

# **North Northamptonshire Council**

**1 DECEMBER 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025**

**Published by: Democratic Services**

**Leader of North Northamptonshire Council: Councillor Jason Smithers**

## INTRODUCTION

This is the North Northamptonshire Council's Forward Plan. It is published pursuant to The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. Its purpose is to provide the required 28 days' notice of the Council's intention to take 'key decisions' and to hold meetings or parts of meetings in private. It gives advance notice of all the "key decisions" and "exempt decisions" which the Executive or another body or officer so authorised are likely to take over a four month period. The Plan is updated on a rolling monthly basis.

<b>The Members of the Executive are:</b>	
Councillor Jason Smithers	Leader of North Northamptonshire Council
Councillor Helen Howell	Deputy Leader of North Northamptonshire Council Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism
Councillor Gill Mercer	Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Scott Edwards	Children, Families, Education and Skills
Councillor Harriet Pentland	Climate and Green Environment
Councillor Lloyd Bunday	Finance and Transformation
Councillor David Brackenbury	Growth and Regeneration
Councillor Matt Binley	Highways, Travel and Assets
Councillor Mark Rowley	Housing and Communities
Councillor David Howes	Rural Communities and Localism

The concept of a "key decision" is intended to capture the most important or significant decisions. "Key decisions" will normally be made at meetings open to the press and public. The press and public will only be excluded from such meetings as and when the Council's Monitoring Officer considers that this is necessary in order to avoid the public disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

The authority has decided that a Key Decision is one which is likely:-

- (a) to result in the authority incurring expenditure of which is, or the making of savings which are, significant; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral wards in the area of the authority."

The Council has decided that significant expenditure or savings are those amounting to above £500,000.

In determining the meaning of "*significant*" for these purposes North Northamptonshire Council will also have regard to any guidance for the time being issued by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 9Q of the Local Government Act 2000.

At times it may be necessary for the North Northamptonshire Council to give consideration to items where the public may be excluded from the meeting. Members of the public are excluded from meetings whenever it is likely that, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that confidential information would be disclosed. This includes exclusion from access to any pertinent documents. Details of the exemption categories can be found in the 'Access to Information Procedure Rules' section in the Council's [Constitution](#). This plan provides advance notice of any items which may be held in private.

Paragraph 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 provides for members of the public to make representations to the Council on why an exempt item should be considered in public, rather than in private. Persons wishing to make such representations and/or obtain further details in respect of any issues referred to in the Plan should contact the undermentioned officer.

The Monitoring Officer may also include in the Forward Plan references to such other decisions, which are to be taken by the Council or any of its Committees or Sub-Committee or officers as they consider appropriate. These will be those decisions that are considered to be significant or sufficiently important and/or sensitive so that it is reasonable for a member of the public to expect it to be recorded and published.

All general questions or queries about the contents of this Forward Plan or about the arrangements for taking key decisions should be raised with David Pope, Democratic Services.

Please email: [democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk)

## December 2024

Subject of the Decision:	Purpose of Report	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author and Executive Lead Member
Capital Programme Update	To report any adjustments to the in-year programme	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Commissioning of Substance Misuse Services for North Northamptonshire	To approve the proposed commissioning approach for Substance Misuse services starting 1.4.26 and delegate authority to undertake procurement and award the contract	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Adults, Health and Wellbeing  Director of Public Health
Surplus Asset Disposal	To consider an asset for disposal	Executive	Yes	Part exempt; By virtue of paragraph 3	No public consultation, but scrutiny	19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Highways, Travel

				of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972	and Ward Councillor		and Assets  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Longhurst Group - East Northants Housing Transfer	To approve a variation to the ENC Housing transfer contract to regularise future disposals by Longhurst	Executive	Yes	Part exempt; By virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Highways, Travel and Assets  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Stock Condition & Workspace Transformation Capital Investment	Request to move £1m allocated for Estate Stock Condition and Compliance Works in 2023/24 in the Development Pool to the Capital Programme to add this to the current £2.25m budget. This will allow works to be delivered to improve NNC's office accommodation and to undertake improvements to some of the	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Highways, Travel and Assets  Executive Director - Place and Economy

	council's properties as identified in recent stock condition surveys. Approval will also be sought to procure these works.						
Customer Service Outreach Programme	To approve the Customer Service Outreach Programme	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Environmental Crime Offences 2023 – Fixed Penalty Fines Update	To consider and approve Fixed Penalty Fine levels for Environmental Crime Offences	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Highways, Travel and Assets  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Housing Revenue Account Draft Budget 2025-26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan Proposals	To seek recommendation to Council to approve the 2025-26 Budget and MTFP	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance

