

To: Members of the Audit Committee

Notice of a Meeting of the Audit Committee

Wednesday, 22 June 2011 at 10.00 am

County Hall

Peter G. Clark.

Peter G. Clark
County Solicitor

June 2011

Contact Officer: **Geoff Malcolm,**
Tel: (01865) 815904; E-Mail: geoff.malcolm@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Membership

Councillors

David Wilmshurst
Alan Armitage
Tony Crabbe

Roy Darke
A.M. Lovatt
Charles Mathew

Larry Sanders
C.H. Shouler
Lawrie Stratford

Co-optee

Dr Geoff Jones

Notes:

- ***There is no informal pre-meeting development session prior to the commencement of this meeting***
- ***The Cabinet Member for Finance & Property has a standing invitation to attend and speak on agenda items within his portfolio***
- ***The Chairman (or Deputy Chairman) of the Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee has a standing invitation to attend and speak on agenda items***
- ***Date of next meeting: 7 July 2011***

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Part 9.1 of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

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.

AGENDA

1. **Election of Chairman for the 2011/12 Council Year**
2. **Election of Deputy Chairman for the 2011/12 Council Year**
3. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
4. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note**
5. **Petitions and Public Address**
6. **Business Strategies**

Briefing by the Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and Directors on the Corporate and Directorate Business Strategies and the process of governance that underpins the delivery of the Strategies.

7. **Department for Communities & Local Government - Consultation Paper on Local Public Audit**

Members are invited to comment on the draft response (**AU7** - to be circulated separately following the Audit Working Group on 16 June 2011) to the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) consultation on the future for Local Public Audit. Following the Committee meeting, a final version will be submitted to the DCLG before their deadline of 30 June 2011.

1:00 Close of meeting

An explanation of abbreviations and acronyms is available on request from the Assistant Head of Finance (Audit).
