

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

THE COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMONS AND AGENDA

for the meeting to be held on Tuesday, 25 February 2020 at 10.00 a.m. in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Hertford.

GROUP MEETINGS

Conservative Group 9.00 am Tuesday, 25 February 2020 Council Chamber
Liberal Democrat Group 8.30 am Tuesday, 25 February 2020 Group Room
Labour Group 9.00 am Tuesday, 25 February 2020 Group Room

PRAYERS at 9.50 a.m.

Prayers led by The Reverend John Hookway, Vicar at Christ Church, Ware

WEBCASTING NOTICE

The Council will broadcast this meeting as a webcast live on the internet. We will also record the webcast and publish it on our website. We may also publish it in other formats.

If you go into the Council Chamber at any time during the meeting you acknowledge that you will be included in the webcast and recording. All parts of the room can be seen or heard by the camera or microphones so, if you do not wish to be recorded, please do not enter the Chamber.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

You can watch this webcast at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/watchmeetings

Members are reminded that all equalities implications and equalities impact assessments undertaken in relation to any matter on this agenda must be rigorously considered prior to any decision being reached on that matter.

Members are advised that in respect of the debate concerning the Council's Integrated Plan, including the setting of the council tax precept, the Standards Committee has exercised its power to grant a dispensation to all Hertfordshire County Councillors from the requirement to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or a Declarable Interest. Accordingly, there is no requirement for any Councillor to make any declaration of interest in respect of this item of business.

Members are reminded that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 provides that if a Member is in arrears of council tax

for two months or more and they are present at a meeting where the Council's budget or the precept is being considered then they should declare this and any such Member must not vote on any matter relating to the setting of the Council's budget or the precept.

PART I ('PUBLIC') AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 November 2019 (circulated separately).

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - STANDING ORDER 8(10)

To deal with questions from any member of the public being resident in or working in Hertfordshire, to the Leader of the Council and/or Members of the Executive about the policies and/or strategic priorities of the Council or about any matter which directly affects the County.

4. PUBLIC PETITIONS - STANDING ORDER 15

The opportunity for any member of the public, being resident in Hertfordshire, to present a petition relating to a matter over which the County Council has control, containing 1,000 or more signatures of residents or people working in the County.

Notification of intent to present a petition must have been given to the Chief Legal Officer at least 20 clear days before the meeting where an item relating to the subject matter of the petition does not appear in the agenda, or at least 5 clear days where the item is the subject of a report already on the agenda.

[Members of the public who are considering raising an issue of concern via a petition are advised to contact their local County Councillor <https://democracy.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mgFindMember.aspx>

The Council's arrangements for the receipt of petitions are set out in [Annex 24 - Petitions Scheme](#) of the Constitution.]

If you have any queries about the petitions procedure for this meeting please contact Elaine Shell, Democratic Services Manager, by telephone on (01992) 555565 or by email to elaine.shell@hertfordshire.gov.uk

5. OFFICER REPORTS RELEVANT TO EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS

5A INTEGRATED PLAN 2020/21 – 2023/24

Portfolio: Resources and Performance

Reports of the Director of Resources

Circulated separately to Members of the Council as follows:

- (i) Comments and Conclusions of the Council’s Cabinet Panels on the Integrated Plan Proposals 2020/21 – 2023/24**
- (ii) Scrutiny of the Integrated Plan Proposals 2020/21 – 2023/24: Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
- (iii) Integrated Plan 2020/21 – 2023/24**

Members are asked to also bring the following reports to the meeting. These were previously circulated to all Members of the County Council as indicated below:

‘Public Engagement on the 2020/21 – 2023/24 Integrated Plan’ (circulated as Item 4(i) for the Cabinet meeting of 20 January 2020); and

‘Integrated Plan 2020/21 – 2023/24’ (including Parts A – G) (circulated as Item 4(ii) for the Cabinet meeting of 20 January 2020).

5B. MEMBERS’ ALLOWANCES 2020/2021 – Report of the Independent Panel on Members’ Allowances

Portfolio: Resources and Performance

Report from the Independent Panel on Members’ Allowances (attached)

6. QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

To deal with questions from Members of the Council to the Leader of the Council and Executive Members.

