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Date: 29th September 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **CABINET** will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton, on **Wednesday, 7th October 2026** at **6.00 p.m.**

Yours faithfully,

Tom Shardlow

Chief Executive

To: Members of Cabinet

Councillor G. Finch (Leader) (Chair)
Councillor M. Bannister (Deputy Leader and Resources and Internal Affairs)
Councillor J. Bartlett (Housing)
Councillor S. Coates-Jarman (Planning, Enforcement and Public Services)
Councillor P. Gilbert (Finance)
Councillor J. Groves (Town Centre Regeneration and Business Development)
Councillor B. Greenwood (Leisure and Health)

Observer:

Councillor B. Hughes (Leader of the Main Opposition Group)

The Council is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for our employees, customers and elected members. As such, please be advised that any form of abuse, aggression, or disrespectful behaviour towards our team will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

AGENDA

PART I

PUBLIC BUSINESS

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.

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

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

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

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.

4. MINUTES - To confirm the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 9th September 2026 **(Page 7)**.
5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – Members of the Public will be given the opportunity to speak on specific agenda items, if notice has been received.
Members of the public will be given three minutes to speak on a particular item and this is strictly timed. The Chair will inform all public speakers that: their comments must be limited to addressing issues raised in the agenda item under consideration: and that any departure from the item will not be tolerated.
The Chair may interrupt the speaker if they start discussing other matters which are not related to the item, or the speaker uses threatening or inappropriate language towards Councillors or officers and if after a warning issued by the Chair, the speaker persists, they will be asked to stop speaking by the Chair. The Chair will advise the speaker that, having ignored the warning, the speaker's opportunity to speak to the current or other items on the agenda may not be allowed. In this eventuality, the Chair has discretion to exclude the speaker from speaking further on the item under consideration or other items of the agenda.
6. PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND – PROJECTS UPDATE a report of the Assistant Director – Economy & Regeneration attached **(PAGE 16)**
7. FOOD WASTE UPDATE – a report of the Assistant Director – Environment & Enforcement **(PAGE 25)**
8. HRA – HOUSING STOCK ACQUISITION – HAWKESBURY DEVELOPMENT a report of the Assistant Director – Assets and Compliance attached **(PAGE 44)**
9. CONDUCT PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS – ALCOHOL, TOWN CENTRES AND DOG CONTROL a report of the Community & Community Safety Manager attached **(PAGE 52)**

10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM a report of the Chief Executive (**PAGE 56**)
11. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
None
12. ANY OTHER ITEMS - which in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances (which must be specified)

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
Corporate Plan
Building Communities 2025 – 2029

United in Achievement.

Theme 1: Place and Prosperity

Strategic Aims:

1. Regenerate Nuneaton Town Centre; completing the Transforming Nuneaton Programme.
2. Establish an increased number of residential properties within the Town Centres
3. Help local businesses thrive, support new business incubation and reduce the number of vacant units.
4. Continue to promote and enable events across the Borough.
5. Continue to develop and help our markets to thrive.
6. Work with the business community to strengthen business in the whole Borough
7. Deliver a regeneration plan for Bedworth Town Centre.
8. Promote, and support our Town Centre economies.

Theme 2: Housing, Health and Communities

Strategic Aims:

1. Deliver the construction and opening of the Bedworth Physical Activity Hub (BPAH).
2. Focus on awareness and promotion of support services for mental health and wellbeing.
3. Facilitate warm, safe, sustainable and affordable housing.
4. Work with public health colleagues and partners to address community inequalities.
5. Promote active travel across the Borough.
6. Extend the housing home building programme to provide more Council homes.
7. Work with partners to prioritise community safety and empowerment.

Theme 3: Green Spaces and Environment

Strategic Aims:

1. Review the grounds maintenance contract for the Borough.
2. Celebrate the heritage within our green spaces, including museums, George Eliot and local industry.
3. Decarbonise our housing stock and promote the decarbonisation of homes in the private sector.
4. Support our residents to recycle more of their household waste.
5. Promote and develop play area facilities in line with the Parks and Green Space Strategy.
6. Reduce the carbon footprint of the Pingles Leisure Centre by 2026.
7. Establish a Climate Change Strategy and Delivery Plan by 2026.
8. Work with partners to improve air quality across the Borough.
9. Explore opportunities to promote, protect and enhance biodiversity in the borough.

Theme 4: Your Council

Strategic Aims:

1. Conduct a Local Government Association Peer Review by 2026.
2. Increase the level of resident engagement and consultation.
3. Deliver a refreshed Council change plan to modernise services.
4. Focus on civic pride, celebrating rich heritage and diverse communities.
5. Deliver continued forward financial planning to safeguard the finances of the Council.
6. Set ambitious and challenging budgets, to ensure taxpayers money is respected, and high-quality services are delivered.
7. Deliver a modern organisation with agile and effective structure that meet the needs of residents.
8. Strive for transparency and accountability in all that we do. Increase public scrutiny.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

9th September 2026

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 9th September 2026 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

Councillor G. Finch (Leader)
Councillor M. Bannister (Deputy Leader and Finance, Enabling Services and Communities) (Chair)
Councillor J. Bartlett (Housing)
Councillor S. Coates-Jarman (Planning, Enforcement and Public Services)
Councillor J. Groves (Town Centre Regeneration and Business Development)
Councillor P. Gilbert (Finance)
Councillor B. Greenwood (Leisure and Health)

CB32 **Apologies**

None

CB33 **Declarations of Interest**

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

CB34 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15th July 2026, be approved, and signed by the Chair

CB35 **Pingles Decarbonisation Closure**

The Assistant Director – Recreation and Culture submitted a report updating Cabinet on the completion of the decarbonisation of the Pingles Leisure Centre and Pingles Stadium.

RESOLVED that the project completion update on the Pingles Decarbonisation Project be noted.

SPEAKER:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

N/A report for noting only.

Reasons

The report provided closure to the project and an update to Cabinet, with all necessary proformas completed and signed off by the Councils 151 officer and agreed with the funders.

CB36 Culture Update

The Assistant Director – Recreation and Culture submitted a report updating Cabinet on actions being delivered following the adoption of the Culture Strategy and to update project delivery timelines.

RESOLVED that the Culture Update be noted.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options:

N/A report for noting only.

Reasons:

To update Cabinet on the actions being delivered following the adoption of the Culture Strategy and to update reference project delivery.

CB37 Housing Allocation Policy Amendments

A report of the Assistant Director – Housing Services was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval of proposed amendments to the Council's Housing Allocations Policy.

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposed amendments to the Housing Allocations Policy as detailed within Appendix B of the report be approved;
- b) consultation on the proposed amendments with key stakeholders, including the Homeless Partnership Forum and Tenant Panel be approved, and to consider any feedback received prior to implementation of the revised policy;
- c) subject to the outcome of the consultation, delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director - Housing Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, to make any minor amendments arising from consultation, legislative updates, operational requirements, or legal advice prior to implementation of the revised policy;
- d) subject to c) approval be given to adopt and implement the revised Housing Allocations Policy following completion of the consultation process and consideration of any feedback received; and
- e) subject to c), if major amendments are required, it be noted that a future report be issued back to Cabinet or considered via an Individual Cabinet Member Decision subject to the criteria in the Constitution, to seek approval to adopt the revised policy.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Brady Hughes
Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Will Markham

Options:

- Retain existing policy without amendment – rejected - because sections of the policy would remain unclear and may not adequately reflect current legislation, guidance and operational requirements.
- Undertake a full policy rewrite – rejected - because the current policy framework remains fit for purpose. Targeted amendments achieve the desired outcomes more proportionately and efficiently.

Reasons:

The proposed amendments will strengthen the Housing Allocations Policy by improving legal compliance, governance, transparency and consistency in decision-making. The changes provide clearer guidance for applicants, officers and stakeholders whilst ensuring that the Council continues to meet its statutory housing and homelessness responsibilities.

CB38 Community Safety Improvements to Pool Bank Street Car Park

The Assistant Director – Economy & Regeneration submitted to Cabinet an overview of proposed community safety improvements following consultation with local stakeholders and sought authority to carry out changes proposed within the report

RESOLVED that delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director – Economy & Regeneration and Communities & Community Safety Manager to carry out the installation of additional signage and flow plates.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Bready Hughes
Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Nicky King

Options:

Do nothing – this has been considered but clearly lead to a continuation of issues impacting the quality of life of local residents and so is not a viable option.

Reasons:

To help address the issues impacting local residents via intervention outlined.

CB39 Pride in Place Impact Fund

The Assistant Director – Economy & Regeneration submitted a report to Cabinet to provide information to Members in relation to the progress and proposed projects for investment via the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposed projects as detailed at Section 5 of the report be approved;
- b) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director, Communities and Place, and the Assistant Director for Economy and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Town Centre Regeneration and Business Development, the Leader of the Council, and the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to undertake all necessary procurement and associated

activities required to deliver the projects funded through the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

- c) a further report be presented to Cabinet in October 2026, in relation to project proposals for the remaining fund allocation.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Nicky King
Councillor Lubs Cvetkovic
Councillor Brady Hughes

Options:

Do nothing – Rejected - because it would not enable the Council to make use of the external Pride in Place Impact Fund allocation to deliver visible improvements to town centres and community spaces. It would not respond to the public consultation feedback, Member priorities or the funding objectives, and could risk the loss or underuse of grant funding within the required programme timescales.

Reasons

Utilising the Pride in Place Impact Fund will enable the Council to deliver improvements to community assets, public spaces and town centres, generating social, environmental and economic benefits for residents. These investments will help create stronger, more connected communities and more attractive local places, contributing to the borough's long-term prosperity and wellbeing.

CB40 Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme to Banded Scheme Consultation

The Assistant Director for Finance submitted a report seeking approval to undertake a consultation on a proposed change to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme with both the public and the major precepting authorities with effect from 1st April 2027.

RESOLVED that

- a) an eight-week consultation period with the public and major preceptors on introducing an income-banded working-age scheme from 1st April 2027, with a maximum award of 85% be approved;
- b) the consultation proposal will disregard Carer's Allowance, Universal Credit Transitional Protection and Universal Credit Limited Capability for Work and Work Related Activity elements;
- c) the consultation proposal will continue to protect War Pensioners by ignoring any War Pensions or War Disablement pensions in full when calculating the household's income;
- d) the scheme will include Exceptional Hardship support within the Council's working-age reduction scheme under section 13A(1)(a) of the Local Government finance Act 1992;
- e) the consultation will explain the current and proposed scheme costs, the claimant level effects and the proposed income bands;

- f) a further report be presented to Cabinet in December 2026 with the outcomes of the consultation;
- g) the reduction of administrative burden as a result of changing to a banded scheme as detailed in the report be noted; and
- h) the report be marked not for call in due to the timescales for consultation and implementation of the scheme as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Lubs Cvetkovic
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options:

Do nothing – Rejected – The current scheme is inefficient and complicated.

