



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

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Date: 31 January 2020

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 **Committee Room 1, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF** on **MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2020** at **10.00AM**.

Yours faithfully,

Daljit Lally

Chief Executive

To the members of the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC comprising Councillors D. Bawn (Chairman), L. Grimshaw (Vice-Chairman), J. Beynon, T. Cessford, K. Parry, M. Robinson, G. Roughead, C. Seymour, E. Simpson and I.C.F Swithenbank

Invite to all overview and scrutiny committee members for item 6.1

Portfolio Holders: P. Jackson, N. Oliver, R. Wearmouth



Daljit Lally, Chief Executive
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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 the Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC held on 9 December 2019, 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.

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.

4. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY CABINET DECISIONS

To advise the Committee of forthcoming reports to be considered by the Cabinet. (Schedule enclosed as **Appendix A.**)

5. CABINET REPORTS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE

To advise members of Cabinet decisions regarding issues previously commented on and been subject of report by this committee. (Extract from the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 10 December 2019 circulated for information only as **Appendix B.**)

6. SCRUTINY OF CABINET REPORTS

Reports 6.1, 6.2 and 10 will be considered by Cabinet on 11 February 2020. The committee is asked to comment on the proposals contained in the reports. Those comments will be presented to the Cabinet by the Chair.

6.1 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND S151 OFFICER

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 Cabinet member requested to attend for this item is Councillor Oliver

6.2 REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: REGENERATION, COMMERCIAL & ECONOMY

The Northumberland Line - Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline Progress

The report provides 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); and an overview of the programme and costs associated with the next stages of the project and how this can be funded. (Report attached as **Appendix C**.)

The Cabinet member requested to attend for this item is Councillor R Wearmouth

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. (Report attached.)

The Cabinet members requested to attend for this item are Councillors Jackson and Oliver

8. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COORDINATOR

Corporate Services and Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme and Monitoring Report

The committee is asked to review and note its work programme for the 2019/20 council year. (Report enclosed as **Appendix E.**)

9. 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.

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.