



**AGENDA
for
MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL**

to be held on

Wednesday, 17th September, 2025

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Date: 9th September 2025

Our Ref: KB

To: All Members of the Borough Council

A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held on **Wednesday, 17th
September, 2025 at 6.00 p.m.**

All members of the Council are summoned to attend to determine the business as set out below.

AGENDA

1. **EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

A fire drill is not expected, so if the alarm sounds, please evacuate the building quickly and calmly. Please use the stairs and do not use the lifts. Once out of the building, please gather outside the Lloyds Bank on the opposite side of the road.

Please exit by the door by which you entered the room or by the fire exits which are clearly indicated by the standard green fire exit signs.

If you need any assistance in evacuating the building, please make yourself known to a member of staff.

Please make sure all your mobile phones are turned off or set to silent.

2. **APOLOGIES** - to receive apologies for absence from the meeting.

3. **MINUTES** - to confirm the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 2nd July 2025 (**Page 6**)

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in matters under consideration pursuant to Council procedure Rule 4A.2(iii).

Declaring interests at meetings

If there is any item of business to be discussed at the meeting in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest (Other Interests), you must declare the interest appropriately at the start of the meeting or as soon as you become aware that you have an interest.

Arrangements have been made so that interests that are declared regularly by members can be viewed in a schedule on the Council website ([Councillor Declarations of Interests](#)). Any interest noted in the schedule on the website will be deemed to have been declared and will be minuted as such by the Democratic Services Officer. As a general rule, there will, therefore, be no need for those Members to declare those interests as set out in the schedule.

There are, however, TWO EXCEPTIONS to the general rule:

1. When the interest amounts to a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is engaged in connection with any item on the agenda and the member feels that the interest is such that they must leave the room. Prior to leaving the room, the member must inform the meeting that they are doing so, to ensure that it is recorded in the minutes.

2. Where a dispensation has been granted to vote and/or speak on an item where there is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, but it is not referred to in the Schedule (where for example, the dispensation was granted by the Monitoring Officer immediately prior to the meeting). The existence and nature of the dispensation needs to be recorded in the minutes and will, therefore, have to be disclosed at an appropriate time to the meeting.

Note: Following the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary or a Deemed Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, the Member must withdraw from the room.

Where a Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest but has received a dispensation from Audit and Standards Committee, that Member may vote and/or speak on the matter (as the case may be) and must disclose the existence of the dispensation and any restrictions placed on it at the time the interest is declared.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest as defined in the Code of Conduct, the Member may address the meeting as a member of the public as set out in the Code.

Note: Council Procedure Rules require Members with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests to withdraw from the meeting unless a dispensation

allows them to remain to vote and/or speak on the business giving rise to the interest.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest, the Council's Code of Conduct permits public speaking on the item, after which the Member is required by Council Procedure Rules to withdraw from the meeting.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS - to receive announcements from the Mayor, Leader, Members of the Cabinet or the Chief Executive.
6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - (maximum 20 minutes).
to hear and answer questions by any resident of the Borough concerning the work of the Council where notice has been given (maximum 20 minutes). A copy of the Procedure Rule 9 is attached (**Page 26**) and this is not subject to debate. A question or statement can be submitted using the link below which will send your submission to the Chief Executive and Member Services: [Ask a question at meetings of Full Council | Public participation at meetings | Nuneaton & Bedworth \(nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk\)](https://nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/question-at-meetings-of-full-council-public-participation-at-meetings)
7. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS - (Council Procedure Rule 10). A copy of Procedure Rule 10 is attached. (**Page 28**) and this is not subject to debate.
8. SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS - (Access to Information Procedure Rule 4B.16).

None taken
9. CABINET – report by Leader of the Council (**Page 30**)
Members may ask questions on the report and receive answers from the Leader or other Cabinet members, and this is not subject to debate.
10. a) COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS
– report of the Assistant Director - Democracy and Governance attached (**Page 33**)

b) MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS – report of the Assistant Director - Democracy and Governance attached (**Page 36**)
11. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET OR OTHER COMMITTEES
Cabinet – 16th July 2025
a) CAPITAL OUTTURN 2024-25
On 16th July at Cabinet, the above report (**Copy attached Page 39**) by the Assistant Director – Finance was considered and the following recommendations put forward for Council consideration:
 - i) **the updated capital budget for 2025/26 detailed in Appendix 2 of the report be recommended to Council for approval.**
Audit and Standards Committee - 9th September 2025
b) TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2025 - 2026
On 9th September 2025 at Audit and Standards Committee, the above report (**copy attached Page 54**) by Finance Manager – Treasury will be

considered and, if approved, the following recommendation put forward for Council consideration:

- i) **That it be recommended to Council that the Treasury Management Report for 2025/26 – Quarter 1 Review be noted.**

Cabinet – 10th September 2025

c) CAPITAL MONITORING QUARTER 1

On 10th September 2025 at Cabinet, the above report (**copy attached Page 61**) by the Assistant Director – Finance will be considered and, if approved, the following recommendation will be put forward for Council consideration:

- i) **To approve and recommend to Council, the updates to the 2025/26 Capital Budget under point 5 within the report.**

NOTE: Points of Order and Personal Explanation can only be raised in accordance with Council Procedure Rules which are set out below:-

Point of order

A Member may raise a point of order at any time. The Mayor will hear them at the end of the speech of the Member speaking at the time the point is raised. A point of order may only relate to an alleged breach of these Council Rules of Procedure or the law. The Member must indicate the rule of law and the way in which he/she considers it has been broken. The Mayor shall consider the Point of Order and, if necessary, take advice on the matter from the Monitoring Officer and, shall then rule on the Point of Order raised. There shall be no discussion or challenge to the advice given or the Mayor's decision in the meeting. If a Member persistently seeks to raise a Point of Order but is unable to identify the procedure rule or legal principle infringed then, after having been warned by the Mayor, any further abuse of this procedure rule shall not be tolerated and the Mayor shall move that the Member not be heard further pursuant to Procedure Rule 4.19.13. The ruling of the Mayor on the matter will be final.

Personal explanation

A Member may make a point of personal explanation at any time. The Mayor will hear them at the end of the speech of the Member speaking at the time the point is raised. A personal explanation may only relate to some material part of an earlier speech by the Member which may appear to have been misunderstood in the present debate. The ruling of the Mayor on the admissibility of a personal explanation will be final.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

2nd July 2025

A Council meeting of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council was held on Wednesday, 2nd July 2025.

Present

The Mayor (Councillor B. Saru)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Sheppard)

Councillors E. Amaechi, J. Bonner, J. Clarke, J. Collett, T. Cooper, S. Croft, L. Cvetkovic, D. Brown, M. Etienne, J. Gutteridge, W. Hancox, J. Hartshorn, S. Hey, P. Hickling, B. Hughes, T. Jenkins, A. Khangura, N. King, M. Kondakor, S. Markham, W. Markham, B. Pandher, C. Phillips, K. Price, R. Roze, J. Sheppard, C. Smith, R. Smith, T. Venson, M. Walsh, C. Watkins, K. Wilson and M. Wright.

Apologies were received for Councillors A. Bull, S. Dhillon and M. Bird

CL12 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 14th May 2025 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor with the following amendment

Minute no CL3 be amended to 'Councillor J. Collett proposed Councillor M. Bird'

CL13 **Declarations of Interests**

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interests for this meeting are as set out in the schedule which can be viewed on the website. In addition, the following declarations were made:

Councillor M. Kondakor declared a disclosable pecuniary interest by way of her husband Keith Kondakor becoming a member of Warwickshire County Council;

Councillor J. Clarke declared he is no longer treasury of the Nuneaton Conservatives Association but has now been named Honorary Vice-President of the Nuneaton Conservatives Association.

Councillor S. Croft declared an other interest by way of him being Vice-Chairman of the Nuneaton Conservative Association.

Councillor K. Price declared an other interest by way of her being a nominated representative on the following outside bodies:

- Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board,
- Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel,
- Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee
- Warwickshire Direct Partnership
- Warwickshire Waste Partnership

Councillor T. Jenkins declared that he is no longer a representative on the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board.

Councillor B. Hughes declared an other interest by way of her being a nominated representative on Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board.

CL14 **Announcements**

The Mayor announced that a one minute silence would be held in remembrance of those who lost their lives in the India plane crash on 12th June 2025.

Councillor W. Hancox announced that a total to date of £45,459.29p was raised in aid of his Mayoral Civic Appeal. This is thanks to the generosity of the people of this Borough in organising events (30th Signals, Queen Gurkas, Stockingford Pavilion and The Horseshoe Club to name a few organisers), mountain climbs in Morocco, and fundraising afternoon teas by the Mayoress Alderwoman Sheila Hancox.

Councillor R. Roze announced that he would be serving as an Independent Member of the Council and would no longer be part of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Labour Group.

CL15 **Public Participation**

No public questions or statements received.

CL16 **Questions by Members**

Question 1 – Councillor Bill Hancox asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration:

There is a great deal of concern in and around Bedworth regarding the future of our indoor market. If we are to have a vibrant Town Centre, Market traders need to plan their future around any works to the indoor market.

Could the Leader promise myself, my Bede Ward colleague Councillor Bull and other Bedworth Councillors that this Council will fully engage with traders, shoppers, users and visitors to the indoor market and provide to them a full update of the plans and timeline for the refurbishment of the indoor market as a matter of expediency?

Councillor N. King, Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration, responded as follows:

Money has been reserved for Bedworth Indoor Market, additional problems have been found and therefore had to find extra funding. This has been identified to make the building safe. With the additional funds the project can now continue onwards and upwards for the indoor market.

Councillor Bill Hancox asked the following supplementary question:

Is the additional funding on top of £700k or within £700k?

Councillor N. King responded as follows:

Additional funding has been identified for the additional works needing to take place due to the neglect of the building over a long period of time. We will keep you and the constituents in Bedworth updated on the progress.

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following motion:

'A future report be brought to full council on the status and progress of Bedworth Market and information on how it is being brought forward'

The motion was seconded by Councillor S. Markam

A vote was taken

It was **RESOLVED** that a future report be brought to full council on the status and progress of Bedworth Market and information on how it is being brought forward

Question 2 – Councillor Eric Amaechi asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

Does the Leader of the Council agree with Warwickshire County Council's assertion that their proposals for the reorganisation of Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Services in the area will have no detrimental effect on the residents and Businesses in the Borough?

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

I most definitely do not agree with Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service with their reorganisation of their service. I have mentioned how disappointed I am in the cuts to the service before and I did have a meeting with the Chief Fire Officer and Izzy Seccombe a few months ago which was pointless because it was obvious that they would be going ahead with the cuts. I also recently had a meeting with the Leader of WCC and their chief executive where I raised concerns about some of the warehouses we have in Nuneaton, and I asked if these had been taken into consideration when making the cuts considering some of the contents of these warehouses.

We agree that Bedworth needs a fire appliance which would mainly deal with Road Traffic Collisions on the M6 and of course some fires but Nuneaton is growing faster than any Town in Warwickshire and needs more than one appliance. We have just had the tallest building in Nuneaton built and the ladders are kept in Leamington which would take over an hour to get to Nuneaton.

Councillor S. Hey moved the following motion:

‘This Council expresses serious concern at the proposed cuts to Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, which risk reducing frontline cover, increasing response times, and compromising public safety in Nuneaton, Bedworth, and the wider area.

