

Cabinet



Please contact: Democratic Services

Please email: democraticservices@north-norfolk.gov.uk
Please Direct Dial on: 01263 516010

Friday, 27 June 2025

A meeting of the **Cabinet** of North Norfolk District Council will be held in the Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN on **Monday, 7 July 2025 at 10.00 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 arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. It will not always be possible to accommodate requests after that time. 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 516010, Email:democraticservices@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 should 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. This meeting is live-streamed: [NNDC eDemocracy - YouTube](#)

Emma Denny
Democratic Services Manager

To: Cllr W Fredericks, Cllr L Shires, Cllr T Adams, Cllr A Brown, Cllr H Blathwayt, Cllr C Ringer, Cllr J Toye, Cllr A Varley and Cllr L Withington

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

Chief Executive: Steve Blatch
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A G E N D A

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES

1 - 2

To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 02 June 2025.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

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

4. 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

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 - 8

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 (see attached guidance and flowchart)

6. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

To receive oral questions from Members, if any

7. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To consider any recommendations referred to the Cabinet by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration by the Cabinet in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules

8. OUTTURN REPORT 2024/2025

9 - 68

Executive Summary	<p>This report presents the provisional outturn position for the 2024/25 financial year which shows a General Fund underspend of £0.622m. It also provides an update in relation to the Council's capital programme and use of reserves.</p> <p>The position will be used to inform the production of the Statutory accounts which will then be subject to audit by the Council's external auditors.</p> <p>The report makes recommendations for contributions to reserves.</p>
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Options considered	None - This is a factual report of the financial year end position for 2024/25.
Consultation(s)	None – This is a factual report of the financial year end position for 2024/25.
Recommendations	<p>Members are asked to consider the report and recommend the following to full Council:</p> <p>a) The provisional outturn position for the General Fund revenue account for 2024/25 (as shown in Appendix A);</p> <p>b) The transfers to and from reserves as detailed within the report (and Appendix C);</p> <p>c) The surplus of £0.622m be transferred to the General reserve to mitigate future funding shortfalls.</p> <p>d) The balance on the General Reserve of £2.825m following the transfer outlined above.</p> <p>e) The surplus of £0.384m relating to retained business rates be transferred to the Business Rates reserve.</p> <p>f) The financing of the 2024/25 capital programme as detailed within the report and at Appendix D.</p> <p>g) The updated capital programme for 2025/26 to 2030/31 and scheme financing as outlined within the report and detailed at Appendix E;</p> <p>h) Approval of additional funding to cover capital project overspends of £10,816 as detailed in paragraph 5.7.</p> <p>i) The roll-forward of existing capital project funding from 2024/25 into 2025/26 as detailed in paragraph 5.9.</p> <p>j). To note the addition of £55,000 towards the New Play Area (Sheringham, The Lees) to be funded from the Asset Management Reserve in 2025/26 for a total project budget of £120,000</p> <p>k) The addition of £6,081 towards the Cromer Offices LED Lighting in the Capital Programme to be funded from Capital Receipts in 2025/26 for a total project budget of £178,796.</p> <p>l) The addition of £20,000 towards the Public Conveniences (Sheringham & North Walsham) project in the Capital Programme to be funded from Capital Receipts in 2025/26 for a total project budget of £565,514.</p> <p>m) The addition of the Holt Eco Learning Space scheme for £100,000 into the 2025/26</p>

	Capital Programme to be funded by an external contribution.
Reasons for recommendations	To provide a draft outturn position for the General Fund, Capital Accounts and Reserves which will form the basis to produce statutory accounts for 2024/25. Also to provide a draft opening position for the financial year 2025/26.
Background papers	Budget report, Budget Monitoring reports, NDR3 return

Wards affected	All
Cabinet member(s)	Cllr Lucy Shires
Contact Officer	Daniel King Director of Resources daniel.king@north-norfolk.gov.uk 01263 516167

9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2024/2025

69 - 94

Executive Summary	This report sets out the Treasury Management activities undertaken during 2024/25 compared with the Treasury Management Strategy for the year.
Options considered	For the Council to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (Prudential Code) and CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice an outturn report must be presented to Members to inform them of the outcome of the Treasury Management activity for the year. Therefore, no other option has been considered.
Consultation(s)	Link Treasury Services have provided the economic information in Appendix A of this report.
Recommendations	To recommend the Treasury Management outturn position to Full Council for approval.
Reasons for recommendations	The Treasury Management activity for the year requires approval by Full Council for the Council to comply with the CIPFA Treasury Management and Prudential Codes.
Background papers	This report refers to the Council's Treasury Management Strategy 2024/25.

Wards affected	All
Cabinet member(s)	Cllr. Lucy Shires
Contact Officer	Claire Waplinton Claire.Waplinton@north-norfolk.gov.uk

10. DEBT RECOVERY 2024/2025

95 - 118

Executive Summary	This is an annual report detailing the council's collection performance and debt management arrangements for 2024/25. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A summary of debts written off in each debt area showing the reasons for write-off and values. ▪ Collection performance for Council Tax and Non- Domestic Rates. ▪ Level of arrears outstanding ▪ Level of provision for bad and doubtful debts
Options considered.	To leave the write-off limits as they currently are or to increase these to a higher figure.
Consultation(s)	We are pleased to reach this year's collection performance targets for council tax & Non-Domestic (Business) Rates whilst also working hard to reduce avoidance and fraud which with the cost-of-living crisis is a difficult time to for enforcement.
Recommendations	That Cabinet recommend to full Council that it: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approves the annual report which details the Council's write-offs, in accordance with the Council's Debt Write-Off Policy and performance in relation to revenues collection. 2. approves the continued delegated authority as shown in appendix 2 for write offs.
Reasons for recommendations	The recommendations ensure the Council makes best use of its staff resources and manages its finances to ensure best value for money.
Background papers	Corporate Debt Management and Recovery Policy -Appendix 1; Debt Write Off Policy - Appendix 2 and Recovery Methods including Enforcement Agent Code of Practice and Enforcement Agent Instructions - Appendix 3.

