

EXTRACT FROM REPORT TO GOVERNANCE AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Council Tax Precept

1. Members that own property within the area of the Fire Authority would appear to have a Statutory Disclosable Interest in the setting of the Council Tax precept. On disclosing such an interest, if no dispensation existed, a Member would be unable to remain in the meeting and have no opportunity to take part in the debate, nor vote.
2. As the majority of Members are likely to need to make such a disclosure at a meeting of the Fire Authority, when the Council Tax precept is to be determined, there would appear to be a likelihood that:
 - the transacting of business would be impeded (Section 33(2)(a);
 - the representation of different political groups would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote relating to the business (Section 33(2)(b).
3. Accordingly, it would appear to be appropriate to grant a dispensation to the Members that have requested it.

Members' Allowance Scheme

4. All Members receive an allowance and would appear to have a Statutory Disclosable Interest in the approval of the Members' Allowance Scheme (and any changes and/or additions to it). On disclosing such an interest, if no dispensation existed, a Member would be unable to remain in the meeting and have no opportunity to take part in the debate, nor vote.
5. As all Members will need to make such a disclosure when the Members' Allowances Scheme is to be determined:
 - the transacting of business would be impeded (Section 33(2)(a)