We believe residents deserve a fully resourced and effective fire and rescue service, and that any changes should be subject to a thorough risk assessment and proper public consultation.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- 1. Oppose any cuts that reduce fire cover or emergency response capability in our borough.**
- 2. Write to Warwickshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Chief Fire Officer to set out this concern and opposition.**
- 3. Call for a full risk assessment and public consultation before any service reductions are made.’**

The motion was seconded by Councillor B. Hughes

A vote was taken.

It was **RESOLVED** that this council

- a) opposes any cuts that reduce fire cover or emergency response capability in our Borough;
- b) write to Warwickshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Chief Fire Officer to set out this concern and opposition; and
- b) call for a full risk assessment and public consultation before any service reductions are made

Question 3 – Councillor Rob Roze asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement:

Can the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement confirm how Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's performance in determining planning applications has changed over the past year and what steps have been taken to make improvements?

Councillor T. Venson Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement responded as follows:

Over the past year, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has seen significant improvements in its performance regarding determining planning applications, moving to a position where the past two quarters (Oct-Dec '24 and Jan-Mar '25) have seen 100% of planning applications determined within their time frame or within an agreed extension of time, with the same expected in the current quarter (Apr-Jun '25). We have implemented a Validation Checklist for the first time in our history which helps to front-load the necessary planning documents for each planning application from the very start. We have had some staff leave over the past 12 months, but the Developmental Control Team have not allowed it to affect performance whilst we have recruited to vacant posts.

Question 4 - Councillor Jonathan Collett asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration:

St George's Hall is an iconic part of Nuneaton's heritage, with a name that resonates deeply across generations of local families including my own. The building, home to a sprung dance floor, a stage, and beautiful stained-glass windows, was awarded £2 million of public funding for its restoration and renewal.

I was therefore concerned to learn that Saints Nuneaton appear to be intending to rename the venue, which would risk erasing a vital part of the town's cultural

and historic identity. I raised this matter at the Business and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Panel, where I was pleased to receive cross-party support to ask Cabinet to seek the restoration of the name “St George’s Hall.” The Strategic Director for Place and Economy also confirmed at the time that she had not been aware of the proposed name change and undertook to investigate the matter further. Moreover, a Council spokesperson subsequently told the *Nuneaton News* that: “The Council have been in contact with the CEO and elevated the concerns that were raised during the OSP. The Council is now waiting to hear the outcome.”

Can the Cabinet Member please confirm whether a response has now been received from the CEO of Saints Nuneaton and if so, what that response was?

Councillor N. King, Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration, responded as follows:

The CEO has been contacted and gave the following response:

‘The name of the building is still called Saints (which was changed when we took on the property as it was formerly called ‘Saints No More’ with prior names being Barracuda Bar and Four Doors Down. The name of the Charity is still Together for Change.

Within the Towns Deal grant agreement and the draft lease agreement, there is no mention of not being able to rename the hall, so legally we felt we were happy to go ahead and re-name it after someone who shared our vision and values to transform communities and to serve the poor and needy.

We do recognise that the building is often call the former Conservative Club, and the hall may be known locally as the old St George’s Hall by many older residents, however, the name of the building has changed several times since it was built.

Regarding the lease agreements, we still have not had any of the three outstanding leases ready to sign. We are keen to progress this before the next elections and especially keen to make use of the Alara’s empty unit and the Bar Pool shop unit too.

Councillor Chris Watkins, the Leader of the Council and the Mayor was at the opening event and re-naming ceremony, and we are happy for any other councillors who would like to visit the centre in the future’

Councillor J. Collett supplementary was as follows:

I am very disappointed in the response; it is a very distinct and celebrated part of the Town's history. I hoped that instead of extending the invite they would take into account the public's wishes.

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following motion:

'This Council resolves that we believe the heritage of our Borough should be respected and call upon the CEO of Saints to retain the name St Goerge's Hall as part of the building'

Councillor J. Collett seconded the motion.

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

FOR: Councillors D. Brown, J. Clarke, J. Collett, T. Cooper, S. Croft, L. Cvetkovic, M. Etienne, J. Gutteridge, J. Hartshorn, A. Khangura, S. Markham, W. Markham, B. Pandher, R. Smith, M. Walsh and K. Wilson

AGAINST: Councillors E. Amaechi, J. Bonner, W. Hancox, S. Hey, P. Hickling, B. Hughes, T. Jenkins, N. King, C. Phillips, K. Price, R. Roze, B. Saru, J. Sheppard, T. Sheppard, C. Smith, T. Venson and, C. Watkins,

ABSTENTIONS: Councillors M. Kondakor and M. Wright

The motion was lost.

Question 5 – Councillor Michele Kondakor asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement:

Would the Portfolio Holder for Planning provide an update on the progress of adoptions of the open spaces and any associated play areas on the 3 now completed developments on the Weddington Road? There has been considerable delay in the adoption of Church Fields open spaces. This was the first development in Weddington. We have seen changes that were done over a year ago, as part of this process but since then things seem to have stalled.

Councillor T. Venson, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement responded as follows:

Thank you for your question relating to developments in the Weddington site. I can update as follows:

Taylor Whimpey – several meetings have taken place with NBBC Officers since 2022, with the latest correspondence in May 2025, providing feedback on required maintenance records and the cycle path ramps suggestions. Further dialogue has been ongoing for final agreement and delivery of landscape drawings and delivery. No adoption of facilities has taken place.

Davidsons - Final certificate of completion for POS sent to developer, NBBC and Davidsons legal representative's ongoing dialogue.

Barratts - Repeated site meetings with Barratts since 2022/23 and ongoing, no final certificates issues until snagging list addressed by Barratts representatives sent by NBBC officers in April 2025. Barratts will contact us when the snags are completed probably Autumn 2025 or Spring 2026 and this will take things a step closer to adoption.

Question 6 – Councillor Martin Walsh asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration:

Like you Mr Mayor, I do not originate from here, but have lived in Bedworth for nearly 40 years, during which time I have witnessed the decline of the town whilst the Labour Group have held control of this Borough Council for some 35 of those years.

When I became a Councillor in May 2021 and we took control of this Council, I was pleased to see that, with thanks to former Councillor Kyle Evans, for securing the funding, and his successor, Councillor Sue Markham, as portfolio holders, the long-awaited Bedworth Physical Activity Hub was going to become a reality. Had Labour been in control it would still have been on the drawing board. Likewise, whilst we were in control we secured £715K for the refurbishment of the indoor market, and our MP at the time, Craig Tracey, secured £20M for the town. We all know that our current MP, Rachel Taylor, denied it's existence but then it miraculously re-appeared.

So I ask the portfolio holder, on behalf of the residents of Bedworth, what has happened to the £715K for the market and the £20M for the Town, and when are we going to see the evidence of it being used to benefit the town of Bedworth for which it was intended?

Councillor N. King, Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration responded as follows:

The market refurbishment will be covered in a future report. The site works will commence on 8th September 2025 to 23rd October, Internal works 15th September to 20th November and the facade 20th September to 12th December.

At this juncture it is proposed to keep the market open on the nominated market day throughout the works to limit any disruption to the traders and public. For the delay in the £20M, the original proposal was delayed following the change of government last year and a new Board was formed.

Bedworth has been awarded £20M of government funding to spend on projects over the next 10 years.

The first meeting of the Board was held recently, and we have until the end of November to get a Regeneration Plan submitted to Government.

Councillor M. Walsh asked the following supplementary question:

I appreciate the comments. I have concerns regarding the safety issue mentioned earlier and that the markets won't be closed, to what extent will the safety issue be?

Councillor N. King responded as follows:

This will be included in a future report

Question 7 – Councillor Kris Wilson asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Central Services:

It is currently taking up to 10 weeks for the finance team to process new Council Tax registrations. This places further stress on those moving home and strains on the cash flow for both the homeowner and the council.

Does the Portfolio Holder think that this delay is acceptable and what steps is he taking to improve the service for taxpayers?

Councillor S. Hey, Portfolio Holder for Resources and Central Services, responded as follows:

The simple answer to your question is "no" and I'd asked for this to be looked into and how we could improve.

A bit of background first.

In December 2024 the service manager retired which led to an internal promotion in the team leaving a post vacant. Subsequently another member of the team retired in March 2025.

Both retirees were long serving members to the council and had a wealth of knowledge which was lost. This is something I have asked the officers to keep an eye on as quite a number of our senior staff are getting to the point of retiring and we are losing a wealth of experience that simply isn't available to, say, an 18-year-old.

To compound things, annual billing began February 2025 which is a critical time for the team to get all bills out for the new financial year which became the main focus for resource between Feb – March 2025.

The recruitment process to fill the internal promotion and other vacant post was successful but both new starters didn't start until April 2025 and May 2025. These new starters are still in the training period of their employment.

A temporary agency worker was appointed, and 2 members of the recovery team have been working on billing to try and alleviate the delays.

I'm pleased to say this is starting to make an effect with the outstanding work now standing at a 5/6-week delay which is obviously heading in the right direction.

As the newer staff members become more familiar and knowledgeable with the processes and different types of cases, we expect this figure to reduce further back to where we benchmark it to be and, of course, this can be monitored at the OSPs.

Councillor K. Wilson asked the following supplementary question as follows:

I am pleased to hear this progress and that people may see an improvement in the service and the use of enforcement. Will the Cabinet Member speak to Revenues and Benefits department to ensure the residents are kept informed?

Councillor S. Hey responded as follows:

Yes

Question 8 – Councillor M. Bird submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Customer Services:

Can the member explain the significant increase in expenditure on agency staff as reported in the recent Strategic Performance Reports?

Specifically:

1. How many agency staff are currently employed by the authority, and in which departments or service areas are they primarily being utilised?
2. Is this increase in agency staffing linked to a rise in staff sickness levels within the authority.
3. Has the level of sickness increased since employees have been permitted to work from home?
4. Will the portfolio holder
 - a) Identify which service areas are finding it difficult to recruit suitable personnel?
 - b) What plans are in place to address the market competition to fill vacancies with reliable, permanent staff?

In Councillor M. Bird's absence, it was agreed that a written response be provided by Councillor S. Hey, Portfolio Holder for Resources and Customer Services. The response was as follows:

I'm sorry you were unable to attend the Council Meeting on 2nd July. I have provided my written response to your questions below.

However, before I delve into the details, I'd like to make a few broad points.

As a governing group, we have a policy of not getting involved in individual employment decisions (except, of course, for very top-level staff) as we have given the Strategic Directors budgets and expect them to manage them in the best way to achieve our service delivery objectives. In addition, interfering in employment decisions could, in the wrong hands, lead to corruption in our view.

I don't have an exact figure, but I understand that in 2010, we had approximately 700 FTE staff. This has fallen by over 100 following 14 years of your government's cuts. Furthermore, back in 2016/2017, the Conservative WCC completely withdrew the supporting people funding, so this also saw some job cuts.

Would you and your colleagues rather we did not employ agency staff, and that more of our own trusted, loyal employees are put under more pressure and stress?

There are lots of reasons for agency staff, and some of these could be long-term sickness, such as cancer, stress or any other sickness that takes time to get over.

Finally, before I move on to address the individual points you raise, I must say I object to the inference in question 4b that agency and part-time staff aren't reliable.

