

CHELMSFORD CITY COUNCIL CABINET

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS – 14 July 2026

CALL-IN BY Monday 20 July 2026 5pm

Subject

Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Decision

Recommended to Council that the proposed changes set out in Appendices 1-2 of the report are made to the Constitution.

Status

No call-in as yet.

Reason for Decision

Cabinet supported the proposed changes which had been recommended by the Constitutional Working Group and Governance Committee.

Action by

Lorraine Browne

Subject

South Woodham Ferrers Leisure Centre Improvements

Decision

Resolved that;

1. Further feasibility funding of approx £52,000 to proceed with the proposed scheme up to tender stage (RIBA 4) including tender analysis be approved.
2. The use of reserves be considered to fund the project on the basis that it will be re-couped on receipt of the ringfenced CIL from South Woodham Ferrers, the project which improves the sports centre and secondary school was an entirely appropriate use and meets the definition of infrastructure.
3. Should the scheme become unaffordable or unworkable from a community perspective, it will be aborted with Cabinet informed accordingly.

Status

No call-in as yet.

Reason for Decision

Cabinet agreed that continuing with the scheme up to tender stage would ensure greater cost certainty ahead of delivering the scheme and its associated financial, health and community benefits.

Action by
Marc De'ath

Subject
Treasury Management Outturn Report 2025/26

Decision
Recommended the Treasury Management Outturn Report 2025/26 to Full Council.

Status
No call-in as yet.

Reason for Decision
Cabinet agreed with the proposal.

Action by
Phil Reeves

Subject
Adoption of the Revised Essex Coast Recreational disturbance and Avoidance Mitigation Strategy (RAMS)

Decision

Resolved that;

1. the revised Essex Coast Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) 2026 and associated tariff as set out in Appendix 1 be adopted.
2. the implementation of a revised Essex Coast Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) 2026 tariff of £476 per net additional dwelling (or equivalent qualifying development and index linked), to take effect from 1 August 2026 be approved.
3. the adopted Essex Coast RAMS Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), noting that its content is no longer fully aligned with the revised Strategy, evidence base and tariff be revoked.
4. the Essex Coast RAMS Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) be replaced with an Essex Coast RAMS Technical Advice Note (TAN) and that the Assistant Director – Planning and Place Shaping be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Place Shaping, to finalise and publish the TAN for use alongside the revised Essex Coast RAMS Strategy 2026.

Status
No call-in as yet.

Reason for Decision

Cabinet agreed with the recommendations as they would ensure the Council continues to meet its legal duties under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) by providing a robust, evidence-led and legally compliant framework to mitigate the impacts of residential development on internationally protected habitats. The updated tariff would ensure that the full cost of mitigation is fairly and proportionately secured for the lifetime of the development. Revoking the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and replacing it with a Technical Advice Note will provide up-to-date guidance on the revised RAMS implementation and reflect legislative changes which remove the ability to prepare new SPDs.

Action by

Jeremy Potter

Subject

Proposed development of a new cemetery and crematorium

Decision

Resolved that;

1. The Assistant Director for Culture, Leisure and Open Spaces be authorised to submit a planning application for the development of a new cemetery and crematorium. The Assistant Director for Culture, Leisure and Open Spaces be authorised to make arrangements for the approach to tender and procurement of the new facilities, as set out in the report, on the basis that no contract for the supply of cremator equipment or wider construction will be entered into without further Council approval.
2. A further sum of £415k be approved to the existing capital budget to allow design works and a procurement exercise to be completed so that a fully costed scheme and project justification can be considered by the Council before making a decision to implement the scheme.
3. The land acquisition budget be increased by £200k to allow for legal costs, stamp duty and capped inflation.

Status

No call-in as yet.

Reason for Decision

Cabinet supported the proposals, to assist with the project proceeding to the next stage and that the final business case was expected to demonstrate that it would provide a more sustainable and cost-effective way of maintaining local burial and cremation provision.

Action by

Marc De'Ath