Reasons

The proposed income-banded scheme will retain the Council's existing maximum award of 85% while simplifying administration and providing clearer, more stable support.

CB41 Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) – Introduction of additional HMO Licensing and Selective Licensing, current position and next steps regarding introducing an Article 4 direction.

The Assistant Director – Environment & Enforcement and Assistant Director – Planning submitted a report providing an update and sought approval for measure in relation to the management of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) within the Borough.

RESOLVED that

- a) an Article 4 Direction would apply only to future changes of use and would have no effect on properties already operating as HMOs within the Borough be noted;
- b) the findings of the HMO evidence-based study undertaken by DLP Consultants (Appendix A of the report) be noted. The study concludes that, based on the evidence currently available, there is unlikely to be sufficient justification for the introduction of an Article 4 Direction in accordance with national planning policy;
- c) Cabinet's view that HMO concentrations and associated management issues are causing adverse impacts in parts of the Borough and therefore instructs the following work to be undertaken:
 - i. Consolidation of Council held data relating to HMOs
 - ii. A partner-led data collection and evidence gathering exercise.
 - iii. Ongoing monitoring of HMO numbers, complaints and amenity impacts.
 - iv. Undertaking of a non-statutory public survey by way of a questionnaire, which is separate from and does not form part of the statutory

- consultation required for licensing designation, with delegated authority to the Assistant Director for Environment and Enforcement, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Enforcement and Public Services and the Monitoring Officer, to determine the questions and to approve the final questionnaire prior to launch.
- v. A further report to Cabinet setting out whether sufficient robust evidence exists to justify the introduction of an Article 4 Direction.
 - vi. Delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Digital and Business Change to enter into the information sharing agreement and agreed methodology required for the partner led exercise at c(ii).
- d) a capped spend envelope of up to £40,000 for the non-statutory survey and the evidence gathering at recommendation c) from existing budget provisions be approved;
 - e) in principle the introduction of additional HMO licensing under section 56 and selective licensing under section 80 of the Housing Act 2004, subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation and instructs officers to bring forward the designation report accordingly, subject to the required budget provisions being identified be approved;
 - f) the Leader will act as the political lead for the programme of work as a whole, including the introduction of licensing, the further Article 4 evidence work and the representations to Government, supported by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Enforcement and Public Services, and will act as the Council's spokesperson on it; and
 - g) neither licensing nor an Article 4 Direction gives the Council a presence in the areas concerned before 2028, and asks officers to develop, for consideration alongside the further report at recommendation c(v), an option for a community presence and engagement function in the areas of highest HMO concentration, together with its indicative cost and the funding routes available.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Brady Hughes
Councillor Will Markham
Councillor Lubs Cvetkovic

Options:

Option Ref	Option Title	Reason for rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected
Article 4 Direction		
A	Abandon evidence gathering exercise	Rejected. The consultants' conclusion rests on the data any district authority holds in isolation and on data held by partners. The gap can be closed through consolidation and partner working. Therefore recommendation 2.3 of the report seeks approval for further evidence base gathering.

Option Ref	Option Title	Reason for rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected
B	Make an Article 4 direction now (immediate or non-immediate)	The evidence currently available does not meet the national policy tests and a Direction would be vulnerable to challenge. An immediate Direction additionally carries compensation liability.
Licensing		
C	Do nothing	Leaves the Council without a record of the multiply occupied stock, without licence conditions bearing on its management, and with a complaint led model that places the burden on tenants.
D	Accreditation or inspection instead of licensing	Accreditation reaches only compliant landlords; inspection without licensing is unfunded and lacks an address list. Both retained as complementary measures.
E	Designate immediately without the statutory process	Unlawful. A consultation of at least ten weeks on the specific designations and a three month commencement period are statutory preconditions, and a designation made without them would be void.
Community presence and engagement		
F	No additional presence; rely on licensing and existing neighbourhood policing	Not selected. Licensing would not take effect before 2028 and gives the Council no presence in the areas concerned in the meantime. Neighbourhood policing resource is not within the Council's control and is directed to crime rather than to the environmental and reassurance matters residents raise.
G	Develop a community warden function alongside partner led activity	Selected for development at recommendation 2.7 of the report. Would provide the Council's own presence, an address level evidence records and a reporting route for conduct concerns and would address the absence of structured activity which drives the presence residents raise. No cost or funding approval is sought at this stage.
H	Purchased police or PCSO hours only	Not selected as a substitute, given operational control, abstraction risk and cost per hour, and because it provides none of the environmental, recording or referral functions. May be used alongside option G for defined periods on the advice of the Community Safety Partnership.

Reasons

Seek approval for measures in relation to the management of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) within the Borough.

CB42 General Fund Budget Monitoring Quarter 1 2026/27

The Assistant Director – Finance presented the forecast revenue outturn position for the General Fund as at 30th June 2026 unless otherwise stated in the report.

RESOLVED that

- a) the forecast outturn position for the General Fund for 2026/27 be noted, with consideration given to key variances; and
- b) it be recommended to Council an update to the budget for reasons outlined in section 4 of the report.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

- Do nothing – N/A – The report is to note the forecast position

Reasons

The Council has a duty to report the financial position of its budgets.

CB43 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Monitoring Update Quarter 1.

The Assistant Director – Finance presented the forecast revenue outturn position for the HRA as at 30th June 2026 unless otherwise stated in the report

RESOLVED that the forecast outturn position for the HRA for 2026/27 be noted, with consideration given to key variances.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Councillor Paul Smith

Options:

- Do nothing – N/A – The report is to note the forecast position

Reasons

The Council has a duty to report the financial position of its budgets.

CB44 Capital Budget Monitoring Update Quarter 1

The Assistant Director – Finance presented the forecast revenue outturn position for the Capital budget as at 30th June 2026 unless otherwise stated in the report.

RESOLVED that

- a) the forecast outturn position for the Capital outturn position for 2026/27 for the General Fund and HRA for 2026/27 be noted, with consideration given to key variances; and
- b) it be recommended to Council an update to the budget for projects outlined in section 5 of the report.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

- Do nothing – N/A – The report is to note the forecast position

Reasons

The Council has a duty to report the financial position of its budgets.

CB45 Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels

None

CB46 Any Other Items

None

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 15TH SEPTEMBER 2026

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 23RD SEPTEMBER 2026

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	7 th October 2026
Subject:	Pride in Place Impact Fund Update
Portfolio:	Town Centre Regeneration and Business Development
Responsible Officer:	AD – Economy & Communities
Corporate Plan – Theme:	Theme 1 - Place and Prosperity
Corporate Plan – Aim:	Aim 2 - Supporting Businesses
Ward Relevance:	Bede, Poplar, Arbury, Bulkington, Abbey
Public or Private:	Public
Amendment to Budget:	No
Council Tax Related:	No
Recommendation to Council/Cabinet/Committee:	No
Forward Plan:	Yes
Subject to Call-in:	Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. Purpose of the report is to provide an information to Members in relation to the proposed projects for investment via the Pride in Place Impact Fund, as endorsed by Cabinet in September 2026.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Cabinet approve the proposed projects as detailed at Section 5.

- 2.2. That delegated authority is given to the Strategic Director, Communities and Place, and the Assistant Director for Economy and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Town Centre Regeneration and Business Development, the Leader of the Council, and the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to undertake all necessary procurement and associated activities required to deliver the projects funded through the Pride in Place Impact Fund.
- 2.3. That delegated authority is given to the Strategic Director, Communities and Place, and the Assistant Director for Economy and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Town Centre Regeneration and Business Development, the Leader of the Council, and the Portfolio Holder for Finance, to allocate the Community Assets Funding for Bulkington, in line with the Fund criteria.
- 2.4. That Cabinet note that a further report will be brought to a future Cabinet meeting, detailing allocation of resources and project progress.
3. Background
 - 3.1. The Pride in Place Impact Fund operates under the broader Pride in Place Programme, which is a 10-year initiative aimed at revitalising local neighbourhoods across the UK. The fund is allocated to preselected local authorities by MHCLG and is designed to provide immediate support for visible improvements to high streets and community spaces. Please note that the funding is for Capital projects only
 - 3.2. The Pride in Place Impact Fund has 3 objectives:
 - a) Community spaces: creating, extending, improving or refurbishing existing community facilities and enabling community organisations to take control or ownership of underused but valued local assets.
 - b) Public spaces: enhancing the physical environment in public spaces - examples of initiatives include new or improved green spaces or public squares, improved outdoor play, sports and leisure spaces, installing street furniture, public art or wayfinding.

- c) High street and town centre revitalisation: making these areas more attractive and welcoming places where people congregate and which encourage economic activity. Examples of initiatives that could be funded are shop frontage improvements, adaptations that bring premises back into use, streetscape improvements, public art, trails and wayfinding, and creating or improving the infrastructure for regular markets.

4. Body of report and reason for recommendations

- 4.1. Local authorities can use the fund objectives to invest across a range of activities that represent the right responses to local needs and opportunities. There is no requirement to undertake projects under all the objectives, investment may be focused on one objective if that is the right approach.

5. Project Proposals – October Update

- 5.1 The Pride in Place Impact Fund allocation to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council is a total of £1.5 million pounds. Following the approval of designated projects at Cabinet on 9th September 2026, the following funding required allocation;

Town	Allocation
Nuneaton	£64,000
Bedworth	£480,000
Bulkington	£75,000
Keresley	£0,000
Programme Total	£619,000

5.2 Nuneaton:

- 5.2.1. Shop Front Improvements - £64,000: Improvements to shop frontages within the town centre to enhance the appearance of commercial properties and create a more attractive, welcoming environment. Specific properties are currently being identified and will be selected based on need and potential impact. The works will help improve perceptions of the town centre, support wider regeneration objectives, encourage investment, and increase the attractiveness of premises to existing and prospective businesses.

