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**North East
Derbyshire
District Council**

Contact: Thomas Scott - Governance and
Scrutiny Officer

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Date: Monday, 16 February 2026

To: **Members of the Services Scrutiny Committee**

Please attend a meeting of the Services Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Tuesday, 24 February 2026 at 10.00 am in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Steenberg".

Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Members of the Committee

<u>Labour Group</u>	<u>Conservative Group</u>	<u>North East Derbyshire Independents Group</u>
Councillor Kathy Clegg Councillor Carol Lacey Councillor Derrick Skinner Councillor Christine Smith Councillor Mick Smith – Chair	Councillor Richard Spooner Councillor Neil Baker Councillor Kevin Tait	Councillor Ross Shipman

For further information about this meeting please contact: Thomas Scott - Governance and Scrutiny Officer 01246 217045

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

3 Minutes of Last Meeting (Pages 4 - 6)

To approve as a correct record and the Chair to sign the Minutes of the Services Scrutiny Committee held on 25 November 2025.

4 Performance Management (Pages 7 - 16)

Council Plan Targets Performance Update.

Kath Drury, Information & Improvement Manager/Amar Bashir, Improvement Officer

5 Medium Term Financial Plan Budget Monitoring Q3 2025/26 (Pages 17 - 32)

To receive the financial outturn for 2025/26 – Quarter 3

Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer / Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager

6 Cabinet Business (Pages 33 - 47)

To inform Committee of recent and forthcoming Cabinet business.

A digest of Cabinet decisions taken since May 2025. This information is published by Cabinet meeting on the Council's website. Cabinet Agendas, Decisions and Minutes can be viewed at: [Cabinet](#)

The Forward Plan of Executive decisions.

[Plans](#)

These plans are updated to include new business.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer

7 Policy Development

To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council.

8 Work Programme (Pages 48 - 54)

To consider the Committee's Work Programme.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer

9 Additional Urgent Items

To consider any other matter which the Chair of the Committee is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

10 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Services Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to take place on 12 May 2026 at 10.00 am.



**North East
Derbyshire
District Council**

Access for All statement

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- **Email** - connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
- **Text** - [07800 00 24 25](tel:07800002425)
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- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on [0800 500 888](tel:0800500888) – a free phone service
- **Visiting** our [offices](#) at Wingerworth – 2013 Mill lane, [S42 6NG](#)

SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2025

Present:

Councillor Mick Smith (Chair) (in the Chair)

Councillor Richard Spooner (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Neil Baker
Councillor Ross Shipman

Councillor Kathy Clegg
Councillor Christine Smith

Also Present:

J Dethick	Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)
J Wells	Corporate Finance Manager
A Bashir	Improvement Officer
C Harris	Streetscene Co-ordinator
C Fulton	Streetscene Co-ordinator
D Mitchell	Streetscene and Waste Services Manager
J Hayden	Senior Scrutiny Officer
T Scott	Governance and Scrutiny Officer

SSC/ Apologies for Absence

27/2

5-26 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Lacey, D Skinner and K Tait.

SSC/ Declarations of Interest

28/2

5-26 There were no declarations of interest.

SSC/ Minutes of Last Meeting

29/2

5-26 RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Services Scrutiny Committee held on 9 September 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

SSC/ Performance Management

30/2

5-26 The Improvement Officer presented a report setting out progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective 'A great place to access good public services' for the period ending 30 September 2025.

Members were updated on progress under the following objective sub-categories in Appendix 1 of the report:

- 1) Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the District.
- 2) Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for

money.

The Committee was informed that the Council continued to strengthen public service delivery and partnership working, securing a new five-year lease for the Citizens' Advice Bureau at Clay Cross Active and supporting a range of community initiatives, including grants for mental health and social inclusion projects. Progress was made on key infrastructure, such as enhancements to customer service facilities and the adoption of digital innovations like the FutureFox AI tool for planning consultation analysis and the launch of the 'Just Do More' leisure app. The Council maintained strong fiscal management, generating £233,550 in capital receipts from property sales. All targeted metrics were met or exceeded, with the exception of formal complaints, where 94% were responded to within 15 working days against a target of 98%.

RESOLVED – That Committee noted the report.

SSC/ Medium Term Financial Plan - Revised Budget

31/2

5-26

The Corporate Finance Manager presented a report to the Committee detailing the original budget position as approved by Council in January 2025 and the revised position following the in-depth revised budget review. Members were advised that the same report would be presented to Cabinet on 27 November 2025.

Members referred to the section of the report which stated “the need to recruit agency staff to cover some vacancies has created a budget pressure” and asked why this had been required. The Corporate Finance Manager explained that Environmental Health had to use agency staff to continue to provide some of their services.

Members asked whether the Local Government Review was affecting vacancies. The Committee were informed that there were no patterns to suggest that this was an issue but the Council acknowledged that this was a risk and would be monitored.

RESOLVED – That the Committee noted the report concerning the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan – Revised Budgets 2025/26.

SSC/ NEDDC Park Equipment

32/2

5-26

The Streetscene Co-ordinator delivered a presentation to Members which provided them with an overview of Council-owned parks and play areas.

The presentation included details on:

- Playground provisions around the District
- Inspections
- Play value and life expectancy
- Improvements
- Renewal Programmes for 2025/26 and for the next 3 years
- Site Review

Members asked what the 'Play Value Score' referred to for each park in the presentation. The Streetscene Co-ordinator explained that this was a score determined by a number of aspects, including features, signs and fences.

The Committee thanked the Streetscene Co-ordinator for her detailed and informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That the Committee noted the presentation.

SSC/ Cabinet Business

33/2

5-26

The Senior Scrutiny Officer presented a digest of Cabinet decisions taken since the last Committee meeting in September 2025. The digest set out key information for each decision.

The Senior Scrutiny Officer presented Members with the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions for the period up to 15 November 2025.

RESOLVED – That the update was noted.

SSC/ Policy Development

34/2

5-26

The Senior Scrutiny Officer informed the Committee that there were no major policies for Members to consider.

RESOLVED – That the update was noted.

SSC/ Work Programme

35/2

5-26

The Senior Scrutiny Officer presented the draft Work Programme 2025/26 for the Committee to consider.

Members referred to a news story on the Council website about Warm Home Insulations, and asked if the Committee could receive an update on the subject. The Senior Scrutiny Officer explained that this was on the radar of the Environment Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED – That the Work Programme 2025/26 be approved.

SSC/ Additional Urgent Items

36/2

5-26

None.

SSC/ Date of Next Meeting

37/2

5-26

The next meeting of the Services Scrutiny Committee was scheduled to take place on 24 February 2026 at 10.00 am.

North East Derbyshire District Council

Services Scrutiny Committee

Council Plan Objective – A Great Place to Access Good Public Services – Update October to December 2025

24th February 2026

Report of the Information and Improvement Manager

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Kath Drury, Information and Improvement Manager

Contact Officer: As above

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To report progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective - "A great place to access good public services" for the period ending 31st December 2025

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That progress against the Council Plan "A great place to access good public services" objective be noted.
-

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £125,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £310,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	N/A
District Wards Significantly Affected	None
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
<p>Stage 1 screening undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2 	N/A - information only report
<p>Stage 2 full assessment undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report 	No, not applicable
<p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Details:</p>

Links to Council Plan priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.
<p>A great place to access good public services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district. Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money.

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

1.1 The Council plan 2023-27 has four objectives:

- A great place to work.
- A great place to access good public services.
- A great place to live well.
- A great place that cares for the environment

Information on the work undertaken this quarter under the *access good public services* objective is contained at appendix one.

1.2 Under the good public services objective there are two strategies – Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district and Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money. Underneath those sit tactics - our approaches to positively influence the strategies.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

2.1 The appendix notes under each strategy and tactic the significant work that has been undertaken during this period together with a suite of metrics.