Wards affected	All wards
Cabinet member(s)	Lucy Shires
Contact Officer	Sean Knight Revenues Manger Sean.Knight@north-norfolk.gov.uk

11. **HOUSING BENEFIT DEBT RECOVERY REPORT - 1ST APRIL 2024 TO 31ST MARCH 2025** (119 – 152)

Executive Summary	<p>This report provides an update on Housing Benefit debt recovery detailing the Councils' collection performance and debt management arrangements for 2024 – 25.</p> <p>The report includes a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A brief overview of Housing Benefit overpayments ▪ Housing Benefit Debt Recoveries performance ▪ Key trends and known risks to performance ▪ Recommendations of future recovery strategies
Options Considered	<p>To continue with the write-off limits at their current levels.</p> <p>To continue to recover outstanding debt within the current guidelines.</p> <p>The implementation of additional recovery methods to maximise recovery options to the Council.</p>
Consultation(s)	No consultation is required as this is a statutory requirement.
Recommendations	<p>(i) Note the performance of the debt management function carried out by the Benefits service.</p> <p>(ii) Note the debt write-offs for the year.</p> <p>(iii) Note the emerging impact of Universal Credit on collection levels.</p> <p>(iv) To support the implementation of future recovery strategies.</p> <p>(v) To approve the annual report giving details of Housing Benefit Overpayment debt recovery in accordance with the Council's Debt Recovery Policy, Write-Off Policy, and Housing Benefit Overpayment Recovery Policy.</p>
Reasons for recommendations	Recommendation is to approve the annual report in relation to Housing Benefit Overpayment recovery and to approve the continued use of legislated recovery

	methods to ensure revenue to the Council is maximised.
Background papers	Housing Benefit Overpayment Policy (Appendix 1) Corporate Debt Management and Recovery Policy Debt Write Off Policy

Wards Affected	All
Cabinet member(s):	Wendy Fredericks
Contact Officer	Trudi Grant, Benefits Manager (01263 516262) trudi.grant@north-norfolk.gov.uk

12. ROCKET HOUSE CAFÉ/RESTAURANT LEASE RENEWAL

153 - 158

Executive Summary	<p>The lease for this café/restaurant, owned by the District Council, is due for renewal. The tenant is an established business that provides jobs in the district.</p> <p>Several options have been considered to demonstrate the Council's best value duties, including renewing the lease on improved terms, ending the tenant's occupation to re-let the premises, or selling the property.</p> <p>Granting a new lease on improved terms will secure the Council's revenue at a market rent, ensuring best value is achieved while also providing security to the tenant's business and safeguarding local jobs.</p> <p>It is recommended that Option 1 to agree new lease with the existing tenant at a higher rent is taken forwards.</p>
Options considered	<p>The following options have been considered to ensure the Council achieves best value from it's letting of the property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 - Agree new lease and rent increase with the existing tenant. – Recommended. • Option 2 - End the tenant's occupation and relet the premises – Not recommended. • Option 3 - Sale of the property - Not recommended.
Consultation(s)	<p>Cllr Lucy Shires - Portfolio Holder for Finance, Estates & Property Services. Cllr Tim Adams- Leader of the Council -</p>

	Portfolio Holder for Executive Support & Legal Services and local member. Cllr Jill Boyle – Local member Daniel King – Assistant Director for Finance and Assets Cara Jordan - Monitoring Officer
Recommendations	Resolution for Cabinet to approve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The renewal of the lease with the existing tenant as per Option 1 detailed in the exempt appendix. • Delegate approval to the Asset Strategy Manager to agree the exact terms of the above legal agreement.
Reasons for recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granting a new lease at the property will secure the Council's revenue income from the property at a market rent ensuring best value is achieved in line with the Council obligation under the Section 26 of the Local Government Act. • Granting a new lease at the property will provide security to the tenant's business and secure jobs in the district.
Background papers	Rocket House Cromer Cabinet decision 15/04/2024.

Wards affected	Cromer Town
Cabinet member(s)	Cllr Lucy Shires
Contact Officer	Milo Creasey – Trainee Estates Surveyor - milo.creasey@north-norfolk.gov.uk Renata Garfoot - Asset Strategy Manager - Renata.Garfoot@north-norfolk.gov.uk

13. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To pass the following resolution:

“That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.”

Exempt appendices – Agenda Item 12 – Rocket House Café / Restaurant Lease Renewal

Information in this appendix involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3, Part 1 of schedule 12A (as amended) to the Local Government Act 1972.

This paragraph relates to:

Para 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure for the following reasons:

The information is commercially sensitive, relating to negotiations around lease renewal and rent. Releasing this information would be likely to prejudice would be likely to have a prejudicial impact upon those businesses as well as the Council in obtaining best value.