

EXECUTIVE MEETING ON 2 JUNE 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: 3 June 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	Scrutiny of Registered Providers' Communications Methods	Executive: a) Considered and approved the recommendations found in the action plan at appendix A. b) Agreed that the recommendations outlined in the action	Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed on the 16 September 2025 to establish a task and finish group to review the methods of communication used by Registered Providers (housing associations) to engage with their tenants,	Accept the recommendations - RECOMMENDED for the reasons outlined in the report. Not to accept the recommendations - NOT	

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		plan to be taken forward are implemented and Overview and Scrutiny Committee provided with a progress report on implementation.	elected members and council officers. The report made recommendations to the Executive for consideration following the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review of communication methods used by Registered Providers of housing in the district.	RECOMMENDED as the recommendations are being made to improve communications, which when not effective are a key driver of poor customer experience and dissatisfaction.	
6	Joint Working Arrangements between East Herts Council and SNG Housing	Executive: (a) approved in principal the Memorandum of Understanding (included at Appendix A) covering joint arrangements for collaborative working at Sele Farm, Hertford. (b) delegated authority to the Director for Communities, acting in consultation with the	Proposal to establish joint working arrangements between East Herts Council and SNG Housing to promote resident and stakeholder engagement and consultation, increase the overall supply of new and genuinely affordable housing and improvement the quality of the local environment and	Do not approve the draft Memorandum of Understanding. NOT RECOMMENDED as: • this could signal that the council is uncertain about working with SNG and thus undermine future joint working and SNG's investment in Sele Farm	

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		Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, to sign the finalised Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of East Herts Council.	biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is a risk that without a clear, agreed mechanism for working together, the collaboration could founder or become delayed while East Herts Council becomes part of the new, larger unitary authority. This, in turn, would risk delaying or losing SNG's ability to access Homes England funding and/or internal resources for new genuinely affordable homes in the area. <p>Seek substantive amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding. NOT</p>	

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				<p>RECOMMENDED as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • council and SNG officers have engaged in much work to date in drafting and refining the wording of the version of the MoU here presented to the Executive • external legal advice has supported the framing of the MoU and so officers can assure members as currently worded the MoU enables but does not oblige the council to work closely with SNG to further the council's corporate goals and objectives. 	
11	East Herts Local Cycling and Walking	a) That the East Herts Local Cycling and	To agree that the East Herts Local Cycling and Walking	The endorsement of the LCWIP will ensure	

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	Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)	Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), attached as Appendices E and F (1 to 7) be agreed as part of the evidence base to inform the new East Herts Local Plan and as a material consideration for Development Management purposes in the determination of planning applications; and b) Any minor amendments to the content of the East Herts Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) be delegated to the Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Planning	Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) can be used as part of the evidence base for the new Local Plan, as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, and to seek funding opportunities, where appropriate.	that there is an up-to date evidence base for the promotion of a robust strategy to enhance walking, wheeling and cycling in East Herts, which will play a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of the district's residents and employees. Furthermore, it will form part of the evidence base to the emerging Local Plan and will also open up opportunities for accessing funding mechanisms that are not available without an LCWIP in place.	

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		and Growth.		<p>The Council could choose not to agree to the LCWIP, but this would be contrary to Government and Active Travel England's advice for LCWIPs to be developed and would mean that the Council would have no strategy for the identification of routes and interventions to improve conditions for walking, wheeling and cycling in the district. This would also be contrary to Government policy to have an up-to date evidence base for local plan development and</p>	

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				<p>could undermine the Council's position in terms of successfully bringing the new Plan for East Herts forward.</p> <p>It would also mean that some funding opportunities would not be open to help deliver schemes that have been identified in the LCWIP.</p>	
12	East Herts Open Space Assessment	The Open Space Assessment, as attached at Appendix A of the report, was agreed as part of the evidence base to inform the new East Herts Local Plan and as a material consideration for Development	To help inform decisions in the Local Plan about which open spaces should be protected from development and where new provision or enhancements are required, it is important the Council has update-to-date evidence about the quantity, accessibility and quality of	The endorsement of the Open Space Assessment ensures there is an up-to-date evidence base for the protection, enhancement and provision of open space, which has multifunctional	

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		Management purposes in the determination of planning applications.	open space across East Herts. Since the previous open space assessment was undertaken nearly 10 years ago there have been some changes to open space provision.	benefits for quality of life, health and wellbeing, climate change mitigation, biodiversity and flood mitigation.	
13	East Herts District Wide Employment Land Review	a) That the Employment Land Review, attached as Appendix A to the report, was agreed as part of the evidence base to inform the new East Herts Local Plan and as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.	Since the previous Employment Land Review, there have been notable changes in the stock of allocated employment land across the district, and relevant planning policy context has evolved significantly. In addition, major societal changes have occurred, including the Covid pandemic and Brexit, which have shaped the way business and industry both structures itself and operates. The purpose of	The Council could choose not to agree to endorse the Employment Land Review as part of the new Local Plan evidence base. This would mean that the Local Plan would not be able to rely on this evidence to inform emerging policy and strategy, and would compromise the progression of the plan. It would also	

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			the review is to provide an updated assessment of the district's employment land, which considers those changes in the context of this district and informs the emerging Local Plan.	likely cause difficulties during the plan-making process, particularly when the Council defends its strategy at the Examination stage.	
14	Bishop's Stortford Employment Study	a) The Bishop's Stortford Employment Study, attached at Appendix A to the report, was agreed as part of the evidence base to inform the new East Herts Local Plan and as a material consideration for Development Management purposes in the determination of planning applications.	The relationship between jobs and housing is a key consideration in the delivery of sustainable development. There has been significant growth in Bishop's Stortford over the last ten years. District Plan strategic site allocations have been developed across the town, delivering new dwellings, facilities and a new employment site at Bishop's Stortford South. A number of these sites are still being delivered, which will further	The Council could choose not to agree to endorse the Bishop's Stortford Employment Study as part of the new Local Plan evidence base. This would mean that the Local Plan would not be able to rely on this evidence to inform emerging policy and strategy, and it could compromise the progression of the plan. It would also	

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			change the housing, services and employment opportunities in the town.	likely cause difficulties during the plan-making process, particularly when the Council defends its strategy at the Examination stage.	
15	Drawdown from Executive Priority Reserve - Ward Freeman Project	A) Executive approved an allocation of £105,000 from the Executive Priority Reserve to support the reopening of Ward Freeman Swimming Pool in Buntingford.	<p>A request had been received from WFCPG to provide further financial support towards the reopening of Ward Freeman Swimming Pool.</p> <p>The proposed funding would provide support towards essential refurbishment and enabling works, helping to address a current funding gap and maintain progress towards reopening. The project is currently targeting an opening in late 2026,</p>	Executive could choose not to approve the requested funding or alternatively approve a reduced level of support and require the project to secure the remaining funding from other sources. However, both options would place significant pressure on the project's financial viability and delivery programme. This	

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			subject to completion of works and necessary approvals.	could result in delays to the planned reopening or, in the worst case, prevent the project from being completed altogether. The proposed allocation therefore provides the most certain route to supporting the delivery of the scheme within anticipated timescales.	