



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Jackie Roll

Email: Jackie.roll@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: 01670 622603

Date: 26 October 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held in **MEETING SPACE, BLOCK ONE, FLOOR TWO** on **WEDNESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2021** at **3.00 PM**.

Yours faithfully

Daljit Lally
Chief Executive

To the members of the County Council

Any member of the press or public may view the proceedings of this meeting live on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/NorthumberlandTV>.

Members are referred to the risk assessment, previously circulated, for meetings held in County Hall. Masks should be worn when moving round but can be removed when seated, social distancing should be maintained, hand sanitiser regularly used and members requested to self-test twice a week at home, in line with government guidelines.



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

(Pages
1 - 24)

Minutes of the meeting of County Council held on Wednesday 1 September 2021 as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record, signed by the Business Chair and sealed with the Common Seal of the Council

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 monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk. Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this agenda letter.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

by the Business Chair, Leader or Head of 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:-

(Pages
25 - 52)

(1) Wednesday 25 August 2021 (see pages 33-36)

(2) Tuesday 7 September 2021 (see pages 37-46)

(3) Tuesday 12 October 2021 (see pages 47-62)

8. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MINUTES FROM THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:-

(Pages
53 -
136)

(1) Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC (see pages 63-74)

(2) Family and Children's Services OSC (see pages 75-86)

(3) Communities and Place OSC (see pages 87-94)

(4) Health and Wellbeing OSC (see pages 95-108)

(5) Health and Wellbeing Board (see pages 109-116)

(6) Audit Committee (see pages 117-142)

9. MOTIONS

Motion No. 1

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure No.10, Councillor G. Sanderson to move the following motion, received by the Head of Democratic and Electoral Services on 27 September 2021:-

“That Northumberland County Council

(i) Acknowledges the efforts that this Council has made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy;

(ii) Further recognises

that very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so,

that making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would create significant opportunities for local companies and community groups to be providers of locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, if they wished, and

that revenues received by such local companies or community groups that chose to become local renewable electricity providers could be used

to help improve the local economy, local services and facilities and to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions;

(iii) Notes that the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee, as a result of its 2021 Technological Innovations and Climate Change inquiry, recommended that a Right to Local Supply for local energy suppliers be established to address this;

(iv) Accordingly resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, currently supported by a cross-party group of 266 MPs and which, if made law, would establish a Right to Local Supply which would promote local renewable electricity supply by making the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate to the size of the supply company; and

(v) Further resolves to

inform the local media of this decision,

write to local MPs, asking them to support the Bill, and

write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People, (at Camden Collective, 5-7 Buck Street, London NW1 8NJ or info@powerforpeople.org.uk) expressing its support”.

10. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND S151 OFFICER (Pages 137 - 296)

(1) Council Tax Support Scheme for 2022-23

The report seeks approval for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2022-23 to continue to provide support at a maximum level of 92% of Council Tax liability (see pages 143-148). Members are asked to bring their copy of the scheme previously circulated.

11. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND S151 OFFICER (Pages 297 - 316)

(2) Treasury Management Annual Report for the Financial Year 2020-21

The report provides details of performance against the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) 2020-21, approved by the County Council on 19 February 2020. The report provides a review of borrowing and investment performance for 2020-21, set in the context of the general economic conditions prevailing during the year. It also reviews specific Treasury Management prudential indicators defined by the (CIPFA) Treasury Management Code of Practice and CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, (the Prudential Code), and approved by the Authority in the TMSS (see pages 149-168).

- 12. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION** (Pages 317 - 328)
- To consider two reports recently agreed for recommendation to Council by the Constitution Working Group (see pages 169-180):-
- (1) Report of the Senior Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer
- Proposed Constitutional Changes
- To review and update the Constitution and make related appointments.
- (2) Report of the Interim Executive Director of Planning and Local Services
- Review of Planning Terms of Reference
- To review the Strategic Planning Committee terms of reference and powers as set out in the Council's Constitution. The change is proposed following a formal recommendation for clarification from the Local Government Ombudsman.
- 13. APPOINTMENTS TO POSITIONS, COMMITTEE PLACES AND OUTSIDE BODIES** (Pages 329 - 334)
- Council is asked to approve the changes to committee places and outside bodies detailed at pages 181- 186), and to elect the Deputy Business Chair and Chairs/Vice Chairs to the Committees as indicated therein.
- 14. JANUARY 2022 COUNCIL MEETING**
- Council has previously agreed a change in the deadlines for submission of motions and questions to allow for the Christmas holidays and the despatch of the Council agenda. Council is RECOMMENDED to again agree that the deadline for submission of motions, public questions and member questions for 5 January 2022 Council in noon on Monday 20 December 2021.
- 15. 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:-

Agenda Item
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Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A
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 contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority.

AND

The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because disclosure would adversely affect the Authority's ability to conduct its affairs.

16

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 contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority.

AND

The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because disclosure would adversely affect the Authority's ability to conduct its affairs.

16. REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Executive Management Structure Review

To receive an update on the ongoing review from the Chief Executive

17. REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Appointment of Interim Monitoring Officer

The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the appointment of a Monitoring Officer on an interim basis, Suki Binjal, for Northumberland County Council due to the substantive post of Legal Services Manager and Monitoring Officer becoming vacant.

It is proposed that the interim appointment of Suki Binjal remains in place until a substantive appointment is made to the post of Monitoring Officer. At present the Legal Services Manager/Monitoring Officer and Director of Corporate Assurance are vacant and this interim post holder will cover the key required elements of those two roles (see pages 187-193).

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST AT THIS MEETING, PLEASE:

- Declare it and give details of its nature before the matter is discussion 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.