

Meeting of Medway Council

Members of Medway Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council for the business as set out in the agenda below

Date:	Thursday, 24 January 2013
Time:	7.00pm
Venue:	St George's Centre, Pembroke Road, Chatham Maritime, Chatham ME4 4UH

Agenda

1 Record of meeting

To approve the record of the meeting held on 18 October 2012.

(Pages 1 - 24)

2 Apologies for absence

3 Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

A member need only disclose at any meeting the existence of a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) in a matter to be considered at that meeting **if** that DPI has not been entered on the disclosable pecuniary interests register maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

A member disclosing a DPI at a meeting must thereafter notify the Monitoring Officer in writing of that interest within 28 days from the date of disclosure at the meeting.

A member **may not participate** in a discussion of or vote on any matter in which he or she has a DPI (both those already registered and those disclosed at the meeting) and **must withdraw** from the room during such discussion/vote.

Members may choose to voluntarily disclose a DPI at a meeting even if it is registered on the council's register of disclosable pecuniary interests but there is no legal requirement to do so.

In line with the training provided to members by the Monitoring

Officer members will also need to consider bias and pre-determination in certain circumstances and whether they have a conflict of interest or should otherwise leave the room for Code reasons.

4 Mayor's announcements

5 Leader's announcements

6 Petitions

7 Public questions

**(Pages 25
- 28)**

This report sets out the public questions received for this meeting.

8 Leader's Report

**(Pages 29
- 84)**

9 Report on Overview and Scrutiny Activity

**(Pages 85
- 96)**

10 Members' questions

A) Councillor Hubbard will ask the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services, Councillor Filmer, the following:

Could the Portfolio Holder update Members on the progress in securing much needed improvements to pedestrian access around Darnley Arch in Strood?

B) Councillor Igwe will ask the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth, Councillor Chitty the following:

Could the Portfolio Holder explain to Members what has happened to the £500,000+ of developer contributions obtained from Morrisons, Strood, which stipulated the need for improved pedestrian access in the Darnley Arch area, in 2000:

- a) How much of this money has been spent?
- b) What has it been spent on?
- c) What proportion, if any, has been spent on the proposed pedestrian improvements?

C) Councillor Murray will ask the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Deputy Leader, Councillor Jarrett, the following:

Can the Portfolio Holder for Finance confirm whether the Rochester Airport u-turn on part site development has come about because of a lack of long-term investment viability on the current lease agreed by the Conservative administration and whether, as a result, the improvements to the airport will happen before, or after, the Council has secured the proceeds from the sale and development of part of the Rochester Airport site?

D) Councillor Osborne will ask the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, Councillor Wicks, the following:

Will the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services apologise to concerned parents of pupils at St Mary's Island CoE Primary School for the failure of the Conservative administration to consistently manage Medway Primary Schools; leading in this case to an 'Inadequate' Ofsted performance rating in achievement of pupils, quality of teaching and leadership and management?

E) Councillor Osborne will ask the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Deputy Leader, Councillor Jarrett, the following:

Can the Portfolio Holder for Finance confirm that given 14,180 people will be paying an additional Pickles Poll Tax of on average £233 as a result of his government, how many residents in Medway will be paying more than £400, £500, £600, £700 and £800 in light of the recent localisation of Council Tax, and what has been the level of contact with Medway MPs on this topic?

F) Councillor Shaw will ask the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services, Councillor Filmer, the following:

In view of the continuing complaints regarding the "dynamic" bus station in terms of its lack of protection against the elements, and the lack of public conveniences in the evening, could the Portfolio Holder indicate what he is doing to improve customer experience in this respect?

11 Youth Justice Plan (Policy Framework)

(Pages 97 - 154)

This report outlines the Medway Youth Justice Plan 2012-2014, which has been developed following discussions and consultations with partner agencies, and also reflects the requirements of the Youth Offending Team (YOT) Improvement Plan, for approval.

12 Gambling Act 2005 - Review of Council Statement of Gambling Policy (Policy Framework)

(Pages 155 - 198)

This report seeks Council approval to the revised Council Statement of Gambling Policy for a period of up to three years.

13 Localising Support for Council Tax

(Pages 199 - 220)

This report seeks Council approval of a council tax support scheme, following recommendation of the scheme by Cabinet on 18 December 2012.

Please note that Appendix A has been circulated to Members on Supplementary Agenda No.1.

