

# NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

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Our Ref:  
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Date: 24 October 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF on **WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2017** at **3.00 PM** to transact the business mentioned in the accompanying agenda paper.

Yours faithfully,



Interim Chief Executive

**To the members of the County Council**

# **NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**1 NOVEMBER 2017**

## **AGENDA PAPER**

Business to be transacted at a meeting of the County Council, to be held on the 1st day of November 2017

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday 6 September 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 9-32**).

**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. ANNOUNCEMENTS** by the Business Chair, Leader and Head of the Paid Service.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE** (if any) to date of meeting.

**6. 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.

**7. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETINGS HELD ON:-**

**(1) Tuesday 12 September 2017 (see pages 33-40)**

**(2) Tuesday, 10 October 2017 (see pages 41-50)**

**AND TO APPROVE** the following resolutions as they involve budget or policy framework matters requiring Council approval:-

- (a) Minute No.17(b) of the 12 September meeting (Write Offs 2016-17) relating to the amendment to finance and contract rules;
- (b) Minute No.26(1)(a) of the 10 October meeting relating to the Approval of the Business Rates Revaluation Relief Scheme; and
- (c) Minute No.26(1)(b) of the 10 October meeting relating to the Council Tax Support Scheme 2018-19 (a copy of the Council Tax Support Scheme is available on the Council's website alongside the agenda papers for this meeting).

**8. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MINUTES from the following Committees:-**

- (1) Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC (see pages 51-58)**
- (2) Family and Children's Services OSC (see pages 59-76)**
- (3) Communities and Place OSC (see pages 77-86)**
- (4) Health and Wellbeing Board (see pages 87-92)**

**9. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Motion No.1**

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure No.10, Councillor D. Ledger to move the following motion, received by the Democratic Services Manager on 23 October 2017:-

**Post-Brexit Regional Policy**

*"Since Britain joined the European Union, Structural Funds have co-financed a vast range of initiatives to promote economic growth, particularly in older industrial areas. With Brexit, that source of funding will disappear. This Council therefore welcomes the UK Government's commitment to establishing a UK Shared Prosperity Fund as a potential source of new funding.*

*However, several issues are unresolved that could play a pivotal role in delivering growth and jobs in the places that need this the most. The Industrial Communities Alliance has proposed that:*

- *The Shared Prosperity Fund's budget should be set at a level that not only compensates for the loss of EU funding (£1.5bn a year) but also provides*

*additional resources to match the scale of the challenge to deliver growth and prosperity across Britain.*

- *The Fund should focus on narrowing local and regional differences in economic well-being.*
- *Local authorities should have a strong hand in the management of the new Fund. Local authorities are most closely attuned to local needs and should take the key decisions about spending priorities.*

*This Council agrees to write to the Chancellor, and Secretaries of State for Business and Communities, with copies to local MPs, calling on the UK Government to incorporate these proposals into the structure of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund”.*

## **Motion No.2**

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure No.10, Councillor J.G. Davey to move the following motion, received by the Democratic Services Manager on 23 October 2017:-

*“Northumberland Labour Group call on Northumberland County Council to reconsider the proposal to move local LGPS advice provision from Northumberland to relocate it in South Tyneside. The geographical size of Northumberland necessitates 'localised advice provision' in line with the council policy to decentralise services to local communities.*

*Relocating LGPS advice services and its advisers to South Tyneside will negatively impact elderly and disabled members of the scheme disproportionately by removing local access to advice outside Northumberland. It is unfair to ask elderly and disabled members to travel to South Tyneside in order to get face to face advice with pension advisers.*

*We demand an impact assessment under the Equality Act 2010 and remind Members they have a responsibility to safeguard vulnerable adults including the elderly and infirm and that contact is made with the scheme when LGPS members are at the most vulnerable stages of their lives”.*

## **10. REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

### **Appointment of the Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) and associated changes to the Executive Management Structure**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the appointment of a Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 and the County Council’s constitution and to propose some subsequent changes to the underpinning executive structure.

As a consequence of the appointment of the Head of Paid Service the Director of Children's Service's Role becomes vacant. The current interim Director of Children's service is due to take flexible retirement in April 2018.

In order to ensure that Children's and Adult's Services management arrangements are robust this report therefore seeks to review and strengthen the leadership arrangements for the Council's key social care and education services.

In order to strengthen the roles that underpin the Adult Services and Children's Services roles this report seeks approval to reconfigure two current management roles and seek to approve one additional post (the latter post is wholly funded by the NHS) **(see pages 93-102)**.

## **11. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

### **Policing and Crime Act 2017 Request from Police & Crime Commissioner for Northumbria**

To consider a request from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria to be co-opted as a member of the authority for the purposes stated in the report under statutory amendments brought into effect earlier this year by the provisions of the Policing and Crime Act 2017 **(see pages 103-106)**

## **12. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

### **Revisions to Council Constitution**

To re-adopt the Constitution further to a range of changes agreed by full Council since October 2014 **(see pages 107-110)**.

The constitution has been published on the Council's website with the agenda papers for this meeting, and will be updated following Council's agreement of the changes detailed under agenda item 10 above. A paper copy can be made available to any member on request after that final update.

## **13. REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### **Community Governance Reviews**

To consider the outcome of two community governance reviews in the County **(see pages 111-116)**.

## 14. COUNCIL MEETINGS

Further to the decision of Council in September (Minute No. 37 refers), a cross party group of members met to consider the arrangements for member questions at Council, which is regulated by Part 5, Chapter 1 of the Council's Constitution, and to consider specific arrangements for the submission of motions and questions for 3 January 2018 Council, to allow for Christmas holidays.

### (a) Member Question Time

Council is **RECOMMENDED** to agree the following:-

- (i) A number of questions on the same topic should be assimilated.
- (ii) 20 minutes be allocated to deal with member questions in accordance with the running order of the agenda. Any not dealt with within that time will be dealt with at the end of the meeting.
- (iii) The deadline for submission of member questions be brought into line with that for public questions i.e. midday, five working days before the day of the meeting.
- (iv) The number of member questions per member be brought into line with that for public questions i.e. two as a general guide, though the number of questions to be asked by any one member to remain at the discretion of the Chair, as per the Constitution.
- (v) the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make the necessary changes to the Constitution arising from this proposal.

### (b) Deadlines for January 2018 Council

Council is **RECOMMENDED** to agree that the deadline for submission of motions, public questions and member questions for 3 January 2018 Council is noon, on Monday, 18 December 2017.

**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.**