

# Council

Town Hall  
Wallasey

29 November, 2019

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at **6.00 p.m. on Monday, 9 December 2019** in the Council Chamber, within the Town Hall, Wallasey, to take into consideration and determine upon the following subjects :

This meeting will be webcast at  
<https://wirral.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

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## AGENDA

### 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Council are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest, in connection with any matter to be debated or determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

### 2. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive the Civic Mayor's announcements and any apologies for absence.

### 3. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 34)

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 14 October, 2019 (one ordinary and one extraordinary meeting).

### 4. PETITIONS

To receive petitions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 21.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

To deal with questions from members of the public, in accordance with Appendix 1 to Standing Orders – up to 30 minutes.

**6. LEADER'S, EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' AND CHAIRS' REPORTS (Pages 35 - 70)**

To receive the written reports of the Executive and Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairs, and to receive questions and answers on any of those reports in accordance with Standing Orders 10(2)(a) and 11.

**7. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

To consider Members' general questions to the Civic Mayor, Executive or Committee Chair in accordance with Standing Orders 10 (2)(b) and 11.

**8. VACANCIES**

To receive nominations, in accordance with Standing Order 25(6), in respect of any proposed changes in the membership of committees, and to approve nominations for appointments to outside organisations.

**OUTSIDE BODIES**

**St Bridget's Educational Trust**

Councillor Alison Wright to replace Mr Gerry Ellis

**West Kirby Charity**

Deirdre O'Dwyer

James Robert Darwent

Helen Rosalinde O'Donnell

(all to be appointed until 8 December, 2023)

**9. MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL OR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL**

To consider any recommendations of the Executive or Council Committees which require the approval or consideration of the Council.

**A. Appointment of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) including Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer - Employment and Appointments Committee, 23 October, 2019 (Pages 71 - 72)**

The Council is recommended to appoint Mr Paul Satoor to the post of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, with immediate effect.

(Employment and Appointments Committee minute 9 attached).

**B. Council Tax (Empty Homes Premium) - Cabinet, 4 November, 2019 (Pages 73 - 74)**

The Council is recommended to apply the full premium of 200% to homes that have been empty for 5 or more years as allowed by the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018, from 1 April, 2020. (Cabinet minute 51 attached).

*The Cabinet report can be viewed on the Council website [here](#).*

**C. Council Tax Reduction Scheme - Cabinet, 4 November, 2019 (Pages 75 - 76)**

The Council is recommended to amend the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for Wirral to:

- (1) reduce the minimum amount payable for non-protected groups from the current 22% to 12%; and
- (2) allow notifications in relation to Universal Credit to be treated as a claim for Council Tax Reduction.

(Cabinet minute 52 attached).

*The Cabinet report can be viewed on the Council website [here](#).*

**D. Council Tax 2020/21 (Taxbase, Discounts and Exemptions and Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme) - Cabinet, 25 November, 2019 (Pages 77 - 78)**

The Council is requested to agree the following recommendations of Cabinet:

- 1 The figure of 93,965.9 be approved as the Council Tax Base for 2020/21 subject to the items below being approved;
- 2 The level and award of each local discount for 2020/21 be:-

**Wirral Women's & Children's Aid**

To continue to award Wirral Women & Children's Aid 100% discount.

**Care Leaver's Discount**

To award Care Leavers the requisite discount to reduce

their Council Tax liability to zero until they are 25, from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. This remains unchanged from 2019/20.

### **Empty Property Discounts**

Discount category D = 0% Full charge on properties undergoing renovations.

Discount category C = 0% Full charge on empty properties from date they become unoccupied.

Both remain unchanged.

Empty Property Premium = 100% (200% Council Tax) for unfurnished properties empty for more than two years. 200% (300% Council Tax) for unfurnished properties empty more than five years. This is allowed by the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018. This has previously been reported to Cabinet on 4 November, 2019.

### **Council Tax Discretionary Hardship Relief Scheme**

The Council Tax Discretionary Hardship Relief Scheme, approved by Cabinet in October 2013, continues in its current format for 2020/2021. The Scheme offers help and assistance in exceptional cases of hardship.

### **3. Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS)**

The Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, previously reported to Cabinet on 4 November, 2019, be the approved Scheme for 2020/2021.

(Cabinet minute 60 attached).

*The report can be viewed [here](#).*

### **E. Quarter 2 2019/20 Capital Financial Monitoring - Cabinet, 25 November, 2019 (Pages 79 - 92)**

The Council is requested to:

- (1) approve additional funding for the schemes referred to in paragraph 3.3 of the report (see attached), and;
- (2) approve the revised Capital Programme of £55.889m for 2019/20.

(Cabinet minute 62 attached).

**F. Minimum Revenue Provision Re-Profiling - Cabinet, 25 November, 2019 (Pages 93 - 94)**

The Council is requested to agree the recommendation of Cabinet that the proposal to re-profile Minimum Revenue Provision charges by over £2m over the next ten years, recouped via higher charges in subsequent years, be approved.

(Cabinet minute 63 attached).

*The report can be viewed [here](#).*

**G. Draft Statement of Licensing Policy - Licensing Act 2003 Committee, 13 November, 2019 (Pages 95 - 132)**

The Council is requested to:

- (1) continue to apply the Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy to the area of Birkenhead currently referenced in the Statement of Licensing Policy, and;
- (2) approve the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy (attached).

(Licensing Act 2003 Committee minute 11 attached).

*The committee report and appendices 2 and 3 can be viewed on the Council website [here](#).*

**H. Revised Pension Board Terms of Reference - Pensions Committee, 4 November, 2019 (Pages 133 - 148)**

The Council is requested to agree the revisions to the Pension Board's Terms of reference (attached) and their adoption into the Council's Constitution.

(Pensions Committee minute 41 attached).

*The report can be viewed [here](#).*



Director: Governance and Assurance

### ***Audio/Visual Recording of Meetings***

*Everyone is welcome to record meetings of the Council and its Committees using non-disruptive methods. For particular meetings we may identify a 'designated area' for you to record from. If you have any questions about this please contact Committee and Civic Services (members of the press please contact the Press Office). Please note that the Chair of the meeting has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons, including disruption caused by the filming or the nature of the business being conducted.*

*Persons making recordings are requested not to put undue restrictions on the material produced so that it can be reused and edited by all local people and organisations on a non-commercial basis.*