

NORTH HERTS COUNCIL

WEEK ENDING FRIDAY 17 JANUARY 2025

MEMBERS' INFORMATION

Topic	Page
News and information	2 - 6
CCTV Reports	
Pre-Agenda, Agenda and Decision sheets	7 - 16
Planning consultations	
Planning applications received & decisions	17 - 30
Press releases	31 - 36

Produced by the Communications Team.

Any comments, suggestions or contributions should be sent to the Communications Team at

MIS@north-herts.gov.uk

NEWS AND INFORMATION

AGENDA & REPORTS

PUBLISHED WEEK COMMENCING 13 JANUARY 2025

Cabinet Agenda – 14 January 2025
Council Agenda – 15 January 2025
Council Tax Setting Committee Agenda – 15 January 2025
Planning Control Committee Agenda – 17 January 2025

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS WEEK COMMENCING 20 JANUARY 2025

Cabinet Panel on the Environment – 22 January 2025
Council Tax Setting Committee – 23 January 2025
Council – 23 January 2025

UPCOMING CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY 17 JANUARY 2025

Date	Event	Location
Sat 18 Jan 2025 @ 11am to 4pm	North Herts. Lunar New Year Celebration & Market 2025	The Icknield Centre, Letchworth Garden City Church, Letchworth

UPCOMING VICE-CHAIR'S ENGAGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY 17 JANUARY 2025

Date	Event	Location
	None	

UPCOMING OTHER EVENTS FROM FRIDAY 17 JANUARY 2025

Date	Event	Location
	None	



**Legal & Community
Committee & Member Services**

MEMBERS INFORMATION NOTE

CLEANER AIR SEMINAR

We are delighted to announce our keynote speaker for the third annual [Cleaner Air Members Seminar](#) on **Thursday 27 February 2025, 10am – 3pm** at **Robertson House, Stevenage**.

Dr Gary Fuller: *Why is air quality still important?*

Dr Gary Fuller is one of three [UKRI Clean Air Champions](#) providing leadership and coordination across the UK Clean Air Programme and within the wider research and stakeholder community. Gary's research interests focus on sources of urban air pollution, how these are changing and how they affect our health. He is a member of Defra's [Air Quality Expert Group](#), a project advisor to the Irish EPA and a regular contributor to the Guardian newspaper.

The day will also feature:

- How we are creating cleaner air for all (past, present and future),
- What our air quality strategy public engagement has informed us,
- A workshop on misinformation and communicating cleaner air to residents.
- Stalls on wider air quality related topics such as the carbon agenda and healthy places.

Booking is essential to secure your place: [Cleaner Air Members Seminar Tickets, Thu, Feb 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#).

Committee Services
01462 474655
Committee.Services@north-herts.gov.uk



PLACE DIRECTORATE – CUSTOMERS

MEMBERS

INFORMATION NOTE

Herts Careline YouTube Video

14 January 2025

Careline has created a video that brings its remarkable service to life, so stakeholders, service users, families and professional referrers will know exactly what to expect from the point of making an application or referral, to what happens on installation day and making that first alert for help to our call operators.

This 'feature film' showcases Careline in all its glory. Please watch at:

www.youtube.com/@hertscareline

or on our website www.care-line.co.uk

We are waiting for our shorter video snippets to arrive in the next few weeks which we will share on social media.

For more information please contact:



Celebrating 50 years

Stephanie Bevan

she / her

Marketing and Relationships
Manager

01462 474410

www.care-line.co.uk



www.north-herts.gov.uk

PLACE DIRECTORATE – CLIMATE CHANGE

MEMBERS INFORMATION NOTE

Promotion of ECO Flex and free green home surveys

15 January 2025

ECO Flex scheme

North Herts Council is working in partnership with the National Energy Foundation to promote the ECO4 and Great British Insulation Flexible Eligibility schemes (known as ECO4 Flex and GBIS). These government energy efficiency schemes, which are administered by Ofgem, place obligations on energy companies to promote measures that improve the ability of low-income, fuel-poor and vulnerable households to heat their homes.

Our participation in the scheme as a local authority broadens the eligibility of residents in North Herts to access funding as they may now be eligible if they are considered vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home, particularly those with long-term health issues.

We have published a new energy efficiency schemes and advice webpage which covers the ECO Flex scheme. This includes a flowchart to help residents identify if they may qualify for the scheme. Broadly, the three routes for residents living in poorly insulated homes to qualify for the scheme are:

- Gross household income below £31,000;
- A referral from the NHS related to severe health conditions impacted by living in a cold home; or
- A combination of proxies for vulnerable households such as council tax discount, children qualifying for free school meals or referral from Citizen's Advice

On the ECO Flex webpage we have also published the Statement of Intent which sets out that the council is participating in the scheme and will be used by installers

locally to target locations in North Herts that are likely to be eligible through direct mail and social media.

The webpage is at: <https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/energy-efficiency-schemes-and-advice>

Free green home surveys

We are also promoting free home surveys and personalised advice to help residents enhance their home's energy efficiency through SuperHomes Herts and Beds. This government funded scheme is delivered by the National Energy Foundation on behalf of the Greater South East Net Zero Hub.

Through to the end of March, homeowners in North Herts can receive a free home survey conducted by a qualified Retrofit Coordinator, followed by a bespoke plan for their home that provides independent advice to lower their energy bills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

To qualify for a free survey, homes must be below 150m².

Links:

<https://superhomes.org.uk/beds-herts/>

Request for members

Please do share the webpage with your constituents via your own channels to encourage those who may qualify to take up the ECO Flex scheme.

For more information please contact:

James Lees
Climate Change Project Manager
Tel: 01462 474 183
Email: james.lees@north-herts.gov.uk

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: HOUSING AND ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH

1. DECISION TAKEN

- 1.1 The allocation of up to £80k of Homelessness Prevention Grant funding, received from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for 2024/25, to Beam Up Ltd for the provision of a specialist service to help local homeless people into private rented sector accommodation.

2. DECISION TAKER

- 2.1 Jo Doggett, Service Director – Housing and Environmental Health

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

- 3.1 20 November 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 Demand for Council homelessness services remain high and affordable housing options for homeless clients are extremely limited. A specialist service to assist clients into private rented accommodation will provide a valuable addition to local housing options and ease pressure on temporary accommodation demands.
- 4.2 The Council has received a top-up allocation of £197k of Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) for 2024/25, which is ring-fenced for use in the delivery of services to prevent and tackle homelessness.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None. Homelessness Prevention Grant is ring-fenced for use in the delivery of services to prevent and tackle homelessness and the Council has legal duties under homelessness legislation to accommodate priority groups of homeless people.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 The Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health, Cllr Dave Winstanley, has been consulted and is supportive of this decision.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 As a local housing authority, the Council has legal duties to assist households who are homeless or who are threatened with homelessness, and to provide accommodation for homeless households in 'priority need' – primarily families and vulnerable individuals. The Council also has a duty to provide emergency

accommodation for homeless applicants who it has reason to believe may be in priority need whilst inquiries are being conducted. The Council no longer owns or manages any housing stock and it therefore works with housing providers to meet local needs.

