
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE,
HELD ON THURSDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 2026 AT 7.30 PM
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, STATION ROAD, CLACTON-ON-SEA,
CO15 1SE**

Present:	Councillors Steady (Chairman), Barrett (Vice-Chairman), Codling, Davidson, Doyle and Griffiths
Also Present:	Councillor Gina Placey (Portfolio Holder for Partnerships)
In Attendance:	Richard Barrett (Corporate Director (Finance and IT) & Section 151 Officer), Gary Guiver (Corporate Director (Planning & Community)), Keith Simmons (Assistant Director (Corporate Policy & Support) & Deputy Monitoring Officer), John Fox (Head of Health & Community), Bethany Jones (Democratic Services Officer) and Katie Koppenaar (Democratic Services Officer)

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ferguson, Oxley and Thompson with no substitutions appointed.

26. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 17 November 2025, be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Councillors in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting.

28. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 38

No Questions on Notice pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 38 had been submitted by Members for this meeting.

29. REFERENCE FROM THE COUNCIL'S JOINT WORKING WITH TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS - A.5 - UPDATE REPORT

The Chairman of the Committee reordered the agenda in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting, and therefore agenda item 9 was brought forward for consideration before agenda item 6.

Members were presented with a report of the Corporate Director (Planning and Community) which provided an update on the Task and Finish Group's work to date in respect of joint working with Town and Parish Councils and which recommended that

the workstream be extended and refocussed in the context of forthcoming Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation.

It was reported that the scope of that Task and Finish Group had originally been to look at opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration between Tendring District Council and Town and Parish Councils within the District. However, shortly after the Group had its inaugural meeting on 18 November 2024 (the only meeting that had been held to date), the English Devolution White Paper and announcements in respect of Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Greater Essex as well as major changes in national planning policy had been published.

The Committee was informed that those changes had resulted in significant attention from Members and Officers being diverted onto understanding the potential implications for Tendring and in resources being focussed on considering and providing input into the business case submissions in respect of LGR and engaging Town and Parish Councils in early discussions, particularly around the potential implications for growth in the Local Plan as well as future governance arrangements and stewardship of assets.

Members were further informed that whilst there had been agreed actions from the inaugural meeting on 18 November 2024 (as set out in the A.5 report and attached minutes), they had not been progressed as intended at the time for the reasons mentioned above; and so it had been recommended that the timeframe for the Task and Finish workstream be extended for a six month period to July 2026; that the inquiry be refocussed on positive joint working with Town and Parish Councils in the context of forthcoming Devolution and LGR; and that the Group reflects on some of the constructive and collaborative work that had taken place in the last year, including engagement on the Local Plan and exploring the implications and opportunities around assets.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the Task and Finish Group looking into opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration between Tendring District Council and Town and Parish Councils within the District should work to an extended timeframe to July 2026 and refocus its inquiry in the context of forthcoming Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR);
- (b) the inquiry continues, where it left off, with the actions agreed at its inaugural meeting on 18 November 2025 albeit, again in the context of the changing landscape around Devolution and LGR;
- (c) in doing so, the Group reflects upon the engagement and collaboration that has taken place over the last year – including (but not limited to) in respect of communicating and discussing the potential implications of Devolution and LGR, the review of the Local Plan against the backdrop of the newly introduced Government housing targets and implications and potential opportunities around assets; and
- (d) the membership of the Task and Finish Working Group remain the same, with the addition of Councillor Doyle.

30. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CORPORATE POLICY AND SUPPORT) - A.1 - KONECTBUS ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Committee noted for the public record, that Members had prepared questions prior to the meeting, upon which Officers had drafted responses. Those questions and responses were not read out individually but were referenced several times in supplementary questions. It was therefore agreed that those questions would be included in the minutes.

Members received a presentation from the Stakeholder Engagement Lead for Konectbus. The presentation provided an overview of operational improvements, including enhanced punctuality and reliability statistics. It also outlined the Tendring BSIP grants and associated additional services, developments within the commercial network, progress on Park and Ride and Demand Responsive Transport initiatives, and matters relating to socially necessary travel.

Members were invited to raise local transport concerns and discuss opportunities for collaborative work to strengthen transport links for residents. Discussions focused on residents' priorities and potential measures to improve the provision and reliability of public transport services.

