

NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

Your Ref:
Our Ref:
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Date: 22 November 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held in the **Committee Room 1, County Hall, Morpeth** on **MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2017** at **10.00 a.m.**

Yours faithfully,



Chief Executive

To members of the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC comprising:

Councillors D. Bawn, G. Castle, L. Grimshaw, D. Ledger, K. Parry, M. Robinson, G. Routhead, M. Swinburn, J. Watson and T. Wilson.



Daljit Lally, Chief Executive
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AGENDA

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. 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.

N.B. Any member needing clarification must contact the Legal Services Manager, Liam Henry on Tel: 01670 623324. Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this Agenda letter.

3. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

To note the latest Forward Plan of key decisions (November 2017 - February 2018). Any further changes made to the Forward Plan will be reported to the Committee (Forward Plan enclosed as Appendix A).

4. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORTS

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for the following items is Councillor Nick Oliver - Corporate Services and Cabinet Secretary

(1) Corporate Plan

This report sought Cabinet endorsement to the draft Corporate Plan 2017-21 as the basis for informing the preparation of the forthcoming Medium Term Financial Plan. The Committee are requested to comment on the draft to inform preparation of the final version. (Report enclosed as Appendix B).

(2) Debt Recovery Update

The purpose of this report is to provide the Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information relating to the level of outstanding debt owed to the Council so that the Committee may satisfy itself as to the efficiency and

effectiveness of its collection and recovery policies and systems. (Report enclosed as Appendix C).

(3) External Inspections

This report summarises the findings of external audit and inspection of County Council services and arrangements over the last twelve months. (Report enclosed as Appendix D).

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for the following item is Councillor Richard Wearmouth, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development

(4) Ashington - Blyth - Tyne Line

This report provides the Committee with a description of the benefits and strategic economic significance of reintroducing passenger services alongside commercial use of the existing freight lines of the Ashington, Blyth and Tyne rail line; and an update on progress of the project to date thereby allowing the next steps required to take the project through Network Rail's GRIP process to be approved. (Report enclosed as Appendix E).

5. URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)

To consider such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman, 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".

6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Committee are 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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- | | |
|---|---|
| 7 | 3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council).

The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the interest in disclosure because the report contains information on the financial obligations of a third party. |
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7. REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Proposal to Support Nunnykirk School in the form of a Financial Guarantee

This report seeks Cabinet approval to a request received from the Nunnykirk Centre for Dyslexia for the Council to provide a financial guarantee to secure a loan. (Report is enclosed as Appendix F).

The report will be considered by the Cabinet on 12 December 2017. The Committee are invited to comment on the proposals contained therein. Those comments will then be presented to the Cabinet by the Committee Chairman prior to its determination of the report.

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.