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North East Derbyshire District Council

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Date:	Tuesday, 17 February 2026

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

Please attend a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee to be held on Wednesday, 25 February 2026, at 10.00 am in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 at the District Council Offices, 2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, S42 6NG.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Sternberg

Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Members of The Committee	
Councillor M Durrant (Chair) Councillor R Beech Councillor P Jones Councillor T Lacey Councillor P Windley	Councillor G Baxter (Vice-Chair) Councillor S Clough Councillor C Lacey Councillor J Stokes

Any substitutions must be notified to the Governance Manager in advance by midday the working day before the meeting.

A G E N D A

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 Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 19 November 2025.

4 Performance Management (Pages 7 - 16)

Council Plan Targets Performance Update.

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

5 Access to GP Surgeries - Proposals on a Pilot Project

To hear about proposals on a pilot project that is being discussed with the ICB to help support GP Surgeries.

Lee Hickin, Managing Director

6 Cabinet Business (Pages 17 - 31)

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 32 - 37)

To consider the Committee's Work Programme, and to also 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, that could form potential topic items for the Work Programme in the future.

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 Communities Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to take place on 13 May 2026 at 10.00 am.

Access for All statement

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COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2025

Present:

Councillor Michael Durrant (Chair) (in the Chair)
Councillor Graham Baxter MBE (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Richard Beech
Councillor Tony Lacey
Councillor Stephen Clough
Councillor Pam Windley

Also Present:

L Pepper	Assistant Director of Communities
K Drury	Information & Improvement Manager
F Green	Community Safety Manager
J Hayden	Senior Scrutiny Officer
T Fuller	Senior Governance Officer

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Jones and C Lacey.

CSC/23/25-26 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Jones and C Lacey.

CSC/24/25-26 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

CSC/25/25-26 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 10 September 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

CSC/26/25-26 **Performance Management**

The Information & Improvement Manager presented a report to the Committee summarising progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective 'A great place to live well' for the period ending 30th September 2025.

Committee discussed the report. Some Members had questions regarding teething issues of the monitoring system at Clay Cross Active. In this context, some Members suggested that family memberships be introduced at the leisure centre. It was agreed that this would be fed back to the leisure team.

RESOLVED – That progress against the Council Plan "A great place to live well" objective was noted.

CSC/27/25-26 **Tackling Antisemitism and Hate Crime including Equality Action Plan**

Committee received a presentation which gave an overview of what is being done to tackle antisemitism and hate crime in North East Derbyshire. The presentation included an explanation of how the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and partners tackle hate crime, a spotlight on a CSP project that tackled graffiti and a breakdown of the facts and figures surrounding hate crime in the District. The report highlighted that hate crime in North East Derbyshire was quite low, but it was also on the decline, it was suggested that this was a great result especially in relation to the rest of the county.

Committee also received a report the outlined the progress made against the objectives set within the Equality Plan 2023-2027. The importance of a good equalities plan was stressed, and it was highlighted that equality was embedded within the Council Plan and was, therefore, something that the Council took very seriously.

Committee discussed the presentation and report. Some Members drew attention to particular acts of hate crime that they were aware of and praised the response from their communities. In this context, the importance of engagement with external partners, such as schools, was highlighted. Some Members suggested that the perpetrators of hate crime were likely to be involved in a multitude of other crimes, which further stressed the need for collaboration to achieve positive outcomes.

Committee discussed the data that was shared in the presentation. It was suggested that figures represented positive results for North East Derbyshire, although it was stressed that 1 hate crime is too many and the hard work would continue in order to bring the numbers down further. Some Members had questions around the exact number of antisemitic hate crimes reported in North East Derbyshire, the types of hate crime being committed and how the crime numbers compare to the District's demographic. It was clarified that the data comes from the police and that the dataset did not contain this level of information. It was agreed that further information would be requested in relation to the questions that had been asked.

Committee discussed the likelihood of non-reported crimes and the issue of people hiding their religion. It was shared that, in this context, the work of the CSP was essential, and the positive results of recent community door knocks was highlighted. Committee also heard that the results of the citizens and residents survey indicated that minorities did not feel unfairly discriminated against in North East Derbyshire. It was suggested that positive outcomes and results, in relation to tackling hate crime and preventing discrimination, should be promoted through the relevant channels.

