

Meeting: **Council**
Date: **19 December 2018**
Time: **7.00 pm**
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All Members of the Council**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a meeting of the Council on the date and at the time and place shown above. The meeting will be open to the press and public.

Anyone who wishes to have information on any matter arising on the Agenda which is not fully covered in these papers is requested to give notice prior to the meeting to the Chairman or appropriate officer.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. Although unlikely, no guarantee can be made that Members of the public in attendance will not appear in the webcast footage. It is therefore recommended that anyone with an objection to being filmed does not enter the council chamber.



Head of Paid Service

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**

Members of the Council should declare any discloseable pecuniary

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

Contact Jemma West – Tel: 01303 853369
Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

interest or any other significant interests in any item/s on this agenda.

3. Minutes (Pages 5 - 22)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the council held on 28 November 2018 and to authorise the Chairman of the Council to sign them as a correct record.

4. Chairman's Communications

5. Petitions

There are no petitions to be presented.

6. Questions from the Public

There are no questions from the public.

7. Questions from Councillors

(Questions can be found on www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk from noon 2 days before the meeting. They can be found in the A-Z index under Q)

Up to 45 minutes is allowed for questions from councillors.

8. Announcements of the Leader of the Council

To receive a report from the Leader of the Council on the business of the cabinet and on matters that the leader considers should be drawn to the council's attention. The leader shall have 10 minutes to make his announcements.

The opposition group will have an opportunity to reply to the leader's remarks. The opposition group leader shall have 5 minutes to respond after which the Leader of the Council will have a right of reply. Any right of reply will be for a maximum duration of 5 minutes.

9. Opposition Business

The UKIP Group has raised the following matter:

“ The UKIP Group would wish to bring our concern to the attention of the Council in the matter of Councillors Questions and the restrictions attached to them.“.

Debates on opposition business shall be limited to 15 minutes. If the time limit is reached or the debate concludes earlier, the leader of the group raising the item shall have a right of reply.

The Council shall:

- a) Note the issue raised and take no further action;
- b) Refer the issue to the cabinet or relevant overview and scrutiny committee, as the case may be for their observations before deciding whether to make a decision on the issue;
- c) Agree to examine the matter as part of a future scrutiny programme;
- d) Adopt the issue raised by opposition business provided that the decision so made is within the policy framework and budget.

10. Motions on Notice

There were no motions on notice.

11. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/20 (Pages 23 - 120)

This report recommends the adoption of a replacement Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2019/2020, which is to be implemented with effect from 1 April 2019.

12. Councillors Access to Information (Pages 121 - 130)

Report A/18/17 considers the recommendation of cabinet on the issue relating to a Members right to access Council documents and information, and in particular to access legal advice and commercially sensitive information. This report outlines the findings of the Task Group (established by the Leader) who were instructed to discuss and investigate the above issue.

*Explanations as to different levels of interest

(a) A member with a discloseable pecuniary interest (DPI) must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares a DPI in relation to any item must leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted).

(b) A member with an other significant interest (OSI) under the local code of conduct relating to items on this agenda must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to remove him/herself to the public gallery before the debate and not vote on that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the member may address the meeting in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

(c) Members may make voluntary announcements of other interests which are not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b). These are announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:

- membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
- where a member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person, or
- where an item would affect the well-being of a member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position.

Voluntary announcements do not prevent the member from participating or voting on the relevant item