

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, 12 JUNE 2019** at **7:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

**Contact
(01480)**

APOLOGIES

1. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 10)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 27th March 2019 and 15th May 2019.

**H Peacey
388007**

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

3. UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT AND REGISTER OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (Pages 11 - 18)

To consider a report on the Code of Conduct and Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

**T Batha
388924**

4. CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS - UPDATE (Pages 19 - 22)

To provide a summary and update of completed or ongoing complaints received regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct under the Localism Act 2011 since the start of the year.

**L Jablonska
388004**

5. EXCLUSION OF THE 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 or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

6. ANNUAL REVIEW OF BENEFITS RISK BASED VERIFICATION POLICY (Pages 23 - 40)

To consider a report by the Revenues and Benefits Manager on the Risk Based Verification Policy.

**A Burns
388122**

7. RE-ADMISSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve:

that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

8. REVIEW OF FRAUD INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY (Pages 41 - 52)

To consider a report by the Corporate Fraud Manager containing a summary of the activity of the Council's Corporate Fraud Team in 2018/19, including the number of investigations undertaken, types of investigation and the value of the fraud identified.

L Martin
388861

9. WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY, GUIDANCE AND CONCERNS RECEIVED (Pages 53 - 64)

To consider a report by the Internal Audit & Risk Manager on the outcome of a review of the Whistleblowing Policy and Guidance and on the allegations received under the Policy in the year ending March 2019.

D Harwood
388115

10. INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE: ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19 (Pages 65 - 84)

To consider the annual report and opinion of the Internal Audit and Risk Manager.

D Harwood
388115

11. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (Pages 85 - 98)

To consider the Annual Report to the Council in respect of the year ending March 2019 on the work that has been undertaken by the Corporate Governance Committee.

D Harwood
388115

12. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT (Pages 99 - 100)

To receive the Corporate Governance Committee Progress Report.

H Peacey
388007

Dated this 4 day of June 2019



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 Habbiba Peacey, Democratic Services Officer, Tel: 01480 388169 / email: Habbiba.Peacey@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.

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.