

Motion to Full Council – 4 October 2011

Provision of Confidential Reports to Councillors

Motion proposed by Councillor Jefferson Horsley and seconded by Councillor Francesca Smith:-

“Taunton Deane Borough Council has always been in the vanguard of progress in openness and transparency in all of its forms with members of the public and the citizens of Taunton Deane who it serves. Council Tax payers on the one hand and recipients of the services on the other should always be considered first when decisions affecting citizens’ way of life are concerned.

It is recognised that from time to time items of a confidential nature may impact on the providers of services either personally or commercially where sensitivity has to be applied about the release of certain information.

Notwithstanding this, Taunton Deane Borough Council explicitly acknowledges Councillors ‘Right to Know’ on all matters where decisions are being taken; whether by the whole Council, the Executive or under delegated responsibilities as set out in the Constitution.

It therefore follows that all Councillors can attend all meetings of the Executive, Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels where confidential items are laid before the relevant Members, and are entitled to receive such items at least two working days before the relevant meeting at which they will be discussed.”