

General Purposes Committee

Wednesday 15 January 2025 at 9.30 am

Conference Hall - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ

Please note this will be held as a physical meeting which all Committee members will be required to attend in person.

The meeting will be open for the press and public to attend or alternatively can be followed via the live webcast. The link to follow proceedings via the live webcast is available **HERE**

Membership:

Members Substitute Members

Councillors: Councillors:

M Butt (Chair) Afzal, Akram, Crabb, Farah, Grahl and 2 vacancies.

M Patel (Vice-Chair)

Donnelly-Jackson Councillors:
Nerva Lorber and Matin

Rubin

Krupa Sheth

Tatler Vacancy

For further information contact: Rebecca Reid, Governance Officer

Tel: 0208 9372 469, Email: rebecca.reid@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes and agendas please visit:

<u>Council meetings and decision making | Brent Council</u>



Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

*Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- (a) **Employment, etc. -** Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land -** Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences-** Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies -** Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities -** Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

**Personal Interests:

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council;
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party of trade union).
- (b) The interests a of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

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A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Item Page

1 Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

2 Declarations of interests

Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, the nature and existence of any relevant disclosable pecuniary or personal interests in the items on this agenda and to specify the item(s) to which they relate.

3 Deputations (if any)

To hear any deputations for which requests have been submitted by members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 67.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting

1 - 2

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 15 July 2024 as a correct record.

5 Matters arising (if any)

To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

6 Presentation of a petition - Invest not Divest

To receive the following petition for which notice has been received in accordance with Standing Order 66:

Call on Brent Council's Pension Fund to Invest not Divest

7 Council Tax Base 2025

3 - 18

This report is presented to enable the Council to fulfil its statutory role to set a council tax base for 2025-26. The Local Government Finance Act

(LGFA) 1992, as amended by the LGFA 2003 & LGFA 2012, requires the Authority to formally calculate the Council Tax Base for 2025-26 and pass this information to precepting authorities by 31 January 2025. The tax base must be set between 1 December 2024 and 31 January 2025.

8 Employer Pension Discretions Policy

19 - 40

The purpose of this report is to present an updated Employer Pension Discretions Policy for approval and adoption.

9 Appointments to Sub-Committees

No membership changes have been identified in advance of the agenda publication for consideration by the Committee.

10 Exclusion of Press and Public

No items have been identified in advance of the meeting that will require the exclusion of the press or public.

11 Any other urgent business

Notice of items to be raised under this heading must be given in writing to the Deputy Director Democratic Services or their representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 60.

Date of next meeting: Monday 10 March 2025



Please remember to set your mobile phone to silent during the meeting.

 The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public. Alternatively, it will be possible to follow proceedings via the live webcast <u>HERE</u>