seek their views on the proposal.”

10d. Motion: Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Councillor Carlo moved and Councillor Raby seconded the motion as set out on the agenda.

Councillor Maguire moved and Councillor Stonard seconded the following amendment.

“To amend resolution (1) by replacing the word consider with continue at the beginning, to read ‘continue preparing a..’

To amend resolution (2) by inserting at the beginning the words continue, to read ‘continue to work...’

With 26 voting in favour, 3 against and no abstentions the amendment was carried and became part of the substantive motion.

RESOLVED, unanimously:-

“The Summer of 2018 has seen high temperatures, droughts, floods and wildfires around the world. Scientists have linked these events directly to climate change and warned that extreme weather events are likely to become the norm rather than the exception. Vulnerable groups of people suffer the most in extreme weather, in Norwich as well as elsewhere: the very young and very old are physically less able to cope with extreme heat; low income households lack the means to insulate their homes against heat and cold; higher food prices, due to excess heat and lack of rain, have more of an impact on families with lower budgets.

Council **RESOLVES** to;

- (1) continue preparing a climate change adaptation strategy to increase the climate resilience of the city and its citizens.
- (2) continue to work with Greater Norwich Local Plan partners to develop a local plan to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.”

LORD MAYOR



Council

25 September 2018

Questions to cabinet members or chairs of committees

Question 1

Councillor Carlo to ask the cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth the following question:

“The surface of an alleyway between Grosvenor Road and Neville Street has worn away, creating a trip hazard for pedestrians. The City Council Highways Management team confirmed that the alleyway has been in the programme for re-surfacing for ten years but that it is difficult to give a delivery date. The council advises, “We are currently only able to afford to reconstruct about 5 paths a year across the city. Even slurry seal, which is a thin layer applied over existing surfaces to arrest deterioration, is limited to 4 sites this year compared with approximately 30 previously. That compares with 800 sites on our list.” However, it is surely more cost-effective to keep footpaths in good repair than to risk pedestrians tripping up and suffering injury. Will the cabinet member make the case to Norfolk County Council for dedicating a larger share of the Integrated Transport Budget from the DfT for repairing and reconstructing footpaths in Norwich?”

Councillor Stonard, cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth’s reply:

“The amount of funding for reconstruction and resurfacing of footways is set by Norfolk County Council. Whilst I agree that more paths could be treated, the reality is that budgets are extremely limited. Allocations are made on the basis of network length and condition, and as such, Norwich’s allocation is fair.

Of course we would like to see higher investment in maintenance but we also have to acknowledge the wider financial situation. You are probably aware that Norfolk County Council is having to cut its budgets, and has difficult choices to make balancing the needs of social services, children’s services as well as highways and others. The problem is not so much getting a bigger share of the pie, but having a bigger pie to share from. Regardless of cost effectiveness, there just isn’t sufficient money to replace footpaths as people would perhaps like.

Unlike many other paths, the alleyway between Grosvenor Road and Neville Street is not deteriorating. The surface is a bit uneven in places but it is unlikely to get significantly worse or fall apart in the near future. Therefore higher priority is given to other paths.

Paths are maintained to standards in Norfolk County Council's Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP). This provides a risk managed approach to dealing with hazards. Thus, some defects will be repaired more quickly than others depending on severity and location. However, it is not possible to keep every path perfectly smooth. The highways team inspect the network regularly and order repairs in accordance with TAMP."

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Stonard said that Norfolk County council operated a priority system for grading works to be done.

Question 2

Councillor Raby to ask the cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth the following question:

"Recent changes to the government framework have included the deletion of National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 173, which stated that 'careful attention to viability and costs' should be taken when making planning decisions, leaving Norwich's Development Management policies and the affordable housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) out of date. Yet the planning committee continues to decide applications and may need to make decisions regarding the viability of specific applications. As updated policies are not yet available to the planning committee or to officers, will the cabinet member action a statement from the Planning Department that outlines the changes and impacts to Norwich policies and the SPD that may be used until the full rewrite can be carried out?"

Councillor Stonard, cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth's response:

"Thank you for the question which relates to the recent publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and our own approach to affordable housing and viability as set out in our local plans and in our affordable housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

You may recall that we debated the implications of viability assessment for affordable housing at the council meeting on September 2017 and, among other things, council resolved to ask cabinet to:

- Consider, as part of the review of the Supplementary Planning Document 2015, making viability assessments publicly accessible online and therefore open to public scrutiny throughout the planning consultation process, following the example of councils including Greenwich, Islington, Lambeth and Bristol.

- Introduce, if appropriate, a policy of requiring external, independent scrutiny of all viability assessments by default, to replace the current procedure of subjecting a viability assessment to independent assessment only when the council 'considers it necessary' (as set out in the council's Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document 2015).
- Clarify, based on evidence, in the forthcoming revised Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document what specifically is meant by 'reasonable profit' for a developer, by stipulating a maximum profit level, if appropriate that recognises developers' financial constraints while also demonstrating the council's refusal to allow developers to profit at the expense of much-needed affordable housing.

Now we have the revised NPPF published we are in a position to take these resolutions forward and only last week Sustainable Development Panel discussed the work programme for planning policy and a report which noted that the review of the "affordable housing SPD is currently underway with anticipated adoption in early 2019. This will take account of the revised NPPF, particularly in relation to development viability".

With regard to the new NPPF and associated guidance the key aspects with regards to viability are:

- The role for viability assessment is primarily at the plan making stage. Policy requirements, particularly for affordable housing, are required to be set at a level that takes account of affordable housing and infrastructure needs and allows for the planned types of sites and development to be deliverable without the need for further assessment at decision-making stage.
- The NPPF and guidance acknowledge that there are circumstances when viability assessments will be appropriate at planning application stage. Paragraph 57 of the NPPF and PPG paragraph 008 states that it is up to the applicant to demonstrate whether particular circumstances justify the need for a viability assessment at the application stage. The guidance also states that the weight to be given to a viability assessment is a matter for the decision maker, having regard to all the circumstances in the case, including whether the plan and the viability evidence underpinning it is up to date, and any change in site circumstances since the plan was brought into force, and the transparency of assumptions behind evidence submitted as part of the viability assessment.
- Any viability assessment, including any undertaken at the plan-making stage, should reflect the government's recommended approach to standardised inputs as set out in National Planning Guidance, and should be made publicly available.

Whilst you are right to point out there is a tension between the approach being advocated in the NPPF and the approach we currently use, you are wrong to suggest that this renders our current policy framework and associated SPD out of date.

The most relevant policies here are policy 4 of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk (adopted March 2011 with amendments adopted January 2014) and policy 33 of the City Council's Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (2014).

Neither of these plans have expired, they were both adopted prior to the revised NPPF and whilst the revised NPPF provides no definition of 'up-to-date', paragraph 213 states that *"existing policies should not be considered out-of-date simply because they were adopted or made prior to the publication of this Framework. Due weight should be given to them, according to their degree of consistency with this Framework"*.

Our policies are consistent with the revised NPPF in so far as it provides a framework for the assessment of viability at the decision making stage which is still provided for in the revised NPPF. Officers have therefore advised me that the new NPPF does not render these policies out of date and that weight can still be attached to the current policy framework in reaching planning decisions.

This is important as, you will be aware that, our planning policy framework is one of the tools we use to deliver genuinely affordable housing meeting the growing needs of population of Norwich. As you may recall from the information I provided at the previous council debate that our overall approach is successful with 29% of all housing provision taking place over the preceding 5 years being affordable homes.

Therefore there is no need to panic in reaction to the NPPF. Officers will continue to advise members on the best approach to maximise the delivery of affordable housing on a case by case basis in the light of our policy framework, whilst they continue the process of revising the Affordable Housing SPD in line with the revised national policy.

It is anticipated that the draft revised SPD will be reported to Sustainable Development Panel in November prior to public consultation, so this will be an opportunity for members to comment on the approach and contents of the draft SPD. It is expected that a revised SPD will be reported back to Panel in early 2019, with adoption by cabinet by March 2019."

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Stonard said that the council's policies were not out of date and a timetable to agree a revised SDP was in place.

Question 3

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

“I recently learnt that the housing service, following three years of assessment, achieved the prestigious National Practitioner Support Service Gold Standard in delivering housing advice, the Home Options scheme and support for vulnerable people. As the pressures, particularly around housing, become ever more severe will the cabinet member for social housing join me in congratulating the housing service for this significant achievement?”

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

“As background, the NPSS Gold Standard is designed to set the bar for homelessness services, showcasing the very best services across the country and supporting local authorities to deliver comprehensive services to prevent homelessness.

The Gold Standard begins with local authorities participating in a peer review of their frontline homelessness service. Our housing options service was subject to an on-site peer review by colleagues from Nottingham City Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council and we received not only an excellent score but also some very positive feedback:

‘All members of the council, senior managers and front line staff share the same vision in terms of homelessness prevention and its contribution to social inclusion and community cohesion. There is corporate ownership of homelessness issues in terms of driving forward and facing future challenges.’

