

Overview & Scrutiny Committee



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Tuesday, 4 October 2022

A meeting of the **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** of North Norfolk District Council will be held in the **Council Chamber - Council Offices** on **Wednesday, 12 October 2022** at **9.30 am**.

At the discretion of the Chairman, a short break will be taken after the meeting has been running for approximately one and a half hours

Members of the public who wish to ask a question or speak on an agenda item are requested to notify the committee clerk 24 hours in advance of the meeting and arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. This is to allow time for the Committee Chair to rearrange the order of items on the agenda for the convenience of members of the public. Further information on the procedure for public speaking can be obtained from Democratic Services, Tel: 01263 516047, Email: matthew.stembrowicz@north-norfolk.gov.uk.

Anyone attending this meeting may take photographs, film or audio-record the proceedings and report on the meeting. Anyone wishing to do so must inform the Chairman. If you are a member of the public and you wish to speak on an item on the agenda, please be aware that you may be filmed or photographed.

Please note that Committee members will be given priority to speak during the debate of agenda items

Emma Denny
Democratic Services Manager

To: Mr N Dixon, Mr S Penfold, Ms L Withington, Mr H Blathwayt, Mr P Heinrich, Dr V Holliday, Mr N Housden, Mrs E Spagnola, Mr A Varley, Mr C Cushing, Mr P Fisher and Mrs S Bütikofer

All other Members of the Council for information.
Members of the Management Team, appropriate Officers, Press and Public



If you have any special requirements in order to attend this meeting, please let us know in advance
If you would like any document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact us

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A G E N D A

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. SUBSTITUTES

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS & STATEMENTS

To receive questions / statements from the public, if any.

4. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2022 will be considered for approval on 9th November 2022.

5. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To determine any other items of business which the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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Members are asked at this stage to declare any interests that they may have in any of the following items on the agenda. The Code of Conduct for Members requires that declarations include the nature of the interest and whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest.

7. PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To consider any petitions received from members of the public.

8. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY A MEMBER

To consider any requests made by non-executive Members of the Council, and notified to the Monitoring Officer with seven clear working days' notice, to include an item on the agenda of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

9. RESPONSES OF THE COUNCIL OR THE CABINET TO THE COMMITTEE'S REPORTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS

At the meeting held on 3rd October 2022, Cabinet accepted the following recommendations:

'1. To recommend to Cabinet that NNDC supports the draft provisions of the Regeneration and Levelling Up Bill which would enable the doubling of Council Tax on second homes, alongside the Council making representations to Government seeking further legislative changes to enable the retention of increased tax revenue collected by 2nd tier authorities (District Councils).

2. To recommend to Cabinet that NNDC supports the extension of planning controls proposed in the draft provisions of the Regeneration and Levelling Up Bill, alongside the Council making representations to Government seeking further changes to request that all second and holiday homes require planning permission.

3. To recommend to Cabinet that NNDC responds positively to a call for evidence on the registration of tourist accommodation.

4. If Cabinet are not satisfied that the data provided in the report provides the necessary information required to support mitigation measures, it is recommended that consideration is given to what further investigation is required, and the resources necessary to undertake such investigations.

5. To recommend to Cabinet that consideration is given to consulting Parish and Town Councils on the impact of second homes and holiday lets, and take account of any proposed mitigation.'

10. WASTE CONTRACT: SERCO BRIEFING - NEW COLLECTIONS MODEL UPDATE

To receive and note the briefing.

Summary: This report sets out the proposed level of council tax discounts which shall apply to classes of dwelling for the financial year 2023-24.

The determinations are made by the Council under sections 11A and 11B, and of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, subsequent enabling powers and Regulations made under the Act.

Options considered: The recommendations take advantage of the options from the reforms included in the Local Government Finance Act 2012 as amended to incentive homes back into use and generate council tax income.

Conclusions: The legislation provides local authorities with the power to make changes to the level of council tax discount in relation to classes of property. The Council has to approve its determinations for each financial year. The calculation of the tax base for 2023/24 will be made on the assumption that the determinations recommended below will apply.

