BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Farnborough on Thursday, 2nd July, 2026 at 7.00 pm.

The Worshipful The Mayor (Cllr P.J. Cullum (Chair))
The Deputy Mayor (Cllr Jib Belbase (Vice-Chair))

Cllr Gaynor Austin
Cllr Kevin Betsworth
Cllr Leola Card
Cllr Thomas Day
Cllr Lisa Greenway
Cllr Christine Guinness
Cllr Rhian Jones
Cllr G.B Lyon
Cllr Steve Masterson
Cllr Sally McGuinness
Cllr Mike Roberts
Cllr Nicky Slater
Cllr Calum Stewart
Cllr M.J. Tennant
Cllr Becky Williams
Cllr Dave Bell
Cllr Craig Card
Cllr Sue Carter
Cllr Keith Dibble
Cllr Uttar Gurung
Cllr Steve Harden
Cllr Halleh Koohestani
Cllr Mara Makunura
Cllr Rob Matthews
Cllr Bill O'Donovan
Cllr Dhan Sarki
Cllr Sarah Spall
Cllr Paul Taylor
Cllr Ivan Whitmee
Cllr Gareth Williams

Honorary Alderman Diane Bedford
Honorary Alderman Tony Gardiner

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr A. Adeola, Cllr Julie Hall, Cllr Sharon Harvey, Cllr Thomas Mitchell, Cllr Sophie Porter and Cllr Ian Simpson.

Before the meeting was opened, the Mayor had invited his Chaplain, Stephen Mourant, to say prayers.

11. MINUTES

It was MOVED by Cllr Gareth Williams; SECONDED by Cllr Christine Guinness and

RESOLVED: That, subject to the noting of a typographical error on the Annual Council minutes where Cllr Sarah Spall had been listed twice in the membership of the Audit and Governance Committee, the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting on 26th May 2026 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 18th June, 2026 (copies having been circulated previously), be taken as read, approved and signed as a correct record.

12. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last weekend, the Mayor had been very proud to be part of the Council’s fantastic Armed Forces National Event held at Queens Avenue in Aldershot.

The spectacular weekend celebrations brought together the community and the military, for a great occasion to say ‘thank you’ on behalf of the nation, and to celebrate the armed forces. Highlights had included a Tri Service Parade with nearly 1,000 military personnel, RAF fly pasts and three parachute display teams.

Along with the Leader and Healthy Communities and Active Lives Portfolio Holder, the Mayor had also supported several armed forces events in the days leading up to the National Event. He had attended the Armed Forces Day flag-raising on Monday 22nd June in Princes Gardens and had taken part in two events which had been hosted at the FAST museum, including a Reserves Day celebration to pay tribute to Armed Forces Reservists.

The Mayor wished to place on record the Council’s thanks and appreciation to all those staff and Members who had helped to deliver and support what had been an exceptional Armed Forces Day National Event and week of celebrations that all could be very proud of.

The Mayor had also attended the Rotary Club’s Children’s Fun Day on 10th June, the Farnborough College of Technology Family Fun Day on 20th June and, earlier that day, the official opening of the new North Town Community Centre.

The Mayor reported that with effect from 1st June 2026, Cllr Alex Crawford had resigned as a Member for Wellington Ward due to ill health and that a by-election was to be held in the Ward on Thursday, 16th July. Cllr Crawford had served the Borough for just over 22 years and the Mayor wished to place on record the Council’s thanks for his service to the Council and to the Borough of Rushmoor.

In conclusion, the Mayor had some long service announcements to report for the formal record.

It gave the Mayor great pleasure to let Members know that Cllr Martin Tennant had reached his 20-year Service milestone in May 2026. Cllr Tennant had met with the Mayor before the elections to receive his official long-service badge.

The Mayor was also very pleased to announce that, in June 2026, Cllr Mike Roberts had reached the very significant long-service milestone of 50 years. Cllr Roberts had been first elected to the Aldershot South Ward in 1976, not long after the beginning of Rushmoor Council. He then served in Heron Wood Ward from 1979 and Aldershot Park Ward from 2012.

The Mayor had been pleased to attend a small gathering and presentation which had been held last month in Cllr Robert’s honour to recognise this incredible and quite rare, long-service achievement.

