

County Council

12 December 2017

Agenda

Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines.

<http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on **07776 997946** or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.



To: **Members of the County Council**

Notice of a Meeting of the County Council

Tuesday, 12 December 2017 at 10.30 am

County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P.G. Clark".

P.G. Clark
Chief Executive

December 2017

Committee Officer: **Deborah Miller**

Tel: 07920 084239; E-Mail: deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that Items 3, 7 and 8 will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is to provide an *aide-memoire* to assist the clerk of the meeting in the drafting of minutes.

Members are asked to sign the attendance book which will be available in the corridor outside the Council Chamber. A list of members present at the meeting will be compiled from this book.

A buffet luncheon will be provided for Council Members.

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 42)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 07 November 2017 (**CC1**) and to receive information arising from them.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note**

Members are reminded that they must declare their interests orally at the meeting and specify (a) the nature of the interest and (b) which items on the agenda are the relevant items. This applies also to items where members have interests by virtue of their membership of a district council in Oxfordshire.

4. **Official Communications**

5. **Appointments**

To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.

6. **Petitions and Public Address**

7. **Questions with Notice from Members of the Public**

8. **Questions with Notice from Members of the Council**

9. **Report of the Cabinet (Pages 43 - 44)**

Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 28 November 2017 (CC9).

10. **Treasury Management Mid Term Review (2017/18) (Pages 45 - 64)**

Report by Director of Finance (CC10).

The report sets out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the first half of the financial year 2017/18 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report includes Debt and Investment activity, Prudential Indicator monitoring and forecast interest receivable and payable for the financial year.

Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the revision to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement & Annual Investment Strategy 2017/18.

11. **Annual Partnerships Update (Pages 65 - 110)**

Report by the Assistant Chief Executive (CC11).

The report provides an update on the activities of the Oxfordshire-wide partnerships that are key for building thriving communities and progressing county-wide priorities around health and wellbeing, safeguarding, community safety and economic growth.

Each partnership report addresses the following points:

- The current focus for the Partnership;
- The personnel (Chairman and supporting staff) of the Partnership
- The Partnership's governance arrangements;
- The Partnership's key achievements in the last year;
- The aims for the Partnership in the year ahead;
- The key challenges for the Partnership and how these will be addressed going forward.

Council is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS WITH NOTICE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE PROPER OFFICER IN WRITING BY 9.00 AM ON THE MONDAY BEFORE THE MEETING

12. Motion From Councillor Kieron Mallon

“We as elected members of this Council deplore the use of social media to denigrate members of the public and elected members at all levels of public life.

In the words of the Prime Minister:

“All of us should have due care and attention to the way we refer to other people and should show those within public life the respect they deserve.”

And in the words of the Leader of Her Majesty’s opposition:

“So, I say to all activists, cut the personal abuse, cut the cyber bullying online.”

We therefore pledge that as elected members and representatives of our political parties we will:

- not ourselves misuse social media;
- seek out and stop any personal attacks by our own political parties, the elected members of our parties, paid up members and activists of our political parties; and
- show due respect to the people we represent and to our elected colleagues.”

13. Motion From Councillor Emily Smith

“The Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (OSCB) Annual Report highlights a 21% increase in the number of children being educated at home. Many children being electively home educated thrive academically and socially in this setting, but others do not. This Council offers some information and support to families and children who are educated at home but contact with us is voluntary and take up is inconsistent.

Professionals have limited opportunities to identify those children who are not receiving a satisfactory education and for safeguarding concerns to be identified. Parents can refuse access to the home and the child, which poses a safeguarding risk, especially in the case of vulnerable children.

This Council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to government requesting local authorities be given greater powers and funding to access and assess children who are home educated, to help ensure they are receiving a satisfactory education and are safe."

14. Motion From Councillor Jamila Azad

"We all have the right to be treated without discrimination. This Council is gravely concerned with reports of significant increases in racially motivated crimes in Oxford since the EU Referendum from an average of 16 per month to an average of 23 per month. This Council takes pride in Oxfordshire's diversity and community cohesion and condemns all acts of racism, xenophobia, homophobia and anti-religious expressions against any religion. This Council is committed to work with all our partners to challenge prejudice.

All Hate Crimes are wrong, but that which is motivated by hatred and prejudice because of race, faith, sexual orientation or Gender identity are particularly offensive. In Britain today we are from a rich mix of races, culture, beliefs attitudes and life styles. Tackling hate crimes matters because of the damage it causes to the victim and his/her family; also effectively tackling it can help foster strong and positive relations between different sections of the community and support community cohesion.

The lead from tackling hate crimes must come from local level, with professionals, the voluntary sector and communities working together to deal with local issues.

This Council asks the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council to write to the Prime Minister with a request for an independent review of hate crime penalties open to the courts, including measures to tackle online hatred and abuse."

15. Motion From Councillor Lynda Atkins

"The Oxford to Cambridge Expressway has been the subject of much comment and concern within the County. The process which is proposed means that Highways England will select a route with no opportunity for members of the public or their representatives to comment on the assessment of need for the road or the local impact of any particular proposed route. This Council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to Highways England, the National Infrastructure Commission and the relevant government departments calling for a Public Enquiry into the need for the road and the selection of a route, so that everyone involved has the opportunity to have their views properly taken into account, and to set up a cross-party Committee to look at all aspects of the impact of the Expressway."

16. Motion From Councillor Jenny Hannaby

“Council agrees that the intention of Universal Credit (UC) to make benefits less complicated and to allow those in low paid work to keep more of their wages is a good idea, but believes that the evidence demonstrates that the UC process is flawed and causing unnecessary hardship to local families.

Council notes that UC was deliberately introduced on a slow rollout so that any issues could be seen and corrected before the benefit was introduced to all claimants.

Council further notes that the evidence of district councils and others across the country is that UC is causing huge increases in rent arrears and in general debt levels amongst claimants, many of whom have never been in debt before. In addition, evidence demonstrates that most private landlords and even some housing associations are refusing to accept tenants receiving UC, leading to an increase in those registering as homeless and seeking temporary accommodation.

Council therefore resolves to call on the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, making these points, requesting that the Government addresses these issues, and that the roll-out is halted until all problems are fixed.”

Pre-Meeting Briefing

There will be a pre-meeting briefing at County Hall on **Monday 11 December at 10.15 am** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders