



# Full Council

Members are invited to a **Meeting of the Full Council** to be held in the Conference Room, Riverside, Lowestoft on **Wednesday, 21 February 2024 at 6:30pm**

This meeting will be broadcast to the public via the East Suffolk YouTube Channel at <https://youtube.com/live/-PjQUJ7Okcc?feature=share>

**Members:**

All Councillors

An Agenda is set out below.

**Part One – Open to the Public**

**Pages**

- 1 Apologies for Absence**  
To receive apologies for absence, if any.
- 2 Declarations of Interest**  
Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of interests, and the nature of that interest, that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the Meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.
- 3 Minutes** **1 - 19**  
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2024.
- 4 Announcements**  
To receive any announcements from the Chair, the Leader of the Council, members of the Cabinet, or the Chief Executive, in accordance with paragraph 28.2 of the Council Procedure Rules.
- 5 Questions from the Public**  
No questions have been submitted by the electorate as provided by paragraph 29.1 of the Council Procedure Rules.

**6 Questions from Members**

The following questions from Members have been submitted in pursuance of paragraph 29.4 of the Council Procedure Rules:

**Question from Councillor Peter Byatt to Councillor Caroline Topping, Leader of the Council**

What is the view of this Administration on the continuous failings of Suffolk County Council's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Service that is detrimentally affecting families in our District?

**Question from Councillor Janet Craig to Councillor Sarah Whitelock, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Communities, Leisure & Tourism**

As you will be aware, the Government's Household Support Fund and Cost of Livings payments will both be ceasing shortly. What Impact Assessments have been carried out by this Council on the effects this will have on those who have been relying on these?

**7 Petitions**

No petitions have been received as provided by paragraph 30.1 of the Council Procedure Rules.

**8 Notices of Motion**

The following Motion has been submitted in pursuance of paragraph 31.1 of the Council Procedure Rules:

**Declaring a Biodiversity & Ecological Emergency**

Proposer: Councillor Rachel Smith-Lyte

Seconder: Councillor Louise Gooch

**This Council notes that:**

There is political precedent as councils began declaring ecological and biodiversity emergencies as early as Brighton & Hove City Council in 2018, an example subsequently followed by many councils including Bath & North East Somerset Council and Cambridgeshire . Woodbridge Town Council have an established Climate & Ecological Emergency Committee . These declarations have been made across levels of local government by Lib Dem, Labour, Conservative and Coalition administrations.

The government states that ‘Local authorities are perfectly placed to lead by example, working with local communities, landowners and other partners to provide inspiring examples to others through the development of local plans and strategies.’

The Scottish Government’s Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045 states that an ‘emergency response’ is required as ‘a new international consensus is building around the urgent need to act decisively to address the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change together. Just like climate change, the loss of species and degradation of our natural environment is an existential threat to humanity. And just like climate change, the action needed is both urgent and transformative.’

**This Council resolves to:**

Declare a biodiversity and ecological emergency, and update the East Suffolk Environmental policy accordingly.

Develop a ‘Biodiversity Action Plan’ informed by consultation with residents, community groups, officers and councillors. This plan should be subject to annual review by the Environmental Task Group (ETG) in order to maintain its efficacy.

Lead by example by including targeted and site appropriate wildlife measures in council-owned land, buildings and communal areas, and commit to effective monitoring of biodiversity with resultant measures to be implemented by ESC to inform further action.

Explore supplementing the Greenprint Forum with a youth membership, or a partnership with local under-18 education institutions to allow future business and community leaders to have necessary access to biodiversity and ecology knowledge and resources.

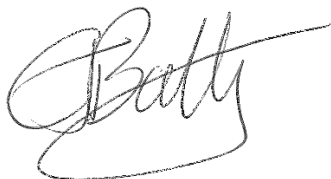
**9 General Fund Budget and Council Tax Report 2024 / 25 ES/1853**

Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources and Value for Money.

<b>Part One – Open to the Public</b>		<b>Pages</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Report 2024/25 to 2027/28 ES/1854</b> Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources and Value for Money and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing.	<b>138 - 167</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 ES/1855</b> Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources and Value for Money.	<b>168 - 189</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Capital Strategy 2024/25 to 2027/28 ES/1856</b> Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources and Value for Money.	<b>190 - 207</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2024/25 &amp; Treasury Management Investment Strategy for 2024/25 ES/1857</b> Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources and Value for Money.	<b>208 - 265</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Exempt/Confidential Items</b> It is recommended that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the 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 Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.	

<b>Part Two – Exempt/Confidential</b>		<b>Pages</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Exempt Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</li> </ul>	

**Close**



Chris Bally, Chief Executive

**If you require this document in large print, audio or Braille or in a different language, please contact the Democratic Services Team on 01502 523521 or email: [democraticservices@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)**

## Questions from the public at Full Council meetings

Any resident of East Suffolk who is listed on the electoral register may ask questions to the Chair of the Council, the Leader of the Council, members of the Cabinet, or the Chair or Vice-Chair of any committee or sub-committee of the Council, at any ordinary meeting of the Full Council (this excludes the Council's annual meeting or any extraordinary meetings of the Full Council).

Questions must be submitted in writing or by email to the Proper Officer no later than midday ten working days before the date of the meeting. Each question must give the name and address of the questioner and must name the member of the Council to whom it is to be put. The scope of questions that can be considered can be found in the Council Procedure Rules set out in Part 3 of the [East Suffolk Council Constitution](#).

Although the deadline has passed for questions to be submitted for this meeting of the Full Council, you are able to submit questions for a future meeting. Details on the deadlines for submitting questions to all of the Council's scheduled meetings can be found [on our website](#).

## Filming, Videoing, Photography and Audio Recording at Council Meetings

The Council, members of the public and press may record / film / photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and press are not lawfully excluded.

The Council cannot guarantee public seating areas will not be filmed or recorded. By entering the Conference Room and sitting in the public seating area, those present will be deemed to have consented to the possible use of filmed images and sound recordings. If you do not wish to be recorded, please speak to a member of the Democratic Services team at the earliest opportunity.



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