2.2 The Council continued to strengthen public service delivery and partnership working, supporting residents through targeted assistance such as foodbank referrals and the Tell Us Once service. Three Community Action Grants were awarded this quarter, adding to 15 awarded to date, alongside continued delivery of Healthy NED and commemorative activities across the district. Service improvements progressed through the introduction of a paid pre-allocation planning service for large sites, and the new 3G pitch at Clay Cross Active. Modernisation advanced through upgraded IT infrastructure, virtual desktops, Exchange Online rollout, digital accessibility enhancements including a BSL video for the Residents Survey and support for organisational innovation via the Copilot Academy. Property and Estates continued to secure high occupancy of over 90% while adapting to changing business needs.

2.3 Most targeted metrics were met or exceeded. Formal complaints performance narrowly missed target at 97%. Regarding the three trend- monitored metrics, temporary accommodation increased slightly to eight households and one bed and breakfast placement was recorded, linked to an out-of-hours safeguarding case and capital receipts remained at £233,550 with no change from quarter 2; further receipts are anticipated following a scheduled February 2026 auction.

2.4 The report was taken to Senior Management team on 26th January 2026 for consideration and oversight.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 This is an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the council plan objective for good public services.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 Not applicable to this report as providing an overview of progress against the council plan objective for good public services.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	A summary of progress for the Council Plan objective – A Great Place to Access Good Public Services – for the period ending December 2025
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

Council Plan 2023 - 2027

A summary of progress for **a great place to access good public services** for the period October to December 2025 (Q3)





A great place to access good public services



This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district***

Actively participate, nurture relationships, and maximise benefits for NEDDC residents in partnerships such as Health, Economy, Resilience, etc.

- Healthy NED, Older People's Co-ordinator contact awarded to Derbyshire Voluntary Action starting January 2026. The role aims to raise awareness of local services, groups and amenities for older people.
- Community Action Grants, 3 grants awarded (15 to date). Total awarded to date £6,437.80 with projects include bio-diversity (Eco Schools), tree planting and half term activities for young people.
- Armed Forces, Remembrance Day and Armistice Day commemorations held with flag raising ceremony, 2 minutes silence and Tommy's located in District Council Offices and each Leisure Centre.

Directly assist residents and businesses to access all available public services and support

- Promotion of key online services continued, including bin calendars, reporting tools and payment options, to encourage digital access and improve customer convenience.

- Residents and businesses were supported to access council services through a wide range of contact channels this quarter, including over 11,000 telephone enquiries, more than 2,500 emails, 2,400 face-to-face visits, online web chat and text messaging. Self-service options were also widely used, and targeted support was provided where needed, including foodbank referrals and support through the Tell Us Once service.

Collate and analyse district wide data to inform improvements

- Analysis was used to inform senior managers on how changes in social posting frequency improved engagement outcomes.
- Data has been gathered and analysed to inform future Pride in Place improvements in Grassmoor and Holmewood.



This quarter, the following progress has been made on *continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money*



Fiscally responsible and efficient

- A proactive debt recovery and enforcement programme has commenced in relation to legal action undertaken.

• A paid for service has been implemented for large sites over twenty hectares submitted for consideration through the Local Plan. This service provides early engagement, improves clarity for developers and supports more efficient plan making processes.

- New fees and charges for 2026 have been set following detailed discussion and competitor analysis by Leisure Services. This ensures that pricing remains fair, competitive and aligned with organisational and market expectations.

Listen to customers (Residents and Businesses) to improve services

- Mobile customer service events continued to be well-received, providing local support to residents in North Wingfield, Ashover and Eckington during the quarter.

• Customer feedback from the Leisure Customer Satisfaction Survey (Oct-Nov) shows high levels of satisfaction, with nearly 9 in 10 users reporting a positive experience at 86.98%. This reflects a performance above both the Council's target and national public-sector benchmarks.

- We actively promoted the Residents' Survey during its final week to boost participation—particularly in low response areas such as Eckington and Killamarsh—encouraging Members to drive resident engagement and making paper copies available to ensure accessibility.

Ensure good governance and transparency in all we do

- New Security Awareness Training and Induction developed and added to the Learning Management system, improving and automating the process. Managers are now responsible for ensuring completion. Improving compliance, user training, reduced security risks and a much more efficient process.
- The accounts for the County Council elections have been finalised and settled. The Annual Canvass was completed with the revised Register of Electors published on 1 December 2025 and all statutory reports completed.
- During the quarter, 37 formal complaints were received, with 97% handled within agreed timescales. Eight internal reviews were requested, all of which were completed on time. The Council also received one complaint referred to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, which was responded to within the required timescale. Two further Ombudsman complaints are currently under investigation, with outcomes awaited.



This quarter, the following progress has been made on *continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money*

- During this quarter, the Information & Improvement Team strengthened governance and transparency by assuring the quality of service plans, performance data, risk registers and Business Continuity content.
- The Revised 2025/26 budgets for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme were considered by Cabinet and Services Scrutiny in November 2025. The Revised Budget, alongside the Draft 2026/27 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan to 2029/30, is being considered through Joint Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council in January 2026. The Treasury Management Strategy for 2026/27 is also being reviewed by the Audit Committee and Council to ensure effective oversight of the Council's finances.
- The Governance Framework Annual Review programme remains on track for consideration by Council in May 2026. While national legislative changes are still awaited, preparatory work continues. Training is being developed for Members and officers on the Council's ethical framework, alongside targeted training for Members on the Council's governance arrangements. Initial governance training has already been delivered to officers through the Managers' Essentials programme.

Modernise and innovate services to continually improve

- Investment in core IT infrastructure has improved network reliability and system performance, helping staff respond more efficiently to customer needs.
- New virtual desktop systems have been introduced to improve speed, performance and long-term system support, ensuring services remain reliable.
- Members now access email through Exchange Online, providing secure and modern communication tools.

• **We strengthened digital accessibility for residents by producing and publishing a British Sign Language (BSL) video explaining the purpose of the Residents' Survey and how to take part.** This proactive approach enabled members of the Deaf community to engage independently, resulting in six completed online questionnaires from BSL users—our highest recorded level of BSL participation to date.

- Supported service modernisation by expanding digital channels, promoting the digital mail rollout and improving online access to timely seasonal service updates.
- Enhanced digital accessibility and inclusion through improvements to leisure webpages, including accessible imagery and alt-text updates.
- Supported digital capability and innovation across the organisation through the launch of a Copilot Academy, helping staff to understand and use Copilot AI to improve productivity and service delivery.
- Coney Green - A new team is in place and recent investment is beginning to show results with increased occupancy. Work is underway to create a more supportive business environment, alongside early repurposing activity to respond to declining demand for traditional office space driven by hybrid and home-working trends.

• **The new 3G pitch at Clay Cross Active was handed over in December 2025, providing a modern, high-quality sports facility that will improve access to year-round physical activity and community use.**



This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money***

Maintain a motivated and skilled workforce

- **The Health and Safety Policy has been fully reviewed and updated for the 2025-2028 period**, and issued in a clear, accessible booklet format to support staff understanding. Organisation-wide promotion is underway, helping ensure employees feel informed about workplace safety arrangements.

- Maintained delivery of core health and safety training, including ongoing support for fire extinguisher champions and first aiders.
- Enabled the successful first use of “Success in Focus”, reinforcing a culture of employee development, motivation, learning and continuous improvement.
- Managers Essentials and Brilliant at the Basics continue to evolve, with good levels of participation supporting ongoing staff development and capability.

- **The Commercial Estate team has continued to adapt and evolve in response to a challenging environment.** Through proactive and flexible management, the team has secured occupancy levels of over 90%, supported local businesses and employment, and increased rental income. This represents a strong performance and reflects the professionalism, commitment and skill of the team, particularly when compared to the position two years ago.

- Property and Estates - A team member has successfully completed their MSc and is progressing towards full professional qualification as a surveyor.
- Continued to deliver clear internal communications, keeping staff informed of organisational change while promoting good practice and celebrating success.

