



# Epping Forest District Council

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## **CABINET** **Monday 13th November 2023**

You are invited to attend the next meeting of **Cabinet**, which will be held at:

**Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping**  
on **Monday 13th November 2023**  
at **7.00 pm**

**Georgina Blakemore**  
Chief Executive

**Democratic Services**  
**Officer:** V Messenger (Democratic Services)  
Tel: (01992) 564243

**Members:** Councillors C Whitbread (Leader of Council & Leader of the Conservative Group) (Chairman), N Bedford (Deputy Leader & Place Portfolio Holder) (Vice-Chairman), R Balcombe, S Kane, S Patel, J Philip, H Whitbread and K Williamson

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**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS TO ATTEND**

[This meeting will be broadcast live and recorded for repeated viewing.](#)

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### **1. WEBCASTING INTRODUCTION**

This meeting is to be webcast and the Chairman will read the following announcement:

"I would like to remind everyone present that this hybrid meeting will be broadcast live to the internet (or filmed) and will be capable of repeated viewing (or other such use by third parties).

Therefore, by participating in this meeting, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If any public speakers on MS Teams do not wish to have their image captured, they should ensure that their video setting throughout the meeting is turned off and set to audio only.

Please also be aware that if technical difficulties interrupt the meeting that cannot be overcome, I may need to adjourn the meeting.

**Members are reminded to activate their microphones before speaking".**

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To be announced at the meeting.

To report non-attendance before the meeting, please use the [Members Portal webpage](#) to ensure your query is properly logged.

Alternatively, you can access the Members portal from the front page of the [Council's website](#), at the bottom under 'Contact Us'.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To declare interests in any item on this agenda.

**4. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 9)**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9 October 2023.

**5. REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

To receive oral reports from Portfolio Holders on current issues concerning their Portfolios, which are not covered elsewhere on this agenda.

**6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE CABINET**

To receive any questions submitted by members of the public and any requests to address the Cabinet.

**(a) Public Questions**

To answer questions asked by members of the public after notice in accordance with the provisions contained within Part 4 of the Constitution (Council Rules, Rule Q3) on any matter in relation to which the Cabinet has powers or duties or which affects the District.

**(b) Requests to Address the Cabinet**

Any member of the public or a representative of another organisation may address the Cabinet on any agenda item (except those dealt with in private session as exempt or confidential business) due to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions contained within Article 7 of the Constitution (The Executive, Paragraphs 27 and 28).

**7. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

To consider any matters of concern to the Cabinet arising from the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function and to identify any matters that the Cabinet would like the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to examine as part of its work programme.

**8. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2024/25 (Pages 10 - 18)**

(Finance and Economic Development – Cllr J Philip) To approve the introduction of new income banded / grid scheme for working age applicants with effect from 1 April 2024 (C-025-2023-24).

**9. HOUSING ALLOCATION SCHEME - 1-YEAR REVIEW (Pages 19 - 79)**

(Housing and Strategic Health Partnerships – Cllr H Whitbread) To agree the recommendations of the main changes that were made to our Housing Allocations Scheme, which have been in place for one year (C-026-2023-24).

**10. HGGT GOVERNANCE / JOINT COMMITTEE (Pages 80 - 150)**

(Place – Cllr N Bedford) To agree to the establishment of a Joint Committee in respect of matters pertaining to the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town (C-027-2023-24).

**11. NORTH WEALD BASSETT MASTER PLAN ALLOCATION SITE (Pages 151 - 165)**

(Place – Cllr N Bedford) To approve the draft North Weald Bassett Strategic Masterplan Framework and commencement of the public consultation (C-028-2023-24). Please see Appendix 1 published separately in four parts.

**12. QUARTER 2 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2023/24 (Pages 166 - 190)**

(Finance and Economic Development – Cllr J Philip) To note the Quarter 2 position (C-029-2023-24).

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, together with paragraphs 6 and 24 of the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution requires that the permission of the Chairman be obtained, after prior notice to the Chief Executive, before urgent business not specified in the agenda (including a supplementary agenda of which the statutory period of notice has been given) may be transacted.

In accordance with Operational Standing Order 6 (non-executive bodies), any item raised by a non-member shall require the support of a member of the Committee concerned and the Chairman of that Committee. Two weeks' notice of non-urgent items is required.

**14. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**Exclusion

To consider whether, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) or are confidential under Section 100(A)(2):

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Exempt Information Paragraph Number</b>
Nil	Nil	Nil

The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, which came into effect on 1 March 2006, requires the Council to consider whether maintaining the exemption listed above outweighs the potential public interest in disclosing the information. Any member who considers that this test should be applied to any currently exempted matter on this agenda should contact the proper officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Background Papers

Article 17 of the Constitution (Access to Information) define background papers as being documents relating to the subject matter of the report which in the Proper Officer's opinion:

- (a) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
- (b) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing the report and does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information and in respect of executive reports, the advice of any political advisor.

The Council will make available for public inspection one copy of each of the documents on the list of background papers for four years after the date of the meeting. Inspection of background papers can be arranged by contacting either the Responsible Officer or the Democratic Services Officer for the particular item.