Authorities scoring well on peer review are then able to apply for each of the ten challenges that make up the Gold Standard. These are ten areas of work highlighted by a ministerial working group on homelessness as key to providing an excellent housing advice service. In achieving an excellent score on peer review and subsequently completing the ten local challenges, we have demonstrated that we meet key commitments to preventing homelessness in our area and provide a comprehensive, professional, person focused service for all customers in housing need.

The NPSS Gold Standard has been awarded to just 14 local authorities nationally, which highlights just what an accolade this is. The award is recognition of this council’s ongoing corporate commitment to provide high quality services to vulnerable clients of which we can all be proud.”

Question 4

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

“Like many people in our city I take an active role in recycling as much as possible. The recent drive to particularly increase food recycling in Norwich has been very welcome and I learnt in July that this has helped contribute to a stunning 42 per cent increase in food waste collected so far. Can the cabinet member for safe city environment comment further on the impact these changes have made to further improving recycling in the city?”

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment’s reply:

“The council recognised that the amount of food waste being collected for recycling was not as high as it could be with on average 2,000 tonnes per annum being collected with poor take up of the service from householders across the city. The council was successful in receiving a grant of £60,000 from the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) to support improvements. With this funding and support from WRAP the “Feed your Caddy” campaign was launched in May to improve performance and encourage residents to use the service.

The campaign included a twitter campaign supported by articles in Citizen magazine and local press. In addition 56,000 properties on Alternate Weekly Collections received the following ‘package’ of interventions during a two week delivery period (14-25 May 2018):

- A roll of 52 PE food waste liners
- A food waste information leaflet
- ‘No food waste please’ stickers to be placed on the lid of the refuse bin.

The results have exceeded all expectations. So far we have had over 10,000 requests for food waste caddies and are still getting them in at a rate of over 20 a day. As Cllr Hampton suggested the amount of food waste collected has gone up by 42% increasing the amount of food waste collected annually by some 800 tonnes. This would have gone for waste disposal, instead it goes to an anaerobic digestion plant run by Biogen in Herefordshire to be recycled. To put it simply, the food waste is put into giant sealed, oxygen-free tanks where it is gradually broken down to produce biogas and biofertilizer. The gas is fed back into the national grid to power our homes and buildings and the fertilizer is used on agricultural farm land to enrich the soil.

Even when compared with other intervention programmes supported by WRAP initial data suggests that the interventions have had a very positive impact on food waste and residual tonnages. In Norwich this has resulted in

an additional 15kg per household per year. In previous pilots typically WRAP have seen an increase of 12kg per household per year.”

Question 5

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

“The rising scandal of homelessness rightly shocks all reasonable people and I am particularly pleased that this council, even while enduring vast cuts, has led and invested significantly in the fantastic multi-agency Pathways project. I was therefore particularly pleased to read over the summer that the impact of the Pathways project has already yielded significant reductions in rough sleeping. As winter approaches, can the cabinet member for safe city environment comment further on the importance this project will hopefully make within the city?”

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment’s reply:

“As we move into the autumn and winter period, being roofless and sleeping on the street is no place for anyone to be in 2018, but due to impacts of austerity, welfare reform and cuts to public services overlaid by issues of drug and alcohol dependency, mental illness and poor prison discharges, Norwich has seen increases in people sleeping rough.

What I am pleased to see is the impact that the new Pathways service is having not least providing the resource to engage with those people sleeping rough.

As well as the Pathways service, the council is also planning to undertake a number of additional projects this winter to help reduce the numbers of rough sleepers which are identified in our Norwich rough sleeping strategy. These are:

Winter shelter

I can confirm that the council and the Pathways Norwich service is currently in discussion with charity and faith organisations in Norwich to look at the possibility of opening a winter shelter for four months. This service will be coordinated by a new post within the housing options team. This provision will work in tandem with the new services commissioned by Norwich City Council. We hope that by joining this work together that we will provide more options for rough sleepers in Norwich and can encourage people into more secure accommodation.

Dry house accommodation

We are busy recruiting staff for dry house accommodation that will provide housing for rough sleepers who want to live in an alcohol and drug free environment. These staff will soon be in place with two support workers and a specialist drug and alcohol nurse. We are also working closely with the new drug and alcohol service Change Grow Live (CGL) to ensure there is a joined up approach.

Mental health intervention

In partnership with NHS City Reach and Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust we are currently seconding a specialist mental health nurse from the Trust to work alongside the Pathways Norwich service. We hope this post will be in place later this autumn. We want this service to help make more timely interventions to prevent mental health crisis amongst our rough sleeping population.

Young person emergency accommodation

YMCA Norfolk's new emergency bed service for Pathways Norwich is now fully operational. This service has already provided a number of young people with emergency beds that has prevented them from rough sleeping. We hope through this service that these people will then be able to access other accommodation options.

Resettlement workers

We have now recruited three additional resettlement workers to help free up beds within supported housing in the City. These workers will work alongside providers to help overcome barriers to moving on and provide additional support to people so they can move into independent accommodation. We hope by freeing up additional space in the supported housing system that this will free up more provision for rough sleepers to access accommodation.

All of these projects, in addition to other Pathways Norwich services have been made possible by a successful bid to central government for additional funding for this financial year. We have had confirmation that we will be funded to provide these services in 2019/20. Confirmation of how much funding we will receive is still being finalised.

Latest full street count

I can confirm that the latest full count undertaken on 20/09/18 found 24 rough sleepers on the street. This is 6 persons lower than the annual November count in 2017"

Question 6

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

“Representing a ward which experiences heavy congestion, the importance of reducing carbon and improving air quality is particularly acute. I was pleased to read in the Evening News on 30 August that the per capita CO2 emissions data for Norwich has been released and we compare very favourably with other Norfolk local authorities. Can the safe city environment comment further on this success?”

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment’s reply:

“Thank you for your question. I agree it is wonderful news that CO2 emissions have fallen in Norwich year on year since 2005. This represents an impressive reduction in emissions from travel, industry and domestic energy consumption. So since 2005 our emissions have fallen by nearly 45% (44.9% in total). This reduction is greater than Cambridge 32.8% and Peterborough 37.0%

What is equally impressive is that this reduction in emissions has occurred whilst the UK grew its economy. Therefore the transition towards a low carbon economy is well underway. In fact clean growth forms an integral part of the UK’s new industrial strategy.

Whilst the city council has played its part, reducing its own emissions by over 54%, by significantly reducing energy consumption and purchasing only renewable electricity, we are aware of the significant challenges that lie ahead. What comes next is really hard and many of the easy wins have already been done.

As we refresh our Environmental Strategy for the next 5 years I am confident that the City Council will play a further part in helping the city and its citizens make this transition. After all urban areas account for nearly three-quarters of humanity’s emissions, reaching this goal will depend in large part on our ability to reimagine and reinvent cities in ways that promote economic prosperity, social equity, enhanced quality of life, and climate resilience.”

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Maguire said that the council’s work on energy efficiency had been recognised at a national level when it was awarded the national boiler and heating project of the year in conjunction with NPS Ltd.

Question 7

Councillor Ryan to ask the cabinet member for health and wellbeing the following question:

“I recently visited the new customer contact centre in city hall with a constituent and was incredibly impressed by the new, modern and accessible facility which has been created. Can the cabinet member for health and wellbeing comment on the impact this new centre will have upon how we further enhance customer care, contact and service?”

Councillor Packer, cabinet member for health and wellbeing’ response:

“Our aim was to provide a modern, bright, welcoming and flexible space in which to support the most vulnerable people within our city, through our appointment and self-serve model and that can be used for other functions and activities as well as a central focus point for visiting customers.

This has been delivered if feedback in the first few weeks from our customers is to be a measure of success. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and extremely appreciative of the new space with words like ‘a bright and welcoming space’ with ‘a great calm feel’ being shared with staff.

However, this is just the beginning, and this new environment provides further opportunities which will help us enhance our customer care, contact in general and delivery of services in an efficient manner.

Further development of our online appointment booking system and range of simple online forms together with our self-scanning facility particularly for benefits (but also with opportunities for many other services to use it like our licensing service) will increase the efficiency of many services that we deliver.

The tailored support and space for staff to meet with vulnerable customers, is at the core of our new centre. The centre gives us an opportunity to further explore a ‘video meeting’ facility for supporting some of our most vulnerable customers who do not use English as their first language.

The ‘information space’ for current events and specific promotions is now available with greater opportunities to share space with partners who deliver services through a similar customer model. The environment also lends itself to being used outside of core hours for events or conferences or even for delivering the election count in the future.

In the first few weeks of operating we have seen a noticeable change in behaviour from customers who are responding positively to the different meeting areas that are now available. Allowing staff to provide an individual and tailored service approach to enquiries in the new environment to a range of customers with differing needs. Our appointment system and simple self service facilities including the self-scan facility have been well received but

with help being provided as necessary by both staff and 'friends' who have come in to support an individual. This helping 'yourself to interact differently' has been encouraging to see and supports the ethos of providing simple easy to use services.

The Universal Credit changes coming in from next month will be supported by the new environment where customers can sit down to use the technology and be helped by our trained digital support staff to make those applications in a calm and welcoming environment.