Recommendations: **Recommend to Full Council that under Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 2012 and other enabling powers that:**

- 1) The discounts for the year 2023-24 and beyond are set at the levels indicated in the table at paragraph 2.1
- 2) The existing 100% council tax hardship discount and associated policy (see Appendix B) remains in place for 2023-24
- 3) That an exception to the levy charges may be made by the Revenues Manager in the circumstances laid out in section 2.2 of this report
- 4) The premiums for the year 2023-24 and beyond are set at the levels indicated in the table at paragraph 2.3
- 5) A new second homes premium of 100% as detailed in paragraph 2.4 is applied from April 2024, subject to the necessary legislation.
- 6) To continue to award a local discount

of 100% for eligible cases of care leavers under Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended)

- 7) Those dwellings that are specifically identified under regulation 6 of the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) Regulations 2003 will retain the 50% discount as set out in paragraph 1.2 of this report.
- 8) Those dwellings described or geographically defined at Appendix A which in the reasonable opinion of the Head of Finance and Asset Management are judged not to be structurally capable of occupation all year round and were built before the restrictions of seasonal usage were introduced by the Town and Country Planning Act 1947, will be entitled to a 35% discount

Reasons for Recommendations:

To set appropriate council tax discounts and premiums which will apply in 2023-24 and to raise council tax revenue.

In accordance with the relevant legislation these determinations shall be published in at least one newspaper circulating in North Norfolk before the end of the period of 21 days beginning with the date of the determinations.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AS REQUIRED BY LAW

(Papers relied on to write the report, which do not contain exempt information and which are not published elsewhere)

N/A

Cabinet Member(s)	Ward(s) affected
Cllr Eric Seward	All

Contact Officer, telephone number and email:

Alison Chubbock, 07967 325037, alison.chubbock@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Sean Knight, 01263 516347, sean.knight@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Summary: This paper provides an overview of the Rural England Prosperity Fund, the timescales and the suggested process for taking this forward.

Options considered: In order to obtain grant from this funding source the Council is obliged to submit an application. The Fund is non-competitive and secures significant investment into the District. Failure to submit a compliant plan would miss a key funding opportunity.

Conclusions: The Rural England Prosperity Fund provides greater powers than under the previous EU funded models to support rural businesses and communities. At this stage Local Authorities do not need to provide detailed specifics as to how the fund will operate. However, the Council will need to submit an application to the Government (by 30 November 2022) which outlines the local rural challenges and the suggested interventions that need to be made to support them.

Recommendations: **1.To note the contents of the report.**

2.To endorse the process for developing the REPF Addendum to the UKSF. It is proposed that this follows the same principles and processes that were adopted to develop the UKSPF Investment Plan and will be led by the Economic Growth Manager and Assistant Director for Sustainable Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Growth. An established Local Partnership Group, composed of a variety of key local stakeholders, is already in place and will help to inform and shape the final submission. However, given that this fund is more rural focussed, there is likely to be value in inviting additional stakeholders representing aspects of the rural economy.

Reasons for Recommendations: This fund will help the Council in its delivery of the Corporate Plan objectives of 'Boosting Business Sustainability and Growth' and 'Quality of Life'.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AS REQUIRED BY LAW

(Papers relied on to write the report, which do not contain exempt information and which are not published elsewhere)

Cabinet Member(s)

Ward(s) affected

Cllr. Richard Kershaw

All

Contact Officer: Stuart Quick, Economic Growth Manager, 01263 516263, stuart.quick@north-norfolk.gov.uk

13. NORTH WALSHAM HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE - PROJECT UPDATE 37 - 54

To receive and note the update.

WORK PROGRAMMES

14. THE CABINET WORK PROGRAMME 55 - 58

To note the upcoming Cabinet Work Programme.

15. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND UPDATE 59 - 70

To receive an update from the Scrutiny Officer on progress made with topics on its agreed work programme, training updates and to receive any further information which Members may have requested at a previous meeting.

16. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To pass the following resolution, if necessary:

“That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph _ of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.”