Questions by Members:	Answers:
<p><i>(For Lee Heley / Councillor Placey)</i> <i>Could you please provide an update on the delivery against the recommendations from this Committee previously approved?</i> <i>[The recommendations are set out in the papers for the meeting]</i></p>	<p>RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: a) Hold a summit with local transport providers including Hedingham and Chambers and Greater Anglia, to seek to improve the frequency, reliability and quality of local public transport services;</p> <p><i>TDC have met with providers and partners a number of times to discuss the opportunity for a summit meeting. However, due to continued policy changes including devolution, the emergence of the Local Transport Plan, and importantly changes in the ownership of bus operators, it was felt there has not been a 'right time' to hold it. A future meeting is in the calendar to decide on when a summit would be most advantageous.</i></p> <p>b) Support advocacy for an improved rail service from Clacton, moving to a half hourly service;</p> <p><i>In September 2025, TDC wrote to Jonathan Denby, Head of Corporate Affairs, Greater Anglia requesting two</i></p>

trains an hour from Clacton to Colchester. Also in November 2025, Transport East wrote a joint letter which included ECC and TDC, to Martin Beable, Managing Director of Greater Anglia making the same request. TDC are currently awaiting an update. The Council has worked with partner councils across north Essex to gain their support for the proposal.

c) Take advantage of the levelling up funding where available to support improved public transport;

Transport projects within the Community Regeneration Partnership Funding including:

- Provision of three new community buses to enhance the quality of community transport, one of which is specifically for disadvantaged young people to support access to education and support services.
- Fund ECC to provide Bus Stop improvements, including upgrading five bus stops where there is sufficient space to include shelters, lighting, seating and paving.

Uk Shared Prosperity Funding included:

- A Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Clacton and Harwich. These plans have been considered within the Clacton Regeneration Plan and the Cultural Masterplan and supported decisions regarding projects in these areas.

d) Engage with ECC and providers on the potential for Demand Responsive Transport to supplement the current public transport offer;

Essex County Council's (ECC) bus strategy detailed in its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) incorporates Demand Responsive

	<p><i>Transport (DRT) for rural areas. However, this has not been rolled out in Tendring.</i></p> <p><i>e) Advocate where possible for services to be brought to coastal areas so that there is less need to travel for education and health care;</i></p> <p><i>This is ongoing working with partners in education and health and with improvements under the Community Regeneration Partnership Funding including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Redevelopment and improvements to Clacton Library including ACL's relocation to support adult education.</i><i>• Match funding the NHS to develop Clacton Hospital further enabling improvements to the Urgent Treatment Centre.</i><i>• Invest in the community ride and play zone at Clacton Leisure Centre.</i> <p><i>The Capital Regeneration Project in Harwich has:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Redeveloped the library to provide a stronger ACL offer.</i> <p><i>Further examples include.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Working with Clarion to provide construction training in Jaywick Sands in partnership with TDC, SignPost and Colchester Institute.</i><i>• Clarion working with Colchester Institute to provide a training centre to support the Tendring, Colchester Boarder Garden Community.</i><i>• Colchester Institute are providing construction courses in Harwich</i><i>• Supporting health partners to provide a mobile service to the residents of Jaywick Sands withing the Sunspot.</i> <p><i>Planning has worked with Essex County</i></p>
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Council (ECC) and the NHS to ensure education and health care provision expands in line with housing growth.

f) Ask Heddingham to review the provision of a bus stop to support the new Marks and Spencer's store at Brook Park West, the Crematorium and the potential for park and ride to Clacton at peak tourist season building on the experience of the Airshow;

On the 21st November 2025, members of TDC met with Transport Made Simple, who are the new owners of KonectBuses. They are currently looking at routes and available resources. One of the routes they are looking at is Clacton to Colchester via Brook Park and particularly the M&S side. They have also suggested they are happy to support further events within Tendring and provide connectivity to Colchester for Events. The Council's Economic Growth team will provide a list of events and dates of importance for their consideration.

g) Prioritise gaining developer contributions for new bus routes in the delivery of the revised Local Plan;

The revised Local Plan makes clear that new development must help fund the infrastructure needed to support growth. Strategic Policy DI1: Infrastructure Delivery and Impact Mitigation sets out that developers will be expected to contribute towards improvements, including public transport, through legal agreements. Strategic Policy CP1: Sustainable Transport and Active Travel aims to reduce car dependency and improve connections by supporting better bus services alongside walking and cycling routes.

