

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Request for a Dispensation

Name of Member seeking dispensation:

In respect of which meeting(s)? *(Include dates, where possible)*

Council Meeting, Area constituency Meeting, Overview and Scrutiny, Executive meeting. Any council meeting in effect.

In respect of what business? *(If applicable, include full details of the agenda item or other matter)*

This relates to the potential construction of relief road through the Nidd Gorge Area as part of the Harrogate Congestion Review.
The previous situation related to the Harrogate Relief Rod Review

Name of the Relevant Officer: *(Please indicate the name of the officer who usually presents reports on the matter for which a dispensation is sought).*

David Bowe's team

Desired length of dispensation: *(Please note the maximum length of a dispensation is four years)*

Until end of council tenure / next election

Ground(s) for application: *(Please tick the relevant box)*

- (a) without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business;
- (b) without the dispensation the representation of different political groups on the body transacting any particular business would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote relating to the business;
- (c) granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area; or
- (d) without the dispensation each Member of the Authority's Executive would be prohibited from participating in any particular business to be transacted by the Executive;
- (e) it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.

Details of your disclosable pecuniary interest:

Please set out full details of your interest in the business concerned. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary:

I live on Bilton Lane - Woodside Farm, Bilton Lane, Harrogate HG1 4DH. Any proposed road could come close to my house and land at that address. It is not clear whether any development would be beneficial or prejudicial to my financial circumstances.

Reasons for seeking a dispensation:

Please set out full reasons why it is desirable for the Standards Sub-Committee to grant you a dispensation in respect of the above prejudicial interest. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary:

This is a most emotive issue within the borough – it is our Brexit debate. I was elected to fight this road and put the local point of view / give my residents a voice on this issue. The committee have already granted me permission to speak on this topic – for which I am grateful, however I need you to go further and allow me to have a vote should the need arise. The current situation means that I cannot adequately represent constituents. Everyone in Bilton and Nidd Gorge constituency are being disenfranchised on this issue.

I am also, rightly, under pressure. The local labour party have started a petition against me (attached), requesting that I step down on the basis that I cannot truly represent the interests of my residents on this issue. I appreciate being able to influence the debate by speaking but I have some sympathy with my residents' view point that I am impotent in this debate when it comes to voting. As a councillor I do have other issues to deal with – for example I am active with Schools in the area, but this is by far the most important issue for my residents and in the Borough, as I stated earlier.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WHEN ACTING UNDER A DISPENSATION, MEMBERS MUST AT ALL TIMES ACT, AND APPEAR TO ACT, IN THE AUTHORITY'S BEST INTERESTS.

Signed: Paul Haslam

Dated: 3rd January 2019

TO: **BARRY KHAN**, Monitoring Officer, North Yorkshire County Council