

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD ON**

7 November 2024

7.00 - 8.34 pm

**PRESENT**

**COUNCILLORS**

Andrew Johnson (Chair)  
Sue Livings (Vice-Chair)

Danielle Brown	Michael Houlihan
David Carter	Luke Howard
Joel Charles	Mark Ingall
Clark	James Leppard
Jodi Dunne	Kay Morrison
Tony Durcan	Russell Perrin
Tony Edwards	Stacy Seales
Hannah Ellis	Lanie Shears
Michael Garnett	Jake Shepherd
Emma Ghaffari	Clive Souter
James Griggs	Dan Swords
Alastair Gunn	Nancy Watson
Michael Hardware	

**OFFICERS**

Niel Churchill,  
Communications Manager  
Julie Galvin, Legal Services  
Manager and Monitoring  
Officer  
James Gardner, Assistant  
Director - Regeneration  
Paul Keen, Communications  
Officer  
Hannah Marriott, Governance  
Support Officer  
Jacqui Van Mellaerts,  
Assistant Director - Finance

53. **WEBCAST INTRODUCTION**

The Chair said the meeting was being webcast live and would be available for repeated viewing after the meeting has ended. By continuing to attend the meeting, you were consenting to being filmed and to appearing in the webcast.

54. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Maggie Hulcoop, Stefan Mullard-Toal, Aiden O'Dell, Danielle Pritchard, Nicky Purse and Matthew Siggers.

55. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

56. **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 19 September 2024 and 17 October 2024 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

57. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

- a) Appointment of Section 151 Officer and Deputy Section 151 Officer

*Jacqui Van Mellaerts left the meeting for the consideration of this item.*

Full Council received a report on the appointment of Section 151 and Deputy Section 151 Officer.

Proposed by Councillor Dan Swords (seconded by Councillor David Carter) it was:

**RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government Finance Act 1988, Jacqui Van-Mellaerts be designated as the council's Section 151 Officer and Richard Criddle be designated as the council's Deputy Section 151 Officer.

58. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

*Jacqui Van Mellaerts returned to the meeting.*

The Chair reminded all that it was Remembrance weekend and that there would be a service at Netteswell Cross on Sunday morning. The Chair also advised all that the Royal British Legion would be hosting a Festival of Remembrance on Sunday evening and that the Council would be hosting a flag raising ceremony on Monday morning.

59. **PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

60. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

The questions, together with the answers, are appended to the minutes.

61. **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

The questions, together with the answers, are appended to the minutes.

62. **MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

None.

63. **FLEXIBLE USE OF CAPITAL RECEIPTS**

Full Council received a report on the flexible use of capital receipts.

Proposed by Councillor Dan Swords (seconded by Councillor James Leppard) it was:

**RESOLVED** that Full Council approve the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy as set out in Appendix A to enable immediate and significant investment to fund the next steps for transformation and deliver the corporate missions. Furthermore, delegation be given to the Assistant Director for Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to make minor and non-consequential amendments to the Strategy.

64. **REFERENCES FROM CABINET AND COMMITTEES**

- a) Referral from Cabinet - Performance, Finance and Risk - August

Full Council received a referral from Cabinet on the Performance, Finance and Risk report for August 2024.

Proposed by Councillor Dan Swords (seconded by Councillor James Leppard) it was:

**RESOLVED** that Full Council approves the Budget allocations identified for 2024/25 within the Non-Housing Capital Programmes included within Appendix E to the report.

65. **APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEES AND PANELS OF THE COUNCIL AND THEIR CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS**

**RESOLVED** that the appointments be approved as appended to the minutes.

66. **APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

**RESOLVED** that the appointments be approved as appended to the minutes.

67. **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

- a) Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2024

Full Council received a report on the statutory review of polling districts and polling places 2024.

**RESOLVED** that:

**A** The following changes, as detailed in appendix C and E to the report, take place with effect from 7 January 2025 (the publication date of the revised electoral register).

