

SUPPLEMENTARY COUNCIL AGENDA

BUSINESS

- 6 **REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL** (Pages 1 - 2)
To receive a report from the Leader of the Council on the activities and decisions of Cabinet and items included on the Forward Plan.
- 7 **REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES** (Pages 3 - 4)
a) Health Scrutiny Committee
- 8 **REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE STATUTORY COMMITTEES** (Pages 5 - 6)
a) Licensing Committee
- 14 **UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL OF NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE (UHNS) AND THE FUTURE OF THE MID-STAFFORDSHIRE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**
Report from the Health Scrutiny Committee following the meeting on 20th November 2013.
Copies of the report will be provided on the night.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S.M.', written over a horizontal line.

Chief Executive

NOTICE FOR COUNCILLORS

1. Fire/Bomb Alerts

In the event of the fire alarm sounding, leave the building immediately, following the fire exit signs. Do not stop to collect personal belongings, do not use the lifts.

Fire exits are to be found either side of the rear of the Council Chamber and at the rear of the Public Gallery.

On exiting the building Members, Officers and the Public must assemble at the front of the former Hubanks store opposite to the Civic Offices. DO NOT re-enter the building until advised to by the Controlling Officer.

2. Attendance Record

Please sign the Attendance Record sheet, which will be circulating around the Council Chamber. Please ensure that the sheet is signed before leaving the meeting.

3. Mobile Phones

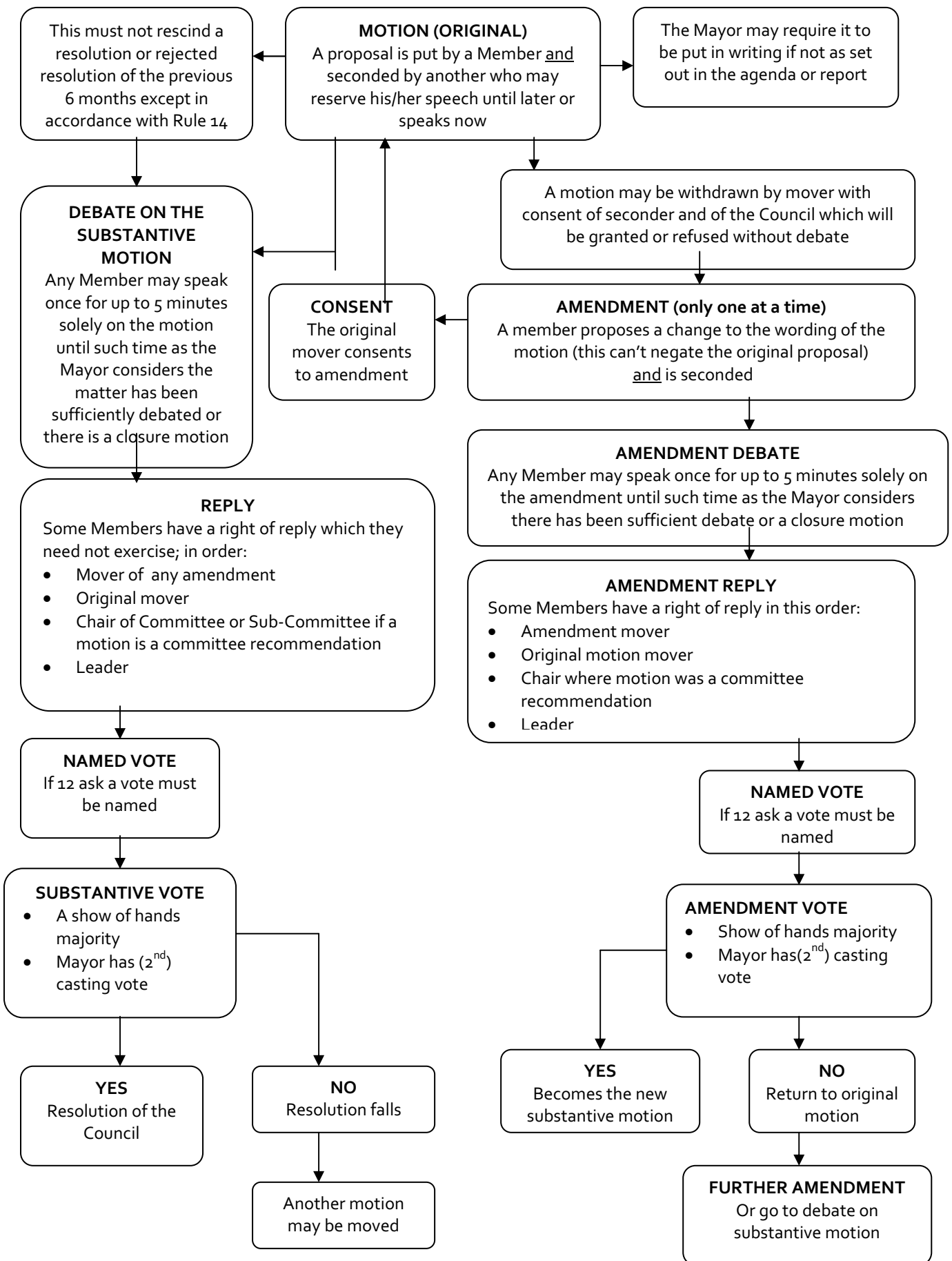
Please switch off all mobile phones before entering the Council Chamber.