Digital support is available to all who visit us both within the digital hub in the centre or at other facilities across the city but the ethos of supporting people digitally is at the heart of the new customer model and is a significant cultural behavioural change that is at the heart of the new centre."

Question 8

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

"Next month the government's policy of Universal Credit will be implemented in Norwich. Learning from the disastrous experiences where this ill thought out and poorly funded policy has been already piloted, can the cabinet member for social inclusion comment on our City Council measures which have been developed to respond to this?"

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

"The city council as a local authority has a formal role in the Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP) 'Universal Support' which seeks to address the cultural change and behavioural shift for claimants that is required under Universal Credit (UC), known as 'Universal Support'.

In Norwich the council provides support to residents (not just tenants) to enable them to make and manage their online claim including accessing online services. This support is provided by our digital champions (from across the organisation), and volunteers (Voluntary Norfolk). Full budgeting support is provided by 6 advisers within our housing income team. This includes telephone and face-to-face support and eventually support within the local jobcentre.

As well as its role in 'Universal Support' the council has also sought to play an active role in mitigating the risks to tenants and residents in the transition, as well as to itself as a council and landlord. The approach that the city council has sought to take thus far has been to work collaboratively, both internally and externally, to understand the issues and to plan accordingly. Whilst UC is a DWP initiative, we have looked to work constructively with a range of stakeholders to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. This starts

from a recognition that this is not simply a benefits issue but affects a range of services that the council provides. Key activities have included:

- Cross-council co-ordination through project board and UC team leader
- Identifying operational impact and trouble-shooting issues as they arise
- Communication with residents and tenants around key messages (e.g. get online, learn to budget, get a bank account)
- Stakeholder engagement (Anglia Revenue Partnership, advice and support agencies, social landlords, other councils etc.)
- DWP liaison and providing statistics

The benefits team have made specific preparations for the advent of UC including:

- Establishing a small team of advisers to handle UC work which will be scaled up across the team as we move to full service
- Working to automate large scale of Housing Benefit (HB) stop notifications received through DWP 'Data Hub'
- Automation of UC Discretionary Housing Payment applications into Academy to mitigate risk
- Encouraging take up of Council Tax Reduction (CTR) claims for UC customers

The housing income team have made specific preparations for the advent of UC including:

- Developing early identification of tenants who have made a claim for UC, so that they can be flagged and closely monitored
- Pro-actively identifying need for budgeting support rather than waiting for referrals
- Intensive management of rent payments, taking account of technical arrears that ensue from method of UC payment (monthly in arrears)

Wider activities that are supporting the transition to Universal Credit include:

- Social welfare commissioning: The council is continuing its commitment to the advice sector in the city and providing resources to allow free access to specialist advice on a range of Social Welfare issues. One of the key target groups for this is residents who are affected by the introduction of Universal Credit and other changes to Social Welfare law.
- Betteroff Norwich is a software package purchased by the council which is aimed at helping people check their own entitlements to benefit, and where there is a potential shortfall, assist them in applying for it directly and online. While the software is geared towards helping people to self-help, it can also be used by agencies advising their clients. Within the package there are also various budgeting and debt tools that can help people take control of their finances.
- The refurbishment of the contact centre has enabled the introduction of self-serve tablets, a scanning station, and floorwalkers to ensure

there will be adequate support where it is needed most. This will enable those customers who can self-serve to do so, whilst freeing up officer time to help customers who need their support.

While some of the measures above are about empowering people to self-help regarding claiming and budgeting, the city council recognises that there will always be a need to provide individual help for some people in some cases. The work above is designed to allow staff the time and space to provide that intensive help where needed to the most vulnerable of people.

We believe that we are as prepared as we can be for the advent of the full UC service, but will continue to work with a range of stakeholders to evolve our approach. Notwithstanding this preparedness, we still have concerns about the impact of UC on particularly vulnerable residents in the context of the wider pressures of welfare reform. Research by Sheffield Hallam University in 2016 indicates that the financial loss per working age adult in Norwich due to welfare reform by 2021 is £730, making a total loss in Norwich of £68m. This represents a major risk will be at a time where we are already seeing rising household debt, homelessness and poverty."

Question 9

Councillor Peek to ask the cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth the following question:

"Representing a ward which borders the busy Earlham Road, I have been a keen supporter of the two proposed projects to significantly improve safety for cyclists, as part of the Cycle City Ambition. The additional £1.7m, on top of the £12m investment in the Norwich cycle network along the pink, blue and yellow pedalways, is excellent news. Now that the consultation has closed and officers have analysed the feedback, can the cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth comment on the benefits the final, approved scheme will now deliver for both the community and city?"

Councillor Stonard, the deputy leader and cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth's response:

"It is particularly pleasing that this significant investment has been achieved as a direct result of the successful implementation of the City Cycle Ambition schemes and I am a keen supporter of these proposals. With the population of the city and the surrounding areas growing quickly, it is imperative that we find sustainable ways to travel around.

The section of Earlham Road that is to receive attention has a significant accident record, with both pedestrians and cyclists at risk. The scheme has been specifically designed to improve road safety across a wide area for all road users. A significant section of Earlham Road and many of the adjacent side streets are to become 20mph Zones and there will be new and improved crossing points both for pedestrians and cyclists. This will make the area both

more pleasant to live in and to get around. The Norwich Highways Agency Committee agreed to progress with this project last week, and also to consult on extending traffic calming works and the extent of the 20mph zone such that the 20mph zone on Earlham Road would extend from Heigham Road as far as the ring road.

The work will also significantly improve sustainable access between the City Centre UEA and on to the research park thus also supporting the economic wellbeing of the City."

Question 10

Councillor Brociek-Coulton to ask the cabinet member for safe city environment the following question:

"I was pleased to read the strong letter of objection from the cabinet member for safe city environment against the latest attempt by the Tory Police and Crime Commissioner to grab the Norfolk Fire Service. Can he confirm this council's ongoing opposition to the change and support the Fire Brigade Union in their campaign around this?"

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

"When this matter first came to the eyes of the citizens of both the city and the county, there was little enthusiasm. As details emerge, there is even less enthusiasm. The city challenged the first report which introduced the idea and I asked the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk (PCC) three questions. I was told that they would be answered should the PCC decide to go to a second phase; more detailed report.

Those questions were not answered in the second report so, at the subsequent meeting, I asked the three questions again plus three more. They were, therefore, incorporated into the response that the City Council made to his consultation.

There are a number of principled objections to the PCC taking over Norfolk's Fire and Rescue Service (FRS), as well as straightforward operational matters. At the head of these is the role of the FRS in the community which has always been humanitarian, neutral, and life-saving. This has enabled the women and the men in the FRS access and a welcome from citizens not always available to the Police Service (this is not a criticism of the work (including the life-saving work) done by the police). This is why I fear the possible use of front-line members of the FRS being used to do PCSO type work.

At an operational level, there is little detail as to how the 'savings' will be made and yet much of the PCC's plan builds on this premise. There is no clear argument given as to why collaboration under the PCC will be better than the existing and growing collaboration between emergency services.

Why the PCC is so keen to take over the FRS is not clear and yet so much of this points to a power grab. There is no appetite among Norfolk County Council for the proposal.

In summary, the City Council made objections to the proposed take-over of the Fire and Rescue Service: joint working is happening already; continued collaboration can achieve many of the benefits proposed by the PCC through the development of a strategic vision and plan for this work between Norfolk County Council and Norfolk PCC; the work to combine governance would be a distraction at a time of public service transformation.

For these reasons, Norwich City Council object and stand in solidarity with the Fire Brigade Union and support their campaign.”

Question 11

Councillor Malik to ask the leader the following question:

“Like many councillors on this side of the chamber, I have been proud to support fellow trade unionists throughout this year, fighting for their jobs, whether on the RMT, FBU or GMB picket. Earlier this month I joined colleagues in protesting with GMB Britvic workers outside the Forum as they campaign for better redundancy settlements from their employer. Can the leader comment on his ongoing work with Britvic and Unilever to secure not only the best possible terms for their employers but also the future of this important site for the city?”

Councillor Waters, leader’s reply:

“Thank you Cllr Malik for highlighting these important matters.

Since my last update to council in [January 2018](#), and my cabinet colleague Cllr Stonard’s update to council in [July 2018](#), I have been in regular dialogue with officials from Britvic and Unilever. We have held two partnership meetings involving Norfolk County Council and New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and senior managers from both companies in June and August 2018. The meetings have focused on two main issues, firstly to lobby both companies to provide the maximum support for the future welfare of the workforce during the planned closure programme, including good redundancy packages and help to find quality employment opportunities. Both Britvic and Unilever have confirmed that they are progressing their plans to vacate the site by the end of 2019.

Secondly the city council and its partners continue to work proactively to secure a positive future for the site particularly focussing on the importance of securing future employment generation to try and offset the loss of over 300 jobs that will result from the closure of the food and drink production facilities. To reinforce this issue, I signed a joint letter with the leader of the county

council to the UK CEO's of both companies in July 2018, to make clear our commitment to secure a positive future for the site and to seek a commitment from both companies to leave a lasting legacy from the redevelopment of the site that would benefit local communities in Norwich.