Metric	Target	Quarter 3 Value	RAG or Trend
Average Time to process new Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction claims (days).	20	19.05 days	
Average time to process change in circumstances for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction claims (days).	6	3.16 days	
Council Tax collected %.	Annual target 96.14%	83.26%	
NNDR Collected %.	Annual target 96.66%	82.05%	
Total number in Temporary Accommodation.	Decrease	8	 Q2 - 6
Total number in Bed & Breakfast.	Decrease	1	 Q2 - 0
% of formal complaints responded to within 15 working days.	98%	97%	
% of internal reviews responded to within 20 working days.	85%	100%	
Capital receipts to be achieved from disposal of surplus land and property assets (£) (Cumulative)	Increase	£233,550 (no change)	 Q2 - £233,550

Total number in Temporary Accommodation	As the number of cases is now very low and typically in single figures, small fluctuations should be expected and can be influenced by a range of factors, many of which are outside the Council's direct control. These include the number of approaches received during the period, the availability and type of temporary accommodation offered by Rykneld, and the number of households who are ineligible for the Rykneld waiting list and therefore require private rented sector accommodation.
Total number in Bed & Breakfast	Some bed and breakfast placements are made outside of normal office hours. The placement recorded at the end of the last quarter was one such case, made during the Christmas office closure period. This placement followed a referral from the Police and related to a safeguarding case involving modern slavery. It was arranged by P3, the Council's out-of-hours housing support contractor.
Capital receipts to be achieved from disposal of surplus land and property assets (£) (Cumulative)	Capital receipts have been lower than forecast to date, with £233,550 achieved so far. A further auction is scheduled for February 2026, with anticipated sales of around £500k, bringing expected receipts for 2025/26 to approximately £750k.



North East Derbyshire District Council

Services Scrutiny Committee

24 February 2026

Medium Term Financial Plan

Budget Monitoring Report April – December 2025 Q3

Report of the Director of Finance and Resources

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager (Deputy S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: Justine Wells

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To inform the Services Scrutiny Committee of the budget position for the third quarter of 2025/26 which will be presented to Cabinet on 26 February 2026.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Services Scrutiny Committee note the report and make any comments that they believe to be appropriate with regards to the attached report.

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

These are detailed in the attached report.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

These are no legal issues arising directly from this report.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

These are no staffing issues arising directly from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £125,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £310,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	None
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2 	No, not applicable.
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report 	No, not applicable.
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details:

Links to Council Plan priorities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A great place that cares for the environment A great place to live well A great place to work A great place to access good public services
All

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

1.1 To inform the Services Scrutiny Committee of the contents of the attached Budget Monitoring Report for April-December 2025/26 (Q3).

2. Budget Monitoring Quarter 3 2025/26

2.1 To update Members of the Services Scrutiny Committee concerning the Council's budgetary position for April – December of the 2025/26 financial year.

2.2 The attached report to be taken to Cabinet on 26 February 2026 is accordingly brought to Services Scrutiny for its consideration.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 These are detailed in the attached report.

3.2 To ensure that the Services Scrutiny Committee are kept informed of the Council's latest financial position concerning budget monitoring.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 These are detailed in the attached report.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	Cabinet Q3 Budget Monitoring 2025/26 26 February 2026
Background Papers	
None	

North East Derbyshire District Council

Cabinet

26 February 2026

Medium Term Financial Plan

Budget Monitoring Report April – December 2025 (Q3)

Report of Cllr P Kerry Deputy Leader with responsibility for Finance

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: Jayne Dethick

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To update Cabinet of the financial position of the Council following the third quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and the Capital Programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Cabinet note the report and make any comments that they believe to be appropriate with regards to the budget monitoring position outlined.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Cllr Kerry, Deputy Leader with responsibility for Finance

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

It is important that the Council maintains robust budgetary control and monitoring processes in order to safeguard both its reserves and financial resilience.

The issue of financial risk and resilience is covered throughout the report. In addition, it should be noted that not achieving a balanced budget is outlined as a key risk within the Council's Strategic Risk Register.

Members should note that the budgets against which we have monitored the 2025/26 quarter three position were those agreed within the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

There are no legal issues arising directly from this report.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

There are no staffing issues arising directly from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £125,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £310,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	None
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2	No, not applicable.
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report	No, not applicable.
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details:

Links to Council Plan priorities;

- **A great place that cares for the environment**
- **A great place to live well**
- **A great place to work**
- **A great place to access good public services**

All

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 To update Cabinet on the financial position of the Council following the third quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, Housing Revenue account, and the Capital Programme.

2. General Fund

- 2.1 The position in respect of the General Fund as at 31 December 2025 is summarised in **Appendix 1** attached to the report. The appendix shows the Original Budget that was set in January 2025, together with the Current Budget compared to the 31 December position.
- 2.2 As at quarter three the overall forecast is for the General Fund to underspend by £0.351m. Variances of note by Directorate are detailed at 2.4 - 2.6 below. **Appendix 2** provides a more detailed breakdown by directorate.
- 2.3 The budget approved by Council in January 2026 included a reduction in the contribution from the Resilience Reserve from £0.294m to a forecast contribution to the Resilience Reserve of £0.432m, as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Plan Report. Further, the report stated that subsequent underspends be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to 'pay back' contributions this year, increasing resilience for future years. Based on the quarter three forecasts the underspend of £0.351m increases the contribution to the reserve to £0.784m at outturn this year. This will depend on the actual financial performance out-turning in line with the budgets as the year progresses.
- 2.4 The Organisation and Place Directorate is £0.209m lower than the original forecast. The main variances are in relation to pay underspends of £0.043m (including Streetscene £0.029m and Environmental Health £0.02m), and underspend utilities of £0.012m. Other offsetting variances include an underspend of £0.035m for fuel and an overspend of £0.034m for hybrid mail. Income variances include greater income than budgeted for licensing (£0.017m), burial fees (£0.018m) and planning income (£0.109m).
- 2.5 The Finance and Resources Directorate is £0.117m lower than the original forecast. The main variances are in relation to salary underspends of £0.113m and underspends on members allowances and development (£0.019m) and IT purchases (£0.025m). These underspends are offset by an overspend of £0.018m for printing in Elections, and £0.014m less income than budgeted from Crematorium Fees.

- 2.6 The Growth and Assets Directorate is £0.012m higher than the original forecast. The main variances are in relation to a salary underspend of £0.232m, (of which £0.155m is leisure services), and leisure underspends on maintenance (£0.041m), equipment (£0.035m), catering (£0.012m) and instructor fees (£0.014m). Income is also lower than forecast by £0.348m across leisure services, however this is offset by the salary and other underspends noted above.

Financial Reserves

2.7 Transfers from Earmarked Reserves

The use of earmarked reserves is 2025/26 to date is £0.893m comprising:

- £0.567m from revenue grants.
- £0.326m from earmarked reserves

2.8 Transfers to Earmarked Reserves

The transfers to earmarked reserves to date is £0.736m comprising:

- £0.271m to revenue grant reserves.
- £0.465m to earmarked reserves.

The transfers to earmarked reserves also relates to resilience reserves, see 2.11 below.

- 2.9 There are ongoing commitments against the earmarked reserves which will continue in 2025/26 and future years. Should any of the reserves prove unnecessary in the light of subsequent events then they will be moved back into unallocated General Fund resources.

Invest to Save

- 2.10 The Invest to Save Reserve had an opening balance of £2.429m at 1 April 2025. Commitments already made against this reserve for 2025/26 and future years amount to £0.169m leaving £2.26m uncommitted and available for future innovations and spend to save initiatives.

Resilience Reserve

- 2.11 The Resilience Reserve had an opening balance of £3.597m at 1 April 2025, and planned commitments in the current financial year were forecast to reduce this to £3.303m. The revised budget reduced the use of this reserve to nil and forecast a contribution of £0.432m. The quarter three forecast underspend will increase the contribution to the Resilience Reserve by a further £0.351m depending on actual outturn. This increase will help to provide financial resilience to the General Fund in future years as required by the Medium Term Financial Plan.

