

Date: Monday 4 December 2023 at 4.30 pm

Venue: Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library, The Square,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1TU

Cllr Robert Cook (Leader)

Cllr Nigel Cooke
Cllr Clare Gamble
Cllr Steve Nelson

Cllr Lisa Evans
Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy
Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE

AGENDA

- 1 Evacuation Procedure (Pages 7 - 8)**
- 2 Apologies for Absence**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Reference from the Council, Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth (Pages 9 - 12)**

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

KEY - Declarable interests are:-

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

Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance

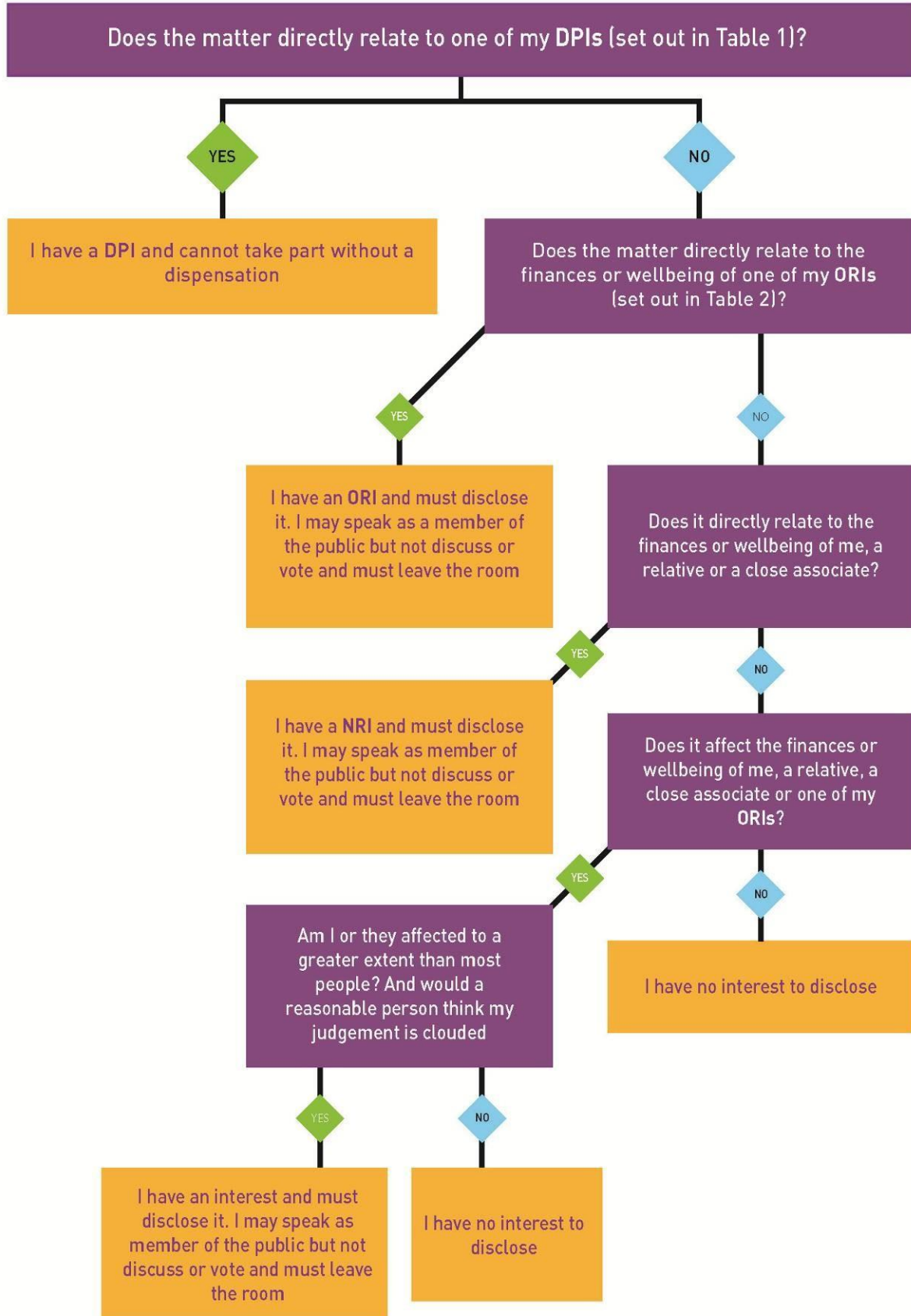


Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
Sponsorship	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.
Contracts	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.
Land and property	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.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	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.
Securities	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

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Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library **Evacuation Procedure & Housekeeping**

If the fire or bomb alarm should sound please exit by the nearest emergency exit. The Fire alarm is a continuous ring and the Bomb alarm is the same as the fire alarm however it is an intermittent ring.

