

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**

### **COUNCILLOR ALISTAIR BEALES – LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

For the period 1 August 2025 to 22 September 2025

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

This will be a brief report as more or less my entire focus has been on Local Government Reorganisation and preparing our proposal in harness with fellow leaders and their officer teams from our five partner councils in Future Norfolk. Members will be well informed of that work from briefings, the Joint Panels scrutiny meeting, Cabinet and Extraordinary Council so I will not repeat it here.

I will take the opportunity to say how delighted I am that as a Council, we gave unanimous support to the three unitary proposal. Of course, I understand and respect that members gave their support for differing reasons, but nevertheless unanimous backing sends a strong message to Government. I am delighted!

#### **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

Attention will turn to transition to the new authorities because as I never tire of saying, whatever comes next, no one is taking anyone over and it will be a completely new structure. Work on transition in conjunction with all the other districts, city and county council starts now.

Other than that I am looking forward to getting back to local and ward matters and my Parish Councils, and other policy area of Borough Council business. It feels overdue!

#### **3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

4 August

- Leader/Deputy Briefing
- 6 x Norfolk District Leaders Only - LGR

- LGR – District & Chief Execs (Teams)

5 August

- Webinar LGA member briefing: English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill (Teams)

11 August

- LGR roundtable sessions for staff
- 6 x Norfolk District Leaders Only - LGR
- LGR – District & Chief Execs (Teams)

12 August

- Father Adrian Meeting
- Stakeholder Event - LGR Round Table Session - Housing & Developers
- Progressive Group Leader/Deputy Briefing
- Members Training Programme

13 August

- Brief on recent correspondence (Teams)
- Introductory meeting with new CEO (Teams)
- NCC Financial Modelling for the West
- Glebe Field Development – Nigel Chambers (Teams)
- Review of Parks & Open Spaces – Mark Parkinson
- Reform Leader/Deputy Briefing

14 August

- KLTB - Chair's Update Meeting (Teams)

15 August

- VJ Day Commemoration
- Meeting with MHCLG [In-Person]
- Member's LGR Roundtable Session

18 August

- Landscape Recovery (Teams)
- 6 x Norfolk District Leaders Only – LGR
- LGR – District Leaders & Chief Execs

19 August

- Housing Company - Portfolio Update (Teams)
- Members Working Group - King's Lynn and Hunstanton Leisure Facilities
- Conservative Group Leaders Briefing with Leader & Deputy (Teams)
- Town Hall Visit
- Meeting with Cllr Beales / Kelly Redston (Teams)
- Cabinet Sifting for 16th September Cabinet Meeting
- Visit to Tapping House for Group Leaders

20 August

- Cabinet Sifting – Reconvened (Teams)

21 August

- Councillor Tour of the Major Housing Sites (site visit)

22 August

- Leader/Deputy Briefing
- All Group Leaders, Leader and Chief Executive meeting
- MO - Fortnightly Catch-up

- King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board
  - Summer Drinks Reception for Tapping House
- 26 August
- CLT
  - LGR 3 Proposal - Run-through with ICC [In Person]
- 27 August
- Castle Acre Glebe Field Development F2F
  - Transformation Programme Board
  - Sponsoring Board Briefing Prep
- 28 August
- Devolution Sponsoring Board Meeting
  - Leader/Deputy/Colwell/Bland/Sayers (Teams)
  - Members Questions (Teams)
  - MHCLG Guidance / KC Advice Review
- 1 September
- Planning Committee
  - 6 x District Leaders (Teams)
  - LGR – District Leaders & Chief Execs (Teams)
  - Members Briefing Session with Inner Circle – LGR Business Case F2F
- 2 September
- Environment & Community Panel (Zoom)
- 3 September
- Member Briefing Session – Transformation Programme
  - Progressive Group Leader/Deputy Briefing
  - ~~Corporate Performance Panel – APOLOGIES~~
- 4 September
- LGA Training for Members (Teams)
  - Cabinet Briefing
- 5 September
- LGR Submission
- 8 September
- 6 x Norfolk District Leaders (Teams)
  - LGR – District Leaders & Chief Execs (Teams)
  - WNT&ISG Pre-meet re agenda 19 Sept (Teams)
- 9 September
- LGR Media Brief Prep (Teams)
  - LGR Proposal sign off (Teams)
  - Regeneration & Development Panel
- 10 September
- LGR Media Briefing for West (Teams)
  - Cabinet Briefing
  - The Chair of the Open Road Trust Board, Trustees, Staff and Students (Awards Evening)
- 11 September
- LGR Staff Toolbox Talk (Depot)
  - All-Staff LGR Briefing (Teams)
  - Joint Panel Chairs Meeting
  - LGR Town & Parish Council Briefing

- Members Briefing Session – LGR Submission

12 September

- MP Briefing – James Wild MP
- Labour Leaders Briefing
- Reform Leader/Deputy Briefing
- The Drove Solar Farm – Intro (Teams)
- BBC Look East Interview (Teams)
- Battle of Britain Commemoration

15 September

- Joint Panel Meeting – LGR Business Case

16 September

- Conservative Group Leaders Briefing with Leader & Deputy
- Leader/Deputy Briefing
- Pre-Council Briefing with Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader and Deputy Leader for Extraordinary Council Meeting
- Cabinet catch-up
- Cabinet
- Mayor's Design Awards 2025

17 September

- LGR questions from members

18 September

- KLTB – Chair's Update Meeting
- Extraordinary Council Meeting – Local Government Reorganisation Business Case

19 September

- West Norfolk Transport & Infrastructure Steering Group (Teams)
- DCN Webinar – Insights on leading a unitary council (Teams)
- Housing Companies - Portfolio Holder update (Teams)
- Local Hero Awards Discussion (Teams)
- Garden Wildlife Competition - Awards Ceremony

22 September

- Norwich Castle visit
- Audit Committee (apologies given).