

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

3rd December 2025

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 3rd December 2025 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

Councillor S. Hey (Deputy Leader and Resources & Central Services) (Chair)
Councillor N. King (Business & Regeneration)
Councillor K. Price (Communities & Public Services)
Councillor T. Venson (Planning & Enforcement)

CB62 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillor C. Watkins (Leader and Housing) and Councillor B. Hughes (Leisure & Health)

CB63 Declarations of Interest

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

CB64 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 12th November 2025, be approved, and signed by the Chair

CB65 Adoption of Borough Plan and Local Development Scheme

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted the Borough Plan Review as amended by the Main Modifications, this has been independently examined by two Government Appointed inspectors and was found to be sound, for Cabinet to recommend to Council for adoption. The report also included the updated Local Development Scheme for adoption.

RESOLVED that

- a) the content of the Inspectors' Report into the Examination of the Borough Plan Review (Appendix A of the report) and Schedule of Main Modifications (Appendix B of the report) be noted;
- b) It be recommended to Council to adopt the Borough Plan Review as per the Inspectors Report (8th October 2025), incorporating the Main Modifications (Appendix B of the report). A version of this Plan and the accompanying Policies Maps are available on the website;
- c) all policies in the Borough Plan (2011-2031) will be superseded by the Borough Plan Review, upon adoption be noted;
- d) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement, authority to:

- Issue a Borough Plan Review adoption statement and Sustainability Appraisal Report in accordance with Regulations 17 and 26 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012, as amended;
 - Make any non-material updates and drafting changes to the Borough Plan Review. This includes the additional (minor) Modifications published alongside the Main Modifications (Appendix B); and
 - Publish the final versions of the Borough Plan Review and the Policies Map; and
- e) it be recommended to Council that the updates made to the Local Development Scheme (Appendix C of the report) be approved and that the Local Development Scheme be adopted.

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

Not to adopt the Borough Plan Review - In this case the Council will not have an up-to-date adopted local plan in place and there would be uncertainty over the planning framework for the Borough. In turn this will assist in facilitating unplanned development across the Borough and would represent poor strategic planning increasing the risk of inappropriate development.

Furthermore, given the advanced stage of the Local Plan, it is highly likely that Government would intervene using its powers to ensure that the Local Plan which has been found sound and capable of adoption is adopted.

Reasons

It is a legal requirement to have a Local Plan for the Council's administrative area.

CB66 Infrastructure Funding Statement

The Assistant Director –Planning submitted a report to Cabinet to seek approval to publish the 2024/25 Infrastructure Funding Statement.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024/25 and its publication to the website be approved, in line with statutory requirements set out in the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019;
- b) the monies received, held and spent from s106 in the financial year 2024/25 be noted; and
- c) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement, to make any minor changes to the document prior to publication.

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

- The 2024/25 Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) is not approved or published - Rejected - The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2019 require a contribution receiving authority to publish an IFS.

Reasons:

Local Authorities are required to submit an IFS no later than 31st December of the reporting year. This is a mandatory requirement set out within the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) (Regulations 2019)

CB67 Air Quality Management – Revocation of Midland Road Air Quality Management Area (AQMA 2)

A report by the Assistant Director – Environment and Enforcement submitted a report for Cabinet to consider the revocation of Midland Road AQMA 2 following a requirement from DEFRA.

RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next meeting of Cabinet (21st January) in order to consider further information.

Speakers:

N/A

Options:

N/A

Reasons:

N/A

CB68 Draft Budget 2026/27

The Strategic Director – Corporate Resources submitted to Cabinet a draft position for the General Fund Budget for 2026/27.

RESOLVED that

- a) the General Fund budget position detailed within the report be noted;
- b) an update on the General Fund 2026/27 budget be presented to Cabinet in February 2026 once the NNDR1 is finalised and the Local Government Financial Settlement has been announced;
- c) the Chairs of Overview & Scrutiny Panels are notified of the budget proposals in line with the Constitution; and
- d) it be noted and recommended to Full Council the approval of the Council Tax base for 2026/27 increase from 40,809.30 to 41,369.00 as per 5.2 of the report and the surplus on the Council Tax Fund detailed in paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the report.

Speakers:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

The draft budget considers all opportunities and risks therefore an options appraisal isn't required.

Reasons:

To Council is required by section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the Act") to calculate for each financial year the basic amount of its council tax.

CB69 General Fund Budget Monitoring Quarter 2 2025/26

The Assistant Director – Finance presented to Cabinet the forecast revenue outturn position for the General Fund as of 30th September 2025.

RESOLVED that the forecast outturn position for the General Fund for 2025/26 be noted, with consideration given to key variances.