13. QUESTIONS

(1) Standing Order 8 – Questions

The Mayor reported that no urgent questions had been submitted under Standing Order 8 (3).

(2) Public Questions

Further to the new scheme for public questions at full Council meetings, the questions that had been accepted had been circulated to Members in advance. Each question was received as set out below, and the Mayor invited a response to each in turn:

1. Resident of Fernhill Ward - **Council Tax Waiver – Unoccupied Homes** - "Will the council consider extending the waiver for council tax on an unoccupied house from 2 months to one year, to give owners a reasonable time to sell, considering it is impossible to conclude the sale of a house in only 2 months. The government allows a waiver for up to one year if the property is on the market. Imposing the full council tax is an unreasonable financial burden on the seller."

Cllr Gaynor Austin, Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder, advised that, historically, properties that were unoccupied and unfurnished were eligible for a 100% Council Tax exemption for up to six months. This exemption was abolished on 31 March 2013, after which local authorities were given discretion to determine whether to apply a discount and, if so, the amount and the duration.

From 1 April 2013, Rushmoor Borough Council introduced a 100% discount for a period of three months. This was subsequently reduced to two months from 1 April 2018.

The primary policy objective was to discourage properties from remaining empty for extended periods. Limiting the discount encouraged owners to re-let, occupy, or sell their properties more quickly, thereby helping to reduce the number of long-term empty homes, which could adversely affect local housing supply.

At the same time, the two-month discount provided a reasonable period for landlords to manage short voids between tenancies without creating a significant financial burden, while still incentivising timely reoccupation.

Council Tax was a vital source of funding for local services. Extending the discount period would reduce income and could necessitate increased charges elsewhere or reductions in service provision.

Whilst it was recognised that property sales could take longer than two months to complete, maintaining a shorter discount period helped to encourage timely progression of sales.

2. Zack Culshaw – Resident of Rowhill Ward – **Future of Rushmoor** - "Why do the local Labour branch & councillors support the destruction of Rushmoor as a seat of local governance and our identity?"

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Gareth Williams, advised that the Council had submitted a proposal to the Government for the reorganisation of Local Government in the wider Hampshire & Solent region, which the Government had accepted. The

proposals were a well-argued solution to the current issues that beset local government, of multiple levels of administration, distant decision making on the most important issues that faced residents and duplication of resources that wasted taxpayers' money.

The arguments were set out in full in the proposal available on the Council's website. The administration did not subscribe to the idea that nothing must ever change. Rather it focussed on practical solutions that recognised the complex and dynamic world we lived in and its ever-changing nature. The Leader was confident that the proposals for Local Government Reorganisation were in the best interests of Rushmoor residents and that they would enable our towns to thrive and to maintain their unique character.

3. Resident of Empress Ward - **Changing Room Policy and Practice** - "Following the Supreme Court's ruling in For Women Scotland Ltd v The Scottish Ministers that "man", "woman" and "sex" in the Equality Act 2010 refer to biological sex, what legal advice or statutory duties did the Council consider when deciding to await EHRC guidance before changing policy or practice, and what interim steps were taken to ensure services and facilities, including Aldershot Pools and Lido, remained compliant with equality law?"

Cllr Gareth Williams, Leader of the Council, advised that the Council did not release or discuss legal advice received, which was subject to privilege. In making decisions on operational policy, the Council took due regard of its statutory duties, including those under the Equality Act 2010. The Council was entirely confident it had been fully compliant with the relevant laws.

The Leader clarified that the Council did not permit, or allow its contractors to permit, any biological male to access facilities designated as single-sex female. People were expected to use single sex facilities on the basis of biological sex. Current practice was that, should a concern be raised about someone not using the correct facility, staff were expected to ask the individual to confirm they were indeed using the correct facility. If the answer was 'yes', staff were not required to challenge further.

The Leader assured the questioner that, since the judgement had been published, no members of the public using any of the Council's facilities or services had raised any concerns relating to other users of the facilities regarding any issue relating to this judgement.

Now that the draft EHRC guidance had been published, the Council intended to create an operational policy to confirm how the guidance would be implemented.

4. Peter Crerar – Resident of Manor Park Ward - **Untidiness of the Borough** - "Since the current administration took control, our borough has become increasingly untidy with badly maintained public landscapes, more litter (particularly rotting food) and increased graffiti tagging on public and private property. What is the council going to do to address this decline?"

