

EXECUTIVE MEETING ON 13 JANUARY 2026



DECISION SHEETS

Record of decisions made by the Executive pursuant to Regulation 12 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Date of publication: 14 January 2026

** Executive decisions will not be implemented until the expiry of 5 working days to take account of the Call-In procedure.*

<u>No.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Reasons for the Decision</u>	<u>Details of alternative options considered and rejected at a meeting</u>	<u>Any declarations of conflict of interest and/or dispensations granted</u>
5	Parking Strategy - Off Street Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) - Objections Report	That Executive: (A) Approves the extension of operational hours at Bowling Green Lane, Buntingford, to 7:30 am - 6:30 pm and the introduction of	To review amendments to East Hertfordshire District Council's (EHDC) off-street parking arrangements, following public consultation from 9 October 2025 to 6 November 2025 on	Having carefully considered consultation responses, officers recommended that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• objections to the introduction of weekend charging	

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		<p>weekend charging, subject to the following mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of the proposed Monday to Friday tariffs with no inflationary increase over the existing structure currently applied in Stanstead Abbotts. • Introduction of Saturday charging at the same tariff levels as Monday to Friday, to ensure consistency across rural car parks. • Introduction of a flat £1.50 all-day charge on Sundays and Public Holidays. <p>(B) Approves the</p>	<p>proposed changes to car park operational hours, tariffs, and maximum stay periods across Council's car parks.</p>	<p>in Buntingford, Sawbridgeworth, and Stanstead Abbotts Rural car parks be overruled, however the following mitigations will be applied, to reduce the impact on users of rural car parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monday to Friday tariffs will remain unchanged across all three rural car parks, instead of applying an inflationary increase 	

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		<p>introduction of weekend charging at Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth, aligned with existing weekday tariff levels, subject to the following mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of existing Monday to Friday tariffs with no inflationary increase. • Introduction of Saturday charging at the same tariff levels as Monday to Friday, to ensure consistency across rural car parks. • Introduction of a flat £1.50 all-day charge on Sundays and Public Holidays. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday charging will be introduced in Buntingford and Sawbridgeworth, aligned with existing weekday rates. - A flat all-day Sunday charge of £1.50 will apply across all three rural car parks, including Bowling Green Lane (Buntingford), Bell Street (Sawbridgeworth), and Stanstead Abbotts Rural car park, instead of the original £2.10 	

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		<p>(C) Approves the introduction of a maximum stay of 3 hours for all customers at Gascoyne Way Level A, Hertford.</p> <p>(D) Approves amendments at Old London Road, Hertford, to provide both short-stay and long-stay parking.</p> <p>(E) Approves the introduction of a 2.5-hour parking charge at Grange Paddocks A, Bishop's Stortford.</p> <p>(F) Approves the extension of operational hours to 8:00 pm at Grange Paddocks B and C,</p>		<p>originally consulted upon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • objections to the proposed 3-hour free parking limit be overruled, subject to a modification to the original proposal. <p>The Traffic Regulation Order will permit Blue Badge holders to remain parked beyond the initial 3-hour free period within the same chargeable period, provided the applicable parking tariff is paid for the additional</p>	

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		<p>Bishop's Stortford.</p> <p>(G) Approves the merger of Kibes Lane North and Kibes Lane South, Ware, into a single car park, operating as short-stay parking Monday to Saturday and long-stay parking on Sundays and public holidays.</p> <p>(H) Approves the renaming of the Library Car Park, Ware, to Burgage Lane, and the reduction of the maximum stay to three hours.</p> <p>(I) Approves the merger of Amwell End East and Amwell End West, Ware, into a</p>		<p>duration.</p>	

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		<p>single Amwell End Car Park.</p> <p>(J) Approves the conversion of several under-utilised disabled bays to Parent and Child bays at Northgate End, Bishop's Stortford.</p> <p>(K) Approves corrections to administrative and operational arrangements at Link Road and Jackson Square, Bishop's Stortford, including car club bays and operational hours.</p> <p>(L) Approves the introduction of a maximum free parking</p>			

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		<p>period of 3 hours for Blue Badge holders across all Council-managed car parks in disabled and regular bays, and allow vehicles to remain in excess of the 3 free hours, during chargeable periods, with payment made. Note that the Order also provides for tariff increases from April 2026, in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as previously agreed by the Council. Following feedback from the consultation, it is proposed that car parks in Buntingford,</p>			

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		Sawbridgeworth, and Stanstead Abbotts are not subject to inflationary increases in the existing applicable tariffs for 2026/27.			
6	Draft Budget 2026/27 and Medium term Financial Plan 2026-2031	Executive agreed that: a) The draft General Fund Budget for 2026/27 is proposed for consultation purposes and a Band D Council Tax of £207.03 (assuming a 2.99% Council Tax increase). b) The updated position on the General Fund Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) as shown in	The Council is required to set a balanced budget each year. The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council to estimate revenue expenditure and income for the forthcoming year from all sources, together with contributions from reserves, in order to determine a net budget requirement to be met by government grant, business rates and council	That the Council continues to review and adjust fees and charges across all services to ensure income keeps pace with rising costs. Any alternative approach—such as reducing fees and charges, limiting growth, or holding council tax below government expectations—would	

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		<p>Appendix A be noted.</p> <p>c) the proposed fees and charges, as set out in Appendix B, be approved for consultation.</p> <p>d) The minimum level of General Fund balance of £3.649 Million, based on the 2026/27 risk assessment of balances as shown in paragraph 6.3, is approved.</p> <p>e) The pressures identified in section 4 of the report is noted.</p> <p>f) The savings identified in section 5 of the report is noted.</p> <p>g) The Section 25</p>	tax.	<p>increase financial risk and could compromise the Council's ability to deliver services sustainably in future years.</p>	

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		<p>Statement of Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves as set out in Appendix D is noted.</p> <p>h) The decisions taken on recommendations a) to g) above be referred to the Joint Meeting of Scrutiny Committees on 28 January 2026 for consideration.</p>			
8	Strategic Risk Register Quarter 2 Monitoring 2025/26	<p>a) That the 2025/26 quarter two corporate risk register and actions being taken to control and mitigate risk was considered and noted.</p>	<p>To enable Executive to consider the Strategic Risk Register at the end of Quarter 2.</p>		

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9	Financial Management 2025/26 - Quarter 2 Forecast to Year End	<p>Executive:</p> <p>a) Considered and noted the net revenue budget end of year projected overspend of £509k.</p> <p>b) Accepts the additional Heritage Lottery capital fund grant of £238k for Hertford Castle Greenspace renewal and this additional resource was to be reflected in the capital programme.</p> <p>c) Considered and noted the capital programme forecast outturn underspend of £722k.</p>	<p>Section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Council to monitor the budget and monitor and assess the adequacy of reserves and balances during the year. East Herts Council's financial management framework requires quarterly reports to Audit and Governance Committee and the Executive with forecasts to year end.</p>		