5.3 Bedworth:

- 5.3.1 Town Centre cleanup - £20,000: Funding improvements to the town centre environment through the replacement of damaged and aging street bins and other minor street furniture where required. The works will improve the cleanliness and appearance of the town centre, create a more welcoming environment for residents and visitors.
- 5.3.2 Miners Welfare Park lighting - £7,000: Fund improvements to lighting within Miners Welfare Park to enhance safety, security and accessibility for park users. Improved lighting will help to deter anti-social behaviour, increase public confidence, and encourage greater use of the park throughout the year.
- 5.3.3 Bedworth Physical Activity Hub entrances - £150,000: This project will deliver improvements to the entrances of the Bedworth Physical Activity Hub, creating more attractive, accessible and welcoming entrances/egresses to the facility. The works will enhance the overall appearance of the site and improve accessibility for users.
- 5.3.4 Units 2 and 4 All Saints Square - £40,000: Funding the works to secure and improve the units to enable a full assessment of the properties and inform future options for sale, lease or occupation. The project will support the future reuse or future disposal of the properties, helping to bring vacant town centre assets back into productive use and contributing to wider regeneration objectives.
- 5.3.5 16b High Street roof - £143,000: It has been identified that there is a need for an essential roof replacement works to protect the building from further deterioration and safeguard its long-term use. The property is occupied by a local gym and business users, and the improvements will ensure the building remains safe, weatherproof and fit for continued occupation, supporting local economic activity and community wellbeing.
- 5.3.6 Public Toilet Provision – £120,000: Refurbishment of the public toilets within Bedworth Market, including

improvements to fixtures, finishes and accessibility. The works will enhance the quality, cleanliness and usability of this important town centre facility, improving the experience for market visitors, shoppers and the wider community.

5.4 Bulkington:

5.4.1 Brewers Road Recreation Ground - £30,000: Funding the installation of additional play equipment at Brewers Road Recreation Ground, increasing the range of play opportunities available for children and families.

5.4.2 Additional litter bins – £3,000: This project will fund the installation of additional litter bins at key locations within Bulkington, including the path between St James Church and Barbridge Close. The improvements will help maintain a cleaner local environment, reduce littering and enhance the appearance of public spaces. Ongoing revenue implications for waste collection and maintenance will be reviewed to ensure the bins can be serviced sustainably, however it is considered that these can be accommodated within the existing rounds without any further revenue cost implications.

5.4.3 Community asset improvements - £42,000: Funding to support improvements to community assets in Bulkington, helping to ensure facilities remain safe, accessible and fit for purpose. Potential projects are currently being assessed, with funding to be allocated to schemes that demonstrate clear community benefit and support the long-term sustainability of local facilities. The works will enhance opportunities for community activity and contribute to wider neighbourhood wellbeing.

6. Consultation with the public, members, officers and associated stakeholders

6.1 Consultation:

- 12 March 2026: Public consultation launched and publicised on NBBC website and socials.
- 7 May 2026: Flyer with QR code to the consultation survey delivered to all businesses within both town centres.

- 22 May 2026: Public consultation closed after 10 weeks, and 192 responses.
- Ongoing - Consultation with Portfolio Holder and Leader

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. The Pride in Place Impact Fund allocation to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council totals £1,500,000.
- 7.2. The proposed allocations are fully funded from the external Pride in Place Impact Fund grant. There is no proposed additional cost to the Council's revenue budget at this stage. Should any future revenue, maintenance or match-funding implications arising from individual projects will need to be identified and reported through the relevant project approval route before commitments are entered into.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1. The Council must ensure that any expenditure from the Pride in Place Impact Fund is made in accordance with the grant conditions, the approved programme objectives and the Council's Constitution, Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules.
- 8.2. Where projects involve procurement of works, goods or services, an existing contract can be used subject to compliance with the Contract Procedure rules and variation limits outlined in procurement legislation, and the appropriate procurement route must be followed, and any contract awards must comply with the Council's procurement requirements and applicable public procurement legislation. Approval is therefore sought to vary existing contracts where permitted by law and authority given to procurement and enter into contracts for the delivery of the projects outlined in the report for approval.
- 8.3. Any proposals involving land, buildings, leases, licences, acquisitions, disposals or works to Council-owned or third-party assets will require appropriate legal and property advice before commitments are entered into.
- 8.4. Any grant schemes or third-party funding awards developed under the programme must include clear eligibility criteria, decision-making arrangements,

monitoring requirements and clawback provisions where appropriate. Subsidy control considerations should be assessed where financial assistance is provided to businesses or other external organisations.

- 8.5. Legal Services should be consulted on individual projects where specific legal documentation, property transactions, procurement advice, subsidy control assessment or grant agreement terms are required.

9. Equalities implications

9.1 It is proposed to mitigate any equalities implications by:

- i. Each project will be assessed for equality implications as part of the deliverability considerations.
- ii. Any identified mitigations will be implemented as part of the project delivery.

10. Health implications

- 10.1. No specific health implications have been identified following the completion of an impact assessment.

11. Climate and environmental implications

- 11.1. No direct climate and/or environmental implications have been identified.

12. Section 17 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 12.1. No direct Section 17 crime and disorder implications have been identified.

13. Risk Management implications

- 13.1 The following risk management implications have been identified:

- i. Deliverability within the funding timescales.

- 13.2 It is proposed to mitigate the above by implementing the following mitigations:

- i. A delivery assurance process will be undertaken for all proposed projects, ensuring that procurement requirements, contractor requirements and costs

have been validated to provide assurance on delivery against requisite timeframes.

14. Biodiversity Implications

14.1. No direct biodiversity implications have been identified.

15. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Implications

15.1. No direct LGR implications have been identified.

16. Options considered and reason for their rejection

16.1. In formulating this report and recommendations, the following other options were identified. Reasons for their rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected are outlined below.

Option Ref	Option Title	Reason for rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected
A	Do nothing	This option has been rejected because it would not enable the Council to make use of the external Pride in Place Impact Fund allocation to deliver visible improvements to town centres and community spaces. It would not respond to the public consultation feedback, Member priorities or the funding objectives, and could risk the loss or underuse of grant funding within the required programme timescales.
B	Approve the recommended project proposals and delegated authority	This option has been selected because it enables the Council to utilise the funding to bring improvements across the borough.

17. Conclusion

17.1. Utilising the Pride in Place Impact Fund will enable the Council to deliver improvements to community assets, public spaces and town centres, generating social, environmental and economic benefits for residents. These investments will help create stronger, more connected communities and more attractive local places,

contributing to the borough's long-term prosperity and wellbeing.

Appendices

17.2. Please note there are no appendices attached to this report.

18. Background papers

18.1. Please note the following background papers:

- i. Cabinet Report – July CB25A
- ii. Cabinet report – September 2026

19. Report Writer Details:

Officer Job Title: Assistant Director – Economy & Communities

Officer Name: Jonathan White

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	7 th October 2026
Subject:	Environment Act 2021 – Food Waste Collections
Portfolio:	Planning, Enforcement and Public Services
Responsible Officer:	Assistant Director – Environment and Enforcement
Corporate Plan – Theme:	Green Spaces and Environment
Corporate Plan – Aim:	Support our residents to recycle more of their household waste
Ward Relevance:	All wards
Public or Private:	Public
Amendment to Budget:	No Council Tax Related: No
Recommendation to Cabinet:	Yes
Forward Plan:	Yes
Subject to Call-in:	Yes

-
1. Purpose of report
 - 1.1. This report sets out the arrangements for enacting the delivery of domestic food waste collections in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Act 2021.
 - 1.2. Cabinet approved the service provision for domestic food waste collections on 25 February 2026 (minute CB92), including the provision of seven bespoke 7.5 tonne food waste collection vehicles. That approval reflected the

delegated authority granted by Cabinet in June 2025 and the service design and approach agreed by the Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel in October 2025. This report returns to Cabinet because the proposed change of vehicle chassis from 7.5 tonnes to 12.5 tonnes, and the associated increase in vehicle cost, varies that decision. It outlines the details of the service, how it will be implemented, and the associated timescales required to ensure effective and compliant delivery.

- 1.3. Since that service design was agreed, a procurement exercise has been undertaken and suppliers identified in line with the original specification but no contract at this stage has been awarded. However, lead-in times for the specified vehicles are now running considerably longer than previously advised. This report therefore also sets out a revised approach to the procurement of the collection vehicles, so that the start of the service is not significantly delayed.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Cabinet note the service provision for domestic food waste collections approved on 25 February 2026 (minute CB92), and the revised implementation timeline set out in section 4.7 and Appendix C.
- 2.2. That Cabinet approve the procurement of seven food waste collection vehicles (six operational and one spare) built to the agreed specification on a 12.5 tonne chassis, rather than the 7.5 tonne chassis originally specified, at an anticipated cost of £124,000 per vehicle, subject to confirmation that the vehicles meet the agreed specification and to a compliant call-off under the framework, to enable service commencement in April 2027.
- 2.3. That authority to award the vehicle contract be delegated to the Strategic Director for Culture and Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and the Section 151 Officer.
- 2.4. That Cabinet approve the use of £55,599 from the food waste service underspend to meet the shortfall in food waste implementation costs set out in paragraph 6.3.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Environment Act 2021 places a legal obligation on all local authorities in England to arrange for the separate and free collection of food waste from all households. This legislation aims to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill, thereby lowering greenhouse gas emissions and promoting the recycling and composting of valuable resources.
- 3.2. Officers are in discussion with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to clarify the Council's timeline for implementation. Whilst Defra is keen to ensure compliance with this new service requirement, the Council's understanding is that, where authorities are engaging with Defra and have plans in place for roll out, the 31 March 2026 date is not being treated as a hard deadline, and that efficient and effective roll out and delivery of the service is the priority. Defra will be kept informed of the revised timeline set out in this report.
- 3.3. The existing garden waste collection service allows residents to dispose of food waste as well but as the service is charged for and undertaken fortnightly, it does not meet the requirements of the legislation and therefore cannot be used to meet the new statutory obligations from April 2026.
- 3.4. A bespoke, free weekly food waste collection service is therefore required to meet the requirements of the Environment Act 2021.
- 3.5. When the food waste collection service is introduced, food waste will no longer be accepted in the garden waste collection service, which will then collect garden waste only. Garden waste subscribers will be advised of this change through the communications campaign set out in section 4.6, and the removal of food waste may result in lower tonnages being collected through the garden waste service. The frequency of the garden waste service and the charge for it are not affected by this report.

4. Body of report and reason for recommendations

- 4.1. To undertake the effective collection of Food Waste from domestic premises a new and bespoke service is required.