- i) Bush Fair ward to be divided into 3 polling districts – BF1a, BF1b, BF2. Polling Places will not change.
- ii) Great Parndon ward to be divided into 3 polling districts – GP1, GP2, GP3. The polling places will be:  
  
GP1 Church of Pentecost  
GP2 Great Parndon Community Association  
GP3 Katherines Hatch Common Room
- iii) Latton Bush & Stewards ward – polling district boundaries to be moved so that it aligns with the new county divisions. Polling places will not change.
- iv) Netteswell ward – changes to the polling places will be:  
  
N2 Gateway Hub  
N3 Gateway Hub
- v) Passmores ward – changes to the polling places will be:  
  
P2 Church of Pentecost.

68. **MINUTES OF CABINET AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the following meetings be noted.

- a) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 3 September 2024 of Scrutiny Committee
- b) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 5 September 2024 of Licensing Committee
- c) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 11 September 2024 of Development Management Committee
- d) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 12 September 2024 of Cabinet
- e) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 18 September 2024 of Audit & Standards Committee
- f) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 9 October 2024 of Development Management Committee
- g) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 15 October 2024 of Scrutiny Committee

h) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 24 October 2024 of Cabinet

CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

# Full Council – 7 November 2024

## Questions from the Public

### 1 David Forman to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):

The Independent Remuneration Panel report on Members' Allowances 2024/25 published December 2023 makes reference to Public Sector Discounts in Paragraph 12 as follows:

'...It recognised the comments during the Councillor workshops about the appropriateness of Public Sector Discounts. Whilst they were not perfect, they still provided the best mechanism for demonstrating that Councillors work for the public good. It recognised that the Local Government Association recommends a PSD of between 20-40% be applied to allowances.'

The Council meeting on 19 September rejected a PSD (Item 4, paragraph 6), which had it been applied as detailed in paragraph 13 of the December 2023 report the Basic Allowance would now be  $£7200 \times 0.8 = £5760$  (A PSD of 20%).

Consequently, how should council taxpayers view an extra £1240 per annum in Basic Allowance due to £7000 being agreed via the Chair's casting vote?

### Reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):

The Council set councillor allowances in line with the process dictated by law and the constitution. These allowances remain below peer councils and I understand that all councillors, even those who voted against an increase, have accepted the increase.

### Supplementary question from David Forman to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):

Is it somewhat strange the Labour Group's opposition to the raising of allowances when the Equality Impact Assessment goes into great lengths of how it will assist low paid women and women with children to enter the political arena something which I am sure everybody in this chamber would be in agreement with. So, is it at contradictory position of the Labour Group?

### Supplementary reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):

Before I thank Mr Forman for his supplementary question, I thank Councillor Shepherd for allowing such a matter to be brought forward, fantastic, fantastic. Thank you Mr Forman for the supplementary, I think there are a

number of things contradictory about the Opposition's position. Every single one of them voted against it, every single one of them has taken the increase in their allowance. That is what you call hypocrisy, that is why the public have falling trust in politicians and what they say in this chamber and the actions they take outside of it. In terms of the equality thing, I think you know even in this week alone, over the past week alone we have seen what equality means between the Conservative Party and the Labour Party with our election of our fourth female leader compared to, well, none from the Opposition so I wouldn't take any lessons on equality impact access to politics or, more importantly, trust in politics, when every single one of them gave us reasons as to why they would vote against such an increase, every single one of them has taken such an increase.

## **2 David Forman to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

October's Cabinet meeting item 14, Housing Regulator Update, drew my attention to 11 "high rise buildings" Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) mentioned in paragraph 10. These 11 FRAs, dated September 2018, had worrying deficiencies.

For example, all 11 have a vague paragraph regarding electricity:

'The electrical installation to the communal parts of the building are checked every five years in accordance with the guidance provided by the Institute of Electrical Engineers.'

