

Chair - Councillor A T A Godfrey

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

R P Cooke	-	Resources Portfolio
I D Fordham	-	Environment Portfolio
R Kenney	-	Deputy Leader and Town Centres Regeneration Portfolio
G P K Pardesi	-	Leisure Portfolio
A N Pearce	-	Climate Action and Nature Recovery Portfolio
A F Reid	-	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio

Officers in attendance:

T Clegg	-	Chief Executive
C Forrester	-	Deputy Chief Executive - Resources
J Aupers	-	Head of Business Support and Assurance
M Smith	-	Economic Development and Regeneration Manager
W Conaghan	-	Press and Communications Manager
J Dean	-	Democratic Services Officer

**CAB66 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2026 as published on 13 March 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

**CAB67 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Hood.

**CAB68 Anti-Fraud and Bribery, Money Laundering and Speaking-Up Frameworks**

Considered a report seeking adoption of:-

- the revised Speaking-up Framework (Formerly Confidential Reporting);
- the revised Anti-fraud and Bribery Framework; and
- the revised Anti-money Laundering Framework.

The Cabinet Member, Resources Portfolio, introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 1, 2, 5 and the associated appendices

before concluding his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member, Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:

that the Anti-fraud and Bribery Framework, the revised Confidential Reporting Framework and the Anti-money Laundering Framework be adopted.

### **CAB69 Staffordshire Sustainability Board Vision and Pledges**

Considered a report updating Members on the Vision of the Staffordshire Sustainability Board (SSB) and providing an update to Members on the SSB pledges with a request to adopt.

The Cabinet Member, Climate Action and Nature Recovery Portfolio, introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 2, 3 and the associated appendices.

Councillor Pearce stated it was a matter of regret that Staffordshire County Council had abandoned their previous target date to achieve carbon neutrality, however the Council would continue to work with them and the other neighbouring authorities regarding this matter. The Cabinet Member concluded his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member, Climate Action and Nature Recovery Portfolio be approved as follows:

That the adopted pledges be noted.

### **CAB70 Primate Licensing**

Considered a report requesting that Cabinet endorse and recommend to Council a fee for primate licensing applications and delegate, to the Head of Regulatory Services, authority to administer and enforce the new legislation.

The Cabinet Member, Environment Portfolio, introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 3 and 5 before concluding his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved, subject to the removal of the words 'in consultation with the Cabinet Member - Environment Portfolio' from paragraph 2.3.

The amendment was duly supported.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member, Environment Portfolio be approved as follows:

- (a) the introduction of the new legislation be noted
- (b) the setting of initial fees of £300 for both new applications and renewals under the regime, in line with those fees for existing animal activity licences be endorsed and recommended to Council;
- (c) it be endorsed and recommended to Council that the Head of Regulatory Services be delegated authority to grant and/or revoke licences, refuse applications, attach conditions, serve relevant notices and agree any full or partial refunds of fees.

**THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERED TO COUNCIL ON 14 APRIL 2026**

**CAB71 Stafford Town Centre Development Framework and Delivery Options**

Considered a report updating Cabinet on the progress made on the Stafford Town Centre Regeneration Programme, presenting the Stafford Town Centre Development Framework and proposing next steps in delivering the redevelopment of the town centre.

The Deputy Leader introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 3, 5 and the associated appendices before reaffirming the Cabinet's aim to make Stafford a town its residents can be proud of. Many developers had expressed their wish to work with the Council, and a further associated budget report would be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet. Councillor Kenney concluded his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

Councillor A N Peace welcomed the report, in particular those references to heritage-led design, which was crucial to add to and complement Stafford's heritage assets. Inclusion of references to the Council's environmental sustainability targets was also pleasing. Proposals for engagement with local residents regarding the Development Framework was applauded.

In supporting the report Councillor I D Fordham stated how this was an exiting opportunity for the Council to create a positive and long-lasting legacy, prior to local government reorganisation.

Councillor A F Reid confirmed support of the public to this matter, noting that it was a good opportunity to provide missing facilities for youth activities in the Town.

The Leader of the Council was pleased to support this exiting report which demonstrated the hard work undertaken by Officers in reaching this stage.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Deputy Leader be approved as follows:

- (a) the Stafford Town Centre Development Framework as set out in appendix 1 of the report be approved;
- (b) a public engagement exercise on the Development Framework with local residents, businesses and other stakeholders be approved;
- (c) the use of a framework agreement to appoint a development partner, as the preferred delivery option, for the Residential/Mixed Use North, Residential South, Mixed Use Gaolgate and Public Realm (Various) development parcels be approved;
- (d) it be noted that business cases on the preferred delivery models in respect of the Market Hall and Broad Street (former Wilko site) would be brought back to Cabinet for consideration and decision;
- (e) authority be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive (Resources), the Head of Law and Governance, the Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader (Town Centres Regeneration Portfolio) to commence a formal procurement/developer selection process for the residential development parcels (and public realm elements where appropriate), limited to market engagement, tender preparation and evaluation;
- (f) it be noted that a final decision on the appointment of any development partner(s), including approval of the preferred scheme and business case, would be brought back to Cabinet prior to any contractual commitments being made;
- (g) it be noted that a further report would be brought before Cabinet setting out:
  - (i) the governance arrangements to underpin the delivery and decision making needed to support the procurement process and the wider delivery of the project;

- (ii) an outline timeline for delivery of the next phase of the town centre regeneration project;
- (iii) details of the revenue budget needed for additional resources to support delivery of the programme.

CHAIR