

Meeting: **Cabinet**
Date: **31 July 2019**
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. The meeting will be open to the press and public.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. Although unlikely, no guarantee can be made that Members of the public in attendance will not appear in the webcast footage. It is therefore recommended that anyone with an objection to being filmed does not enter the council chamber.

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**

Members of the Council should declare any interests which fall under the following categories. Please see the end of the agenda for definitions*:

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

3. **East Kent Housing - Compliance Update (Pages 5 - 20)**

In late May it emerged that there were serious issues of non-compliance with regards to East Kent Housing's management of gas safety across East Kent's council housing stock.

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Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

As a result, the Monitoring Officer will, in accordance with her statutory duty, report on this breach to Cabinet on 31 July, and the report has been shared with all Members of the Council.

This report sets out the context to these issues of non-compliance and how they are being addressed. The report also sets out the steps the East Kent councils are taking to ensure these issues of non-compliance do not occur again, including the need to consider alternative options for the future delivery of the management of council housing. It will, therefore, serve as the means by which the Council replies (as it is required to do) to the Monitoring Officer's report.

The report also sets out details of wider compliance issues identified within the Council's housing stock which have been identified through an East Kent Internal Audit Investigation of compliance across the housing stock managed by East Kent Housing in East Kent. East Kent Housing has also identified detailed significant areas of non-compliance in respect of the pumping and water treatment plants which it manages. East Kent Housing (EKH) are urgently preparing detailed action plans to ensure that all areas of non-compliance are addressed as a priority.

4. Gas Servicing and Heating Installations Contract (Pages 21 - 30)

The former contractor for gas servicing and heating installations, P&R Installation Company Ltd (P&R), triggered a no fault break clause under the terms of the contract with a termination date 3/7/19. The four councils, with DDC acting as the lead, started the procurement for a new contract. This report details the outcome of this procurement process and makes a recommendation for reward. The report also outlines risk controls to be implemented by East Kent Housing to improve the management of the next contract.

*Explanations as to different levels of interest

(a) A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares a DPI in relation to any item must leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted).

(b) A member with an other significant interest (OSI) under the local code of conduct relating to items on this agenda must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to remove him/herself to the public gallery before the debate and not vote on that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the member may address the meeting in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

(c) Members may make voluntary announcements of other interests which are not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b). These are announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:

- membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
- where a member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person, or
- where an item would affect the well-being of a member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position.

Voluntary announcements do not prevent the member from participating or voting on the relevant item