4. Tea/Coffee

Refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the meeting, or in the event of a break occurring, during that break.

5. Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion other than those listed in Standing Order 19 must reach the Chief Executive ten clear days before the relevant Meeting of the Council. Further information on Notices of Motion can be found in Section 5, Standing Order 20 of the Constitution of the Council.



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TO:	MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL
FROM:	CLLR. GARETH SNELL, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
RE:	BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT - NOVEMBER 2013

1. Cabinet Meetings

Since the last meeting of the Full Council on the 11th September 2013, the Cabinet has met twice on the 18th September 2013 and the 16th October 2013.

Decisions sheets for those meeting can be found online using the links below or paper copies being made available upon request.

<http://moderngov.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MId=1893&Ver=4>

<http://moderngov.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MId=1894&Ver=4>

Notable decisions included:

- a. The Corporate Cleaning contract to save the authority money on servicing the cleaning requirement of our building.
- b. The appointment of Cllr Bates as the Council's director on the Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership.
- c. Extension of the Multi-functional device contract to save around £50,000 over the next two years.

2. Financial Challenges

Due predominantly to the reduction in central government grant the council faces the prospect of a significant reduction in its resource base over at least the next five years and potentially beyond.

The estimated budget gap over the next five years is likely to be around £7,200,000 and this has been reported in the MTFs. This equates to a reduction of around 45% of our net revenue budget and our available capital reserves remain at less than a million pounds with increased demand for capital investment in our services and buildings.

To start the process of dealing with the challenges, Cabinet Members have asked each service area to start modelling what their services will look like with a 20%, 40% or even 60% reduction in resource.

This process is being dubbed "Newcastle 2020" and is looking at how the Council's ever decreasing resource base can be put to best use to meet the needs of the population of the Borough.

It is important that all members of the Council realise that the financial challenges are not behind us and the more difficult years are still to come.

3. Keele Golf Course

After the previous occupant of the Golf Course went into administration and then liquidation, the course reverted back to the Council's direct control. The Council took steps to ensure that the site remained open and could be relet as a going concern while a long-term operating partner could be found.

The course was managed, in the interim, by Glendale and after two formal bids were received, the Council has let the Golf Course on the 50 year lease to RWT Ltd who, among others, list Ian Woosnam OBE as their directors.

The Course will now be home to the first Ian Woosnam Golf Academy in Britain, employing local people and, in partnership with Newcastle College, will be offering 15 apprenticeships in sports science and golf course management.

This is a very exciting prospect for the Council and has the opportunity to be a considerable asset to the Borough's leisure and cultural offer.

