

PROTOCOL FOR MEMBERS' BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH THE COUNCIL

Report of Chief Solicitor

1. Introduction

A query has been received from Councillor Tate regarding the circumstances in which the above protocol is intended to operate (a copy of his letter is attached and this is self explanatory).

2. Background

In the circumstances described by Councillor Tate, he would have to declare a personal interest in items affecting those bodies when they are considered by the Council or at a Committee of which he is a Member, and a prejudicial interest if it related to the financial interests of those bodies. There is an exception for the budget meeting of Council.

The contracts between the organisations and the Council do not require to be registered under the Members' Code of Conduct as this applies to contracts for goods, services or works made between the Authority where the Member is a partner in the company or a remunerated director or hold shares in the company concerned.

The purpose of the protocol was to provide additional transparency to the situations where a Member's personal financial position was affected. It was not intended to apply to the situations where voluntary bodies on which Members are represented contract with the Council.

3. Recommendation

The Committee is requested to note and endorse the position in relation to the protocol.