General Fund Balances

- 2.12 The level of General Fund Balances has been maintained at £2.000m. The General Fund balances are considered to be at an acceptable level rather than generous. The General Fund balance needs to be considered against the background of ongoing reductions in the level of Government funding together with the range of risks facing the Council. With only a limited level of General Fund reserves it is crucial that the Council continues to maintain robust budgetary control while securing its ongoing savings targets in order to safeguard both its reserves and its financial sustainability.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- 2.13 Appendix 3 shows the HRA position at quarter three. To date the HRA is showing a variance of £0.479. The main variance of £0.478m relates to dwelling rents. This is the result of much higher than forecast properties disposed of under right to buy in the latter half of the year and higher than forecast voids. The expenditure variance includes £0.022m overspend across repairs and maintenance offset by underspend of £0.021m in supervision and management which mainly relates to pay.

Capital Investment Programme

- 2.14 Appendix 4 shows the capital position at quarter three which is currently £2.667m lower than the forecast.
- 2.15 The HRA capital programme is £2.691m under the profiled budget at quarter three largely due to general HRA capital works (£2.877m) and the stock purchase programme (£0.531m) but these budgets are committed.
- 2.16 The general fund programme is £0.024m higher than profiled budget at Q3. This variance mainly relates to Clay Cross Active (£0.156m) this is offset by various smaller underspends. As is the norm with capital budgets, any underspends remaining at year end will be rolled into 2026/27 to meet future committed spend.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The report summarises the financial position of the Council following the first quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 This report is concerned with monitoring the position against the Council's previously approved budget. Accordingly, the report does not set out any options where a decision is required by Members.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	General Fund Summary Monitoring Q3 2025/26
2	General Fund Detail Monitoring Q3 2025/26
3	HRA Monitoring Q3 2025/26
4	Capital Expenditure Monitoring Q3 2025/26
Background Papers	
None	

GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT - SUMMARY BUDGET MONITORING 2025/26 (QUARTER 3)

	Original Budget 2025/26 £	Current Budget 2025/26 £	Q3 Profiled Budget 2025/26 £	Actuals £	Variance £
Organisation & Place Directorate	8,411,714	8,556,822	6,688,004	6,479,474	(208,530)
Finance & Resources Directorate	5,777,406	5,963,977	5,294,388	5,177,099	(117,289)
Growth & Assets Directorate	3,058,909	3,279,733	2,683,532	2,695,560	12,028
Recharges to Capital and HRA	(618,350)	(618,350)	(463,825)	(463,763)	63
Net Cost of Services	16,629,679	17,182,182	14,202,099	13,888,371	(313,728)
Investment Properties	(467,195)	(476,545)	(357,438)	(394,932)	(37,494)
Bad Debt Provision	40,000	40,000	30,000	30,000	0
Interest	(469,015)	(1,261,404)	(946,179)	(946,179)	0
Debt Repayment Minimum Revenue Provisio	56,000	56,000	42,000	42,000	0
Parish Precepts	3,835,198	4,083,784	4,083,784	4,083,784	0
Transfer To Earmarked Reserves	0	303,198	303,198	303,198	0
Transfer From Earmarked Reserves	(500,982)	(893,690)	(893,690)	(893,690)	0
Transfer To/(From) Resilience Reserve	(294,290)	432,356	432,356	783,579	351,223
Total Spending Requirement	18,829,395	19,465,881	16,896,130	16,896,130	0
Business Rates	(6,079,668)	(6,079,668)	(4,559,751)	(4,559,751)	0
New Homes Bonus	(743,488)	(743,488)	(557,616)	(557,616)	0
Extended Producer Responsibility for Packir	(434,000)	(821,900)	(616,425)	(616,425)	0
Recovery Grant	(203,179)	(203,179)	(152,384)	(152,384)	0
Employer National Insurance Contributions	(145,150)	(145,150)	(108,863)	(108,863)	0
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit - Council T	(141,491)	(141,491)	(106,118)	(106,118)	0
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit - NNDR	0	0	0	0	0
NEDDC Council Tax Requirement	(7,247,221)	(7,247,221)	(5,435,416)	(5,435,416)	0
Parish Council Council Tax Requirement	(3,835,198)	(4,083,784)	(4,083,784)	(4,083,784)	0
Council Tax Requirement	(18,829,395)	(19,465,881)	(15,620,357)	(15,620,357)	0

		Current Budget 25/26 £	Q3 Actuals 25/26 £	Variance £
<u>Organisation & Place Directorate</u>				
Managing Director & Head Of Paid Service				
4500	Managing Director - Operations & Head of Paid Service	139,385	138,425	(960)
5720	Supporting PA's	101,783	105,275	3,492
		<u>241,168</u>	<u>243,700</u>	<u>2,532</u>
Assistant Director Communities & Environmental Health				
1218	Community Safety	81,321	67,035	(14,286)
1220	Assistant Director Communities	39,642	39,522	(120)
3165	Housing Options Team	261,118	254,993	(6,125)
3400	Environmental Protection	163,957	150,445	(13,512)
3401	Food, Health & Safety	156,781	192,729	35,948
3402	Environmental Enforcement	129,765	127,250	(2,515)
3403	Community Outreach	21,561	21,667	106
3404	Licensing	50,342	35,502	(14,840)
3405	Pollution	128,431	129,254	823
3407	Pest Control	34,363	35,251	888
3408	Home Improvement	28,480	26,473	(2,007)
3409	EH Technical Support & Management	299,418	295,510	(3,908)
3410	Private Sector Housing	85,042	85,188	146
3419	Destitute Funerals	3,104	3,656	552
3420	Fly Tipping	3,000	0	(3,000)
3423	Air Quality Feasibility	(12,637)	(12,637)	0
3426	Covid Enforcement Team	8,581	8,581	0
3427	Private Water Supply Contract	(128)	(339)	(211)
3429	Joint Assistant Director Environmental Health	53,249	53,195	(54)
3726	Works In Default	1	2,094	2,093
3740	Strategic Housing	131,083	128,739	(2,344)
3747	Homeless Temp Accomodation	15,674	20,051	4,377
3748	Homelessness Grant	26,994	26,343	(651)
3749	Empty Properties	1,125	(40)	(1,165)
3754	Homelessness Strategy	3,625	4,414	789
3756	Supported Housing Improvement Programme	(49,477)	(48,006)	1,471
3759	Emergency Welfare Assistance Grant	21,323	21,323	(0)
3760	Asylum Dispersal	(94,000)	(94,000)	0
5221	Customer Services	307,006	294,624	(12,382)
5223	Franking Machine	22,424	21,598	(826)
5224	Hybrid Mail	26,255	60,764	34,509
5825	Concessionary Bus Passes	(13,790)	(13,813)	(23)
		<u>1,933,633</u>	<u>1,937,364</u>	<u>3,731</u>
Assistant Director Streetscene				
3174	Street Scene	264,819	275,959	11,140
3227	Materials Recycling	692,527	730,498	37,971
3230	Food Waste Collection	249,935	247,724	(2,211)
3244	Parks Derbyshire County Council Agency	(272,000)	(272,000)	0
3282	Eckington Depot	123,191	107,824	(15,368)
3285	Dronfield Bulk Depot	2,880	3,842	962
3511	Hasland Cemetery	(27,630)	(33,126)	(5,496)
3513	Temple Normanton Cemetery	(7,084)	(5,939)	1,145
3514	Clay Cross Cemetery	(51,287)	(60,310)	(9,023)
3516	Killamarsh Cemetery	(15,023)	(17,950)	(2,927)
3918	Dog Fouling Bins	(46,366)	(46,567)	(201)
3921	Street Cleaning Service	517,253	501,352	(15,901)
3922	Gully Emptying Service	(15,878)	(23,453)	(7,575)
3943	Transport	583,143	613,986	30,843
3944	Grounds Maintenance	458,969	359,707	(99,262)
3945	Domestic Waste Collection	1,493,001	1,483,423	(9,578)
3946	Commercial Waste Collection	(230,750)	(228,248)	2,502