Unfortunately, 'The Institution of Electrical Engineers' ceased to exist in 2006. Following a merger it became 'The Institution of Engineering and Technology'. (Note 2)

The "guidance" is not mentioned, but should state a British Standard: 'BS7671 - Requirements for Electrical Installations'.

Other deficiencies are not mentioning:

- (a) Existence of Lightning Arrestor and last inspection date;
- (b) Location of main isolation of electrical/gas supplies;
- (c) Date of last Emergency Lighting inspection/test;
- (d) Date of last Electrical Installation Condition Report;
- (e) Location of lift emergency control switch;
- (f) Location/type of smoke detectors/Fire Alarm Panel;
- (g) Location/description of all plant rooms;
- (h) Any calculated Risk Ranking or Risk Level. (note 4).

Therefore, why rely on these threadbare 8-page FRAs? (note 5)

**Reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

The Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) referred to by the Regulator were those commissioned from our consultants and completed earlier in 2024.

The FRAs currently published on the council's website, relate to those carried out in 2018 when both the brief and expectations for the detail of the surveys was very different from the requirements of today's surveys, post-Grenfell.

We apologise for any unintended confusion and are currently in the process of replacing these documents on our website with the 2024 FRAs. This will provide the consistency and transparency on the challenges ahead, to ensure residents feel safe in their homes. You'll see from the current FRAs that the various areas of the electrical installations, where applicable, are referred to and the condition has been risk-rated accordingly.

It is worth noting that these FRAs are of the block and not specifically those elements which are within the control of the Council. For example, reference is made to maintaining gas main pipework, which is the responsibility of 'Cadent', but we work with these external providers to coordinate any improvements and mitigate any risks where relevant. The reports also refer to the coverage of smoke and heat detection and alarms in leasehold flats, and we are considering the best method and format for those details to be communicated to owner occupiers and investment landlords too.

For completeness, whilst the 'The Institution of Electrical Engineers' (IEE) organisation merged with the 'Institute of Engineering and Technology' (IET), the 17th Edition of the standards for electrical installations were still published under the IEE brand, only formally changing to the IET from the 18th Edition, which came into effect on 1st January 2019."

**Supplementary question from David Forman to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

Do you think that this Administration should be congratulated for taking the position of contracting an outside specialist organisation to conduct Fire Risk Assessments in future which will ensure their completeness and quality and give assurance to members of the public that their safety is being attended to by this Administration?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

Thank you Mr Forman for your supplementary question. In actual fact we are going further. We have now appointed a second company to look into this

because this is a very important matter and we want to get in resolved as soon as possible.

### **3 Jennifer Steadman to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Driving around our wonderful Town I'm shocked and saddened at the amount of 'street litter' that is being discarded by the road workers.

I have been monitoring the amount of discarded signage-

- Metal frame supports laid down and weighted with old damaged plastic/canvas sandbags on the edge of junctions
- Signage left in hedgerows
- Diversion route signage left when the diversion is no longer in operation

We still have lamp posts around town with yellow tape wrapped around them. We have damaged junction illuminations at the Tillwicks Road/Southern Way junction which you can't help but notice.

The roundabout on Junction 7a is almost completely devoid of chevron signage where it was destroyed by an accident months ago.

For each sign, metal framework or plastic sandbag discarded on our streets, a new piece of equipment will need to be purchased to replace it.

Some signage may have been left in situ ready to be re-used at the same location in the future, but the majority have obviously been discarded and the town looks unloved and unkempt which is not a true reflection of the town I love.

Question

Have you all seen the discarded road signage I refer to and do you not consider it 'fly tipping'?

### **Reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Thank you for your question.

I share your passion for cleaning up such matters. You may recall in August 2023, the Council commenced a programme to clean up the types of signs and equipment you refer to in your question, as well as rusty and broken signs, posts, bollards and much else in between.

