

Public Document Pack



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Nichola Turnbull

Email: nichola.turnbull@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: 01670 622617

Date: Wednesday, 21 December 2022

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OSC** to be held in **CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - COUNTY HALL** on **WEDNESDAY, 11 JANUARY 2023** at **2.00 PM**.

Yours faithfully

Rick O'Farrell
Interim Chief Executive

To Communities and Place OSC members as follows:-

J Reid (Chair), M Mather (Vice-Chair), D Carr, E Cartie, G Castle, A Dale, R Dodd, B Gallacher, N Morphet and J Lang



Rick O'Farrell, Interim Chief Executive
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 0345 600 6400
www.northumberland.gov.uk



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. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required where a matter arises at a meeting;

- a) Which **directly relates to** Disclosable Pecuniary Interest ('DPI') as set out in Appendix B, Table 1 of the Code of Conduct, to disclose the interest, not participate in any discussion or vote and not to remain in room. Where members have a DPI or if the matter concerns an executive function and is being considered by a Cabinet Member with a DPI they must notify the Monitoring Officer and arrange for somebody else to deal with the matter.
- b) Which **directly relates to** the financial interest or well being of a Other Registrable Interest as set out in Appendix B, Table 2 of the Code of Conduct to disclose the interest and only speak on the matter if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain the room.
- c) Which **directly relates to** their financial interest or well-being (and is not DPI) or the financial well being of a relative or close associate, to declare the interest and members may only speak on the matter if members of the public are also allowed to speak. Otherwise, the member must not take part in discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room.
- d) Which **affects** the financial well-being of the member, a relative or close associate or a body included under the Other Registrable Interests column in Table 2, to disclose the interest and apply the test set out at paragraph 9 of Appendix B before deciding whether they may remain in the meeting.
- e) Where Members have or a Cabinet Member has an Other Registerable Interest or Non Registerable Interest in a matter being considered in exercise of their executive function, they must notify the Monitoring Officer and arrange for somebody else to deal with it.

NB Any member needing clarification must contact monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk. Members are referred to the Code of Conduct which contains the matters above in full. Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this agenda letter.

3. FORWARD PLAN OF CABINET DECISIONS

(Pages 1
- 4)

To note the latest Forward Plan of key decisions. Any further changes made to the Forward Plan will be reported to the Committee.

OVERVIEW

The Cabinet Member(s) requested to attend for the following item is Councillor John Riddle, Portfolio Holder for Local Services.

4.1 Tree and Woodland Strategy

To discuss the updating of the Tree and Woodland Strategy.

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for the following item is Councillor Wendy Pattison, Portfolio Holder for Adults' Wellbeing.

4.2 Storm Arwen Review - Adult Care

(Pages 5
- 6)

To receive an update on the implementation of the Storm Arwen review's recommendations on Adult Care.

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR

5. COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME AND MONITORING REPORT

(Pages 7
- 12)

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee operates within a work programme which is agreed at the start of the Council year. The programme is reviewed at each meeting so that it can be adjusted to reflect the wishes of the Committee and take account of any changes to the latest Forward Plan (which outlines decisions to be taken by the Cabinet). The Committee is asked to review and note its work programme for the 2022/23 council year.

6. URGENT BUSINESS

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:		Date of meeting:	
Meeting:			
Item to which your interest relates:			
Nature of Interest i.e. either disclosable pecuniary interest (as defined by Table 1 of Appendix B to the Code of Conduct, Other Registerable Interest or Non-Registerable Interest (as defined by Appendix B to Code of Conduct) (please give details):			
Are you intending to withdraw from the meeting?		Yes - <input type="checkbox"/>	No - <input type="checkbox"/>

Registering Interests

Within 28 days of becoming a member or your re-election or re-appointment to office you must register with the Monitoring Officer the interests which fall within the categories set out in **Table 1 (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests)** which are as described in "The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012". You should also register details of your other personal interests which fall within the categories set out in **Table 2 (Other Registerable Interests)**.

"Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" means an interest of yourself, or of your partner if you are aware of your partner's interest, within the descriptions set out in Table 1 below.

"Partner" means a spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners.