3947	Assistant Director Streetscene	80,108	79,865	(243)
		3,799,808	3,716,586	(83,222)
	Assistant Director Planning			
4111	Applications And Advice	(560,413)	(691,931)	(131,518)
4113	Planning Appeals	51,220	51,220	0
4116	Planning Policy	413,564	399,795	(13,769)
4119	Neighbourhood Planning Grant	(20,000)	(20,000)	0
4311	Environmental Conservation	19,342	20,247	905
4511	Assistant Director Planning	79,637	79,262	(375)
4513	Planning	700,792	713,978	13,186
4515	Building Control	29,253	29,253	0
		713,395	581,824	(131,571)
	Total for Organisation & Place Directorate	6,688,004	6,479,474	(208,530)
	Finance & Resources Directorate			
	Director of Finance & Resources			
1312	Payroll	95,390	96,299	909
1315	Design & Print	118,146	114,880	(3,266)
1321	Communications & Marketing	132,523	130,881	(1,642)
1323	NEDDC News	16,726	16,753	27
3512	CBC Crematorium	0	14,000	14,000
5113	Unison Duties	81	77	(5)
5611	External Audit	112,715	112,715	0
5615	Bank Charges	125,264	126,101	837
5707	Local Government Reorganisation	27,760	27,760	0
5713	Audit	92,292	92,277	(16)
5714	Financial Support Services	1,876	940	(936)
5715	Procurement	65,296	61,331	(3,965)
5716	Director of Finance & Resources	55,584	54,998	(586)
5721	Financial Services	351,060	358,683	7,623
5724	Insurance	528,180	526,022	(2,158)
5725	Apprenticeship Levy	52,507	52,517	10
5727	Cost Of Ex-Employees	81,462	83,705	2,243
5741	Housing Benefit Service	510,738	463,381	(47,357)
5742	Test & Trace	(79,419)	(79,419)	(0)
5747	Debtors	54,931	54,692	(239)
5751	NNDR Collection	89,145	92,387	3,242
5759	Council Tax Administration	542,378	509,259	(33,119)
		2,974,635	2,910,238	(64,397)
	Assistant Director ICT			
5215	Telephones	11,587	7,076	(4,512)
5216	Mobile Phones and Ipads	19,869	16,991	(2,878)
5701	Joint ICT Service	61,145	62,650	1,505
5703	Rechargeable Purchases DDDC	0	(2,326)	(2,326)
5704	Rechargeable Purchases BDC	0	1,352	1,352
5734	NEDDC ICT Service	530,550	530,895	345
5736	Business Development	133,731	133,731	0
5737	Corporate Printing Costs	15,526	15,352	(174)
		772,408	765,722	(6,686)
	Assistant Director Governance			
1121	Member's Services	413,365	392,057	(21,308)
1123	Chair's Expenses	5,327	1,205	(4,122)
1131	District Elections	0	146	146
1137	Parliamentary Elections	0	935	935
1139	County Council Elections	4	0	(4)
1231	Corporate Training	42,756	48,883	6,127
1259	Corporate Groups	8,607	1,095	(7,512)
1311	Human Resources	336,657	334,105	(2,552)
3121	Health & Safety Advisor	61,681	51,063	(10,618)
5313	Register Of Electors	156,503	170,962	14,459
5321	HoS Corporate Governance	87,129	88,286	1,157

5353	Legal Section	206,182	182,693	(23,489)
5354	Land Charges	26,111	17,720	(8,391)
5711	Democratic Services	203,023	211,990	8,967
		<u>1,547,345</u>	<u>1,501,140</u>	<u>(46,205)</u>

Total for Finance & Resources Directorate	5,294,388	5,177,099	(117,289)
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Growth & Assets Directorate

Director of Growth & Assets

1283	Emergency Planning	20,191	19,439	(752)
4600	Director of Transformation	109,870	109,945	75
		<u>130,061</u>	<u>129,384</u>	<u>(677)</u>

Assistant Director Property, Estates & Assets

3135	Drainage	9,962	1,644	(8,318)
3172	Engineers	95,116	75,353	(19,763)
3176	Pool Car	114	0	(114)
3241	Car Parks	45,702	41,098	(4,604)
3247	Street Names/Lights	9,377	6,493	(2,884)
3249	Footpath Orders	(751)	(1,700)	(949)
3265	Dams And Fishing Ponds	1,875	368	(1,507)
3283	Northwood	0	328	328
4412	Midway Business Centre	(38,204)	(38,512)	(308)
4425	Coney Green Business Centre	(5,335)	(8,895)	(3,560)
4428	Manor Farm Redevelopment Design Work	47,457	47,457	0
4523	Estates Administration	170,147	152,676	(17,471)
4525	Miscellaneous Properties	15,734	21,982	6,248
5204	Assistant Director Property, Estates & Assets	79,860	79,942	82
5205	Mill Lane	137,309	138,782	1,473
5206	Mill Lane Land	1,268	1,688	420
5209	Facilities Management	193,098	184,288	(8,810)
5210	Pioneer House	85,917	113,125	27,208
		<u>848,646</u>	<u>816,117</u>	<u>(32,529)</u>

Assistant Director Regeneration & Programmes

1255	Strategy and Performance	188,367	190,890	2,523
1331	Strategic Partnerships	143,235	138,464	(4,771)
1333	Healthy North East Derbyshire	(706)	(706)	(0)
1334	NE Derbyshire Business Growth Fund	0	425	425
1336	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	(424,172)	(424,172)	0
1337	Pride in the Public Realm Eckington Northgate	16,314	16,314	0
1338	Feeling Safer	37,505	37,504	(1)
1339	Explore the District	43,478	42,437	(1,041)
1340	Inclusive Communities	175,354	175,354	0
1341	Derbyshire Accelerator	64,697	64,697	0
1342	Sector Development	2,814	0	(2,814)
1343	Digital Skills	37,505	40,000	2,495
1344	Vocational Skills	15,002	14,593	(409)
1345	UKSPF Management & Admin	31,510	31,510	(0)
4211	Tourism Promotions	31,432	26,549	(4,883)
4238	Working Communities Strategy	33,661	32,181	(1,480)
4351	Alliance	2,934	3,911	977
4443	Elderly Peoples Clubs	3,153	4,200	1,047
4512	Growth Agenda	16,363	9,998	(6,365)
4517	Economic Development	145,724	119,810	(25,914)
5748	Ukrainian Guests	1,575	2,100	525
5750	Assistant Director Regeneration & Programmes	79,810	79,859	49
5785	Contributions	135,885	129,446	(6,439)
		<u>781,440</u>	<u>735,364</u>	<u>(46,076)</u>

Assistant Director Leisure

4561	Leisure Centre Management	169,536	152,119	(17,417)
4723	Generation Games	3	345	342
4724	Walking into Communities	3	510	507

4726	Walking For Health	5	138	133
4727	Five 60	3	917	914
4729	Active Neighbourhood Pilot	0	(636)	(636)
4730	Seated Dancing for Health	0	650	650
4731	Promotion Of Recreation And Leisure	29,482	29,422	(60)
4732	Schools Promotion	7	(1,498)	(1,505)
4736	Derbyshire Sports Forum	10,840	10,840	0
4740	Parkinsons UK Physical Activity Programme	360	480	120
4742	Arts Development	3,818	5,439	1,621
8441	Eckington Swimming Pool	30,577	57,529	26,952
8445	Eckington Pool Cafe	5,126	(711)	(5,837)
8451	Dronfield Sports Centre	(101,314)	(59,188)	42,126
8455	Dronfield Café	(2,079)	(2,418)	(339)
8461	Sharley Park Sports Centre	621,424	611,443	(9,981)
8465	Sharley Park Sports Centre Outdoor	(21,286)	0	21,286
8466	Sharley Park Sports Centre Café	(730)	(1,303)	(573)
8471	Killamarsh Leisure Centre	170,914	205,467	34,553
8475	Killamarsh Outdoors	(17,629)	(16,778)	851
8476	Killamarsh Café	24,325	21,928	(2,397)
		923,385	1,014,695	91,310
	Total for Growth & Assets Directorate	2,683,532	2,695,560	12,028
	Corporate Charges			
0001	Recharges to Capital and HRA	(463,825)	(463,763)	63
	Total for Corporate Charges	(463,825)	(463,763)	63
	Net Cost of Services	14,202,099	13,888,371	(313,728)
	Investment Properties			
4411	Stonebroom Industrial Estate	(46,986)	(52,657)	(5,671)
4413	Clay Cross Industrial Estate	(65,720)	(70,469)	(4,749)
4415	Norwood Industrial Estate	(161,634)	(186,812)	(25,178)
4417	Eckington Business Park	(2,700)	(3,531)	(831)
4418	Rotherside Court Eckington Business Unit	(11,513)	(10,760)	753
4423	Pavillion Workshops Holmewood	(74,090)	(73,856)	235
4432	Miscellaneous Properties	5,205	3,152	(2,053)
	Total for Investment Properties	(357,438)	(394,932)	(37,494)

