

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cabinet

Tuesday, 17 March 2026

DECISION SHEET

PRESENT: S J Conboy (Chair), L Davenport-Ray, S W Ferguson, J E Harvey, S A Howell, J E Kerr, B A Mickelburgh, T D Sanderson and S Wakeford

ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	CONTACT OFFICER
3	<p>Signing of the Huntingdonshire District Council Armed Forces Covenant</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) approved the Huntingdonshire District Council Armed Forces Covenant, superseding the previous Covenant;b) agreed that the Council continues to embed Armed Forces Covenant principles across relevant policies, services, and employment practices, where appropriate and proportionate;c) agreed that a member of Senior Leadership acts as strategic sponsor, and that the Council's appointed Armed Forces Champion acts as Chair of the Armed Forces Covenant Working Group, to support effective coordination and governance; andd) agreed that an annual progress report on delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant Action Plan is presented to the Overview and Scrutiny (Environment, Communities and Partnerships) Panel to provide assurance, transparency and ongoing oversight.	<p>A Turner 07810 637566</p>

ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	CONTACT OFFICER
4	<p data-bbox="347 219 1066 293">Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation</p> <p data-bbox="347 398 592 432">The Cabinet has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="347 472 1054 618">a) noted the updates on delivery in relation to the projects previously allocated or in receipt of CIL funding commitments (see Appendix 1); <li data-bbox="347 656 1043 763">b) noted any new allocated CIL projects for £100,000.00 or less approved by delegation on 5th February 2026 (see Appendix 2); <li data-bbox="347 801 1043 983">c) noted the project to be approved in accordance with Stage 2 CIL governance review with the level of funding to be agreed in line with delegated authority as stated at para 2.5 of this report; <li data-bbox="347 1021 1011 1128">d) agreed officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.3 to APPROVE funding for 3 Padel Courts in Huntingdon; <li data-bbox="347 1167 1031 1274">e) agreed officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.4 to APPROVE funding for a construction skills workshop in Huntingdon; <li data-bbox="347 1312 1043 1458">f) agreed officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.5 to APPROVE funding for enhancements and improvements to Paxton Pits; <li data-bbox="347 1496 1011 1641">g) agreed officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.6 to APPROVE funding for relocation of the 6th form college at Abbey College in Ramsey; <li data-bbox="347 1680 1054 1825">h) agreed officer recommendation at Paragraph 4.7 to APPROVE funding for reconfiguration and refurbishment of the fire station in St Ives; <li data-bbox="347 1863 1054 1971">i) agreed officer recommendation at Paragraph 4.8 to APPROVE funding for the SAPHIRE new constructional skills centre in St Neots; 	<p data-bbox="1171 360 1401 434">R Lyons (01480) 388724</p>

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	<p>k) agreed officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.10 to APPROVE funding for the increase of two classrooms for Warboys Primary Academy;</p> <p>l) agreed officer recommendation at Paragraph 4.11 to APPROVE an extension of time for Wheatsheaf Road; and</p> <p>m) agreed to</p> <p>(1) support the principle of the allocation of CIL funding towards a youth centre in St Neots;</p> <p>(2) support in principle the allocation being for a maximum of £500k;</p> <p>(3) a CIL funding award being made, based on (1) and (2), subject to:</p> <p>(a) securing ownership or arrangements to acquire the building, or a suitable alternative;</p> <p>(b) securing planning permission and any other necessary consents to facilitate the works needed to facilitate the youth centre;</p> <p>(c) securing a full commitment from the Town Council towards the proposed scheme; including the identification of and provision of necessary match funding and longer-term funding to ensure the proposal is viable now and in the future;</p> <p>(d) the provision of additional information for the scheme to satisfy outstanding concerns such as choice of location, impact on the town centre vitality, assessment of provision of existing and future youth and community spaces, and demonstrate long term viability of the proposal;</p> <p>(e) sufficient information and</p>	

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	<p>clarification being presented to Officers to demonstrate satisfactory compliance with all other aspects of our established CIL governance;</p> <p>(f) all matters being resolved within a period of 6 months (which may be extended by agreement); and</p> <p>(4) delegated authority for the final decision to the Head of Planning, Infrastructure & Public Protection in consultation with the Corporate Director (Place), Leader, Executive Councillor for Finance, and Executive Councillor for Planning to approve a CIL funding award for this project and determine the final level of CIL funding to be awarded.</p>	
5	<p>Empty Homes Strategy</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <p>(1) considered and approved the Draft Empty Homes Strategy 2026-2031 (Appendix 1); and</p> <p>(2) delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Place and the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Economy, Regeneration and Housing and Executive Councillor for Resident Services and Corporate Performance to initiate and progress enforcement action against the owners of long-term empty properties where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the property is causing blight, nuisance or negative community impact; • the owner has failed to engage with the Council despite reasonable attempts to contact them; and • no credible plan has been provided to 	<p>S Hebblethwaite (01480) 388037</p>

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	bring the property back into use within a reasonable timeframe.	
6	<p>Parks & Open Spaces - Commercial Sustainability Plan</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) endorsed the principles put forward in the T3 Commercial Opportunities Report (Appendix 1), which will be adopted in seeking to support activities to reduce the costs of the service to the Council and provide a commercially sustainable approach for the service; and which will continue to contribute to the Councils wider strategies and outcomes for the District; 2) supported the principles set out can be used in connection with the identified sites, but also applied in relation to other sites which the Council is or may become responsible for; including those falling within the remit of the Head of Leisure, Health and Environment to support wildlife and conservation, health and wellbeing, physical activity and the introduction of new commercial opportunities; 3) approved the outline recommendations put forward by T3 Commercial Opportunities Report (Appendix 1), by external consultants, the proposed Phase 1 capital investment plan and wider direction of travel as outlined within this report; 4) approved the proposed Phase 1 programme of investment utilising the capital bids (£1m) which have been included within the 26/27 budget; and which have subsequently been agreed as part of the Councils Capital Programme; 5) acknowledged and supported that the Head of Leisure, Health & Environment continue to develop plans for Phase 2 and will submit capitals bids as part of the 27/28 budget 	<p>G Holland (01480) 388157</p>

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	<p>setting process – or earlier if possible and supported by the Corporate Director (Finance and Resources) and Section 151 Officer; and</p> <p>6) delegated authority to the Head of Leisure, Health & Environment all necessary activities required to deliver the capital expenditure plan (Phase 1), and within the agreed budgets enable the development, finalisation and delivery of new programmes, events and attractions which align with the principles agreed, and which will contribute to the commercially sustainable approach agreed.</p>	
7	<p>Corporate Performance Report, Quarter 3 2025/26</p> <p>The Cabinet has considered and commented on progress and performance during Quarter 3, as summarised in the Corporate Performance Report attached and detailed in Appendices A, B,C and D.</p>	<p>G Moore (01480) 388850</p> <p>S Gosling (01480) 388643</p>
10	<p>Award of Contracts for the Public Advice and Information Service and Infrastructure and Support to the Community and Voluntary Sector</p> <p>The Cabinet has approved the recommendations of the exempt report now submitted.</p>	<p>C Deeth (01480) 388233</p>