

CABINET

Report of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14th October, 2025 at the Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Gareth Williams, Leader of the Council
Cllr Sophie Porter, Deputy Leader and Healthy Communities & Active Lives Portfolio Holder

Cllr Gaynor Austin, Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder
Cllr Keith Dibble, Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder
Cllr Christine Guinness, Pride in Place / Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Cllr Julie Hall.

The Cabinet considered the following matters at the above-mentioned meeting. All executive decisions of the Cabinet shall become effective, subject to the call-in procedure, from **27th September, 2025**.

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Having regard to the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors, no declarations of interest were made.

30. MINUTES –

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 16th September, 2025 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

31. BUDGET MANAGEMENT - MONTH 5 – (Cllr Gaynor Austin, Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. FIN2516, which set out an update on the Council's forecasted financial position for 2025/26, as at the end of August, 2025.

Members were reminded that the Council had a statutory obligation to set and maintain a balanced budget. It was reported that, in February 2025, the Council had identified a significant challenge to its future financial sustainability. Members were informed that the forecast outturn for 2025/26 was on track, with the full £1.8 million savings requirement achieved. The level of external borrowing had reduced through careful cashflow management, which had delayed and reduced the need to borrow externally. It was confirmed that work would continue to identify long term sustainable savings to achieve financial sustainability and resolve the savings requirements for 2026/27 and 2027/28, as set out in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The Cabinet was pleased with the progress that had been made in addressing the Council's challenging financial position and expressed gratitude to the finance team for its work in this respect.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the revenue budget forecast, as set out in Section 3 of Report No. FIN2516, be noted; and
- (ii) the capital budget forecast, as set out in Section 4 of the Report, be noted.

32. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2025-26 TO 2028-29 - MID YEAR REVIEW –

(Cllr Gaynor Austin, Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. FIN2517, which set out a review of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as at the end of September, 2025. The Chairman welcomed the Cllr S. Trussler who had requested to address the Cabinet on this issue.

Members were informed that the report provided an assessment of existing and newly identified budget pressures and progress to date on delivering the required budget savings to achieve financial sustainability with the MTFS period (2025-26 to 2028-29), which was the Council's top corporate objective. It was explained that the MTFS was being adversely impacted by increased cost pressures identified in the February 2025 budget setting report and delays in identifying and delivering savings, which had been compounded by the Local Government Reorganisation's significant impact on the capacity of the Council's strategic leadership team, along with changes within the senior management team as a result of the departure of the Chief Executive. Members were informed that it was essential that the Council identified long-term underlaying savings to address the Council's financial challenges over the medium term.

The Cabinet heard from Cllr Trussler, who was a member of the Financial Recovery Working Group and had been a member of the Budget Strategy Working Group before this. From his involvement with the Working Groups, Cllr Trussler expressed concern that potential savings from efficiencies were now running out and that it was unclear where these would be delivered going forward. He also felt that, with the Union Yard disposal being delayed, it was time to revisit some decisions that had been taken in that regard. Cllr Trussler went on to state that, as Shadow Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder, he felt unsighted on the details and timetable for proposed changes to the Council's commercial property portfolio and that he had been promised two-weekly updates had not materialised. Finally, Cllr Trussler expressed concern over the possibility of a delay to the timetable for Local Government Reorganisation. It was his contention that, should this happen, the Council's financial position would become increasingly precarious over time and he proposed that the Council should consider taking action now to mitigate this eventuality.

During discussions the Cabinet thanked Cllr Trussler for his contribution to the meeting and also considered the importance of monitoring risks and uncertainties. It was acknowledged that the coming period would continue to be challenging for the Council but it was felt that extra resources had been put in place where required and

that financial plans had been drawn up to place the Council in the best possible position to deal with this.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that the Medium Term Financial Strategy, as set out in Report No. FIN2517, be noted and that the following actions be recommended to the Council's Senior Management Team:

- to continue with existing plans for the rigorous review of the Council's services and the finding of efficiency savings within those, including staff structures;
- to ensure sufficient resources continue to be put into asset disposals, along with regular structured monitoring of the process;
- to ensure realistic and deliverable timetabling in respect of asset disposals; and
- to ensure that the Council's budget process is published as soon as practicable.

33. AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT UPDATE 2025 –

(Cllr Keith Dibble, Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. PG2531, which set out an updated Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for consultation and subsequent adoption.

Members were reminded that the Affordable Housing SPD was a subsidiary document to the Local Plan and provided additional information to developers on the implementation of the Local Plan policies related to the delivery of new affordable homes. The current SPD had been adopted in 2019 and there had, since then, been changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, Building Regulations, Government Housing Priorities and increases in rents and benefits and this had meant that an update was required. The report set out the details of the changes proposed.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that a consultation exercise on the revised Affordable Housing SPD, as set out in Report No. PG2531, be approved, with the Executive Head of Property and Growth, in consultation with the Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder, being authorised to make any subsequent final, non-substantive amendments to the document prior to adoption.

34. ADOPTION OF A NEW PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY –

(Cllr Keith Dibble, Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. PG2530, which set out a proposed update to the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy for Rushmoor.

Members were informed that the previous Playing Pitch Strategy had been adopted in 2014 and was now in need of updating. The Strategy would be used to guide the preparation of policy, determine planning applications impacting on existing or the

need for new sports pitches and to guide investment in pitches from a range of bodies. It also set out details of the current provision of pitches and the current and expected future demand for pitches, along with how this could be met, although there was no obligation on the Council to do so.

The Cabinet expressed support for the Strategy and felt it was important that residents were made fully aware of the range of facilities that were available in the Borough.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that the adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy for Rushmoor, as set out in Report No. RG2530, be approved.

35. **HAMPSHIRE LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY –**
(Cllr Keith Dibble, Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. PG2532, which set out the Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Members were informed that Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) had been introduced as a result of the Environment Act 2021 and were a new system of plans for nature recovery covering the whole of England. It was explained that Hampshire County Council was the responsible body for preparing the LNRS for Hampshire and had formally provided the Council with the final LNRS under the Regulations. This had triggered a 28-day period for the Council to either confirm that it was content for the final LNRS to be published or to issue a publication advisory notice if it did not consider that this was the case.

In expressing its strong support for the Strategy, the Cabinet thanked the Council's Planning Team for its hard work in the development of this document.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that the publication of the final Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy, as set out in Report No. PG2532, be approved.

36. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC –**

RESOLVED: That, taking into account the public interest test, the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the under mentioned items to avoid the disclosure of exempt information within the paragraph of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 indicated against the items:

Minute Nos.	Schedule 12A Para. No.	Category
37 and 38	3	Information relating to financial or business affairs

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE CONSIDERED
IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC**

37. DISPOSAL OF NO. 101 HAWLEY LANE, FARNBOROUGH –
(Cllr Julie Hall, Economy, Skills & Regeneration Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Exempt Report No. REG2536, which sought approval to dispose of the freehold interest in No. 101 Hawley Lane, Farnborough and the adjoining St. John Ambulance site, subject to the finalisation of terms.

Members were informed that this disposal would contribute to the delivery of the Council's Financial Recovery Plan and was, therefore, a key priority. The Exempt Report set out the process that had been carried out so far and Members were informed that a preferred purchaser had been selected.

The Cabinet expressed strong support for the proposed approach as making a significant contribution towards improving the Council's financial position.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the agreement, in principle and subject to final legal due diligence, to the disposal of the freehold interest in No. 101 Hawley Lane, Farnborough, as set out in Exempt Report No. REG2536, be approved;
- (ii) the agreement, in principle and subject to final legal due diligence, to the disposal of the St. John Ambulance freehold, linked to the disposal of No. 101 Hawley Lane, Farnborough, as set out in the Exempt Report, be approved; and
- (iii) the Executive Head of Property and Growth, in consultation with the Executive Head of Finance, the Interim Monitoring Officer and Corporate Manager – Legal Services and the Economy, Skills & Regeneration Portfolio Holder, be authorised to confirm the final terms of the disposal.

38. FARNBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE - UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS –
(Cllr Sophie Porter, Deputy Leader and Healthy Communities & Active Lives Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Exempt Report No. LEG2505, which set out an update and the next steps in relation to the provision of a new leisure centre in Farnborough.

