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21 January 2013

To the Members of the Council,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held in the Council Chamber at these Offices on Wednesday 30 January 2013 at 6.00 pm for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda.



Chief Executive

Members of the Council:

S R Nicholas (Chairman)	M R Eddy	K E Morris
P S Le Chevalier (Vice-Chairman)	R J Frost	M J Ovenden
J S Back	B Gardner	A S Pollitt
B W Bano	J H Goodwin	J A Rook
T J Bartlett	D Hannent	M A Russell
P M Beresford	P J Hawkins	F J W Scales
T A Bond	P G Heath	A R Smith
P M Brivio	G J Hood	C J Smith
B W Butcher	S J Jones	J M Smith
P I Carter	L A Keen	R J Thompson
S S Chandler	N S Kenton	J F Tranter
N J Collor	S M Le Chevalier	R S Walkden
M D Conolly	G Lymer	P Walker
G Cowan	S C Manion	P A Watkins
J A Cronk	K Mills	<i>Vacancy</i>

AGENDA

1 **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.

Where a Member has a new or registered Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Where a Member is declaring an Other Significant Interest (OSI) they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

3 **MINUTES** (Pages 6 - 14)

To confirm the attached Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2012.

4 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet or Head of Paid Service.

5 **LEADER'S TIME**

To receive an oral report at the meeting from the Leader (and Cabinet) on the business of the Executive or on any topic or subject that it is felt should be brought to the attention of the Council.

(Up to fifteen minutes is allowed for the Report of the Leader (and Cabinet), up to ten minutes is allowed for the Leader of the Major Opposition Group (or his nominee) to respond, up to five minutes is allowed for the Leader of any other Opposition Group (or his nominee) to respond. The Leader is allowed up to five minutes as a Right of Reply or 25% of the time given to the Opposition Group Leaders, whichever is the greatest.)

6 **SEAT ALLOCATION AND GROUP APPOINTMENTS**

To receive from Group Leaders any changes to seat allocations or appointments.

(Note: Any changes must be within the approved allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules (where applicable).)

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

Up to 60 minutes is allowed for this part of the meeting unless extended by the Chairman of Council on a motion moved, duly seconded and approved by the Council. Members may ask one supplementary question in addition to their original question.

To receive answers in respect of questions from Members of the Council to a Member of the Executive asked in accordance with Rule 12 of the Council Procedure Rules.

- (1) Councillor A S Pollitt will ask the Portfolio Holder for Health, Well-Being and Public Protection:

Could the Portfolio Holder for Health, Well-Being and Public Protection inform the Council if there has been an increase in public health funerals in the past two years in the Dover District and does he expect that there will be a growing trend for public health funerals, which will have a bearing on future budgets?

- (2) Councillor P M Brivio will ask the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Could the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management inform the Council of the number of agencies which manage property on behalf of DDC?

- (3) Councillor P Walker will ask the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance:

Dover District Council is one of the most deprived Districts in Kent and yet there are businesses that pay far more in business rates in this District, compared to equivalent businesses in other parts of the region. Could the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance explain the reason for this?

- (4) Councillor P M Brivio will ask the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Can the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management tell the Council what the latest situation is over Bushy Ruff House, which is in a state of dereliction?

- (5) Councillor P Walker will ask the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Could the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management inform the Council as to the number of empty business properties in the Dover District?

- (6) Councillor M R Eddy will ask the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Can the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management explain on what authority he allowed to be issued, and was quoted in a council press release of 8 January in which a commitment was given to "freeze" car parking charges prior to any report having being considered by Cabinet?

- (7) Councillor P Walker will ask the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Planning:

Now that Dover District Council is utilising the services of consultants within the planning section, can the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Planning confirm that all planning applications will be fully processed within target times?

- (8) Councillor L A Keen will ask the Portfolio Holder for Community, Housing and Youth:

Will the Portfolio Holder for Community, Housing and Youth explain how this Council will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the new youth service provision arrangements throughout the District and will this be done partly through the Scrutiny process?

8 **PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF ORDINARY MEETINGS 2013/14** (Pages 15 - 17)

To consider the attached report of the Director of Governance.

In the event that any Member wishes to propose Option B, thereby changing the provisional Programme of Ordinary Meetings, they are asked to contact the Democratic Services Manager prior to the date of the meeting at which this report is considered in order that the feasibility of rearranging the meeting can be established.

9 **DELIVERING EFFECTIVE SERVICES - CHANGES TO THE CHIEF OFFICER STRUCTURE (CMT)** (Pages 18 - 33)

To consider the attached report of the Head of Paid Service.

10 **COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME** (Pages 34 - 72)

The Cabinet at its meeting on 7 January 2013 considered the attached report of the Director of Finance, Housing and Community upon the Council Tax Benefit Localisation. The Cabinet recommended the following to Council:

"It was agreed to recommend to Council that the proposals for Dover's local Council Tax Support Scheme be adopted."

11 **COUNCIL TAX BASE 2013/14** (Pages 73 - 77)

To consider the attached report of the Director of Finance, Housing and Community.

12 **PURCHASE OF NOISE RECORDING EQUIPMENT** (Pages 78 - 84)

The Cabinet at its meeting on 7 January 2013 considered the attached report of the Director of Environment and Corporate Assets upon the Purchase of Noise Recording Equipment. The Cabinet recommended the following to Council:

"It was agreed to recommend to Council that the replacement of the noise monitoring equipment be included within the Capital Programme and, subject thereto, that its purchase be approved."

13 **MOTION**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor B W Bano will move:

"In view of the recently published concerns over poor quality of care of elderly and vulnerable people, Council requests the Shadow Health and Well Being Board to consider taking steps, including the appointment of a lead member, to ensure that all necessary quality assurance and other mechanisms are in place to ensure that these issues are addressed to assure the health and well being of local elderly and vulnerable people."

14 **URGENT BUSINESS TIME**

To consider any other items deemed by the Chairman of the Council to be urgent in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

Access to Meetings and Information

- Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council, its Committees and Sub-Committees. You may remain present throughout them except during the consideration of exempt or confidential information.
- All meetings are held at the Council Offices, Whitfield unless otherwise indicated on the front page of the agenda. There is disabled access via the Council Chamber entrance and a disabled toilet is available in the foyer. In addition, there is a PA system and hearing loop within the Council Chamber.
- Agenda papers are published five clear working days before the meeting. Alternatively, a limited supply of agendas will be available at the meeting, free of charge, and all agendas, reports and minutes can be viewed and downloaded from our website www.dover.gov.uk. Minutes are normally published within five working days of each meeting. All agenda papers and minutes are available for public inspection for a period of six years from the date of the meeting. Basic translations of specific reports and the Minutes are available on request in 12 different languages.
- If you require any further information about the contents of this agenda or your right to gain access to information held by the Council please contact Louise Cooke, Democratic Services Manager, telephone: (01304) 872352 or email: louise.cooke@dover.gov.uk for details.

Large print copies of this agenda can be supplied on request.