SPEAKERS

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To approve the recommendation

To not approve the recommendation and request further information.

Reasons

The Council must submit regular financial reporting of its budgets.

CB70 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Monitoring Quarter 2 2025/26

The Assistant Director – Finance presented to Cabinet the forecast revenue outturn position for the HRA as of 30th September 2025.

RESOLVED that the forecast outturn position for the HRA for 2025/26 be noted with consideration given to key variances.

SPEAKERS

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To approve the recommendation

To not approve the recommendation and request further information.

Reasons

The Council must submit regular financial reporting of its budgets.

CB71 Capital Account Budget Monitoring Quarter 2 2025/26

The Assistant Director – Finance presented to Cabinet the forecast outturn position on the capital expenditure for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account as.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Q2 forecasted capital outturn position for 2025/26 for the General Fund and HRA be noted;

- b) the updates to the budget approved by Cabinet in June 2025 and detailed in section 5 be noted;
- c) the updates to the budget after Delegated Authority by Officer and Cabinet Member Decisions in May and October 2025 as detailed in section 5 of the report be noted;
- d) it be recommended to Council an update to the budget for UKSPF projects as detailed in section 5 of the report; and
- e) it be recommended to Council two new S106 funded projects, detailed in section 5 of the report.

SPEAKERS

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To approve the recommendation

To not approve the recommendation and request further information.

Reasons

The Council must submit regular financial reporting of its budgets.

CB72 Pride in Place Impact Fund

The Assistant Director – Economy and Regeneration presented a report to Cabinet to inform of the details of the Pride in Place Impact Fund secured by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and seek approval for the proposed allocation of funding

RESOLVED that

- a) the requirements and objectives of the Pride on Place Impact Fund be noted;
- b) the allocation of funding between Nuneaton and Bedworth Town Centres on a population basis be approved
 - 60% for Nuneaton
 - 40% for Bedworth; and
- c) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Housing and Community Safety to approve projects and funding allocations.

SPEAKERS

County Councillor Keith Kondakor

Councillor Kris Wilson

Options

- Allocate funding 50/50 or to one town centre - As with all Town Centres across the UK both Nuneaton and Bedworth face challenges in repurposing themselves in the face the structural changes undergoing UK high streets. Bedworth has recently been awarded £20M over 10 years and is in the process of developing its Pride in Bedworth project. Nuneaton

is now reaching the final stage of the development at Grayson Place. Each provide the first steps in the regeneration of the Town Centres. Nuneaton as the largest Town Centre not only in the Borough but in the County, faces significant challenges and requires on going invest, whilst Bedworth will face similar challenges these will require less investment purely related to size, as such the fairest option is Option A to base the allocation on population size.

Reasons

The Council as the accountable body for the Pride on Place Impact Fund, must ensure compliance with all relevant statutory and regulatory requirements when administering the funding.

CB73 **Empty Properties Probate Support Contract**

The Empty Property Officer submitted a report to Cabinet seeking approval to procure and enter a concession services contract, to procure a probate specialist company to assist with probate cases that account for approximately 450 of empty properties in the Borough.

RESOLVED that

- a) the support of a probate specialist organisation to support the three goals set out in section 3.7 of the report be approved; and
- b) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Housing & Community Safety to procure and appoint a supplier under a concession based services contract, to assist and support probate cases in the Borough for a term of no more than four years.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Kris Wilson

Options

1. Do nothing/not approve - loss of council tax and the volume of empty properties does not decrease
2. Undertaking this in-house - there is not sufficient capacity for this to be undertaken in-house and there are strict ethical standards to be adhered to, which require specialist expertise and knowledge in this area. Given the opportunity to let this as a concession contract in anticipation of it being at no cost to the Council, it seems viable to outsource via a contract as this is a new concept for the Council.

Reasons

To reduce the amount of empty properties in the Borough and thereby increase the Council Tax Revenue.

CB74 **Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels**

None

CB75 **Any Other Items**

i) **Civic Honours Sub-committee – 26th November 2025**

At the above meeting, a recommendation was put forward for Cabinet approval to enable an Extraordinary Council to be held for the nominations of Honorary Freeman.

RESOLVED that

- a) Cabinet endorsed the Head of Paid Service to refer any nomination to an Extraordinary Full Council scheduled for Wednesday 28th January 2026 for the purpose of voting upon the nominations of Honorary Freeman of the Borough; and
- b) a future report be taken to the Civic Honours sub-committee regarding the honours previously bestowed by Full Council (such as Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman and Honorary Freeman/Freewomen) and if upon the creation of a new unitary those honours would continue to be recognised under the new unitary council.

SPEAKERS:

County Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Kris Wilson

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 11TH DECEMBER 2025

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 19TH DECEMBER 2025