4.2. Collection Vehicles

- 4.2.1. Specific collection vehicles are required for the collection of food waste. Our normal Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) do not provide suitable containment for any liquids produced through the collection of food waste and rely on compaction systems within the vehicles body to squash waste they collect. The requirement for collecting food waste means it cannot be compacted.
- 4.2.2. Bespoke food waste trucks are to be procured to meet the collection requirements of the food waste collections service. These were originally specified on a 7.5 tonne chassis; for the reasons set out in paragraphs 4.2.6 to 4.2.16, it is now recommended that vehicles meeting the same specification, subject to the review described in paragraph 4.2.10, are procured on a 12.5 tonne chassis.
- 4.2.3. Modelling of the collections and resource requirements have led to established maximum resource levels as set out in Appendix A and show that we will operate 6 collection rounds daily, meaning we will seek to procure 7 bespoke food collection vehicles to allow for the operation of the service with a spare vehicle to cover for down time of vehicles for issues such as breakdowns, scheduled inspections or planned maintenance.
- 4.2.4. The procurement of the food waste trucks has been a cause of slight delay to the development of the service. This was due to concerns we had operationally about two aspects of the service delivery; the safe storage during transit of the bins used to facilitate collections of the caddies from households and the cleaning of the vehicles.
- 4.2.5. Having identified a new-to-market vehicle in November 2025 that resolved both issues, we waited for the vehicle to become available to procure.
- 4.2.6. A procurement exercise has since been undertaken via a framework agreement for provision of the 7.5 tonne chassis vehicle. However, the supplier identified through that exercise has advised that lead-in times are running considerably longer than previously indicated, and vehicles could take up to twelve months from order to be available for the service to start.
- 4.2.7. To avoid a delay of this length, the following options have been considered.

- 4.2.8. Option 1 – proceed with the specified supplier and accept the longer lead-in time. This is not recommended, as it would delay the start of the service by up to twelve months, extending the period in which NBBC is not meeting its statutory duty and increasing the risk to future Extended Producer Responsibility payments (see section 7).
- 4.2.9. Option 2 – hire vehicles to deliver the service in the interim. This has been explored, but the availability of suitable rental vehicles currently varies and a full fleet cannot be guaranteed for the period required. Hire would also be an additional cost to the service. It is therefore not considered a reliable basis on which to launch a borough-wide service.
- 4.2.10. Option 3 – procure vehicles from an alternative supplier and on a 12.5 tonne chassis. Officers attended a trade event in September 2026 where alternative models were on display, including a 12.5 tonne vehicle format. The Council understands that this option is available through the framework agreement and that, in some cases, vehicles are available from stock. Whilst this can change, a decision by Cabinet for the 12.5 tonne vehicle is needed given approvals up to this stage have been on the basis of a 7.5 tonne vehicle. Officers are reviewing this vehicle against the specification used for the procurement to identify any material differences and confirm that it meets the Council's requirements. On the advice of The Procurement Partnership Limited, a request for information setting out the required delivery lead time will be issued to all suppliers on the framework before any direct award is made. This is the recommended option.
- 4.2.11. The 12.5 tonne chassis provides a slightly higher payload per vehicle. It does not allow the fleet size to be reduced, as the number of rounds needed is determined by the time available to complete each round rather than by vehicle capacity (Appendix A). Six operational vehicles plus one spare therefore remain necessary.
- 4.2.12. The additional payload does, however, provide further future-proofing for the service, giving greater tolerance to accommodate higher levels of participation than currently modelled. Please see 4.2.13 below for evidence.
- 4.2.13. Early results from councils that introduced weekly food waste collections in 2026 indicate that take-up can exceed

modelled levels. Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council had forecast that 40% of households would use its food waste service, but reported participation of 55%, collected more than 500 tonnes of food waste in April 2026 alone, and has needed to put additional vehicles on the road to manage higher recycling tonnages across its new collections. Stevenage Borough Council had estimated collections of around 200 tonnes a month, but collected 220 tonnes in June 2026, with monitoring indicating that around 52% of households were using the service. The London Borough of Barnet has reported collecting more than 100 tonnes of food waste every week since April 2026.

- 4.2.14. The modelling for this Council's service assumes a participation rate of 35% and a yield of 1.47 kg per participating household per week, as set out in the report to the Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel in October 2025. The Waste and Resources Action Programme identifies average participation in food waste collections as between 35% and 55%, so the modelled rate sits at the lower end of that range. The additional payload of the 12.5 tonne chassis gives the service greater headroom should participation in the borough follow the pattern now being reported elsewhere, reducing the likelihood of vehicles needing to leave a round to tip before it is complete.
- 4.2.15. The 12.5 tonne vehicles are anticipated to cost £124,000 each, compared with the £110,000 per vehicle estimated for the originally specified vehicles. General running costs are expected to be circa 3% higher, due to marginally higher fuel consumption (see section 6).
- 4.2.16. Vehicles above 7.5 tonnes require drivers to hold a Category C licence, and this will be reflected in the recruitment and allocation of drivers for the service.
- 4.2.17. The specification review will also confirm that the larger vehicle can access all collection rounds, including narrower residential streets, and that the vehicles can be accommodated at the depot and within the Council's goods vehicle operator's licence.
- 4.3. Collection Model & Methodology
 - 4.3.1. As shown in Appendix A the modelling for the collection service shows that the most efficient model both for

vehicle resources and staff levels is to operate a driver and two loaders model.

- 4.3.2. The driver plus 1 loader models don't provide enough resource to undertake weekly collections across the borough until we have 11 vehicles operating, whereas the driver plus 2 loader models provide sufficient resource at 6 vehicles.
- 4.3.3. The driver and 2 model allows for two crew members to undertake the collections from properties and to improve efficiency of this service we will operate a companion bin system to further improve collection efficiency.
- 4.3.4. This means the crews will use a bin that they remove from the vehicle and tip the contents of the kerbside caddies into. They then only need to visit the vehicle to empty the bins occasionally rather than to tip every caddy. This reduces the time it takes to undertake each property's collection.
- 4.4. Containers/Caddies
 - 4.4.1. New containers for the collection of the food waste are required. Industry standards are a 5-10 litre kitchen caddy and a 20-30 litre kerbside caddy.
 - 4.4.2. Work has been undertaken to identify and assess the best available caddies and again these options were shown to and discussed with the Overview and Scrutiny Panel working group.
 - 4.4.3. 5 litre kitchen caddies were identified as the best option for this item and 23 litre caddies for the kerbside models.
 - 4.4.4. The use of both caddies is recommended from published studies in food waste showing that the provision of kitchen caddies increases service participation by between 8% - 15%.
 - 4.4.5. The use of kerbside caddies is an essential part of the collection process and without these the service would not be deliverable. The kerbside caddies are designed to allow for safe handling and ergonomic holding for crews undertaking the collections.
 - 4.4.6. Following testing and sampling of the options available on the market, a request for information was issued through a framework agreement, which closed on 10 July 2026

with responses from five suppliers. The Procurement Partnership Limited has confirmed that a direct award to the highest ranked responding supplier would be compliant, and a proposal has been requested from that supplier against the updated specification. Delivery of caddies is around 4 months from order and work is ongoing to award and enter this contract. Please note that the cost of the bins has been accounted for alongside the expected cost for a vehicle and further detail can be found in section 6 of the report.

4.4.7. Communal properties will receive the kitchen caddies but rather than kerbside caddies will receive a communal wheeled bin to empty their kitchen caddies into that will then be emptied.

4.4.8. This methodology avoids communal properties having a large number of kerbside caddies cluttering bin storage areas and becoming damaged or lost. Census 2021 records around 5,900 households in purpose-built blocks of flats, and the order for kerbside caddies has therefore been reduced to 58,500, keeping the same allowance for spares.

4.5. Caddy Liners

4.5.1. The use of caddy liners for the kitchen bins, is shown by national studies to increase use in the service by up to 20%.

4.5.2. In accordance with the agreed service parameters from the Overview and Scrutiny Panel working group we will issue a set of caddy liners at the roll out of the service (delivered with the containers).

4.5.3. Replacement free liners will be made available, but only from certain public collection points. Where residents wish to they can source their own liners, now commonly available at low cost from most supermarkets etc.

4.5.4. Disposal outlets for the food waste place no restrictions or requirements on the types of liners used, as liners are removed during processing.

4.6. Communications

4.6.1. An extensive communications campaign will be undertaken prior and during the service roll out.

- 4.6.2. This will include a combination of direct written communications to households, social media posts, press engagements and direct engagement with community groups and residents associations.
- 4.6.3. Using our Promotions and Engagement officer we will also target low performing areas after services start to engage and encourage the use of the service.
- 4.7. Timeline for Service Delivery
 - 4.7.1. The original timeline anticipated the delivery of containers to households in September 2026, with collections starting in late September or early October 2026. Due to the extended vehicle lead-in times set out in paragraph 4.2.6, this is no longer achievable, and service commencement is now planned for April 2027.
 - 4.7.2. Procuring the 12.5 tonne vehicles is expected to allow them to be available from stock, compared with up to twelve months from the originally specified supplier. The revised timeline plans for vehicle delivery in January and February 2027, followed by vehicle livery, staff training and the distribution of containers to households in February and March 2027, with collections commencing in April 2027. The revised headline timeline is set out in Appendix C.
 - 4.7.3. As previously agreed, the service will not be launched during periods such as the school summer holidays, when residents are more likely to be away and the availability of collection crews is most limited by leave.
- 5. Consultation with the public, members, officers and associated stakeholders
 - 5.1. The development of a cross-party working party through the Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel was established and meetings held to discuss and evolve the service parameters.
 - 5.2. The recommendations for the service were agreed in full in the October 2025 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the service provision in this report reflects those agreed recommendations in full.
 - 5.3. The change of vehicle chassis does not alter the service parameters agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel working group.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. A Capital Transitional Grant from Defra has been awarded to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to the value of £985,983 to support the purchase of necessary equipment for food waste collections. This includes bins (internal kitchen caddies, external kerbside caddies, and communal bins) and food waste collection vehicles.
- 6.2. A further grant for the implementation and communication of the food waste service has been provided by Defra for £354,597. The two grants total £1,340,580. Of this, £95,629 has already been spent, leaving £1,244,951 available for implementation. The remaining £1,244,951, comprising the capital grant and the balance of the implementation grant, forms the capital budget for implementation.
- 6.3. The costs for the implementation of the service are set out below. These are based on the procurement exercises undertaken and current market prices and remain subject to final contract award. The 12.5 tonne vehicles are anticipated to cost £124,000 each, increasing the total vehicle cost to £868,000. Updated unit costs for caddies, communications and delivery to households partly offset this increase. However, after allowing for grant already spent, the total implementation cost of £1,300,550 exceeds the remaining grant of £1,244,951 by £55,599. It is proposed that this shortfall is met from the food waste service underspend (recommendation 2.4).