The council had acted promptly with HTS to collect and dispose of this equipment so that we could improve the appearance of our roads as a priority. It is our mission to Renew our Neighbourhoods and ensure they thrive by transforming the street scene. The Council will continue to work with Essex Highways to have the associated waste removed and this programme is being reenergised to deal with these matters comprehensively.

Harlow should not suffer because other agencies failure to maintain their assets and leave waste and after years of ignoring it, this administration is tackling the problem head on.

**Supplementary question from Jennifer Steadman to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Surely these companies should be fined for fly tipping or cross charged if the Council must remove and dispose of any damaged signs because I would of thought that this was one of the responsibilities of Essex County Council Councillors to ensure that our streets and roads tidy and safe. So how much is spent on traffic management and signage in Harlow annually and what plans are there for sub-contracted companies to take responsibility for maintaining the road signs that they install?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Like I say, I very much share your passion for the matter. Unfortunately, a lot of this and responsibility indeed with the contractors which you reference sits with Essex Highways. We do raise this with them literally on a weekly basis so I can't give you a comprehensive answer in terms of the subcontractors and such things but what I am clear on is that Harlow will not suffer any longer as a result of other agencies not doing what they are supposed to and, therefore, I hope it gives you heart that we are taking action even though we are not legally obliged to nor is it our responsibility to.

**4 Nicholas Taylor to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

In has recently been reported that nearly 700,000 homes are empty in England of which 261,000 are known as long term having been empty for more than six months.

I started canvassing in the Great Parndon Ward over six years ago which is when I first came across a house which clearly was not occupied and was in a very poor state of repair. The house remains the same to this day.

Can you advise me how many homes in Harlow are known as long term empty and what steps if any do the council take to try and get these homes occupied again?

**Reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

The Council continually has a rolling number of properties considered long term within the system at any one time. These include properties identified for major capital investment and extensive refurbishment works. All long-term voids are actively monitored through monthly performance reporting and are processed in the same way for work as routine voids.

We have been working to improve void turnaround times which we have recently cut by 66% with an average turnaround time of 21 days now. As part of this work, we have identified 23 voids that have been empty for more than 6 months but less than a year. However, of the 23, 18 are now being let.

**5 Nicholas Taylor to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

Can you advise me if the council has in the last five years had to intervene and get repairs carried out to any long term empty homes in the interests of public safety?

**Reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

All void works are carried out in line with the voids specification and major works aligned to the Decent Homes Standard, there has been no interventions in the interests of public safety.

**Supplementary question from Nicholas Taylor to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

I wonder if Councillor Carter can come back and respond to the actual question that I had issued that relates to non-council property in the town?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

What I would say is that I will write to you on this particular issue but it would also help me if you would let me know the property you are referring to which has been in let state for more than six years?

**Supplementary reply from Nicholas Taylor:**

22 Heighams.

**6 Steve Barnes to Councillor Alastair Gunn (Portfolio Holder for Garden Town and Planning):**

You will be aware that many residents across the town have become concerned about where telecommunication towers and associated equipment is being placed. In Greygoose Park for instance an installation has taken place on council owned land just a few feet away from a privately owned house. I am aware that the Council refused Planning Permission but the application was granted on appeal. However I am not aware of any application being made to the Council to build on its land.

Does the Council have any policy relating to such requests and as was the case when equipment was placed on tower blocks across the town, does the council make a charge when equipment is placed on its land?

**Reply from Councillor Alastair Gunn (Portfolio Holder for Garden Town and Planning):**

The Harlow Local Development Plan includes planning policies on Telecommunications (Policy IN5) and Broadband Infrastructure (IN4).

IN5 requires telecommunications developments to provide evidence that opportunities to share existing masts or sites have been explored, and that redundant equipment is replaced or removed.

These policies apply where the Council has received a planning application for the required equipment. However, not all telecommunications equipment requires express planning permission as some developments can be undertaken under permitted development. In some of these cases, a 'prior approval process' may be required allowing the local authority time to assess whether the mast meets certain criteria including site and appearance.