To make this work in practice, the Council works closely with ECC on

	<p><i>sustainable transport and uses Essex County Council’s Developer Guide to Infrastructure Contributions, which explains how contributions are calculated and what they can fund. This guide works hand-in-hand with the Local Plan: when planning applications come forward, we assess what transport improvements are needed, such as new bus route and then seek developer funding to deliver them. This ensures growth is supported by sustainable travel options, making it easier for residents and visitors to get around without relying on cars.</i></p> <p><i>h) Councils should take these recommendations into account when developing the Tendring Future Transport Strategy (ECC) and the Local Plan (TDC).</i></p> <p><i>As above in g) the local plan takes these recommendations into account.</i></p>
<p>(Gary Guiver) Do you have any insights on how these improvements might be maintained in a commercially sustainable way?</p>	<p>(Charlie Poulter) ECC funding is now secured for a three-year period, representing a significant shift from the previous model in which funding was limited to a maximum of one year. We also anticipate an increase in demand, which could create additional opportunities for growth, although this cannot be assured.</p>
<p>(Gary Guiver) What are your key priorities in Tendring, particularly with respect to improving access to educational facilities?</p>	<p>(Charlie Poulter) In the longer term, we aim to develop a dedicated route to Colchester Institute. This represents an important area for collaboration, where joint planning and shared insights would be particularly valuable.</p>
<p>How can provision be improved to ensure that children are able to travel to St Benedict’s in Colchester, given that the existing ‘Seaside route’ that does not currently operate during school hours? Could you review this issue and provide an update in due course.</p>	<p>(Charlie Poulter) I am happy to take this away with me and provide an update in due course.</p>
<p>Bus arrival times have shown improvement, with the highest current</p>	<p>(Charlie Poulter) We are not working toward a single fixed percentage; the</p>

<p>performance at 75%. What target level of reliability are you working towards, and at what point would you consider the service to be meeting your expectations?</p>	<p>focus is on making steady, incremental improvements over time. A performance level of around 75% is not unusual for the sector, and it is important to note that the remaining 25% includes services running only one or two minutes behind schedule, so the picture is not as negative as it may initially appear.</p>
<p>How does the establishment of the new combined authority factor into your strategic planning?</p>	<p>(Charlie Poulter) As the transition to a unitary authority progresses, we remain committed to maintaining strong relationships with Councillors. At the appropriate stage, we will also engage proactively with the Chief Executive and the Mayor. We look forward to building a constructive and collaborative working relationship.</p>

During this point in the meeting, the Stakeholder Engagement Lead for Konectbus and the Corporate Director (Planning & Community) left the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Steady, seconded by Councillor Griffiths and **RESOLVED** that the Committee:-

- (a) thanks Charlie Poulter on behalf of Konectbus for his presentation and welcome the ongoing commitment to ongoing dialogue with the Council and other partners in relation to possible improvements to the bus network;
- (b) welcomes the improvements reported on the punctuality of buses and looks forward to these improvements being maintained and built upon;
- (c) urges Cabinet to press Konectbus for solutions to ensure that bus services between such as Harwich, Walton-on-the-Naze and Clacton-on-Sea and Colchester include the Colchester Institute site to facilitate skills development for those with limited ability to otherwise access the Institute from across Tendring, and in addition, to improve access to school sites across the District; and
- (d) reemphasises the desirability of prioritising gaining developer contributions for new bus routes in the delivery of the revised local plan.

31. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SPORT, CULTURE AND HEALTH) - A.2 - GRANT FUNDING

The Head of Health and Partnerships presented Members with the report of the Assistant Director (Sport, Culture and Health) which provided the Committee with an overview of grant funding opportunities available in the District, and an update in respect of a future Council grant funding policy.

It was reported that at its meeting held on 20 September 2024, the Cabinet had approved an external funding review which had examined the Council's funding of external organisations and had provided for a protocol to follow for allocating funding.

As part of the recommendations an external funding policy had been required to be written and a policy had currently been in the process of being developed for adoption for use across the Council, which would be used in the management of future funds.

Members heard that the proposed draft External Funding Policy would be approved by the Leader of the Council, in his capacity as Corporate Finance and Governance Portfolio Holder and would also be presented to a future Audit Committee meeting for their support and assurance on the governance process.