At the end of the discussion, the Committee thanked the CSP team for their hard work. It was agreed that tackling antisemitism and hate crime would be added to the annual CSP review.

RESOLVED –

That Committee noted the presentation and report.

CSC/28/25-26 **Cabinet Business**

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 also presented Members with the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions for the period up to 15 November 2025.

RESOLVED – That the update was noted.

CSC/29/25-26 **Policy Development**

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

RESOLVED –

That the update was noted.

CSC/30/25-26 **Work Programme**

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

Committee discussed potential topics to add to the Work Programme.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Work Programme 2025/26 be approved.

CSC/31/25-26 **Additional Urgent Items**

None.

CSC/32/25-26 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee was scheduled to take place on 25 February 2026 at 10.00 am.

North East Derbyshire Council

Communities Scrutiny Committee

Council Plan Objective – A Great Place to Live Well – Update October to December 2025

25th 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 live well" for the period ending 31st December 2025.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That progress against the Council Plan "A great place to live well" 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	
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 ☐ Capital - £310,000 ☐** ☒ *Please indicate which threshold applies*	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	N/A
District Wards Significantly Affected	All
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken • Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2	N/A - information only report
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken • Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report	No, not applicable
Consultation: **Leader / Deputy Leader ☐ Cabinet ☐** **SMT ☒ Relevant Service Manager ☐** **Members ☐ Public ☐ Other ☐**	Yes Details:

Links to Council Plan priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.
A great place to live well council plan objective: • A community with lifelong good health • A place to live that people value • A place where people enjoy spending time

REPORT DETAILS

1 <u>Background</u>

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 live well objective is contained at appendix one.

1.2 Under the live well objective there are three strategies - A community with lifelong good health, A place to live that people value and A place where people enjoy spending time. Underneath are tactics - our approaches to positively influence the strategies.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

2.1.1 Key achievements include the opening of the new 3G pitch at Clay Cross Active, the expansion of mental health and wellbeing initiatives, and delivery of seasonal activity programmes attracting more than 100 participants. Targeted health work continued through winter wellness messaging, partnership-led public health interventions and the award of grants supporting older people, youth activities and biodiversity. Housing developments continue with Warm Homes installations on track, and new supported housing schemes progressing. The Council also completed property refurbishments, progressed public realm improvements through the UKSPF, and strengthened community safety through CCTV installation, public consultations, and enforcement activity. Tourism and leisure promotion continued to grow, with 46 businesses now part of the Food and Drink Trail and expanded marketing activity supporting increased engagement.

2.1.2 Regarding metrics, one measure has been flagged as red. The long-term empty homes target remains challenging, with only two properties returned to use to date, due to complex cases requiring significant officer time. It is unlikely the challenging target of 6 will not be met this year. The other metrics have reported strong performance this quarter.

2.1.3 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 a great place to live well.

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 a great place to live well.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	A summary of progress for the Council Plan objective – A great place to live well – 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 live well for the period October to December 2025 (Q3)

A great place to live well

This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a community with lifelong good health***

Maximise opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to participate in physical and social activity

- Delivered a coordinated winter marketing campaign across all leisure centres, promoting a wide range of inclusive physical and social activities— with tailored content for Clay Cross Active to encourage participation from residents of all ages and abilities.

- **Opened new 3G pitch at Clay Cross Active to support local sport and community activity.**

- Launched Let's Talk Together, a mental health peer support group, promoting health and wellbeing.
- Delivered seasonal walking trails and fitness events attracting more than 100 participants.

Directly or in partnership, reducing health inequality supporting Public Health, DCC and other partners to deliver targeted programmes in the district

- Delivered winter wellness messaging, including vaccination and cold weather guidance.
- The Housing and Health Deep Dive involved engagement with a range of key partners and agencies across both housing and health sectors. This work forms a core component of ongoing housing strategy development. Ten priority areas for action have been identified and categorised as essential, high or moderate priority. These priorities include tackling energy inefficiency and fuel poverty, increasing the supply of affordable homes, improving conditions in the private rented sector and expanding accessible and specialist housing provision.

