

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

18th June 2025

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 18th June, 2025 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

Councillor C. Watkins (Leader and Housing)
Councillor S. Hey (Deputy Leader and Resources & Central Services)
Councillor B. Hughes (Leisure & Health)
Councillor N. King (Business & Regeneration)
Councillor K. Price (Communities & Public Services)
Councillor T. Venson (Planning & Enforcement)

CB07 **Apologies**

None

CB08 **Declarations of Interest**

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interest for this meeting are as set out in the Schedule published on the website.

CB09 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 21st May 2025, be approved, and signed by the Chair

CB10 **Community Orchard Licence Agreement**

The Assistant Director – Recreation & Culture and Assistant Director – Social Housing & Community Safety submitted a report regarding Keresley Village Residents Association who have requested to turn land at Top Park, Keresley End into a Community Orchard for the benefit of the residents.

RESOLVED that

- a) delegated authority be given for the Assistant Director of Culture & Recreation and Assistant Director of Social Housing & Community Safety to issue and enter into a licence agreement with Keresley Village Residents Association; and;
- b) the land identified at Top Park, Keresley End, be approved to be transferred from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to the General Fund (GF)
- c) that an error in 5.1 of the report be amended to confirm that land will be appropriated from the HRA to the GF

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Sue Markham

Options

- a) Approve both recommendations in full
- b) Not approve both recommendations and suggest alternative wording

Reasons

Enabling Keresley Village Residents Association to have a licence for the land and turn this into a community orchard for the benefit of local residents, through accessing funding and improving the environment.

CB11 Tenant Satisfaction Measures 2024/25

Assistant Director – Social Housing and Community Safety submitted a report providing an update of the results of the Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSM's) survey 2024/25. These measures will be reported to the Regulator of Social Housing by 30th June 2025.

RESOLVED that

- a) the content of the report be noted;
- b) the Assistant Director – Social Housing and Community Safety be required to work with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and the Strategic Director for Housing & Community Safety, to utilise the results of the TSM's to improve services and service delivery;
- c) the Assistant Director be required to consult with the Housing & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel upon any such service and/or service delivery improvements identified; and
- d) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the deadline for submitting the report to the Regulator for Social Housing being 30th June 2025 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution. Failure to submit before the deadline will result in regulatory notices, including financial and reputational risk to the Council.

Speakers: Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options:

To note the content outlined in the report

Reasons:

The Regulator of Social Housing has created a system to see how well social housing landlords in England are doing at providing good quality homes and services. This includes a set of tenant satisfaction measures (TSMs) that social housing landlords, including local authorities like us, must report on.

CB12 Housing Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report 2024/25

The Assistant Director – Social Housing & Community Safety submitted a report that provides the details of the Social Housing Complaint Handling Code Self-

Assessment 2024/2025, along with the Housing Complaints Annual Report for 2024/2025, both of which must be submitted to the Housing Ombudsman Service (HOS) by 30th June 2025.

RESOLVED that

- a) the contents of the Housing Complaints Annual Report and Complaint Handling Code Self-Assessment attached at Appendix A of the report are noted by Cabinet;
- b) noting the requirements of the HOS, Cabinet receives comments from the Housing and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel, held on 5th June 2025;
- c) Cabinet make comments as per the requirements of the HOS; and
- d) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the deadline for submitting the report to the Housing Ombudsman Service being 30th June 2025 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution. Failure to submit before the deadline will result in regulatory notices, including financial and reputational risk to the Council.

Speakers: Councillor Kris Wilson

Options:

- 1. To not note the report and provide comment.
- 2. To note the report and provide comment.

Reasons:

It is a requirement of the HOS Complaint Handling Code for the Cabinet to consider and comment upon the Annual Housing Complaint Performance & Service Improvement Plan. By noting the report and providing comment, the Council will be legislatively compliant.

