

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of East Hertfordshire District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Wallfields, Hertford on Wednesday 20th October, 2021 at 7.00 pm, for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the Agenda below, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

12 October 2021

James Ellis
Head of Legal and
Democratic Services

Note: Prayers will be said before the meeting commences. Those Members who do not wish to participate will be invited to enter the Chamber at their conclusion

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Announcements

To receive any announcements.

2. Apologies for Absence

To receive any Members' apologies for absence.

3. Minutes - 28 July 2021 (Pages 7 - 42)

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 July 2021.

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Members' declarations of interest.

5. Petitions

To receive any petitions.

6. Public Questions

To receive any public questions.

7. Members' questions (Pages 43 - 44)

To receive any Members' questions.

8. Executive Report - 28 September 2021 (Pages 45 - 100)

To receive a report from the Leader of the Council and to consider recommendations on the matters below:

(A) Council Tax Long Term Empty Premium

(B) Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022/23

(C) Tenancy Strategy

9. Motions on Notice (Pages 101 - 102)

To receive Motions on Notice.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

1. A Member, present at a meeting of the Authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Authority, with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in any matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting:
 - must not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
 - must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting;
 - must disclose the interest to the meeting, whether registered or not, subject to the provisions of section 32 of the Localism Act 2011;
 - if the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days;
 - must leave the room while any discussion or voting takes place.
2. A DPI is an interest of a Member or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were civil partners) within the descriptions as defined in the Localism Act 2011.
3. The Authority may grant a Member dispensation, but only in limited circumstances, to enable him/her to participate and vote on a matter in which they have a DPI.
4. It is a criminal offence to:

- fail to disclose a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting if it is not on the register;
- fail to notify the Monitoring Officer, within 28 days, of a DPI that is not on the register that a Member disclosed to a meeting;
- participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which a Member has a DPI;
- knowingly or recklessly provide information that is false or misleading in notifying the Monitoring Officer of a DPI or in disclosing such interest to a meeting.

(Note: The criminal penalties available to a court are to impose a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and disqualification from being a councillor for up to 5 years.)

Public Attendance

East Herts Council provides for public attendance at its virtual meetings and will livestream and record this meeting. The livestream will be available during the meeting on the East Herts District website at this link:

<http://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=158&MIId=3915&J=1>

If you would like further information, email democratic.services@eastherts.gov.uk or call the Council on 01279 655261 and ask to speak to Democratic Services.

Accessing the Agenda Pack

To obtain a copy of the agenda, please note the Council does not generally print agendas, as it now has a paperless policy for meetings. You can view the public version of the agenda for this meeting on the Council's website in the section relating to meetings of Committees. You can also use the ModGov app to access the agenda pack on a mobile device. The app can be downloaded from your usual app store.

Implementing paperless meetings will save East Herts Council approximately £50,000 each year in printing and distribution costs of agenda packs for Councillors and Officers.

You can use the mod.gov app to access, annotate and keep all committee paperwork on your mobile device.

Visit <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/article/35542/Political-Structure> for details.