



## **Local Government Act 1972**

**I Hereby Give You Notice** that an **Ordinary Meeting** of the **Durham County Council** will be held in the **Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham** on **Wednesday 20 February 2013 at 10.00 am** to transact the following business:-

1. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2013  
(Pages 1 - 6)
2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members
3. Chairman's Announcements
4. Leader's Report
5. Questions from the Public
6. Petitions
7. Report from the Cabinet (Pages 7 - 24)
8. Budget 2013/14 - Report under Section 25 of Local Government Act 2003 - Report of Corporate Director, Resources (Pages 25 - 30)
9. General Fund Medium Term Financial Plan, 2013/14 - 2016/17 and Revenue and Capital Budget 2013/14 - Report of Cabinet (Pages 31 - 142)
10. Council Tax setting in order to meet the County Council's Budget Requirement for 2013/14 - Report of Cabinet (Pages 143 - 162)
11. Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan 2013/14 to 2017/18 and 2013/14 Budget - Report of Cabinet (Pages 163 - 180)

12. Council Plan and Service Plans 2013 - 2017 - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 181 - 274)
13. Interim arrangements for the discharge of functions for the period between the County Council elections and the reconstitution of Council Bodies - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 275 - 278)
14. Request for Reduction of Council Size - Trimdon Parish Council - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 279 - 282)
15. Request for Changes to the Boundary between Shincliffe Parish Council and Cassop-Cum-Quarrington Parish - Draft Terms of Reference - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 283 - 292)
16. Members' Allowances Scheme 2013/14 - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 293 - 302)
17. Proposed Amendments to the Planning Code of Practice Section of the Constitution - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 303 - 322)
18. Proposals to Rationalise Committee Functions in Dealing with Planning Applications for Wind Turbines - Report of Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development (Pages 323 - 326)
19. New Byelaws for Acupuncture, Tattooing, Semi-permanent Skin Colouring, Cosmetic Piercing & Electrolysis - Report of Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services (Pages 327 - 330)
20. Motions on Notice

### **Councillor Wilkes to Move**

*This Council notes:*

- a) *That the Localism Act 2011 permits councils to change from one form of governance to another, including a return to a non-cabinet committee system;*
- b) *That committees are the most democratic form of decision making and enable all councillors to be involved and gain experience in many areas; and*
- c) *That other councils have reverted to a committee system which has ensured both democracy and accountability for all councillors and therefore all electors.*

*This Council believes that:*

- a) Too many elected members of all parties are insufficiently involved in the decision making process, so that the people who voted for them do not have a voice in the council.*
- b) A committee system operated successfully at Durham County Council for over 100 years prior to the introduction of the leader/cabinet arrangements legislated for by Tony Blair's Labour government; and*
- c) Due to the current Cabinet system ordinary councillors of all parties have been denied the right to a public vote on many important decision making processes, and that this is fundamentally undemocratic.*

*This Council therefore urges the new council to change back to a committee system at the earliest opportunity.*

21. Questions from Members

**And** pursuant to the provisions of the above-named act, **I Hereby Summon You** to attend the said meeting

Dated this 12th day of February 2013



Colette Longbottom  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

**To: All Members of the County Council**