

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cabinet

Tuesday, 10 February 2026

DECISION SHEET

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

APOLOGIES: S A Howell.

ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	CONTACT OFFICER
3	<p>2025/26 Revenue Budget & Medium Term Financial Strategy (2026/27 to 2029/30); including the Capital Programme</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) approved the updated Fees and Charges 2026/27 as set out in Annexe B1 and B2 of the submitted report; and(b) noted the proposals for the setting of future parking charges and proposals within the main body of the submitted report. <p>Recommended to Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the approval of the overall budget 2026/27 as set out in within the submitted report;(b) the approval of the 2026/27 – 2029/30 Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 2b of the submitted report;(c) to set the Band D Council Tax rate for Huntingdonshire at £170.86, representing a £5 (3.01%) increase to the current charge;(d) the approval of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2027/28 – 2029/30, Capital Strategy, Investment Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy;	<p>L Morrison (01480) 388178</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) the approval of the Council Tax Resolution as set out in Appendix 8 in the submitted report; (f) to endorse the statement of the Section 151 Officer on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of the Council's reserves as set out in Appendix 9 in the submitted report; and (g) to note the fees and charges 2026/27 as set out in Annexe B1 and B2 in the submitted report. 	
4	<p>CIL Governance - Phase 2 - Strategic Allocation</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) noted the paper and the alignment of the approach with the existing CIL Governance arrangement; (2) agreed the approach to the Strategic Allocation of CIL funds as set out in the submitted report forms the Strategic Priority Programme to be delivered as part of the next stage of CIL Governance (approved in 2024); (3) agreed the suggested approach in respect of use and assignment of CIL funding, or 'forward funding' towards projects which form part of the Councils wider Capital Programme, where those projects would align with the adopted CIL Governance; (4) agreed to retain a minimum level of CIL funding of £3-5m, in order to maintain a level of funding available to support future funding rounds; (5) noted that the use of CIL funds does not preclude the Council from utilising other funding approaches for future projects should this be required in future; in all 	<p>L Morrison (01480) 388178</p> <p>M Gildersleeves (01480) 388178</p>

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	<p>cases, this would be subject to detailed assessment at the relevant time;</p> <p>(6) delegated authority to the Corporate Director (Place) and the Corporate Director (Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer) in consultation with the Leader, Executive Councillor for Finance, and Executive Councillor for Planning to determine the level of allocation of CIL funding to be awarded towards projects which form part of the Councils agreed Capital Programme, based on the principles set out in the submitted report; and</p> <p>(7) delegated authority to the Corporate Director (Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer) to undertake all necessary actions to ensure that appropriate governance and financial reconciliation measures are in place.</p>	
5	<p>Lettings Policy Review</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <p>(1) approved the amendments to the Lettings Policy, as shown in Appendix 1 in the submitted report; and</p> <p>(2) delegated authority to the Corporate Director (Communities), in consultation with Executive Councillor for Resident Services and Corporate Performance, to make minor amendments and statutory changes to the Lettings Policy.</p>	<p>J Collen (01480) 388220</p>
6	<p>Fleet Renewal and Infrastructure Improvement Strategy</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <p>(1) adopted the Fleet Decarbonisation Strategy as the strategic approach to transition the Councils fleet to net zero emissions in</p>	<p>A Rogan (01480) 388082</p>

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	<p>response to the Council's Climate Strategy commitments and the UK Government's confirmed phasing out of new petrol and diesel vehicle sales (2030) and non-zero-emission HGVs (2040), ensuring alignment with the Corporate Plan 2023–2028, Climate Strategy, and Building Energy Strategy;</p> <p>(2) approved the phased delivery model and implementation plan (2025–2035) as set out in the HDC Fleet Programme Report (Appendix 1), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 (2025–2028): Grid upgrade to 800–850kVA and modular charging infrastructure; • Phase 2 (2028–2031): Accelerated vehicle roll-out aligned with business case viability; and • Phase 3 (2031 onwards): Completion of full fleet transition to zero- emission vehicles to deliver a modern, resilient, and cost-effective low-carbon fleet; <p>(3) approved the enabling infrastructure capital investment of approximately £600,000 for depot grid upgrade, trunking and cable installation, and the incorporation of this figure for budget setting for the MTFS from 26/27, noting that this investment represents a long-term enhancement to Council assets regardless of future service arrangements including Local Government Reorganisation (LGR);</p> <p>(4) noted that vehicle capital expenditure over the programme period (2025–2035) will be managed through the Council's existing fleet replacement programme and standard budget-setting cycles, with individual business cases approved annually by the Corporate Director of Finance (Section 151) Officer and Corporate Director for Place in accordance with the established Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) financial governance process; and</p>	

