

**Date:** Thursday 17 October 2024 at 4.30 pm

**Venue:** Board Room, Dunedin House, Columbia Dr. Stockton on Tees, TS18 2NB

**Cllr Robert Cook (Leader)**

Cllr Pauline Beall  
Cllr Nigel Cooke  
Cllr Lisa Evans  
Cllr Clare Besford  
Cllr Steve Nelson  
Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE

**AGENDA**

- 1 Evacuation Procedure**
- 2 Apologies for Absence**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 12 September 2024 (Pages 7 - 14)
- 5 Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) Annual Complaints Report** (Pages 15 - 20)
- 6 Powering Our Future** (Pages 21 - 40)
- 7 The Stockton-on-Tees Plan 2024-2028** (Pages 41 - 74)
- 8 'Going for Gold Family Fun Day'**

As part of the Council's commitment to tackle inequality and poverty in the borough a series of Here to Help events are planned throughout 2024/25. This report provides an overview of the successful summer Here to Help 'Going for Gold Family Fun Day', summarising key outcomes and learning which will be to be incorporated into future planning. Attached at Appendix 1 is a detailed post event briefing. (Pages 75 - 90)

- 9 Scrutiny Review of Narrowing the Gap in Educational Attainment** (Pages 91 - 208)
- 10 School Performance 2023-24** (Pages 209 - 222)
- 11 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2024** (Pages 223 - 288)
- 12 Peer Assurance Challenge of Adult Social Care by the LGA and CQC Assurance Update** (Pages 289 - 368)
- Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (the Council) commissioned an independent peer assurance challenge by the LGA to assess the ability of the adult social care service to deliver good care and support to people, as well as preparedness for a Care Quality Commission (CQC) assessment. On 23rd September, we received formal notification of the CQC onsite assessment, which will take place in the week commencing 25th November for 3-4 days.
- The LGA assurance peer challenge completed in July 2024, mirrored the CQC assurance methodology and, whilst it did not provide a rating as we will receive from CQC, it did provide feedback on strengths and areas for improvement.
- Overall, the LGA assurance peer challenge feedback was very positive and identified some strong practice, a supportive and committed workforce and effective leadership and partnership arrangements. It also identified scope for developing our emerging approaches for co-production, recording and record-keeping and to support evidencing of strengths-based working.
- The current action plan (developed in November 2023) has been updated to reflect this feedback and will guide the service to make further improvements in its planning and delivery of care and support to the people of Stockton-on-Tees.
- 13 Customer Service Excellence** (Pages 369 - 372)

**Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting**

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

Contact: Democratic Services Officer, Peter Bell on email [peter.bell@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:peter.bell@stockton.gov.uk)

**KEY - Declarable interests are:-**

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's)
- Other Registerable Interests (ORI's)
- Non Registerable Interests (NRI's)

**Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance**



**Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation</b>	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
<b>Contracts</b>	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
<b>Land and property</b>	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
<b>Licences</b>	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
<b>Corporate tenancies</b>	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
<b>Securities</b>	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where— (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners have a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

\* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

\* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

## Table 2 – Other Registerable Interest

You must register as an Other Registrable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body
  - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
  - (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 general control or management