



Epping Forest District Council

CABINET **Monday 18th March 2024**

You are invited to attend the next meeting of **Cabinet**, which will be held at:

Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping
on **Monday 18th March 2024**
at **7.00 pm**

Georgina Blakemore
Chief Executive

Democratic Services
Officer: V Messenger (Democratic Services)
Tel: (01992) 564243

Members: Councillors C Whitbread (Leader of Council & Leader of the Conservative Group) (Chairman), N Bedford (Deputy Leader & Place Portfolio Holder) (Vice-Chairman), R Balcombe, S Patel, J Philip, H Whitbread and K Williamson

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS TO ATTEND

[This meeting will be broadcast live and recorded for repeated viewing.](#)

1. WEBCASTING INTRODUCTION

This meeting is to be webcast and the Chairman will read the following announcement:

“I would like to remind everyone present that this hybrid meeting will be broadcast live to the internet (or filmed) and will be capable of repeated viewing (or other such use by third parties).

Therefore, by participating in this meeting, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If any public speakers on MS Teams do not wish to have their image captured, they should ensure that their video setting throughout the meeting is turned off and set to audio only.

Please also be aware that if technical difficulties interrupt the meeting that cannot be overcome, I may need to adjourn the meeting.

Members are reminded to activate their microphones before speaking”.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To be announced at the meeting.

To report non-attendance before the meeting, please use the [Members Portal webpage](#) to ensure your query is properly logged.

Alternatively, you can access the Members portal from the front page of the [Council's website](#), at the bottom under 'Contact Us'.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare interests in any item on this agenda.

4. MINUTES (Pages 6 - 12)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 5 February 2024.

5. REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

To receive oral reports from Portfolio Holders on current issues concerning their Portfolios, which are not covered elsewhere on this agenda.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE CABINET

To receive any questions submitted by members of the public and any requests to address the Cabinet.

(a) Public Questions

To answer questions asked by members of the public after notice in accordance with the provisions contained within Part 4 of the Constitution (Council Rules, Rule Q3) on any matter in relation to which the Cabinet has powers or duties or which affects the District.

(b) Requests to Address the Cabinet

Any member of the public or a representative of another organisation may address the Cabinet on any agenda item (except those dealt with in private session as exempt or confidential business) due to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions contained within Article 7 of the Constitution (The Executive, Paragraphs 27 and 28).

7. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

To consider any matters of concern to the Cabinet arising from the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function and to identify any matters that the Cabinet would like the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to examine as part of its work programme.

8. PAY POLICY STATEMENT (Pages 13 - 21)

(Leader – Cllr C Whitbread) To recommend the Pay Policy Statement to Council, subject to any amendments or suggestions (C-045-2023-24).

9. CONDENSATION, DAMP AND MOULD POLICY (Pages 22 - 43)

(Housing and Strategic Health Partnerships – Cllr Holly Whitbread) To adopt the proposed Condensation, Damp and Mould Policy (C-046-2023-24).

10. HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2024-2029 UPDATE (Pages 44 - 61)

(Housing and Strategic Health Partnerships – Cllr Holly Whitbread) To approve the outline EFDC 2024-2029 Housing Asset Management Strategy, see Appendix 1 attached (C-047-2023-24).

11. TREE POLICY (UPDATED) 2024 - 2029 (Pages 62 - 72)

(Regulatory Services – Cllr K Williamson) To agree to adopt the proposed updated overarching tree policy for a 5-year period (C-048-2023-24).

12. ENDORSEMENT OF THE LATTON PRIORY STRATEGIC DESIGN CODE (Pages 73 - 195)

(Place – Cllr N Bedford) To agree to endorse the Draft Latton Priory Strategic Design Code (Appendix A) (C-049-2023-24). Please note: Appendix A is published separately.

For information: Appendices attached include – B (Consultation report), C (Consultee response report), D (Design code testing report), E (Highways technical report) and F (Latest Quality Review Panel report).

13. ENDORSEMENT - EAST OF HARLOW MASTERPLANNING GUIDANCE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (Pages 196 - 214)

(Place – Cllr N Bedford) To agree to formally adopt the EHMG SPD (C-050-2023-24). Please note: Appendix A (HGGT Board East of Harlow Masterplanning Guidance Adoption SPD report) is attached.

For information: Appendices published separately include – B (Draft East of Harlow Masterplanning Guidance SPD) and C (East of Harlow Consultation Report).

14. NORTH WEALD BASSETT STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK (Pages 215 - 264)

(Place – Cllr N Bedford) To agree to formally endorse the North Weald Bassett Strategic Masterplan Framework (C-051-2023/24). Please note: Appendices attached include – B (Consultation Report) and D (Quality Review Panel Report).

For information: Appendices published separately include – A (Final Draft Strategic Masterplan Framework, parts 1 - 6) and C (Statutory and Other Written Consultee Responses).

15. FIT FOR THE FUTURE TRANSFORMATION PORTFOLIO, GOVERNANCE (Pages 265 - 283)

(Leader – Cllr C Whitbread) To agree the proposed governance structure for the Fit for the Future Transformation Portfolio in this report and Appendix F (C-052-2023-24).

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, together with paragraphs 6 and 24 of the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution requires that the permission of the Chairman be obtained, after prior notice to the Chief Executive, before urgent business not specified in the agenda (including a supplementary agenda of which the statutory period of notice has been given) may be transacted.

In accordance with Operational Standing Order 6 (non-executive bodies), any item raised by a non-member shall require the support of a member of the Committee concerned and the Chairman of that Committee. Two weeks' notice of non-urgent items is required.

17. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESSExclusion

To consider whether, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) or are confidential under Section 100(A)(2):

Agenda Item No	Subject	Exempt Information Paragraph Number
18	Epping Forest Operations Hub	3

The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, which came into effect on 1 March 2006, requires the Council to consider whether maintaining the exemption listed above outweighs the potential public interest in disclosing the information. Any member who considers that this test should be applied to any currently exempted matter on this agenda should contact the proper officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Background Papers

Article 17 of the Constitution (Access to Information) define background papers as being documents relating to the subject matter of the report which in the Proper Officer's opinion:

- (a) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
- (b) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing the report and does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information and in respect of executive reports, the advice of any political advisor.

The Council will make available for public inspection one copy of each of the documents on the list of background papers for four years after the date of the meeting. Inspection of background papers can be arranged by contacting either the Responsible Officer or the Democratic Services Officer for the particular item.

18. EPPING FOREST OPERATIONS HUB (Pages 284 - 288)

(Contracts, Service Delivery and Improvement – Cllr R Balcombe) To approve the contractor for the design and build of the Operations Hub and agree the budget recommendation (C-053-2023-24).