

# NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

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Your Ref:  
Our Ref:  
Enquiries to: Jackie Roll  
Direct Line: 622603 (01670)  
E-mail: [jackie.roll@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.roll@northumberland.gov.uk)

Date: 16 May 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth, on **WEDNESDAY 24 MAY 2017 at 3.00 pm** to transact the business mentioned in the accompanying agenda paper.

Yours faithfully,

*Steven P Mason*

Chief Executive

**To the members of the County Council**

***Note: members are reminded that they cannot act as Councillors until they have made their declaration of acceptance of office.***

Steven Mason – Chief Executive

County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF

(T) 0345 600 6400

(F) 01670 626030

(W) [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)



# **NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**24 MAY 2017**

## **AGENDA PAPER**

Business to be transacted at the Annual Meeting of the County Council, to be held on the 24th day of May 2017

1. **TO ELECT** a Business Chair and Deputy Business Chair for the ensuing year

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **TO APPOINT** a Civic Head and Deputy Civic Head for the ensuing year.

4. **MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday 5 April 2017, as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record, signed by the Business Chair and sealed with the Common Seal of the Council (**see pages 9-22**).

5. **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.

6. **THE RETURNING OFFICER TO SUBMIT** the return of the persons elected as Councillors on 4 May 2017 (as set out in **APPENDIX ONE** to the rear of this agenda).

7. **APPOINTMENTS**

- (1) **TO APPOINT** a member who will be recognised as the Leader of the Council.
- (2) **TO NOTE** the appointment of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet members, and their portfolios as detailed within this agenda (**pages 23-24**) .

8. **CHANGES TO THE POLITICAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

To seek agreement to changes to the Political Management arrangements and the decision making process to reflect the change in political administration (**see pages 25-34**).

9. **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

- (1) **TO APPOINT** the Chairs and Vice Chairs to the Committees and Working Groups listed in **APPENDIX TWO** (to the rear of this agenda), where this is required.

(2) **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

A list of Committees and Working Groups to be appointed by Council is attached as **APPENDIX TWO** (to the rear of this agenda). The Council is asked to confirm the appointment of these Committees and Working Groups, their terms of reference and delegated powers.

10. **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

Council is asked to nominate its representatives to the outside bodies listed below. Cabinet and Local Area Councils will consider their own nominations in due course.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Nominations</b>
Combined Authority Leadership Board	Leader plus sub
Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Two</b> (must not be members of Leadership Board, or Transport North East Committee, and to be based on regional political balance, <b>plus</b>

	<b>two subs</b> (must not be members of Leadership Board, or Transport North East Committee, and to be based on regional political balance.
Combined Authority Governance	<b>One</b> (must be a member of Audit or Standards and to be based on regional political balance, <b>plus one sub</b> (also to be a member of Audit or Standards)
Combined Authority Transport North East Committee	<b>Two</b> (one to be portfolio holder for transport), <b>plus one sub</b>
Economic Development and Regeneration Advisory Board	<b>One</b> (must be portfolio holder for Economic Development), <b>plus sub</b>
Environment Agency Regional Flood And Coastal Committee	One, plus one deputy
Groundwork North East and Cumbria Board	One
Kielder Water and Forest Park Development	One
National Park Authority	Six
Newcastle Royal Grammar School	One
North of England Reserve Forces and Cadets Association	One
North Pennines AONB Partnership	One
Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership	Four (one to be portfolio holder for Economic Growth)
Northumberland College Board	One plus one officer
Northumberland County Blind Association	One
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority	Six
Northumberland Sport	One ( <b>To be confirmed</b> )
Northumbria Police and Crime Panel	Two
NTC Touring Theatre Company	One
Pupil Referral Unit Management Committee	One

11. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** by the Business Chair, Leader and Head of the Paid Service.
12. **CORRESPONDENCE** (if any) to date of meeting.

- 13. QUESTIONS** to be put to the Business Chair, a member of the Cabinet or the Chair of any Committee or Sub Committee, in accordance with the Constitution's Rules of Procedure No.10.
- 14. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON:**
- (1) **Tuesday 11 April 2017 (see pages 35-40)**
- 15. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MINUTES** from the following Committees:-
- (1) **Family and Children's Services OSC (see pages 41-46)**
- (2) **Care and Wellbeing OSC (see pages 47-56)**
- (3) **Corporate Resources & Regional Affairs OSC (see pages 57-60)**
- (4) **Health and Wellbeing Board (see pages 61-68)**
- 16. REPORTS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
- (Minute No.s 85(1) and (2) of the Cabinet meeting of 11 April 2017 also refer)**
- (1) **Potential Loan to Alnwick Town Council**
- The report provides details of a potential loan facility to Alnwick Town Council for £190,000. The Town Council will subsequently lend £190,000 to Alnwick Town Juniors Football Club for the provision of new club house facilities including, changing rooms, toilets and club room **(see pages 69-78)**.
- (2) **Potential Loan to North East Equality and Diversity Ltd (NEED)**
- The report provides details of a proposed loan facility to North East Equality and Diversity (NEED) Ltd of £450,000 for the purchase of the former Fire Station at South Road, Alnwick; along with a short term advance for up to 4 months of £90,000 to cover VAT associated cash flow implications **(see pages 79-88)**.
- 17. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ANNUAL REPORTS (APPENDIX THREE)**
- (1) Standards Committee
- (2) Pension Fund Panel

**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".**

**18. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Council 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:-

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A</b>
19	1, 3 and 4 - Information relating to any individual, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information), and information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or any contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Authority and or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority. The public interest in seeking this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because disclosure would adversely affect the Authority's ability to conduct its affairs.

**19. REPORT OF THE LEADER**

**Strategic Management Arrangements**

To consider a report on strategic management arrangements for the Council (report will be circulated at the meeting).

**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.**