If the Fire Alarm rings exit through the nearest available emergency exit and form up in Municipal Buildings Car Park.

The assembly point for everyone if the Bomb alarm is sounded is the car park at the rear of Splash on Church Road.

The emergency exits are located via the doors between the 2 projector screens. The key coded emergency exit door will automatically disengage when the alarm sounds.

The Toilets are located on the Ground floor corridor of Municipal Buildings next to the emergency exit. Both the ladies and gents toilets are located on the right hand side.

Microphones

During the meeting, members of the Committee, and officers in attendance, will have access to a microphone. Please use the microphones, when directed to speak by the Chair, to ensure you are heard by the Committee.

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Agenda Item 4

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

4 DECEMBER 2023

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM

CABINET DECISION ITEM

Leader of the Council – Councillor Bob Cook

REFERENCE FROM THE COUNCIL, DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

SUMMARY

This report addresses the motion submitted by Councillor Niall Innes at the Council meeting on 22 November 2023, concerning the proposed introduction of a new 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth' role. In line with Council Procedure Rule 3.42, this motion has been automatically referred to the Cabinet for further consideration.

Councillor Innes's motion challenges the introduction of the 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth' position, citing a lack of full Council consultation and questioning the allocation of resources. The motion proposes reallocating the intended salary for this role towards employing civic enforcement officers/street wardens and establishing a 'Community Safety Hub' in Ingleby Barwick.

THE MOTION

The motion submitted to the Council Reads:

"The Cabinet and Senior Leadership of this Council have recently sought to introduce a new 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth' without consulting the full Council.

Despite the exercise undertaken last year in which this council provided 'Golden Goodbyes' and reduced Director positions while increasing salaries, it has now been decided that a further Management position is required at an estimated cost of over £120,000 per year to the Taxpayers of Stockton.

Rather than continue to spend residents' money on yet another Director, this motion urges the Cabinet to think again and to ensure that the money is used for public good and suggest that it be used to employ more enforcement officers/street wardens and create a 'Community Safety Hub' in Ingleby Barwick.

The salary set aside for this single director could be used to recruit as many as three civic enforcement officers / street wardens and space could be set aside in property already owned by this authority to host a community security hub, providing a base from which enforcement officers and the police could operate.

This motion seeks to ensure that resident's money is being used on initiatives that deliver for them, and keep our communities safe, not create more bureaucracy and more waste!"

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet is required to decide whether to reconsider its original decision regarding this new role and subsequently inform the full Council of this decision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Cabinet agree to note the motion, consider any related representations, and determine whether there is merit in revisiting their initial decision.

DETAIL

1. The Cabinet has made a decision to provide funding for a new chief officer post, the 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth'. This decision is executive in nature and has been made within the Cabinet's remit.
2. The appointment of a chief officer, is a non-executive decision, it falls under the Council's jurisdiction and has been delegated to an appointments panel. The implementation of the Cabinet's funding decision necessitates a non-executive action by the Council.
3. The motion submitted to the Council raises concerns about the new post, urging the Cabinet to reconsider its funding decision. This motion is advisory, the full Council does not have the authority to require the Cabinet to reconsider its decision.
4. The Cabinet maintains the discretion to either note the motion or reconsider or uphold its decision. While the motion from the Council may be considered, it does not compel the Cabinet to alter its decision.
5. The rationale for the original decision to introduce the new role is detailed in the Cabinet report titled "Powering our Future - Senior Management Capacity Review" (CAB/16/23).
6. The arguments for revisiting the decision are set out in the motion.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

7. The proposal's implications in terms of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, health inequalities, consultation and public engagement, carbon neutrality, and area or ward impact have been considered. No significant issues have been identified. The proposed reallocation of funds from the director role to community safety initiatives could impact community safety and wellbeing, but the benefits outlined in the original report would not be delivered.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. There are no new financial implications arising from a reconsideration of the decision. Should Cabinet decide to revoke their original decision then a fresh decision would be required to commit funding allocated to a new proposal.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. Most functions, including executive decisions, fall under the Cabinet's responsibility. The Full Council's role is more limited, and it cannot override Cabinet decisions on executive matters. When the Cabinet makes an executive decision within the budget and policy framework, it is exercising its authority as outlined in The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities)

(England) Regulations 2000. The Full Council have no power to determine an executive matter. The Motion has gone through the appropriate process and cannot progress further once the Cabinet have considered the issue.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

10. Cabinet Decision and Report, "Powering our Future - Senior Management Capacity Review" (CAB/16/23).

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