



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Karon Hadfield

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Tel direct: (01670) 622610

Date: 30 September 2019

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **CABINET** to be held in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF, on **TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2019** at **11.15 AM**.

Yours faithfully,

Daljit Lally
Chief Executive

To Cabinet members as follows:-

Leader, Deputy Leader, C. Homer, V. Jones, N. Oliver, J.R. Riddle, H.G.H. Sanderson, R. Wearmouth

Agenda letter only for information to all other members of the Council



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AGENDA

PART I

It is expected that the matters included in this part of the agenda will be dealt with in public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the following meetings of Cabinet, as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair:-

(a) Tuesday 10 September 2019

(b) Tuesday 17 September 2019

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest) they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 4 July 2012, and are reminded that if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature (as defined under paragraph 17 of the Code Conduct) they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room

NB Any member needing clarification must contact Liam Henry, Legal Services Manager, on 01670 623324. Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this agenda letter.

4. REPORTS OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR - STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING AND FINANCE

(1) Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020-21

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020-21 (Report enclosed as **Appendix A**). Appendix 1 to this report is 158 pages and is not reproduced with the agenda, but can be accessed via this link -

<http://committee.northumberland.gov.uk/Meeting.aspx?MeetID=9490>

A small number of paper copies are also available in the members' lounge.

(2) Council Tax Empty Homes Premiums

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to amend the Council Tax Discount Policy to include introducing additional empty homes premiums (EHP) for council tax for properties that are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished to take effect from 1 April 2020 and 1 April 2021 (**Appendix B**).

5. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Oral Health Strategy Update

1. This report is to update the Cabinet on the progress being made with the Northumberland Oral Health Strategy and provide an overview of activity to date to tackle oral health inequalities across the county.
2. The report provides an update on the technical appraisal undertaken by Northumbrian Water to consider the feasibility of expanding the community water fluoridation scheme in Northumberland, following approval from the Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2017 and more recently in March 2019.
3. The report requests approval to take the next legislatively defined steps for varying the current scheme in Northumberland (**Appendix C**)

6. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HR&OD AND DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Review of the Overview and Scrutiny Function

To consider the findings of the [**House of Commons - Communities and Local Government Committee: Effectiveness of Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees Report December 2017**] and the subsequent [**The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government “Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities” May 2019**] and to be satisfied that Northumberland’s Scrutiny Service is fit for purpose (**Appendix D**).

7. REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR - STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING AND FINANCE

Summary of New Capital Proposals Considered by Officer CSG

The report summarises proposed amendments to the Capital Programme considered by the officer Capital Strategy Group at its meeting held on 13 September 2019 (**Appendix E**).

8. URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)

To consider such other business as, in the opinion of the Chair, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

It is expected that matters included in this part of the Agenda will be dealt with in private. Reports referred to are enclosed for members and officers only, coloured pink and marked "Not for Publication".

9. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Cabinet is invited to consider passing the following resolution:

- (a) That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the Agenda as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act, and
- (b) That the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure for the following reasons:

Agenda Item	Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A
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10	3 - This report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
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The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the interest in disclosure because disclosure would adversely affect the Authority's ability to conduct its affairs.

10. REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR: FINANCE

Proposed Merger of Northumberland County Council Pension Fund with Tyne and Wear Pension Fund

This report will seek Cabinet support for NCC's pursuit of a merger of Northumberland County Council Pension Fund with Tyne and Wear Pension Fund to reduce LGPS administration costs charged via employer contributions to NCCPF's participating employers, including the Council **(Appendix F)**.

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST AT THIS MEETING, PLEASE:

- Declare it and give details of its nature before the matter is discussed or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- Complete this sheet and pass it to the Democratic Services Officer.

Name (please print):
Meeting:
Date:
Item to which your interest relates:
Nature of Registerable Personal Interest i.e. either disclosable pecuniary interest (as defined by Annex 2 to Code of Conduct or other interest (as defined by Annex 3 to Code of Conduct) (please give details):
Nature of Non-registerable Personal Interest (please give details):
Are you intending to withdraw from the meeting?

1. Registerable Personal Interests – You may have a Registerable Personal Interest if the issue being discussed in the meeting:

- a) relates to any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined by Annex 1 to the Code of Conduct); or
- b) any other interest (as defined by Annex 2 to the Code of Conduct)

The following interests are Disclosable Pecuniary Interests if they are an interest of either you or your spouse or civil partner:

- (1) Employment, Office, Companies, Profession or vocation; (2) Sponsorship; (3) Contracts with the Council; (4) Land in the County; (5) Licences in the County; (6) Corporate Tenancies with the Council; or
- (7) Securities - interests in Companies trading with the Council.

The following are other Registerable Personal Interests:

- (1) any body of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management) to which you are appointed or nominated by the Council; (2) any body which (i) exercises functions of a public nature or (ii) has charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management); or (3) any person from whom you have received within the previous three years a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of more than £50 which is attributable to your position as an elected or co-opted member of the Council.

2. Non-Registerable Personal Interests - You may have a non-registerable personal interest when you attend a meeting of the Council or Cabinet, or one of their committees or sub-committees, and you are, or ought reasonably to be aware that a decision in relation to an item of business which is to be transacted might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well being or financial position, or the well being or financial position of a person described below to a greater extent than most inhabitants of the area affected by the decision.

The persons referred to above are: (a) a member of your family; (b) any person with whom you have a close association; or (c) in relation to persons described in (a) and (b), their employer, any firm in which they are a partner, or company of which they are a director or shareholder.

3. Non-Participation in Council Business

When you attend a meeting of the Council or Cabinet, or one of their committees or sub-committees, and you are aware that the criteria set out below are satisfied in relation to any matter to be considered, or being considered at that meeting, you must : (a) Declare that fact to the meeting; (b) Not participate (or further participate) in any discussion of the matter at the meeting; (c) Not participate in any vote (or further vote) taken on the matter at the meeting; and (d) Leave the room whilst the matter is being discussed.

The criteria for the purposes of the above paragraph are that: (a) You have a registerable or non-registerable personal interest in the matter which is such that a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would reasonably think it so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest; **and either** (b) the matter will affect the financial position of yourself or one of the persons or bodies referred to above or in any of your register entries; **or** (c) the matter concerns a request for any permission, licence, consent or registration sought by yourself or any of the persons referred to above or in any of your register entries.

This guidance is not a complete statement of the rules on declaration of interests which are contained in the Members' Code of Conduct. If in any doubt, please consult the Monitoring Officer or relevant Democratic Services Officer before the meeting.