1. You must ensure that your register of interests is kept up-to-date and within 28 days of becoming aware of any new interest, or of any change to a registered interest, notify the Monitoring Officer.
2. A 'sensitive interest' is as an interest which, if disclosed, could lead to the councillor, or a person connected with the councillor, being subject to violence or intimidation.
3. Where you have a 'sensitive interest' you must notify the Monitoring Officer with the reasons why you believe it is a sensitive interest. If the Monitoring Officer agrees they will withhold the interest from the public register.

Non participation in case of disclosable pecuniary interest

4. Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to one of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in **Table 1**, you must disclose the interest, not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that you have an interest.

Dispensation may be granted in limited circumstances, to enable you to participate and vote on a matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

5. Where you have a disclosable pecuniary interest on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

Disclosure of Other Registerable Interests

6. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your Other Registerable Interests (as set out in **Table 2**), you must disclose the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

Disclosure of Non-Registerable Interests

7. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to your financial interest or well-being (and is not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest set out in **Table 1**) or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate, you must disclose the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.
8. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **affects** –
- a. your own financial interest or well-being;
 - b. a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate; or
 - c. a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under Other Registrable Interests as set out in **Table 2** you must disclose the interest. In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied
9. Where a matter (referred to in paragraph 8 above) **affects** the financial interest or well- being:
- a. to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
 - b. a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise, you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

Where you have an Other Registerable Interest or Non-Registerable Interest on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

Table 1: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

This table sets out the explanation of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests as set out in the [Relevant Authorities \(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests\) Regulations 2012](#).

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain. [Any unpaid directorship.]
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land and Property	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. ‘Land’ excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
Licenses	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the councillor’s knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body

	<p>where—</p> <p>(a) that body (to the councillor’s knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and</p> <p>(b) either—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or ii. if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.
--	--

* ‘director’ includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

* ‘securities’ means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Table 2: Other Registrable Interests

You have a personal interest in any business of your authority where it relates to or is likely to affect:

- a) any body of which you are in general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- b) any body
 - i. exercising functions of a public nature
 - ii. any body directed to charitable purposes or
 - iii. one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)

**FORTHCOMING CABINET DECISIONS
JANUARY TO APRIL 2023**

DECISION	PROPOSED SCRUTINY DATE	CABINET DATE
<p>Budget 2023-24 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023-27 The report presents the updated Budget 2023-24 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023-27 to Cabinet following the receipt of the provisional local government settlement which is due to be announced during December 2022. The report will also include an update on the deliverability of savings. (R. Wearmouth/A. Elsdon 01670 622168)</p>	<p>Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC 13 February 2022</p>	<p>14 February 2022 Council 22 February 2022</p>
<p>Energising Blyth: Energy Central Campus Governance Arrangements Update This report updates Cabinet and seeks approval for amendments to the officers nominated as Directors of the Energy Central Campus Company Ltd. (W. Ploszaj/R. Strettle – 07770642773)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>14 February 2023</p>
<p>Produced in Northumberland Scheme An update on the status of the Produced in Northumberland Scheme. A review of the scheme in 22-23 together with the intended further promotion and development of the scheme in 2023/24 (C. Horncastle/P. Simpson – 07920806260).</p>	<p>Communities and Place OSC TBC</p>	<p>14 February 2023</p>
<p>Revenues and Benefits Policies for 2023/24 The report sets out the policies that the Revenues and Benefits services operate for the administration of council tax, business rates, housing benefit and council tax support. The report is for information and approval of any updates or legislation changes that need to be made. The policies need County Council approval on 22 February 2023. (R. Wearmouth/G. Barnes 01670 624351)</p>	<p>Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC 13 February 2022</p>	<p>14 February 2022 Council 22 February 2022</p>
<p>Financial Performance 2022-23 - Position at the end of December 2022 The report will provide Cabinet with the revenue and capital financial performance against budget as at 31 December 2022. (R. Wearmouth/K. Harvey - 01670 624783)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>14 March 2023</p>