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT: SUMMARY 2025/26

APPENDIX 3

	Current Budget 2025/26 £	Profiled Qtr 3 Budget £	Actuals with Accruals £	Variance £
INCOME				
Dwelling Rents	(37,200,232)	(27,900,174)	(27,422,064)	478,110
Non-Dwelling Rents	(526,957)	(395,218)	(383,278)	11,939
Charges for Services and Facilities	(59,250)	(44,438)	(57,833)	(13,395)
Contributions Towards Expenditure	(50,000)	(37,500)	(37,500)	0
INCOME TOTAL	(37,836,439)	(28,377,329)	(27,900,674)	476,655
EXPENDITURE				
Repairs & Maintenance	6,046,242	4,534,682	4,557,067	22,385
Supervision and Management	9,334,021	7,000,516	6,980,003	(20,513)
Rents, Rates & Taxes	120,000	90,000	90,000	0
Capital Charges - Depreciation	8,799,932	6,599,949	6,599,949	0
Provision for Bad Debts	250,000	187,500	187,500	0
Debt Management Expenses	23,000	17,250	17,250	0
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	24,573,195	18,429,896	18,431,769	1,872
NET COST OF SERVICES	(13,263,244)	(9,947,433)	(9,468,906)	478,527
Corporate & Democratic Core	185,450	139,088	139,088	0
NET COST OF HRA SERVICES	(13,077,794)	(9,808,346)	(9,329,818)	478,527
Interest Payable	6,303,487	4,727,615	4,727,615	0
Interest Receivable	(237,881)	(178,411)	(178,411)	0
Revenue Contribution to Capital	6,700,068	5,025,051	5,025,051	0
Contribution to Development Reserve	971,709	728,782	728,782	0
Contribution to/(from) Resilience Reserv	(559,214)	(419,411)	(897,938)	(478,528)
Contribution to Insurance Reserve	50,000	37,500	37,500	0
Capital Grant	0	0	0	0
Water Litigation Liability (Reducing)	(150,375)	(112,781)	(112,781)	0
(Surplus)/Deficit on HRA Services	0	0	(0)	(0)

Project/Scheme	Current Programme 2025/26 £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual and Commitments £000	Variance £000
Housing Investment				
HRA Capital Works	17,385	13,039	10,169	(2,870)
Garage Demolitions	30	23	18	(5)
Stonebroom Regeneration Project	1,753	1,315	1,658	343
North Wingfield New Build	1,559	1,169	1,522	353
Stock Purchase Programme	3,022	2,267	1,736	(531)
Private Sector Spending	1,017	763	543	(220)
Warm Homes Local Grant - Private Sector	1,000	750	988	238
Total Housing Investment	25,766	19,325	16,634	(2,691)
Other Capital Projects				
Asset Refurbishment - General	639	349	349	0
Southern Vehicle Hub	310	280	280	0
Asset Refurbishment - Mill Lane	316	9	9	0
Dronfield LC Carbon Efficiencies Programme	60	58	58	0
Coney Green Telephony System	162	4	4	0
Fuel island Project	420	231	231	0
Sharley Park 3G Pitch	968	851	851	0
Sharley Park 3G Pitch - Replacement Fund	27	20	0	(20)
Lottery Funded Schemes	9	7	0	(7)
Replacement Vehicles	3,108	975	975	0
Contaminated Land	42	32	0	(32)
ICT Schemes	359	83	83	0
CX Town Market Street Regeneration	10,533	9,998	9,998	0
CX Town Sharley Park Active Community Hub	2,828	2,828	2,984	156
CX Town Low Carbon Housing Challenge Fund	655	9	9	0
CX Town Rail Station Feasibility	44	33	0	(33)
CX Town Programme Management	373	151	151	0
Pride in the Public Realm - Eckington Southgate - UK SPF	30	23	0	(23)
Pride in the Public Realm - Killamarsh - UK SPF	10	8	0	(8)
Pride in the Public Realm - Other - UK SPF	38	28	28	0
Quality Parks and Play Areas - UK SPF	180	184	184	0
Shop Fronts - UK SPF	210	100	100	0
Management & Admin - UK SPF	12	9	0	(9)
Total Other Capital Projects	21,333	16,270	16,294	24
Total Capital Expenditure	47,099	35,595	32,928	(2,667)
Housing Investment Funding				
Major Repairs Reserve	(15,545)	(11,659)	(10,169)	1,490
HRA Capital Investment Reserve	(1,084)	(813)	(18)	795
Usable Capital Receipts	(1,670)	(1,253)	(715)	538
External Grant	(1,116)	(837)	0	837
Prudential Borrowing	(4,334)	(3,251)	(4,201)	(951)
	(23,749)	(17,812)	(15,103)	2,709
Private Sector Spending				
Disabled Facilities Grant	(1,017)	(763)	(543)	220
Warm Homes Local Grant	(1,000)	(750)	(988)	(238)
Total Housing Investment Funding	(25,766)	(19,325)	(16,634)	2,691
Other Capital Projects Funding				
Prudential Borrowing	(3,818)	(1,886)	(1,886)	0
External Grant	(14,331)	(12,940)	(12,830)	110
RCCO	(866)	(402)	(402)	0
Useable Capital Receipts	(2,318)	(1,042)	(1,176)	(134)
Other Capital Project Funding	(21,333)	(16,270)	(16,294)	(24)
Total Capital Financing	(47,099)	(35,595)	(32,928)	2,667

CABINET DECISIONS 2025/26

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
27 Nov 2025	Council Plan 2023-2027 Performance Report - Update July to September 2025 – Relevant to All Scrutiny Committees	Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Open	That progress against the Council Plan 2023-2027 objectives was noted.	This is an information report to keep Cabinet informed of progress against the council plan objectives.
	Choice Based Lettings and Allocations Policy – Relevant to Communities Scrutiny	Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Open	<p>(1) That Cabinet agreed the proposed amendments and adopted the draft policy.</p> <p>(2) That Cabinet agreed the implementation date of 1 April 2026, except for the flexible Tenancy amendment which will be withdrawn immediately as this type of tenancy is no longer in use.</p>	<p>The amendments will ensure that the Council continues to operate a robust policy which enables Rykneld Homes Limited to allocate the council's housing stock to those in most need in the most effective and transparent way. It will also allow the Council to make best use of its housing stock and help with antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>The policy was last reviewed in October 2022, with minimal amendments, therefore a full review was due in October 2025.</p>