- 8.2 Demand for homelessness services remains high with the Council owing legal prevention and relief duties to close to 500 households over 2023/24 and main accommodation duties to 131 households. Almost two-thirds of households had a support need, including poor mental and physical health and experiences of abuse: 41% had two or more support needs. The stock of temporary (emergency) accommodation to which the Council has access to is correspondingly under continuous pressure, operating at full capacity and waiting lists mean that the Council is still reliant on placing some households in hotels. At the end of October, there were 9 households in hotels [another 4 in other nightly paid units].
- 8.3 The pressure on temporary accommodation is exacerbated by the lack of move-on options for many households in temporary accommodation, particularly those who do not qualify for social housing in the district (managed via the Common Housing Register). These include people with criminal convictions, past anti-social behaviour and an unstable housing history and represent some of our most challenging clients, not least because they typically present with multiple support needs. The private rented sector is one option for this cohort, however demand is high locally and stock is scarce.
- 8.4 Beam is a social enterprise that specialises in supporting individuals experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness, providing them with personalised wrap-around support to help them into private rented housing and employment. Clients will be supported throughout the process of searching for and securing a suitable private rented property including negotiating with landlords, support to prepare for interviews and 12 months' tenancy sustainment support. The Council will fund deposits, rent up front and moving costs where appropriate out of existing funding (making use of Discretionary Housing Payments and the Black Squirrel affordable loans scheme. For households who require an increased budget to afford private rented accommodation, Beam will support clients to secure employment via a dedicated job coach.
- 8.5 The minimum cost of the service is £45,000 (£4,500 fee to deliver 10 PRS housing outcomes) and an additional amount of £3,500 fee per employment outcome if employment is needed to enable the targeted PRS outcomes. If, for example, 10 employment outcomes were needed to reach the 10 PRS outcomes, then a budget of £80,000 will be required. We estimate approximately 5 of the 10 PRS outcomes may need job outcomes for affordability reviewing the success of the year 1 pilot, which would equate to a total contract value of £62,500.
- 8.6 There is an increased cost for this service as we are asking Beam to target our most challenging clients including ex-offenders and rough sleepers, who find access to the private rented sector very difficult, with more intense wrap around support needed.
- 8.7 Beam has provided a pilot service in the district for the past 18 months for a broader cohort of clients. During this time, Beam has supported 16 North Herts residents to secure and sustain private rented sector tenancies and helped 10 residents into secure, stable employment.
- 8.8 The Council receives allocations of Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), which is ring fenced to support delivery of services to prevent and tackle homelessness. The most recent allocation from MHCLG is for two years, 2023/24 – 2024/25, totalling just over £1.1m over the two-year period (£564k for 2023/24 and £579k for

2024/25). This funding has now all been allocated, agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 27 June 2023 and by the Director for Housing and Environmental Health under delegated authority on 15 May 2024. The Council has now received an additional top-up allocation of £197,376 of HPG for 2024/25 and proposals for the allocation of the remaining amount are scheduled to be considered by the Cabinet in February 2025.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Under the Contract Procurement Rules (11), the Council is not required to undertake a full tendering procedure if it is appropriate to call-off from an approved external Framework Agreement.

9.2 Services from Beam Up Ltd have been procured via call-off from the G-Cloud 14 Framework Agreement (Lot 2). This Agreement can be accessed by central government departments and all other public sector bodies, including local authorities. The call-off contract that the Council and Beam have entered into allows for the Council to extend the call-off contract by one period of up to 12 months, should it wish to.

9.3 When agreeing the Adoption of a new Housing Strategy (2024-2029) in March 2024, the Cabinet also resolved the following:

For matters that are not reserved for Cabinet, delegated to the Director of Housing and Environmental Health in conjunction with the Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health, the power to decide on the specific allocation of homelessness funding received from central government in order to meet homelessness priorities, for the duration of the Strategy.

9.4 The decision in this report meets the MHCLG's requirements for use of the HPG, which is ring-fenced for use in the delivery of services to prevent and tackle homelessness.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Council receives allocations of Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) which is ring-fenced to support delivery of services to prevent and tackle homelessness. The Council received a top-up to this grant of £197,376 for 2024/25.

10.2 The cost of the Beam service is up to £80,000 for one year which will be fully funded from HPG, with the contract due to commence in January 2025.

10.3 There are no specific capital implications.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The Beam service provides a valuable additional housing option for local people facing homelessness. Without this option, there is a risk that clients will not be able to resolve their homelessness, resulting in negative outcomes for individuals as well as putting financial pressure on the Council, which faces continuing costs from having to accommodate clients in hotels due to lack of housing options locally.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 12.2 This scheme is designed to assist a specific client group – namely those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness - as dictated by the source of funding (HPG). The client group includes vulnerable individuals particularly those with support needs due to poor mental and physical health for example. Minority ethnic groups, LGBTQ+ individuals and young people are more likely to experience homelessness.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act does not apply to this decision.
- 13.2 Beam was the only supplier identified via the G-Cloud Framework and although it is not based in the district, its services will be supporting activity in the local housing and jobs markets.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 There are no human resource implications.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 None.

17. APPENDICES

- 17.1 None.

NOTIFICATION DATE: 22 November 2024

Signature of Executive Member Consulted:



Signature of Decision Taker:

Service Director – Housing and Environmental Health

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.

Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road,
Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3JF
on Tuesday, 14th January, 2025 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 MINUTES - 19 NOVEMBER AND 26 NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 19 November 2024 and 26 November 2024 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be recorded.
- (2) The Chair reminded Members that the Council had declared both a Climate Emergency and an Ecological Emergency. These are serious decisions, and mean that, as this was an emergency, all of us, Officers and Members had that in mind as we carried out our various roles and tasks for the benefit of our District.
- (3) The Chair drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.
- (4) The Chair advised for the purposes of clarification that 4.8.23(a) of the Constitution did not apply to this meeting.
- (5) The Chair advised of a change in the order of the agenda. Agenda Item 17 would be considered after Agenda Item 21.
- (6) The Chair advised that a supplementary document had been published for Agenda Item 21, 'Decarbonisation of Leisure Centres Update', with a cover report which superseded the cover report in the main agenda pack.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at the meeting.

6 ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

The Chair advised that the items referred from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Finance Audit and Risk Committee would be taken with the respective items on the agenda.

7 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

8 LEISURE AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES AGENCY MODEL - PART 2

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Agreed in principle to entering into an Agency Agreement with SLM (Everyone Active) for the operation of our leisure facilities and varying the Contract in accordance with the external Part 2 Appendix C legal advice and Part 2 legal implications.
- (2) Delegated the final decision on entering into the Agency Agreement to the Service Director – Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Leisure, Environment and Green Spaces and the Executive Member for Finance and IT and Service Directors – Resources and Legal & Community.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure the maximum financial sustainability of our leisure services, in line with our council priorities.

9 LEISURE AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES AGENCY MODEL - PART 1

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Agreed in principle to entering into an Agency Agreement with SLM (Everyone Active) for the operation of our leisure facilities and varying the Contract in accordance with the external Part 2 Appendix C legal advice and Part 2 legal implications.
- (2) Delegated the final decision on entering into the Agency Agreement to the Service Director – Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Leisure, Environment and Green Spaces and the Executive Member for Finance and IT and Service Directors – Resources and Legal & Community.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure the maximum financial sustainability of our leisure services, in line with our council priorities.

