



Borough of Telford and Wrekin

Audit Committee

19 July 2022

PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ON COUNCILLORS WHO TRADED WITH THE COUNCIL DURING 2021/22

Cabinet Member: Cllr Rae Evans – Cabinet Member for Finance, Governance and Customer Services

Lead Director: Anthea Lowe – Director: Policy & Governance

Service Area: Policy & Governance

Report Author: Ken Clarke – Director: Finance & HR (Chief Financial Officer)
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Wards Affected: All wards affected

Key Decision: No

Forward Plan: Not applicable

Report considered by: Senior Management Team – 28/6/2022

1.0 Recommendations for decision/noting:

1.1 It is recommended that members of the Audit Committee note the contents of the report and information that will be published on the Council's website.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 The purpose of the report is to present to the Audit Committee information to be published in respect to Councillors who traded with the Council during 2021/22.

3.0 Background

3.1 As part of the annual account process councillors disclose where they have an interest in a company/companies that receive payment from the Council. These are shown annually in the Final Accounts that are presented to the Audit Committee.

3.2 However, the Council through the Constitution Committee and full Council agreed that in order to provide better transparency additional details of any Councillors who have an interest in companies that benefit from trading with the Council will be taken to Full Council via the Audit Committee as a separate report each year and published on the Council's website.

This information will be more readily accessible by the public and demonstrate the Council's co-operative commitment to openness.

3.3 It was agreed that the information reported would be the previous year's value and description of any payments received from the Council to any businesses / companies where that Member has an interest.

3.4 Only two Councillors were associated with companies (either owners or Directors) that traded with the Council in 2021/22. These were:

- Councillor Stephen Burrell – £555,087 in respect to the company Peace of Mind Homecare. Councillor Burrell is a Director of this company. Peace of Mind Homecare provide domiciliary care services.
- Councillor Carolyn Healy - £12,734 in respect to the company Red Kite Ltd. Councillor Healy is a Director of this company. Red Kite Ltd provide landscape architecture and ecology services.

4.0 Summary of main proposals

4.1 There are no proposals, this report is for information only.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 There are no options relating to this report as it is for information only.

6.0 Key Risks

6.1 The risks and opportunities in respect to this report will be appropriately identified and managed

7.0 Council Priorities

7.1 The report supports the Council's values that are embedded in the delivery of all the Council's priorities

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report, the information is collected and reported on within Note 48. Related Parties – Members, as part of the final accounts process. MLB 07.07.22.

9.0 Legal and HR Implications

9.1 It should also be noted that in addition to the publication of the information referred to in this report, Councillors also have to complete a disclosable pecuniary interest's form following their appointment pursuant to The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. This form includes a section where Councillors must provide details of any contracts they have with the Council. The form for each Councillor is published on the Council's website.

10.0 Ward Implications

10.1 Ward implications cover all local councils detailed in the Parish Charter.

11.0 Health, Social and Economic Implications

11.1 There are no health, social or economic implications.

12.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

12.1 Transparency supports equalities and demonstrates the Council's commitment to be open and fair.

13.0 Climate Change and Environmental Implications

13.1 This report has limited environmental impact due to the nature of the work companies reported undertake.

14.0 Background Papers

- 1 Localism Act 2011
- 2 Co-operative Council Commissions Report 2012

15.0 Appendices

None.

16.0 Report Sign Off

Signed off by	Date sent	Date signed off	Initials
Legal	10/06/2022	16/06/2022	RP
Finance	10/06/2022	07/07/2022	MLB