In response both companies have confirmed that they have instructed a single property agent to look after the marketing and sale of the site and are planning to bring this to market in October 2018.

We will continue with our discussions to secure the future redevelopment of the site and officers are due to meet with Homes England to explore the potential to attract regeneration funding to assist this process."

Question 12

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

"Does the cabinet member support the use of community 'Pay Back' schemes?"

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

"In a word, yes. Community pay back schemes can provide a useful mechanism for low risk offenders to give back to society rather than being given a custodial sentence which often doesn't provide a solution when these are short term in nature. It is some years since the council provided project work to community pay back scheme but it must be remembered that whilst the labour is low cost – there is a charge levied - and can provide useful work and personal development experience to the individuals, involving community pay back does require resourcing from the client in terms of supervision and for example the individuals having access to washing and toilet facilities which can be tricky if it is a project in a park or open space. It must also be remembered that community pay back schemes must not take work away from those already in employment and project work in the past has been developed on this basis.

However, if the right projects can be identified this is something that can be considered once again."

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Maguire said the use of this resource was dependent on a number of factors.

Question 13

Councillor Ackroyd to ask the leader the following question:

"In response to a councillor question in June 2017, the leader of the council confirmed the council's support for the WASPI Women Campaign and confirmed that the council "will join the campaign".

Given that the most up to date list on the Women Against State Pension Inequality, WASPI Campaign website does not show Norwich City Council as a supportive council, could the leader of the council please confirm when formal support was given following on from the June 2017 question?"

Councillor Waters, leader's reply:

"I was surprised to learn that Norwich City Council was not listed, particularly following the question last year whereupon we agreed to register. For ease of reference I repeat my answer below which hopefully, clearly affirms our support for this vitally important campaign.

'I can confirm that the council has received a request from Gill Lemmon on behalf of Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) to support the WASPI campaign and join other local authorities to lobby government on this injustice.

The Pensions Act 1995 brought in changes to the State Pension Age (SPA) for women born after April 1951. At that time, the changes were to be implemented from April 2010 and would take ten years to complete. By 6 April 2020 the women's state pension age would have been 65 and equal to that of men. To add to this women were not notified of the changes until 14 years after the 1995 Pensions Act.

The Pensions Act of 2011 increased the state pension age for men and women to 66 by 2020; this had the effect of speeding up the changes for women and effectively moving the date they could draw their pension to later.

These changes by central government affect 2.6 million women and could have a big impact on a considerable number of our residents. We are concerned that the changes may have been brought in so quickly that those affected have left little time to make changes to retirement plans or make alternative financial provision. These changes to the state pension age for women and the delay in notifying them of the change has, without a doubt, resulted in women born on or after 6 April 1951 facing hardship in retirement

In 2011 the then Work and Pensions Secretary committed to looking at transitional provisions to help the women who have been hit hardest by the changes but he has failed to do so. There have been a number of Parliamentary debates on this issue in recent months, including a Westminster Hall debate in November 2016, where the Shadow Frontbench

urged the Government to take appropriate action. Given the mishandling of the acceleration of the pension age for women born in the 1950s, which has already caused huge financial worries for 2.6million women across the country, I believe that the Government should take action as a matter of urgency. My colleagues and I, working with local MP's who are supportive of this campaign, will continue to support efforts to press the Government to introduce transitional protections to help the women who have been disadvantaged

This is why I can confirm that Norwich City Council will join the campaign to help women in the area who are affected. The council will be urging the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to ensure that women affected are treated fairly and transitional arrangements are in place where the changes have been accelerated without sufficient notice for them to make alternative plans.'

I have contacted WASPI to re-state our support and ask specifically that we are listed on their website, which was last updated in March this year.

More widely, I was pleased that Jeremy Corbyn reaffirmed his support for the WASPI Campaign at a mass rally held in Mansfield on 16 August 2018. The WASPI Finance Director Angela Madden spoke particularly eloquently about the election promise Labour made to WASPI women. I am aware that Jeremy will meet the WASPI Board during the coming parliamentary session to discuss the most effective way forward to achieve his election promise to WASPI women and I will ask for an update around this.

In the meantime, I would like to thank Cllr Ackroyd for spotting this omission and bringing it to my attention."

Report to Council

Item

27 November 2018

Report of Director of regeneration and development
Subject Introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy
Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy

6

Purpose

To consider whether to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy.

Recommendations

To:

- 1) approve the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy, as set out in appendix 1 of this report;
- 2) amend appendix 4 to the constitution to include the “Power to determine applications for Exceptional Circumstances Relief from the Community Infrastructure Levy. Approval of such applications is not to be delegated to officers” within the list of powers available to planning applications committee.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority a healthy city with good housing.

Financial implications

See paras 26-32 of the report.

Ward/s: All

Cabinet member:

Councillor Waters - leader

Councillor Stonard - sustainable and inclusive growth

Contact officers

Dave Moorcroft, director of regeneration and development 01603 212225

Graham Nelson, head of planning 01603 212530

Background documents

None

Report

Introduction

1. Cabinet considered the possible introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy (ECR) at its meetings in September and November. At the meeting on 14 November it agreed to recommend to Council the introduction of an Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy and to change the constitution to enable Planning Applications Committee to determine such applications.
2. At the cabinet meeting on 14 November, cabinet resolved that should council approve the introduction of an Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy that authority is delegated to the director of regeneration and development, in consultation with the portfolio holder for sustainable and inclusive growth to introduce a charging policy which is intended to minimise any cost burden on the authority.

The Community Infrastructure Levy

3. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge through which the council raises funds from new developments in the area. The money raised is then used to deliver the infrastructure needed to support development such as schools, transport initiatives and leisure facilities. Much of the CIL raised in Norwich is pooled with that raised in South Norfolk and Broadland Council areas and spent via the Greater Norwich Growth Board.
4. Council agreed to adopt and implement the CIL in Norwich in June 2013 and it was brought into force on 13 July 2013. There is a single charging zone covering all of the city council's area with the exception of the small part lying within the area for which the Broad's Authority is the responsible planning authority and where no CIL is charged.
5. When CIL was introduced in 2013 the council considered whether to introduce a policy to allow exceptional circumstances from CIL to be claimed. At the time it was not considered that the benefits of offering discretionary relief outweighed the disadvantages. The relevant extract from the report agreed by council is produced below.

Extract from Council report of June 2013:

"A further matter that needs to be agreed upon implementation, relates to discretionary relief of CIL. It is important that the Council's position on discretionary relief is made clear to those submitting planning applications. Regulation 55 allows a charging authority to grant discretionary relief in exceptional, specified circumstances. The charging authority may agree to a reduction for developments accompanied by a section 106 agreement where the developer can demonstrate that development of the site is not viable (taking into account the CIL charge and Section 106 contribution) and the cost of complying with the S106 obligation exceeds the CIL charge. In such cases the developer will be expected to demonstrate this (as set out in regulation 57) by providing an independent assessor with "open book" accounts. In practice,

the scope of relief which could be offered is likely to be very limited by European state aid regulations. The process is quite onerous and it would be the responsibility of the local authority to ensure state aid regulations are not breached. The availability of discretionary relief, to some degree at least, undermines certainty and predictability that is such an advantage of CIL.

At this time, it is not considered that the benefits of offering discretionary relief outweigh the disadvantages. However, this will be kept under review and the authorities will consider introducing a policy allowing discretionary relief in the light of experience.”

6. Since the introduction of CIL the council has become aware of a small number of pipeline developments sites with complex issues that may be unviable if they are required to pay CIL in full. This report therefore seeks approval for an exceptions policy, which would allow the council to determine, on a case by case basis, whether there is a justification for setting aside the CIL requirement in such cases.

Exceptional Circumstances Relief

7. The CIL Regulations (Regulations 55 to 58) allow CIL charging authorities to set discretionary relief for exceptional circumstances. This allows the council the discretion to offer ECR where individual sites with specific and exceptional cost burdens would not be viable due to the payment of the CIL charge. Use of an exceptional circumstances policy enables the charging authority to avoid rendering sites with such specific and exceptional cost burdens unviable.
8. The CIL Regulations make clear that relief can only be granted where there are ‘exceptional circumstances’ which justify doing so, and where the council considers it “expedient” to do so. ECR would also only be available in respect of developments where the Council is satisfied that to require payment of CIL would have an unacceptable impact on the economic viability of the development. Economic viability would be objectively tested by a requirement that applicants for relief must submit a viability report prepared by a suitably qualified professional approved by the council.
9. Following a request made at the Cabinet meeting in September research was completed on the following:
 - How common is it for CIL charging councils to have an ECR policy in place?
 - Identify examples of where the policy has been used and relief granted.
 - Best practice in terms of cost recovery for local planning authorities.

The findings of this work are summarised in turn below apart from cost recovery which was decided by cabinet previously.

How common is it for CIL charging councils to have an ECR policy in place?