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
27 Nov 2025	Tenancy Strategy – Relevant to Communities Scrutiny	Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Open	That Cabinet agreed the proposed amendments to remove Flexible Tenancies from the Tenancy policy and adopt the draft policy.	<p>Removing Flexible Tenancies ensures any tenancy offered through Rykneld Homes on behalf of the Council will be a secure lifetime tenancy.</p> <p>Issuing lifetime tenancies gives more security and stability to those who are in most housing need requiring settled accommodation.</p>
	New Equality and Diversity Policy – Relevant to Services Scrutiny	Councillor J Barry, Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non Key & Open	That Cabinet approved the refreshed Equality and Diversity Policy.	The Equality and Diversity Policy is essential to fostering an inclusive working environment and demonstrating as a public service provider that every individual is valued and respected. This policy demonstrates compliance with legal obligations, including the Equality Act 2010, and demonstrates the Council's commitment to creating a workplace and community free from discrimination, harassment, and inequality.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
27 Nov 2025	Medium Term Financial Plan - Revised Budget 2025/26 – Relevant to Services Scrutiny	Councillor P R Kerry, Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet made the following recommendations to Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the budget in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 of this report be approved as the Current Budget for 2025/26. b. the budget in respect of the HRA as set out in Appendix 3 of this report be approved as the Current Budget for 2025/26. c. the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 of this report be approved as the Current Budget for 2025/26. 	The purpose of this report is to prepare revised budgets as early as possible within the financial year to provide sufficient time to allow any planned changes to be delivered. The Council has faced some specific financial challenges this year putting pressure on the ability to set a balanced General Fund budget but, use of reserves ring fenced for providing resilience when needed has mitigated this.
	New Homes To Rent Opportunity - Earls Park, Holmewood – Relevant to Communities Scrutiny	Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Key & Exempt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That Cabinet approved RHL's proposal to acquire 39 homes for rent at Earls Park Holmewood (2) That Cabinet recommended, to Council, borrowing of £5.553m to provide investment, in the form of a loan, to RHL to progress with the acquisition. 	The opportunity to bring new affordable homes into the District meets the objectives in the Council Plan and Housing Strategy and provides warm safe homes for our residents at affordable rents.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
18 Dec 2025 – Special	Environment Scrutiny Committee Review on Wingerworth Lido – Relevant to Environment Scrutiny	Councillor C Smith – Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Committee	Non Key & Open	<p><u>Wingerworth Lido</u></p> <p>(1) That the Cabinet approved the exploration of interim arrangements to reinstate angling at the earliest opportunity, prior to the completion of the Biodiversity Improvement Plan. Any reinstatement must be subject to robust management processes to ensure compliance with statutory duties and to prevent further degradation of the site, as advised by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.</p> <p>(2) That the Council continued to undertake maintenance of the site and continues to allow Clay Cross Angling Association to inspect water quality and the welfare of their fish.</p>	<p><u>Wingerworth Lido</u></p> <p>Committee recognise that the Council has a statutory duty, and any further degradation of the Lido will have an impact on the Authority. Members were pleased to hear that the Council has procured a Biodiversity Improvement Plan through Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, to identify areas for improvement.</p> <p>The review process highlighted that many people, not just local residents, value the Lido and appreciate the natural surroundings it offers.</p> <p>Views from the public and stakeholders were that they wanted the Lido to remain an area for recreational use with some expressing how visiting the Lido helps support mental health problems, relaxation and social interaction.</p>

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>(3) That Cabinet recognised the strong support for angling evidenced through the scrutiny review and public consultation and seeks to secure fishing as a long-term activity on the site beyond any interim arrangements, ensuring that all fishing activities and associated management contribute positively to biodiversity improvement.</p> <p>(4) That Cabinet asked officers to explore examples of best practice with other organisations on the running of an angling site i.e. Wingerworth Parish Council, Earl of Harrington's Angling Club (Derby City Council).</p> <p>(5) That Cabinet supported the enhancement of biodiversity at the Lido and recognises there may be financial investment required to deliver the Biodiversity Improvement Plan.</p>	<p>Residents and stakeholders were supportive in the need to improve biodiversity at the Lido.</p> <p>Members recognised that there was a strong appetite to reinstate angling and from the responses received from residents/stakeholders there was nothing to suggest that angling and biodiversity could not work together, if managed properly.</p> <p>The review highlighted that a more collaborative management approach was required to balance the needs of different users.</p>

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>(6) That Cabinet recognised the consultation feedback highlighting the need to enhance the area for greater accessibility, including improvements such as better pathways, seating, and educational signage to benefit children and those with mobility issues.</p> <p>(7) That the Council continues to work with stakeholders to develop an independent group (the same concept of a 'Friends of Group'), including the Parish Council, other local interest groups, and for the Group to be a consultee on the Biodiversity Improvement Plan and participate on implementation.</p> <p>(8) That the Biodiversity Improvement Plan is submitted to the Environment Scrutiny Committee upon its completion.</p>	<p>Members agreed that interim arrangements for the management of the Lido must continue, to prevent any further degradation and to ensure the upkeep of the grounds and pond.</p> <p>The Committee recognised that, for angling be reinstated, the drafting of a new agreement for fishing rights either interim or longer term will take a period of time to both negotiate and agree. Also, the decision to enter any such agreement isn't just for the Council, it would be for the Angling Club too. Whilst the Council have done some proprietary work with both DWT and the Angling Trust, it is likely any new agreement won't be in place until early in the new year.</p>

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>(9) That the Environment Scrutiny Committee be informed of progress in terms of angling in the short-term and long-term.</p> <p><u>AMB</u></p> <p>(1) That the Council provide training for all elected Members to understand the process of the AMB, and for them to be informed on the role they play in the consultation process.</p> <p>(2) An Annual Report on Asset Management decisions be submitted to Cabinet going forward, with the report being “open” to enable greater transparency of asset related decisions made.</p> <p>This was not a Key Decision and so can be implemented with immediate effect by officers.</p>	<p>Overall, the Committee recognised it was clear that despite individual views, everyone wants what is best for the Lido.</p> <p><u>AMB</u></p> <p>Committee were satisfied that the decision-making process undertaken by the AMB was compliant with the Council’s Constitution.</p> <p>Committee recognised that elected Members may not understand the process of the AMB, and the role they play in the consultation process.</p> <p>Members expressed concerns around the transparency of decisions made by the AMB, and felt this could be improved.</p>

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
15 Jan 2026	Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2029/30 – Relevant to Services Scrutiny	Councillor P R Kerry, Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Open	<p>1. That all recommendations below are referred to the Council meeting of 26 January 2026.</p> <p>The following recommendations to Council are made:</p> <p>2. That the view of the Director of Finance & Resources, that the estimates included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2029/30 are robust and that the level of financial reserves are adequate at this time, is accepted.</p> <p>3. That officers report back to Cabinet and the Services Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council's budgets.</p> <p><u>General Fund</u></p> <p>4. A Council Tax increase of £6.48 will be levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).</p>	This report presents a budget for consideration by Cabinet. It seeks to secure approval to recommend budgets to Council in respect of the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>5. The Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 of this report was approved as the Current Budget 2025/26, as the Agenda Item 4 Original Budget 2026/27, and as the financial projections in respect of 2027/28 to 2029/30.</p> <p>6. That the General Fund Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 was approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2025/26, and as the Approved Programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30.</p> <p>7. That budget under spends be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to provide increased financial resilience for future years of the plan.</p> <p><u>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</u></p> <p>8. That Council set its rent levels for 2026/27 in consideration of the Social Housing Rent Standard increasing rents by 4.8% from 1st April 2026.</p>	

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>9. The Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account as set out in Appendix 3 of this report was approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2025/26, as the Original Budget in respect of 2026/27, and the financial projection in respect of 2027/28 to 2029/30.</p> <p>10. That the HRA Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 was approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2025/26, and as the Approved Programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30.</p> <p>11. That the Management Fee for undertaking housing services at £13.962m and the Management Fee for undertaking capital works at £1.1m to Rykneld Homes in respect of 2026/27 was approved.</p>	

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>12. That Members noted the requirement to provide Rykneld Homes with a 'letter of comfort' to the company's auditors and granted delegated authority to the Council's Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council to agree the contents of that letter.</p>	
	<p>Update on Local Plan Progress – Relevant to Environment Scrutiny</p>	<p>Councillor S Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place</p>	<p>Non Key & Open</p>	<p>That Cabinet noted the contents of this report and endorsed its inclusion on the agenda for the Council meeting on 26 January 2026 and the next available Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting after that date.</p>	<p>This report is for noting as an update from Officers as to progress against the LDS, with the objective being submission of the draft Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate by the end of 2026. Officers have made professional observations about the challenges and risks involved in the process, as considered appropriate, given the very tight nature of the programme.</p>

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
					<p>Officers consider that the level of engagement from then public has been healthy and constructive and we have used innovative technology and focus groups to reach as broad a spectrum of views as possible. We are learning about the areas that we need to refine in relation to these new ways of working and open to feedback as we progress to the next phases of consultation.</p> <p>Engagement with the LPWG will continue during 2026 and it is important that the Council makes significant decisions about the strategy to be pursued in order to meet the housing need identified by the standard method in the early part of the year.</p>
	Local Timetable Update	This Item was deferred			



North East Derbyshire
District Council

Forward Plan of Executive Decisions for the period 15 January 2026 – 15 February 2026

This Forward Plan sets out all of the decisions that are expected to be taken over the next four months by either: (i) The Cabinet, or (ii) an officer on an Executive function of the Council.