Table 1 – Estimated costs

Rollout	Unit Cost	Total
Vehicles – 12.5 tonne (6 + 1 spare)	£ 124,000	£ 868,000
23 litre kerbside caddies (58,500)	£ 3.30	£ 193,050
5 litre kitchen caddies (65,000)	£ 1.10	£ 71,500
Liners (roll of 50)	£ 0.80	£ 48,000
Communications per property	£ 1.50	£ 90,000
Rollout/delivery per property	£ 0.50	£ 30,000
Total Costs		£ 1,300,550
Grant received		£ 1,340,580
Less grant spent to date		(£ 95,629)
Remaining grant		£ 1,244,951
Shortfall		(£ 55,599)
To be funded from the food waste service underspend		£ 55,599

- 6.4. General running costs for the 12.5 tonne vehicles are expected to be circa 3% higher than for the originally specified 7.5 tonne vehicles, due to marginally higher fuel consumption. This will be reflected in the revenue budget for the service.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. NBBC has had a statutory duty to provide a free, weekly food waste collection service to all residents since April 2026. Failure to provide that service could, based on published guidance from Defra, result in future Extended Producer Responsibility payments received by the Council (circa £1.3m for NBBC in 25/26) being reduced or stopped. The recommended vehicle approach minimises the period before the service can start, reducing this risk.
- 7.2. The procurement activity would need to be undertaken in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules and public procurement regulations to ensure compliant procurement and contract awards. Vehicles and caddies are being procured through the North East Procurement Organisation framework. Any call-off, including a direct award, must

follow the framework's call-off procedure, and any delivery lead time or other requirement used to select a supplier must reflect the Council's genuine operational need and be recorded.

8. Equalities implications

8.1. An equality impact screening has been completed and is attached at Appendix D. It concludes that the decisions sought in this report, the change of vehicle chassis and the delegation of the contract award, have no differential impact on any protected characteristic, and that a full equality impact assessment is not required. The screening has identified the following issues arising from the operation of the service:

- i. Older residents and disabled residents, including those with limited mobility, grip or dexterity, may find it difficult to present the kerbside caddy at the kerbside each week or to reach communal food waste bins.
- ii. After the initial supply, free replacement liners will be available only from certain public collection points (paragraph 4.5.3), which may be less accessible to residents with limited mobility or without access to transport.
- iii. Communications that are written only, online only or in English only would reach older residents, residents with a visual or cognitive impairment and residents whose first language is not English less effectively, reducing participation among those groups.

8.2. It is proposed to mitigate the above by implementing the following mitigations:

- i. Assisted collections to be available for food waste for residents who cannot present the kerbside caddy, and the location and access of communal food waste bins to be agreed with managing agents and landlords.
- ii. The final caddy specification to be checked for ease of use by residents with limited grip, including the operation of lids and handles.
- iii. Communications to residents on the new service will make it clear that residents may use their own liners or any plastic bag (paragraph 4.5.4).

- iv. Information materials to use plain language and pictorial instructions, to be distributed in print with the containers as well as online, and to be available in accessible formats and translation on request. The engagement set out in paragraph 4.6.2 to include groups representing older and disabled residents and community organisations serving residents whose first language is not English.
- v. Missed collection reporting and requests for assisted collections to be available by telephone as well as online, with take-up of assisted collections and participation by area reviewed as part of post-launch monitoring.

9. Health implications

- 9.1. No specific health implications have been identified following the completion of an impact assessment.

10. Climate and environmental implications

- 10.1. The following climate and environmental implications have been identified:

- i. The 12.5 tonne vehicles are expected to have marginally higher fuel consumption than the originally specified 7.5 tonne vehicles, with general running costs circa 3% higher (paragraphs 4.2.15 and 6.4).

- 10.2. It is proposed to mitigate the above by implementing the following mitigations:

- i. Collection rounds will be optimised as part of the service design stage of the implementation timeline (Appendix C), to minimise mileage.

- 10.3. If the recommendations are approved, the decisions will bring the following benefits from a climate change and environmental perspective:

- i. A free, weekly separate collection of food waste from all households, reducing the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill and the associated greenhouse gas emissions, and promoting the recycling of food waste (paragraph 3.1).
- ii. Support for the Corporate Plan aim to support residents to recycle more of their household waste.

- iii. Additional vehicle payload above the modelled tonnages (paragraph 4.2.12).

11. Section 17 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 11.1. No direct Section 17 crime and disorder implications have been identified.

12. Risk management implications

- 12.1. The following risk management implications have been identified:

- i. The Council will not meet its statutory duty until the service commences in April 2027. Based on published guidance from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, this could result in future Extended Producer Responsibility payments (circa £1.3m in 2025/26) being reduced or stopped (paragraph 7.1).
- ii. The recommended option depends on the outcome of the specification review and the request for information to suppliers on the framework, and on vehicles being available within the required lead time (paragraph 4.2.10). As the supplier has not previously supplied vehicles through this framework, the specification review and request for information will also be used to confirm that it is appointed to the relevant lot of the framework, and its delivery arrangements.
- iii. Implementation costs remain subject to final contract award, and already exceed the remaining grant funding by £55,599 (paragraph 6.3). Any increase on contract award would add to the amount to be met from the food waste service underspend.
- iv. Caddies take around four months from order to delivery (paragraph 4.4.6), and must be available for distribution to households in February and March 2027.
- v. Drivers of the 12.5 tonne vehicles must hold a Category C licence (paragraph 4.2.16).

- 12.2. It is proposed to mitigate the above by implementing the following mitigations:

- i. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs will be kept informed of the revised timeline

(paragraph 3.2), and the recommended vehicle option minimises the period before the service can start (paragraph 7.1).

- ii. The request for information will be issued to all suppliers on the framework, so that an alternative can be identified if the preferred vehicle does not meet the specification or cannot be delivered within the required lead time (paragraph 4.2.10).
- iii. Contract award is delegated in consultation with the Section 151 Officer (recommendation 2.3), so that costs can be checked against the approved budget before award.
- iv. The caddy contract is being awarded now (paragraph 4.4.6), with a phased delivery profile to be agreed in the call-off contract so that caddies are available ahead of distribution in February and March 2027.

13. Human resources implications

13.1. The following human resource implications have been identified:

- i. The driver plus two loader model requires 18 posts, comprising six drivers and twelve collection operatives, at an annual salary cost of £475,920 at 2025/26 salaries (Appendix B).
- ii. Drivers will require a Category C licence (paragraph 4.2.16).

13.2. It is proposed to mitigate the above by implementing the following mitigations:

- i. Staff recruitment and training are scheduled within the implementation timeline ahead of service launch (Appendix C).

14. Biodiversity Implications

14.1. No direct biodiversity implications have been identified.

15. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Implications

15.1. No direct LGR implications have been identified. The vehicles, containers and staff for the service would form part of the waste collection function transferring to any successor authority.

16. Options considered and reason for their rejection

16.1. In formulating this report and recommendations, the following other options were identified. Reasons for their rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected are outlined below.

Option Ref	Option Title	Reason for rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected
A	Do nothing	Rejected. The Council has had a statutory duty to provide a free, weekly food waste collection service since April 2026. Doing nothing would leave the Council non-compliant and put future Extended Producer Responsibility payments at risk (paragraph 7.1).
B	Proceed with the specified supplier (7.5 tonne chassis) and accept the longer lead-in time	Rejected. Vehicles could take up to twelve months from order, delaying the start of the service and extending the period of non-compliance (paragraph 4.2.8).
C	Hire vehicles to deliver the service in the interim	Rejected. Availability of suitable rental vehicles varies and a full fleet cannot be guaranteed. Hire would also be an additional cost to the service (paragraph 4.2.9).
D	Procure vehicles of the agreed specification on a 12.5 tonne chassis from an alternative supplier	Recommended. Vehicles are reported to be available from stock, subject to the specification review and a compliant call-off under the framework, which would suggest the service could start in April 2027, with implementation costs exceeding the remaining grant funding by £55,599, to be met from the food waste service underspend (paragraphs 4.2.10 and 6.3).

17. Conclusion

17.1. With a legal requirement to implement domestic food waste collections, NBBC needs to conclude the procurement process and set in place the full timeline for

the roll out of the domestic food waste service. Procuring vehicles of the agreed specification on a 12.5 tonne chassis avoids a delay of up to twelve months to the start of the service, enabling service commencement in April 2027. Implementation costs exceed the remaining grant funding by £55,599, which is to be met from the food waste service underspend, and running costs will be circa 3% higher, while the larger vehicles provide additional capacity to accommodate higher participation in future.

18. Appendices

18.1. Please note the following appendices:

- i. Appendix A – Collection Models and Round Viability
- ii. Appendix B – Collection Model Costs Based on Staffing Levels
- iii. Appendix C – Planned Service Implementation Timeline
- iv. Appendix D – Equality Impact Assessment Screening

19. Background papers

19.1. Please note the following background papers:

- i. Cabinet report, June 2025 – Environment Act 2021: Food Waste Collections (delegated authority)
- ii. Cabinet report, 25 February 2026 – Domestic Food Waste Collections (minute CB92)
- iii. Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel working group report, October 2025 – food waste service design

20. Report Writer Details:

Officer Name: Andrew France

Officer Job Title: Neighbourhood Services Manager

Appendix A

Collection Models and Round Viability

	Number of Rounds	Available Collection Minutes Per Round Per day	Time to Empty Containers	Time to Pass Non-Presenting Properties	Round Total Time	Able To Complete Round	Tonnage Per Vehicle (2800 kg payload, 7.5 tonne chassis)
Driver +1 Models	5	444	420	520.00	940.00	No	1260
	6	444	350.00	433.33	783.33	No	1050
	7	444	300.00	371.43	671.43	No	900
	8	444	262.50	325.00	587.50	No	788
	9	444	233.33	288.89	522.22	No	700
	10	444	210.00	260.00	470.00	No	630
	11	444	190.91	236.36	427.27	Yes	573
Driver +2 Models	5	888	420.00	520.00	940.00	No	1260
	6	888	350.00	433.33	783.33	Yes	1050

Appendix B

Collection Model Costs Based on Staffing Levels

	Number of Rounds	Drivers	Collection Operatives	Total Staff Number	Total Annual Salary Costs (25/26 salaries)
Driver +1	5	5	5	10	£ 268,655
	6	6	6	12	£ 322,386
	7	7	7	14	£ 376,117
	8	8	8	16	£ 429,848
	9	9	9	18	£ 483,579
	10	10	10	20	£ 537,310
	11	11	11	22	£ 591,041
Driver +2	5	5	10	15	£ 396,600
	6	6	12	18	£ 475,920