10. In order to research these issues officers reviewed nationally published material on all the local planning authorities that had introduced CIL in London, south east, east of England, east Midlands and north west regions. This was based on published research from Oct 2017 so it may underestimate the number of CIL charging authorities.

11. From the national research there appeared to be 127 authorities in these regions that had introduced CIL. However, from their websites it wasn't possible to establish readily whether or not 41 of these authorities had an ECR policy in place. Of the 86 where it could be established, 45 had made it clear that they would not entertain applications for ECR but 41 appeared to have an ECR policy in place.
12. So overall it appears that around half of all CIL charging authorities do have a policy in place to allow them to grant ECR. The authorities with the policy in place appear to be quite diverse in the nature, however comparing the list of authorities with the ECR in place with the long list of all CIL charging authorities it would appear that ECR policies are more commonly found in urban areas than rural ones. The list of authorities found to have an CIL ECR policy in place is attached as Appendix 3.

Examples of use of the policy where in place

13. Notwithstanding the comparatively large number of authorities that have an ECR policy in place examples of its use of the policy proved far harder to find following emails being sent to all of the 41 authorities. It would appear that nowhere is applying the ECR policy frequently and most authorities that had introduced an ECR had never had cause to use it, although it should be remembered that in a number of cases the policy may not have been in place for very long and officers understand that in a number of instances authorities suggested that possible schemes were in the pipeline.
14. As the name suggests the use of the policy would appear to be the exception rather than the rule. Only three examples have been found where the policy has been applied. However, this is likely to be an underestimate as the ability to find examples appears to be restricted by concerns over confidentiality of commercially sensitive data. The following examples have been found of where CIL ECR policies have been applied:
15. **Taunton Deane Borough Council And West Somerset Council** who have granted relief on a scheme for 100% affordable homes on a particular site where the affordable housing did not qualify for social housing relief.
16. **Weymouth and Portland Borough Council** opened the window for claims for a short period of time in 2016 so they could accept two claims on a regeneration site which had severe viability issues due to the abnormal development costs associated with bringing the site forward and conversion of existing buildings. The proposals were for a number of cultural and community spaces (a museum, exhibition space and cultural experience space) as well as four A1/A3 units and a total of 53 residential units.
17. **The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames** granted CIL ECR relief for the redevelopment of the Eden Walk shopping centre. Details of the consideration of the ECR have been treated in confidence although the description of the associated planning application is as follows:

“The demolition and redevelopment of Eden Walk Shopping Centre, including Millennium House and Neville House to provide a mixed use development consisting of retail units and kiosks (Use Classes A1-A5), leisure including a cinema (Use Class D2), media screens, offices (Use Class B1a) and residential

(Use Class C3); plant (including CHP); public and residential car parking; formation of new access for residential basement car parking, refurbishment of the existing multi-storey car park including new access ramp, extension of basement; public realm works including pedestrian routes and public spaces, improvements to Memorial Gardens, and associated works. Listed Building Consent for the relocation of the War Memorial to a location in Memorial Gardens, and for works abutting the United Reformed Church.”

18. In addition to the above three examples, two further examples of schemes of ECR proposal are in the pipeline:
19. **Chesterfield** are considering an application currently which involves additional costs claimed to be arising as a result of heritage conservation requirements through the re-development of a listed building. They also have a further planned regeneration scheme in the Borough which is a longstanding local plan allocation, which requires the refurbishment of a listed building with exceptional associated costs which is expected to have challenging viability and anticipate that this will need to be considered against their ECR policy as and when it comes forward.
20. **Cheshire west and Chester** - Introduced ECR very recently, and have one scheme where it is considered that it may be necessary to apply the ECR Policy. The scheme is described as :
 - Restoring a derelict Grade II listed building; and
 - Gifting the Council some atelier units and a walled garden which will then be rented out to Community Groups on a pepper corn rent for a minimum of 25 years
21. Finally, the **London Borough of Greenwich** appear to have dealt with an interested case but this resulted in refusal of the application. The details we have are as follows: “An initial application for 9 units was submitted pre-CIL. A revised application for 10 units was submitted once CIL had been adopted and therefore the developer had to pay CIL on all 10 units, not just the additional 1. The developer therefore sought ECR along with a viability assessment as initial figures for the development had not factored in CIL. Due to the lack of skills in house and to maintain an independent hand on the case an external consultant was hired to review the viability assessment. They found the assessment to be significantly flawed as 80-90% of the units had been sold but figures were based on no units being sold and therefore limited cash flow. As a result the application for exceptional relief was refused.”

Proposed Policy for Norwich

22. It is important to note that existing CIL rates were set in 2013 at a level where evidence was held to demonstrate that most development could afford to pay the CIL charge. This was supported by viability evidence and took into account affordable housing requirements and other planning policy requirements. Since 2013, in general, local development values have increased at a faster rate than development costs. It is therefore expected that the exceptional circumstances where this policy will be applied will be rare (as intended by the regulations).
23. There are alternative ways of improving the viability of development schemes, such as by phasing development (so that the phases form separate, chargeable schemes),

phasing or reducing other planning policy requirements. Our adopted Instalments Policy was introduced alongside the CIL Charging Schedule and allows developers to pay CIL over a number of weeks or months (depending on the level of CIL liability) rather than the total on the commencement of development.

24. The proposed ECR Policy set out in Appendix 1 lists the proposed tests which would need to be met before such relief will be granted. The policy also makes clear that each case will be considered individually and that the council retains the discretion to make judgements about the viability of the scheme and whether the exceptional circumstances policy applies. It is also important for the council to ensure that any relief would not constitute State Aid, in accordance with the regulations.
25. From the review carried out of ECR policies that are in place elsewhere it is apparent that most are very similar in their form, simply setting out the legislative requirements. The ECR policy proposed for Norwich goes further than most of these other ECR policies insofar as it enables the City Council to make a judgement in individual cases that is not solely based on the economic viability of proposals and allows the Council to consider whether wider regeneration benefits are achieved and whether there is a need for these to be delivered imminently before granting relief from CIL.
26. Furthermore following the discussion at cabinet on 14 November this aspect of the proposed policy has been strengthened to allow the Council to consider community benefits including the delivery of affordable homes and community facilities alongside other regeneration benefits.

Financial Implications of the proposed policy

27. The financial implications of introducing a CIL ECR policy are difficult to predict and will need to be assessed on a case by case basis in detail although it should be noted that sums involved may be significant. Between its introduction in July 2013 and the end of March 2018 the city council has collected a total of £2.529m of CIL. This level is expected to increase in future years owing both to CIL rates increasing faster than the rate of inflation and a lower proportion of development being built having been consented prior to the introduction of CIL.
28. It is anticipated that the proposed ECR policy will allow for some developments to come forward without paying CIL or paying it at a reduced level. However, the number of such developments is considered to be relatively few as the regulations require that ECR is only granted where it appears to the council that there are exceptional circumstances, which justify doing so and where the council considers it "expedient" to do so.
29. ECR would also only be available in respect of developments where the council is satisfied that to require payment of CIL would have an unacceptable impact on the economic viability of the development. Economic viability would be objectively tested by a requirement that applicants for relief must submit a viability report prepared by a suitably qualified professional approved by the council.
30. It also should be noted that developments on which relief is granted would still contribute towards other benefits through section 106 agreements, for example through the provision of affordable housing or financial contributions. The regulations

provide that ECR can only be made available where an applicant has already entered into a Section 106 agreement in respect of the development in question.

31. The operation of the regulations and the proposed ECR policy are considered likely to result in developments which would qualify for relief where it would be highly unlikely for the development to go ahead without relief being made available. Therefore whilst CIL income may theoretically be foregone, if the site were to remain undeveloped it would not generate any CIL income anyway. Indeed, if developments do deliver significant regeneration benefits they may actually increase the prospects of further development coming forward within the area which over time may increase the level of CIL generated within the area. Finally it should also be noted that even if CIL relief is granted this carries no relief from other forms of taxation so enabling development to take place where it otherwise would not due to exceptional costs is likely to increase Council Tax and Business Rates income.
32. In addition to the possible implications of the policy for funding for infrastructure and other purposes, there may be significant administrative costs associated with the handling of any ECR applications. These are hard to quantify but may be considerable owing to the issues that need consideration and the need for legal advice to be received particularly to ensure compliance with state aid legislation. In order to minimise these costs cabinet agreed that, should council agree to the introduction of the ECR policy, to delegate authority to officers to introduce a similar approach to charging to that which has been adopted in Sheffield. This should cover the council's costs in dealing with such applications in full and may also reduce the prospects of any such applications being made on a speculative basis.
33. Although the financial implications of the policy are very hard to predict in the absence of the detail of individual cases it is considered more likely that on balance the overall financial impact will be positive rather than negative for the council over the long term for the reasons set out above. The regulations provide a mechanism for the council to withdraw the ECR Policy in the future should it desire to do so and as such the financial effect of the ECR Policy can be kept under regular review.