1. As of the end of June 2025, there were 35 active bookings for agency staff. Agency spend is generally covered by vacancy savings in most areas, unless there are other funding streams, like the s106 review officer in planning, where we are using anticipated underspends elsewhere to fund the role fully. These appointments are not authorised unless they are fully funded.
2. Let's put this in perspective. We currently have 581 FTE staff budgeted for so 35 represents just over 6%. It should be noted that although active, the nature of agency staffing may mean that some of these workers are on standby for short-term absence cover and may not be employed on an ongoing basis. Primarily, these bookings encompass waste management services and housing maintenance. On the latter, I'm pleased to say a number of these workers have recently been recruited permanently and will start direct employment shortly.
3. The reason given by managers when placing orders for agency workers varies. However, of the 35 active bookings referred to in point 1 above, 16 are noted as long-term or short-term absence cover. Of those, almost all (15/16) are within Waste Management.
4. Are sickness levels increasing? Well, in 2017/18, sickness accounted for 8.74% FTE time lost, which by 2023/24, the last time the Conservatives were in power, had gone up to 11.78% FTE time lost. This reduced slightly in 2024/25 to 11.29% but the trend in April and May is downwards further as we strive to hit the benchmark target of 8.75%
5. For the last two financial years, both Housing and Public Services have had the highest level of absence. Both services have a higher proportion of frontline employees who are unable to work from home.

6. a) The Council is generally successful in recruiting for most roles, attracting good volumes of applicants. However, in line with national trends, roles within Building Surveying and Legal have proved more challenging to recruit.

b) The Council has a range of policies that can assist in recruitment, and these are applied as appropriate. For example, market supplement payments have been added to some roles which has provided some recent success. These policies in addition to widening areas/publications in which vacancies are advertised and making the application process easier for candidates has increased applicant numbers.

I've endeavoured to give as comprehensive an answer on this as I can, but if I've missed anything, Councillor, please email me and I'll get back to you.

I hope you agree that the officers have got a good handle on this and that we should leave them to get on with their jobs.

Question 9 – Councillor M. Wright asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Health:

As the Bedworth Physical Activity Hub moves closer to completion, could the responsible cabinet member a) confirm when the skate park will be rebuilt and opened and b) confirm details of the tree-planting programme, including the number of mature trees lost in the construction process, the number of replacements to be planted and the timetable for their planting?

Councillor B. Hughes, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Health, responded as follows:

The handover of Phase 1 of the development which includes the new BPAH main building is scheduled for March 2026 completion
The handover of the Skate Park, learn to ride facilities and external oval area is scheduled for summer 2026
The remainder of the facilities including 3G pitch and car park is scheduled for late 2026.

The tree-planting programme is as per the approved planning application including number of tree's lost and replacement programme.

Councillor M. Wright asked a supplementary question as follows:

Were there any issues with soil contamination in the replanting process?

Councillor B. Hughes responded as follows:

No.

CL17 Special Urgency Decisions

None taken

CL18 Cabinet

The Leader of the Council submitted the Leaders report on behalf of Cabinet. The report highlighted matters considered at the Cabinet meetings held on 21st May 2025, and 18th June 2025 and details of reports from the West Midlands Combined Authority Board (WMCAB), which has a direct impact on NBBC.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

CL19 Timetable of Committee Meetings 2025/26 – Borough Plan Committee

A report of the Assistant Director – Democracy & Governance and Assistant Director - Planning submitted a report to council following a resolution from Council to schedule additional meetings of the Borough Plan Committee for the remainder of 2025/26 Municipal Year.

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, moved the recommendation for approval

Councillor S. Hey seconded the recommendation.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that the timetable of committee meetings set out in Appendix A of the report be approved and incorporated into the full timetable of committee meetings for the 2025/26 Municipal Year

CL20 Recommendations from Cabinet and Other Committees

i) Leisure Operator Procurement Update

At the Cabinet meeting held on 18th June 2025, recommendations were put forward for Council approval on the above item.

Councillor B. Hughes, Portfolio Holder for Leisure & Health, moved the recommendations for approval.

Councillor T. Venson seconded the recommendations.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that

- a) the funds be allocated within the 2025/26 capital programme up to £1.5million to support the Leisure Contract Variant 1 bid proposal;
- 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
- c) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Corporate Resources 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

ii) Pingles Decarbonisation Update

At the Cabinet meeting held on 18th June 2025, recommendations were put forward for Council approval on the above item.

Councillor B. Hughes, Portfolio Holder for Leisure & Health, moved the recommendation for approval

Councillor S. Hey seconded the recommendation

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that budget provision be identified in year, to support the additional costs for the Pingles substation of £150k.

iii) Local Government Reform

At the Cabinet meeting held on 18th June 2025, recommendations were put forward for Council approval on the above item.

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, moved the recommendations as follows:

- I. that a two unitary council model as follows:
 - a. Based on existing boundaries of North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council,
 - b. 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; and

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

Councillor S. Hey seconded the recommendations

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following amendment to add two recommendations as follows:

1. A cross-party politically balanced Cabinet Sub-Committee (the “Local Government Reform Cabinet Sub-Committee”) of 7 councillors be established to formulate recommendations to Cabinet in the run-up to final submission of Nuneaton and Bedworth’s proposal to government and once the final decision of MHCLG is received to work through and make recommendations on the work streams necessary to implement the decision.
2. Delegated authority is granted to the Chief Executive in consultation with each Group Leader to create the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Working Group and to appoint its membership.

Councillor S. Markham seconded the amendment

An adjournment was taken at 19.51pm to enable the councillors time to consider the amendment. The meeting recommenced at 19.56pm

A vote was taken on the amendment.

The amendment was carried.

The recommendations moved by Councillor C. Watkins from Cabinet and the inclusion of the two recommendations above became the substantive motion.

Councillor K. Wilson moved the following amendment to add the following recommendation:

Council requests a further detailed report to outline the implications of what a 2-council solution would look like in practice for the disaggregated services and new organisational relationships that would result, including:

- i. Council tax harmonisation
- ii. Highways and transport
- iii. Education services
- iv. Looked after children
- v. SEND provision
- vi. Adult social care
- vii. Emergency services, with particular reference to Fire and Police
- viii. Future relationship with the WMCA
- iv. Housing Revenue Account

Councillor S. Markham seconded the amendment.

A vote was taken.

The amendment was carried.

A vote was taken on the substantive motion which included the recommendations moved by Councillor C. Watkins from Cabinet, and the three additional recommendations as carried above.

It was **RESOLVED** that

- a) 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;

- c) delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive Officer to represent and act on behalf of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in all matters up to submission relating to Local Government Reform and reorganisation, in consultation with the Leader of the Council;
- d) a cross-party politically balanced Cabinet Sub-Committee (the “Local Government Reform Cabinet Sub-Committee”) of 7 councillors be established to formulate recommendations to Cabinet in the run-up to final submission of Nuneaton and Bedworth’s proposal to government and once the final decision of MHCLG is received to work through and make recommendations on the work streams necessary to implement the decision;
- e) delegated authority is granted to the Chief Executive in consultation with each Group Leader to create the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Working Group and to appoint its membership; and
- f) Council requests a further detailed report to outline the implications of what a 2-council solution would look like in practice for the disaggregated services and new organisational relationships that would result, including:
 - i. Council tax harmonisation
 - ii. Highways and transport
 - iii. Education services
 - iv. Looked after children
 - v. SEND provision
 - vi. Adult social care
 - vii. Emergency services, with particular reference to Fire and Police
 - viii. Future relationship with the WMCA
 - iv. Housing Revenue Account

iv) **Recommendation from the Constitution Review Working Party – Member Code of Conduct Complaint Process**

At Audit and Standards Committee held on 24th June 2025, a recommendation was put forward for Council approval.

Councillor J. Bonner, Chair of Audit and Standards Committee moved the recommendation for approval.

Councillor C. Watkins seconded the recommendation.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that the Constitution be amended accordingly

v) **Recommendation from the Constitution Review Working Party – Council Meeting Agenda Order**

At Audit and Standards Committee held on 24th June 2025 recommendations were put forward for Council approval as follows:

- that agenda item 'Questions By Members' be moved to the end of the agenda at Full Council and, if required due to time restrictions, Standing Orders be automatically suspended as necessary, in connection with the three-hour meeting rule, to maintain up to 45 minutes of 'Questions By Members'; and
- that the constitution be amended accordingly.

Councillor J. Bonner, Chair of Audit and Standards Committee, moved the recommendations for Council approval.

Councillor C. Phillips seconded the recommendations

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

FOR: Councillors E. Amaechi, J. Bonner, W. Hancox, S. Hey, P. Hickling, B. Hughes, T. Jenkins, N. King, C. Phillips, K. Price, R. Roze, B. Saru, J. Sheppard, T. Sheppard, C. Smith, T. Venson and, C. Watkins

AGAINST: Councillors D. Brown, J. Clarke, J. Collett, T. Cooper, S. Croft, L. Cvetkovic, M. Etienne, J. Gutteridge, J. Hartshorn, A. Khangura, M. Kondakor, S. Markham, W. Markham, B. Pandher, R. Smith, M. Walsh, K. Wilson and M. Wright

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLVED that the recommendations from the Constitution Review Working Party – Council Meeting Agenda Order be not approved.

vi) **Treasury Management 2024/25 – Year End Review**

At Audit and Standards Committee, held on 24th June 2025 a recommendation was put forward for Council approval.

Councillor J. Bonner, Chair of Audit and Standards Committee, moved the recommendation for Council approval.

Councillor C. Watkins seconded the recommendation

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that the Treasury Management 2024/25 Annual Report be approved.

Mayor

4A.9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4.9.1 General

At each Ordinary Meeting or Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council, 20 minutes (which can be extended at the discretion of the Mayor) shall be set aside for questions or statements from the public gallery by any resident of the Borough in relation to matters in respect of which the Council has powers or duties, or which affect the Borough. In the case of an Extra Ordinary Meeting the question or statement must relate to the business of that meeting.

4.9.2 Notice of Questions and Statements

No such question shall be asked, or statement made, unless it shall have been delivered in writing to the Head of Paid Service no later than 12 noon, two working days, before the meeting of the Council.

4.9.3 Scope of Questions and Statements

The Head of Paid Service may reject a question or statement if it:

- a) is not about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility or which doesn't affect the Borough;
- b) is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- c) is substantially the same as a question or statement which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months;
- d) requires or involves the disclosure of confidential or exempt information; or
- e) It is not a question nor a statement, as provided for in these Procedure Rules.

- 4.9.4** The Mayor will invite the relevant Cabinet Member or Committee Chair to give a reply. Such reply shall not exceed five minutes. In the case of a question, on the discretion of the Mayor, a supplementary question may be asked if arising directly from the reply, provided that the original allocation of five minutes is not exceeded. The Mayor may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds detailed in paragraph 4.9.3 above

4.9.5 Time Limit and Number of Questions

No question or statement shall exceed three minutes. In the event of there being more than one question or statement, the Head of Paid Service will ensure that questions and statements are dealt with in the order received. At the expiry of the 20 minute period, or such period as may be agreed by the Mayor, or after the reply to the final question or statement, whichever shall first occur, the Council will proceed to the next business.

4.9.6 Record of Questions and Statements

The question or statement and the reply given shall be minuted.