Appendix C

Planned Service Implementation Timeline

Task	Description	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Jul 26	Aug 26	Sep 26	Oct 26	Nov 26	Dec 26	Jan 27	Feb 27	Mar 27	Apr 27	May 27	Jun 27	Jul 27	Aug 27
<i>Phase 1</i>																				
1.1	Project Team Formation																			
1.2	Service Design																			
	Set Service Parameters (agreed October 2025)																			
	Establish Policies For Service																			
	Optimise routes																			
1.3	Establish Data Management Systems																			
	Missed bin reporting system																			
1.4	Treatment Facility Agreement [dates to be confirmed]																			
<i>Phase 2</i>																				
2.1	Comms Strategy																			
	Identify target audiences																			
	Define Key Messages																			
2.2	Create Information Materials																			
2.3	Launch Comms Campaign																			
<i>Phase 3</i>																				
3.1	Procurement																			
	Vehicles (RFI and call-off)																			
	Caddies, liners and communal bins																			
3.2	Finalise container distribution process																			
	Identify storage area																			
	Route delivery rounds																			
3.3	Staff recruitment																			
	Vehicle Delivery																			
	Vehicle Livery																			
3.4	Staff Training																			
3.5	Container Distribution																			
<i>Phase 4</i>																				
4.1	Final Comms Blitz																			
	Social Media																			
	Printed media																			
4.2	Service Launch																			
4.3	Post Launch Monitoring																			
	Resolve roll out issues																			
4.4	Project Review																			

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 7 October 2026

Subject: Housing Revenue Account – Housing
Stock Acquisition – Hawkesbury
Development

Portfolio: Housing

Responsible Officer: Assistant Director – Assets and
Compliance

Corporate Plan – Theme: Housing, Health and Communities

Corporate Plan – Aim: Extend the housing home building
programme to provide more Council
homes.

Ward Relevance: Poplar

Public or Private: Public

Amendment to Budget: Yes Council Tax Related: No

Recommendation to Council/Cabinet/Committee: Yes

Forward Plan: Yes

Subject to Call-in: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to seek approval to acquire 14 properties from Tillia Homes Ltd for affordable rent for residents within Nuneaton and Bedworth who are currently on the Council's waiting list for Housing.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Cabinet approve the acquisition of 14 Section 106 properties at Sephton Drive, Coventry, West Midlands, CV6 6QY.
- 2.2. It be recommended to Full Council that the HRA capital budget is amended to incorporate £2,561,728 over a three year period as outlined in 5.1 of the report.
- 2.3. Subject to 2.2 being approved, Cabinet recommend to Full Council the one off charge for 2027/2028 of £91,899 be approved and built into the HRA Business Plan and 2027/2028 budget and note the income outlined in section 5.4 of the report.
- 2.4. Delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Communities and Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to acquire the properties.

3. Background

- 3.1. Following the introduction of the Right to Buy legislation in 1980, the Council has seen a reduction of the number of homes for rent from circa 12,000 to 5,600 as at August 2026. Over the preceding 5 years, more than 150 homes were sold under the Right to Buy with new build and acquisitions replacing only approximately 54 over the same time period.
- 3.2. Historically, Councils were required to pass back between 20 – 25% of Right to Buy receipts to Government, with any retained receipts funding between 30 – 40% of the cost of new Council homes. This meant that Councils were required to fund the remaining 60 – 70% cost from other sources. From July 2024, Government announced that Council's were allowed to retain 100% of Right to Buy receipts to fund the replacement of Council owned homes. Additionally, the receipts can now also fund 100% of the cost of those homes.
- 3.3. There are currently more than 3,000 households registered for housing from the Council, including on average, 130 households in temporary accommodation due to homelessness. These figures demonstrate the mismatch between the demand and availability of social/affordable housing within the borough.

- 3.4. As identified with the Housing Development and Acquisition Strategy, the Council is keen to pursue other routes to maximise the number of homes it has available for rent within the Housing Revenue Account, including acquiring homes via S106 Planning Contributions.
- 3.5. Tilia Homes Ltd, has purchased land at Sephton Drive, Coventry to construct a mixture of 110 dwellings. As part of the planning obligations (S106), they are required to provide affordable housing. As part of this obligation, they have approached the Council to purchase 14 properties which have been allocated as affordable housing.
- 3.6. The properties are:
- 4 x 1B2P Flats
 - 2 x 2B3P Bungalows
 - 2 x 2B4P Houses
 - 6 x 3B5P Houses
- 10 of the properties will be available in 26/27 with the remaining 4 available in 27/28.
4. Consultation with the public, members, officers and associated stakeholders
- 4.1. Consultation has been carried out with the Strategic Director – Communities and Place, the Interim Service Head for Capital Investment, the Construction Project Manager who is responsible for the Council's new build developments, the Assistant Director for Finance and the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. The capital cost to the Council for acquiring the properties is outlined below:

Funding	Details	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total (£)
		26 / 27	27 / 28	28 / 29	
NBBC Capital (One for One Receipts)	Acquisition of the properties	£2,277,128 Plots 9-18 – All Stages Plots 7-8 & 105-106 – Up to Roof Stage. + 10% deposit	£270,600 Plots 7-8 & 105-106 – Up to Handover + Retention release on plots 9-18	£4,000 Retention release for plots 7-8 & 105-106	£2,551,728
NBBC Capital (One for One Receipts)	Legal Fees (estimate)	£10,000			
Total Capital Costs		£2,287,128	£270,600	£4,000	£2,561,728

5.2. The project will be funded by expenditure of Right to Buy One for One receipt.

5.3. At the time of writing this report there is a balance of £5.9m in receipts and the expenditure for this project will ensure the Council does not have to repay the receipts back to the Government.

5.4. The on-going revenue costs and income are outlined below:

Funding	Details	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total (£)
		26 / 27	27 / 28	28 / 29	
NBBC Revenue	One off payment for service charges		£91,899		£91,899
	(Income from additional rent)	(£12,118)	(£58,052)	(£76,524)	(£146,694)
Net Cost		(£12,118)	£33,847	(£76,524)	(£54,795)

5.5. Following discussion with the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance, it has been decided to procure external legal support for the project due to the specialist knowledge required to review and agree contracts. The estimated costs for these services are £10k cost which is a capital cost funded by 1 4 1 receipts.

5.6. There is a one-off charge in 2027/28 of £91,899K which will buy the Council out of ongoing service charges. This will be slightly offset by the additional annual rental income, and both will be factored into the revised HRA Business plan and presented to full Council for approval in February 2027.

6. Legal Implications

6.1. There will be a requirement for the Council to enter into a contract for the acquisition of the properties which will require specialist legal support that will need to be outsourced.

7. Equalities implications

7.1. No specific equality implications have been identified following the completion of an equality impact assessment.

8. Health implications

8.1. No specific health implications have been identified following the completion of an impact assessment.

9. Climate and environmental implications
 - 9.1. No direct climate and/or environmental implications have been identified.
10. Section 17 Crime and Disorder Implications
 - 10.1. No direct Section 17 crime and disorder implications have been identified.
11. Risk management implications
 - 11.1. No direct risk management implications have been identified.
12. Human resources implications
 - 12.1. If the recommendations are approved, the decisions will bring the following benefits from a human resource perspective:
 - 12.2. Officer time will be released within the Assets and Compliance Team to enable officers to focus on other projects which will add to the Council's existing housing stock.
13. Biodiversity Implications
 - 13.1. No direct biodiversity implications have been identified.
14. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Implications
 - 14.1. The following LGR implications have been identified:
 - i. The new authority will be responsible for housing stock and the acquired properties will be added to the housing stock of the new authority for management.
15. Options considered and reason for their rejection
 - 15.1. In formulating this report and recommendations, the following other options were identified. Reasons for their rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected are outlined below.

Option Ref	Option Title	Reason for rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected
A	Do nothing	There is a 5-year timeframe within which to spend the One for One receipts, meaning that there would be a possibility that some receipts would have to be repaid to Government with interest. The Right to Buy continues to deplete the Council's housing stock. Without this project we will not be able to redress the balance and reduce the waiting times for residents waiting to be housed.
B	Build our own housing stock	There are very few developable sites remaining within the Housing Revenue Account. Most remaining sites are complex and / or constrained which increases the cost to build. The Housing Development and Acquisition Strategy recognises the need to consider acquisition in order to maintain a supply of social/affordable homes to mitigate the loss of homes via the Right to Buy. This project will complement the numbers of new homes that the Council is able to facilitate and relieve some pressure on housing demand and temporary accommodation usage and cost to the General Fund. This option is not discounted over the longer term, as both the acquisition proposal within this business case and the building of new homes within the Housing Revenue Account are complementary and necessary to provide a supply of social / affordable housing.

16. Conclusion

- 16.1. The acquisition of these 14 affordable homes represents a cost-effective opportunity to increase housing supply, reduce demand pressures, and make full use of available Right to Buy receipts to support residents in need.

17. Appendices

17.1. Please note there are no appendices attached to this report.

18. Background papers

18.1. Please note there are no background papers attached to this report.

19. Report Writer Details:

Officer Job Title: Assistant Director for Assets and Compliance

Officer Name: Lynn Joy

AGENDA ITEM NO.9

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	7 th October 2026
Subject:	Conduct public consultation on the Public Space Protection Orders – Alcohol, Town Centres and Dog Control
Portfolio:	Economy and Regeneration
Responsible Officer:	Assistant Director for Economy and Regeneration
Corporate Plan – Theme:	Housing, Health and Communities
Corporate Plan – Aim:	Work with partners to prioritise community safety and empowerment.
Ward Relevance:	Borough Wide
Public or Private:	Public
Forward Plan:	Yes
Subject to Call-in:	Yes

-
1. Purpose of report
 - 1.1. Cabinet is asked to approve a borough-wide public consultation regarding proposed Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The consultation will seek views on proposed amendments to the Town Centre ASB PSPO, implementation of the Alcohol PSPO and extension of the Dog Control PSPO for a further three years.
 2. Recommendations
 - 2.1 the proposed Town Centre ASB PSPO amendments, Alcohol PSPO implementation and Dog Control PSPO extension be approved for a two week consultation period commencing mid to late October.

- 2.2 A further report be brought back to Cabinet outlining the findings of the consultation and recommendations for further action.

3. Background

- 3.1. Public Space Protection Orders were introduced in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and can set restrictions or requirements on groups or individuals to prevent them committing anti-social behaviour in a public place. Key tests must be met. These are:

- *it must be having, or be likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;*
- *be of persistent or continuing nature; and*
- *be unreasonable.*

4. Body of report and reason for recommendations

- 4.1. The Town Centre ASB PSPO is proposed to be amended to strengthen enforcement relating to anti-social gatherings, dangerous cycling and identity-concealing face coverings. This is for both Nuneaton and Bedworth town centres.

