

Minutes of the meeting of the Dispensations Sub-Committee held on 12 June 2017

Present

Members: Councillor Andy Crump
Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi
Councillor Bill Gifford

Officers: Sarah Duxbury, Head of Law and Governance
Janet Purcell, Democratic Services Manager

1. General

(1) Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

(2) Appointment of Chair

The Sub-Committee agreed that Councillor Bill Gifford be appointed Chair of the Sub-Committee.

2. Applications for Dispensations

The Sub-Committee considered a report that set out a number of proposed dispensations to be granted for members of the County Council, designed to protect members from inadvertent breaches of the requirements relating to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and to ensure the County council can conduct its business.

It was noted that the grant of the recommended dispensations would avoid the potential for large numbers of members to be excluded from debates relating to local issues, and would also provide clarity in an area of uncertainty for elected members and the public

The Dispensations Sub-Committee agreed to grant the following dispensations for four years to all County Councillors:

- (a) Allowing them to both speak and vote in relation to the following functions of the County Council:
 - i. school meals or school transport and travelling expenses, where the County Councillor is a parent or guardian of a child in full-time education, unless it relates particularly to the school which the child attends;

- ii. the provision of any allowance, payment, pension, indemnity or other financial benefit given to members; and
- iii. setting Council Tax or a precept.

(b) Who are elected members or co-opted members of another public authority, or whose spouse or partner are elected or co-opted members of another public authority, and who have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter only by virtue of the fact that s/he or his/her spouse or partner is in receipt of an allowance from that other authority:

- i. where the issue is a matter of dispute between the County Council and the other authority, and the matter would affect the financial position of that other authority, the County Councillor may speak on the matter provided s/he immediately withdraws from the meeting room; and
- ii. in relation to other matters affecting that other authority, the County Councillor may speak and vote.

(c) Where he/she only has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter relating to the County Council or another authority by virtue of the fact that his or her spouse or partner is an employee of the County Council or that other authority, the County Councillor may speak and vote on all matters affecting the County Council or that other authority other than issues which would have a direct impact on the employment of the spouse or partner.

The Committee rose at 3.05 p.m.

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Chair