10 CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE REPORT

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted the content of the Corporate Peer Challenge report and its recommendations.
- (2) Requested that the Managing Director, Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader develop an action plan responding to the recommendations in the Corporate Peer Challenge report, to be reported to Cabinet on 18 March 2025.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To ensure that the Council responds to the matters identified within the CPC report, ensuring that the benefits of the CPC process are realised.

11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN'S REPORT OF FAILINGS IN THE INVESTIGATION OF STATUTORY NOISE NUISANCE BY NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (REF NO: 23 014 065)

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Considered the LGO report.
- (2) Noted the LGO recommended action compliance information as in para 7.2 – 7.3 below.
- (3) Considered the measures that the Environmental Health Service has put / will put in place to prevent the recurrence of the failings.
- (4) Noted that the Council's Comments, Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure will be reviewed in 2025, to potentially include remedies, and supporting guidance will be issued for Officers.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: The revisions to section 14 of the Constitution relating to LGO decisions and payments, as detailed under section 8.5 of this report [extract as follows deletion/amendment underlined]

8.5 In terms of recommendation 2.5, the proposed wording to amend section 14.6.5/ 14.6.13 of the Constitution, would assist with ensuring that this matter is discussed between the three statutory officers (Head of Paid Service, Section 151 and Monitoring Officers), with the removal of the settlement limit to reflect the increasing awards now being made by the LGO. It should be noted that at the time the compensation payment of £3,000 was made, this was not in line with the original delegation (albeit under the Managing Director's general delegation to make such a payment above £2,000, on urgency grounds, under section 14.6.5(a)(iv)). **The proposed amended wording would be:**

14.6.5(a)(xiii) Managing Director's delegation, to be amended (as underlined):
"(xiii) To consider any report of the Local Government Ombudsman and to settle any compensation payments up to £2000 (in conjunction with the section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer)"

14.6.13 Proper Officers Schedule to be amended as (as underlined):
"Local Government Act 1974 S.30(5) To give notice ~~and that~~ copies of an Ombudsman's report, in draft and final ~~are available to the~~ Managing Director, and Monitoring Officer (where maladministration identified)"

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) Recommendations 2.1-2.4 are to cover the issues that have arisen / linked to the LGO in its report dated 19 September 2024, titled 'Investigation into a complaint about North Hertfordshire District Council (reference number: 23 014 065)', appended at A, and in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer, are necessary steps for the Council in this matter.
- (2) Recommendation 2.5 is to recognise the wider involvement of the statutory officers in such matters and specifically in relation to the issue of compensation, to increase notification and flexibility.

12 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved the Local Development Scheme, attached at Appendix A.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION: To provide an up-to-date timetable on the production of an updated Local Plan in accordance with the requirements of national legislation and policy.

13 STRATEGIC PLANNING MATTERS

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

(1) Noted the report on strategic planning matters.

(2) Endorsed the documents at Appendices A – D.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS: To keep Cabinet informed of recent developments on strategic planning matters.

14 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2025/2026

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

(1) Noted the cost of the scheme was currently £9.18m noting that this is not an actual cost but a reduction of the amount of council tax collected.

(2) Noted that the Discretionary Exceptional Hardship Scheme, previously agreed to provide additional transitional support would continue to be used to support cases of exceptional hardship.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That the continuation of the banded scheme for working age applicants which remains largely unchanged for 2025/2026, a small adjustment to the income bands to reflect CPI has been incorporated to ensure the scheme continues to support those most in need.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: To ensure that the Council has a Council Tax Reduction Scheme that continues to:

- Provide the greatest support to the lowest income households.
- Reduce the administrative burden that has been placed on the Council since the introduction of Universal Credit (UC).
- Be simple to understand, meaning that customers will be able to calculate entitlement and assess the impact of potential changes in circumstances.

15 REPORT ON RISK MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE (MID-YEAR UPDATE)

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

(1) Noted the mid-year Risk Management governance update.

(2) Approved the changes to the Risk Management Framework.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

(1) The responsibility for ensuring the management of risks is that of Cabinet.

- (2) This Committee has responsibility to monitor the effective development and operation of Risk Management.

16 SECOND QUARTER REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2024/25

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted this report.
- (2) Approved the changes to the 2024/25 General Fund budget, as identified in table 3 and paragraph 8.2, a £550k decrease in net expenditure.
- (3) Noted the changes to the 2025/26 General Fund budget, as identified in table 3 and paragraph 8.2, a total £306k increase in net expenditure. These will be incorporated in the draft revenue budget for 2025/26.
- (4) Approved the debt write-offs detailed in paragraphs 8.16 and 8.17.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: Members are able to monitor, make adjustments within the overall budgetary framework and request appropriate action of Services who do not meet the budget targets set as part of the Corporate Business Planning process.

18 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR 2025/26 ONWARDS

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted the Council's expected funding for 2025/26.
- (2) Confirmed (in line with the Medium-Term Financial Strategy) that budget forecasts should be based on increasing Council Tax by 2.99% (the maximum amount allowable without a local referendum). Noting that Government have assumed Council Tax will increase by the maximum allowed in calculating Core Spending Power.
- (3) Noted that the Council may see real-term reductions in its funding in future years.
- (4) Agreed. in context of the above, which proposals (revenue and capital) should be taken forward as part of the budget-setting process for 2025/26.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To ensure that all relevant factors are considered in arriving at a proposed budget, Investment Strategy and Council Tax level for 2025/26, to be considered by Full Council on 27 February 2025.

19 COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2024-25 (QUARTER 2 UPDATE)

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted the progress against Council projects as set out in the Council Delivery Plan and approves the changes to the milestones (Appendix A).
- (2) Noted the performance against the performance indicators and confirms the actions detailed in paragraph 8.4.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: The Council Delivery Plan (CDP) monitoring reports provide Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Cabinet, with an opportunity to monitor progress against the key Council projects, and understand any new issues, risks, or opportunities.

20 GARDEN WASTE CHARGE

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approve the garden waste subscription charge for the period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026, at £55.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure the Council's garden waste service is financially sustainable, in line with the priorities of the Council and of the Shared waste service.

21 DECARBONISATION OF LEISURE CENTRES UPDATE

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agreed in principle to proceed with Option 4a as detailed in paragraph 8.9.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: To proceed with Option 4a and approve the additional forecast capital and ongoing revenue costs (including revenue costs of capital) and note the ongoing project risks.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: To identify the most appropriate way forward for the leisure centre decarbonisation project, taking into account both the environmental benefits of the project and the impact on the Council's wider financial position.