<p>Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy for Northumberland 2022 The report provides Members with the draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2022-2026 for review and agreement (C. Horncastle/J. Stewart - 07771 974 112)</p>	<p>Communities and Place OSC 5 April 2023</p>	<p>14 March 2023</p>
<p>Service Charges in Sheltered Accommodation The report will request permission to introduce Service Charges to all tenants in 8 Sheltered Housing Schemes in line with those currently charged at Arnison Close in Allendale. The HRA is currently subsidising these tenants at a cost of approx. £200k per year. (C. Horncastle/S. Ogle – 07976851270)</p>	<p>Communities and Place OSC 5 April 2023</p>	<p>14 March 2023</p>
<p>Trading Companies' Financial Performance 2022-23 - Position at the end of December 2022 The purpose of the report is to ensure that the Cabinet is informed of the current financial positions of its trading companies for 2022-23 (R. Wearmouth/ M. Calvert - 01670 620197) Confidential report</p>	<p>Corporate Services and Economic Growth OSC 13 March 2022</p>	<p>14 March 2023</p>
<p>Leisure Programme Update To update Cabinet with progress on the Leisure programme (J. Watson/M. Donnelly 07517 553463)</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>11 April 2023</p>
<p>Financial Performance 2022-23 – Position at the end of March 2023 (Provisional Outturn) The report will provide Cabinet with the revenue and capital financial performance against budget as at 31 March 2023 (provisional outturn) (R. Wearmouth/K. Harvey - 01670 624783)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>9 May 2023</p>
<p>Outcomes of Phase 2 Consultation about Education in Berwick Partnership This report sets out the feedback received from stakeholders arising from Phase 2 of informal consultation with stakeholders in the Berwick Partnership area and other relevant parties on the possible models of school organisation within both the current 3-tier system and within a 2-tier (primary/secondary) system. (G. Renner Thompson/S. Aviston - (01670) 622281)</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>9 May 2023</p>
<p>Leisure Programme Update To update Cabinet with progress on the</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>12 December 2023</p>

Leisure programme (J. Watson/M. Donnelly 07517 553463)		
Leisure Programme Update To update Cabinet with progress on the Leisure programme (J. Watson/M. Donnelly 07517 553463)	TBC	9 April 2024

This page is intentionally left blank

Storm Arwen Action update – Adult Care

There were three actions allocated under Section 4.4.8 of the review to Northumberland County Council Adult Care. An update to all three is provided below, although to note the Director of Public Health lead on the actions in relation to (a) and (b).

(a) all the Council’s personal data sets be reviewed to ensure that assistance in emergency situations can be properly targeted;

(b) consideration also be given to how best personal data can be shared both within the Council and with partner organisations, and

The combined update from the public health lead for this area of work in relation to these two actions is as follows...

The ability to share appropriate, personal data securely in an emergency situation is a key priority for Northumberland County Council. Relevant datasets including vulnerable adults and children (developed by service leads) have been agreed and will be stored in a secure environment (under the agreement of a Data Protection Impact Assessment) enabling those who require access in an emergency situation to do so.

External partners and internal departments who may require access to personal data have been identified by the data working group under the Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response workstream. Cryptshare will be used to supply any agreed personal data with external organisations.

Scenario testing for the preparation of rotated power disconnections will take place between 15th - 22nd December 2022 using the relevant datasets. Once complete, this should provide additional confidence in the system.

There has been a delay to this process due to resources for EPPR data planning being drawn from other service areas whilst trying to fit this in around core business. Gaining access to certain datasets has also resulted in delays.

(c) the Council’s contracts with care homes and similar providers must include a condition that an approved emergency contingency plan be in place to ensure a continuing high level of care during future emergency incidents.

A number of homes were affected by storm Arwen and the impact was most significant on a home in Choppington which was without power for a significant period of time, and reliant on a generator.

Since the storm all care homes have been asked to review and update their business continuity plans to specifically address how they would respond to power outages. All were encouraged to source their own generators or identify where they could obtain them in an emergency. This has not been straightforward for them all to do due to the location of the homes, and where they have not been able to easily source a generator, homes have made alternative arrangements including evacuation in the worst-case scenario. Those homes have identified locations where residents could be moved to on a temporary basis if necessary.

There is only one home that has submitted a plan that officers do not consider is acceptable. The adult care commissioning team is continuing to work with that provider in order to strengthen their contingency plans and bring them up to an acceptable standard.

