

Overview & Scrutiny Committee



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Tuesday, 8 October 2019

A meeting of the **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** of North Norfolk District Council will be held in the **Council Chamber - Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN** on **Wednesday, 16 October 2019** 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 T Adams, Mr H Blathwayt, Mr N Dixon, Mrs W Fredericks, Mr P Heinrich, Mr N Housden, Mr G Mancini-Boyle, Mr N Pearce, Miss L Shires, Mrs E Spagnola, Mr J Toye and Mr A Varley

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

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To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 18th September 2019.

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

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

To consider any responses of the Council or the Cabinet to the Committee's reports or recommendations:

At the meeting of Cabinet on Monday 7th October, Members agreed to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's recommendation to develop an Executive/Scrutiny Protocol.

Summary: This report sets out alternative options for the level of council tax discounts which Full Council will resolve shall apply to classes of dwelling for the financial year 2020/21.

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 reforms included in the Local Government Finance Act 2012 as amended to generate additional revenue.

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 2020/21 will be made on the assumption that the determinations recommended below will apply.

Recommendations: Members recommend that Full Council shall resolve 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 one of the following applies:

Recommendation 1

- (a) The discounts for the year 2020/21 and beyond are set at the levels indicated in the table at paragraph 2.1.
- (b) The premium for long term empty properties (those that have been empty for a consecutive period longer than 24 months) is set at 100% of the Council Tax charge for that dwelling
- (c) The premium for long term empty properties (those that have been empty for a consecutive period longer than 60

- months) is set at 200% of the Council Tax charge for that dwelling
- (d) 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).
 - (e) That an exception to the levy charges may be made by the Section 151 Officer in conjunction with the Portfolio holder for Finance, on advice of the Revenues Manager in the circumstances laid out in section 3.6 of this report.

Recommendation 2

- (a) 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 and;
- (b) 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.

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.

Reasons for

Recommendations: To set appropriate council tax discounts which will apply in 2020/21 in accordance with the legal requirements and to raise additional council tax revenue.

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| Cabinet Member(s) | Ward(s) affected |
| Cllr E Seward | All |

Contact Officer, telephone number and email:
Lucy Hume, 01263 516246, lucy.hume@north-norfolk.gov.uk

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| 11. | HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY 2019 – 2024 | 25 - 54 |
| | To review the Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 Report and consider any recommendations prior to public consultation. | |
| 12. | SPLASH LEISURE CENTRE PROJECT UPDATE BRIEFING - OCTOBER 2019 | 55 - 56 |
| | To receive a briefing on the progress of the Splash Leisure Centre Project. | |
| 13. | CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE REVIEW OF THE DRAFT FRAMEWORK OF THE CORPORATE PLAN | 57 - 58 |
| | An extraordinary meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee was held on 9th October to review the existing Draft Framework of the Corporate Plan, a number of possible recommendations were put forward to be considered by the Committee. The purpose of this item is to consider the proposals and formalise recommendations to Cabinet. | |

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| WORK PROGRAMMES |
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| 14. | THE CABINET WORK PROGRAMME | 59 - 62 |
| | To note the upcoming Cabinet Work Programme. | |
| 15. | OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND UPDATE | 63 - 68 |
| | 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.” | |
| 17. | TO CONSIDER ANY EXEMPT MATTERS ARISING FROM CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BUSINESS OF THE AGENDA | |