NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET **4th November 2026**

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 4th November 2026 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

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

The meeting started at 6pm but was moved and agreed to adjourn for 10 minutes to enable Cabinet members to arrive from a previous meeting.

CB57 **Apologies**

Councillor P. Gilbert (Finance)

CB58 **Declarations of Interest**

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

CB59 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 7th October 2026, be approved, and signed by the Chair

CB60 **Planning Guidance Air Quality**

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted a report seeking approval to publish the updated Air Quality Planning Guidance following the adoption of the Borough Plan Review on 10 December 2025.

RESOLVED that

a) **IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT** the updated Air Quality Planning Guidance (Appendix A of the report) and schedule of Additional Trigger Criteria for Major Air Quality Developments (Appendix B of the report) be endorsed and published;

b) **IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT** delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Enforcement and Public Services, to make any minor amendments to the Air Quality Planning Guidance, Schedule of Additional Trigger Criteria for Major Air Quality Developments' (Appendix B of the report) as required.

c) subject to Full Council agreeing recommendation a) and b), the adopted Air Quality Supplementary Planning Guidance (2020) be formally revoked

in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

SPEAKER:
Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Michele Kondakor
Councillor Kris Wilson

Options
1) Not to recommend the endorsement and publication of the guidance to Full Council – Rejected - The publication of the new Air Quality Planning Guidance document will provide planning guidance in accordance with the commitments set out in the adopted Borough Plan Review (2021-2039). The document will provide greater certainty to applicants and developers preparing applications for submission. Having an updated document will likely assist with improving the quality of planning applications, which helps to accelerate the planning process whilst achieving better outcomes for the community

Reasons
Following the adoption of the Borough Plan Review, Air Quality consultants were commissioned to review and update the current Air Quality SPD to align with the policies within the Plan. The Council committed to produce the SPD through the publication of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) (approval granted by Full Council on 10 December 2025). However, during the commission, the changes to national planning legislation meant that the updated Air Quality SPD would not be adopted within the timeframes stipulated by national government. Therefore, it was considered that the document should instead be published as guidance. This aligns with the approach being taken by other authorities in a similar position

CB61 **Endorsement of Warwickshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy**

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted a report endorsing the Warwickshire Local Nature Recovery (LNRS) to Cabinet and to inform of its purpose and status

RESOLVED that

a) the LNRS (Appendix A of the report) be endorsed in NBBC's role as Supporting Authority;

b) the context of this report be noted and recognise the LNRS as a material planning consideration in the planning decision making process and in plan-making;

c) the publication of the LNRS on the Council's website be approved; and

d) delegated authority be given to Assistant Director – Planning in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to add a paragraph to Appendix B detailing that Biodiversity Net Gains default to the Borough when appropriate.

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Michele Kondakor
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

1) To not proceed with the endorsement of the Warwickshire – Rejected – To endorse the LNRS would help to demonstrate the Council's wider compliance with the relevant provisions of Local Nature Recovery Strategy the Environment Act 2021. It would also provide an underlying strategy that can inform the development of the Local Plan and would assist in steering the direction and outcomes of development proposals when planning permission is being sought.

Reasons:

Under the Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023, supporting authorities, including local planning authorities and Natural England, have a statutory role in the preparation of a LNRS. The Responsible Authority must take reasonable steps to involve supporting authorities in the development of the strategy, provide them with relevant information, and have regard to their views during its preparation. Following adoption, supporting authorities do not have ownership of the LNRS and are they not responsible for its formal adoption. However, supporting authorities are important delivery partners and should have regard to the strategy, where relevant, in the exercise of their functions, including biodiversity, land-use and planning related activities.

CB62 **Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS)**

A report of the Assistant Director – Planning was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval to publish the IFS 2025/26.

RESOLVED that

a) the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2025/26 and its publication on the website, in line with statutory requirements set out in the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2019 be approved;

b) the monies received, held and spent from Section 106 Agreements in the financial year 2025/26 be noted; and

c) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Enforcement and Public Services, to make any minor changes to the document prior to publication.

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Michele Kondakor
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Brady Hughes
Councillor Jeff Clarke
Councillor Lubs Cvetkovic
Councillor Mike Wright

Options:
1) That the 2025/26 Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) is not approved or published – Rejected - The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2019 require a contribution receiving authority to publish an IFS.

Reasons:
The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) require a contribution receiving authority to publish an IFS by no later than 31st December in each calendar year. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council is a contribution receiving authority and, therefore, must publish an IFS before the end of this year (2026).

CB63 **Street Naming and Numbering Fees and Charges**

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted to Cabinet to inform them of the proposed increases to Street Naming and Numbering Fees and Charges currently being charged by the Council

RESOLVED that **IT BE RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL THAT**

a) the Street Naming and Numbering Fees and Charges proposed within this report be approved;

b) Delegated Authority be given to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Central Fees and Charges Schedule to enable the proposed Fees and Charges within this report to be introduced from 1st April 2027 to the Assistant Director for Planning and the Assistant Director for Finance, in consultation with the respective Portfolio Holders where required.

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:
1) To not proceed with the proposed increases in Street Naming and Numbering Fees and Charges - Rejected– Not approving the proposed increases in Street Naming and Numbering Fees and Charges will result in the Council continuing to undercharge for discretionary Street Naming and Numbering services and not recovering the costs associated with providing the services.

Reasons:
The Council's Street Naming and Numbering Fees have not been increased for a number of years. It is also recognised that the time and resources required to process and resolve Street Naming and Numbering applications, queries and issues, as well as to consult with relevant rate payers and other consultees such as the Royal Mail, can be significant. As such, a review has been undertaken into the existing Fees and Charges being charged by the Council in respect of the Street Naming and Numbering Service to ascertain whether or not the existing fees should be increased.

CB64 **Great Crested Newt (GCN) District Licensing Scheme**

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted a report to Cabinet setting out the proposal for the Council to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the NatureSpace Partnership to join the Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull Great Crested Newt District Licensing Scheme.

RESOLVED that

a) the Council enters into a Memorandum of Understanding with the NatureSpace Partnership ('NSP') to join the Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull Great Crested Newt District Licensing Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is run by Natural England.

b) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director - Planning to sign the Memorandum of Understanding if the Assistant Director deems necessary in order to protect the Council's interests and also to enter into all other associated documents on the same terms.

c) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Planning to issue authorisations under the Council's District Licensing Scheme for Great Crested Newts.

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Sue Markham
Councillor Jeff Clarke
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:
1) NBBC does not participate in the District Licensing Scheme. The Council could choose to not participate in the Scheme. Existing statutory protection for Great Crested Newts would continue to apply and developers and the Council as Local Planning Authority would need to progress planning applications in accordance with established processes. However, the Council would be missing a significant opportunity to both (i) assist developers with their proposals by offering an alternative more stream-lined licensing procedure in places subject to Great Crested Newt protections and (ii) to contribute to a significant new Great Crested Newt habitat creation and conservation management project of benefit to wider biodiversity.

Reasons
Developments affecting GCNs, or habitats known likely to be utilised by GCNs, often require surveys, mitigation measures and a European Protected Species Licence issued by Natural England before development can proceed.

Under the established traditional licensing procedure, surveys are seasonally constrained between March and June, licensing can take 90 plus days to obtain and projects can be delayed significantly, in some cases up to a year, due to the survey window.

Warwickshire County Council had previously explored establishing its own District Licensing Scheme, however, this is no longer progressing. Following a review of available options, the Planning team's preferred approach is to partner with the

NSP who are an independent not-for-profit organisation who have been authorised by Natural England to operate a District Licensing Scheme on behalf of Local Authorities. The Scheme currently covers 12 counties, 231 Cabinet - 4th November 2026 working with over 70 local authorities and several major infrastructure providers.

CB65 **Planning Income Generation Project**

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted to Cabinet a report regarding the Planning Income Generation Project which encompasses a set of income generation proposals for the Planning Department.

RESOLVED that **IT BE RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL THAT**

a) the Fees and Charges arising as a result of the income generation proposals for the Planning Department (as set out in section 4 and Appendix A of this report) be approved;

b) the necessary amendments to the Council's Central Fees and Charges Schedule to enable the proposed Fees and Charges within this report be introduced from 1st April 2027, save for the proposed S106 Monitoring Fees which would be introduced from 1st January 2027, be delegated to the Assistant Director for Planning and the Assistant Director for Finance, in consultation with the respective Portfolio Holders where required; and

c) the implementation of the Income Generation proposals be delegated to the Assistant Director for Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Enforcement and Public Services where required.

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options:
1) To not proceed with the proposed income generation proposals or the implementation of the associated Fees and Charges. Rejected – Not approving the proposed income streams and the associated Fees and Charges will not facilitate additional income generation for the Planning Department. In many cases, not approving the proposed income streams would result in the Development Control and Planning Policy Teams continuing to provide a number of discretionary services free of charge, or undercharging and not recovering the costs associated with providing the service.

Reasons:
A review has been undertaken into the types of fees and charges currently in place in the department to ascertain whether the department are able to generate any additional income by expanding its existing commercial operations, and in respect of introducing charges for the discretionary services it already provides free of charge.

