

NOTICE of reasons for Urgency

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (“the Council”)

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”)

The Council is holding a scheduled public meeting of the Cabinet on Tuesday, 28 March 2017 at 7.30pm, at which urgent Part 1 and Part 2 reports not previously notified to the public will be considered in respect of the North Hertfordshire Museum and Community Facility at Hitchin Town Hall.

1. This Committee is deemed to be a relevant “decision-making body” under the Regulations.
2. It is likely that this part of this meeting will be held in private, and the members of the public and press will be excluded from that part of the meeting, for one or both of the following reasons:
 - (a) In view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, if members of the public were present, it is likely that confidential information would be disclosed to them in breach of the obligation of confidence; and
 - (b) In view of the nature of the item of business to be transacted, if members of the public were present during the item, exempt information would be disclosed to them.
3. Under Regulation 5, the Council is required to give notice of its intention to hold this meeting, or part of this meeting, in private, at least 28 clear days before the date of this meeting and to give a statement of reasons for this meeting, or part of this meeting, to be held in private.
4. Where the date by which a meeting must be held, makes compliance with this Regulation impracticable, the meeting may only be held in private where the agreement of the Council’s Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or if s/he is unable to act, the Chairman of the Council) has been obtained, for the reason that the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.
5. As soon as reasonably practicable after the agreement has been obtained, the Council must publish a notice setting out the reasons why the meeting was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred. This is such a notice.

6. In the case of the above item, the Council has obtained the agreement of the Council's Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to waive compliance with the Regulations for this meeting. The reasons why the item(s) was considered urgent and could not reasonably be deferred are as follows:

STATEMENT OF REASONS

The reason for urgency is that the decision to acquire 14/15 Brand Street, Hitchin at this point will allow the North Hertfordshire Museum fit out to proceed with a continued presence from the fit out contractor (which will contain costs).

Additionally, there are no Cabinet meetings scheduled until June 2017 and there are difficulties in scheduling an additional Cabinet in the pre-election period.

Signed: David Miley

Proper Officer of the Council

Date: 28 March 2017