

Meeting: **Cabinet**
Date: **20 March 2024**
Time: **5.00 pm**
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All members of the Cabinet**

All Councillors for information

The cabinet will consider the matters listed below on the date and at the time and place shown above.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>.

Please note there will be 37 seats available for members of the public, which will be reserved for those speaking or participating at the meeting. The remaining available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest (Pages 5 - 6)**

Members of the Council should declare any interests which fall under the following categories:

- a) disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI);
- b) other significant interests (OSI);
- c) voluntary announcements of other interests.

3. **Minutes (Pages 7 - 10)**

To consider and approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

Contact Jemma West – Tel: 01303 853369
Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

held on 28 February 2024.

4. **Quarter 3 Performance Report 2023-24 (Pages 11 - 44)**

This report provides an update on the Council's performance for the third quarter of the year covering 1st October – 31st December 2023. The report enables the Council to assess progress against the approved key performance indicators arising from the Council's new Corporate Action Plan.

5. **2022-23 Annual Equality Report (Pages 45 - 96)**

The Equality Act 2010 places a statutory duty on the council to prepare and publish information annually to demonstrate compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty. The draft Equality & Diversity Annual Report is therefore presented for consideration and approval prior to publication.

6. **Oportunitas Limited - Progress report 2023/24 to 31 January 2024 (Pages 97 - 108)**

This report provides an update from the Board of Oportunitas Ltd ("the company") on activities undertaken so far during the 2023/24 financial year, including a projected outturn for the profit and loss account for the period to 31 March 2024 compared to the original forecast, based on activity to 31 January 2024. This report is in-line with the requirement contained in the Shareholder's Agreement between the company and the Council. The chair of Oportunitas will be available at the meeting of Cabinet to present the report and to address any questions.

7. **Housing Compliance Policies - Legionella and Lift Safety (Pages 109 - 172)**

This report presents two policies in relation to health and safety compliance for the Council's housing landlord service. These are, specifically:

1. Housing Compliance (Legionella) Policy
2. Housing Compliance (Lift Safety) Policy

8. **Tenant Engagement Strategy 2024-30 (Pages 173 - 216)**

The Council's current Tenant Engagement Strategy expires in April 2024, and officers have therefore prepared an updated version to reflect changes in policy and legislation, and to ensure compliance with the Regulator of Social Housing's Transparency, Influence & Accountability Standard which comes into effect in April 2024. The Strategic Tenant Advisory Panel has been consulted on the updated strategy and Cabinet is therefore being asked to approve it.

9. **Disposal of property - Stour Bank, Stone Street, Stanford South,**

Kent, TN25 6DE (Pages 217 - 230)

This report seeks permission from Cabinet to dispose of the property Stour Bank, Stone Street, Stanford South, TN25 6DE, recommending that the disposal is carried out immediately to provide a capital receipt to the council for the financial year 2024/25.

10. **Highview, Moat Farm Road, Folkestone, CT19 5DJ: Update on Proposed Sale, Land Matters, and revision to Unilateral Undertaking (Pages 231 - 250)**

In February 2023 Cabinet (Cabinet report C/22/94) resolved to ask officers to investigate alternative delivery options which included a potential disposal to a 3rd party with the benefit of planning consent.

This report informs Members of the progress made since the previous report C/22/94 and seeks to obtain approval to proceed with the sale to the preferred bidder following a marketing exercise undertaken in November 2023. A further decision is also required to approve an amendment to the Unilateral Undertaking, and vary the scheme to be policy compliant, as approved by planning committee on the 7th of November 2023 (planning reference number 23/1641/FH) for 22% affordable homes.