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Date: **16 August 2023**
Our Ref: **Tourism Review Working Party/Agenda**
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TOURISM REVIEW WORKING PARTY

24 AUGUST 2023

A meeting of the Tourism Review Working Party will be held at 5.30 pm on Thursday, 24 August 2023 via Online Only.

Membership:

Councillors: Austin, Britcher, D Green, Kup and Packman

AGENDA

Item
No

Subject

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (Pages 3 - 4)
To receive any declarations of interest. Members are advised to consider the advice contained within the Declaration of Interest advice attached to this Agenda. If a Member declares an interest, they should complete the [Declaration of Interest Form](#)
4. **TOURISM REVIEW WORKING PARTY WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 5 - 8)

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Do I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and if so what action should I take?

Your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) are those interests that are, or should be, listed on your Register of Interest Form.

If you are at a meeting and the subject relating to one of your DPIs is to be discussed, in so far as you are aware of the DPI, you **must** declare the existence **and** explain the nature of the DPI during the declarations of interest agenda item, at the commencement of the item under discussion, or when the interest has become apparent

Once you have declared that you have a DPI (unless you have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee or the Monitoring Officer, for which you will have applied to the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting) you **must**:-

1. Not speak or vote on the matter;
2. Withdraw from the meeting room during the consideration of the matter;
3. Not seek to improperly influence the decision on the matter.

Do I have a significant interest and if so what action should I take?

A significant interest is an interest (other than a DPI or an interest in an Authority Function) which:

1. Affects the financial position of yourself and/or an associated person; or
Relates to the determination of your application for any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration made by, or on your behalf of, you and/or an associated person;
2. And which, in either case, a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as being so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interest.

An associated person is defined as:

- A family member or any other person with whom you have a close association, including your spouse, civil partner, or somebody with whom you are living as a husband or wife, or as if you are civil partners; or
- Any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors; or
- Any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000;
- Any body of which you are in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by the Authority; or
- any body in respect of which you are in a position of general control or management and which:
 - exercises functions of a public nature; or
 - is directed to charitable purposes; or
 - has as its principal purpose or one of its principal purposes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)

An Authority Function is defined as: -

- Housing - where you are a tenant of the Council provided that those functions do not relate particularly to your tenancy or lease; or
- Any allowance, payment or indemnity given to members of the Council;
- Any ceremonial honour given to members of the Council
- Setting the Council Tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992



If you are at a meeting and you think that you have a significant interest then you **must** declare the existence **and** nature of the significant interest at the commencement of the matter, or when the interest has become apparent, or the declarations of interest agenda item.

Once you have declared that you have a significant interest (unless you have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee or the Monitoring Officer, for which you will have applied to the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting) you **must:-**

1. Not speak or vote (unless the public have speaking rights, or you are present to make representations, answer questions or to give evidence relating to the business being discussed in which case you can speak only)
2. Withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the matter or immediately after speaking.
3. Not seek to improperly influence the decision.

Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality

Councillors must declare at meetings any gift, benefit or hospitality with an estimated value (or cumulative value if a series of gifts etc.) of £25 or more. You **must**, at the commencement of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, disclose the existence and nature of the gift, benefit or hospitality, the identity of the donor and how the business under consideration relates to that person or body. However you can stay in the meeting unless it constitutes a significant interest, in which case it should be declared as outlined above.

What if I am unsure?

If you are in any doubt, Members are strongly advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or the Committee Services Manager well in advance of the meeting.

If you need to declare an interest then please complete the declaration of [interest form](#).

Tourism Review Working Party Work Programme

Tourism Review Working Party 24 August 2023

Report Author Charles Hungwe, Deputy Committee Services Manager

Status For Decision

Classification: Unrestricted

Key Decision No

Ward: Thanet Wide

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide a framework for the Tourism Review Working Party to consider and agree its work activities for conducting the review as assigned by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Recommendation(s):

Members' views are sought on the activities for conducting the scrutiny review.

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

There were no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Legal

The role of scrutiny is set out in section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000. The council must also have regard to the statutory guidance on Overview and Scrutiny from the ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government when exercising its functions.

Risk Management

There are risks arising directly from this report.

Corporate

The review of impact of tourism on Thanet would come up with recommendations for consideration by Cabinet. However any recommendations would need to be considered in the context of the limited resources available to the Council.

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the

decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

This report relates to the following aim of the equality duty: -
(Delete as appropriate)

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- To advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- To foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

No implications arise directly but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these.

It was important to be aware of the Council's responsibility under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and show evidence that due consideration has been given to the equalities impact that may be brought upon communities by the decisions made by Council.

Corporate Priorities

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Growth
- Environment
- Communities

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel set up the Tourism Review Working Party at its meeting on 20 July 2023 to investigate and report on the negative impact of tourism on Thanet and find ways to mitigate that impact. Areas of focus would include the impact on parking, AirBnB on rent levels in the district and costs for Street Cleansing services. It is hoped that from this review, the working party could come up with recommendations for mitigating this impact. These proposals would then be forwarded for consideration to the Panel and subsequently Cabinet.
- 1.2 The purpose of this meeting is for the working party to agree their work programme for carrying out this scrutiny review. Members may also wish to set out timelines for concluding different activities of this review project, leading to the production of the review report.

2.0 Collecting Evidence for the review

- 2.1 Members need to identify the activities to undertake as part of evidence gathering. These would lead to the production of a report with recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel at the end of the scrutiny review project. Members agreed that the review would be conducted over a day. This would include members of the working party conducting site visits to different locations across the district to gather any evidence that could be used to produce the review report
- 2.2 Members could conduct a field visit round the district's different locations that could give a representative view of the issues being reviewed. This could then be followed up by a working session where Members pull together the main issues that would have been identified which would be included in the report. On the other hand, Members may feel that out of the field visit they need more information than it might be worth considering meeting with appropriate TDC officers and portfolio holders to gather more information in order to get a better view of the subject under review. A single session could be arranged for this purpose.
- 2.3 Members may also want to consider carrying out desktop research to find out what arrangements are in place in other districts. This is in order to determine how other similarly sized district councils manage tourism in their respective districts.

3.0 Options

- 3.1 Members would need to agree an approach for the review and a timeline of activities for conducting the review. This could be listing out the key activities and when these should be done by. This information would be used to send out appointments to the members and officers as is appropriate.
- 3.2 Members could simply agree on the approach for conducting the scrutiny review and assign officers in Democratic Services to liaise with officers in the appropriate service areas to arrange meetings and activities for the review.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 The following is a proposed generic timetable which Members can review and amend at the first meeting.

September 2023 - field visit to different locations around the district;
September 2023 - interview sessions with relevant witnesses;
October 2023 - Review of information collected and drafting of initial report;
October 2023 - Review of report by the working group, relevant senior officers and CMT;
November 2023 - Presentation of Final report to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Contact Officer: (Charles Hungwe, Deputy Committee Services Manager)
Reporting to: (Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager)

Annex List

None

Background Papers

None

Corporate Consultation

Finance: *(Insert name and job title)*

Legal: *(Insert name and job title)*