CB13 Leisure Operator Procurement Update

The Assistant Director – Recreation and Culture submitted a report to provide an update on the outcome of the Leisure Operator Procurement and its Award of Contract.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Award of the Leisure Operator Contract to Sport & Leisure Management (SLM) trading as Everyone Active (EA) for NBBC be noted and grant delegated authority to the Strategic Director for Public Services and Assistant Director for Recreation & Culture to sign the new contract;
- b) it be recommended to Council that funds be allocated within the 2025/2026 capital programme up to £1.5million to support the Leisure contract Variant 1 bid proposal;
- c) it be recommended to Council that subject to b), delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Corporate Resources and Strategic

Director for Public Services in consultation with the Assistant Director for Recreation & Culture, the Portfolio Holders for Leisure & Health and, Resources & Central Services to instruct the Operator to deliver the agreed refurbishment areas at the Pingles Leisure Centre; and

- d) it be recommended to Council that subject to b), delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Corporate Resources, Strategic Director for Public Services in consultation with the Assistant Director for Recreation & Culture, the Portfolio Holders for Leisure & Health and Resources & Central Services to agree, following advice from legal representation (upon completion of the lease), and subject to operator programming, to use the capital funds at the Pingles Leisure Centre in advance of the contract coming into effect in January 2026.

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Sue Markham

Options:

1. Cabinet note recommendation 1 and approve the recommendations 2 and 3 be reported to Council.
2. Cabinet do not approve recommendation 2 or 3 and amend the recommendations.
3. Cabinet reject the capital investment option and remain with the standard bid with reduced financial return and no facility improvement.

Reasons:

The leisure procurement exercise and opportunity within that process to undertake refurbishment works at the Councils leisure facility, provides an effective and efficient opportunity to deliver these capital works.

CB14 Pingles Decarbonisation Update

The Assistant Director – Recreation and Culture submitted an update on the progress of the decarbonisation of the Pingles Leisure Centre and Pingles Stadium, following successful funding from Sport England and Salix to install PV Panels, pool covers and heat source technology.

RESOLVED that

- a) the progress update on the Pingles Decarbonisation project be noted;
- b) it be recommended to Council that budget provision is identified in year, to support the additional costs for the Pingles substation of £150K; and
- c) the report be marked not for call-in to enable a confirmation order from the Pingles to National Grid (the only supplier) to carry out essential electrical connection works in the timescales required to deliver the project by March 2026 and prevent any loss of government funding.

Speaker: County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

Cabinet approves the recommendations.

Reasons:

The Pingles decarbonisation project will provide a sustainable energy efficiency delivery at the Pingles Leisure Centre and Stadium, as well as providing replacement to obsolete heating systems.

CB15 Recycling Contract: Environment Act 2021 – Food Waste Collections

The Assistant Director – Environment & Enforcement submitted a report to seek delegated authority for officers to begin the effective planning, procurement and implementation of the domestic food waste collections as required by the Environment Act 2021.

RESOLVED that

- a) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director – Environment & Enforcement in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Communities and Public Services to commence procurement of the relevant necessary vehicles and containers as set out in Appendix A of the report; and
- b) a future report be brought to Cabinet on the delivery mechanisms for food and waste collection service.

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Sue Markham
Councillor Michele Kondakor
Councillor Jeff Clarke

Options:

Not implementing domestic food waste collections would mean Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council is in breach of legislative requirements and could face restrictions or removal of future Extended Producer Responsibility payments.

Reasons:

The delegation of authority to begin procurement is necessary to begin the implementation process and build the full service parameters and service roll-out plan.

Delaying the procurement process will only further extend the roll-out timeframe and leave Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in breach of statutory legislation.

CB16 Local Government Reform

The Chief Executive submitted a report to Cabinet to:

- inform on the activities undertaken by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in relation to Local Government Reform since April 2025;
- update on the Government's feedback regarding the 'Interim Plans' submitted by Warwickshire Councils; and
- to present the outcomes of work undertaken on behalf of the District and

Borough Councils of Warwickshire concerning future governance options

RESOLVED that

- a) the contents of this report be noted;
- b) it be recommended to Council that a two unitary council model as follows:
 - i) Based on existing boundaries of North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council,
 - ii) Based on the existing boundaries of Stratford on Avon District Council and Warwick District Council be put forward as the preferred governance option for Warwickshire.

be put forward as the preferred governance option for Warwickshire; and

- c) it be recommended to Council that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive Officer to represent and act on behalf of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in all matters relating to Local Government Reform and reorganisation, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Councillor Kris Wilson

Mr Sam Margrave (written statement submitted and circulated to Cabinet)

Options:

Cabinet could choose not to form a recommendation and instead leave the matter to open debate at Council. Equally as the final submission is not due until November, Cabinet could delay forming a recommendation for a short period.

Reasons:

On 16 December 2024, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government published the *English Devolution White Paper: Power and Partnership: Foundations for Growth*. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council are required to submit a formal submission by November 2025.

CB17 Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels

None

CB18 Any Other Items

None

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 23RD JUNE 2025

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 1ST JULY 2025