- 14 Technical Reforms of Council Tax** (Pages 221 - 230)
- This report provides Council with details of the Government's technical Reforms to Council Tax. The report also sets out the recommended changes to council tax exemptions for Council approval in the light of the new powers.
- 15 Treasury Management Strategy Mid Year Review Report 2012/2013** (Pages 231 - 296)
- This report sets out the mid year review of the Treasury Management Strategy 2012/2013.
- 16 Eastgate House Heritage Lottery Fund - Stage 2 Award** (Pages 297 - 306)
- This report provides an update on the successful award from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) of a Stage 2 Application for Eastgate House, and seeks formal approval to add the scheme to the Capital Programme.
- 17 Addition to the Capital Programme - Refuse and Recycling Fleet** (Pages 307 - 310)
- This report seeks approval from Council to add the purchase of the Refuse and Recycling Fleet to the Capital Programme to support an increase in both recycling and organics collections to weekly in line with black sack refuse collections.
- 18 Contract Letting - Exceptional Circumstances** (Pages 311 - 328)
- This report details contracts awarded in accordance with the provisions of the current Contract Procedure Rules 1.8.1 and 1.8.2 to deal with the letting of contracts in exceptional circumstances.
- 19 Schedule of Meetings 2013/2014** (Pages 329 - 340)
- This report asks the Council to consider a provisional programme of meetings for the 2013/2014 municipal year for recommendation to the Council's annual meeting.

20 Motions

A) Councillor Price has submitted the following:

This Council notes:

1. That Medway has been ranked worst in the country for children's attainment in English and Maths, creating anger and concern amongst schools and parents.
2. That since 2010 a number of support staff in primary schools and 54 school improvement council staff have been cut, making it more difficult to monitor and raise standards in the increasingly complex primary sector.

This Council resolves:

1. To fully implement the recommendations of Medway's 2011 Key Stage 2 task group report.
2. To instigate a cycle of separate member-led 'task group' meetings with headteachers and chairs of governors (including, where relevant, academy sponsors) of all primary schools who have had recent Ofsted inspections in order to:
 - i) review how the authority can further support the schools with their action plans to improve attainment
 - ii) formally share good practice where this has been identified.
3. That the authority be represented at each 'task group' meeting by the portfolio holder, director and/or assistant director, and spokespersons from the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
4. To set up a Medway-wide forum including primary schools, academy sponsors and the Council to collaborate on and review future improved performance on children's attainment in English and Maths

B) Councillor Murray has submitted the following:

Medway Council recognises that all residents should be treated equally and should not be barred from any aspect of civil society either because of their beliefs, race, gender status, disability or sexual orientation.

Medway Council notes the recent Government consultation on extending the legal form of marriage to same-sex couples, and the commitment of Medway Council to non-discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered persons.

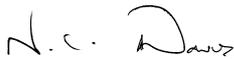
Medway Council acknowledges and welcomes the positive efforts of the last Government to support lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights, including:

- Equal legal age of consent;
- Adoption rights for same-sex couples;
- Fertility treatment rights;
- Introduction of civil partnerships for same-sex couples

Medway Council supports the current government's efforts to build on this progress and legislate for equal Civil Marriage and also calls for equal Civil Partnerships.

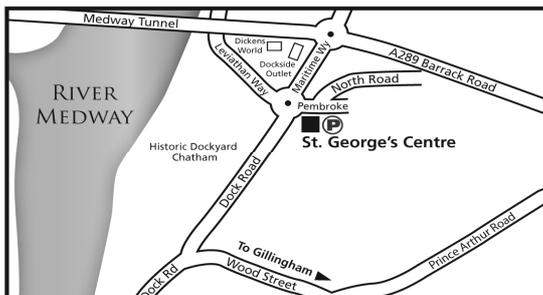
Medway Council requests that the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council write an open letter to Mark Reckless MP and Rehman Chishti MP requesting they vote in favour in any parliamentary vote supporting the equal marriage rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered couples to bring any proposed legislation to a reality and that they lobby for equal Civil Partnerships.

For further information please contact Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services on Telephone: 01634 332760 or Email: democratic.services@medway.gov.uk



**Neil Davies
Chief Executive**

Date: 16 January 2013



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www.medway.gov.uk

A summary of this information can be made available in other formats from **01634 333333**

If you have any questions about this meeting and you want to speak to someone in your own language please ring **01634 335577**

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中文	331781	हिंदी	331783	Polski	332373	এংকুশফব	331786	فارسی	331840	Lietuviškai	332372