Draft Capital Programme 2025-29	To seek recommendation to Council to approve the Capital Programme 2025-29	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Draft Budget 2025/26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan	To seek recommendation to Council to approve the 2025-26 Budget and MTFP	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Sheltered Housing Alarm Digitalisation	Seeking permission to enter Procurement for a digital alarm solution in the wake of National switchover from analogue to digital phonelines	Executive	Yes	No		19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Adults, Health and Wellbeing  Executive Director - Adults, Health Partnerships and Housing (DASS)
Kettering Pitch and Track	Approval to proceed with refurbishment	Executive	Yes	No	Key stakeholders	19 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Executive Member - Deputy Leader & Sports, Leisure, Culture and Tourism  Director of Public

Health



## January 2025

Subject of the Decision:	Purpose of Report	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author and Executive Lead Member
Capital Programme Update	To report any adjustments to the in-year programme	Executive	Yes	No		16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Procedures	To consider and approve the policy and procedures	Executive	Yes	No	Internal consultation with services engaged in dealing with ASB	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Housing and Communities  Director of Public Health
Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy (on Disabled Facilities Grants)	Approval of the revised Private Sector Housing Policy for Disabled Facilities Grants and other housing assistance	Executive	Yes	No		16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Housing and Communities  Executive Director - Adults,

	measures						Health Partnerships and Housing (DASS)
Climate Change Strategy	Approval of a new Climate Change Strategy for North Northamptonshire	Executive	Yes	No	Consultation will be undertaken with local stakeholders during September and October 2024 on a draft Strategy	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Climate and Green Environment  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Active Communities Strategic Framework	To approve the Active Communities Strategic Framework for adoption	Executive	Yes	No	Extensive stakeholder, EAP, all Cllrs, and public consultation. Final docs will go to EAP before Exec.	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Deputy Leader & Sports, Leisure, Culture and Tourism  Director of Public Health
Draft School Organisation Strategy	To approve the adoption of the Draft School Organisation Strategy	Executive	Yes	No		16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Children, Families, Education and Skills  Executive Director - Children's Services

Knights Farm, Rushden – Overage Agreement	To authorise the variation of the long stop date to 30th April 2026	Executive	Yes	Part exempt; By virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972		16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Highways, Travel and Assets  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Earls Barton Primary School Expansion - Additional Funding	To seek Executive approval for additional funding for Earls Barton Primary School Expansion	Executive	Yes	No		16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Executive Member - Children, Families, Education and Skills  Executive Director - Children's Services

## February 2025

Subject of the Decision:	Purpose of Report	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author and Executive Lead Member
HRA Final Budget 2025-26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan	To recommend for approval to Council the HRA Final Budget 2025-26 and MTFP	Executive	Yes	No		6 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
General Fund Final Budget 2025-26 and Medium-Term Financial Plan	To recommend for approval to Council the General Fund Final Budget 2025-26 and MTFP	Executive	Yes	No		6 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Capital Programme 2025-29	To recommend for approval to Council the Capital Programme 2025-29	Executive	Yes	No		6 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive

							Director - Finance & Performance
Keyways Housing Allocation Scheme	To approve the Keyways Housing Allocation Scheme	Executive	Yes	No	There will be extensive consultation both internally (e.g. Adult Social Care, Housing, Legal) and externally (e.g. Armed Forces Covenants, GP Surgeries, Registered Providers (RP), Tenants), in the preparation of the Allocation Scheme.	13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member – Housing and Communities  Executive Director - Adults, Health Partnerships and Housing (DASS)
Council-Owned Company Governance Arrangements	To approve governance arrangements relating to Council-owned companies	Executive	Yes	No		13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance

							& Performance
Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy review	To consider and approve the review policy	Executive	Yes	No		13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member - Growth and Regeneration  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Hackney Carriage De-zoning	Members are asked to modify the wording of the resolution agreed on 6th June 2024 to remove hackney carriage zones in North Northamptonshire.	Executive	Yes	No		13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Executive Member - Growth and Regeneration  Executive Director - Place and Economy

## March 2025

Subject of the Decision:	Purpose of Report	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author and Executive Lead Member
Capital Programme Update	To report any adjustments to the in-year programme	Executive	Yes	No		13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Executive Member - Finance and Transformation  Executive Director - Finance & Performance
Wellingborough and Rushden Area Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan	To adopt the Wellingborough and Rushden Area Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan	Executive	Yes	No	Public consultation on the final LCWIP report was undertaken 16/9/24 to 27/10/24	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Executive Member - Highways, Travel and Assets  Executive Director - Place and Economy
Health & Wellbeing Board Strategy for North Northamptonshire	Approval by Executive Committee	Executive	Yes	No	System partners at the H&W Board, Health	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Executive Member - Adults, Health and Wellbeing

					Scrutiny		Director of Public Health
Household Support Fund 7	Agreement for the programme delivery for HSF7 including distribution of holiday food support for those eligible for free school meals.	Executive	Yes	No		13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Executive Member - Adults, Health and Wellbeing  Director of Public Health