4. European Local Democracy Week

The Council participated in European Local Democracy Week with children participating in a Mock Planning Committee, a debate on the merits of HS2, tours of the Civic Offices and a quiz on the history of the Borough as well as being Mayor and Leader for a day.

On the back of this, the Cabinet are now investigating ways in which the Council can formalise a relationship with the young people of the Borough to allow them to be part of the decision making process.

5. Refurbishment of the Queen Victoria statue

Although not a Cabinet decision, the Portfolio Holder has accepted an offer from the Newcastle Civic Society for the refurbishment of the statue of Queen Victoria in the Queens Gardens. It would be remiss not to formally acknowledge the Civic Society for this generous offer and all the other work that they undertake within the Borough.

Health Scrutiny Committee - Wednesday 23 October 2013

Infant mortality remains on the committee's agenda, despite there being an improvement, as the figures are still considered unacceptably high. Members questioned whether there was a link with deprived areas, although with a small number of deaths, there is a reluctance to produce postcode deaths due to identifying individual cases. County Public Health has identified it as a major issue on their yearly plan. It was also proposed Public Health would organise a conference on the issue in January and should feedback to the committee afterwards.

There was a discussion on the alcohol strategy in the borough with presentations by Trevor Smith, Community Safety Officer (alcohol lead) and Tony Bullock, Commissioning Lead, Alcohol and Drugs (Staffordshire CC). There was concern about the impact alcohol abuse was having on A&E departments. It was stated that the strategy was moving to early intervention and prevention and the committee was informed of a number initiatives. There were 2 recommendations at the end of the discussion: 1) The Community Safety Officer to circulate the results of the Insight Team School Alcohol County Report and 2) Entrust be contacted to request information regarding the problems engaging schools for the education project for alcohol.

Members were given a verbal update on cardiac rehabilitation at Jubilee2 by Dave Adams. Whilst it was agreed the centre was providing a valuable service, which had been neglected in the past, it was unclear how many more untapped referrals could be expected. It was recommended a series of questions raised by the committee be forwarded to the commissioner of the cardiac rehabilitation service.

A verbal update from Dave Adams was given on the borough's draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This is being taken to Cabinet in December to begin the second phase of consultation. The committees asked for any responses received from outside agencies to be circulated to members. The strategy will return to the committee in six months time.

Under urgent business, the members were shown the formal response by Newcastle Borough Council and Stoke-on-Trent to the draft recommendations by Trust Special Administrators for the Mid Staffordshire Foundation Trust. It was minuted the document was not representative of the views of the committee. The committee were asked to consider the proposal to have a joint committee established between the Borough Council and Stoke City Council. With insufficient information being presented to the committee it was decided not to make a recommendation. Members requested further information regarding the remit, governance and practicalities for a joint committee be reported to the next committee meeting on 20 November.

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Licensing Chairs report to full Council 27th November 2013

On the 28th February 2013 the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 received Royal Assent and took effect on the 1st October 2013.

The 2013 Act replaces the 1964 Scrap Metal Dealers Act which required the Council to register anyone who notified it that they were operating as a scrap metal dealer.

Under the 2013 Act for anyone to carry on a business as a scrap metal dealer must have a licence which will last for three years, to trade without a licence is a criminal offence.

There are two types of licence (a) Site Licence (b) Collectors Licence and under the new legislation the Council will be able to refuse to grant a licence where the applicant is judged not to be a suitable person to operate as a scrap metal dealer.

The 2013 Act requires the Council to set appropriate application fees.

When setting a fee the Council must take into account the Home Office Guidance and the EU Services Directive of 2009 which states that a licence fee can only be used to pay for the cost associated with the licensing process.

On the 26th September 2013 the Licensing Committee agreed to set the Scrap Metal Dealers licence fees at £150 for a Collectors licence and £200 for a Site Licence.

Future Sub-Committee meetings.

3rd Dec. 10am ASDA, Morris Square, variation to Premise Licence.

4th Dec. 10am Yates, Ironmarket, Premise Licence review.

10th Dec. 10am Thistleberry Hotel Premise Licence review.

Trevor Hambleton
Chair of Licensing

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