

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 16 JULY AT 10.00 A.M.**



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO COUNTY COUNCIL

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

This report is made by the Leader of the Council and, together with separate reports from each member of Cabinet, comprises the report under Standing Order 7.

1. Cabinet decisions since the last meeting of County Council

1.1 There will have been 5 Cabinet meetings (15 April 2019, 13 May 2019, 3 June 2019, 10 June 2019 and 8 July 2019) since the last Executive Report to County Council on 26 March 2019. Items of business specifically attributed to me were:

Cabinet – 13 May 2019

Review of the Constitution: Cabinet recommended that Council approve changes to Annex 6 and Annex 7 and noted that further Constitutional changes would be presented to Council for consideration at its May meeting.

Cabinet – 8 July 2019

A026/19: County Council Corporate Plan 2019 - 2025: Cabinet will be invited to approve the Council's refreshed Corporate Plan.

A025/19: Hertfordshire County Council's Annual Report 2018/2019: Cabinet will be invited to approve the Council's Annual Report.

2. Executive key decisions made under special urgency provisions

2.1 The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 require the Leader of the Council to report to Council any executive key decisions taken in circumstances of special urgency, under the provisions of Regulation 11, with the agreement of the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.2 Three such decisions were taken as follows:-

- A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) And Flood Alleviation
- Change In The Location Of Premises For The Delivery Of Sexual Health Services
- Framework award to meet the needs of people on the waiting list for supported living

- 2.3 The decision records for these decisions are on the Council's website and can be viewed here <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/how-we-make-decisions/decisions.aspx>

3. National / Regional Events

- 3.1 On Wednesday 27 March, Tuesday 21 May and Friday 12 July, I attended meetings of the County Councils Network (CCN) Council, Management Committee and Executive.
- 3.2 On Thursday 28 March and Wednesday 19 June, I attended meetings of the Local Government Association (LGA) Community Wellbeing Board.
- 3.3 On Friday 29 March and Friday 14 June, I attended meetings of the South East Strategic Leaders, which included agenda items on Public Health and the responsibilities of Public Health England and strategic authorities; Brexit preparations; Local Government finance and the Williams Rail Review.
- 3.4 On Wednesday 3 April, I attended a meeting of the London Stanstead Cambridge Consortium (LSCC) Board and on Thursday 27 June, myself and the Chief Executive, Owen Mapley, attended the Annual LSCC Conference.
- 3.5 On Friday 12 April and Friday 31 May, I attended meetings of England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance Leaders. This is a partnership of local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships which includes the growth corridor from Oxford through Milton Keynes and across to Cambridge and is providing a single, joined-up voice to Government on infrastructure needs.
- 3.6 On Wednesday 29 May, I took part in the Victoria Derbyshire Show, which was focussed on adult social care.
- 3.7 On Thursday 6 June, I attended the LGA Councillors' Forum which was addressed by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP.
- 3.8 On Wednesday 19 June, as the CCN's spokesman for Health and Social Care, I took part in a session at the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Conference on retirement community development. CCN and the District Councils Network are collaborating on a joint project that showcases the benefits of retirement communities (and distinguishes them from other types of housing for older people), highlights best practice and explores how more developments might be incentivised.
- 3.9 On Tuesday 25 June, I attended an East of England Parliamentary Reception, which focused on delivering future prosperity, productivity, and inclusivity for the UK.
- 3.10 Later the same evening, I attended the Chamberlain Lecture, where the keynote speaker was former Permanent Secretary to the Department for Communities and Local Government, Lord Kerslake,

3.11 Along with other colleagues, I attended the annual LGA Conference in Bournemouth on 1 - 4 July.

4. Local / Internal events

4.1 On Thursday 28 March, I took part in a BBC Three Counties Politics Panel debate.

4.2 On Thursday 4 April, I attended the opening of the Gringott's Wizarding Bank attraction at Harry Potter World in Leavesden.

4.3 On the afternoon of Friday 12 April, I met with David Gauke, MP for a general discussion.

4.4 On Monday 15 April, myself and the Chief Executive, Owen Mapley, attended a reception to mark the Centenary of Welwyn Garden City 2020.

4.5 On Thursday 25 April, I met with Chris Lawrence, Chairman of Hertfordshire Partnership University Foundation Trust, for a general discussion.