Process for determining applications for ECR received

34. Following discussion at Cabinet in September, officers prepared a generic flowchart to illustrate the process through which an individual proposal must pass before Exceptional Circumstances Relief can be granted. This is included as Appendix 2 for information and it is suggested that should Council agree to the introduction of the ECR policy then this is published on the website alongside the policy and the approach to charging for the information of potential applicants.
35. This process illustrates there are a number of significant safeguards in place to minimise the risk of an application for ECR being granted in circumstances other than where such relief is necessary to allow a development with significant benefits to proceed.
36. Notable features of this process in this regard include:
 - The requirement in the regulations for an assessment of the economic viability of the development to be carried out by an appropriately qualified and experienced independent person who is appointed by the claimant but with the

need for the agreement to the appointment of the charging authority (this will effectively prevent the appointment of an assessor with any form of prior commercial relationship with the applicant);

- The requirement for an apportionment assessment to be conducted if there is more than one material interest in the relevant land;
- The policy allowing the consideration of factors such as wider benefits of a scheme and the need for imminent development to take place before granting relief;
- The absence of a right of appeal to an external body in the event of an application being refused;
- The requirement to establish that any relief does not constitute notifiable state aid; and
- The potential for developments to cease to become eligible for relief if the development is not commenced promptly or the site (or part of it) is sold.

37. Additionally the proposed amendment to the constitution to give the power to planning applications committee to determine any applications will maximise transparency and accountability in how the policy is applied. It is further proposed following the discussion at cabinet in November that this constitutional change is amended to ensure that the approval of any application of relief is done by the committee and not delegated to officers. This will ensure that any such applications are dealt with in the public domain.

Integrated impact assessment



NORWICH
City Council

Report author to complete

Committee:	Council
Committee date:	27 November 2018
Director / Head of service	Director of regeneration and development
Report subject:	Introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy
Date assessed:	22 August 2018

	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"/>	See financial assessment. Impacts considered difficult to predict with any certainty but as the introduction of an ECR Policy will offer a mechanism to enable growth and deliver development in circumstances where CIL may otherwise prevent development occurring it is considered more likely that on balance the overall financial impact will be positive rather than negative for the Council over the long term.
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy is designed to facilitate schemes with a wider regeneration benefits that would otherwise not be viable due to the impact of CIL
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy is designed to facilitate schemes with a wider regeneration benefits that would otherwise not be viable due to the impact of CIL. Such regeneration is considered likely to reduce the incidence of crime and asb that is associated with run down environments

	Impact			
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"/>	
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	
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It is possible that an ECR policy may result in less CIL money being paid in the short term and so have a negative impact on funds available to deliver capital improvements to transportation infrastructure.
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"/>	

	Impact			
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	
Risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduction of the policy would increase risks to the Council particularly in terms of ensuring compliance with state aid rules

Recommendations from impact assessment	
Positive	
Promoting development on certain sites which have exceptional circumstances which otherwise mean they would either not come forward for redevelopment or come forward for less desirable forms of development may provide significant benefits to economic development and regeneration albeit owing to the exceptional circumstances that need to be applied it will only applied rarely.	
Negative	
It is possible that the ECR policy will result in development which places demands on existing infrastructure without providing CIL funds to mitigate this. This may be partly offset by contributions through sec 106 agreements.	
Neutral	

Issues
<p>A matter of balance of whether the positives outweigh the negatives and much will depend on the circumstances of each individual case but as any decisions to apply the policy need to meet strict criteria and there is little scope to challenge any decision of the Council it is considered that adequate safeguards exist.</p>

Community Infrastructure Levy: Exceptional Circumstances Relief Proposed Introduction and Policy

Introduction

The CIL Regulations (Regulations 55 to 58) allow Norwich City Council as a CIL charging authorities to grant relief from liability to pay CIL if it appears to the authority that there are exceptional circumstances which justify doing so.

It is important to note that CIL rates in Norwich City have been set at a level where most development can afford to pay the CIL charge, supported by viability evidence, taking into account affordable housing requirements and other planning policy requirements. In view of this, it will be a rare occurrence where exceptional circumstances are found to exist so as to justify the grant of ECR.

There are alternative ways of improving the viability of development schemes, such as by phasing development (so that the phases form separate, chargeable schemes), phasing or reducing other policy requirements and/or by use of the Council's CIL Instalments policy. These should be fully explored before considering an application for exceptional circumstances relief.

Exceptional Circumstances Relief Policy

This document gives notice that Norwich City Council has determined to make relief for exceptional circumstances available, in accordance with Regulations 55 to 57 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended).

Relief for exceptional circumstances will be available until further notice. (It should be noted that the CIL Regulations give the Council the ability to withdraw this policy at any time with two weeks' notice, although this two week period could only commence following a formal decision of the Council to do so.)

Exceptional Circumstances Relief (ECR) will be considered where individual sites with specific and exceptional cost burdens would not be economically viable due to the payment of the CIL Charge (see CIL Regulations 55 to 57). The Regulations state that the Council may grant relief from liability to pay CIL if it appears to the Council that there are exceptional circumstances which justify doing so and the Council considers it expedient to do so. Each case will be considered individually by the Council, which retains the discretion to make judgements about the viability of the scheme and whether exceptional circumstances exist.

In addition Norwich City Council may make a judgement in individual cases that exceptional circumstances are not solely based on economic viability. Even where the CIL may give rise to an unacceptable impact on the economic viability of the chargeable development, the Council may also require a demonstration of wider community and regeneration benefits including the delivery of affordable homes and community facilities and/or the need for the applicant to show that a particular site has to be brought forward imminently in order to achieve wider benefits.

The Regulations require that there must be a planning obligation in place in relation to the planning permission which permits the chargeable development. A person claiming relief must be an owner of a material interest in the relevant land. Any claim for relief must be submitted in writing, using the appropriate form, and must be received

and approved by Norwich City Council before commencement of the chargeable development¹. Any claim must be accompanied by:

- a) an assessment carried out by an independent person², of the economic viability of the chargeable development and the cost of complying with the planning obligation,
- b) an explanation of why payment of the chargeable amount would have an unacceptable impact on the economic viability of that development
- c) an apportionment assessment (if there is more than one material interest in the relevant land) ; and
- d) A declaration that the claimant has sent a copy of the completed claim form to the owners of the other material interest in the relevant land (if any).

The chargeable development can cease to be eligible for exceptional circumstances relief if:

- a) before the chargeable development is commenced, charitable or social housing relief is granted; or
- b) the site (or part of the site) is sold; or
- c) the chargeable development is not commenced within 12 months from the date on which the charging authority issues its decision on the claim

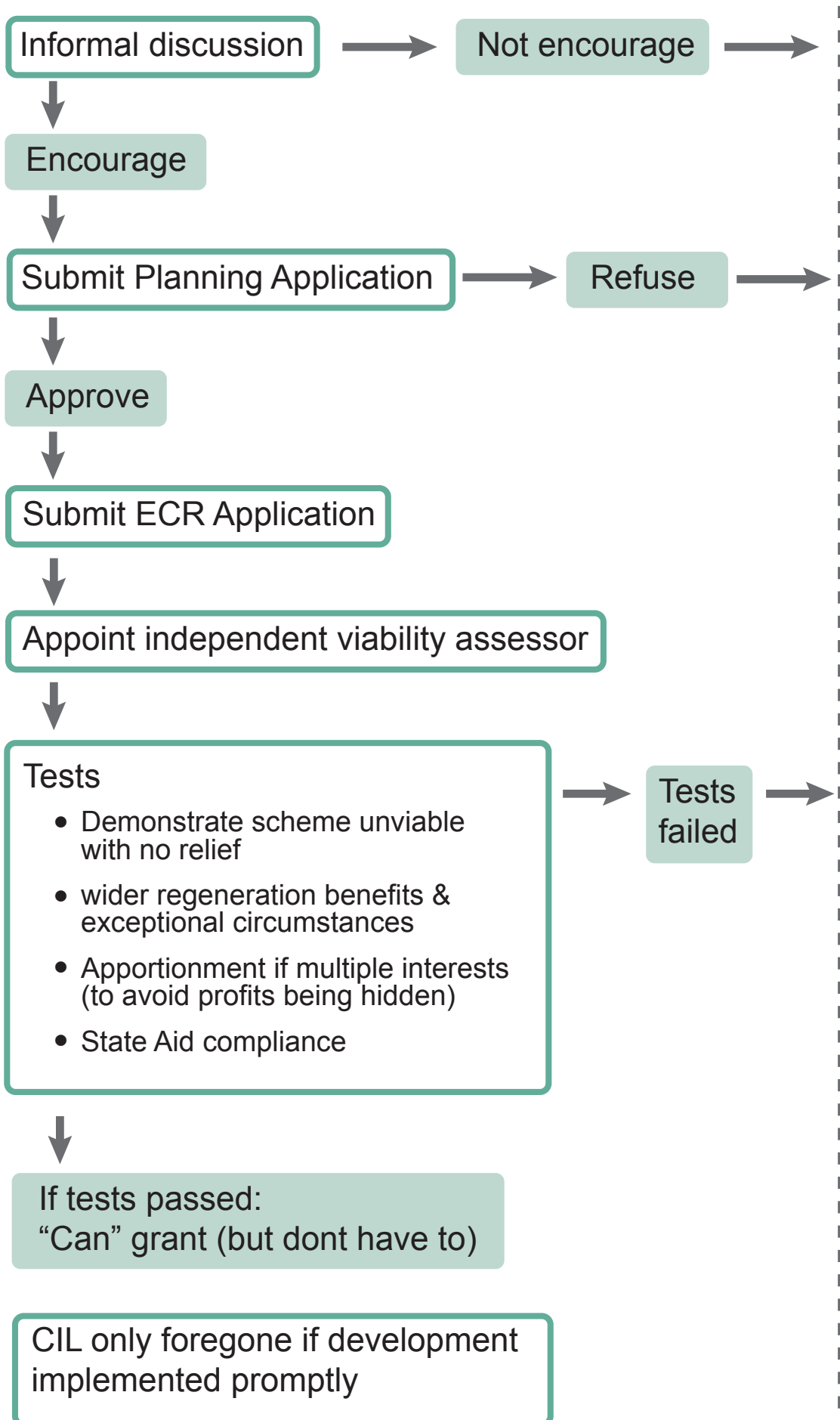
Before granting exceptional circumstances relief for an individual scheme, the Council also must be satisfied that the relief would not constitute notifiable state aid.

