

County Council

17 May 2016

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 (01865) 815270 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, 17 May 2016 at 10.00 am

Council Chamber - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND



P.G. Clark
Head of Paid Service

May 2016

Contact Officer: **Deborah Miller**
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In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that Items 3, 7 and 12 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

AGENDA

- 1. Election of Chairman for the 2016/17 Council Year**
- 2. Election of the Vice-Chairman for the 2016/17 Council Year**
- 3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 40)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2016 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.

4. **Apologies for Absence**

5. **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.

6. **Official Communications**

7. **Petitions and Public Address**

8. **Appointments**

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

9. **Cabinet Membership and Delegation of Cabinet Functions**

Report by the Leader of the Council (**CC9**) – to be published with the Schedule of Business.

Council is RECOMMENDED to note the delegations made by the Leader of the Council with regard to the functions of the Cabinet.

10. **Committees and Review of political Balance (Pages 41 - 58)**

Report by the Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer (**CC10**).

The Council is required by the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 to review the political balance on its committees on an annual basis. The report sets out how the rules operate and seeks approval for adjustments which are necessary to achieve the balance across and within committees to comply with the rules.

In summary the changes necessary are:

- (a) to obtain balance across the scrutiny committees, the Green Group has a seat on the Performance & Scrutiny Committee. There are no unfilled seats;
- (b) to obtain balance across the other committees of the Council and overall the Green Group has a seat on either the Remuneration Committee or the Planning & Regulation Committee;
- (c) Once political balance has been applied there remains one unfilled seat (either on Remuneration or Planning & Regulation Committee) which must be

allocated to the independent members of the Council.

The Council is RECOMMENDED:

- (a) ***to confirm the political balance on committees shown in Annex 2 to the report;***
- (b) ***to appoint to committees the councillors and co-opted members shown in Annex 3, subject to any changes reported in any amended schedule and at the meeting;***

11. Scrutiny Committees - Annual Report (Pages 59 - 82)

The report is structured to reflect the activity of the Council's three scrutiny committees; Performance Scrutiny, Education Scrutiny and Health Overview & Scrutiny and the Cabinet Advisory Groups. The report highlights the work carried out by each Committee to scrutinise service activity and performance as well as Cabinet decisions taken over the past year.

Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report.

12. Officer Scheme of Delegation (Pages 83 - 84)

At its Annual Meeting, Council is required to agree the officer scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution. The Scheme of Delegation forms Part 7.2 of the Constitution and gives delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service, directors and to other chief officers whose titles and/or areas of responsibility are set out in Part 2, Article 13 of the Constitution.

This report highlights some minor amendments to the Scheme of Delegation and to Article 13 principally changes taking place since the departure of the Chief Executive last year.

Council is RECOMMENDED to note the amendments to Article 13 and to Part 7.2 of the Constitution and to approve the Scheme of Officer Delegation (Part 7.2) as amended.

Pre-Meeting Briefing

There will be a pre-meeting briefing at County Hall on **Monday 16 May 2016 at 10.15 am** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders