

A meeting of the **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** will be held in **CIVIC SUITE 0.1A, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON PE29 3TN** on **WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2016** at **7:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

**Contact  
(01480)**

## **APOLOGIES**

**1. MINUTES** (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2016.

**M Sage  
388169**

**2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

To receive from Members declarations as to disclosable pecuniary and other interests in relation to any Agenda Item.

**3. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT**  
(Pages 13 - 14)

To receive the Corporate Governance Committee Progress Report.

**M Sage  
388169**

**4. ANNUAL REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) & ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS (EIR) ACTS** (Pages 15 - 18)

To receive a report on requests for information received by the Council under the Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Acts and to highlight any issues encountered and actions to be taken to improve performance.

**M Hudson  
07956 546536**

**5. DISPOSALS AND ACQUISITIONS POLICY: LAND AND PROPERTY - UPDATE ON THRESHOLDS** (Pages 19 - 22)

To receive a report regarding the thresholds included in the Disposals and Acquisitions Policy: Land and Property.

**C Mason  
388157**

**6. CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE** (Pages 23 - 36)

To update the Committee on national changes to 'proper practice' with regard to corporate governance and to recommend to Council the adoption of a new Code of Corporate Governance (CoCG).

**D Harwood  
388115**

**7. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT: SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**  
(Pages 37 - 40)

To receive a report that identifies the significant issues for inclusion in the 2015/16 Annual Governance Statement.

**D Harwood**  
**388115**

**8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

To resolve:

that the press and public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

**9. REVIEW OF BENEFITS RISK BASED VERIFICATION POLICY**  
(Pages 41 - 60)

To consider a report regarding revisions to the Risk Based Verification Policy.

**A Burns**  
**388122**  
**B Huggins**  
**388479**

Dated this 12 day of July 2016



Head of Paid Service

**Notes**

**1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

- (1) *Members are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests and unless you have obtained dispensation, cannot discuss or vote on the matter at the meeting and must also leave the room whilst the matter is being debated or voted on.*
- (2) *A Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest if it -*
  - (a) *relates to you, or*
  - (b) *is an interest of -*
    - (i) *your spouse or civil partner; or*
    - (ii) *a person with whom you are living as husband and wife; or*
    - (iii) *a person with whom you are living as if you were civil partners*

*and you are aware that the other person has the interest.*
- (3) *Disclosable pecuniary interests includes -*
  - (a) *any employment or profession carried out for profit or gain;*
  - (b) *any financial benefit received by the Member in respect of expenses incurred carrying out his or her duties as a Member (except from the Council);*
  - (c) *any current contracts with the Council;*
  - (d) *any beneficial interest in land/property within the Council's area;*
  - (e) *any licence for a month or longer to occupy land in the Council's area;*
  - (f) *any tenancy where the Council is landlord and the Member (or person in (2)(b) above) has a beneficial interest; or*
  - (g) *a beneficial interest (above the specified level) in the shares of any body which has a place of business or land in the Council's area.*

### **Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests**

- (4) *If a Member has a non-statutory disclosable interest then you are required to declare that interest, but may remain to discuss and vote providing you do not breach the overall Nolan principles.*
- (5) *A Member has a non-statutory disclosable interest where -*
- (a) a decision in relation to the business being considered might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing of you or a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the council tax payers, rate payers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the authority's administrative area, or*
  - (b) it relates to or is likely to affect a disclosable pecuniary interest, but in respect of a member of your family (other than specified in (2)(b) above) or a person with whom you have a close association, or*
  - (c) it relates to or is likely to affect any body –*
    - (i) exercising functions of a public nature; or*
    - (ii) 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) of which you are a Member or in a position of control or management.*

*and that interest is not a disclosable pecuniary interest.*

## **2. Filming, Photography and Recording at Council Meetings**

*The District Council supports the principles of openness and transparency in its decision making and permits filming, recording and the taking of photographs at its meetings that are open to the public. It also welcomes the use of social networking and micro-blogging websites (such as Twitter and Facebook) to communicate with people about what is happening at meetings. Arrangements for these activities should operate in accordance with guidelines agreed by the Council and available via the following link [filming, photography and recording at council meetings.pdf](#) or on request from the Democratic Services Team. The Council understands that some members of the public attending its meetings may not wish to be filmed. The Chairman of the meeting will facilitate this preference by ensuring that any such request not to be recorded is respected.*

**Please contact Mrs Melanie Sage, Democratic Services, Tel: 01480 388007 / email [Melanie.Sage@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:Melanie.Sage@huntingdonshire.gov.uk) if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee/Panel.**

**Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.**

**Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.**

[Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website – www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk \(under Councils and Democracy\).](#)

**If you would like a translation of Agenda/Minutes/Reports or would like a large text version or an audio version please contact the Elections & Democratic Services Manager and we will try to accommodate your needs.**

***Emergency Procedure***

*In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit.*