Northumberland County Council

Communities and Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2022-2023

1. Terms of reference:

- (1) To maintain an overview of the Management Agreements in place between the County Council and Active Northumberland, Woodhorn Museum Charitable Trust and Northumberland Tourism.
- (2) To monitor, review and make recommendations about:
 - Development Planning
 - Neighbourhood Planning
 - Conservation
 - Housing
 - Climate Change
 - Countryside, Biodiversity and Landscape Quality
 - Waste Management and Energy Use
 - Public and Community Transport Network and Travel to School
 - Highway Maintenance, Streetscape and the Local Environment
 - Local and Neighbourhood services
 - Crime, Community Safety, and Fear of Crime, including CONTEST, Prevent and Channel
 - Antisocial Behaviour and Domestic Violence
 - Fire and Rescue
 - Emergency Services and Emergency Planning
 - Customer Services
 - Provision of Cultural and Leisure Facilities
 - Improving Quality of Life through Access to Culture and Leisure;
 - Supporting Economic Growth in the Arts, Culture and Leisure Sectors

2. Issues to be Timetabled/Considered

Great Northumberland Forest
Woodhorn Charitable Trust

Northumberland County Council
Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022-2023

8 February 2023

Northumberland Infrastructure Funding Statement

Retained Firefighters

To consider the annual Infrastructure Funding Statement in respect of Section 106 Agreements.

To consider issues around the recruitment and retention of retained firefighters.

8 March 2023

Library Service Strategy 2021-26

To update the Committee on the implementation of the Strategy.

Utility Companies on the Highway

To receive an update on the Council's implementation of the Northumberland Street Works Permit Scheme.

5 April 2023

Food Recycling Pilot

To receive an interim report on progress with the pilot scheme.

Housing (TBC)

Housing White Paper – it is anticipated that this will become the Housing regulatory Bill in the Spring of 2023, and this is to inform members of the implication for the housing landlord function.

26 April 2023

Northumberland County Council
Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee Monitoring Report 2022-2023

Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Outcome
1.	1 June 2022	Development of the Potland Burn Biodiversity Net Gain Site	RESOLVED that the Committee: 1. Supported the recommendations in the report. 2. The report and presentation be recommended for inclusion within the work programme for the Ashington and Blyth Local Area Council with an invitation to Ashington Town Council and Pegswood Parish Council to involve them in the discussion.	No further action required as this time.
Page 10	29 June 2022	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy 2022/25	RESOLVED that the Committee: 1. Supported the recommendations in the report. 2. The protocol for the setting of EVCP tariff be considered by Communities & Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee at a future meeting. 3. Encourage members to undertake the climate change training.	The Committee be consulted prior to the setting of the EVCP Tariff.
3.	29 June 2022	Northumberland Waste Management Strategy – Proposed Food Waste Recycling Pilot Schemes	RESOLVED that the Committee: 1. Supported the recommendations in the report. 2. Consider involvement by local schools in the home compost bin trial. 3. Receive an interim report on the home compost trial in Autumn 2022 with a final report on the kerbside collection in the summer of 2023.	The Committee to receive an update on the trial before the end of the year.
4.	31 August 2022	Fleet Replacement Update	RESOLVED that the work undertaken to deliver a challenging fleet replacement programme during 2021/22, be noted.	The Committee will continue to receive this as an annual update.

5.	31 August 2022	Food and Feed, Safety and Standards Service Plan 2022/23	RESOLVED that: a. Cabinet be advised that the Communities & Place OSC endorses the recommendation in the report. b. The Cabinet be recommended to request that the Government makes the displaying of food hygiene ratings at food business premises mandatory.	Cabinet considered the OSC's comments when it determined the report on 21 September 2022.
6.	5 October 2022	Endorsement of the Northumberland Destination Management Plan 2022-2032	RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that the Communities & Place OSC supported the recommendation contained in the report.	Cabinet considered the OSC's comments when it determined the report on 11 October 2022.
7.	5 October 2022	Storm Arwen, Community Resilience Update	RESOLVED that (a) The report be received. (b) The Communities and Place OSC continues to support the concept of community resilience within Northumberland.	The Committee will consider the Storm Arwen recommendations in respect of Adult Care at the January meeting.
Page 11	26 October 2022	Active Northumberland Annual Outcome Report 2021-22 including Service Plan Successes 2021-22	RESOLVED that that Active Northumberland's Annual Outcomes Report 2021-22, be received.	The Committee will continue to receive annual reports of the performance of Active Northumberland.
9.	7 December 2022	Electric Vehicle Charging Tariff Setting Methodology	RESOLVED that that the report be received.	No further action is required at this stage.
10.	7 December 2022	Corporate Feedback Performance 2021/2022	RESOLVED that the report be received.	The Committee will continue to receive annual reports on Corporate Feedback.

This page is intentionally left blank