The Local Government Act 2003 (as amended) includes a general power for Best Value Authorities (as defined in section 1 of the Local Government Act 1999) in both England and in Wales to charge for discretionary services. Charges made

under the power to charge at section 93 of the Act are limited to cost recovery. The Localism Act 2011 (as amended) introduced the General Power of Competence which permits Councils to charge for discretionary services at a level that recovers the cost of delivery

CB66 **Consultation on the Budget 2027/28**

The Assistant Director – Finance submitted a report to Cabinet seeking delegated authority from Cabinet to produce and run a public consultation as part of the Council's budget setting process for 2027/28

RESOLVED that

a) Delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Director for Corporate Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance to produce and run a public consultation ahead of the Council's budget setting for 2027/28;

b) the outcome of the consultation will be issued back no later than 24th February 2027 to ensure proposals for the 2027/28 budget have considered feedback provided in the consultation be noted; and

c) the report be marked not for call in, due to the timescales for consultation and, ensuring feedback can be factored into the 2027/28 budget setting process, as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution

SPEAKERS:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

1) Do nothing – Rejected - the Council could choose to only comply with the letter of the legislative requirement and not consult on a wider public basis. However, it is widely recognised that public consultation is best practice.

2) Delaying - Delay consultation could risk misalignment with budget-setting timelines and reduce the opportunity for meaningful feedback. Furthermore, as the development of the Budget forms part of the Budget and Policy Framework under the Council Constitution, consultation shall be no less than eight (8) weeks. It is also noted that the budget will need to be finalised and included as a key report for 24th February 2027 Cabinet and Council meeting

Reasons

The Council is required under Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to consult with representatives of non-domestic ratepayers prior to setting its budget. While this statutory requirement is limited in scope, it is widely recognised that broader public consultation represents good governance and supports transparency and accountability in decision-making.

CB67 **Publication of the register of licences for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)**

A report by the Strategic Director – Culture & Environment was submitted to Cabinet following the Leaders's stated intention to publish the Council's register of

licences for Houses in Multiple Occupation online. The report was to advise Cabinet of the Council's current statutory arrangements regarding the HMO Register and presented to Cabinet options regarding the publication of HMO Register information on the Council's website which included the officer recommendation to retain existing arrangements.

RESOLVED that

a) delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to amend the wording of Option D in the report to ensure it reflects the intentions of Cabinet as considered in the meeting; and

b) subject to the above Option D of the report be approved.

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Brady Hughes
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Jeff Clarke
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options:

Option	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
A - Rejected	Maintain the current position. No online publication. Statutory access provided by inspection at the Town Hall and by certified copy on request.	Lawful and fully compliant with section 232. Lowest exposure in relation to occupant safety. No new processing of personal data requiring justification. Preserves the ability to consider each request on its facts.	Attracts criticism for lack of transparency and is out of step with many authorities. Does not prevent access, as the copy on request duty remains. Increases the volume of individual requests and the associated officer resource.

Option	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
B - Rejected	Publish a reduced dataset. Withhold licence holder and manager names and addresses and HMO property address but retain postcode excluding the last two digits of the postcode for example "CV11 3".	Delivers most of the transparency benefit. Removes the home address exposure for individual landlords and managers. Proportionate under data minimisation principles and straightforward to defend.	Does not reduce the risk to occupants, because the property address is itself the sensitive element. Requires a Data Protection Impact Assessment and a documented necessity and proportionality case. Creates a downloadable, searchable list of licensed properties.
C - Rejected	Publish the full prescribed register online, including all particulars set out in regulation 11.	Maximum transparency. Removes the need to triage individual requests.	Highest exposure on both occupant safety and landlord safety. Publishes home addresses of individual licence holders and managers to the world at large. Weakest position to defend if harm follows, particularly where advice against publication has been received and not followed.

Option	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
D – Preferred	Publish a reduced dataset online including all particulars set out in Regulation 11, with the exception of properties used to accommodate individuals fleeing domestic abuse where publication could undermine the purpose of the accommodation	Next maximum transparency. Aligns largely with the practice of a number of other authorities. Requests will require triaging.	Next highest exposure on both occupant safety and landlord safety. Publishes home addresses of individual licence holders and managers to the world at large. Next weakest position to defend if harm follows, particularly where advice against publication has been received and not followed. Furthermore, as this requires a sift process, it is subject to human error and a property being published invertedly.

Reasons

There is no statutory requirement to publish the register online. Online publication is a discretionary act and hence the report coming before Cabinet. Continue withholding from the website is lawful, provided the inspection and copy on request duties are discharged.