Some of the decisions listed in this plan are 'Key Decisions'. A Key Decision is one that is likely to:

- (a) Result in the Council spending or receiving income of over £125,000 revenue or £310,000 capital, or
- (b) Have a significant impact on two or more wards in the Council's area.

At least 28 calendar days' notice must be given before they are due to be taken by the Cabinet or an officer under delegated powers.

The Cabinet can make urgent decisions which do not appear in the Forward Plan. A notice will be published at the District Council Offices and on the Council's website explaining the reasons for the urgent decisions. Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change.

The Forward Plan also lists those 'Exempt' Decisions which are going to be taken over the next four months. Exempt Decisions are those decisions which have to be taken in private. This is because they involve confidential or exempt information which cannot be shared with the public.

The contact details for the officers or senior employees responsible for producing the reports and reports for these decisions are included in the plan. Please contact them if you would like more information. If you have any queries about why something is a Key Decision or is going to be taken in private then please contact the Governance Team on 01246 217375 or email: torin.fuller@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk.

Published under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Sarah Sternberg
Assistant Director of Governance & Monitoring Officer

Published on: 15 January 2026

Cabinet members and their responsibilities

Member	Portfolio of responsibilities
Councillor N Barker	Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance
Councillor P R Kerry	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance
Councillor J Barry	Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets
Councillor J Birkin	Portfolio Holder for Council Services
Councillor K Gillott	Portfolio Holder for Local Government Reorganisation
Councillor S Pickering	Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place
Councillor K Rouse	Portfolio Holder for Health & Leisure

DECISION TO BE TAKEN	DECISION-MAKER	DATE OF DECISION	KEY DECISION	EXEMPT DECISION (INCLUDING GROUNDS FOR EXEMPTION)	RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
Management of Corporate Debt - Write Off of Outstanding Amounts – Relevant to Services Scrutiny	Cabinet	26 Feb 2026	Key	Fully exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.	Deputy Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance	Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer)

SERVICES SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26
CHAIR: CLLR MICK SMITH
VICE CHAIR: CLLR RICHARD SPOONER

AGENDA ITEM	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	LEAD OFFICER/ORGANISATION
Meeting Date: 29 July 2025		
Financial Outturn 2024/25	To receive the financial outturn for 2024/25 Outcomes: <i>Gained an overview of the outturn for 2024/25</i>	Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) / Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager — ACCEPTED
Medium Term Financial Plan Budget Monitoring Q1 2025/26	To receive the budget monitoring report for 2025/26 — Quarter 1 Outcomes: <i>Gained an understanding of the Council's financial outturn position for 2024/25</i>	Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) / Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager — ACCEPTED
Generative Artificial Intelligence — Task Group Update	Overview on Generative Artificial Intelligence and steps the Council are taking Outcomes: <i>Understand the work being undertaken across the Authority. ACTION: Come back in 6 mths for an update</i>	Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) / David Vickers, Communications, Marketing & Design Manager — ACCEPTED
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan Outcomes: <i>Learned about the Cabinet Decisions made to date and upcoming reports going forward to Cabinet</i>	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	David Vickers, Communications, Marketing & Design Manager — ACCEPTED

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Strategy 	
	Outcomes: <i>To have contributed on new/revised policies and strategies</i>	
Horizon Scanning	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To have considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise</i>	
Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Agreed a Work Programme going forward for the year</i>	
Meeting Date: 9 September 2025 (moved from 2 September)		
Overview of Council's Complaints Procedure	To receive an overview of the Council's complaints procedure and reporting system	Rachael Pope, Customer Services Manager - ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gained an understanding of the Council's complaints procedure and reporting system.</i>	
Missed Wheelie Bin Collections	To receive an overview of how missed wheelie bin collections are recorded and processed.	Darren Mitchell, Streetscene & Waste Services Manager - ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gained insight into missed bin collections, and how these are dealt with including changes to reporting system</i>	
Local Plan Update	Update on the Local Plan	David Thompson, Assistant Director of Planning - ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Heard about the work done so far on the Local Plan and any changes/issues that have arisen</i>	

Equality Plan and Duty Review 2024/25	To receive the Equality Action Plan	Kath Drury—Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir—Improvement Officer— ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gained an understanding of the Action Plan</i>	
Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update—Quarter 1	Kath Drury—Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir—Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Gained insight into the quarterly targets to date, and how areas are performing.</i> ACTION: <i>Circulate Annual Audit Report</i>	
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Informed of Cabinet Decisions made to date and what topics are due to be presented in the future</i>	
Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Contributed on new/revised policies and strategies</i>	
Horizon Scanning	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise</i>	
Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Agreed the Work Programme for the year</i>	
Meeting Date: 25 November 2025		

NEDDC Park Equipment	Overview of NEDDC owned parks/play areas	Darren Mitchell, Streetscene and Waste Services Manager / Cate Harris, Streetscene Coordinator – ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gained an insight into parks/play areas owned by NEDDC, including how many and location, age of equipment, maintenance schedules and plans for upgrades</i>	
Medium Term Financial Plan— Revised Budget	To receive the revised budget for 2025/26	Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) / Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager – ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gained an understanding of the Council's financial outturn position for 2024/25</i>	
Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 2	Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Gained insight into the quarterly targets to date, and how areas are performing</i>	
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Informed of Cabinet Decisions made to date and what topics are due to be presented in the future</i>	
Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Contributed on new/revised policies and strategies</i>	
Horizon Scanning	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise</i>	

Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>Agreed the Work Programme for the year</i>	
Meeting Date: 24 February 2026		
Generative Artificial Intelligence – Update – DEFERRED UNTIL A LATER MEETING AS PART OF STOCKTAKE REVIEW	Update on generative Artificial Intelligence and current position	Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) / David Vickers, Communications, Marketing & Design Manager – ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gain an understanding of AI and steps being taken</i>	
Medium Term Financial Plan Budget Monitoring Q3 2025/26	To receive the financial outturn for 2025/26 – Quarter 3	Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) / Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager – ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>Gain an understanding of the Council's financial outturn position for 2024/25</i>	
Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 3	Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To gain insight into the quarterly targets to date, and see how areas are performing</i>	
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To identify Cabinet Decisions made to date and see what topics are due to be presented in the future, and determine if any require further follow-up by Scrutiny</i>	
Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To have contributed on new/revised policies and strategies</i>	

Horizon Scanning	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To have considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise</i>	
Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To agree a Work Programme for the year</i>	
Meeting Date: 12 May 2026		
People Strategy Action Plan - Annual Update – DEFERRED UNTIL A LATER MEETING AS PART OF STOCKTAKE REVIEW	Update on progress made against the Action Plan	Lee Hickin – Managing Director / Sara Gordon – HR & OD Manager - TBC
	Outcomes: <i>To understand the progress of work that has been taken against the Strategy/Action Plan</i>	
Employment Rights Bill	Overview of the legislation and how the upcoming changes affect the staff/Authority	Sara Gordon – HR & OD Manager - ACCEPTED
	Outcomes: <i>To gain an understanding of the legislation</i>	
Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 4	Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To gain insight into the quarterly targets to date, and see how areas are performing</i>	
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To identify Cabinet Decisions made to date and see what topics are due to be presented in the future, and determine if any require further follow-up by Scrutiny</i>	

Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To have contributed on new/ revised policies and strategies</i>	
Horizon Scanning	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To have considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise</i>	
Work Programme	To consider the Committees’ work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: <i>To agree a Work Programme for the year</i>	

NOTES

Annual Local Government Ombudsman Report – due around May/June
Generative Artificial Intelligence – Update (Stocktake review in June 2026)
People Strategy Action Plan Update (Stocktake review in September 2026)
Licensing Policy – 2027

HORIZON SCANNING (topics to be aware of going forward including legislation, regulation and key projects)

- Local Government Reorganisation
- Local Plan