It was reported that the initial external funding review and subsequently the adopted policy would apply across all areas of the Council allocating grant funding and would complement the provisions of the Council's Constitution.

The Committee was advised that in terms of any budget proposals which may have included allocation of any external funding, those had not yet been considered by the Cabinet for 2026/27, and therefore had not been included within the report.

Questions by Members:	Answers:
<p><i>Could you please provide the specific figures for grant giving in 2024/25, 2025/26, along with the forecast for 2026/27 for each grant scheme applicable for those years and the source of the grant sums?</i></p>	<p><i>The attached table allows reference back to the funding identified in the report to Cabinet of 24 April 2024 (Public Pack)Agenda Document for Cabinet, 19/04/2024 10:30 (page 119) on the Grant Funding Review and compare since then.</i></p> <p><i>Figures in red are significant changes from the previous year.</i></p> <p><i>No figures are included for 26/27 as the Council's budget has not yet been agreed. Items such as the funding to Citizen's Advice Tending (CAT) for the advice service will remain the same as the Council holds a three year contract with CAT. Similarly, the funding of £23K for the mental health hub is part of the base budget.</i></p> <p><i>External funding is likely to reduce very significantly as there is only limited funding left from health partners and no new funding will be offered and other funding such as the Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Funding (REPF) is not being provided by the Government next financial year.</i></p>

<p><i>We were discussing a new Grants Policy this time last year. What is the projected timeframe for the policy's completion?</i></p>	<p><i>By March 2026. The High Level Funding Framework was agreed by Cabinet on 20 September 2024(Public Pack)Agenda Document for Cabinet, 20/09/2024 10:30 (page 673) which set out a high level approach to allocating funding. It also agreed that an External Funding Policy be produced to be agreed by the Leader of the Council as the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance and Finance. The High Level Funding Framework has now been used by officers for a period of time and has proved to be effective for allocating funding.</i></p> <p><i>Following this successful period of operation, the draft External Funding Policy is now being written to build on the High Level Funding Framework.</i></p>
<p><i>Is there a commitment to consulting this Committee at a formative stage in the development of a Grants Policy?</i></p>	<p><i>The concepts in the new Policy will be highlighted at this meeting for any comments which will then be considered for inclusion in the Policy.</i></p>
<p><i>Could you please provide an update on the delivery against the recommendations from this Committee previously approved in respect of a grants policy? [The recommendations are set out in the papers for the meeting]</i></p>	<p><i>The Committee RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND to Cabinet to seriously consider the following actions:</i></p> <p><i>(a) the establishment of an Oversight Group of Members for grant schemes across the Council;</i></p> <p><i>No decision was made by Cabinet to set up an oversight group</i></p> <p><i>(b) some form of gap analysis – even is full analysis is too large a project to be achieved and the opportunities to ‘flex’ grant giving to maximise the range of organisations receiving financial support in the District across the years.</i></p> <p><i>While the Council has not completed a formal gap analysis, it has maximised the range of organisations benefiting from grants by providing “open calls” for projects, for example for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, with broad criteria that enable a wide range of organisations from across the district to apply for and to benefit from funding.</i></p>

The proposed External Funding Policy seeks to set a framework around how funding is allocated which will provide a fair and equitable allocation so that a wide variety of organisations can apply which will be in line with the Council's Corporate Plan and need within the district.

(c) further standardised processes for different grant giving arrangements to help deliver best practice across those separate grant giving arrangements (eg around the length of time between opening invitations for applications and the closing date, common and plain language to explain the processes (and be available on the website), details of other grants received, the time between closure of application and determination/notification of outcomes, and the post grant-giving monitoring arrangements).

The proposed Policy highlights the importance of timely processing of grants, the need for plain and clear language, the importance of publicising the grant opportunities, the provision of support for applicants where appropriate, the identification of other grants received and monitoring.

However, it also retains the necessary flexibility given that there may be revenue and capital grants, grants of different sizes, and with different external funder conditions, so it does not seek to impose full standardisation on all grants.

