

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

CABINET DECISION SHEET

Decision Sheet from the Meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 23rd April, 2026 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

PRESENT: Councillors Beales (Chair), de Whalley, Lintern, Moriarty, Morley, Ring (Vice Chair) and Rust.

PRESENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 34: Councillors Kemp and Ryves.

OFFICERS:

Kate Blakemore – Chief Executive

Emma Hodds – Chief of Staff and Monitoring Officer

Stuart Ashworth – Assistant Director – Planning

Siobhan Cleeve – Assistant Director – Leisure

Ged Greaves – Climate Change Manager

Carl Holland – Assistant Director - Finance

Jeannette Hollingsworth – Environmental Health Manager

Dave Robson – Environmental Health Manager

Mark Whitmore – Assistant Director – Health, Wellbeing and Public Protection

1 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Squire.

2 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: The minutes from the meeting held on 3rd March 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

3 **URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

5 **CHAIR'S CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

6 **MEMBERS PRESENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 34**

Councillor Kemp – South Lynn Community Centre
 Councillor Ryves – Invited to the meeting for the Audit Committee
 Annual Report from the Chair.

7 **CALLED IN MATTERS**

None.

8 **FORWARD DECISIONS**

RESOLVED: The Forward Decisions List was noted.

9 **MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET FROM OTHER BODIES**

Cabinet notes the recommendations put forward by the Panels in relation to the following items:

Environment and Community Panel – 14th April 2026

Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.
 Railway Road Extended Air Quality Management Area Revocation.
 Changes to the existing Corporate Enforcement Policy and Financial Penalties as a result of the Renters Rights Act
 South Lynn Community Centre.

Corporate Performance Panel – 15th April 2026

Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring

Regeneration and Development Panel – 31st March 2026

Changes to the Local Plan Task Group Terms of Reference
 High Street Rental Auctions
 Custom House Refurbishment

10 **AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

RECOMMENDED: That the Annual report of the Chair of Audit Committee be considered and noted by Full Council.

REASON FOR DECISION: It is recommended practice for the Audit Committee to report on its work. To comply with best practice in making the best efforts by the Audit Committee to adopt the principles in complying with CIPFA's "Position Statement: Audit Committee in Local Authorities".

11 **CHANGES TO THE LOCAL PLAN TASK GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE**

RESOLVED: To adopt the revised Local Plan Task Group Terms of Reference (Annex 1 to this report).

REASON FOR DECISION: To recognise the requirements and statutory obligations of the new planning system, as introduced through the 2023 Levelling-Up and Regeneration, and 2025 Planning and Infrastructure Acts.

12 **CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approve the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure there is a comprehensive and up to date framework for the Council's response to climate change.

13 **RAILWAY ROAD EXTENDED AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA REVOCATION**

RESOLVED: Revoke Railway Road Air Quality Management Area and revoke Railway Road Extended Air Quality Management Area.

REASON FOR DECISION: Air quality levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) have steadily fallen over the last few years and have not exceeded the legal air quality annual mean limit for the last 5 years within the AQMA. If there have been no exceedances over the previous 5 years, then there is no longer a need to have AQMAs in place.

14 **QUARTER 3 BUDGET MONITORING**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

1. Note the forecast outturn for Revenue and Capital monitoring position as at 31st December 2025 for 2025/2026.
2. Agree to update the Capital Programme as set out in section 3 of the report.

REASON FOR DECISION: To keep Cabinet informed of performance against budget for Capital and Revenue 2025/2026 based on Quarter 3 data.

15 **CHANGES TO THE EXISTING CORPORATE ENFORCEMENT POLICY AND FINANCIAL PENALTIES AS A RESULT OF THE RENTERS RIGHTS ACT 2025**

RESOLVED: That in order to ensure that the council has a robust legally compliant, and consistent approach to enforcement under the Renters' Rights Act, that Cabinet approve:

- 1) The inclusion of an addendum to the current Corporate Enforcement Policy.
- 2) The proposed Civil Penalty Policy.

REASON FOR DECISION: The Renters Rights Act 2025 has significantly changed the landscape for the private rented sector and introduced specific duties on Local Housing Authorities with respect to enforcement protocols and mandatory reporting of enforcement interventions into central government.

16 **HIGH STREET RENTAL AUCTIONS**

RESOLVED: Cabinet to note the content of this report and agree to implement a High Street Rental Auction Scheme subject to following the national guidance in implementing such a scheme, to initially be applied to the southern section of King's Lynn High Street.

REASON FOR DECISION: The scheme is needed to address the high concentration of long-term vacant commercial units on the southern High Street, which currently undermines the area's economic vitality, appearance and safety.

A High Street Rental Auction Scheme provides a practical tool to bring empty properties back into use and supports the wider aims of revitalising King's Lynn town centre.

17 **SOUTH LYNN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

RESOLVED: To approve that the Purfleet Trust be provided with a lease for the South Lynn Community Centre.

REASON FOR DECISION: Leasing the South Lynn Community Centre to the Purfleet Trust will secure the use of the building for community benefit, and by doing so will support a trusted local organisation in delivering vital services and enabling this to expand.

The proposal aligns with the Councils strategic priorities in relation to the regeneration of the Southgates area and in supporting vulnerable residents, strengthening local partnerships and ensuring efficient use of

public assets which align with the Pride in Place programme and the Marmot principles.

18 **CUSTOM HOUSE REFURBISHMENT**

Cabinet considered the public information included in the report before moving into closed session.

19 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 or 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

20 **EXEMPT - CUSTOM HOUSE**

RESOLVED:

1. To proceed with the Custom House element of the Riverfront Regeneration project based on the RIBA Stage 4 design.

2. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Regeneration, Housing and Place to award the contract to deliver the Custom House Project (“the Main Contract”) to the successful tenderer, as identified through the completed procurement process within the approved budget as authorised.

3. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Regeneration, Housing and Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to approve material changes to the scope of the project and/or variations to the Main Contract that are within the approved budget and in accordance with the Local Assurance Framework for this project.

REASON FOR DECISION: To approve the letting of the contract for Custom House works, which will allow the works to be completed in line with Towns Fund timescales and support the Council’s corporate strategy policy to promote growth & prosperity.

The meeting closed at 8.02 pm