¹ A chargeable development ceases to be eligible for relief for exceptional circumstance if before the chargeable development is commenced there is a disqualifying event. This is where the development is granted charitable or social housing relief, is disposed of, or has not been commenced within 12 months.

² For the purposes of the above paragraph, an independent person is a person who is appointed by the claimant with the agreement of the charging authority and has appropriate qualifications and experience.

GENERIC SITE - if CIL ECR is in place

No ECR



Authorities with Community Infrastructure Levy exceptional circumstances relief policy in place

Bassetlaw District Council	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Bath and North East Somerset	London Borough of Westminster
Bedford Borough Council	London Legacy Development Corporation
Chelmsford Borough Council	New Forest District Council
Cheshire West and Chester	Northampton Borough Council
Chesterfield Borough Council	Oxford City Council
Dacorum Borough Council	Peterborough City Council
Epsom and Ewell District Council	Poole Council
Horsham District Council	Rutland County Council
Huntingdonshire District Council	Sedgemoor District Council
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham	Southampton City Council
London Borough of Barnet	South Ribble District Council
London Borough of Brent	Stroud District Council
London Borough of Camden	Taunton Deane Borough Council
London Borough of Greenwich	Teignbridge District Council
London Borough of Hackney	Three Rivers District Council
London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea	Torbay Council
London Borough of Kingston upon Thames	Trafford Council
London Borough of Lambeth	Wealden District Council
London Borough of Lewisham	Weymouth and Portland Borough Council
London Borough of Southwark	

Report to Council
27 November 2018
Report of Director of neighbourhoods
Subject Bullard Road redevelopment project

Item

7

KEY DECISION

Purpose

To consider an increase in the housing revenue account capital programme.

Recommendation

To allocate a total of £1,100,000 in the housing revenue account capital programme for the proposed works, by increasing the 2018/19 housing revenue account capital programme by £300,000 with the remaining £800,000 to be spent in 2019/20.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority a healthy city with good housing.

And helps to meet the corporate priority value for money services.

Financial implications

The design and construction of seven new council dwellings will require a total projected budget of approximately £1,100,000 from the housing revenue account capital budget. The costs will be apportioned as £300,000 in 2018/19 and £800,000 in 2019/20, subject to approval of the an increase to the 2018/19 housing revenue account capital programme by council on 27 November and the 2019/20 housing revenue account capital programme at budget council in February 2019.

Ward/s: Catton Grove

Cabinet member: Councillor Harris - deputy leader and social housing

Contact officers

Lee Robson, head of neighbourhood housing

01603 212939

Background documents

None

Report

Background

1. There are over 4000 households on the council's housing waiting list which highlights the considerable demand for council housing.
2. In addition, between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2018, 662 properties were purchased under right to buy.
3. The most recent strategic housing area assessment (SHMAA) from 2017, which looks at all housing need in Norwich highlighted that an additional 278 'affordable' housing units were required each year. Of particular need are homes with 4 or more bedrooms. In our current stock of almost 15,000 properties only 435 are homes with over 4 bedrooms.
4. This information illustrates the demand for housing in Norwich and the importance of the council looking at all options and opportunities to build new council homes.
5. It has been identified that the Bullard Road neighbourhood office is no longer required as office space and there is an opportunity to refurbish and convert the building and site to housing. This is due to the relocation of council employees into city hall to reduce costs and enhance operational working across teams.
6. Once all employees are relocated, it will be important to ensure that the property is not left vacant for any period of time. Therefore the programme for refurbishment and conversion of these offices to new council homes will be coordinated with these changes.

Proposal

7. The project will include the conversion of numbers 1 to 23 Bullard Road from offices to six residential properties, which will meet 'lifetime homes' principles and the construction of an additional single bungalow which will be adapted for disabled use. This is subject to planning approval and to be specified by housing needs.
8. This project provides the opportunity to deliver additional social housing by converting existing assets and it will showcase how this can be achieved.
9. The projected cost of the works is £1,100,000 which is based upon initial feasibility work and will cover the provision of:
 - 5 x four bed houses (to reflect the need for four bed properties)
 - 1 x two bed house
 - 1 x two bed new build bungalow
10. The costs for the conversion of the existing site and additional new build bungalow are based upon traditional construction methods using Gross Internal Floor Area (GIFA) and Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) rates.

11. It is proposed that the work be undertaken by Norwich Regeneration Limited (NRL).
12. The project will deliver much needed housing provision, and also demonstrate how NRL as a wholly owned company of the council, can deliver projects of this type and maximise returns which will directly benefit the council.
13. As a new area of work for the company the refurbishment will illustrate how the company can co-ordinate a development of this scope and scale, working across the major functions of the council and deliver to quality and time at pace and value for money.
14. With the office soon to become vacant, there is a requirement to progress the refurbishment works quickly as well as the need to accelerate the provision of new housing due to housing need.
15. Funding for the work has not been budgeted for within the housing revenue account (HRA) capital programme and for the works to proceed, cabinet will be required to make a recommendation to council for a budget to be allocated within the 2018/19 and 2019/20 HRA capital programmes.
16. The apportionment of budget for the project over two financial years is shown in the table below.

Bullard Road Redevelopment Project Budget Allocation (HRA Capital Programme)	
	£'s
Total Professional Service cost for Planning Permission (RIBA <u>Stage 0-3</u>)	£22,000
Total Professional Service cost for Technical Delivery (RIBA <u>Stage 4-7</u>)	£27,295
Construction costs plus NRL management fee	£996,759
Contingency	£100,000
Total budget allocation.	1,100, 000

Options for procurement

17. There is an imperative to make good progress on the work to ensure issues relating to community safety with regard to securing an empty office space but more importantly to supply homes for rent to people in need.

18. This imperative will require due regard to best value and two options were considered for the award of a design and build contract.
19. NPS Norwich and Norwich Regeneration Ltd (NRL) were considered as potential partners. While contracted sums were of a similar level, it was felt that NRL provided greater confidence to execute the contract within a tighter timescale i.e. a 40 week project thereby providing rental income and much needed council homes.

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:	27 November 2018
Director / Head of service	Lee Robson
Report subject:	Bullard Road redevelopment project
Date assessed:	5 November 2018
Description:	To consider the redevelopment of the Bullard Road offices for new council housing by Norwich regeneration Limited

	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 project is costed on national standards but it is the monitoring and management of the project via the visibility of the Capital Programmes Dashboard that will provide evidence that this is value for money in delivering the project.
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"/>	This project will provide employment opportunities, opportunities for local contractors and businesses and will generate local spending for the benefit of the wider economy. Providing more housing is important in supporting sustainable economic growth and prosperity.
Financial inclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provision of more council homes will improve overall affordability of the housing stock. This represents a prudent use of financial resources to meet corporate priorities
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"/>	

	Impact			
Human Rights Act 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The improvements carried out from the works to Bullard Road will enhance the community and provide more needed provision (disable adapted) properties for NCC residents.
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"/>	

	Impact			
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	There will of course be construction risk due to this being a conversion project and these risks are associated to building performance (occupancy well-being) and ensuring the build is future proofed hence these risks lay in regulation and legislation of Building Control & Planning. This risk will be managed via the Bi-weekly engagement of the client at Bi-weekly meetings.
Recommendations from impact assessment				
Positive				
The work proposed will deliver much needed new homes at a PACE for a well-managed and best value PRICE				
Negative				
Neutral				
Issues				

Report to Council
27 November 2018
Report of Chief executive officer
Subject Appointment of a deputy monitoring officer

Item

8

Purpose

To consider appointing a deputy monitoring officer to provide further resilience for the Council

Recommendation

To appoint Anton Bull, Bob Cronk, Dave Moorcroft and Nikki Rotsos as a deputy monitoring officers.

Corporate and service priorities

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

Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications from this report.