(d) Adopt a consistent 'you said, we did' opportunity for organisations applying for grant funding to feed back on their experiences;

The proposed External Funding Policy requires that feedback is obtained from a sample of those who have received grant funding to understand their

	<p><i>experience which can then be used to improve processes.</i></p> <p><i>(e) Look at organising an open day for community/voluntary groups in conjunction with other grant funding organisations (and CVST) to disseminate information on those grant schemes and help to break down barriers to access grant funding for these community/voluntary groups.</i></p> <p><i>On 12 March 2025 the team running the major open funding stream, UKSPF, held an open day for voluntary groups in the Princes Theatre to launch the funding and promote it to local organisations.</i></p>
<p><i>[If not answered in the above] Is it intended that the Grants policy will include provisions for monitoring how Council-allocated grants has been utilised?</i></p>	<p><i>The proposed External Funding Policy has a specific section on monitoring and evaluation. This requires funding recipients to undertake evaluation of their work in accordance with the grant giving criteria to ensure their activities meet the purpose of the funding. This must be monitored by officers following reporting from the funding recipient and the proposed Policy refers to claw back of funding where there is a failure to deliver against the criteria for the funding.</i></p>
<p><i>[If not answered in the above] Could you clarify whether it is intended for the policy to include specific monitoring requirements and criteria for lower-level expenditures, and how these are determined?</i></p>	<p><i>The Policy does require evaluation and monitoring of all allocations of funding which would include lower levels and these are determined in relation to the criteria identified through the application process which will then be transferred into any subsequent agreement. It is however accepted that at low grant levels this is likely to be a straightforward monitoring process.</i></p>
<p><i>[If not answered in the above] How are potential applicants notified of these grants in the absence of broad advertising?</i></p>	<p><i>The proposed Policy identifies the need to ensure there is equitability of access for applicants to apply for funding and therefore opportunities should be advertised for example on the Council website and newsletters, for example from the economic growth team, in addition disseminated to partners for further sharing. There is also the</i></p>

	<p><i>potential for Members to be able to help link to relevant organisations in their areas to help make them aware of any funding opportunity.</i></p>
<p><i>[If not answered in the above] This Committee has previously requested Member oversight; could you confirm whether such oversight has been applied to this policy?</i></p>	<p><i>Yes. The draft Policy is proposed to be agreed by the Leader of the Council as Portfolio Holder for Corporate Finance and Governance in accordance with the Cabinet decision. This provides Member oversight of the Policy. In terms of agreeing allocation of funding to particular programmes, this is done via Executive Decisions, which is again A Member decision (Cabinet member).</i></p>
<p><i>Could you provide a detailed overview of the sports and recreational activities currently being undertaken within Tendring District, including information on team visits and any invitations for attendance?</i></p>	<p><i>An amount of funding (£122K) has been set aside to implement the Sports and Activity Strategy which will be allocated over a number of years and is proposed to include grant funding and direct spending on Council initiatives to support physical activity.</i></p> <p><i>A number of Sports Forum events are taking place across the district in 2026 which will provide information about opportunities and funding for sports clubs, activity providers and community groups to support local physical activity. This includes events at the Columbine Centre on 21 January, Dovercourt Bay Lifestyles on 23 January, Mistley Parish Council on 28 January and Clacton Leisure Centre on 3 February with all events occurring between 6pm and 7pm.</i></p>
<p>Could you outline the progression plan in the context of Local Government Reorganisation, particularly given that some grants will continue for several years? How will these programmes be evaluated under the new governance arrangements, and what assurances can be provided that recipients of existing grants will remain protected under any new policies?</p>	<p>(John Fox) The current authority cannot bind the new unitary authority. However, a written document has been agreed between both parties setting out the areas to be taken forward. In addition, a number of existing contracts carry legal obligations over a defined period, which the new authority will be required to honour.</p> <p>As the transition date approaches, these matters will become more pertinent. [This point was noted for further consideration by the Head of Health & Partnerships].</p>

