



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Jackie Roll

Email: jackie.roll@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: 01670 622603

Date: 15 February 2022

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held in the meeting space, Floor 2, Block 1, **COUNTY HALL, MORPETH** on **WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2022** at **3.00PM**.

Yours faithfully

Daljit Lally
Chief Executive

To all 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 5 January 2022 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.9.

7. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETINGS

(Pages
25 - 46)

- (1) Tuesday 11 January 2022
- (2) Tuesday 8 February 2022

8. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MINUTES FROM THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES

(Pages
47 - 112)

- (1) Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC
- (2) Family and Children's Services OSC

- (3) Communities and Place OSC
- (4) Health and Wellbeing OSC
- (5) Health and Wellbeing Board
- (6) Audit Committee

9. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER

(Pages
113 -
130)

Budget Consultation Report 2022-23

This report provides a summary of results of the budget consultation undertaken between 10th December 2021 and 21st January 2022. The budget consultation helps to inform the Council's Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan

10. REPORTS OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND S151 OFFICER

(Pages
131 -
488)

(1) Budget 2022-23 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2022-26

The report provides the Revenue Budget for 2022-23 and Revenue Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2022-26 and the Capital Budget for 2022-23 and Capital MTFP 2022-26, following the Government's Spending Round Announcement 2021 (SR 2021), on 27 October 2021, and the publication of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement on 16 December 2021.

It is important to note that there may need to be some revisions to the figures following receipt of the Government's February 2022 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 2022-23 and MTFP 2022-26 are delegated to the Council's Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services.

The budget book is enclosed for only those members who have not previously received it with their Cabinet or Scrutiny agendas. Members are asked to note that Appendices 1,3, 11 and 14 have been updated since those agendas were despatched. Copies of the updated appendices are enclosed.

(2) Approval of Revenues and Benefits Policies for 2022-23

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the policies governing the administration of Revenues and Benefits and seek approval for the updates and amendments highlighted.

(3) Council Tax 2022-23

To provide Council Members with the financial information to enable the Council to calculate and set the Council Tax for 2022-23.

- 11. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE** (Pages 489 - 500)
Executive Management Structure Review
- The purpose of the report is to seek approval to the implementation of the revised Executive management arrangements for Council
- 12. JOINT REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND THE INTERIM SENIOR SERVICE DIRECTOR** (Pages 501 - 510)
Political Proportionality
- To determine the political proportionality of the registered political groups on the council and to allocate seats on committees in accordance with that proportionality in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989
- 13. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND S151 OFFICER** (Pages 511 - 514)
Arrangements for the Appointment of the Local Auditor (External Auditor)
- To seek Council approval to opt-in to the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) Limited arrangements from 1 April 2023 for the five financial years commencing 2023-24 to 2027-28
- 14. REPORT OF THE INTERIM SENIOR SERVICE DIRECTOR** (Pages 515 - 558)
Corporate Plan Refresh 2021-24
- This Report presents the Council's Corporate Plan for 2021-2024, agreed by Cabinet on 18th November 2021. The Plan builds on the progress from the previous Corporate Plan and presents a refreshed vision, aims and priorities. This refresh takes account of the changing social and economic context as a result of the Covid Pandemic and the Council's priorities for leading recovery across the County in the coming months and years. The priorities in the Corporate Plan will be delivered through the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan, Service Planning and Performance Frameworks
- 15. JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**
- The positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee are currently vacant. Council is requested to elect a Chair (usually the Business Chair or his deputy) and Vice Chair (usually from the Trade Union representatives).

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.