- 4.2. The Alcohol PSPO is proposed to be instated to address alcohol-related anti-social behaviour in public places. The proposed boundary will be borough wide to allow the relevant enforcing agencies to deal with groups/individuals across the Borough.

- 4.3. The Dog Control PSPO, introduced in 2021, is proposed to be extended for a further three years without amendment. Consultation will ensure all proposals are evidence-based, proportionate and reflective of local concerns.

- 4.4. Evidence received from residents, businesses, partner agencies and enforcement activity will be considered alongside consultation responses. This will help establish whether the proposed restrictions address current patterns of behaviour and whether any changes are required before a final Order is presented for approval.

5. Consultation with the public, members, officers and associated stakeholders

- 5.1. The Council will consult residents, businesses, community groups, ward members, partner agencies and relevant officers through a two-week consultation hosted on the Council website with supporting publicity, if approval is granted the consultation would take place in early November.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the proposal to consult.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. The Council must be satisfied that the legal tests for making or reinstating a Public Space Protection Order are met. This includes being satisfied on reasonable grounds that the relevant activities have had, or are likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, that the effect is persistent or continuing in nature, that it is unreasonable, and that the proposed restrictions are justified and proportionate. Consultation will assist the Council in ensuring that any final decision is evidence-led and compliant with the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and associated statutory guidance.

8. Equalities implications

- 8.1. An Equality Impact Assessment will be considered as part of the consultation and decision-making process. The consultation will provide an opportunity for residents, businesses, community groups and partner organisations to identify any equality-related issues and potential impacts on people with protected characteristics. Any issues raised will be considered before a final recommendation is made.

9. Health implications

- 9.1. The proposals support safer and more welcoming public spaces and may improve community wellbeing.

10. Climate and environmental implications

- 10.1. None

11. Section 17 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 11.1. The proposals support the Council's duties to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

12. Risk management implications

Failure to consult could result in the loss or weakening of effective enforcement tools and reduce the Council's ability to respond to local concerns.

13. Human resources implications

- 13.1. No direct human resource implications have been identified.

14. Options considered and reason for their rejection

14.1. Taking no action was considered and rejected as it would not adequately address ongoing anti-social behaviour and dog control concerns.

15. Conclusion

16. A combined consultation will provide residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to shape the future of the Borough's PSPO framework and ensure any future decisions are transparent, proportionate and evidence-based.

17. Appendices

17.1. Please note there are no appendices attached to this report.

18. Background papers

18.1. Please note there are no background papers attached to this report.

19. Report Writer Details:

Officer Job Title: Communities and Community Safety Manager

Officer Name: Abu Malek

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 07 OCTOBER 2026

Subject: LGR Update

Portfolio: Chief Executives

Responsible Officer: Tom Shardlow, Chief Executive.

Corporate Plan – Theme: Your Council

Corporate Plan – Aim: Delivering Services Efficiently

Ward Relevance: All

Public or Private: Public

Forward Plan: Yes

Subject to Call-in: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the Warwickshire Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Programme, summarise progress made to date, explain the current position following recent Government announcements, and outline the contribution made by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) throughout the programme.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Cabinet is asked to note the contents of the report.

3. Background

- 3.1. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is the national programme led by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to replace remaining two-tier county/district structures with single-tier unitary councils, simplifying accountability and cutting duplication.
- 3.2. On 5 February 2025, the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution issued statutory invitations to councils in two-tier areas to submit unitary proposals and set out the timetable for submissions. The letter established criteria guidelines to be considered when authoring proposal.
- 3.3. Following the statutory invitations, Warwickshire Councils submitted final proposals on 28 November 2025.
 1. Warwickshire County Council and Rugby Borough Council proposed one unitary council for the whole of the area of Warwickshire comprising the current boundaries.
 2. North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Warwick District Council proposed 2 unitary councils. Comprising the current boundaries of:

North unitary authority:
North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth, and Rugby

South unitary authority:
Stratford-on-Avon, and Warwick
- 3.4. The two proposals submitted for consideration were accepted by Government as being compliant and MHCLG opened a 7-week statutory consultation 5 February - 26 March 2026.
- 3.5. The Government announced the outcome of the decisions for the 14 areas on 16 July 2026 [Appendix A]
- 3.6. The Government confirmed its preferred option for Warwickshire as the creation of two new unitary authorities, serving North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire respectively.
- 3.7. The proposed implementation timetable established Vesting Day on 1 April 2028, at which point existing

councils would cease to exist and responsibility for services would transfer to the newly established authorities.

- 3.8. To accommodate this transition, a shadow authority for each unitary council would be established following elections 6 May 2027.
- 3.9. In response to the Government's decision, the six Warwickshire councils established a formal implementation programme to coordinate planning and preparation activities required to support transition.
- 3.10. Local Government Reorganisation represents one of the most significant changes to local government structures in Warwickshire for more than fifty years.
- 3.11. The six Warwickshire councils worked collectively to develop proposals for the future governance and delivery of local authority services across the county in advance of the July decision, regardless of their preferred model.

4. Programme Mobilisation and Governance

- 4.1. To support programme delivery, the councils appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) as delivery partner. PwC provided programme support, facilitation, specialist advisory services, discovery activity, implementation planning and workstream development across the programme, the activity was split into four phases:
 - Phase 1 – Preparation and Planning (April to July 2026)
 - Phase 2 – First transitional period, post decision up to the elections for the new shadow councils (August 2026 to May 2027)
 - Phase 3 – Second transition period, post shadow council elections, up to the vesting day for the new councils (May 2027 to March 2028)
 - Phase 4 – Post vesting day and Ongoing Transformation (April 2028 onwards)
- 4.2. A comprehensive programme structure was established, with seven enabling workstreams, to provide foundational

data, recommendations and progress updates to the six Chief Executives.

- 4.3. Each council contributed resources to programme management and workstreams, including a Chief Executive sponsor.
- 4.4. In April 2026 the councils hosted a launch event which involved wider participation from each council. In July 2026 a post-decision event was held to reflect on the work completed so far and launch the first transitional stage.
- 4.5. NBBC has been an active participant throughout the Warwickshire programme and has contributed leadership, expertise and resources across multiple workstreams.
- 4.6. The Council has been represented within programme governance arrangements, has supported programme management and PMO development, and has contributed actively to Digital, Data and Technology, Finance, People and Culture, Governance and Communications workstreams.
- 4.7. Throughout the programme, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has maintained regular communication with employees, ensuring that staff have been informed of Government decisions, programme developments and potential implications arising from local government reorganisation.
- 4.8. The council has played a significant and visible role throughout the Warwickshire LGR programme. This contribution has extended beyond participation in meetings and consultations and has included active leadership, programme delivery, workstream support and specialist expertise.
- 4.9. At a strategic level, the Council has provided direct programme leadership through the appointment of Tom Shardlow as Deputy Senior Responsible Officer for the proposed North Warwickshire authority
- 4.10. NBBC has contributed significantly to the development of programme management arrangements. Senior officers have been involved in shaping the future Programme Management Office, including discussions relating to governance, assurance, reporting, performance

management and resource allocation. These contributions have helped to inform the development of a consistent control framework capable of supporting a programme operating across multiple authorities and workstreams.

5. Implementation Pause

- 5.1. On 7 September 2026, Government instructed councils to halt implementation work associated with the July decisions. Warwickshire is one of 14 areas where approved proposals have been paused pending a rapid review. Four other areas had previous decisions withdrawn altogether.
- 5.2. Government has indicated the review is necessary following legal advice and to ensure alignment with wider priorities around devolution and community empowerment. No timetable or terms of reference for the review have yet been published.
- 5.3. Government officials have indicated that the published electoral timetable is unlikely to be achievable pending completion of the review.
- 5.4. Preparatory work directly associated with implementation of the approved LGR model has been paused. This includes plans to recruit or backfill posts to support transition activity.
- 5.5. In considering how best to respond to the Government's instruction, Warwickshire's Chief Executives have agreed a consistent approach across all seven programme workstreams. This approach is intended to preserve the value of work already undertaken, maintain organisational readiness and avoid unnecessary expenditure. Specifically, workstreams will:
 - Complete and document Phase 1 activities, including baseline assessments and the consolidation of programme information.
 - Maintain up-to-date mobilisation plans so that implementation activity can recommence quickly when a Government decision is received.

- Continue only those activities that are necessary for business continuity, or which cannot reasonably be paused.
- 5.6. Although the Government has not confirmed a revised timetable, Warwickshire councils are continuing to work collectively to ensure they remain prepared to implement whichever future arrangements are ultimately determined.
- 5.7. The Government has reaffirmed its commitment to local government reorganisation and devolution. However, until the review concludes there remains uncertainty regarding both the future structure of local government in Warwickshire and the timetable for its implementation. Further updates will be provided to Members as additional information becomes available.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. All councils in Warwickshire have incurred shared costs in relation to LGR. Broadly speaking these can be grouped in three areas.

Shared bid development	£340,528
Shared implementation work	£589,716 (as of 03/06/26)
NBBC direct staffing cost	£ to be determined

- 6.2. The council does not time record allocation of resources, though an estimate is being made for staff costs at Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.
- 6.3. The government allocated £63 million of transition funding across the initial LGR programme, with each new unitary authority receiving a minimum allocation of £900,000 for implantation and mobilisation. How this provision will be affected by the pause is not yet clear, though discussions are continuing with MHCLG.

7. Legal Implications

Local Government Reorganisation is being undertaken following a formal invitation issued by Government under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Warwickshire councils

submitted proposals in response to that invitation in November 2025.

Whilst implementation activity has been paused pending the outcome of the Government's review, the overall policy objective of local government reorganisation remains in place.

The reasons for the review have not been fully disclosed and councils continue to await further guidance on timescales and next steps.

8. Equalities implications

None.

9. Health implications

None.

10. Climate and environmental implications

None.

11. Section 17 Crime and Disorder Implications

None

12. Risk management implications

The implementation pause has created uncertainty around both the future structure of local government in Warwickshire and the timetable for delivery. This may impact workforce planning, recruitment, retention and longer-term service planning.

At the same time, the revised timetable may provide additional opportunity to strengthen planning, governance and implementation arrangements before any future transition takes place. The Council will continue to work with Warwickshire partners to maintain readiness and manage risks as further Government decisions are announced.

