

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am to inform you that a meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee will be held on **Wednesday, 9th September 2026 at 7.00p.m.** in attendance at the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF.

Yours faithfully,

**Dan Austin
Town Clerk**

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

2. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

To consider written requests for dispensations from members who have declared interests under Disclosable or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Section 33 of the 2011 Localism Act.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To notify of any items that appear in the agenda in which you may have an interest, including those that have previously been recorded in the Members Register of Interests.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, ask questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Questions will not be received by the Council which are in furtherance of a person's individual circumstances, or which are about a matter where there is a right of appeal to the courts, a tribunal or government minister. A question will not be received by the Council where the issue it concerns has been the subject of a decision of the Council in the last six months.

5. MINUTES

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 15th July 2026 for information. (Previously Circulated).

6. ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS

... To receive the account control sheets for the period 3rd July to 13th August 2026 and the General Bank Account for July 2026.

7. GRANTS AND DONATION REQUESTS

. . . To consider the attached report from the Town Clerk.

8. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27 TO 2030/31

. . . To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager and Town Clerk.

9. 2027/28 BUDGET FRAMEWORK AND TIMETABLE

. . . To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

10. INSURANCE POLICY STABILITY AGREEMENT EXTENSION

. . . To consider the attached report from the Town Clerk.

11. INTERNAL AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER AND THREE-YEAR INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

. . . To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

12. PLAY AREA SAFETY SURFACING REPLACEMENT – HORNDAL PARK

. . . To consider the attached report from the Works and Environment Manager.

13. MAYOR'S ALLOWANCE

To consider an item to be raised by Councillor Arun Chandran as to whether the Mayor's Allowance should be increased to take into account the fact that it is taxable thus reducing its actual value, net, in defraying the expenses incurred whilst carrying out the duly approved and constituted duties of the Office of Mayor. No mayor should be making a profit, but likewise the Council needs to ensure that no one is out of pocket, or deterred from standing for Mayor.

Any questions or queries on agenda items or reports should be raised with officers before meetings by telephone or email.

Please note that this does not preclude members from asking the question at the meeting if this is important to the debate or decision.

Members are requested, during Council Meetings, to observe the Council's Standing Orders relating to the Business and Proceedings of the Council, with particular reference to the Rules of Debate, as well as the Members' Code of Conduct and the principles of Civility and Respect Pledge.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

Councillors: Tunde Akinsanya, Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Lindsey Aston, Jaci Beddard, Tony Beddard, Dorothy Bowman, Richard Burchell, Arun M. Chandran, Chris Clement, Neil Collinson, Luke Ellis, George Gray, Phil Hawkins, Andy Hill, Richard Hutchinson, Sharon Hutchinson, Sandra Kirby, Vijaya Kotur, Jackie McFadden Lewis, John Moore, Carl Robinson, Kyle Robinson, Ken Robson, Brian Sowerby, Michael Stead, Tracey Williams, Anne Woodward and John Woodward.