Cllr Christine Guinness, Pride in Place and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder, advised that, in the past two years, reports of offensive graffiti had fallen, while non-offensive graffiti had remained broadly stable. Following significant grounds maintenance budget reductions as part of the Council's outcomes-based budgeting exercise over three years ago, the Council had continued to manage those reductions through less frequent grass cutting in some areas and had increased perennial planting, both of which had additional environmental benefits. At the same time, litter reports had fallen, community volunteering had grown and street cleanliness continued to exceed our contract targets.

5. Member of Rushmoor People First – **Community Recovery Fund** - "The £600K Community Recovery Fund - It is documented as to what has been spent so far and on what, but what evidence is there that this has actually had any impact on rebuilding social trust and promoting cohesion between communities? Has any of this actually made a difference as it does not appear to have done so. The community seems more divided than before."

The response to the question is currently subject to an investigation by the Council's Monitoring Officer.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION - DISCOUNTS FOR ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS

The Council were asked to consider a Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr G.B. Lyon under Standing Order 10 (1) on Discounts for Armed Forces and Veterans, as set out below:

"This council recognises the cost-of-living crisis and the severe challenges facing many local businesses.

This council also recognises the particular steps many local businesses and groups make to recognise and honour the service of our Armed Forces and veterans.

In order to help both businesses and our Armed Forces and veterans, this council will invite local businesses to notify us of their discounts and offers for armed forces and will publish a central listing of all local businesses and groups that have notified the Council that they make discounts available to Armed Forces and Veterans."

In PROPOSING the Motion, Cllr G.B. Lyon stated that the publication of a central listing would help Armed Forces personnel and veterans to access and accept services more efficiently and would build on the momentum of the recent National Armed Forces Day event. In SECONDING the Motion, Cllr Steve Masterson agreed that the listing would be a positive step and should be publicised using all available media, such as Arena, BFBS radio etc.

During debate, the view was expressed that this Motion did not do enough to address the real issues faced by serving personnel and veterans, such as the availability of housing and health services support.

It was MOVED by Cllr Gareth Williams and SECONDED by Cllr Thomas Day, that the Motion be amended to insert the following words (text in bold) and to remove the words struck through:

"This council recognises the cost-of-living crisis and the severe challenges facing many local businesses.

This council also recognises the particular steps many local businesses and groups make to recognise and honour the service of our Armed Forces and veterans, **exemplified by many of them generously offering support and discounts during our National Armed Forces Day event 2026.**

In order to help both businesses and our Armed Forces and veterans, this council will**:** ~~invite local businesses to notify us of their discounts and offers for armed forces and will publish a central listing of all local businesses and groups that have notified the Council that they make discounts available to Armed Forces and Veterans~~

- **continue its work with local businesses to publicise discounts that are offered**
- **promote the information already available on its website, including the 'Forces Connect' service which provides information on:**
    - **Defence Discount Service and Privilege card - official MOD service offering discounts with over 14,000 retailers**
    - **Rewards for Forces - Discounts with 1000s of national and local retailers**
    - **Veterans Railcard - offering 1/3 off most rail fares**
    - **Wider support available to our armed forces community**
- **encourage local businesses to sign up to the discount service https://www.defencediscountservice.co.uk**"

In PROPOSING the amendment, Cllr Gareth Williams stated that the amendment would strengthen the Motion and would prevent the duplication of work that was already ongoing. In SECONDING the amendment, Cllr Day agreed that the use of the existing system for showing armed forces discounts would be better than setting up a new Council-run website.

In discussing the amendment, it was noted that the Armed Forces Covenant provided military families with some assistance in these areas, but that assistance should be extended beyond serving soldiers and veterans, to cadets and wider service families.

Following further discussion, the amendment was put to the meeting. There voted FOR: 30; AGAINST: 0; ABSTAIN: 2 and the amendment was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

The new Substantive Motion was put to the meeting:

"This council recognises the cost-of-living crisis and the severe challenges facing many local businesses.

This council also recognises the particular steps many local businesses and groups make to recognise and honour the service of our Armed Forces and veterans, exemplified by many of them generously offering support and discounts during our National Armed Forces Day event 2026.