13. Human resources implications

The implementation pause will cause concern and uncertainty among colleagues. The Chief Executive holds regular staff briefings and written updates on the council's intranet.

Information will be cascaded to the workforce as soon as possible to avoid colleagues discovering decisions or alterations to the programme via media or colleagues from other councils.

14. Biodiversity Implications

None.

15. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Implications

Outlined in the body of the report.

16. Conclusion

The Warwickshire Local Government Reorganisation Programme has undertaken a significant volume of work since mobilisation, establishing governance arrangements, workstreams, programme plans and implementation proposals designed to support the creation of two future unitary authorities.

Whilst recent Government announcements have resulted in a pause and reset of aspects of the programme, substantial preparatory work has been completed and remains available to support any future implementation activity. NBBC has played a full and constructive role throughout the programme and remains engaged in maintaining readiness whilst continuing to prioritise service delivery.

17. Appendices

17.1. Please note the following appendices:

- i. Appendix A – [Letter MHCLG July 2026]
- ii. Appendix B – [Letter MHCLG September 2026]

18. Background papers

Several – Previous Cabinets and Council reports on LGR

19. Report Writer Details:

Officer Job Title: Anthony Baxter, Assistant Director Digital and Business Change



**Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government**

Rt Hon Steve Reed OBE MP

*Secretary of State for Housing,
Communities & Local Government*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Leaders in Warwickshire

By email

16 July 2026

Dear Leaders,

Thank you for your continued work to deliver local government reorganisation in Warwickshire. This Government is delivering the most ambitious programme of local government reform in a generation, replacing the inefficient two-tier system with new unitary councils so that all parts of our country can access strong services, and are ready for devolution. We need to devolve power out of Whitehall so that we can rebalance wealth, power and opportunity across our country. But devolution must be built on strong local councils that can deliver good public services, support growth, and remain closely connected to the communities they serve.

Doing this right means recognising the unique contributions that different areas make to people's lives, as well as to the national economy. Some of our smaller cities are highly productive, but have been constrained by tight boundaries, set decades ago, which stop them from building the homes they need. Others are more rural, with significant demand for social care services and affordable housing. Local government should be set up to address the unique circumstances of each area and design public services tailored to each community.

Reorganisation provides us with a once-in-a-generation opportunity to ensure that councils genuinely represent the communities they serve today and stand the test of time. We know that people care about their own villages, home towns, high streets and communities. In many parts of the country, existing boundaries do not match local economies, public services, or local identities.

We won't achieve effective devolution or enable effective place-based public services with outdated and misaligned structures that slow down delivery, fragment public services, hamper housebuilding and slow down important decision making. We need to make sure that new councils are grounded in place and are genuinely connected to their communities.

Decisions

I have considered your proposals carefully against the criteria set out in the invitation letter of 5 February last year, alongside the responses to the consultation, representations made and all other relevant information.

Following this assessment, I have decided to move forward with the implementation of the **two unitary proposal submitted by North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton &**

Bedworth Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council. For ease, this is referred to as "my selected option".

These new councils will comprise the current areas of:

- North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, and Rugby Borough Council (referred to in the proposal as 'North Warwickshire')
- Stratford-on-Avon District Council, and Warwick District Council (referred to in the proposal as 'South Warwickshire')

I want to thank you for all of the work that has gone into developing proposals that seek to deliver new unitary councils that will help to grow the local economy and provide better public services for the people of Warwickshire. Your ongoing collaboration will be vital to ensure that my selected option is implemented by April 2028 with the interests of residents at its heart.

Turning to the reasons for my decision, in my judgement, although the other proposal also met the criteria for unitary local government, overall I consider my selected option to be the better option for Warwickshire, as this proposal reflects the realities of the county's different economies, identities, and demographics. My selected option performed particularly well because it will support the integration of housing and planning policies and strategies at a sensible geographic level, in line with local priorities and need. It will also provide greater flexibility for future devolution, and enable each council to deliver place-based, locally responsive public services tailored to local needs in the north and south of Warwickshire. This is demonstrated by both feedback in the statutory consultation and support from councils in the area.

In more detail, my selected option performed particularly well in the following areas:

- **Responsiveness to local identity and meeting local needs:** While I note the greater economies of scale that may be available through the single unitary model, I consider that my selected option will be better placed to recognise and reflect the distinct identities, communities and geographies in Warwickshire. My selected option clearly set out the challenges and opportunities, with the more industrial north experiencing greater deprivation when compared with the south, where connectivity and access to services is a particular concern. On housing, while I recognise the strengths of a single unitary in creating a consistent strategic approach to housing, in my view my selected option will create new councils better positioned to address the specific housing needs of the different parts of the county, such as the lack of affordable housing in the south.
- **Place-based prevention and service transformation:** While I note that the one unitary proposal would avoid the need for service disaggregation, I am persuaded that my selected option provides an opportunity to improve crucial public services through a place-focused and locally responsive approach that will enable early intervention and prevention approaches to meet underlying demand pressures, and greater opportunities for achieving transformation benefits. Each council would be better able to focus on the different priorities in each area – for the north, tackling health inequalities and increasing healthy life expectancy; for the south, supporting independence for a growing older population in rural areas.

- **Devolution:** While I judge that both proposals can support future devolution options, my selected option offers greater flexibility by enabling a wider range of future devolution options to be explored that could address the different characteristics and needs of the different parts of the area. Given that a range of potential devolution options are still being considered for the area, this flexibility is important.
- **Community engagement:** While both proposals make firm and clear commitments around community engagement, in my view the consideration given to the interaction between key public services and the local community makes my selected option particularly strong. I also note the greater support for my selected option among councils and residents.

I considered the expected costs and benefits set out in the modelling underpinning the proposals, as well as the ability of each new council to be financially resilient. I have noted the projected timescales within my selected option to pay back the upfront costs of reorganisation. However, based on the assessment carried out by my department, I judge that it is still likely to generally represent an overall improvement in, or be similar to the sustainability of current structures.

I also considered the fact that both new councils would be below the 500,000 population figure. That figure has always been a guiding principle, not a fixed threshold – and for all the reasons set out above, I judge that creating councils under that threshold is justified on the basis that the two unitary model would produce a better overall outcome for local government in Warwickshire.

Next steps

In relation to next steps, as you are aware a Structural Changes Order, which will be subject to Parliamentary approval, is required to abolish existing councils, establish new structures and make transitional arrangements. I have carefully considered the information in the proposals as well as the further representations you have made on the content of this Order.

My officials will shortly write to your Chief Executives setting out the next steps and timeline for implementation, including my initial decisions on transitional arrangements that will be included in the draft legislation. This will enable you to take forward the work needed to begin preparation for implementation, in advance of Parliamentary approval of the Order. Critically, and drawing on learning from previous rounds of reorganisation, this will include a single Implementation Team formed of officers from across the area, and elections to the new unitary councils in May 2027. For the avoidance of doubt, these elections to the new unitary councils will replace any scheduled local elections, and affected councillors will have their terms extended.

A broad support offer is in place for councils, including support to councils through our sector advisors and through funding to the Local Government Association for an enhanced support offer. We have already announced £63m in capacity funding to support the reorganisation process, and I am pleased to provide further detail today on how this funding will be allocated.

Of the £63 million capacity funding, as well as the unprecedented £900,000 transition support to each new unitary already announced, we are also committing up to £150,000 per each new unitary as supplementary funding for Leadership Capacity and Continuity in Children's

Services, Adult Social Care and Public Health. This is part of a wider package of support worth up to £10m for children's services, adult's social care and public health leadership, which will also fund targeted development, mentoring and peer support for current, new and aspiring leaders.

In addition, up to £1m of funding overall will be available to support the small number of areas with complex fire and rescue authority transitions.

Taken together, this means that areas undergoing local government reorganisation will receive more than £1 million per new unitary created. This is the first time reorganisation has been supported in this way and shows this Government is committed to supporting councils to get these reforms right. We will confirm details of these allocations in due course.

I am copying this letter to your Chief Executives, MPs, and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Steve Reed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

RT HON STEVE REED OBE MP

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government



**Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government**

Jim McMahon OBE MP

*Minister for Local Government, Devolution and
Regional Growth*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Leaders in Warwickshire
By email

7 September 2026

Dear Leader,

I am writing to update you on the Local Government Reorganisation programme following the comments by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons last week that the government was prepared to look at decisions.

We set out in the Cabinet Statement on Rewiring the State that local government structures are key to our devolution ambitions and filling the map. Effective and sustainable local government is vital to meeting our ambitions.

However, the government has also listened to representations about the approach and pace of reorganisation. Those relate both to the specific decisions announced in March and July and to the scale and pace of the programme more broadly. While we recognise there will always be a wide range of divergent views on the structure of councils, and so achieving perfect consensus will never be possible, now is the time to pause and reflect. It is important that this is done right.

The Secretary of State will announce later today that we are undertaking a review of the Local Government Reorganisation programme and following updated legal advice (for the avoidance of doubt no privilege is waived) that she has withdrawn the decisions made in March this year for four areas: Essex, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock; Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton; Norfolk; and Suffolk.

The review, which I will lead, will look at the programme as a whole and this will include reviewing the 14 decisions made in July. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and West Sussex, where decisions have not yet been taken, will be considered as part of the review. The new councils for East Surrey and West Surrey are unaffected and outside of this process because they are already established in law.

Until this review has concluded, I am asking you, together with your partners, to cease work on implementing the decisions that were announced in July. I want to acknowledge the work that your teams have undertaken on local government reorganisation. This decision in no way reflects the work done locally in developing plans, building consensus where it can be found, and marshalling your organisation and partners for the change ahead. But I do believe this reduces the risk of nugatory work if, after further review, we decide to change course.

While the current timetable for reorganisation envisages local elections scheduled for May 2027 being replaced by elections to the new councils, this review means elections scheduled to take place in May 2027 will go ahead to existing council boundaries.

I appreciate that this position will feel uncomfortable, but I believe it is right to consider these matters seriously and deeply given the significance of the decisions. I want to assure myself that this process is being done correctly and robustly. It will also afford the opportunity for the Devolution White Paper, which will set out our plans to rewire the state, to address the question of the role of local government in a devolved country.

I know you will be pressing for certainty as quickly as possible, so you have clarity over the future and to allow the work required to implement reorganisation. I am committing to you that I will ensure that next steps are communicated early and clearly to the sector.

I do not take this lightly and recognise the huge amount of work that has already gone into progressing reorganisation, for which I am very grateful. My officials will contact your officials shortly to discuss next steps, and I am copying this letter to your Chief Executives and MPs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim McMahon." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP

Minister for Local Government, Devolution and Regional Growth