17 SECOND QUARTER INVESTMENT STRATEGY (CAPITAL AND TREASURY) REVIEW 2024/25

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted the forecast expenditure of £16.999M in 2024/25 on the capital programme, paragraph 8.3 refers as amended by the decision to reduce the slippage on museum storage.
- (2) Noted the position of the availability of capital resources, as detailed in table 4 paragraph 8.6 and the requirement to keep the capital programme under review for affordability.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That it:

- (1) Notes the position of Treasury Management activity as at the end of September 2024.
- (2) Approves capital budget in 2025/26 for a new flume (£300k) and a refurbishment of the pool changing rooms (£330k) at North Herts Leisure Centre, subject to the revised assessments following the decision by Cabinet regarding Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme on 14 January 2025.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) Cabinet is required to approve adjustments to the capital programme and ensure the capital programme is fully funded.
- (2) To ensure the Council's continued compliance with CIPFA's code of practice on Treasury Management and the Local Government Act 2003 and that the Council manages its exposure to interest and capital risk.
- (3) The proposal to approve the 2025/26 capital budgets at North Herts Leisure Centre in January (rather than in the usual budget report at the end of February) means that the works can take place at the same time as the decarbonisation works, and therefore not require two periods where the pool cannot be used. It also provides a more obvious benefit to users of the facility.

(Including Withdrawn decisions)

EAST TEAM

Application No: 24/01882/FP	Location: 2 Pledgers Place Barkway Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8DQ Applicant Name: Mr John Swain Description: Erection of one 3-bed dwelling including associated parking, landscaping and works following demolition of existing fire damaged 3-bed dwelling.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/01936/FP	Location: 5 - 9 Commerce Way Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3DN Applicant Name: Specsavers Specsavers Optical Stores Description: Alterations to shopfront, removal of existing side elevation access doors and installation of No.17 AC condenser units to existing roof and elevations.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02185/FP	Location: Red Brick Cottage The Street Kelshall Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9SQ Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Cordell Description: Erection of detached 3-bed dwelling following demolition of garage and store buildings (redesign of application 23/02851/FP).	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02383/FP	Location: Woodcroft Picknagge Road Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8HP Applicant Name: Mr. Neil Ashford Description: Erection of detached garage and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing outbuilding. Front porch with roof to extend over existing attached garage and replace existing front garage door with windows to facilitate garage conversion. Replace existing first floor side balcony with glazed infill and replace existing No.2 rear dormer windows with No.1 box dormer. Installation of external cladding and alterations to fenestration (as amended by plans received on 17/12/2024).	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02432/DOC	Location: Land Between Royston Road And Cambridge Road Barkway Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Miss Chloe Howkins Redrow South Midlands Description: Details reserved by Condition 21 (Drainage scheme) of outline planning permission reference 18/01502/OP granted on 25.07.2024	Decision: Withdrawn Decision Date: 09/01/2025
Application No: 24/02468/FP	Location: 20 Redhoods Way East Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4DF Applicant Name: Mr M Knight Description: Part two storey and single storey side and rear extension including first floor rear glazed balcony following demolition of existing detached garage.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 10/01/2025
Application No: 24/02548/FP	Location: 64 Southfields Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4LZ Applicant Name: Matt Dilley Description: Single storey side extension following demolition of existing side extension	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02550/FP	Location: 50 Broadwater Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3HJ Applicant Name: Mr Will Beverley Description: Single storey rear extension, alterations to openings and hard landscaping works following demolition of existing detached garage	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 09/01/2025

EAST TEAM

Application No: 24/02610/AD	Location: 4 Kneesworth Street Royston Hertfordshire SG8 5AA Applicant Name: Benjamin Budd Nelson Land Limited Description: 1 no. illuminated fascia sign, 1 no. illuminated projecting sign and various ground floor window signage.	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02637/FPH	Location: 3 Ascot Drive Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1FZ Applicant Name: Mr Tharanga De Silva Description: Insertion of ground floor front window following removal of existing garage door to facilitate garage conversion into habitable accommodation	Decision: Refused Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02695/LDCP	Location: 82 King James Way Royston Hertfordshire SG8 7EF Applicant Name: Mrs Sue North Description: Single storey side and rear extensions	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02746/FPH	Location: 30 Park Drive Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6EN Applicant Name: Mr Richard Webb Description: Single storey side extension.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02773/TPO	Location: South Lodge Mews South Road Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6FB Applicant Name: Mrs Apryl Goodwin Settle Description: T1 Oak - Prune back to previous points	Decision: Conditional Consent Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02819/TCA	Location: Manor Farm Barns Church End Barley Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Mrs Katy Raven Description: T1: Walnut - Crown reduce by 20% (1m all round) crown lift to 2m	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02833/LDCE	Location: 12 Newmarket Road Royston Hertfordshire SG8 7DY Applicant Name: Mr and Mrs Kay Description: Insertion of first floor, side facing obscure glazed window.	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02843/NMA	Location: Land North Of 2 Millers Close Picknagge Road Barley Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Mr Matt Callanan The Trustees WT & RZ Doggett Description: Remove ground floor side window to Plot A, removal of rooflights to front elevations, addition of No.1 rooflight to rear elevation of Plot B and amendment to ground floor rear elevations to include bi-fold doors on all plots. (as non-material amendment to planning permission reference 23/02948/FP granted on 29.07.2024).	Decision: Agreed Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02844/LDCE	Location: 1A Pryor Road Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6LJ Applicant Name: Mr Alan Shelford Focusstructural LTD Description: Solar panels on front roofslope	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02873/TCA	Location: Nightingales Jacksons Lane Reed Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8AB Applicant Name: John Rossiter Description: Cherry - Remove	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 14/01/2025
Application No: 24/02880/AG	Location: Lowerfield Farm Royston Road Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8HH Applicant Name: Mr G Wilkerson GC & JC Wilkerson Description: Erection of agricultural grain store and associated hardstanding.	Decision: Prior Approval Not Required Decision Date: 10/01/2025

EAST TEAM

Application No: 24/02896/TCA
Location: The Wolery The Close Hinxworth Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5HS
Applicant Name: Mr Tony Lloyd
Description: T1, T2: Silver Birch - Fell to ground level.
Decision: No Objection
Decision Date: 14/01/2025

Application No: 25/00016/TCA
Location: Flat 10 Kennedy Court Fish Hill Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9JZ
Applicant Name: Firstport
Description: T1, T2: Yew - Cut back to boundary wall. T3: Silver Birch - Reduce by approx 2m. T4: Whitebeam - Reduce by approx 1.5m.
Decision: No Objection
Decision Date: 14/01/2025

Application No: 25/00038/TCA
Location: Crossways London Road Barley Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8JB
Applicant Name: Mrs Louisa Barratt
Description: T1, T2, T3: Plum - Reduce height by approx 25-30%. T4: Red Plum - Thin and crown reduce approx 25%.
Decision: No Objection
Decision Date: 14/01/2025

Application No: 25/00060/TCA
Location: Mulberry Court Upper King Street Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9AZ
Applicant Name: Hollie Christie
Description: T1: Mulberry - Prune by 1m
Decision: No Objection
Decision Date: 14/01/2025

WEST TEAM

Application No: 23/02396/DOC
Location: Old Forge House 55 West Street Lilley Luton Hertfordshire LU2 8LH
Applicant Name: Mrs Elena Cooper
Description: Details reserved by condition 5 (Timber Windows and Doors) of listed building consent reference no 23/00192/LBC 18.07.2023
Decision: Approval of Details
Decision Date: 13/01/2025

Application No: 23/02492/FP
Location: Land At Roundwood Back Lane Graveley Hertfordshire
Applicant Name: Mr Richard Kelly Croudace Homes
Description: Residential development of 292 dwellings and associated roads, parking, drainage, landscaping, open space, servicing facilities and associated works.
Decision: Withdrawn
Decision Date: 15/01/2025