4.9.7 Reference of Question to the Cabinet or a Committee

Unless the Mayor decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question, but any Member may move that a matter raised by a question be referred to the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee. Once seconded, such a motion will be voted on without discussion.

4.9.8 Any question or statement which cannot be dealt with during Public Participation because of lack of time will be dealt with in writing, and recorded in accordance with paragraph 4.9.6.

4A.10 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

4.10.1 A Member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or the Chair of a Committee any question without notice upon an item of the report of the Cabinet or a Committee (respectively) when that item is being received or under consideration by the Council.

4.10.2 Questions on Notice at Full Council

At each meeting a Member of the Council may ask no more than one question (but see 4.10.3(b) below) on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties, or which affects the Borough. A Member may choose to ask their permitted question of either:

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chair of any Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee

4.10.3 No such question under paragraph 4.10.2 shall be asked unless:

- (a) the question has been delivered in writing to the Head of Paid Service and Leader 12 noon two working days before the day of the meeting of the Council; or
- (b) where the question relates to urgent matters, they have the consent of the Mayor or the Leader of the Council or the Portfolio Holder to whom the question is to be put or in the case of a Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee, the Chair, and the content of the question is given to the Head of Paid Service at least three hours before the time that the meeting is due to start.

4.10.4 The Member who put the question may ask one supplementary question of the Member to whom the first question was asked if it arises directly out of the original question or the reply, and shall be put and answered without discussion.

4.10.5 Response

An answer may take the form of:

- (a) a direct oral answer;
- (b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- (c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner.

4.10.6 Request to Speak on the Matter

- (a) Arising from the question, and the response or supplementary response given, any other member of the Council may request to move a motion in connection with the response under consideration and, if seconded, speak on the item. The Rules of Debate as set out in Council Procedure Rule 13 shall apply (as modified below) and the responder to the original question shall have the right of reply at the end of the debate.
- (b) Any debate on a question shall be limited to no more than 15 minutes (excluding the right of reply) and each member shall be limited to speaking for no more than three minutes each.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of (b) above, the maximum time for Members' questions shall not normally exceed 45 minutes, and the Mayor shall have discretion to limit the debate on questions as he or she shall see fit.

4.10.7 Reference of Question to the Cabinet or a Committee

Any Member may move that a matter raised by a question be referred to the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee. Once seconded, such a motion will be voted on without discussion.

- 4.10.8 Any question which cannot be dealt with because of lack of time will be dealt with in writing in accordance with paragraph 4.10.5 (c).

4.10.9 Questions on Notice at Committees, Panels or Sub- Committees

A Member of a Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee may, upon giving notice, ask the Chair of it one question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties, or which affect the Borough and which falls within the Terms of Reference of that Committee, Panel or Sub-Committee

Cabinet Report to Council - September 2025

1. Introduction

This report deals with the Cabinet meeting held on 16th July 2025.

2. 16th July 2025 - Cabinet Meeting

a) General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Capital Outturn and Collection Fund reports 2024 - 25 (Key Decision)

- Housing – Councillor C. Watkins

- Resources and Central Services – Councillor S. Hey

Cabinet received outturn reports for the above accounts. The Council are required to achieve a balanced budget each year.

The final outturn position for the General Fund Revenue Account has resulted in net expenditure of £21,153,375 with a contribution to general reserve of £250,661.

It has been a challenging year for the Council, but additional business rates, investment income and a hold of recruiting to vacancies has assisted in the outturn position.

The final outturn position for the HRA has resulted in net surplus of £409k which is an underspend of £409k.

During 2024/25 the HRA has faced increased costs for reactive repairs, but increased income has allowed the absorption of this and more with some of the backlog of works now being completed. Increased depreciation charges which will finance capital expenditure has been managed by reducing the funding from revenue. With the updated business plan being reported February 2025 slippage will need to be built into the 2025/26 capital programme and the funds resources will need to be managed.

An updated medium-term financial strategy will be presented to cabinet including the known risks and potential pressures during the budget setting process for 2026/27

The Capital Outturn report that was approved at Cabinet is included in the agenda for this Council meeting, recommending that the updated Capital Budget for 2025/26 be approved. The report details the outturn position for the General Fund and HRA Capital Programmes and the impact of any slippage in projects.

The Collection Fund outturn report was considered and approved and has performed well in year. A surplus of £403k was forecast in January 2024 and paid to the Preceptors during 2024/25 but, the surplus on the Fund for 2024/25 was £529k. The closing surplus balance on the Fund is £3.1m which is payable to Preceptors in 2026/27.

b) Parks and Greenspace Strategy and Allotment Strategy (Key Decision)

- Leisure and Health – Councillor B. Hughes

The Parks and Green Space Strategy and Allotment Strategy were agreed and formally adopted by Cabinet

The Parks and Green Space Strategy aims to improve the quality and accessibility of parks and greenspaces, promote health and wellbeing through active lifestyles, enhance biodiversity and environmental sustainability, ensure efficient use of resources while addressing budget constraints and leverage increased public interest in local greenspaces post-COVID to drive sustained engagement and use

The Allotment Strategy for NBBC highlights the importance of allotments as valuable assets for community health, environmental sustainability, and social cohesion. Through strategic planning, effective management, and community engagement, the council aims to continue and expand allotment provision and maximize their benefits for residents.

c) Ground Maintenance Procurement (Key Decision)

- Leisure and Health – Councillor B. Hughes

Cabinet was provided with options to consider the future management of the Grounds Maintenance Contract, on the expiry of the current outsourced contract.

Cabinet agreed for a procurement exercise to be undertaken to procure a contract and a grounds maintenance software system to support future delivery of the grounds maintenance contract.

Cabinet also approved a cross-party working group to be set up to seek guidance on the future new specification tender and evaluation themes.

d) Conduct Public Consultation on changes to Pool Bank Street Car Park (Key Decision)

- Communities and Public Services – Councillor K. Price

Cabinet was provided with an overview of matters arising from local residents to the Local Authority and Police regarding Anti-social behaviour in the evenings, speeding vehicles, vandalism and drug use.

The report sought to conduct a public consultation with residents and local stakeholders to seek views on the installation of additional gates to help alleviate issues.

Cabinet approved the report to conduct a consultation. This decision was then subsequently called in and an Extraordinary Housing and Communities OSP was held on 26th August to consider the call-in request. The Panel decided to endorse the decision made by Cabinet.

e) Skilled Migrant Workers Policy and Procedure

- Resources and Central Services – Councillor S. Hey

Cabinet approved the Skilled Migrant Workers Policy and Procedure for implementation that set out the Council's approach. The Policy and Procedure were needed to ensure the Council complies with requirements under its Skilled Worker Migrant Sponsorship License.

This decision by Cabinet was then subsequently called in and an Extraordinary Health and Corporate Resources OSP was held on 19th August 2025. The Panel decided to endorse the decision made by Cabinet.

f) Implementation of Sharepoint as the Corporate Document Management Solution

- Resources and Central Services – Councillor S. Hey

The report provided an overview of the requirement to vary the Microsoft Licensing contract in order to procure services to assist in the implementation and development of SharePoint as a corporate management solution.

Cabinet approved the report to vary the current Microsoft licensing contract which will enable the Council to create a secure, compliant and functional framework.

g) Bedworth Market Refurbishment Project (Key Decision)

- Business and Regeneration – Councillor N. King

The report sought Cabinet approval for the allocation of additional funding to complete the refurbishment works for the Bedworth Indoor Market.

Cabinet approved the additional £58k of additional funding and that a Joint Contract Tribunal be entered into with the nominated contractor to deliver the refurbishment.

West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA)

There are no specific reports to highlight to Council. The WMCA minutes are available on the WMCA website.

5. Conclusion

This report is presented on behalf of Cabinet, and, as always, my colleagues and I are only too happy to take any questions in relation to this report.

Councillor C. Watkins
Leader of the Council on behalf of Cabinet

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
17th September 2025

AGENDA ITEM 10

Recommendations for Adoption on:

- (a) Composition of Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Panels
- (b) Membership of Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Panels

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

**COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS
(2025/2026) – MID YEAR CHANGE**

Reason:

Following receipt of Notice by Councillor Rob Roze, dated 10th August 2025 regarding the Cessation of membership of the Labour Group and standing as an Independent.

RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) it be noted that having regard to the provisions relating to political balance, the composition of the following Committees/Scrutiny Panels subject to political balance rules be as indicated below for the remainder of the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

September 2025 changes in red

Committee	Seats to Allocate	Conser-vative	Labour	Green	Independent	Total
Business, Regeneration & Planning OSP (Excl co-optees)	9	4	4	0	1	9
Health and Corporate Resources OSP (Excl co-optees)	9	4	4	1	0	9
Environment and Leisure OSP (Excl co-optees)	9	4	4	0	1	9
Housing and Communities OSP (Excl co-optees)	9	4	5	0	0	9
Audit & Standards (Excl co-optees)	11	5	5	1	0	11
Planning	11	5	5	1	0	11
Licensing	11	5	5	1	0	11
Appeals	10	4	5	1	0	10
Shareholder Committee	6	3	3	0	0	6
Officer Remuneration Panel	5	2	2	0	1	5
Borough Plan	9	4	5	0	0	9
Total	99	44	47	5	3	99

- I. The definition of a political group is set out in regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. This hasn't been met for the Independent (non-affiliated) Member therefore, the Political Groups remain as is (Labour, Conservative and Green). Committee allocations are based upon Political Groups and thus the allocations are calculated in accordance with Section 15 and 16 of the Local Government

and Housing Act 1989. Independent (non-affiliated) members are to form part of the calculation for political balance purposes.

- II. The calculation was undertaken and identified 99 seats available, a total of 96 had been allocated based on the political balance of the Council via the three Political Groups.
- Labour Group total of **47** seats to allocate. Calculation: $18 / 38$ (total number of Cllr's) = 47.37%
 - Conservative Group total of **44** seats to allocate (no change). Calculation: $17 / 38$ (total number of Cllr's) = 44.74%
 - Green Group total of **5** seats to allocate (no change). Calculation: $2 / 38$ (total number of Cllr's) = 5.26%
- III. The principles have to be applied in priority order as follows:
- (i) That not all seats on the body are allocated to the same political group.
 - (ii) That the majority of the seats on the body are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group are a majority of the Council's membership.
 - (iii) Subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary committees of a relevant Council which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees of that Council as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council; and,
 - (iv) Subject to paragraphs (i) to (iii) above, that the number of seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the same number of all seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council.
- IV. This results in 3 unallocated seats to achieve the total of 99 seats available.
- V. Once seats have been allocated to political groups based on the calculations, the remaining seats can be offered by Council to the Independent (non-affiliated) members.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

**MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS
(2025/2026) – MID YEAR CHANGE**

September 2025 changes in red

Reason:

Following receipt of Notice by Councillor Rob Roze, dated 10th August 2025 regarding the Cessation of membership of the Labour Group and standing as an Independent.

It be RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) the membership of committees/scrutiny panels for 2025/2026 be updated as follows for the remainder of the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

Appeals (10)

Councillors: M. Bird, C. Phillips, J. Collett, S. Croft, C. Smith, M. Etienne, B. Hancox, J. Sheppard, T Sheppard and M. Wright.

Notes:

- 1. 5 members will be selected from the pool as required.
- 2. The Chair will be appointed at each particular meeting.

Audit and Standards Committee (11)

Councillor J. Bonner (Chair),
Councillor D. Brown (Vice-chair)

Councillors: A. Bull, T. Cooper, L. Cvetkovic, B. Hancox, J. Hartshorn, T. Jenkins, W. Markham, C. Smith and M. Wright.

Licensing (11)

Councillor T. Sheppard (Chair),
Councillor J. Gutteridge (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: M. Bird, J. Bonner, J. Clarke, S. Croft, M. Etienne, B. Hughes, T. Jenkins, N. King and M. Wright.

Planning Applications (11)

Councillor B. Hancox (Chair),
Councillor L. Cvetkovic (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: E. Amaechi, S. Dhillon, P. Hickling, M. Kondakor, S. Markham, W. Markham, J. Sheppard, R. Smith and K. Wilson.

Business, Regeneration and Planning Overview and Scrutiny (9)

Councillor P. Hickling (Chair)
Councillor J. Clarke (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: E. Amaechi, M. Bird, D. Brown, C. Phillips, R. Roze, B. Saru and R. Smith.

Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny (9)

Councillor J. Sheppard (Chair)
Councillor M. Walsh (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: J. Collett, J. Gutteridge, S. Markham, C. Phillips, R. Roze, B. Saru and C. Smith.

Health and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny (9)

Councillor S. Dhillon (Chair)
Councillor J. Hartshorn (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: J. Bonner, T. Jenkins, M. Kondakor, S. Markham, W. Markham, B. Pandher and C. Smith.

Housing and Communities Overview and Scrutiny (9)

Councillor C. Phillips (Chair)
Councillor M. Etienne (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: E. Amaechi, M. Bird, T. Cooper, S. Dhillon, B. Pandher, B. Saru and C. Smith.

Borough Plan (9)

Councillor T. Venson (Chair)

Councillors: A. Bull, L. Cvetkovic, T. Jenkins, C. Smith, R. Smith, M. Walsh, C. Watkins and K. Wilson.

Officer Remuneration Panel (5)

Councillor S. Hey (Chair)

Councillors: D. Brown, B. Hughes, R. Roze and K. Wilson.

Shareholder Committee (6)

Councillor J. Sheppard (Chair)

Councillors: J. Clarke, J. Gutteridge, S. Hey, N. King, and M. Walsh

AGENDA ITEM NO.11a

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 16th July 2025

Subject: Capital Outturn 2024/25

Portfolio: Resources & Central Services

Responsible Officer: Assistant Director - Finance

Corporate Plan – Theme: Your Council

Corporate Plan – Aim: Deliver continued forward financial planning
to safeguard the finances of the Council.

Ward Relevance: All

Forward Plan: Yes

Subject to Call-in: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To update on the Council's outturn position on capital expenditure for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The report is structured in the 2024/25 Cabinet Portfolios.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To consider of the final capital outturn position for 2024/25 for the General Fund and HRA.
- 2.2. That the updated capital budget for 2025/26 detailed in Appendix 2 is recommended to Council for approval.
- 2.3. To note the capital reserve position at the end of 2024/25.

3. Background

- 3.1. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has a large capital programme to provide community value and improve facilities. The outturn position for 2024/25 updates on how the programme is progressing.

4. Body of report

- 4.1. The Council's capital programme covers many projects for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.
- 4.2. General Fund projects are developed in line with strategies reported to Cabinet/Council and are funded through Section 106 developer contributions, grant funding (from the Government and other external providers), internal and external borrowing plus capital receipts generated through asset sales.
- 4.3. HRA projects are mainly for refurbishment of council houses, disabled adaptations to council housing plus new build. They are funded from HRA reserves, capital receipts from Right to Buy plus grant income.
- 4.4. The capital budget for 2024/25 of £76,092,727 was approved in February 2024 at Council with a updated budget requirement reported of throughout 2024/25 which finalised the budget at £77,395,282. The budget profile for 2024/25 was altered to give a three-year plan for capital spend rather than an annual update to prevent large movements in the budget in year.
- 4.5. A summary of the General Fund and HRA actual expenditure versus budget is below. The Expenditure in year was fully funded

Expenditure	Actual 2024/25 £'000	Amended Budget 2024/25 £'000	Variance £'000
Business & Regeneration	16,748	20,600	(3,851)
Resources and Customer Services	348	395	(47)
Housing	8,279	8,453	(174)
Planning and Enforcement	0	0	0
Leisure, Communities and Health	10,773	26,007	(15,233)
Capital: General	0	100	(100)
General Fund	36,149	55,555	(19,406)
Housing Revenue Account	16,579	21,841	(5,262)
Total Capital Expenditure	52,728	77,395	(24,667)

Financing	Actual 2024/25 £'000	Amended Budget 2024/25 £'000	Variance £'000
Earmarked Reserves / Revenue	1,414	5,363	(3,949)
Capital Grants / Contributions	29,932	45,979	(16,047)
Major Repairs Reserve	11,477	8,724	2,753
Capital Receipts	396	100	296
Prudential Borrowing	9,509	17,229	(7,720)
Total Financing	52,728	77,395	(24,667)

General Fund

- 4.6. The General Fund capital programme has underspent by £19.406m in year but a large proportion of the underspend is in relation to the regeneration projects and the build for the new Bedworth Physical Activity Hub.
- 4.7. Nuneaton & Bedworth is one of only 10 local authorities that have been included on the Pathfinder Pilot which was implemented by the Government in response to issues with delivery of projects. This enables transfers of funding between projects in a more streamlined and simplified way with the overall intention being to ensure regeneration of towns continues.
- 4.8. The Bridge to Living project and Parks Revival project have both been pushed back and will be completed in 2025/26 causing the majority of underspend on Business & Regeneration.
- 4.9. The biggest underspend seen in year is on the Bedworth Physical Activity Hub where the majority of the budget was re-profiled into the 2025/26 budget approved in February 2025. The project is still progressing well and expected to be delivered on time.
- 4.10. All other variances are small with projects either being completed or slipped into the 2025/26 programme. The detail for the variances are attached in Appendix 1 with any slippage or acceleration being highlighted in Appendix 2 which shows the effect on the 2025/26 capital programme.

UKSPF

- 4.11. The UKSPF projects outlined in Appendix 1 show an underspend, but the capital element of the project was fully spent in 2024/25.
- 4.12. This is due to the underspend on Bedworth Market being utilised to fund Bedworth Physical Activity hub due to delays with

procuring a contractor to complete the works. The amendment was submitted and authorised by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This allowed other resources to be alleviated and fund the project for completion in 2025/26 as the UKSPF money had to be utilised by 31st March 2025.

HRA

- 4.13. The capital budget for the HRA was approved as £22,079,988 in February 2024 but an updated budget position was reported to Cabinet in July 2024 of £21,840,625 to include changes due to slippage and acceleration of projects from 2023/24.
- 4.14. Management of the HRA capital programme is based on scheduled works and progression of new build and acquisition targets. The budget as a whole is utilised by need of the customer and the most efficient use of resources to ensure value for money and will therefore fluctuate against the initial forecasted expenditure by line in any one year.
- 4.15. The main variances against the revised budget are on construction of new properties which are in the pipeline but are experiencing delays.
- 4.16. The EWI programme commenced in April 2023 and still has some work to be completed in 2025/26. The budget proposed in Appendix 2 is to be funded from the Major Repairs Reserve to complete the programme.
- 4.17. With the business plan going for approval in February 2025, the profiling of the 2025/26 budget is sufficient and replaces any carry forwards for smaller underspends on other projects.

Capital Reserves

- 4.18. Reserves are held by the Council for capital purposes either generated through sales of assets, setting aside sums from underspends or receipts of grants for capital purposes.
- 4.19. The Council's capital reserve position at the end of March 2025 is as follows.

	2024/25 £
Capital Receipts	622,011
Capital Grants	15,112,116
Earmarked Reserves	3,338,937
GF Total	19,073,064
Capital Receipts	1,532,667
1-4-1 Receipts	3,670,289
Earmarked Capital	3,773,387
Major Repairs Reserve	1,830,421
HRA Total	10,806,764
Total Capital Resources	29,879,828

4.20. Capital reserves are allocated against specific projects with no residual unallocated amount available. This poses risks to any movement in the projected capital expenditure as there is nothing available to cover any fluctuations in expenditure.

5. Conclusion

5.1. The capital programme is fully funded and for 2024/25 there has been slippage in the programme. There are still risks associated with borrowing costs and changes in the economic landscape, but these have been mitigated as far as possible.

5.2. Any impact to the programme after tender will be reviewed and further options appraisals completed if they fall outside of the budgetary provision. Interest rates on projects where prudential borrowing is required will be carefully assessed for affordability prior to progressing.

6. Appendices

6.1. Appendix 1 – Capital Outturn 2024/25

6.2. Appendix 2 - Updated Capital Budget 2024/25 and Carry Forwards

7. Background papers

7.1. Capital Budget 2024/25 reported February 2024

8. Report Writer Details:

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Appendix 1

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL OUTTURN

Project	Revised Budget 2024/25	Actual 2024/25	Variance	Comments
General Fund Capital	55,554,656	36,148,912	(19,405,744)	
Business & Regeneration	20,599,787	16,748,458	(3,851,329)	
Grayson Place	16,395,904	15,971,089	(424,815)	Project spans a number of years and is on target for completion, but the profiling has now changed.
Bridge to Living	712,508	52,906	(659,602)	There were delays in vacating the final shop unit, so demolition is now re-scheduled for 25/26
George Eliot Visitor Centre	222,500	0	(222,500)	This project has hit delays as it is a historic building but should move ahead in 25/26
Parks Revival	1,652,541	0	(1,652,541)	Project started April 2025
E-mobility Hub	302,800	0	(302,800)	This project is linked to the progress of Grayson Place so will be completed within 25/26
Corporation Street/Queens Road	390,000	0	(390,000)	
Transforming Bedworth	0	8,987	8,987	Overspend for project funded from revenue contribution.
The Saints	623,534	571,181	(52,353)	Project will be completed in 25/26.
Car Parking Machine Upgrades	300,000	144,294	(155,706)	The majority of the new pay machines have been installed, Rope Walk and the system upgrade will be completed within 25/26
Resources and Customer Services	395,000	347,598	(47,402)	
ICT Strategy Programme	100,000	125,092	25,092	Overspend funded from revenue contributions.
Camp Hill - Early final phase	200,000	150,868	(49,132)	One property remains outstanding but will be completed in 25/26
Invoice Capture	0	24,464	24,464	Business Case approved in 24/25 and project complete
Planning and Land Charges Software	95,000	47,174	(47,826)	Project has experienced delays and expects to be completed in 2025/26
Housing	8,453,258	8,279,365	(173,893)	
Empty Homes - Works in Default	40,000	0	(40,000)	This is a demand led budget

Disabled Facilities Grants - HEART	5,125,000	6,024,859	899,859	We received additional grant allocation which is not reflected in the budget. Also, a new project and team was agreed to utilise unspent grant monies from previous years.
Empty Property Loans	100,000	0	(100,000)	No Officer in post during 24/25
Green Homes Grant	1,734,856	1,250,146	(484,710)	Project successfully completed in year with an underspend due to delays in starting this grant funded project.
Homeless Hostel Conversion	162,218	162,218	0	Project complete
Abbey Street Conversion (UKSPF)	0	90,000	90,000	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Anti-Vandalism Harefield & Rope Walk Car Park (UKSPF)	0	19,310	19,310	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Museum Lift (UKSPF)	0	17,380	17,380	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Stockingford Community Park (UKSPF)	0	43,948	43,948	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Sherbourne Play Area (UKSPF)	0	122,617	122,617	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
New Road Play Area (UKSPF)	0	22,579	22,579	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Attleborough Community Park (UKSPF)	100,000	134,367	34,367	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Marlborough Community Park (UKSPF)	150,000	122,567	(27,433)	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Sorrell Road Community Park (UKSPF)	225,000	161,370	(63,630)	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. Project fully funded from UKSPF
Bedworth Market (UKSPF)	716,184	104,520	(611,664)	The budget does not reflect the budget rollovers from 23/24. All projects are now complete with the exception of Bedworth Market which will be completed in 25/26 (£612k)

Boundary Paddock Toilet Block Improvements	100,000	0	(100,000)	Negotiations in relation to this project are on-going and Cabinet will be updated in the near future.
Shelter - Eaton House	0	3,483	3,483	Completion of project started in 23/24
Planning and Enforcement	0	0	0	
Leisure, Communities and Health	26,006,611	10,773,492	(15,233,119)	
Leisure Strategy	112,639	6,631	(106,008)	Remaining budget required for Leisure Facilities Strategy currently in development
BEDWORTH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY HUB (BPAH)	20,471,736	7,795,441	(12,676,295)	The project is progressing well with the underspend required in 25/26
Buttermere Recreation Ground Redevelopment	266,327	220,106	(46,221)	Project delivered within budget
Community Centre Grants	73,017	0	(73,017)	Demand led budget
Play Areas various	75,000	0	(75,000)	Demand led budget
Sandon/Weddington Cycleway	0	6,073	6,073	Initial costs for a project which has been budget for within 25/26
Coronation Walk Footpath/Cycleway	0	6,075	6,075	Initial costs for a project which has been budget for within 25/26
Fly Tipping Cameras	5,000	0	(5,000)	
Pauls Land Pavilion	10,500	0	(10,500)	Agreed terms have not yet been met
Sandon Park/Jack Whetstone Pavilion	26,859	0	(26,859)	Agreed terms have not yet been met
Ambleside Sports Club - Table Tennis Provision	22,750	18,000	(4,750)	Project completed within budget
Pingles LC Decarbonisation	2,378,783	2,155,299	(223,484)	2 year project to be completed in 25/26
Pingles Steel Columns	280,000	3,245	(276,756)	Project to be delivered in 25/26
Cemetery Extension	16,000	17,234	1,234	Ground Investigation costs
Cemetery Flooding Works	84,000	59,389	(24,611)	Project to be completed within 25/26
MAJOR REPAIRS	250,000	172,540	(77,460)	Underspends are being carried forward for future years
Environment Bill Food Waste Grant	981,000	0	(981,000)	Project to be delivered in 25/26
Vehicle & Plant Replacement	953,000	313,459	(639,541)	Refuse Vehicles to be delivered in 25/26
Capital: General	100,000	0	(100,000)	
Miscellaneous Projects	100,000	0	(100,000)	

HRA CAPITAL OUTTURN

Housing Revenue Account: Capital	21,840,626	16,579,091	(5,261,535)	
Decent Homes	1,200,000	1,323,289	123,289	Window and door programme reduced to cover the extra works identified to keep on top of the decent home's standard.
Roof Coverings/Modifications	900,000	833,161	(66,839)	Again, slight underspend to help cover increased costs of other projects.
Windows & Doors	800,000	570,279	(229,721)	Reduced programme to cover the increased costs of other projects.
Sheltered Alarm Call System	40,000	6,893	(33,107)	Programme halted and to be reviewed
Door Entry Scheme	0	96,171	96,171	Retention payment not accrued for in 23/24
CCTV Renewal - GP Flats	0	8,517	8,517	Retention payment not accrued for in 23/24
Shop Improvements	15,000	74,493	59,493	Programme budget was increased due to major works identified.
New Properties (Construction)	6,032,768	1,467,023	(4,565,745)	Delays with Armson and Cheveral with planning and site investigation etc but will start in 25/26
Byford Court - Rebuild	221,712	343,001	121,289	Project complete - think there was an issue with this budget the £222k is the approved rollover from 23/24 but there was also a budget of £459k approved for 24/25
Conversion of The Gables	324,391	233,866	(90,525)	Project completed under budget
Fire Safety Works	2,400,000	2,348,441	(51,559)	The project will be ongoing in 25/26
Conversion 196-198 Church Road	0	16,447	16,447	Final retention release funded.
Independent Living Unit - Remodelling	150,000	150,000	0	Complete
Clever Gardens	360,000	168,339	(191,661)	This project was completed by WCC and was completed under their predicted budget
Warm Air Units	200,000	0	(200,000)	It was agreed that this project should not proceed at present.
Electric Storage Heating	300,000	81,253	(218,747)	This programme was put on hold
New Street	1,365,000	0	(1,365,000)	Issues with the site so offer withdrawn
Community Safety	0	69,736	69,736	Funded by UKSPF Grant
Acquisition of Properties	115,473	451,550	336,077	2 properties were approved from the 23/24 budget but rollover incorrect and a delegated authority was approved for the 3rd purchase from S106 funding
25 Cheveral Place - Conversion of Wardens	68,555	69,176	621	Conversion completed and flats occupied

Concrete/Structural Repairs	190,000	305,120	115,120	A number of sites requires urgent remedial works - Lexington Court balconies & structural repairs at The Gables and Sunnyside Court
Level Access Showers	700,000	512,073	(187,927)	Demand led budget
Aids & Adaptations	1,000,000	787,020	(212,980)	Demand led budget
Central Heating	720,000	602,586	(117,414)	The contract was suspended for a while during the year so works delayed.
Garages	15,000	9,690	(5,310)	
Slabs to Tarmac	256,727	265,457	8,730	
Lift Renewal Works	50,000	0	(50,000)	Agreed no spend this year and original budget moved into 25/26 in order to complete a larger lift replacement.
District Heating Upgrade Works	150,000	166,143	16,143	
PIR Electrical Works	396,000	738,517	342,517	A vast amount of work was identified and needed to be completed to compile with standards
Voids	800,000	1,257,653	457,653	Agreed increase in programme due to the large number of voids
Stock Condition Survey	0	104,160	104,160	This was required to complete the survey and was funded by underspends on other projects
Structural/Concrete Repairs	2,400,000	3,145,048	745,048	Project has overspent due to mis-understanding with external consultant regarding the budget. And will need £755k in 25/26
Environmental Works	0	(5,508)	(5,508)	Project complete and the accrual from 23/24 was overstated
Contingency	200,000	78,443	(121,557)	Investigation costs
Capital Salaries	470,000	301,055	(168,945)	Numerous vacancies in year.

Appendix 2

Project	2025/26 Approved Budget	2023/24 Carry Forward Correction	2024/25 Budget Carry Forward / Adjustment	2025/26 Final Budget	Comments
Grayson Place	7,049,773	6,307,641	424,815	13,782,229	Budget incorrectly carried forward from 2023/24 incorrectly and underspend from 2024/25
Bridge To Living	0		659,602	659,602	Underspend from 2024/25
Towns Fund	2,733,307		137,312	2,870,619	Carry forward from 2024/25 for Parks Revival and the Saints
Bedworth Market	0		611,664	611,664	Carry forward from 2024/25
Car Park Ticket Machine Upgrade	0		155,706	155,706	Carry forward from 2024/25
Business & Regeneration	9,783,080	6,307,641	1,989,099	18,079,820	
ICT Strategy Programme	100,000			100,000	
Camp Hill	0		200,000	200,000	New budget to finalise Camp Hill purchases - Expenditure is claimed back from Barretts as per legal agreement.
Planning & Land Charges Software (IDOX)	0		47,826	47,826	Carry forward from 2024/25
Resources and Customer Services	100,000	0	247,826	347,826	
Empty Homes Works in Default	40,000			40,000	
Disabled Facilities Grants - HEART	6,359,027			6,359,027	
Empty Property Loans	100,000			100,000	
Boundary Paddock - Utility Block	100,000			100,000	
Warm Homes Local Grant	2,300,000			2,300,000	
Housing	8,899,027	0	0	8,899,027	
Planning and Enforcement					
Bedworth Physical Activity Hub (BPAH)	18,664,193		(1,283,817)	17,380,376	
Pingles LC Decarbonisation	1,957,307		223,484	2,180,791	Carry forward from 2024/25

Pingles External Steel Columns	0		276,756	276,756	Carry forward from 2024/25
Sandon/Weddington Cycleway	244,567		(6,073)	238,494	Acceleration for project starting in 2024/25
Coronation Walk Footpath/Cycleway	248,488		(6,075)	242,413	Acceleration for project starting in 2024/25
Clovelly Way Footpath	31,675			31,675	
Lilleburne Play Area	26,448			26,448	
Bermuda Balancing Lake	19,835			19,835	
Leisure Strategy	0		106,008	106,008	Carry forward from 2024/25
Marleborough Road Community Park	0		23,460	23,460	Carry forward from 2024/25
Sorrell Road Community Park	0		63,630	63,630	Carry forward from 2024/25
Pauls Land Pavilion	0		10,500	10,500	Carry forward from 2024/25
Sandon Park/Jack Whetstone Pavillion	0		26,859	26,859	Carry forward from 2024/25
Cemetery Works	0		24,611	24,611	Carry forward from 2024/25
Community Centre Grants	0		73,017	73,017	Carry forward from 2024/25
Buttermere Recreation Ground Redevelopment	0		22,100	22,100	Carry forward from 2024/25
Major Repairs	350,000		77,460	427,460	Carry forward from 2024/25
Environmental Bill - Food Waste	0		981,000	981,000	Carry forward from 2024/25
Vehicle & Plant Replacement	674,000		639,541	1,313,541	Carry forward from 2024/25
Leisure, Communities and Health	22,216,513	0	1,252,461	23,468,974	
Miscellaneous Schemes	50,000			50,000	
Capital: General	50,000	0	0	50,000	
General Fund Capital	41,048,620	6,307,641	3,489,386	50,845,647	

Project	2025/26 Approved Budget	2023/24 Carry Forward Correction	2024/25 Budget Carry Forward	2025/26 Final Budget	Comments
Decent Homes	1,199,000			1,199,000	
Roof Coverings/Modifications	1,500,000			1,500,000	
Windows & Doors	764,451			764,451	
Door Entry Scheme	12,375			12,375	
Shops Improvements	50,000			50,000	
New Properties (Construction)	4,146,790		1,415,557	5,562,347	Carry forward from 2024/25
District Heating Smart Meters	0			0	
Byford Court - Rebuild	44,803			44,803	
Conversion of The Gables	0			0	
Fire Safety Works	2,288,833			2,288,833	
Cleaver Gardens	120,000			120,000	
Electric Storage Heating	80,000			80,000	
External Areas for Improvements	130,093			130,093	
Road Surfacing	25,000			25,000	
Drainage Renewals	12,940			12,940	
Balconies and Balustrades	18,352			18,352	
External Fabric	304,843			304,843	
EPC Programme	70,000			70,000	
Concrete/Structural Repairs	402,188			402,188	
Level Access Showers	530,888			530,888	
Aids & Adaptations	950,000			950,000	
Central Heating	950,000			950,000	