<p>Given that some individuals and services are dependent on this funding, what safeguards will be in place to ensure continuity, particularly in areas such as mental health provision where clients rely on ongoing support?</p> <p>Would it be feasible to incorporate such a safeguard within the Committee's recommendations?</p> <p>Is it possible to include a provision within the policy, notwithstanding that it would not be binding on the new authority?</p>	<p>(John Fox) There is merit in that point, particularly regarding the need to manage the transition effectively and ensure that the necessary discussions take place in advance.</p> <p>(Richard Barrett) The Committee may put forward a recommendation; however, its implementation cannot be guaranteed, as the Committee has no authority to bind the new unitary body.</p> <p>(Richard Barrett) There is no reason a reference to this cannot be included.</p>
<p>In relation to the adoption timeline, are we currently on track?</p>	<p>(John Fox) Yes, we are.</p>
<p>I welcome the emphasis on equality in the assessment process. Could you outline how applications are reviewed to ensure that those which may be less polished in presentation are nonetheless given full and fair consideration based on their substantive content?</p>	<p>(Richard Barrett) Both Cabinet and the Audit Committee will review the policy in accordance with the Annual Governance Statement. The Head of Internal Audit will also be asked to consider the policy, although in practice they are already engaged on a consultative basis. As the period of extensive scheme activity has now concluded, there is limited grant funding available for 2026/27, resulting in fewer opportunities going forward.</p>
<p>Could an example of a monitoring or end-of-project report be provided to illustrate the expected format and level of detail?</p>	<p>(John Fox) It is difficult to provide a single example given the varying levels of grant funding. However, guidance could be added to the monitoring section to indicate the key information that should be included.</p>
<p>Given that external funding is likely to reduce significantly, has consideration been given to the implications for the transition to the unitary authority should available funding prove insufficient?</p>	<p>(John Fox) We must work within the funding available to us. Our health partners have previously provided substantial support, but their circumstances have changed and that level of funding is no longer available, which we will need to manage carefully. It is clear across the wider system that funding is currently constrained, and this will present challenges for our area. Both we and our partners are therefore focused on the sustainability of</p>

	activities, particularly as we enter a period of reduced Council and external funding.
What is the proposed approach for managing any residual grant funding at the point of Local Government Reorganisation?	(Richard Barrett) My expectation is that there will be no TDC-specific scheme. Any future scheme is likely to be funded by an external body, and we would therefore be subject to their requirements. I do not anticipate a locally administered scheme, as this is not part of the current plan. The conditions attached to any grant funding we receive will depend on the grant provider and the arrangements in place over the coming years.

It was moved by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Davidson and **RESOLVED** that the Committee:

- (a) thanks the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships, the Corporate Director (Finance & IT) and the Head of Health and Partnerships for their update on the development of a grant giving policy for the Council;
- (b) reaffirms to Cabinet that the recommendations originally made by the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2025 in respect of the grants giving policy of the Council and ask that there is reconsideration of those items not yet pursued as set out in the answers to questions asked by Members; and
- (c) urges Cabinet or the Portfolio Holder as relevant to include in the policy some text to alert the intended shadow authority and the successor unitary authority that will cover Tendring to ensure that there is protection of community groups in the District and their access to funding, and that communication with those groups ahead of reorganisation be pursued to ensure they are best prepared for that change.

32. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CORPORATE POLICY AND SUPPORT) - A.3 - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF NHS MID AND SOUTH ESSEX INTEGRATED CARE BOARD (ICB) ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETING

Regrettably, Tom Abell, the Chief Executive Designate of the Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board had been unable to attend the meeting. This report was therefore **DEFERRED** to the meeting of the Community Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee, due to be held on 10 February 2026.

33. REFERENCE FROM THE COUNCIL'S YOUTH PROVISION OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN TASK AND FINISH GROUP - A.4 - FINAL REPORT

Members were presented with the Final Report of the Council's Youth Provision of School Aged Children Task and Finish Working Group which allowed the Committee to consider the recommendations made to it.

It was reported that the Task and Finish Group had examined the extent of information for youth provision of school aged children outside of that school/educational establishment and the opportunity for that provision to be adjusted/supported with improvements for mental health and reduced prosperity anti-social behaviour.

There had been two meetings of the Task and Finish Group between February and November 2025. The Group's final report had been set out in Appendix A, attached to the report A.4.

The Committee **RESOLVED** :

- (a) to recommend to Cabinet that a platform is provided for children and young people to access information about activity which is taking place in their community;
- (b) to endorse this recommendation, including the proposal to develop the existing Active Essex, 'Find Your Active' database to be promoted through the Community Sports Partnerships section of the developing 'Active Tending' website; and
- (c) to note that funding for that work had been subject to agreement by Cabinet in a separate report (due January 2026), which had provided an update on progress on the implementation of the Sport and Activity Strategy, and sought agreement to a number of budget allocations including the development of the 'Find Your Active' webpage.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.12 pm

Chairman