Application No: 23/02838/FP
Location: Wrights Farm Shillington Road Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3QJ
Applicant Name: Ms Anna Mayers Herts County Council
Description: Erection of 2 x 3-bed dwellings with detached single garages, 2 x 2-bed bungalows and conversion of Listed Barn into 1 x 4-bed dwelling with triple detached garage following demolition of existing farm buildings with associated hard surfacing and landscaping
Decision: Withdrawn
Decision Date: 13/01/2025

Application No: 24/00329/FP
Location: 137 Stevenage Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9DT
Applicant Name: Mr Rama Coceal
Description: Erection of one detached 3-bed dwelling including parking, landscaping and creation of vehicular access off Folly Close
Appeal Decision: Appeal Dismissed
Decision Date: 14/01/2025

Application No: 24/00708/LBC
Location: Wrights Farm Shillington Road Pirton Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3QJ
Applicant Name: Ms Anna Mayers Hertfordshire County Council
Description: Two storey extension and internal and external alterations to existing agricultural barn to facilitate conversion into one 4-bed dwelling.
Decision: Withdrawn
Decision Date: 13/01/2025

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/00878/FPH	Location: 3 Brook View Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NY Applicant Name: Talia Galloway Description: First floor front extension. Alterations to roof including hip to gable roof extension; raised height of existing chimney and insertion of front and rear box dormer windows including rear balcony to facilitate conversion of loft into habitable accommodation. Alterations to fenestration	Appeal Decision: Appeal Dismissed Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/01231/FPH	Location: 3 Fountain Row Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NR Applicant Name: Shabana Asghar Description: Erection of carport structure and installation of front boundary fence. (Development already carried out).	Appeal Decision: Appeal Part Allowed Decision Date: 14/01/2025
Application No: 24/01808/DOC	Location: Land To The North And East Of Great Wymondley Arch Road Great Wymondley Hertfordshire Applicant Name: AGR Solar 4 Limited Description: Details reserved by condition 20 (Soil Management Plan) of planning permission reference no 21/03380/FP granted 11.03.2024	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 09/01/2025
Application No: 24/02447/FPH	Location: 6 The Drive Blackmore End St Albans Hertfordshire AL4 8LF Applicant Name: Mrs Anna Edward Description: Part two storey and part single storey rear extension and single storey side extension following demolition of existing side element and chimney. Alterations to existing attached garage to include alterations to fenestration and insertion of side rooflights following removal of existing garage doors to facilitate garage conversion into ancillary annexe/games room. Alterations to openings	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02463/FPH	Location: 30 Uplands Avenue Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NH Applicant Name: K & I Shelverton & Elliott Description: Two storey rear extension following demolition of existing outbuilding. Insertion of rooflights to existing front element roofslope to provide storage space at first floor level. Timber side storage and alterations to fenestration.	Decision: Refused Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02546/FPH	Location: 40 Holwell Road Holwell Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 3SG Applicant Name: Mrs Vikki Murray Description: Creation of vehicular access off Holwell Road	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02563/S73	Location: Land At Turnpike Lane And Adjacent To 4 Manor Close Turnpike Lane Ickleford Hertfordshire Applicant Name: Mr R Grantham Troy Homes Description: Variation of condition 2 (revised plans) of planning permission 24/01031/S73 granted for erection of eight dwellings comprising of 3 pairs of semi-detached dwellings (6 x 3-bed) and two detached 4-bed dwellings including integral garages (plots 1 and 8) with a new access spur from the Lodge Court, on-site parking, landscaping.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 10/01/2025
Application No: 24/02566/DOC	Location: Wellington House 2 Park Street Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9AH Applicant Name: Scot Moir Description: Details reserved by condition 3 (Details of Working Drawings) of listed building consent 24/01441/LBC granted 02.10.2024	Decision: Approval of Details Decision Date: 09/01/2025
Application No: 24/02588/FPH	Location: 5 Brockett Drive Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0LL Applicant Name: Samantha Lyden Description: Insertion of front and rear ground floor windows following removal of existing garage doors to facilitate garage conversion	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025

WEST TEAM

Application No: 24/02597/FPH	Location: Mansard Newlands Close West Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9BA Applicant Name: Mr Phil Parry Description: First floor side extension; insertion of rear projecting window and alterations to dormers and openings and new dormers and openings throughout, following demolition of existing rear conservatory. Replacement roof tiles	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02639/FPH	Location: 52 Ninesprings Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NR Applicant Name: George and Helen Godfrey and Tilley Description: Two storey side extension following demotion of existing attached garage. Front mono-pitch roof and alterations fenestration.	Decision: Conditional Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02680/LDCP	Location: Maran Cottage 145 High Street Codicote Hertfordshire SG4 8UB Applicant Name: Mr Darren Patel Description: Alterations to existing garage to facilitate conversion to home office	Decision: Granted Permission Decision Date: 13/01/2025
Application No: 24/02693/FPH	Location: The Garden House Putteridge Park Luton Hertfordshire LU2 8LD Applicant Name: Mr And Mrs Jim Horsted Description: Two storey side extension. Alterations to fenestration	Decision: Refused Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02838/SU	Location: Long Acre Luffenhall Luffenhall Stevenage Hertfordshire SG2 7PX Applicant Name: Kerry Ruffles UK Power Networks Description: Relocation of existing overhead line.	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 15/01/2025
Application No: 24/02883/EC	Location: Telecommunications Mast The Water Tower Horn Hill Whitwell Hertfordshire Applicant Name: John Tsoi Telent Technology Services Ltd Description: Remove and replace 3no antennas with associated equipment works	Decision: No Objection Decision Date: 10/01/2025

EAST TEAM

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
25/00021/PREAJ		Land Between Bedford Station And Cambridge Station Karen Wilkinson Development Consent under the Planning Act 2008.

Baldock

24/02917/LDCP	Octagon Design & Consultancy Mr Trevor Johnson 2A Bournemouth Road, Stevenage, SG1 2PN	6 Holroyd Crescent Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6EH Mrs Zoe Sewell Insertion of front rooflight and rear box dormer to existing roofslope to facilitate conversion of loftspace into habitable accommodation.
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Barkway Parish Council

25/00063/TCA	Mr Gareth Broad GWB Horticulture LTD 11 The Meads, Wicken Road, Wicken Bonhunt, CB11 3UJ	43 High Street Barkway Royston Hertfordshire SG8 8EA Jenny Warren T1: Holly - Reduce height by approx 2m to 3m. Light pruning on the sides and overall width by approx 1m. T2: Apple - Reduce height by approx. 2.5m. Prune back the sides by approx 1m on all sides. Crown to be thinned, remove deadwood, shape and balance.
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Barley Parish Council

24/02880/AG	Cannon Consulting Fiona Cannon Hyde Hall Farm, Sandon, Buntingford, SG9 0RU, United Kingdom	Lowerfield Farm Royston Road Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8HH Mr G Wilkerson Erection of agricultural grain store and associated hardstanding.
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25/00087/TCA	Mr Philip Chapman Sacombebury Stables, Sacombe Park, Sacombe, Ware, Herts, SG12 0SA	Land Adjacent To Peartree Cottage Smiths End Lane Barley Hertfordshire SG8 8LH Mr Philip Chapman T1: Walnut, T2: Acer, T3 Cyprus - Fell
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Kelshall Parish Meeting

