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29 August 2012

To: Chairman – Councillor Ben Shelton  
Vice-Chairman – Councillor David Whiteman-Downes  
Members of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee – Councillors Alison Elcox,  
Jose Hales, Roger Hall, Lynda Harford, Mark Hersom, Roger Hickford,  
Douglas de Lacey, Janet Lockwood, Ted Ridgway Watt, Bridget Smith and  
Bunty Waters

Quorum: 6

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend the next meeting of **SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**, which will be held in the **SWANSLEY ROOM, GROUND FLOOR** on **THURSDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2012** at **6.00pm**.

**Members of the committee only are invited to attend for refreshments from 5.30pm**

Members are respectfully reminded that when substituting on committees, subcommittees, and outside or joint bodies, Democratic Services must be advised of the substitution *in advance of* the meeting. It is not possible to accept a substitute once the meeting has started. Council Standing Order 4.3 refers.

Yours faithfully  
**JEAN HUNTER**  
Chief Executive

**The Council is committed to improving, for all members of the community, access to its agendas and minutes. If you have any specific needs, please let us know, and we will do what we can to help you.**

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## AGENDA

## PAGES

### PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- 1. Apologies**  
Apologies for absence have been received from Cllrs Douglas de Lacey and Ted Ridgway Watt.
- 2. Declarations of Interest**  
Please note that the Constitution requires that when considering any decision in respect of which a member of the Committee is subject to a party whip, the member must declare the existence of the whip. Under the Code of Conduct, any Councillor who has a personal or prejudicial interest should declare this at the meeting.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

To authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2012 as a correct record. The minutes can be accessed on the Council's website by following the links at:

<http://scdcmg:9070/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=417&MId=5795&Ver=4>

**4. Public Questions**

**5. Localised Council Tax Support (Key)**

**1 - 26**

A benefit reform workshop: consultation on a local scheme will be held for Members following an introduction by the Benefits Manager, Dawn Graham and Revenues Manager, Phil Bird. The following documents are attached for your information:

- Briefing note
- Draft Scheme for Council Tax Support 2012/13
- Changes to Council Tax Support – Have Your Say
- Frequently Asked Questions

**6. Work Programme 2012/13**

**27 - 32**

**7. Monitoring the Executive**

A Leader's Portfolio Holder meeting was held on 23 July 2012, however, neither of the Scrutiny Monitors were in attendance.

**8. To Note the Dates of Future Meetings**

Future meetings are scheduled as follows:

27 September 2012 at 4pm - New Build Strategy: Members-only workshop

01 November 2012 at 5:30pm – Members-only Finance workshop

05 November 2012 at 6.00pm

10 January 2013 at 6.00pm

11 February 2013 at 6pm – Members-only Finance workshop

14 February 2013 at 6.00pm

21 March 2013 at 6.00pm

23 April 2013 at 6.00pm

**Exclusion of Press and Public**

The law allows Councils to consider a limited range of issues in private session without members of the Press and public being present. Typically, such issues relate to personal details, financial and business affairs, legal privilege and so on. In every case, the public interest in excluding the Press and Public from the meeting room must outweigh the public interest in having the information disclosed to them. The following statement will be proposed, seconded and voted upon.

"I propose that the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item number(s) ..... in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that, if present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) ..... of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act."

If exempt (confidential) information has been provided as part of the agenda, the Press and public will not be able to view it. There will be an explanation on the website however as to why the information is exempt.

### **OUR VISION**

South Cambridgeshire will continue to be the best place to live and work in the country. Our district will demonstrate impressive and sustainable economic growth. Our residents will have a superb quality of life in an exceptionally beautiful, rural and green environment. The Council will be recognised as consistently innovative and a high performer with a track record of delivering value for money by focussing on the priorities, needs and aspirations of our residents, parishes and businesses.

### **OUR VALUES**

We will demonstrate our corporate values in all our actions. These are:

- Trust
- Mutual respect
- A commitment to improving services
- Customer service

## **GUIDANCE NOTES FOR VISITORS TO SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE HALL**

While the District Council endeavours to ensure that visitors come to no harm when visiting South Cambridgeshire Hall, those visitors also have a responsibility to make sure that they do not risk their own or others' safety.

### **Security**

Members of the public attending meetings in non-public areas of the Council offices must report to Reception, sign in, and at all times wear the Visitor badges issued. Before leaving the building, such visitors must sign out and return their Visitor badges to Reception.

### **Emergency and Evacuation**

In the event of a fire, a continuous alarm will sound. Evacuate the building using the nearest escape route; from the Council Chamber or Mezzanine viewing gallery this would be via the staircase just outside the door. Go to the assembly point at the far side of the staff car park.

- **Do not** use the lifts to exit the building. If you are unable to negotiate stairs by yourself, the emergency staircase landings are provided with fire refuge areas, which afford protection for a minimum of 1.5 hours. Press the alarm button and wait for assistance from the Council fire wardens or the fire brigade.
- **Do not** re-enter the building until the officer in charge or the fire brigade confirms that it is safe to do so.

### **First Aid**

If someone feels unwell or needs first aid, please alert a member of staff.

### **Access for People with Disabilities**

The Council is committed to improving, for all members of the community, access to its agendas and minutes. We try to take all circumstances into account but, if you have any specific needs, please let us know, and we will do what we can to help you. All meeting rooms are accessible to wheelchair users. There are disabled toilet facilities on each floor of the building. Infra-red hearing assistance systems are available in the Council Chamber and viewing gallery. To use these, you must sit in sight of the infra-red transmitter and wear a 'neck loop', which can be used with a hearing aid switched to the 'T' position. If your hearing aid does not have the 'T' position facility then earphones are also available and can be used independently. You can obtain both neck loops and earphones from Reception.

### **Toilets**

Public toilets are available on each floor of the building next to the lifts.

### **Recording of Business and Use of Mobile Phones**

The Council is committed to openness and transparency. The Council and all its committees, sub-committees or any other sub-group of the Council or the Executive have the ability to formally suspend Standing Order 21.4 (prohibition of recording of business) upon request to enable the recording of business, including any audio / visual or photographic recording in any format.

Use of social media during meetings is permitted to bring Council issues to a wider audience. To minimise disturbance to others attending the meeting, all attendees and visitors are asked to make sure that their phones and other mobile devices are set on silent / vibrate mode during meetings.

### **Banners, Placards and similar items**

No member of the public shall be allowed to bring into or display at any Council meeting any banner, placard, poster or other similar item. The Chairman may require any such item to be removed.

### **Disturbance by Public**

If a member of the public interrupts proceedings, the Chairman will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chairman will order their removal from the meeting room. If there is a general disturbance in any part of the meeting room open to the public, the Chairman may call for that part to be cleared.

### **Smoking**

Since 1 July 2008, the Council has operated a Smoke Free Policy. Visitors are not allowed to smoke at any time within the Council offices, or in the car park or other grounds forming part of those offices.

### **Food and Drink**

Vending machines and a water dispenser are available on the ground floor near the lifts at the front of the building. Visitors are not allowed to bring food or drink into the meeting room.