- **Hosted health and wellbeing pop up events at Eckington Active, including screening, mental health support and drug/alcohol prevention activity.**

- Awarded the Healthy NED Older People's Coordinator contract (£50k over two years).
- Awarded three Community Action Grants this quarter, supporting biodiversity, tree planting and youth activity projects (15 awarded to date; £6,437.80 total).

This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a community with lifelong good health***

Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs

- Design service fully embedded with improvements to the welfare adaptation process, improving turnaround and work underway to renew adaptation contracts.

Protect the public from ill health caused by environmental factors and business operations

- Ran festive burglary prevention and home security messaging during darker nights.
- Environmental Health received 12 notifications of infectious illnesses, which were monitored and managed in line with national guidance.
- **All higher-risk food premises were inspected as planned, helping to ensure food safety standards are maintained.**

This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a place to live that people value***

Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing providing a nice home and area for all residents to meet all needs

- Completed 42 Warm Homes Wave 3 installations to date: on track to achieve 111 by year end.
- YMCA Housing has approached the Council with a proposal for a social rent scheme in North Derbyshire, aimed at employed young people aged 18-30. The scheme is designed to help young people access the housing market who would otherwise be excluded by high rents or mortgage barriers.
- Beam (Beam is an external organisation commissioned by the Council to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness) has secured a further three tenancies within the Private Rented Sector.
  All three properties were previously used as part of the Council temporary accommodation portfolio. This progress supports improved move on pathways and reduces reliance on temporary accommodation.
- Agreed the sale of land at The Wynd, Renishaw to support the development of 40 affordable bungalows, providing well-designed homes that enable residents to live independently within their local community.

Directly and with partners, improve where people live to ensure they are safe, clean, functional, and attractive

- Shopfronts Scheme fully committed with 22 UKSPF funded grants awarded (£210k).
- **Completed refurbishment of two Clay Cross properties for Supporting Our People scheme; both built to high energy standards.**
- Developing a training flat with Rykneld Homes and DCC to support young people leaving care.
- Working with partners, Planning has updated local design guidance – Successful Places - to reflect the National Design Code, helping ensure new developments create attractive, well-designed places that are safe, welcoming and enjoyable to live in.
- **Completed a public consultation on a proposed Public Spaces Protection Order in Stainsby, with strong resident support (94%), and progressed to the next stage to help improve safety and quality of life in the area.**

A great place to live well

This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a place to live that people value***

- Installed additional CCTV in identified anti-social behaviour hotspots to deter crime and improve community safety.
- Worked with partners to take enforcement action and provide resident support at Hardwick Drive, Arkwright, helping restore safety and stability for those living nearby.

Well maintained public realm that connects our communities

- Public realm improvements progressing under UKSPF. Connections phase of Clay Cross Town Deal underway, including Bridge Street reopening.

A great place to live well

This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***a place where people enjoy spending time***

Improve and promote places and attractions to spend leisure time

- Two further businesses have joined the Food and Drink Trail this quarter taking the total to 46 businesses.
- Designed road and access improvements to support increased Clay Cross Active visitor levels.
- **Oversaw UKSPF-funded Exploring the District and Healthy NED projects delivering social inclusion and community activity.**

Develop and promote the local 'offer' to ensure a diverse range of high-quality activities and places to spend time

- Delivered UKSPF funded tourism marketing activity including new walking guides, promotional video content and event planning.
- Worked in partnership with Redmile Homes to promote and sell annual memberships at Killamarsh Active.

Metric	Target	Quarter 3 Value	RAG
Increase participation in leisure activities at leisure centres by 5000 visits per year.	194,750	254,085	
Achieve 1600 monthly attendance through community-based activity.	4,800	4,966	
Bring 6 long term empty properties back into use per year.	6 per annum	Q3 - 0 To date - 2	
Number of targeted proactive littering/dog fouling patrols carried out.	36	37	
Number of proactive community patrols or events focussing on litter, waste, and dog fouling.	3	5	

Bring 6 long term empty properties back into use per year.	The Empty Homes Officer has successfully resolved a number of straightforward cases, bringing previously empty properties back into the council tax system. Remaining cases are more complex and involve owners who are not engaging and may require legal action. This work is more challenging and time-intensive, meaning progress will be slower and targets in this area remain ambitious.