7. REPORT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Report of the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (attached)

8. REPORT FROM THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Report of the Chairman of the Health Scrutiny Committee
(attached)

9. NOTICES OF MOTION – STANDING ORDER 9 (6)

9A. J D Williams to move (seconders: **S B A F H Giles-Medhurst** and **J Billing**):-

“This Council is committed to challenging discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and promoting good relations between our communities. It abhors racism and hatred of all forms and is concerned at the rise in profile and frequency of antisemitism across the country.

Hertfordshire County Council wishes to join with the Government and other local authorities across the UK in signing up to the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, towards Jewish Community institutions and religious facilities.”

This Council therefore resolves to:

- 1) Restate its condemnation of all forms of racism, discrimination and hatred in all its manifestations*
- 2) Adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism across the Council for identifying, challenging and confronting incidents of this form of racism.”*

9B. S B A F H Giles-Medhurst to move (seconder: **S K Jarvis**) :-

“Council requests the Highways and Environment Panel to recommend to Cabinet that a review be undertaken of: -

- i) the intervention levels of Category 1 reported highways faults so that serious faults such as those that exceed 300mm wide and more than 100mm deep are classed as a serious defect requiring urgent intervention (made safe within 24 hours) regardless of the category of road*
- ii) the feasibility of undertaking "one and done" with a view to saving time and money on repairing highways faults in the proximity of a similar reported fault requiring intervention in accordance with the Defect Management Response that could be repaired at the same time thereby avoiding a further works team visit at a later*

stage, especially if a temporary road closure has been undertaken at the said site.”

9C. C J White to move (seconded: R G Tindall): -

“This Council notes that: -

- *A ‘Climate Emergency’ was declared by Hertfordshire County Council in 2019*
- *Burning fossil fuels poses a serious risk to the stability of the climate upon which our well-being and economy depend*
- *Research demonstrates that up to 80% of the world’s proven fossil fuel reserves will have to remain unburnt if we are to have a reasonable chance of keeping global warming to less than 2 degrees Celsius, the globally agreed target for climate change mitigation*
- *Since 80% of fossil fuels must remain in the ground, the reserves of the fossil fuel industry risk becoming ‘stranded assets’ with little or no value – representing a substantial financial risk for those that invest in them.*

This Council further notes that: -

- *Hertfordshire Pension Fund currently has over £94.5 million invested in the oil, coal and gas industries – nearly 1.8 per cent of the total pension investments*
- *To date, over 1,100 institutions representing nearly \$11.5 trillion in assets have committed to divest from fossil fuel companies*
- *Over a dozen UK councils have committed to divestment*
- *Divesting from fossil-fuel industries is both environmentally and financially responsible, with fossil-free portfolios outperforming non-divested equivalents in recent years.*

This Council, therefore, requests the Pensions Committee to: -

- *Review its Investment Strategy with a view to developing a Responsible Investment Policy, which does not involve new investments in fossil fuel companies*
- *To consider divesting from fossil fuels by*
 1. *Immediately freezing any new investment in the top 200 publicly-traded fossil fuel companies;*
 2. *Divesting from direct ownership and any commingled funds that include fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds within three years;*
 3. *Setting out an approach to quantify and address climate change risks affecting all other investments, and*
 4. *Actively seeking to invest in companies that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and minimise climate change risk.”*

9D. S B A F H Giles-Medhurst to move (seconder: **S K Jarvis**): -

“Given the Council has declared a Climate Emergency, Full Council requests that Cabinet sets up a cross party Members Advisory Group to advise Cabinet and Cabinet Panels on all aspects of the Council’s activities and to report to Panels as applicable.

Furthermore Full Council requests that Cabinet requires that all future Cabinet Panel reports shall include a Climate Emergency Implications section in relation to all proposals in its reports.”

9E. S B A F H Giles-Medhurst to move (seconder **S K Jarvis**): -

“Council, noting the need for action on the Climate Emergency and benefits of tree planting, requests the Highways and Environment Panel requests Cabinet to consider and adopt an action plan on tree planting whereby for every tree removed from the county’s stock, whether on highways or other county land, two are planted.”

Quentin Baker

**QUENTIN BAKER
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

Full copies of all reports may be found on the internet at

<https://democracy.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1>