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**Exclusion of Public and Press**

To: **Governance and Audit Committee – 29 June 2011**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All**

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**Summary:** This report seeks the Committee's approval to exclude the public and press from the meeting on agenda item 9 as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

**For Decision**

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**1.0 Introduction**

The public must be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that confidential or exempt information would be disclosed.

***Exempt information – discretion to exclude public***

Subject to Article 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 (right to a fair trial) the public may be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that exempt information would be disclosed.

***Meaning of confidential information***

Confidential information means information given to the Council by a Government Department on terms which forbid its public disclosure or information which cannot be publicly disclosed by Court Order.

**2.0 Exempt information**

The full rules are set out in Part V and Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as Amended) and the Relevant Authorities (Standards Committees) Regulations 2001.

**3.0 Reason for Exempt Item**

The report author has classified Agenda Item 9 as disclosing exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972(as amended) thereby excluding the press and public from the meeting whilst this item is debated.

**4.0 Corporate Implications****4.1 Financial**

There are no direct financial implications.

#### 4.2 Legal

As per Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

#### 4.3 Corporate

None.

#### 4.4 Equity and Equalities

There are no specific equity and equality considerations that need to be addressed in this report.

#### 5.0 Recommendation

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting on agenda item as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

#### 6.0 Decision Making Process

This Committee must agree the recommendation if the press and public are to be excluded.

Contact Officer:	Glenn Back, Democratic and Scrutiny Manager
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate and Regulatory Services Manager

#### ***Corporate Consultation Undertaken***

Finance	<i>Sarah Martin, Financial Services Manager</i>
Legal	<i>Peter Reilly, Acting Legal Services Manager and Litigation Solicitor</i>