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	(1) That Cabinet agreed the proposed amendments and adopted the draft policy. (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.	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. The policy was last reviewed in October 2022, with minimal amendments, therefore a full review was due in October 2025.

Agenda Item 6

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.	Removing Flexible Tenancies ensures any tenancy offered through Rykneld Homes on behalf of the Council will be a secure lifetime tenancy. Issuing lifetime tenancies gives more security and stability to those who are in most housing need requiring settled accommodation.
	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	That Cabinet made the following recommendations to Council:- 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	(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	<u>Wingerworth Lido</u> (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. (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.	<u>Wingerworth Lido</u> 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. The review process highlighted that many people, not just local residents, value the Lido and appreciate the natural surroundings it offers. 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.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				(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. (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). (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.	Residents and stakeholders were supportive in the need to improve biodiversity at the Lido. 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. The review highlighted that a more collaborative management approach was required to balance the needs of different users.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				(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. (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. (8) That the Biodiversity Improvement Plan is submitted to the Environment Scrutiny Committee upon its completion.	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. 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.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				(9) That the Environment Scrutiny Committee be informed of progress in terms of angling in the short-term and long-term. <u>AMB</u> (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. (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. **This was not a Key Decision and so can be implemented with immediate effect by officers.**	Overall, the Committee recognised it was clear that despite individual views, everyone wants what is best for the Lido. <u>AMB</u> Committee were satisfied that the decision-making process undertaken by the AMB was compliant with the Council's Constitution. Committee recognised that elected Members may not understand the process of the AMB, and the role they play in the consultation process. Members expressed concerns around the transparency of decisions made by the AMB, and felt this could be improved.

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	1. That all recommendations below are referred to the Council meeting of 26 January 2026. The following recommendations to Council are made: 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. 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. **General Fund** 4. A Council Tax increase of £6.48 will be levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).	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
				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. 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. 7. That budget under spends be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to provide increased financial resilience for future years of the plan. **Housing Revenue Account (HRA)** 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.	

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				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. 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. 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.	

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				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.	
	Update on Local Plan Progress **– Relevant to Environment Scrutiny**	Councillor S Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place	Non Key & Open	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.	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.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
					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. 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.
	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.

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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)

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26
CHAIR: CLLR MICHAEL DURRANT
VICE CHAIR: CLLR GRAHAM BAXTER

AGENDA ITEM	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	LEAD OFFICER/ORGANISATION
Meeting Date: 23 July 2025		
~~Planning Enforcement – General Overview including Developer Powers~~	~~Overview of planning enforcement and Developer powers, and how this affects our residents/communities~~	~~David Thompson, Assistant Director of Planning / Julian Hawley, Principal Planning Enforcement Officer – **ACCEPTED**~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Understand the P/Enforcement process and the obstacles facing the Authority.* **ACTION**: Working Group to be set up to discuss PE~~	
~~Cabinet Business~~	~~Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan~~	~~Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Learned about the Cabinet Decisions made to date and upcoming reports going forward to Cabinet*~~	
~~Policy Development~~	~~To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council~~	~~Lead Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *To have contributed on new/revised policies and strategies*~~	
~~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:** *To have considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise*~~	
~~Work Programme~~	~~To consider the Committees' work programme~~	~~Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Agreed a Work Programme going forward for the year*~~	

Meeting Date: 10 September 2025		
~~Homelessness Update~~	~~To receive an overview of homelessness including rough sleeping/Right to Remain~~	~~Lee Pepper, Assistant Director of Communities / Gary Smithurst, Housing Strategy & Homeless Manager – **ACCEPTED**~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Gained insight into the homelessness process and how the Council deal with this issue including asylum dispersal*~~	
~~Local Plan Update~~	~~Update on the Local Plan~~	~~David Thompson, Assistant Director of Planning – **ACCEPTED**~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Heard about the work done so far on the Local Plan and any changes/issues that have arisen*~~	
~~Performance Management~~	~~Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 1~~	~~Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Gained insight into the quarterly targets to date, and how areas are*~~	
~~Cabinet Business~~	~~Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan~~	~~Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Informed of Cabinet Decisions made to date and what topics are due to be presented in the future*~~	
~~Policy Development~~	~~To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council~~	~~Lead Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Contributed on new/revised policies and strategies*~~	
~~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:** *Considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise*~~	