In order to help both businesses and our Armed Forces and veterans, this council will:

- continue its work with local businesses to publicise discounts that are offered
- promote the information already available on its website, including the 'Forces Connect' service which provides information on:
    - Defence Discount Service and Privilege card - official MOD service offering discounts with over 14,000 retailers
    - Rewards for Forces - Discounts with 1000s of national and local retailers
    - Veterans Railcard - offering 1/3 off most rail fares
    - Wider support available to our armed forces community
- encourage local businesses to sign up to the discount service https://www.defencediscountservice.co.uk"

There voted FOR: 30; AGAINST: 0; ABSTAIN: 2 and the Motion was **DECLARED CARRIED**.

15. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES

a) Statement of Licensing Policy

Cllr Christine Guinness introduced the Report of the Cabinet held on 17th March, 2026, which set out the Statement of Licensing Policy in respect of the Licensing Act 2003. The Council was recommended to adopt the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy and to agree the proposed policy and cumulative impact assessment to be implemented with immediate effect.

It was MOVED by Cllr Christine Guinness; SECONDED by Cllr Keith Dibble – That the Council be recommended to

- adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy, as set out in Appendix C; and,
- agree that the policy and the cumulative impact assessment be implemented with immediate effect.

There voted FOR: 29; AGAINST: 0; ABSTAINED: 3; and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED.**

b) **Champion Roles**

Cllr Sarah Spall, introduced the Report of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee held on 16th June 2026, which proposed that:

1) Cllr Lisa Greenway be appointed as Champion for Pride in Place for the 2026/27 Municipal Year with terms of reference, as set out at Appendix 1; and

2) Cllr Steve Masterson be appointed as Champion for Armed Forces Covenant for two years from June 2026 with terms of reference for the 2026/27 Municipal Year as set out in Appendix 2.

During debate, the view was expressed that the nominees to each position were well qualified for their respective roles. The Council wished to place on record its thanks to Champions for their work, including Cllr Lisa Greenway in her Pride in Place role over the past two years.

There voted FOR: 30; AGAINST: 0; ABSTAINED: 2; and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED.**

c) **Designation of Head of Paid Service**

Cllr Sarah Spall, introduced the Report of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee held on 1st July, 2026, setting out the outcome of the assessment process for the permanent appointment of the Council's Head of Paid Service, following a cross-party Member Assessment Panel.

It was MOVED by Cllr Sarah Spall and SECONDED by Cllr Sue Carter that

1) The post of interim Managing Director be redesignated to Chief Executive;
2) The statutory designation of Head of Paid Service be redesignated to the post of Chief Executive; and
3) Mr Ian Harrison be appointed as the Council's Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service with effect from 3rd July 2026.

During debate, it was clarified that the designated Cabinet portfolio in relation to the assessment panel was the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Resources (which was no longer titled Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services). Strong support was expressed by Members in respect of the appointment of Mr Harrison to this role.

There voted FOR: 32; AGAINST: 0; ABSTAINED: 0; and the Recommendations were **DECLARED CARRIED.**

16. **QUESTIONS FOR THE CABINET**

(1) Cllr Leola Card had submitted a question for response by the Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder (Cllr Keith Dibble) on the maintenance of unadopted roads.

Cllr Dibble advised that Councillors could view details of which roads within the Borough were adopted, and, consequently, those unadopted, on the Councillor mapping system or at findmystreet.co.uk.

Typically, there was no real ownership of an unadopted road, rather there was a maintenance obligation of living on one, namely residents who owned the houses fronting onto the road. No service was due from any public body and responsibility would rest with the residents of the unadopted roads.

The remit of any working group formed would simply be to persuade the highways authority to adopt the roads, which it was not obligated to do, and would be unlikely to be able to fund.

(2) Cllr Calum Stewart had submitted a question for response by the Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder (Cllr Keith Dibble) on improving standards in private rented accommodation.

Cllr Dibble advised that improving standards in the private rented sector was a key commitment in the Council's Delivery Plan. The Council was delivering this through a combination of stronger tenant protections, earlier intervention, improved landlord compliance and, where necessary, robust enforcement action.