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 06/02/2025**

24/02908/PNQ	Sworders James Salmon The Gatehouse, Hadham Hall, Little Hadham, Ware, SG11 2EB	Fear End Fears Green Sandon Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0QY	Ms Rosemary Campbell	Conversion of agricultural buildings into 7 residential dwellings
Letchworth Garden City				
24/02849/FPH	Home Extension Team Miss Georgia Hayes 4 Brand Street, Hitchin, SG5 1HX, United Kingdom	116 Swift Close Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4LH	Mr and Mrs Cunningham	Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.
24/02859/LBC	MSAD Architectural Design Ltd Mark Scott Bancroft House, 34 Bancroft, Hitchin, SG5 1LA	38 Sollershott East Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3JN	Greensides	Re-position first floor En-suite previously approved under Listed Building Consent 16/01271/1LB granted 14.07.2016
24/02909/FPH	D.Chandler Architectural Design Ltd Mr Daniel Chandler 61 Gernon Road, Letchworth, SG6 3HS, United Kingdom	77 Cowslip Hill Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4EX	Mr Caspar De Haes	Erection of detached outbuilding/home office.
24/02912/FPH	Inigo Architecture Ltd Mr Neil Hansford The Firs, 81 Station Road, Lower Stondon, SG16 6JN	10 Sollershott East Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3PL	Mr & Mrs Stephen Bradley	Single storey rear extension following demolition existing single storey rear extension.
24/02913/FPH	Houghton Architecture Ltd Mr Mark Houghton Suite 83, Enterprise House, 86 Bancroft, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1NQ	9 Field Lane Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LF	Ms R Ryan	Single storey front porch extension following demolition of existing porch

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
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24/02918/FPH	CMYK John Brindley 6 The Gavel Centre, Porters Wood, St Albans, AL3 6PQ, United Kingdom	49 Redhoods Way West Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4DD
		Mr N Minter Single storey rear extension; insertion of rear rooflights and alterations to fenestration following demolition of existing rear element. Hardscaping works
24/02926/FPH	G2 Architecture Mr. George Dobson Moat House, Brickendonbury Estate, Hertford, SG13 8NL, United Kingdom	31 Pixmore Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1RJ
		Mr Alan Bryant Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory and partial demolition of existing outbuilding.
25/00066/TCA	Mrs Kerrie Morris Branching Out Tree and Garden Services 38 Station Road, Lower Stondon, SG16 6JL	71 High Avenue Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3QR
		Miss Gemma Chapman Willow - Reduce up to a 50%
25/00074/TCA	Mrs Wendy Read Evolution Tree Works Services Limited 29 Offley Road, Hitchin, SG5 2AZ	43 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PS
		Mrs Anne Madlung Apple - Fell. 4 x Ellwoodii Conifer - Fell.
25/00075/TCA	Mrs Kerrie Morris Branching Out Tree and Garden Services 38 Station Road, LOWER STONDON, SG16 6JL	9 Birds Hill Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1PL
		Mrs Marian Adams Norway Maple - Re-Pollard. Holly, Cypress - Up to 1m reduction.
25/00079/TCA	Mrs Kerrie Morris Branching Out Tree and Garden Services 38 Station Road, LOWER STONDON, SG16 6JL	17 The Quadrant Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4TY
		Mr John Wright Silver Birch, Plum, Apple, 3x Pear - Up to a 25% reduction. Plum - Fell.
25/00086/TCA	Mrs Georgina Gentry ROBINSON TREE SERVICES LTD Beech Farm, Coopers Green Lane, St. Albans, AL4 9HP, United Kingdom	66 Glebe Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1DR
		Mr Tony Greenwood GB29: Ash - Fell to ground level. GB28: Beech - Fell to ground level

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 06/02/2025**

25/00124/TCA Mr Mike Horscroft Root To Crown 68 Lawrence Avenue
Ltd Letchworth Garden City
15 Ouse Way, Biggleswade, SG18 Hertfordshire
8PZ, United Kingdom SG6 2EZ

Ms Emma Deering

T1: Field Maple, T2: Plum, T3: Cherry, T4: Sycamore - Fell to ground level. T5: Field Maple - Reduce overhang, max of 2.5m.
T6: Silver Birch, T7: Cherry, T8 Hazel - Reduce the overhang by up to 2m.

Radwell Parish Meeting

24/02547/PNW Mr Jonathan Northern Land At
Radwell Bury Farm, Radwell, Radwell Bury Farm
Baldock, Baldock, SG7 5ES, United Kingdom Radwell Lane
Radwell
Hertfordshire

Mr Jonathan Northern

Installation of farm track

Royston Town Council

25/00092/TPO Diane Hatton 3 Echo Hill
3 Echo Hill, Royston, SG8 9BB, Royston
United Kingdom Hertfordshire
SG8 9BB

Diane Hatton

T1: Beech - Lifting of the crown by reduction of 4 horizontal reaching side branches. 1 side branch at approx. 6m above the ground. 1 side branch at approx. 6.5 m above the ground. 2 side branches at approx. 7 m above the ground. T2: Beech - Lifting of the crown by reduction of 2 side branches located at approx. 4.5 m above ground on the main trunk.

25/00098/TPO Oliver Dupuy 23 St Marys Park
23 St Marys Park, Royston, SG8 Royston
7XB, United Kingdom Hertfordshire
SG8 7XB

Oliver Dupuy

T1, T2: Sycamore, T3: Horse Chestnut, T4: Lime, T5, T6: Horse Chestnut, T7: Cherry - Prune back to previous points.

Sandon Parish Council

24/02832/FPH Intouch Planning Ltd Mr James The Willows
Gran Roe Green
4 Ennismore Close, Letchworth Sandon
Garden City, SG6 2SU, United Buntingford
Kingdom Hertfordshire
SG9 0QE

Mr and Mrs Chase

Erection of detached ancillary annexe with home office and store following demolition of existing car port

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 06/02/2025**

24/02863/FPH Snell David Cambridge Ltd Mr
Merrick Baltruschat
Scutches Barn, 17 High Street,
Whittlesford, Cambridgeshire,
CB224LT, United Kingdom

Mill End Farmhouse
Mill End
Sandon
Buntingford
Hertfordshire
SG9 0RP

Mr John Davies

Erection of single storey pool house including solar roof panels and installation of outdoor swimming pool

Therfield Parish Council

24/02690/FPH Mr Miles Green
6 Tuthill Court, Kelshall Tops,
Therfield, Royston, Hertfordshire,
SG8 9TT

6 Tuthill Court
Kelshall Tops
Therfield
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 9TT

Mr Miles Green

Installation of free standing air source heat pump in rear garden to replace existing oil boiler.

Weston Parish Council

25/00077/TCA Mr Fred Burkitt The Blue Tree
Company
50 Bunyan Road, Hitchin, SG5 1NN

Green End Cottage
Green End
Weston
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG4 7AL

Mr Fred Burkitt

T1: Maple - Pollard back to previous points. T2: Ash - Fell to ground level. T3: Tree of Heaven - Fell to ground level.

