



# Northumberland County Council

**Your ref:**

**Our ref:**

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**Date:** 3 February 2020

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 11 FEBRUARY 2020 at 10.00 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 meeting of Cabinet held on 14 January 2020, as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

#### **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 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND S151 OFFICER**

##### **(1) Budget 2020-21 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020-22**

The purpose of this report is to enable the Cabinet to make formal budget recommendations to the County Council.

The report provides the Revenue Budget for 2020-21 and 2021-22 and the Capital Plans for 2020-21 to 2022-23, following the Government's Spending Round Announcement 2019 (SR 2019), on 4 September 2019, and the publication of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement on 20 December 2019.

It is important to note that there may need to be some revisions to the figures following receipt of the Government's February 2020 Final Local Government Finance Settlement figures. It is proposed that any changes to the figures as a result of this announcement, which impact on the Budget 2020-21 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020-22 are delegated to the Council's Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services (**Budget report enclosed separately with the agenda**).

The report of the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC will be circulated when the Committee has met.

**(2) Financial Performance 2019-20 - Position at the end of December 2019**

The purpose of the report is to ensure that the Cabinet is informed of the current financial position for the Council against the Budget for 2019-20 (**Appendix A**).

**5. REPORTS OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION, COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMY**

**(1) The Northumberland Line - Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline Progress**

To provide Cabinet with:

- An update on progress on the Northumberland Line project in the last 12 months including the development of the project from Strategic Outline Business Case to Outline Business Case;
- An update on emerging funding opportunities for the project including the Transforming Cities Fund, Beeching Reversal Fund and Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline (RNEP);
- An overview of the programme and costs associated with the next stages of the project and how this can be funded (**Appendix B**).

The report of the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC will be circulated when the Committee has met.

**(2) Proposed Designation of a Conservation Area in Beadnell**

To explain the need to designate a Conservation Area in Beadnell, the background to this and the benefits of doing so (**Appendix C**).

**6. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2021/2022 Academic Year**

This report informs Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation on School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2021/22 Academic Year as required by the School Admissions Code 2014. Approval (determination) of these admission arrangements is also sought.

The report confirms the Schools Adjudicators' decision to reduce the PAN (published admission number) at Mowbray Primary from September 2020 and also highlights the PAN reduction at Bedlington West End Primary from September 2020 as a result of the statutory consultation undertaken in 2019 for the Bedlington reorganisation (see appendix 2) (**Appendix D**).

The report of the Family and Children's Services OSC will be circulated when the Committee has met.

## **7. REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### **Proposed Incorporation - Group Holding Company for Northumberland County Council**

The purpose of this report is to recommend to members that the Council establishes a group holding of limited companies to support the expansion of commercial business opportunities being developed. To enable the Council to understand the risks, implications and opportunities with establishing a group holding of limited companies **(Appendix E)**.

The report of the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC will be circulated when the Committee has met.

## **8. REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR - STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING AND FINANCE**

### **Summary of New Capital Proposals Considered by Officer Capital Strategy Group**

The report summarises proposed amendments to the Capital Programme considered by the officer Capital Strategy Group at its meetings held on 13 December 2019 and 10 January 2020 **(Appendix F)**.

## **9. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION, COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMY**

### **Decision under Finance and Contract Rules - Acquisition of Car Park at the Bunker Site Hexham**

A decision has been taken by the Interim Executive Director of Regeneration, Commercial and Economy, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Local Services under Rule 2.4 of the Council's Finance and Contract Rules (Spending Limits for Corporate Directors and Executive Members) to approve an increase of £0.440 million to the existing £1.5 million capital budget provision made for the acquisition of the Bunker site car park in Hexham, from the £10 million capital allocation made in the MTFP for car park improvements. Council will be recommended in February 2020 to reduce this to £8.477m in the revised MTFP.

In accordance with Rule 2.5 of Finance and Contract Rules, the decision of the Leader to to agree with the urgency of this matter is now reported to Cabinet for information.

## **10. 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.

**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.

<b>Name (please print):</b>
<b>Meeting:</b>
<b>Date:</b>
<b>Item to which your interest relates:</b>
<b>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):</b>
<b>Nature of Non-registerable Personal Interest (please give details):</b>
<b>Are you intending to withdraw from the meeting?</b>

**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.**