

AGENDA



For a meeting of the
COUNCIL
to be held on
MONDAY, 29 FEBRUARY 2016
at
2.00 PM
in the
COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNCIL OFFICES, ST. PETER'S HILL, GRANTHAM. NG31 6PZ
Beverly Agass, Chief Executive

Members of the Council are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed below.

At the start of this meeting, prayers will begin at 2pm followed immediately by the Public Open Forum.

1. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

The public open forum will commence after prayers and the following formal business of the Council will commence at **2.30 p.m.** or whenever the public open forum ends, if earlier.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are asked to disclose any interests in matters for consideration at the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2016

(Enclosure)

5. COMMUNICATIONS (INCLUDING CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS)

(Enclosure)

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6. DETERMINATION OF BUDGET 2016/17 (AND INDICATIVE FOR 2017/18 AND 2018/19) - GENERAL FUND, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND ASSOCIATED CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

Report number CFM358 of the Leader of the Council, the Executive Member, Resources and the Executive Member, Housing. **(Enclosure)**

7. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Report number LDS168 of the Chairman of the Constitution Committee. **(Enclosure)**

8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Report number LDS169 of the Chairman of the Welland Independent Remuneration Panel. **(Enclosure)**

9. QUESTIONS WITHOUT DISCUSSION

To note the list of questions asked under Council procedure rule 11.1 as circulated at the start of the meeting and their reference to the relevant Policy Development Group.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION GIVEN UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12:

From: Councillor Ashley Baxter

The council notes that:

1. Across the country, many public services have been outsourced to private sector providers. Local government outsourcing doubled under the last parliament.
2. The award of tenders to private sector partners is often beset with difficulty. It is not a guarantee of efficiency or value for money.
3. Outsourcing has often failed to deliver the expected savings to the taxpayer, and failed to lead to better service provision. In-house provision can provide better value for money and more flexibility at a time of severe budget cuts.
4. Research shows that the public want to see more transparency and accountability over outsourcing contracts, and they want public ownership to be the default for running services.

The council believes that:

5. Transparency is needed in the provision of public services. Public service contracts and performance and financial data of providers should always be available. Freedom of Information legislation should apply to private companies running public services.

6. Accountability is needed in the provision of public services. Meaningful consultation with the public and other stakeholders regarding service delivery objectives should take place before any outsourcing or privatisation.
7. Public ownership should be the default, so a public interest case must be made for any outsourcing or privatisation. There should always be an in-house bid on the table if services are contracted out (or an explanation given why not).
8. Social value must be the over-riding priority whenever contracts are awarded.

The council resolves to:

9. Consult local residents and stakeholders before Council services (above the value of £50,000/annum) are outsourced to the private sector.
10. Give consideration to in-house provision before the tender process commences for new contracts as well as for existing contracts due to expire.
11. Publicly commit to the principles of transparency and accountability in relation to the provision of public services.

The deadline for notices of motion for the Council meeting on Thursday, 21 April 2016 is 2pm on Friday, 8 April 2016.