The Cabinet was reminded that, in July 2025, the Cabinet had agreed to continue to progress with the delivery of a leisure centre in Farnborough, utilising the remaining Levelling Up funding. Approval had been given to progress design works to the end of RIBA Stage 4, following the conclusion of RIBA Stage 3, subject to the forecast operator income being in line with expectations. Members were now receiving an update on the legal constraints of the sites for development, along with the options to overcome these.

The Cabinet considered that the recommended approach would best deal with the legal constraints set out in the Exempt Report.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the legal constraints of the sites and the requirement to either appropriate the land and use Section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 to enable the development or to obtain title indemnity insurance, as set out in Exempt Report No. LEG2505, be noted;
- (ii) the Executive Director, in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer and Corporate Manager – Legal Services, be authorised to choose the best option to deal with any legal constraints to development;
- (iii) the carrying out of a consultation exercise, should Section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 be considered to be the best option, be approved; and
- (iv) it be noted that compensation may be payable following consultation and that, if insurance was obtained, a premium would be payable.

The Meeting closed at 8.21 pm.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting held on Wednesday, 8th October, 2025 at the Concorde Room, Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Thomas Day
Cllr A.H. Gani
Cllr C.P. Grattan
Cllr Halleh Koohestani
Cllr S.J. Masterson
Cllr Jacqui Vosper
Cllr Ivan Whitmee

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs Abe Allen, Peace Essien Igodifo, Dhan Sarki and Calum Stewart.

Cllrs A.H. Crawford, P.J. Cullum and Nadia Martin (virtual) attended the meeting as Standing Deputies.

Non-Voting Member

Cllr Keith Dibble (Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder) (ex officio)

31. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Thomas Day be appointed as Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

32. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Cllr. S.J. Masterson be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

34. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th September, 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

35. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: That

- (i) permission be given to the following application, as set out in Appendix “A” (as required), subject to the conditions, restrictions and prohibitions (if any) mentioned therein:

* 25/00287/REMP P Zone G Pennefathers, Aldershot Urban Extension,
Alison's Road, Aldershot

25/00396/FULPP Aldershot Lido, Guildford Road, Aldershot

- (ii) the applications dealt with by the Executive Head of Property and Growth, where necessary in consultation with the Chairman, in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, more particularly specified in Section "D" of the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2533, be noted

- (iii) the current position with regard to the following applications be noted pending consideration at a future meeting:

21/00271/FULPP Block 3, Queensmead,
Farnborough

23/00713/FUL Manor Park Cottage, St.
Georges Road East,
Aldershot

23/00794/REVPP Farnborough Airport,
Farnborough

24/00237/FUL Nos. 235-237 High Street,
Aldershot

- * The Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2533 in respect of these applications was amended at the meeting.

36. ZONE G PENNEFATHERS, ALDERSHOT URBAN EXTENSION, ALISON'S ROAD, ALDERSHOT - APPLICATION NO. 25/00287/REMP

The Committee considered the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2533 (as amended at the meeting) regarding the approval of reserved matters for the construction of 90 residential dwellings (including the conversion of Bradgate House to provide 6 flats) together with associated landscape, access and parking in Development Zone G (Pennefathers) pursuant to Condition 4 (1 to 22), attached to Hybrid Outline Planning Permission 12/00958/OUT, dated 10th March 2014. During discussion, it was requested that concerns about safety on Pennefathers Road be investigated by Hampshire County Council Highway Authority and Grainger (Aldershot) Limited. It was understood that Pennefathers Road was located outside of the development zone for the current application.

ACTION

What	By whom	When
For concerns about safety on Pennefathers Road to be raised with Hampshire County Council Highway Authority and Grainger (Aldershot) Limited.	Planning Department	Before the next Development Management Committee Meeting.

37. **FLAT NO. 2 PHOENIX COURT, ELMS ROAD, ALDERSHOT - APPLICATION NO. RSH/04631/1**

The Committee received the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2534 regarding application No. RSH/04631/1 - a request to relax a clause in a legal agreement under Section 52 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, restricting the age of occupiers of Flat No. 2 Phoenix Court.