Ward/s: All Wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Kendrick - Resources

Contact officers

Laura McGillivray, chief executive

01603 212001

Background documents

None

Report

1. On 22 March 2016 Council resolved to appoint Rachel Crosbie as the monitoring officer.
2. Article 12 of the Constitution states that the monitoring officer will be a senior solicitor from nplaw and nominated deputies.
3. Article 12 of the Constitution also states that monitoring officer cannot be the Chief Finance Officer or the head of paid service.
4. Appendix 9B of the Constitution states that the responsibilities of the monitoring officer and deputy monitoring officers' roles rest with Rachel Crosbie and the other nominated officers at nplaw.

Requirement for a deputy monitoring officer outside of nplaw

5. nplaw is a shared legal service hosted by Norfolk County Council.
6. Occasionally nplaw may identify conflicts of interest. Where a conflict of interest is identified the monitoring officer and her nominated deputies at nplaw may not be able to act on behalf of Norwich City Council.
7. If the monitoring officer and her nominated deputies at nplaw are not able to act on behalf of Norwich City Council this would leave the council without monitoring officer oversight.
8. There is therefore a need to identify and appoint a deputy monitoring officer outside of nplaw to be able to act in the event that nplaw identify a conflict of interest.
9. This will provide resilience for the council on the rare occasions this becomes necessary.

Identifying and appointing deputy monitoring officers

10. In this case the deputy monitoring officer should be an employee of Norwich City Council. This will minimise the risk of any further potential conflict of interest.
11. The proposal is therefore to appoint the current directors as deputy monitoring officers. In the event of any of the directors needing to act as a deputy monitoring officer, the director who acts will be one who has no direct connection to the matter being considered.

Support for the identified deputy monitoring officers

12. Whilst it is not a pre-requisite to be a qualified solicitor to be a monitoring officer or deputy monitoring officer, a legal background is likely to provide the core skills for a monitoring officer or deputy monitoring officer.

13. As the proposed officers are not qualified solicitors the council will make available to the deputy monitoring officers access to a qualified solicitor outside of nplaw to be able to provide guidance and support to enable the deputy monitoring officers to fulfil their duties.

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:	27 November 2018
Director / Head of service	Anton Bull
Report subject:	Appointment of a deputy monitoring officer
Date assessed:	19/11/2018

	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 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

	Impact			
Risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appointing deputy monitoring officers within the council will reduce the risk of no monitoring officer cover in the event of a conflict of interest for nplaw

Recommendations from impact assessment	
Positive	
Negative	
Neutral	
Issues	

Motion to Council
27 November 2018
Subject Brexit
Proposer Councillor Wright
Seconder Councillor Raby

Item
9(a)

The Government has now published the text of the draft deal on the UK's exit from the European Union.

The People's Vote campaign seeks to ensure that the government's Brexit deal is put before the country in a public vote, so that we can decide if a decision that will affect our lives for generations makes the country better or worse off.

Council therefore **RESOLVES** to;

- (1) Join other councils in endorsing the cross-party People's Vote campaign.
- (2) Ask group leaders to write to our two MPs, expressing this council's strong desire for a popular vote on the final deal, including the option to maintain full EU membership.

Motion to	Council	Item
	27 November 2018	
Subject	Dignity for fast food and service industry workers in Norwich	9(b)
Proposer	Councillor Matthew Fulton-McAlister	
Seconded	Councillor Waters	

“Like most cities Norwich has seen an increase in low paid, often zero hour contract forms of work, with a significant rise in global and multinational corporate fast food outlets in recent years.

Currently many of their staff are paid below the rate recommended by the Living Wage Commission as the minimum necessary to enable a decent standard of living.

Furthermore, promises to allow workers the opportunity to move off zero-hours contracts of employment have thus far yet to be delivered; no trade union recognition agreement is in place and cases of bullying and harassment by managers widespread.

Council **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Applaud and support the courageous actions last month of fast food and service industry workers across the country, in particular the workers of global giants McDonald's, Deliveroo, Uber, TGI Fridays, fighting to better the lives of thousands of underpaid, overworked people.
- (2) Note with encouragement the role young people are playing in these successful actions and the difference these actions can make to the whole trade union/labour market.
- (3) Express support to their unions (including the BFAWU, Unite, GMB and the IWGB) who are demanding better pay and conditions, union recognition and an end to exploitative, precarious contracts.
- (4) Ask the Leader to write to Norwich Members of Parliament and the Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy requesting that workers should be protected through;
 - a) cracking down on exploitative work practices and make tackling poverty the priority it should be, ending zero-hour contracts, equalising the minimum wage to ensure its the same rate regardless of age, introducing a minimum wage of at least £10 per hour giving a pay rise to over five and a half million workers.

- b) Giving all workers equal rights from day one, including sick pay, paid holiday, and protection from unfair dismissal.
- c) Strengthen the enforcement of those rights by properly resourcing HMRC and imposing fines on employers who breach labour market rights and regulations.
- d) Make it illegal for employers to make deductions from tips, so staff get to keep 100%, and customers know who their money is going to.
- e) Banning businesses from taking a cut of any tips paid via card, as well as charging waiters to work and keeping "optional" service charges.
- f) Preventing employers from using contractual clauses (Non-Disclosure Agreements) which stop disclosure of future discrimination, harassment or victimisation
- g) Doubling the time-frame within which employment tribunals can be taken, and require employers to publish their sexual harassment policy publicly, alongside the steps they are taking to implement it.
- h) Ensuring all employment rights begin from day one rather than having to wait two years to be free from fear of dismissal.

Motion to	Council	Item
	27 November 2018	
Subject	Renewable energy in new developments in Greater Norwich to 2036	9(c)
Proposer	Councillor Carlo	
Seconder	Councillor Raby	

“Increasing the amount of renewable and sustainable energy generation in new development is essential if Norwich is to play its part in reducing carbon emissions. However, the Greater Norwich Local Plan Regulation Consultation states that it is not possible to require more than 10% renewable energy as “there is no current evidence that this is achievable”. This statement lacks ambition in relation to what is technically possible and to local authority renewable targets elsewhere.

This council **RESOLVES** to ask the council’s representatives on the Greater Norwich Development Partnership to encourage the partnership to adopt a much higher target for achieving renewable or sustainable energy on new sites in the Greater Norwich Local Plan”

Motion to Council
27 November 2018

Subject Local business

Proposer Councillor Raby

Seconder Councillor Carlo

Item

9(d)

“Many retailers on British high streets are struggling. This year alone House of Fraser, Maplin and Toys R Us have all gone into administration while household names like Marks & Spencer, Carpetright and Mothercare have together announced hundreds of store closures. This has had a considerable impact on Norwich.

This council therefore **RESOLVES** to:

(1) ask cabinet to:

- a) Work more closely with councils outside Norwich to ensure that out of town shopping centres do not draw people away from the shops in the centre of Norwich.
- b) Be more active in promoting start-ups in the centre of Norwich by offering free short term hot desking and office/retail space in unoccupied properties owned by the council.
- c) Further promote the services and expertise that organisations like the Norwich Business Improvement District, Norfolk and Waveney Enterprise Services and the council's own staff can provide in particular to start-up businesses and other small and medium-sized businesses on our high streets.

(2) ask the leader of the council to write to the secretary of state to:

- a) unilaterally implement a fairer taxation system which ensures that online traders pay their fair proportion of tax, within the next two years
- b) note that 100% business rate retention proposals for local authorities are likely to lead to significant divergences in English councils' funding without benefitting their residents and that this policy needs to be shelved until its implications are fully understood
- c) Provide tax relief for shops that wish to renovate their existing premises rather than close them in favour of newly built units.

Motion to Council
27 November 2018

Item

Subject Protecting tenants in the private rented sector

9(e)

Proposer Councillor Jones
Seconded Councillor Maguire

People in Norwich who are renting from a private landlord often have to put up with insecure tenancies, poor standards and rising costs.

Over the last 8 years we have seen a very significant increase in the private rented sector within Norwich, whereby at least one in five households now rent privately.

Recent media coverage of the appalling conditions experienced by tenants residing in St Faith's Lane demonstrate the ever serious need for radical housing reform to better protect and improve the private rented sector.

Council **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Thank the officers in the private sector housing and home options teams for their hard work and dedication to supporting tenants within this city, but particularly those at St Faith's Lane.
- (2) Request the government provide the true funding required to cover the costs of effective enforcement within this city.
- (3) Ask the leader of Norwich City Council to write to the Secretary of State for Housing demanding policy change so that tenants in the private rented sector have new protections including;
 - a) Giving security and peace of mind by legislating for 3-year tenancies giving renters a stable home and landlords the confidence to invest in their properties.
 - b) Ending excessive rent increases by putting a ceiling on rent increases during the new 3-year tenancies.
 - c) Banning rip-off letting agent fees for tenants by effectively legislating to stop letting agents charging tenants fees, rather than the watered down proposals of the Tenant Fees Bill.

- d) Introducing a national register of landlords to drive up standards and ensure tough sanctions are in place for bad landlords.
- e) Creating a new benchmarking system for property standards.
- f) Bringing an end to cold homes and reduce fuel poverty by setting a new target to upgrade the energy efficiency of properties in the private rented sector.