Regulation 11 of the Licensing and Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Other Houses (Miscellaneous Provisions) (England) Regulations 2006 prescribes the particulars for each entry. These include the name and address of the licence holder, the name and address of the person managing the property, the address of the licensed property, a short description of it, a summary of the licence conditions, the permitted number of households and persons, the commencement and expiry dates, and summary information on any tribunal proceedings.

For individual landlords, the prescribed address is frequently a home address. It is personal data and its publication requires separate justification.

CB68 **Agile Working Policy**

The Chief Executive Officer submitted a report to Cabinet seeking approval to undertake a structured review of the Council's current agile working arrangements

to ensure they continue to support effective service delivery, accessibility for residents, and engagement with elected members.

RESOLVED that

a) the current Agile Working arrangements, including the existing expectation that employees in hybrid-eligible roles attend a Council workplace or approved work location for a minimum of 60% of their working time, and note that the current 60% attendance requirement is an interim position pending the outcome of the ongoing review of Agile Working arrangements be noted;

b) Directors and Assistant Directors be requested to undertake a review of services and roles as outlined in the report, within their areas to assess operational requirements, workplace attendance arrangements and service delivery needs.

c) the Chief Executive be requested to present the findings of the review, together with any recommendations arising, to a future meeting of Cabinet.

d) it be noted that any proposed amendments to current working arrangements or policies will be subject to a separate report and decision-making process.

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Kris Wilson
Councillor Colin Cape
Councillor Will Markham

Options:
Do nothing - Rejected - as Members have expressed a desire to understand how the workforce is deployed, and to receive a to Cabinet at a future point.

Reasons
The Council is committed to ensuring that residents receive responsive, accessible and high-quality services and that elected Members are able to engage effectively with officers. To support this objective, it is proposed that each service area undertakes a review of its current working arrangements. The review will consider the operational requirements of individual services and postholders in the service area, and the extent to which current attendance arrangements support service delivery. The scope will therefore cover fixed workplace or operational roles, community-based roles and potentially hybrid roles.

CB69 **Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Panels**

i) **Business, Regeneration and Planning OSP**

Council Owned Empty Properties
At its meeting held on 1st October 2026 the panel put forward a recommendation regarding the use of Council Owned Empty Properties to Cabinet for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** that consideration be given to renting out empty shops within the Town Centres for seasonal/pop-up shops in the run up to Christmas.

ii) **Business, Regeneration and Planning OSP**

Queensbury Real Estate Ltd

At its meeting held on 1st October 2026 the panel put forward a recommendation regarding the final project review for the Grayson Place Regeneration Project to Cabinet for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** that

a) the final project review report comes to the Business, Regeneration and Planning OSP once completed; and
b) the following issues be included within the scope of the report:
    i. Penalty clauses
    ii. NDA's
    iii. Amount paid to Consultants
    iv. What the contact included (and consequence for not fulfilling obligations)
    v. Lessons learned

iii) **Environment, Health and Leisure OSP**

Leisure Strategy

At its meeting held on 15th October 2026 the panel put forward recommendations to Cabinet to approve the adoption of the Leisure Strategy.

It was **RESOLVED** that

a) the indoor Sports Facility Strategy be adopted;

b) the Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance Report be adopted; and

c) the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy Stage E Update be adopted.

CB70 **Any Other Items**

None

CB71 **Exclusion Of Public And Press**

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 2, 3, 5 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CB72 **The Pingles Stadium and Operator Review**

A report by the Deputy Chief Executive was submitted to Cabinet to seek approval to undertake an internal review of the interaction and associated legal relationship which exists between the council and the Pingles Stadium Operator, Nuneaton Harriers Association Ltd.

RESOLVED that

a) to implement an internal review of all transactions and identify all legal agreements between Nuneaton Harriers Association Ltd (NHA) and the Council from 23rd March 2020 be approved

b) the Deputy Chief Executive leads the review and appoints officers to support with the review.

c) the scope of works detailed in section 4 of the report be approved.

d) the Deputy Chief Executive report the completed review and recommendations to the relevant Portfolio Holder(s).

SPEAKERS:
Councillor Kris Wilson

Options:
Do nothing – Rejected - The Portfolio Holder's requested a review due to a whistleblowing complaint plus debt outstanding owed to the Council.

Commission an independent external review – Rejected - This may provide additional assurance but will be cost prohibitive. If external support is required, this will be escalated to Council to request budget provision.

Reasons
The Council owns the freehold of the Pingles Stadium and leases the site to the Nuneaton Harriers Association Ltd (NHA) for operational purposes. The review is intended to establish the relevant facts and assess how matters were handled.

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 11TH NOVEMBER 2026

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 19TH NOVEMBER 2026