RESOLVED: That the Corporate Manager Legal Services be authorised to advise the person making the request that the Council is minded not to enforce the terms of the Section 52 Agreement, or to take enforcement action in respect of the breach of Condition No.11 of planning permission No. RSH/04631/1, relating to Flat No. 2 only within Phoenix Court.

38. **APPEALS PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2535 concerning the following appeal decisions:

Application / Enforcement Case No.	Description	Decision
24/00712/REVPP and 24/00460/FULP	An appeal against the refusal of s73 planning permission to increase outdoor building-materials storage heights to 5.5m at Unit 1, No. 106 Hawley Lane, Farnborough.	Appeal allowed

RESOLVED: That the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2535 be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.23 pm.

LICENSING AND CORPORATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting held on Tuesday, 21st October, 2025 at the Concorde Room,
Council Offices, Farnborough at 6.30 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Jacqui Vosper (Chair)
Cllr Sarah Spall (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Abe Allen*
Cllr Sue Carter
Cllr A.H. Crawford
Cllr P.J. Cullum
Cllr C.P. Grattan*

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr C.W. Card, Cllr Jules Crossley, Cllr Lisa Greenway, Cllr Rhian Jones, Cllr Bill O'Donovan and Cllr P.G. Taylor.

*Cllr Abe Allen and Cllr C.P. Grattan attended the meeting as Standing Deputies.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Jacqui Vosper be appointed as Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Sarah Spall be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

3. APPOINTMENTS

(1) Licensing Sub-Committee

RESOLVED: That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Licensing Sub-Committee for the remainder of the 2025/26 Municipal Year, on the basis of five Members (2 Labour: 1 Conservative: 1 Rushmoor Independent Group: 1 Liberal Democrat):

Labour Group: Cllrs Rhian Jones and Sarah Spall

Conservative Group: Cllr Jacqui Vosper

Rushmoor Independent Group: Cllr Jules Crossley

Liberal Democrat: Cllr C.W. Card

(2) Licensing Sub-Committee (Alcohol and Entertainments)

RESOLVED: That the Corporate Manager - Democracy be authorised to make appointments from the membership of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee in accordance with the procedure detailed in the Licensing Sub-Committee (Alcohol and Entertainments) Hearings Protocol and Procedure.

(3) Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis)

RESOLVED: That the Corporate Manager – Democracy be authorised to make appointments from the membership of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee in accordance with the procedure detailed in the Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis) Hearings Protocol and Procedure.

(4) Appointments and Appeals Panels –

RESOLVED: That the Corporate Manager - Democracy be authorised to make appointments to Appointments and Appeals Panels set up on behalf of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee, in accordance with the membership criteria set out in the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in the Constitution.

(5) Constitution Working Group-

RESOLVED: That the membership of the Constitution Working Group included the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Licensing and Corporate Business Committee, and a representative of the Rushmoor Independent Group in addition to the current membership in 2025/26 (Cllrs Porter, O'Donovan, Austin, Lyon, Harden and C. Card).

4. POLLING PLACE REVIEW - POLLING DISTRICT FB

The Committee considered the Corporate Manager – Democracy's Report No. DEM2508, which recommended that the polling place for Fernhill FB be moved to the Ferns Primary School Academy in Fernhill Ward, Farnborough.

The Committee noted that following the Parliamentary election in July 2024, feedback showed that the polling place at The Fox Inn, Chapel Lane in Fernhill, was not a suitable venue for use as a polling place for parliamentary elections as the premises did not have sufficient space for two polling stations, and there were some accessibility issues. The Electoral Commission guidance stated that it was essential that polling stations provided sufficient space for voting to take place. The Elections Group recommended a review of the polling place for Fernhill FB polling district at its meeting on 29th April 2025 and agreed to consult on changing the polling station to the Ferns Primary Academy, Field Road in Fernhill Ward, Farnborough. The Elections Group considered the findings of the public consultation at its meeting on 23rd September 2025 and recommended that the polling place be moved to the Ferns Primary Academy. Concerns raised by residents in the public consultation included potential school closures and difficulty finding the venue from the main

road. The Committee noted that the school would not have to close on polling days, as the polling station would be segregated from the rest of the school. Maps would be included with poll cards and additional signage would be placed on the main road.