The introduction of the Renters' Rights Act represented the most significant reform of the private rented sector in a generation. Tenants would benefit from greater security, stronger financial protections and fairer treatment across the sector. This included controls on rent increases, an end to rental bidding, open-ended tenancies and stronger protections from unfair eviction. Together, these changes should give tenants greater confidence to raise concerns with the Council and give greater stability in their homes.

Alongside these national reforms, the Council’s Housing Options and Private Sector Housing teams were working proactively with landlords and tenants to support higher standards across the Borough. This included delivering landlord forums to communicate current and forthcoming legislative changes, providing targeted training on the Renters' Rights Act, damp and mould, and wider regulatory requirements and offering practical guidance to help landlords comply with their responsibilities and address issues before they escalated.

The Council expected tenants to see safer and better-maintained homes, quicker resolution of housing problems when concerns were raised, more consistent standards across the private rented sector and greater confidence to report issues without fear of unfair eviction or harassment. The Council would also expect to see improved housing stability and fewer cases where poor housing conditions contributed to homelessness.

The Council would be looking for a reduction in serious property hazards and poor housing conditions, faster resolution of complaints and enforcement cases, fewer repeat issues involving the same properties or landlords, increased engagement by landlords with training and support opportunities, evidence that tenants were

reporting concerns earlier and with greater confidence and reduced homelessness arising from poor housing conditions.

Ultimately, success would be measured against the outcomes set out in the Council's Delivery Plan.

(3) Cllr G.B. Lyon had submitted a question for response by the Leader of the Council (Cllr Gareth Williams) on the costs of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

Cllr Williams advised that the Council's net spend for the 2025/26 financial year had been £80,266.83.

To date, the spend for 2026/27 was £91,156.61 from an initial approved budget of £300,000 (this included some staffing costs specifically recruited to assist with LGR). The Government had announced a distribution of £900,000 for the current financial year to assist each new unitary area with implementation costs. To date this money was still pending and the basis of distribution amongst the Councils was yet to be agreed.

Officer time was currently not being directly tracked and charged to LGR per se; however, several officers were currently spending an increasing amount of their time working on LGR. This was primarily at senior officer level and service manager level; however, some support was being provided at more administrative levels.

The Council would review the adequacy of its budget for LGR as the programme of implementation activity become clearer throughout the 2026/27 financial year.

Cllr Lyon asked a supplementary question regarding whether the Leader considered centralisation to be a bad thing. In response, the Leader stated that he believed that LGR was a process of decentralisation, especially with regard to County Council services.

(4) Cllr Lisa Greenway had submitted a question for response by the Leader of the Council (Cllr Gareth Williams) on hosting of the National Armed Force Day event.

Cllr Williams advised that the previous weekend had been a proud day for the Borough of Rushmoor, as it had showed the very best of itself to the wider Armed Forces and Defence communities.

The Council's objectives in hosting the event had been ambitious, and had included:

- ensuring the Armed Forces felt the gratitude of the public
- engaging young people with ideas of careers in local businesses and the services themselves
- promoting the cadet forces
- highlighting the role of community groups in supporting veterans and serving families; and,
- celebrating the diverse Armed Forces community.

The Leader felt assured that everyone who attended could attest that the Council had met and exceeded these objectives. In addition to the day itself, the relationships formed in organising the event and during the weekend had taken forward many of the plans the Council had for joining up the Armed Forces, businesses and community groups locally and he was looking forward to developing those relationships further.

(5) Cllr Sue Carter had submitted a question for response by the Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder (Cllr Gaynor Austin), on behalf of the Healthy Communities & Active Lives Portfolio Holder (Cllr Sophie Porter), on the National Year of Reading 2026.

Cllr Austin advised that the Council had been working with partners to identify opportunities to support and promote reading across communities.

The Council continued to have good engagement with the local libraries and schools and was also exploring opportunities to work with community groups to encourage wider participation and volunteering to support reading initiatives.

The Council was looking at the potential for increasing community library provision and other book-sharing initiatives, where these were viable and supported by local communities, as well as promoting the existing offers already in place.

The Council recognised the valuable role these initiatives could play in improving access to books and encouraging reading.

Members were advised that, in North Town, Vivid Housing was developing a scheme involving books for children and, if interested, Members should contact Cllr Porter for further information.