WEST TEAM

Application No.	Applicant/Agent Address	Location Address, Applicant Name & Proposal
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Codicote Parish Council

24/02911/LDCP Home Extension Designs Ltd Mr
Stuart Cook
HED House, 60A Bridge Road East,
Welwyn Garden City, AL7 1JU

27 Grange Rise
Codicote
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG4 8YR

Mr & Mrs James & Vicky Curnow

Insertion of rear box dormer, second floor side window and 2no front roof lights to facilitate conversion of loft into habitable accommodation

Graveley Parish Council

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 06/02/2025**

24/02889/FP	Stantec Mr Paul Derry 50/60 Station Road, Cambridge, CB1 2JH, United Kingdom	Land At Roundwood Back Lane Graveley Hertfordshire Mr Richard Kelly Residential development of 281 dwellings and associated roads, parking, realignment of Back Lane, drainage, landscaping, open space, servicing facilities and associated works
Hitchin		
24/02069/AD	Mr Adrian Mariadas Mcdonalds Restaurant Nightingale Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1RQ	Mcdonalds Restaurant Nightingale Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1RQ Mr Adrian Mariadas Installation of hoarding sign. (Development already carried out).
24/02223/FPH	Mr Colin Rowe Mr Colin Rowe 38 Ferrars Avenue, Eynesbury, St Neots, PE19 2TZ	20 Brook View Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9NY Mr Nick Davis Two storey side extension and single storey front and rear extensions following demolition of existing detached garage. front open sided porch; enlarged and repositioned front and rear dormer windows. External render and alterations to fenestration. (Development has commenced)
24/02340/AD	Mr Tim Melvin Hitchin Swimming Pool , Fishponds Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1HA	Hitchin Swimming Pool Fishponds Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1HA Mr Tim Melvin Installation of directional and operational signage. (Development already carried out).
24/02780/RM	Rapleys LLP Sarah Smith 66 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1NE	Land North Of Highover Farm To Stotfold Road Highover Way Hitchin Hertfordshire c/o agent Construction of the main spine road (The Avenue) from and including the roundabout on Stotfold Road through and connecting to High Dane, creation of drainage ponds, swales and other associated drainage infrastructure, signage and other necessary highway and service infrastructure (to serve future development parcels) (outline was EIA development with an ES submitted)

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 06/02/2025**

24/02814/FP	Howkins & Harrison John Clarke 7-11Albert Street, Rugby, CV21 2RX, United Kingdom	Land At Mill Farm Charlton Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2AB Messrs M & W Taylor Conversion and extension of existing barns to create two dwelling following demolition of shed/outbuildings/silos. Alterations to existing vehicular access.
24/02864/FP	Mr James Batchelor Mr James Batchelor Via Email	36 Brampton Park Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1XF Dr Onkar Singh Rehal Erection of one self-build detached 4-bedroom dwelling following demolition of existing bungalow
24/02874/FP	Inigo Architecture Ltd Mr Neil Hansford The Firs, 81 Station Road, Lower Stondon, SG16 6JN	111 Walsworth Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9SP Ms H Owen Replacement windows to front, side and rear elevations
24/02884/FPH	S & S Coates Surveying & Design Mr Steve Coates Room 2, Denel Wing, The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, FLITWICK, MK45 1AH	34 Harkness Way Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0QL Mr Desmond Bowe Single storey rear extension following partial demolition of existing garage. Alteration to fenestration to existing garage
24/02888/FPH	Michael Easton Mike Easton 21 Shrubbery Grove, Royston, SG8 9IJ, United Kingdom	17 Redhill Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 2NQ Mr Tom Slater Single storey rear and side extension following demolition of existing rear and side elements
24/02892/FPH	G2 Architecture Mr George Dobson Moat House, Brickendonbury Estate, Hertford, SG13 8NL, United Kingdom	18 London Road Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 9EW Mr. Dominic Myers Part two storey and part single storey rear extension; front entrance porch with canopy and insertion of first floor side window following removal of existing canopy (as a variation of planning permission 24/01365/FPH granted 30.07.2024)

24/02893/FPH D.Chandler Architectural Design Ltd.55 Old Hale Way
Mr Daniel Chandler Hitchin
61 Gernon Road, Letchworth, SG6 Hertfordshire
3HS, United Kingdom SG5 1XJ

Mr & Mrs Duggan

Erection of rear outbuilding following demolition of existing detached garage. Erection of front replacement boundary wall; raise front and rear garden levels and landscaping works

25/00068/TCA Mr Dom Walker The Blue Tree 77 Bedford Road
Company Hitchin
50 Bunyan Road, Hitchin, SG5 1NN Hertfordshire
SG5 2TU

Helen Kemp

T1: Hawthorn - Pollard at 5m. T2: Contorted Hazel - Reduce by 2m shape and balance the crown cutting to viable growth. T3: Rowan - Fell to ground level and eco plug. T4: Apple - Reduce by 2m shape and balance the crown cutting to viable growth.

Knebworth Parish Council

24/02915/FPH Damien Poulter Mr Damien Poulter 48a Pondcroft Road
9 Bakers Grove, Welwyn Garden Knebworth
City, AL7 2DJ, United Kingdom Hertfordshire
SG3 6DE

Mr Reynaldo Tapawan

Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear element

Offley Parish Council

24/02932/FPH Alexander Hopkins Architectural 2 Flint Cottages
Services LTD Alexander Hopkins Luton Road
17 New Road, Drayton Parslow, Offley
MK17 0JH, United Kingdom Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 3DR

Mr and Mrs Jackaman

Proposed first and second floor rear extension together with proposed raising of roof to provide additional living accommodation. Increase in height to existing chimney.

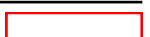
Pirton Parish Council

25/00112/TCA Mr Paul Kasperczak Docwra Manor
Docwra Manor, 1 Hitchin Road, 1 Hitchin Road
Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 Pirton
3PZ Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 3PZ

Mr Paul Kasperczak

Ash, Cypress, 2x Acacia, 2x Cupressus - Fell

St Ippolytts Parish Council



**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING CONTROL
COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS SG6 3JF**

**LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN WEEK ENDING: 17/01/2025
DEADLINE FOR COUNCILLORS' CALL IN: 06/02/2025**

24/02862/LDCP	BBR Design Ryan Albone BBR Design, 7 Paynes Park, Hitchin, SG51EH, United Kingdom	West Orchard Sperberry Hill St Ippolyts Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7NZ Mr Davies Erection of detached outbuilding
24/02907/RM	Carter Jonas LLP Mike Osbourn One Station Square, Cambridge, CB1 2GA	Land North Of Pound Farm London Road St Ippolyts Hertfordshire SG4 7NE Mr Nathan Craker Application for approval of reserved matters relating to Phases 2 and 3 being appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to conditions 7, 8 and 9 of planning permission 21/00434/HYA for the erection of 48 dwellings and associated works

PRESS RELEASE

PR 3902

15 January 2025

Grants for Southern Rural & Baldock community groups

Community grants have been agreed* for four groups in Southern Rural and one in Baldock, totalling over £7,000!

Christchurch Baldock was awarded **£1,560** for their Body & Soul group which provides total fitness for retired people. The group meets weekly, holding 1.5 hour sessions at Baldock Community Centre, with 30-35 attendees participating. The sessions include chair exercises for the body, singing for the lungs, exercise games for the brain and social opportunities to chat and have a coffee. The grant will be used to cover the cost of an instructor for 39 weeks in 2025.

