

Overview & Scrutiny Committee



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Tuesday, 13 April 2021

A meeting of the **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** of North Norfolk District Council will be held **remotely via Zoom** on **Wednesday, 21 April 2021** 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, Ms L Withington, Mr H Blathwayt, Mrs W Fredericks, Mr P Heinrich, Mr N Housden, Mr G Mancini-Boyle, Mrs E Spagnola, Mr A Varley, Mr C Cushing, Mr A Brown and Mr P Fisher

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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Email districtcouncil@north-norfolk.gov.uk **Web site** www.north-norfolk.gov.uk

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

1 - 12

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 24th March 2021.

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

13 - 14

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 held on 12th April 2021, Cabinet RESOLVED to accept the following recommendation:

North Norfolk District Council - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2021-2025

That the Strategy, or Policy, is progressed through the next stages of development, subject to the consideration of amendments suggested by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

10. NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL'S ACTIONS IN THE RECOVERY PHASE OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

15 - 24

Summary:

This report details the actions taken by North Norfolk District Council in responding to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic at a strategic, local and organisational level over the period December 2020 - March 2021. Actions taken are outlined in the report. These include:-

- monitoring and responding to the rising number of local cases of COVID in the District during December 2020 and January 2021;
- making payments of COVID business grants in respect of the Tier 4 lockdown in Norfolk from 26th December 2020 and then the third national lockdown from 4th January 2021;
- supporting local health partners roll out delivery of the vaccine programme across North Norfolk;
- development of advice and support for the staged re-opening of local businesses as per the national roadmap from 12th April, 17th May and 21st June;
- preparing the District for the forthcoming visitor season through refreshing our “You are Welcome” reassurance programme, supported by social distancing measures, fogging of public toilets and other assets so as to provide as safe an environment for local residents and visitors as possible;
- holding conversations with the Council’s staff about New Ways of Working beyond COVID capturing the benefits of remote working through maintaining customer service provision over the internet and telephone, whilst re-opening the offices to personal callers
- participation in the Marie Curie National Day of Reflection by lighting up Cromer Pier in yellow lights;
- holding discussions with the Norfolk Public Health Team to develop and deliver a programme of surveillance testing for local businesses over the coming months
- continued to support twice weekly mobile testing facilities on Council car parks in Cromer, Fakenham and from early February in North Walsham
- continued to participate in regular meetings of the Norfolk Health Protection Board and Norfolk Health Engagement Board

arrangements which are monitoring, reviewing and responding to local outbreaks of Coronavirus in the county and in preparing for Recovery as lockdown restrictions are lifted in the coming months.

Options considered: The Council's response to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic has been led through regular meetings of its Local Co-ordination Group civil contingency arrangements which has considered options dynamically based on data on local case numbers and Government statements and announcements

Conclusions: The report details the actions taken by the District Council during the period December 2020 – end of March 2021 in responding to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic, including supporting our local communities and businesses during the extended third all-England lockdown and working with partners to support delivery of the local vaccination programme and in preparing the District for the forthcoming visitor season which is expected to be very busy with large numbers of staycation and day visitors.

Recommendations: **Cabinet is asked to note and comment upon the Council's actions during the period December 2020 – end of March 2021 in responding to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic, including supporting businesses during the extended third all-England lockdown, working with partners to support delivery of the local vaccination programme and preparing the District for the forthcoming tourist season.**

Reasons for Recommendations: To ensure the Council continues to support our residents, businesses and communities respond to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic and has in place necessary arrangements to support Recovery as lockdown restrictions are lifted and large numbers of tourist visitors are anticipated to spend time in the District in the coming months.

Cabinet Member(s)	Ward(s) affected
Cllr Sarah Butikofer, Leader of the Council	All

Contact Officer, telephone number and email:
Steve Blatch, Chief Executive
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[Tel:- 01263 516232](tel:01263516232)

Summary: This report outlines opportunities presented to North Norfolk through the Government's new UK Community Renewal and Levelling Up programmes and outlines how the Council might seek to position itself to take advantage of these opportunities.

Options considered: It is considered that these new funding programmes present opportunities to secure external funding for the District to support the Council's Corporate Plan objectives through the Council acting in its community leadership role. Alternatively, the Council could leave it to other local stakeholders to develop project proposals but it is believed that this might not realise the full benefits of a more co-ordinated approach proposed by the Council as outlined in the report.

Conclusions: The Council should seek to adopt a strategic leadership role in seeking to co-ordinate the development of a programme of projects at North Walsham and Fakenham for submission to Government under the UK Community Renewal and, as appropriate, the Levelling Up Fund programmes

Recommendations: **Cabinet is asked to:-**

- **note the opportunities presented to North Norfolk by the new UK Community Renewal and Levelling Up programmes**
- **endorse the proposals made that a programme of complementary projects be developed in respect of the future planned growth of North Walsham and Fakenham as sustainable locations for future housing and business development at scale supported by provision of key transport, health, education community and green infrastructure and submitted to the County Council as lead body for endorsement and onward submission to the Government**
- **to agree that in developing any proposals the Council establishes a Strategic Stakeholder Board and Steering Groups for North Walsham and Fakenham to support project**

**development and oversee
programme delivery**

**Reasons for
Recommendations:**

To realise opportunities to secure UK Government funding into North Norfolk to support investment in projects which meet priorities outlined in the Council's Corporate Plan as they relate to provision of housing, economic growth, environment and climate change 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 Sarah Butikofer, Leader of the Council	All

Contact Officer, telephone number and email:
Steve Blatch, Chief Executive
Email:- steve.blatch@north-norfolk.gov.uk
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Summary: North Norfolk District Council's (NNDC) Corporate Plan commits to the delivery, and adoption, of an Environmental Charter.

The draft Environmental Charter is based on evidence and views contributed at engagement events and has been formulated with the input of a wide range of officers and members, through a series of workshops. The draft document appended to this report therefore takes into account how the policy will apply to different services areas. Prior to its final approval, adoption and publication, the draft will be shared with external stakeholders via the Environment Forum, and any further feedback will be taken into account.

Options considered: To endorse the draft Environmental Charter for consultation with the Environment Forum, prior to a revised draft being considered by Cabinet and Council for adoption

Conclusions: The Environmental Charter is an important step in the Council's approach to dealing with the Climate Change Emergency declared in April 2019. Born out of public and stakeholder proposals garnered at the Council's 'Environment Forum' the Environmental Charter is a public facing document which sets out NNDC's path towards environmental excellence and a net-zero carbon emissions future.

Recommendations: The recommendation is to endorse the draft Environmental Charter for consultation with the Environment Forum, prior to a revised draft being considered by Cabinet and Council for adoption.

Reasons for Recommendations: NNDC's Corporate Plan commits to delivering an Environmental Charter. Once approved the Environmental Charter will become an adopted Council document which will enable this element of the Corporate Plan to be delivered whilst simultaneously reinforcing NNDC's commitment to addressing the climate change emergency, which it declared in April 2019. Engaging with the Environment Forum will complete the circle of engagement as the concepts within the Charter are derived from input provided at the first Forum workshop.