Cllr Carter stated a wish to be involved in any future Council initiatives in this regard.

(6) Cllr Thomas Day had submitted a question for response by the Pride in Place and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder, (Cllr Christine Guinness), on behalf of the Healthy Communities & Active Lives Portfolio Holder (Cllr Sophie Porter), on the Lido hot weather opening.

Cllr Guinness advised that the decision to open the Aldershot Lido on the afternoons of 24th, 25th and 26th June, during the most recent heatwave, proved very popular, with 837 tickets sold on the Wednesday, 1,190 tickets on the Thursday and 1,124 on the Friday, totalling 3,151 tickets across the three days providing local residents with the ideal place to cool off.

The hot weather this year had unsurprisingly led to a fantastically successful opening six weeks at the Lido, with almost 28,000 tickets sold in May and June. Impressive figures when compared to the total season attendance of 42,000 in 2025 and 40,000 in 2024. The Lido would be open every day for the months of July and August and, with more warm weather forecasted, it was very possible 2026 could be a record-breaking year for the Lido.

Everyone Active, the Council's newly appointed operators of the Pools and Lido and Alpine Snowsports Centre, should be commended for their speedy and successful mobilisation, having only taken over operation of the sites on 1st April, seven weeks before the start of the Lido season.

(7) Cllr Nicky Slater had submitted a question for response by the Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder (Cllr Gaynor Austin), on behalf of the Healthy Communities & Active Lives Portfolio Holder (Cllr Sophie Porter), on the Aldershot Comedy Festival.

Cllr Austin advised that the Aldershot Comedy Festival was an event conceived and organised by Rushmoor Borough Council staff at the Princes Hall, in association with the team at the West End Centre. The inaugural Festival last September had been very well received, and this second iteration was set to be even bigger and better with a dozen different comedy shows and events taking place at the two theatres between 29th September and 8th October.

The Festival had a varied programme of events, covering the spectrum of comedy, from stand-up to improv, TV comedy nostalgia to musical comedy. Members of the public could even try their hand at stand-up comedy themselves.

Some of the well-known names featuring in this year's festival included Andy Hamilton, Dom Joly, Reginald D Hunter and Charlie Baker.

For more information and to book tickets, customers could visit the Princes Hall and West End Centre websites or speak to their box offices.

It was hoped that the Aldershot Comedy Festival 2026 would shine a spotlight on live comedy and provide lots of laughs to the people of Rushmoor and beyond.

(8) Cllr Thomas Day had submitted a question for response by the Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder (Cllr Keith Dibble) on the number of children in temporary accommodation.

Cllr Dibble advised that as of, 1st July 2026, Rushmoor had 63 children residing in temporary accommodation, across 49 households in total. None of these families were in bed and breakfast accommodation and as of 2nd July there would be no households at all in bed and breakfast accommodation.

These figures compared to 77 children in temporary accommodation between January and March 2026 and 83 children between January and March 2025.

The Housing Options Team, of housing officers, support officers and allocations and landlord liaison officers, had focused their work on preventing homelessness where possible and as a result of this positive and pro-active work, the service had 69% of all homeless approaches occurring at the prevention stage, meaning they could work to stop the household becoming homeless and needing temporary accommodation. The Team had done this by working to resolve matters so families could remain in

their current accommodation or assist in finding them alternative accommodation before they become homeless.

This proactive work saw the service consistently prevent homelessness above the national average. In the period from January to March 2026, of the 77 households who sought assistance prior to becoming homeless, the Council had been able to prevent 65 of them from doing so. This success rate of 84% compared to a national average of 54%.

17. REPORTS OF CABINET AND COMMITTEES

RESOLVED: That the Reports of the following meetings be received:

Cabinet	17th March, 2026
	21st April, 2026
	2nd June, 2026

Committees

Licensing and Corporate Business	5th March, 2026
Development Management	11th March, 2026
Audit and Governance	25th March, 2026
Development Management	15th April, 2026
Development Management	23rd April, 2026
Audit and Governance	10th June, 2026
Licensing and Corporate Business	16th June, 2026
Development Management	17th June, 2026

18. REPORTS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD

RESOLVED: That the Reports of the Policy and Project Advisory Board meeting held on 24th March and 9th June and the Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11th June 2026, be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.57 pm.