Cassel Hall Trust was awarded **£2,000** towards the replacement of the boiler at Cassel Memorial Hall which it manages in Lilley. The hall is well used by a variety of groups including yoga, pilates, mother & toddler, table tennis, film club and private parties. Once the current boiler has come to the end of its life, it will be replaced by a modern and more efficient one, allowing the hall to be continually used and have lower running costs.

Pirton JoyCare was awarded **£870** towards the running costs of their services supporting older people in the community. The charity provides a safe environment for around 80 individuals to find companionship, combat loneliness and enhance their wellbeing by encouraging them to remain active and engaged with their local community. Activities offered include lunches, shopping trips, film matinees and day trips. The money will be used to help provide the service as well as utilise their minibus which allows them to help people with transport to medical appointments, collection of prescriptions and home visits.

Preston Parish Council was awarded **£594** towards a defibrillator cabinet to be fitted on the outside wall of their pavilion. At the moment the defibrillator is located inside the pavilion, so is only accessible when it's open. The defibrillator is a vital resource in an emergency

because of the rural nature of Preston and the distance and time required for ambulances to reach the village.

The Living Theatre Whitwell was awarded **£2,000** towards the running of an outdoor art trail project. The outdoor arts organisation, born out of the pandemic, wants to expand on the success of their art trail in 2024. Commissioning eight local artists, the trail – in situ from May to September - will start a central village location, go through footpaths and end at their theatre space. The funding requested will support materials for the artists, promotion, audio recording costs to bring the trail to life online, an event co-ordinator role and gardening fees to keep footpaths and areas clear during the trail. It will also cover the cost of two free places in each of three workshops to encourage community participation. In addition, funding will support a workshop with the local primary school.

Cllr Val Bryant, Executive Member for Community & Partnerships, who approved the funding under delegated decision, said: “These groups are providing important services to our communities, benefitting a wide range of people, which we are proud to help fund. From young people playing football and the exciting return of Whitwell art trail, to supporting older people in rural villages, and enabling access to a defibrillator, which significantly increases someone’s chance of survival if used before an ambulance arrives.”

The next Baldock Community Forum will take place on 3 March and for Southern Rural on 13 March.

*subject to completion of the necessary formalities

ENDS

For more information please contact Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk / 01462 474403.

PRESS RELEASE

PR 3903

15 January 2025

Do you want help to reduce energy bills and improve your home's energy efficiency?

Government funding continues to be available to certain people to support them in making changes to their home to keep them warmer, and save money and energy.

If your home is inefficient, you could now qualify for the **ECO Flex Scheme** and receive government funding for insulation and other home improvement measures if you meet one of the following criteria:

- your household has a gross annual income less than £31,000
- you receive a referral from the NHS relating to severe health conditions impacted by living in a cold home
- or a combination of other criteria for those living at the premises such as being entitled to a council tax reduction, a person being considered vulnerable to the cold, or a child qualifying for free school meals.

ECO Flex is being delivered across North Herts in partnership with the National Energy Foundation (NEF). For further information about and to check if you might qualify, please visit the council website or contact Better Housing, Better Health - call 0800 107 0044 or email bhbh@nef.org.uk.

For those who don't meet the criteria, you may want to get a free home survey and plan to improve your home through the **SuperHomes Scheme**, supported by the Greater Southeast Net Zero Hub and delivered by the National Energy Foundations (NEF). It offers all residents in Herts free and personalised advice to help enhance your home's energy efficiency, giving details of the cheapest and most effective measures to reduce your energy bills based on your priorities as a homeowner.

Please register your interest before 31 March - visit <https://superhomes.org.uk/beds-herts>, call 01908 69991, or email superhomeshertsandbeds@nef.org.uk.

Cllr Dave Winstanley, North Herts Council's Executive Member for Housing & Environmental Health, said: "We are committed to helping residents in fuel poverty, as well as reducing the district's carbon emissions under our target to be net zero by 2040. We work in partnership to promote and deliver these types of schemes to help residents be informed, and in some instances actually get the money to take action – to make their homes warmer and reduce what they spend on energy bills!"

Ali Vickers, Operations Director at National Energy Foundation, said: "We're delighted to partner with North Herts Council to deliver ECO funding to vulnerable residents in the area. Amid the ongoing cost of living crisis, an increasing number of households are facing challenges in cold, energy-inefficient homes. By working together, we're committed to ensuring that as many residents as possible can access this vital funding, helping to improve their living conditions, enhance energy efficiency, and reduce energy costs."

For more information on these and other schemes, please visit: www.north-herts.gov.uk/EnergyEfficiency

ENDS

For more information please contact Anna.Cotton@north-herts.gov.uk / 01462 474403.

Press release
15 January 2025

Letchworth's ice rink celebrates successful season with more than 13,500 visitors

Letchworth's expanded ice rink has proven to be a huge hit with the local community, attracting 13,504 visitors in total during its extended winter run from November 2024 to January 2025.

The enlarged rink, operated by Everyone Active in partnership with North Herts Council, increased its capacity by 20 percent this season and welcomed skaters of all ages and abilities to the terrace of Letchworth Lido.

The successful season marks a significant milestone for the popular winter attraction, now in its fifth year.

Sarah Wright, General Manager of the facility, said: "We're absolutely delighted with the response from the community. The decision to expand the rink this year really paid off, allowing us to accommodate more families and groups during peak times.

"Not only did it provide entertainment during the festive period, but it also encouraged physical activity during the colder months when people typically become less active. The turnout really exceeded our expectations."

Everyone Active introduced a range of new sessions for this season, including inclusive sessions, quiet sessions, which operated without music or disco lights, and senior sessions.

In addition, "Skating with Santa" sessions proved popular, while the under-5s sessions introduced many young children to ice skating for the first time.

The evening disco skating events attracted teenagers and young adults, helping to create a vibrant atmosphere throughout the season.

Cllr Mick Debenham, North Herts Council's Executive Member for Leisure, said: "This year's ice rink season has been a fantastic success, bringing joy to over 13,500 visitors and showcasing how leisure facilities can unite our community. The expanded rink has not only created magical moments for families and friends but has also encouraged residents of all ages to stay active during the colder months. It's a testament to the value of investing in inclusive, fun, and accessible activities for everyone in North Herts."

For more information, visit www.everyoneactive.com/centre/letchworth-lido/ or contact Letchworth Lido directly.

-ENDS-

For press information please contact:

Victoria Watkins | Regional PR & Communications Manager

victoriawatkins@everyoneactive.com

07739 985325

Everyone Active

Everyone Active is the trading name for Sports Leisure Management (SLM), which operates leisure centres in partnership with local councils across England. SLM Ltd was formed in 1987, managing just one leisure centre in the Midlands. Today, Everyone Active manages in excess of 230 leisure facilities and cultural services in partnership with more than 69 local authorities. These stretch from Sunderland in the north to Mid Suffolk in the east, Chichester in the south to Bristol in the south west. The company's growth is due to the ability to deliver well-managed leisure facilities and an activity offering which provides great value for money. Everyone Active aims to increase the participation of local people in leisure activities, advocating a minimum of 30 minutes exercise, five times per week.

www.everyoneactive.com