
COUNCIL MEETING

To All Members of the Council on Friday 17 September 2021

Date of meeting: Monday 27 September 2021

Time: 6.30pm

**Venue: The Council Chamber,
The Symington Building,
Adam & Eve Street
Market Harborough, LE16 7AG**

Members of the public will be able to access a live webcast of the meeting [here](#)

The meeting will be open to the public, however only a limited number of public seats will be available on application. If you would like to request a seat, please contact democratic.services@harborough.gov.uk by 5pm on Thursday 23rd September 2021.

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Harborough District Council, which you are invited to attend, is to be held as detailed above.

The business to be transacted is set out in the Agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Norman Proudfoot
Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service

Agenda

- 1) Chairman's Announcements.
- 2) To receive Declarations of Members' Interests.
- 3) To receive the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 21st June 2021
- 4) To receive the report of the Leader and receive questions and answers on it (to follow)
- 5) To answer written questions or receive petitions submitted by the public (none)
- 6) To answer written questions submitted by Members (page 1)

- 7a) To receive any recommendations from the Cabinet:
1. Lutterworth Town Centre Masterplan (page 2) (Report and appendices are included as a standalone attachment to the Agenda to ensure clarity of the maps)
 2. Public Space Protection Order (page 3)
- 7b) To receive a report from the Cabinet (page 45)
- 8) To receive any reports from the Committee Chairman and receive questions and answers on them
1. Performance Scrutiny Actions for Council Year 2020/2021 (to follow)
- 9) To receive reports about and receive questions and answers on the business of joint arrangements and external organisations.
- 10) To receive the report of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission (to follow)
- 11) To consider Notices of Motion.

1. The following Notice of Motion has been submitted by Councillor Knowles and seconded by Councillor Galton, in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1 of Part 4(1) of the Council's Constitution:

"As the Planning White Paper from Central Government is imminent it is opportune we should show widespread support for the principle of protecting residents' right to a say over individual planning applications in their own area.

Many local people have already expressed anger that this long-established democratic right is under threat. We therefore move that This Council believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to object to individual planning applications and that a letter be sent from this Council to the Secretary of State and the Members of Parliament whose constituencies cover parts of Harborough District confirming the views of this Council and urging their support".

2. The following Notice of Motion has been submitted by Councillor Fosker and seconded by Councillor Knowles, in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1 of Part 4(1) of the Council's Constitution:

"In April 2022 there will be an introduction of a Plastic Packaging Tax.

This could be a welcome tool to tackle single-use plastic waste, especially given the continually low rates of plastic recycling -

estimated at less than 10% by Greenpeace, with some of our own local refuse sites even allegedly refusing to take any plastics recently.

Sections taken from the available documents, however, clearly state that the impact of the new Plastic Packaging Tax will be significant.

Many will be aware of the Tax, arguably many will not and may be unprepared, with no alternatives lined up, having taken no positive steps to comply with the new rules and achieve the desired positive impact on the environment.

We move that this authority investigates its supply chain to ensure where appropriate our suppliers are aware. Furthermore, with so many businesses scattered across our District, HDC should undertake an awareness campaign, to highlight the implementation date of the Plastic Packaging Tax, asking businesses the simple questions: Are you aware of this? Will it impact on your business? What steps do you need to take? Is your supply chain aware?

Finally, to underline our genuine concern for the Planet, we should also pose the question: What positive steps are you taking to look at alternatives to plastic?

We should also ask Officers to report back to the Council's appropriate forum on the above.

For assistance, extracts from the relevant documents are shown below:

Impact on business including civil society organisations

It is expected that the impact of the new Plastic Packaging Tax on businesses will be significant. There is expected to be no impact on civil society organisations.

The tax is expected to impact on an estimated 20,000 manufacturers and importers of plastic packaging. One-off costs include familiarisation with the new rules, training for staff, registration with HMRC, and developing the required reporting framework to complete tax returns.

Continuing costs could include completing, filing and paying tax returns, keeping appropriate records (including those required to claim the export credit), and amending returns. There will also be new registrations and de-registrations each year. In addition, joint and several liability requirements mean some businesses or civil organisations will need to conduct due diligence on their supply chain or take action following notification of wrongdoing by a taxpayer they are connected with.

These regulations, which ensure the tax is properly targeted, are expected to have a negligible impact on business beyond those set out above. Business experience with HMRC could be negatively impacted

as this is a new tax that businesses will need to understand and comply with. However, to support businesses HMRC will develop clear guidance and other tools to help businesses understand and meet their obligations.

The average annual net increase in continuing administrative burden for businesses is estimated to be £0.4 million. This is largely for costs related to completing returns, but also includes the costs of new registrations after the commencement of the tax.

Estimated one-off impact on administrative burden (£m)

	(£m)
One-off impact	
Costs	Negligible
Savings	–

Estimated continuing impact on administrative burden (£m)

	(£m)
Continuing average annual impact	
Costs	0.4m
Savings	–
Net impact on annual administrative burden	+0.4m

Operational impact (£m) (HMRC or other)

HMRC expects to incur one-off capital costs to develop the system for collecting the tax. There will also be continuing resource costs for HMRC to implement this change, monitor compliance and meet customer service needs.

HMRC will incur estimated capital costs of £10-20m developing a new system to support this tax, together with £22m in staff and other resource costs. An updated assessment will be published if this impact significantly changes.

Other impacts

Justice Impact Test

In line with other taxes, there will be civil and criminal penalties for failing to comply with the tax, including penalties for failure to register, failure to file returns and failure to pay the tax. A full Justice Impact Test has been completed, with the overall impact likely to be minimal.

Environmental impact assessment

The rationale of this tax aims to increase the use of recycled plastic in plastic packaging and it is estimated that as a result of the tax the use of recycled plastic in packaging could increase by around 40%. This is equal to carbon savings of nearly 200,000 tonnes in 2022 to 2023, based on current carbon factors.

Estimates of behaviour change have been noted as including a high degree of uncertainty by the Office for Budget Responsibility. The policy may also help to divert plastics from landfill or incineration, and drive recycling technologies within the UK.

Other impacts have been considered and none has been identified.

Monitoring and evaluation

Consideration will be given to evaluating aspects including the rate, threshold and exemptions of the policy after at least one year of monitoring data has been analysed and collected.”

3. The following Notice of Motion has been submitted by Councillor King and seconded by Councillor Knowles, in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1 of Part 4(1) of the Council’s Constitution:

“Earlier this summer UK athletes had an outstanding Olympic and Paralympic games in Tokyo, with a record number of medals being awarded.

One of those who was successful was former resident of Harborough district, Mr Dylan Fletcher ,who won a Gold medal for sailing, class 49er.

I would like to move that to show its support to the outstanding achievements of UK athletes, such as Mr Fletcher, who has a strong association with the Harborough district, that this Council :

i) asks its officers to look at the resource implications of granting the freedom of the District to Mr Fletcher and any other relevant medal winners, from the 2021 Olympics and Paralympics, who have a strong connection with the Harborough district, namely:-

- were born in Harborough district
 - went to school in Harborough
 - lived/worked in Harborough at some time
- ii) resolves to hold an extraordinary meeting of full Council before the next Council meeting on 13th December, to consider the issue”.

12) To consider an officer’s report on Support for accessing Council meetings (page 50)

13) To consider an officer’s report on Council Functions – Policy Framework (page 57)

14) To consider any urgent items (to be decided by the Chairman).

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