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	<p>(5) delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder(s), to explore and develop commercially viable opportunities linked to depot infrastructure, fleet operations, or renewable energy generation that support long-term financial sustainability.</p>	
7	<p>Habitat Banking</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) noted the update on the Bio4All programme and the partnership work between the Council and CPCA for Phase 1, and how this can be taken forward in an approach for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG); (b) acknowledged the environmental, social and economic benefits of Habitat Banking across Huntingdonshire, alignment with existing policies/strategies, and the role of BNG and Habitat Banking in relation to development delivery within the District; (c) approved the principle of and approach outlined to phased establishment of Habitat Banks on suitable Council owned land to generate Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) units; (d) noted the inclusion of a £220,000 capital investment bid and associated income impact within the 2026-2027 MTFS to deliver Phase 1 & 2; (e) approved the approach, governance, process, and timeline for full implementation across the district by April 2026 and embedding BNG delivery and management as part of business-as-usual activity; and (f) ensured appropriate delegations are in place to enable efficient and effective implementation, delivery of actions, and 	N Massey

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	<p>monitoring pertaining to BNG units as part of business as usual (BAU) and maximise the potential social, environmental and economic benefits of BNG on Council owned land.</p>	
8	<p>2025/26 Finance Performance Report - Forecast at Quarter 3</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) considered and commented on the revenue financial performance for the financial year 2025/26 quarter 3, as detailed in Appendix 1 and summarised in paragraph 3.2 in the submitted report; and (2) considered and commented on the capital financial performance for 2025/26 quarter 3, as detailed in Appendix 3 and summarised in paragraph 3.3 in the submitted report. 	<p>S Beard (01480) 388731</p> <p>L Morrison (01480) 388178</p>
9	<p>One Leisure Independent Review Update</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) agreed and approved that all outstanding actions from the 12-month update report (July 2025) have been concluded; (2) acknowledged and accepted the 7 new actions from within the Year 1 – Transformation Progress Report of Actions & Recommendations from the Long-Term Operating Model for One Leisure undertaken by First Point Management; (3) accepted and approved the completion or on-going nature of the 7 actions identified within the Transformation Progress Report of Actions & Recommendations from the Long-Term Operating Model for One Leisure undertaken by First Point Management; (4) approved the One Leisure Vision, Customer 	<p>L Allaker 07572 028133</p>

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	<p>Charter, and the new structure of the One Leisure 3-year business plan; and</p> <p>(5) delegated authority to the Head of Leisure, Health and Environment in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Leisure & Health, to undertake all necessary actions required to implement the aforementioned strategies and embed the vision for One Leisure and its continuous improvement.</p>	
10	<p>Corporate Peer Challenge Update 2025/26 Q3</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <p>(1) reviewed and commented on progress made in Quarter 3 of 2025/26, noting that all formal recommendations and suggestions have now been fully met and transitioned to business as usual, with ongoing oversight to ensure they are maintained. A summary is provided in the submitted report, with full details in Appendices one and two in the submitted report; and</p> <p>(2) confirmed the action for the Executive Leader and Chief Executive Officer to write to the LGA informing them of completion of the formal CPC action plan and to provide the necessary evidence to support this position</p>	<p>L Aston (01480) 388604</p>
11	<p>Corporate Plan Refresh 2026/27</p> <p>The Cabinet has</p> <p>(a) endorsed the refreshed Corporate Plan to Council (Appendix A); and</p> <p>(b) endorsed the Key Performance Indicator changes (Appendix D).</p> <p>Recommended to Council</p> <p>(a) the approval of the refreshed Corporate</p>	<p>B Clifton-Attfield (01480) 388653</p>

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	Plan (Appendix A); and (b) the approval of the Key Performance Indicator Changes (Appendix D).	