Whilst the Council does not have a specific policy for telecommunication equipment on Council owned land, it does have an internal Commercial Property Lettings Management Policy under which it would seek to agree commercial terms when granting any new leases or licences, including those related to telecoms sites.

Telecoms Providers with 'Code Operator' status have the ability to requisition rights under the Electronic Communications Code (as amended). Therefore, in circumstances where the Council as landowner might seek to oppose a

new telecoms site, the Code Operator may be able to utilise their statutory powers under the Electronic Communications Code to secure the necessary occupational rights.

**Supplementary question from Steve Barnes to Councillor Alastair Gunn (Portfolio Holder for Garden Town and Planning):**

Baring in mind the particular mast at Greygoose Park, the Council have made no attempt as far as we are aware to make sure that its of suitable distance in accordance with the code from a private house. It doesn't comply with the code in that respect and it doesn't comply to the code in relation to the colour which was again set out in the two complaints or observations in the planning application. It doesn't appear that the Council has taken any action in trying to achieve that, nor has it taken any action so can you tell us if there is going to be any action in that particular case and in cases in the future?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor Alastair Gunn (Portfolio Holder for Garden Town and Planning):**

Thank you Mr Barnes. This is the first I have heard of those specific concerns and so clearly I've not had the opportunity to do anything about them as of yet. I will review what you have said tonight and raise it with officers and seek to understand if there is anything that the Council can do or whether it will be for other parties to ensure that this mono-pole, I think it is called technically, has been installed in the appropriate way. He is more than welcome of course to contact me directly outside of these meetings with any concerns he would like me to look in to.

**7 Alan Leverett to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Many complaints about a lack of service from the council continue to be seen on social media.

Please provide me with a list of vacant posts as at 1 November, to include the date they became vacant and, those that have been deleted from the establishment since Cllr Perrin as Leader of the council was asked a similar question on this subject at the Cabinet meeting held on 23 March 2023.

**Reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Thank you for your question. I take any complaint about council services extremely seriously and, as I requested at the last meeting of Full Council, I would appreciate it you could share any such complaints with me directly so these can be investigated. I will write to you with full details on vacancies within the council.

**Supplementary question from Alan Leverett to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Could you inform me of what Council services are provided directly to the public by consultants on a contracted out service?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Thank you for your further question. Again, as part of my reply I will write to you comprehensively with a list of vacancies, the date that they became vacant and the services you refer to.

# Full Council – 7 November 2024

## Questions from Councillors

**1 Councillor Jake Shepherd to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

As of the 31st of March, a fifth of all households with children in temporary accommodation (22.5%) have been there for 5 years or more. There are now 151,630 children living in temporary accommodation, which is enough to fill 5,700 classrooms (Source: Crisis)...

What mental health support, offered by this Council, is there for families, children and young people who are homeless in Temporary Accommodation?

**Reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

Harlow Council whilst providing a family or person/s with temporary accommodation do not provide direct mental health support services, these are provided by the NHS and Essex Social Care Teams. The council will refer to agencies for additional support for families where required.

**Supplementary question from Councillor Jake Shepherd to Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

Thank you Councillor Carter for your answer. One of the privileges of serving this town as councillor is being imaginative and thinking outside of the box for the services we can provide our residents. Can the Council do better to cater for the needs of our young people in this town who are facing the drudgery of temporary accommodation, in this case for more than five years?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor David Carter (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing):**

Thank you Councillor Shepherd for your supplementary question. Yes we are reviewing this all of the time. The Council gets many requests for voluntary situations. Although they do not cover many of these, they do refer people onto other organisations who can actually help.