During discussion, Members agreed that the Ferns Academy had more suitable accessibility arrangements for people with disabilities, including parking, which was a strong reason for supporting the change in polling place.

RESOLVED That:

- (1) the polling place for Fernhill FB be moved to The Ferns Primary Academy;
- (2) a map showing the location of The Ferns Academy be included with the poll card for the next election; and
- (3) additional signage from the main road to The Ferns Academy be provided on polling day.

The meeting closed at 7.01 pm.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting held on Wednesday, 19th November, 2025 at the Concorde Room, Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Thomas Day (Chair)
Cllr S.J. Masterson (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Abe Allen
Cllr A.H. Gani
Cllr C.P. Grattan
Cllr Halleh Koohestani
Cllr Dhan Sarki
Cllr Calum Stewart
Cllr Jacqui Vosper
Cllr Ivan Whitmee

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr Peace Essien Igodifo.

Cllr P.J. Cullum attended the meeting as a Standing Deputy.

Non-Voting Member

Cllr Keith Dibble (Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder) (ex officio)

39. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

40. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th October, 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

41. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

RESOLVED: That

- (i) permission be given to the following application, as set out in Appendix "A" (as required), subject to the conditions, restrictions and prohibitions (if any) mentioned therein:

* 25/00534/FUL

Nos. 16 - 18 Kingsmead, Farnborough

- (ii) the applications dealt with by the Executive Head of Property and Growth, where necessary in consultation with the Chairman, in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, more particularly specified in Section "D" of the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2538, be noted
- (iii) the current position with regard to the following applications be noted pending consideration at a future meeting:

21/00271/FULPP	Block 3, Queensmead, Farnborough
23/00713/FUL	Manor Park Cottage, St. Georges Road East, Aldershot
23/00794/REVPP	Farnborough Airport, Farnborough
24/00237/FUL	Nos. 235-237 High Street, Aldershot
25/00537/OUTPP	Land at Cody Technology Park and Ball Hill, Farnborough
25/00583/FULPP	Proposed New Farnborough Leisure Centre, Farnborough
25/00589/FULPP	Buildings 4.1. and 4.3 Frimley Business Park, Frimley Camberley

* The Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2538 in respect of these applications was amended at the meeting.

42. **NOS. 16-18 KINGSMEAD, FARNBOROUGH - APPLICATION NO. 25/00534/FUL**

The Committee considered the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2538 (as amended at the meeting) regarding conversion and extension of Units 16-18 with partial internal works to Unit 20, The Meads Shopping Centre to facilitate formation of a cafe/bar and restaurant with associated external walls, signage, entrances and bin store.

RESOLVED: That

- (i) delegated authority be granted to the Service Manager (Development Management) and Executive Head of Property and Growth, to add any additional conditions as may be considered necessary; and
- (ii) planning permission be granted.

43. **APPEALS PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2539 concerning the following appeal decisions:

Application / Enforcement Case No.	Description	Decision
Units 1, 2 and 3, 14 Camp Road, Farnborough 24/00660/FULPP	An appeal against the refusal of planning permission for change of use of Unit 1 from mixed use storage and distribution/retail to Class 4 MoT testing centre; continued use of Unit 2 as a vehicle service and repair premises; continued use of Unit 3 as an MoT testing centre; retention of canopies outside Units 1 and 2, retention of vehicle access gate on north boundary and new gate on south boundary and retention of boundary fencing and additional fencing.	Dismissed
Nos. 4-8 Farnborough Road, Farnborough 25/00253/ADVPP	An appeal against the refusal of planning permission for installation of a free standing illuminated 48-sheet digital advertisement display.	Dismissed

RESOLVED: That the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2539 be noted.

44. **PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT) SUMMARY**

The Committee received the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2537 which provided an update on the position with respect to achieving performance indicators for the Development Management Section of the Planning Service and the overall workload of the Section for the quarter from 1st July to 30th September 2025.

The Committee noted that the planning summary reports would include 12-month figures in future, in addition to the quarterly figures.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Head of Property and Growth's Report No. PG2537 be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.