

**DRAFT Dispensation**

The Monitoring Officer authorises the following dispensation having liaised with Members of the Standards Committee:

<b>Members for which this dispensation applies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Cllr Jeremy Punchard</b></li></ul>
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Committee(s) or decision-making body from which a dispensation would apply	Full Council and all council committees
Details of Membership of that body	Members of Full Council
The business for which a dispensation would apply	Debate and vote on matters relating to Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation
What is the member's interest	Employment: Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service (Norfolk County Council).
Is dispensation to participate, vote or both?	<b>Both</b>
Reasons for allowing or refusing the dispensation	<p>Dispensation is granted.</p> <p>This Member is a member of the Fire and Rescue Service, employed by the County Council, being one of the major employers in Norfolk. This may amount to a DPI when dealing with matters relating to devolution and local government organisation at Council meeting agenda items. (It is noted that dispensation has previously been granted to twin-hatters with regard to their being in receipt of allowances from the County Council, allowing them to participate and vote on matters relating to Local Government Reorganisation and devolution on such reports as may come forward for discussion at the Council.)</p> <p>It is relevant that this Member is the Leader of the Independent Group and representation of different political groups on important decisions relating to devolution and LGR may be negatively impacted without such participation.</p> <p>Local Government Reorganisation is a significant matter for Norfolk councils to consider and will have wide and various impacts upon people who live and work here. To allow wide and full participation in discussions and votes on local government reorganisation, a dispensation is considered appropriate under section 33(2) of the Localism Act 2011, as without the dispensation, this Member, may be prohibited from participating thereby impeding the transaction of business; and granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area to ensure democratic representation and</p>

	<p>effective decision-making on matters of significant local importance</p> <p><b>*Note:</b></p> <p><i>(i) A Member who has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, for reasons other than those relating to the interest detailed in this dispensation, would need to make a personal application setting out in detail the nature of the Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and the reasons why they should be granted a dispensation for that Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and the extent of the dispensation that they are seeking.</i></p> <p><i>(ii) A Member may still choose to voluntarily remove themselves for any item that this dispensation has been granted for, should they so wish.</i></p> <p><i>(iii) Whilst the dispensation is specific to the interest contained in this document, no dispensation can be provided on being biased or predetermined and all Members are required to comply with these legal obligations</i></p>
Period covered by the dispensation	4 years - From 11/09/25 to 10/09/2029, or the vesting of a new Authority, whichever is the earlier.

Signed by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with Members of the Standards Committee

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