Garages	25,000			25,000	
Slabs to Tarmac	130,356			130,356	
Lift Renewal Works	100,000			100,000	
District Heating Upgrade Works	50,000			50,000	
PIR Electrical Works (Sheltered Housing & Communal)	450,000			450,000	
Voids	1,113,750			1,113,750	
Stock Condition Survey	0			0	
EWI	0		755,300	755,300	New additional budget to be funded from Major Repairs Reserve
Housing Management System	200,000			200,000	
Contingency	200,000			200,000	
Capital Salaries	0			0	
Housing Revenue Account: Capital	15,869,662	0	2,170,857	18,040,519	

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Audit and Standards Committee
Date of Meeting:	9 th September 2025
Subject:	Treasury Management Update 2025/26
Portfolio:	Not Applicable
Responsible Officer:	Finance Manager - Treasury
Ward Relevance:	All
Public or Private:	Public
Forward Plan:	Not Applicable
Subject to Call-in:	Not Applicable

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The Council is required through the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code) to report to full Council a mid-year review.
- 1.2. This report sets out the Council's treasury position as at 30th June 2025 and therefore any decisions made after this date are not reflected in this report.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That it be recommended to Council that the Treasury Management Report for 2025/26 – Quarter 1 Review be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of the purpose of treasury management operations is to ensure cashflow is planned, with surplus monies being invested in low-risk counterparties, providing adequate liquidity to meet cashflow before considering optimising investment returns.
- 3.2. The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning to ensure the

Council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans, or using longer-term cash flow surpluses, and on occasion any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.

3.3. Accordingly, Treasury Management is defined by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice as: "The management of the local authority's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks."

3.4. This report has been written in accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management. The primary requirements of the Code are as follows:

- i.) Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy Statement which sets out the policies and objectives of the Council's treasury management activities.
- ii.) Creation and maintenance of Treasury Management Practices which set out the way the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives.
- iii.) Receipt by the full Council of an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement – including the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy – for the year ahead, a Mid-year Review Report (this report) and an Annual Report covering activities during the previous year.
- iv.) Delegation by the Council of responsibilities for implementing and monitoring treasury management policies and practices and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions.
- v.) Delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny of treasury management strategy and policies to a specific named body. For this Council, the delegated body is the Audit & Standards Committee.

3.5. This mid-year report has been prepared in compliance with the Code and covers the following:

- An economic update for the first three months of 2025/26.
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio as of Q1 2025/26.
- A review of the Council's debt portfolio as of Q1 2025/26.
- A review of any debt rescheduling undertaken during 2025/26.

4. Economic Update for Q1 of 2025/26

- 4.1. The Council's in-house team of qualified finance staff monitor and maintain the Council's Treasury Management activity in line with the Council's Strategy. The Council employs Link Group as its treasury management advisor and officers hold regular meetings with them concerning existing and future potential economic circumstances regarding both investments and short/long-term borrowing.
- 4.2. The first quarter of 2025/26 saw:
- UK GDP fell 0.3% m/m in April, the first fall since October 2024.
 - CPI inflation eased to 3.5% in May 2025 down from 3.8% in April.
 - The Bank of England cut the Base Rate to 4.25% in May (from 4.50%) and held the rate steady in the June Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting.
- 4.3. The consequence of the above is that PWLB rates (Public Works Loan Board) have fallen slightly since our last update. PWLB 5 to 50 years Maturity Rates are, generally, in the range of 4.00% to 5.32%. The PWLB rate is linked (but not directly) to the rate that similar Gilts are traded at. If the cost of Gilts increases or decreases, it will affect the PWLB rate. Reducing the Base Rate can also assist with reducing the Gilt Rate.
- 4.4. The US President introduced a series of Tariffs on international goods in April 2025. This caused a fears of a potential trade war and a drop in the FTSE, however as this was de-escalated, the FTSE 100 closed 2% higher at the end of June compared to the beginning of April. There could still be future issues caused by international trade increasing interest rates around the world, and the latest US Budget Bill is likely to increase the US Debt (meaning that there is more competition for Gilts/US bonds and therefore higher interest rates for both).
- 4.5. Our Treasury Advisors at the end of June had the view that the markets have built in decreases in the long-term gilt rates, but there are some differences in opinions on when a rate cut will occur meaning some variances in the short-term gilt market which will affect short-term borrowing and the rates of any Money Market Funds (MMFs).
- 4.6. Overall, there are predicted improvements to the UK economy, which will lead to reductions of the Bank of England Base Rate however the speed and amount of them will change, especially as inflationary pressures both at home and internationally will affect both the short term and long term PWLB rates. At the 30th June, it was expected that the MPC would reduce the Base Rate in the August meeting.

5. The Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30th June 2025

5.1. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2025/26, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice, it sets out the Council's investment priorities as being:

- Security of capital
- Liquidity
- Yield

5.2. A list of all investments held as at 30th June 2025 is shown below:

Counterparty	Amount Invested	Deposit Period	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
Fixed Term Deposit:				
West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner	£5.0m	2 Weeks	Jul 2025	4.28%
Total Fixed Term Deposits	£5.0m			4.28%
Notice Accounts:				
Total Notice Accounts	£0.0m			N/A
Property Funds				
CCLA Local Authority Property Fund	£2.0m	N/A	N/A	3.90%
Total Property Funds	£2.0m			3.90%
Money Market Funds:				
Federated Prime Rate	£10.0m	N/A	N/A	4.26%
Goldman Sachs	£2.0m	N/A	N/A	4.23%
Total Money Market Funds	£12.0m			4.25%
Instant Access/Call Accounts				
Lloyds Bank (Current Account)	£4.05m	Overnight	N/A	4.15%
Total Instant Access	£4.05m			4.15%
Total Investments	£23.05m			4.21%

5.3. The current investment counterparty criteria selection approved in the TMSS is meeting the requirement of the treasury management function.

6. The Council's Debt Position as at 30th June 2025

6.1. The Council's borrowing activity for the first 3 months of the financial year can be summarised as follows:

- No new loans were taken out
- £0.0m of debt matured
- £62.705m of debt is outstanding as at 30th June 2025 at an average rate of 3.64%. There are five loans due to be repaid in 25/26 totalling £12.0m

6.2. Due to the high interest rates, the Treasury Team is minimalising the amount of new external debt that the Council is undertaking and are waiting for the rates to drop unless there is a cashflow reason for processing a loan. The treasury team will choose maturity dates that minimise interest rates whilst still meeting the Council's Prudential Indicators.

6.3. The Council's Debt Position as at 30th June 2025 is shown below:

Borrowing	2025/26 Opening Balance £m	Balance as of 30 th June 2025 £m	2025/26 Closing Forecast £m
General Fund			
PWLB	6.75	6.75	31.75
Market LOBO	2.00	2.00	2.00
HRA			
PWLB	53.96	53.96	63.96
Total	62.71	62.71	97.71

7. Debt Rescheduling

7.1. Debt rescheduling opportunities have been very limited in the current economic climate and following the various increases in the margins added to gilt yields which have impacted PWLB new borrowing rates. No debt rescheduling has therefore been undertaken to date in the current financial year, and no debt rescheduling is planned in the foreseeable future.

7.2. The Council is currently breaching their Debt Maturity limits when the full Debt of both the General Fund and the HRA is considered. This is mainly due to HRA debts that were transferred from Central Government to the Council in 2011/12 which are expecting to mature in the next 5 years.

7.3. Part of the reason for the breach has been the use of internal borrowing over the last few years. Whilst making financial sense due to the high interest rates, this has indirectly led to the breach as the Council is not borrowing more long-term debt, and therefore the percentage of debt that is maturing shortly is higher. As the CPR figure earlier showed, the Council has more capacity for debt and therefore this is not as much a problem as if we were over-borrowed.

7.4. It should be noted that breaching these limits does not cause financial harm directly to the Council but should be taken as a warning that close management of the debt structure should be taken into consideration. New loans should be managed to ensure that the repayment of loans does not cause the Council financial difficulties, and that the amount borrowed meets the Councils financial requirements (e.g. no breaches of the Capital Financing

Requirement (CFR) are planned unless borrowing in advance for better interest rates).

- 7.5. The Council is expecting to use external borrowing later this year, which should assist with correcting the Debt Maturity breach, even if you include the HRA figures.

Total Debt Maturity Profile				
Debt Maturity within	£m	% of Total Debt	% of Running Total Debt	% for Lower and Upper Limit of Debt
Under 1 Year	12.0	19.1%	19.1%	0%-35%
1 -2 Years	10.0	15.9%	35.1%	0%-40%
2-5 Years	24.2	38.6%	73.7%	0%-50%
5-10 Years	8.5	13.6%	87.2%	0%-60%
10-20 Years	4.0	6.4%	93.6%	0%-70%
20-30 Years	0.0	0.0%	93.6%	0%-80%
30-40 Years	2.0	3.2%	96.8%	0%-90%
Over 40 Years	2.0	3.2%	100.0%	0%-100%
Total Debt	62.7	100.0%	100.0%	

- 7.6. If we look at just the General Fund Debt, there is no breach of the Debt Maturity limits. There is also room for capital loans in the 5-10 year region if needed, but this would have to be evaluated over the Council's priorities and the expected lifespan of the asset linked to the capital spend.

General Fund Debt Maturity Profile				
Debt Maturity within	£m	% of Total Debt	% of Running Total Debt	% for Lower and Upper Limit of Debt
Under 1 Year	2.0	22.2%	22.2%	0%-35%
1 -2 Years	0.0	0.0%	22.2%	0%-40%
2-5 Years	2.0	22.2%	44.4%	0%-50%
5-10 Years	0.0	0.0%	44.4%	0%-60%
10-20 Years	1.0	11.1%	55.5%	0%-70%
20-30 Years	0.0	0.0%	55.5%	0%-80%
30-40 Years	2.0	22.2%	77.7%	0%-90%
Over 40 Years	2.0	22.2%	100.0%	0%-100%
Total Debt	9.0	100.0%	100.0%	

8. Other Issues

8.1. Technical Breach of limits

On the 1st April 2025, The Council breached its technical limit by £15,862.75. This was caused by holding £10,015,862.75 in its current account at the end of the day. The limit for the Council's current account is £10,000,000. This breach occurred as unexpected funds were received during the day after the Treasury

dealing was completed. The Treasury team had left a £90,000 buffer to allow for extra funds to be received, but this was unexpectedly insufficient. As there was no location for the funds to be moved to (no counterparties were available to move the funds once the breach was noticed), the Council was forced to breach its limit overnight. On the 2nd April 2025, this breach was rectified, and no further breaches have occurred. There is no financial impact to the Council due to this breach. This breach was previously reported in June 2025 as part of the 2024/25 Treasury Annual Report.

8.2. Post Q1 Update

Since 30th June 2025, PWLB rates have risen to a range of 5.06-6.36%. This is partly due to the Bank of England increasing the number of longer-term gilts but also because the normal counterparties (Pension Funds and Insurance Companies) preferring shorter-term gilts increasing the price the Bank of England needs to pay. Based on this our Treasury Advisors have recommended that Councils should borrow short term and refinance those loans as they expire. They have also reevaluated their assumption that the long-term PWLB loan rate would fall as quickly as previously forecast. The over 25 year PWLB loan rate will still fall but at a slower rate.