**2 Councillor Mark Ingall to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Shortly before the May 2024 local elections Councillor James Leppard was suspended from the Conservative group after allegations of Islamophobia and racism were levelled against him by Hope not Hate. Subsequently when the

Conservatives retained power in Harlow by a single seat, Councillor Leppard was cleared of all charges by the Conservative Party avoiding a by election and the probability that the Conservatives would lose and be relegated to the opposition. Fortuitous timing. More recently the Leader of the Council has promoted Mr Leppard to a senior position in his cabinet. Does this mean that the Leader of the Council now has full confidence in Mr Leppard?

**Reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

I have full confidence in the whole Cabinet.

**Supplementary question from Councillor Mark Ingall to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

I am sure we can all remember when the England Football Team and Harry Keane took the knee in support of Black Lives Matter and to show that racism has no place in sport or anywhere else for that matter and I often wondered why anybody would object to that action unless, of course, they had racist feelings themselves. So, imagine my sadness when I came across a facebook post which actually shows, and I've got a copy here because pictures paint a thousand words, actually shows a group of colonial soldiers taking the knee whilst some other soldiers shoot over the top of them at advancing black men saying "me and the lads taking the knee for BLM". Now, my feeling is, and I am sure Councillors will agree with me, that if you make light of racism, if you amplify racism by reposting, for example those pictures, then you are aiding and abetting that racism. So when this was published by Mr Leppard who said "saw this on another site, I must confess with all the stupidity and hype it made me laugh", does the Leader of the Council agree with me that if you repost racist material, if you make light of racist material, if you amplify the racist voices that produce that image, then that in itself is as every bit as bad as the racism itself? And, as such, do you still have confidence given this material, and I will provide you a copy of it so you can see in fairness, given this material which was posted by Councillor James Leppard?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

I am not aware of any accusations that have been made but of course I will look into such things. I take these matters extremely seriously and I have nothing further to say at this moment.

**3 Councillor Mark Ingall to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Please can the Leader of the Council tell me how many staff in senior positions have left the Council since 2021.

**Reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Six.

**Supplementary question from Councillor Mark Ingall to Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

I submitted this question, it was refused, I believe because it had some names in so I won't name anybody. Head of Planning, Head of Housing, Chief Executive Officer, the Interim Chief Executive Officer, the next Interim Chief Executive Officer, now our Section 151 Finance Officer, that's seven by my counting but never mind yet, every meeting, it seems that no senior manager wants to work with the Leader of the Council not for very long anyway. So we often hear you say how wonderfully you are doing with the Council yet no one seems to want to work with you. My mum used to say that self praise is no praise at all. Do you agree with my mum on reflection?

**Supplementary reply from Councillor Dan Swords (Leader of the Council):**

Thank you Chair. I take great confidence from residents of the town. I remember his time as Leader of this Council. He was unceremoniously booted out of this place because he was a complete and utter failure. He has not a clue, not a clue on how to run a council. It is absolutely no surprise that under this Administration we have frozen council tax. Under this Administration we have been named the second most improved Council in the country by independent bodies. We have been highly praised by the Local Government Association. None of those things happened in his time. I think residents vote with their feet, and they have, they voted him out. This Administration has been in term year after year after year and I believe it will continue to do so.

Changes highlighted in bold

## Nominations for Appointment to Committees, Sub Committees, Panels and Substitutes 2024/25

Audit & Standards Committee (9)	Hearing Sub Committee (6)
Matthew Saggars (c)	Mike Garnett (c)
Emma Ghaffari (vc)	Matthew Saggars (vc)
Jodi Dunne	David Carter
Mike Garnett	Jodi Dunne
Michael Houlihan	Michael Houlihan
Stefan Mullard-Toal	Stefan Mullard-Toal
Aiden O'Dell	
Russell Perrin	
Stacy Seales	
Scrutiny Committee (9)	Call In Sub Committee
Tony Edwards (c)	The membership of the Call In Sub Committee is to be the same as the Scrutiny Committee
Matthew Saggars (vc)	
Tony Durcan	
Mike Garnett	
Emma Ghaffari	
Mark Ingall	
Kay Morrison	
Russell Perrin	
<b>Stacy Seales Sue Livings</b>	
Licensing Committee (11)	Licensing Sub Committee & Regulatory Sub Committee
Clive Souter (c)	Licensing Committee & Regulatory Sub Committee members form a pool from which individual Licensing Sub Committees & Regulatory Sub Committees of 3 members are drawn
Andrew Johnson (vc)	
Danielle Brown	
Joel Charles	
James Griggs	
Alastair Gunn	
Luke Howard	
Michael Houlihan	
Maggie Hulcoop	
Russell Perrin	
Lanie Shears	