4.6 On Friday 26 April, I met with a delegation from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), who visited County Hall to get a better understanding of the breadth of services we provide.

4.7 On Thursday 2 May, I attended a dinner to launch *Creating Communities* held at Hatfield House and hosted by Lord Salisbury.

4.8 On Tuesday 14 May, myself and the Chief Executive, Owen Mapley, met with the Peter Taylor, Mayor, and Manny Lewis, Managing Director, of Watford Borough Council, to discuss major projects.

4.9 On Wednesday 15 May, myself and the Director of Environment and Infrastructure, Mark Kemp, met with Michele Dix, Managing Director of Crossrail 2 at TfL and Chris Curtis, Head of Crossrail 2 at Network Rail.

4.10 On Friday 17 May, I met with Richard Harrington, MP, for a general discussion.

4.11 Later that day I attended the biz4Biz Awards Dinner at Tewin Bury Farm.

4.12 The annual County Show took place over the weekend of 25/27 May. The event was well attended and a resounding success. I would like to thank colleagues, members of staff, partners, volunteers and performers, all of whom helped to ensure our marquee was lively, interesting and full of energy all weekend.

4.13 On Wednesday 5 June and Thursday 20 June, I attended a meeting of the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Programme Management Committee and the Board respectively.

- 4.14 I recently met with the newly elected Leaders of Broxbourne Borough Council, St Albans District Council and North Herts District Council – Cllrs Lewis Cocking, Chris White and Martin Stears-Handscomb respectively.
- 4.15 On Thursday 13 June, I attended the University of Hertfordshire's Annual Court Meeting.
- 4.16 On Friday 14 June, I attended the High Sheriff's Garden Party.
- 4.17 On 17 June, I attended an event hosted by the County Council's Chairman to recognise the work carried out by Fire and Rescue Service and Community Protection staff involved with aftermath of the Newgrange Care Home fire.
- 4.18 On Wednesday 19 June, I attended a celebratory Evensong to mark the opening of the new Welcome Centre, Exhibition Area and the Alban, Britain's First Saint Project at St Albans Cathedral.
- 4.19 On Thursday 20 June, I attended a meeting of the Stevenage First Board.
- 4.20 On Monday 24 June, I attended the Armed Forces Flag Raising ceremony and reception.
- 4.21 Later that day I attended Visit Herts annual Summer Garden Party.
- 4.22 On Tuesday 25 June, myself and the Chief Executive, Owen Mapley, met with the Leader and Chief Executive of Luton Borough Council for a general discussion.
- 4.23 On Wednesday 26 June, I had an introductory meeting with Briege Leahy, newly appointed Chief Executive, Herts Chamber of Commerce.
- 4.24 Later the same day, I attended the 2019 Adult Achievement Awards.

5. Hertfordshire Leaders' Group (HLG)

- 5.1 A meeting of the HLG took place on Thursday 27 June. Key items on the agenda included a discussion on Local Government Finance and the Spending Review; Appointments to Outside Bodies and the usual regular updates.
- 5.2 The next meeting will take place in the October – date to be confirmed.

6. Hertfordshire Growth Board

- 6.1 On Tuesday 23 April, Tuesday 4 June and Tuesday 9 July, I chaired meetings of the Hertfordshire Growth Board. The Board comprises of the Leaders and Chief Executives of the County Council and the county's 10 Local Planning Authorities and the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership who have come together to provide collaborative place leadership and pro-actively shape and secure the benefits for Hertfordshire residents and businesses from the growth that is planned over the next 15 - 25 years.

6.2 Additionally, we are regularly holding facilitated Hertfordshire Growth Board Development Programme Workshops. So far, there have been three of these workshops, taking place on 7 May, 28 May and 18 June. A further workshop will take place on Wednesday 17 July.

7. Forward Plan – July 2019

7.1 I invite the County Council to receive the updated Forward Plan dated 4 July 2019.

[Cabinet 15 April 2019](#)

[Cabinet 13 May 2019](#)

[Cabinet 3 June 2019](#)

[Cabinet 10 June 2019](#)

[Cabinet 8 July 2019](#)

**David Williams
Leader of the Council
July 2019**