There has also been a decision by the MPC to reduce the Bank of England Base Rate to 4.00% on the 7th August 2025. This was the closest vote yet with the first vote failing to make a clear decision, and a second vote was needed, which ended up changing the rate from 4.25% at 5-4.

With such a close vote, and a large proportion of the Committee voting to hold the rate at 4.25%, it is likely the BoE Base Rate will stay at 4.00% for the rest of the year. This (with the above change in how the Pension and insurance companies are investing) will likely mean that over 25 year Gilts and PWLB loans will be at a higher rate for longer.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1. That Audit & Standards Committee is recommended to note the Treasury Management 2025/26 Quarter 1 review

10. Appendices (if none, state none)

- 10.1. None

11. Background Papers (if none, state none)

- 11.1. None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11c

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 10th September 2025

Subject: Capital Monitoring Quarter 1

Portfolio: Resources & Central Services

Responsible Officer: Assistant Director - Finance

Corporate Plan – Theme: Your Council

Corporate Plan – Aim: Deliver continued forward financial planning
to safeguard the finances of the Council.

Ward Relevance: All

Forward Plan: Yes

Subject to Call-in: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To update on the Council's Q1 forecasted outturn position on capital expenditure for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To consider the Q1 forecasted capital outturn position for 2025/26 for the General Fund and HRA.
- 2.2. To approve and recommend to Council, the updates to the 2025/26 Capital Budget under point 5 within the report.
- 2.3. To give delegated authority to the Strategic Director for Place and Economy in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration to liaise with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to re-allocate funding to Bridge to Living.

3. Background

- 3.1. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has a large capital programme to provide community value and improve facilities. The Q1 outturn position for 2025/26 updates on how the programme is progressing.

4. Body of report

- 4.1. The Council's capital programme covers many projects for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.
- 4.2. General Fund projects are developed in line with strategies reported to Cabinet/Council and are funded through Section 106 developer contributions, grant funding (from the Government and other external providers), internal and external borrowing plus capital receipts generated through asset sales.
- 4.3. HRA projects are mainly for refurbishment of council houses, disabled adaptations to council housing plus new build. They are funded from HRA reserves, capital receipts from Right to Buy plus grant income.
- 4.4. The capital budget for 2025/26 of £56,918,282 was approved in February 2025 with further updates being approved July 2025, resulting in the current budget £68,928,166.
- 4.5. A summary of the General Fund and HRA forecasted expenditure versus budget is below alongside financing of the programme with further detail included in Appendix 1.

	Approved Budget	Forecast Actual	Variance
	£	£	£
Business & Regeneration	18,137,820	18,137,820	0
Resources and Central Services	347,826	347,826	0
Leisure, Communities and Health	23,452,974	23,461,914	8,940
Environment and Public Services	0	0	0
Housing	8,899,027	8,899,027	0
Planning and Enforcement	0	0	0
Capital General	50,000	50,000	0
General Fund	50,887,647	50,896,587	8,940
HRA	18,040,519	18,077,773	37,254

Total	68,928,166	68,974,360	46,194
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General Fund

- 4.6. A small variance is expected due to installing lighting columns at Attleborough recreation grounds which will be financed through a contribution from revenue.
- 4.7. All other General Fund projects are expected to be on target for 2025/26.

HRA

- 4.8. The capital budget for the HRA was approved as £15,869,662 in February 2025 with further updates being approved in July 2025, resulting in the current budget £18,040,519.
- 4.9. Management of the HRA capital programme is based on scheduled works and progression of new build and acquisition targets. The budget as a whole is utilised by need of the customer and the most efficient use of resources to ensure value for money and will therefore fluctuate against the initial forecasted expenditure by line in any one year.
- 4.10. The variance against the budget is in relation to fire remedial works needing to be completed due to 2 fire instances. This variance is financed by a contribution from revenue.

Capital Reserves

- 4.11. Reserves are held by the Council for capital purposes either generated through sales of assets, setting aside sums from underspends or receipts of grants for capital purposes.
- 4.12. The Council's capital reserve position at the end of March 2025 is as follows.

	2024/25 £
Capital Receipts	622,011
Capital Grants	15,112,116
Earmarked Reserves	3,338,937
GF Total	19,073,064
Capital Receipts	1,532,667
1-4-1 Receipts	3,670,289
Earmarked Capital	3,773,387
Major Repairs Reserve	1,830,421

HRA Total	10,806,764
Total Capital Resources	29,879,828

- 4.13. Capital reserves are allocated against specific projects with no residual unallocated amount available. This poses risks to any movement in the projected capital expenditure as there is nothing available to cover any fluctuations in expenditure.

5. Budget Updates

- 5.1. Funding was originally sourced to complete works on Corporation Street and Wheat Street junction via the Pathfinder Programme. The Council are no longer contributing to these projects and the County Council are progressing this alleviates the funding to mitigate the pressures being faced when costing out the Bridge to Living (BTL) project it is proposed for £500k of this money to be re-allocated to the BTL project. Before going ahead approval will need to be sort via MHCLG by the Strategic Director for Place and Economy.
- 5.2. Following approval of a business case for building works on the Town Hall to alleviate office space for external organisations to rent. There is a requirement to add a new project and budget of £60,450 to the capital programme to deliver this project.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1. The capital programme is fully funded in its present form. The biggest risks to the Council are inflation, price increases for building supplies plus any delays which could occur result in funding being withdrawn.
- 6.2. Adjustments to the programme in light of the difficulties around cost and delivery will be reported to Cabinet but projects are continually under review for viability. Interest rates on projects where prudential borrowing is required will be carefully assessed for affordability prior to progressing.

7. Appendices

- 7.1. Appendix 1 – Quarter 1 Forecast General Fund Capital Outturn 2025/26
- 7.2. Appendix 2 – Quarter 1 Forecast Housing Revenue Account Capital Outturn 2025/26

8. Background papers

- 8.1. Capital Budget 2025/26 reported February 2025
- 8.2. Capital Outturn 2024/25 reported July 2025

9. Report Writer Details:

Officer Job Title: Assistant Director - Finance

Officer Name: Liam Brown

Officer Email Address: liam.brown@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

Appendix 1

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL MONITORING AS AT JUNE 2025					
Project	Approved Budget	Current Forecast	Forecast Variance	Re-profiled Budget	Comments
Grayson Place	13,782,229	13,782,229	0	0	
Bridge to Living	659,602	659,602	0	0	
Parks Revival	1,605,307	1,605,307	0	0	
George Eliot Visitor Centre	222,500	222,500	0	0	
The Saints	12,812	12,812	0	0	
Corporation Street / Queens Road Junction	390,000	390,000	0	0	Funding to be re-allocated to Bridge to Living
Wheat Street Junction	390,000	390,000	0	0	Funding to be re-allocated to Bridge to Living
E-mobility Hub	250,000	250,000	0	0	
Bedworth Market	669,664	669,664	0	0	
Car Park Ticket Machines	155,706	155,706	0	0	
Business & Regeneration	18,137,820	18,137,820	0	0	
ICT Strategy Programme	100,000	100,000	0	0	
Camp Hill	200,000	200,000	0	0	
Planning & Land Charges Software (IDOX)	47,826	47,826	0	0	
Resources and Central Services	347,826	347,826	0	0	
Bedworth Physical Activity Hub (BPAH)	17,380,376	17,380,376	0	0	
Pingles LC Decarbonisation	2,180,791	2,180,791	0	0	
Pingles External Steel Columns	276,756	276,756	0	0	
Sandon/Weddington Cycleway	238,494	238,494	0	0	

Coronation Walk Footpath/Cycleway	242,413	242,413	0	0	
Clovelly Way Footpath	31,675	31,675	0	0	
Lilleburne Play Area	26,448	26,448	0	0	
Bermuda Balancing Lake	19,835	19,835	0	0	
Leisure Strategy	106,008	106,008	0	0	
Marleborough Road Community Park	23,460	23,460	0	0	
Sorrell Road Community Park	63,630	63,630	0	0	
Attleborough Rec	0	8,940	8,940	0	Installation of lighting columns to be funded by revenue contributions.
Pauls Land Pavillion	10,500	10,500	0	0	
Sandon Park/Jack Whetstone Pavillion	26,859	26,859	0	0	
Cemetery Works	24,611	24,611	0	0	
Community Centre Grants	73,017	73,017	0	0	
Buttermere Recreation Ground Redevelopment	22,100	22,100	0	0	
Environment Bill Food Waste Grant	981,000	981,000	0	0	
Major Repairs	411,460	411,460	0	0	
Vehicle & Plant Replacement	1,313,541	1,313,541	0	0	
Leisure, Communities and Health	23,452,974	23,461,914	8,940	0	
Empty Homes Works in Default	40,000	40,000	0	0	
Disabled Facilities Grants - HEART	6,359,027	6,359,027	0	0	
Empty Property Loans	100,000	100,000	0	0	
Boundary Paddock - Utility Block	100,000	100,000	0	0	
Warm Homes Local Grant	2,300,000	2,300,000	0	0	
Housing	8,899,027	8,899,027	0	0	
Capital: General	50,000	50,000	0	0	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	50,887,647	50,896,587	8,940	0	

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL MONITORING
AS AT JUNE 2025

Project	Approved Budget	Current Forecast	Forecast Variance	2026/27 Re-profiled Budget	Comments
Decent Homes	1,199,000	1,199,000	0	0	
Roof Coverings/Modifications	1,500,000	1,500,000	0	0	
Windows & Doors	764,451	764,451	0	0	
Door Entry Scheme	12,375	12,375	0	0	
Shops Improvements	50,000	50,000	0	0	
New Properties (Construction)	5,562,347	5,562,347	0	0	
Byford Court - Rebuild	44,803	44,803	0	0	
Fire Safety Works	2,288,833	2,288,833	0	0	
Cleaver Gardens	120,000	120,000	0	0	
Electric Storage Heating	80,000	80,000	0	0	
External Areas for Improvements	130,093	130,093	0	0	
Road Surfacing	25,000	25,000	0	0	
Drainage Renewals	12,940	12,940	0	0	
Balconies and Balustrades	18,352	18,352	0	0	
External Fabric	304,843	304,843	0	0	
EPC Programme	70,000	70,000	0	0	
Concrete/Structural Repairs	402,188	402,188	0	0	
Level Access Showers	530,888	530,888	0	0	

Aids & Adaptations	950,000	950,000	0	0	
Central Heating	950,000	950,000	0	0	
Garages	25,000	25,000	0	0	
Slabs to Tarmac	130,356	130,356	0	0	
Lift Renewal Works	100,000	100,000	0	0	
District Heating Upgrade Works	50,000	50,000	0	0	
PIR Electrical Works (Sheltered Housing & Communal)	450,000	450,000	0	0	
Voids	1,113,750	1,113,750	0	0	
EWI	755,300	755,300	0	0	
Housing Management System	200,000	200,000	0	0	
Contingency	200,000	200,000	0	0	
Fire Damage Properties	0	37,254	37,254	0	
				0	
Total HRA	18,040,519	18,077,773	37,254		