<b>Development Management Committee (9)</b>	
Mike Garnett (c)	
Sue Livings (vc)	
<b>Danielle Brown James Leppard</b>	
Emma Ghaffari	
Maggie Hulcoop	
Kay Morrison	
Matthew Saggars	
Jake Shepherd	
Nancy Watson	
Clive Souter (sub)	
Andrew Johnson (sub)	
<b>Matthew Saggars Danielle Brown (sub)</b>	
Michael Houlihan (sub)	
<b>Civic Awards Panel (4)</b>	
	Andrew Johnson (c)
	Sue Livings (vc)
	Matthew Saggars
	Jake Shepherd
	James Griggs (sub)
	Maggie Hulcoop (sub)
<b>Personnel Committee (9)</b>	<b>Appointments Panel (3)</b>
Dan Swords (c)	Personnel Committee members form a pool from which individual Appointments Panel (of 3 politically balanced members) are drawn.
Hannah Ellis (vc)	
David Carter	
Joel Charles	
Tony Edwards	
James Griggs	
Luke Howard	
Nicky Purse	
Lanie Shears	
<b>Investigatory and Disciplinary Committee (Statutory Officers and Directors) (5)</b>	<b>Investigatory and Disciplinary Committee (Statutory Officers and Directors) Appeals Panel (5)</b>
Dan Swords (c)	Hannah Ellis (c)
David Carter (vc)	Mike Garnett (vc)
Mark Ingall	Michael Houlihan
Kay Morrison	Stefan Mullard-Toal
Nicky Purse	Matthew Saggars

Changes are in bold

## Council Representatives on Outside Bodies 2024/25

Outside Body	Appointments
Active Harlow Partnership	Danielle Brown
Age Concern	Maggie Hulcoop
Citizens Advice Bureau	James Griggs
District Councils' Network	Dan Swords
East of England Local Government Association	Dan Swords
Essex County Council's Essex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	<del>Emma Ghaffari</del> <b>Danielle Brown</b>
Essex Police and Crime Panel	Mike Garnett
Fawbert & Barnard Educational Foundation	Sue Livings Joel Charles Tom Newens
Great Parndon Community Association Board	Tony Durcan
Harlow Art Trust	Sue Livings
Harlow Homelessness Prevention Partnership	Maggie Hulcoop
Harlow Occupational Health Service	Tony Edwards
Harlow Recreation Trust Fund – Advisory Panel	Jake Shepherd (if vacancy arises)
Harlow-Stansted Gateway Transportation Board	Alastair Gunn
Housing Welfare Panel	David Carter Sue Livings Stacy Seales Danielle Brown <del>Emma Ghaffari</del> <b>Matthew Siggers</b> Tony Durcan Tony Edwards James Griggs Mark Ingall Kay Morrison

Local Government Association General Assembly	Dan Swords
Local Government Association District Council's Network Assembly	Dan Swords
PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee	Tony Durcan
Safer Harlow Partnership	Joel Charles
St Johns Arts & Recreation Association	Sue Livings
Stansted Airport Consultative Committee	Alastair Gunn
Veolia Partnership Board	Nicky Purse
Waste Member Partnership Board and IAA Member Working Group	Nicky Purse
Young Concern Trust	Mark Ingall