~~Work Programme~~	~~To consider the Committees' work programme~~	~~Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Agreed the Work Programme for the year*~~	
Meeting Date: 19 November 2025		
~~Tackling Antisemitism and Hate Crime including Equality Action Plan~~	~~Overview on what is being done to tackle antisemitism and hate crime~~	~~Faye Green, Community Safety Manager / Lee Pepper, Assistant Director of Communities and Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer - ACCEPTED~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Gained an understanding of what the Council are doing to tackle antisemitism and hate crime, including ensuring awareness is embedded within policies and strategies*~~	
~~Performance Management~~	~~Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 2~~	~~Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Gained insight into the quarterly targets to date, and how areas are performing*~~	
~~Cabinet Business~~	~~Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan~~	~~Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Informed of Cabinet Decisions made to date and what topics are due to be presented in the future*~~	
~~Policy Development~~	~~To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council~~	~~Lead Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Contributed on new/revised policies and strategies*~~	
~~Horizon Scanning~~	~~To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation,~~	~~Lead Officer~~

	~~regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example~~	
	~~**Outcomes:** *Considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise*~~	
~~Work Programme~~	~~To consider the Committees' work programme~~	~~Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer~~
	~~**Outcomes:** *Agreed the Work Programme for the year*~~	
Meeting Date: 25 February 2026		
Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 3	Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: *To gain insight into the quarterly targets to date, and see how areas are performing*	
Access to GP Surgeries – Proposals on a Pilot Project	To hear about proposals on a pilot project that are being discussed with the ICB to help support GP Surgeries	Lee Hickin – Managing Director - **ACCEPTED**
	Outcomes: *To understand how the Authority may be able to support GP Surgeries in the future*	
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: *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*	
Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: *To have contributed on new/revised policies and strategies*	
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: *To have considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise*	
Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: *To agree a Work Programme for the year*	
Meeting Date: 13 May 2026		
Voluntary Sector Organisations Presentation – Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre	DUWC in attendance to present an overview on how their funding from the Authority is spent	**ACCEPTED** (via Tris Burdett)
	Outcomes: *To understand how the organisations are utilising the funding from the Council, and what benefits it has for the organisation*	
Community Safety Partnership	To receive an update on the work of the Community Safety Partnership	Faye Green, Community Safety Manager – **ACCEPTED**
	Outcomes: *To get an understanding of the CSP, including issues that may have arisen, and concerns going forward*	
Housing Strategy and Private Sector Housing Strategy Action Plans m- MOVED FROM FEB DUE TO STOCKTAKE REVIEW TIMEFRAME	To hear about progress made on the Action Plans	Lee Pepper – Assistant Director, Communities / Gary Smithurst, Housing Strategy & Homeless Manager - **ACCEPTED**
	Outcomes: *To understand the work that has been done to date against the Action Plans*	
Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update – Quarter 4	Kath Drury – Information and Improvement Manager / Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Outcomes: *To gain insight into the quarterly targets to date, and see how areas are performing*	
Cabinet Business	Cabinet Decisions and Forward Plan	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: *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*	

Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	Outcomes: *To have contributed on new/revised policies and strategies*	
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: *To have considered and contributed to potential changes in the operating environment that may arise*	
Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Outcomes: *To agree a Work Programme for the year*	

NOTES

- Full adaptations review – due 2025 – no date confirmed yet *Aug 2025 – not yet commenced
- Five Year Housing Land Supply Update (add to end of year or 2025 Programme / include NPPF)
- UKSPF – Inclusive Communities – 26/27 W/Prog
- CAG/Luncheon Clubs
- Access to GP surgeries – initial research but possibly consider early 2026
- Understanding ageing in NED – LGA report/Briefing Note

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

- Local Government Reorganisation
- Local Plan