

**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 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, 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 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 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026 for information. (Previously Circulated).

**6. MEMBER APPEAL PANEL NOTES**

. . . To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Member Appeals Panel Meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

**7. ASSET MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- . . . To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Asset Management Sub Committee held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2026 for information.

**8. ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS**

- . . . To receive the account control sheets for the period 27<sup>th</sup> August, 10<sup>th</sup> September, 25<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> October and the General Bank Accounts for August and September 2026.

**9. GRANTS AND DONATION REQUESTS**

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

**10. 2026/27 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET POSITION TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026 AND PROJECTION OF EXPECTED OUTTURN**

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

**11. 2027/28 DRAFT POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET**

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

**12. OVERALL DRAFT 2027/28 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS**

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

**13. ADDITIONAL CAPITAL BUDGET APPROVAL REFERRED FROM THE RECREATION COMMITTEE**

To approve an additional capital budget request of £5,000 for the purchase of a framework and harness system for a Council works vehicle, for use during the Santa Tours event, as agreed at the Recreation Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2026.

**14. PATERNITY LEAVE AND PAY POLICY UPDATE**

- . . . To consider the attached report from the Corporate and Policy Officer

## **15. NOTICE OF MOTION - BUY LOCAL PROCUREMENT POLICY**

To consider the following motion from Councillor Sharon Hutchinson:

*"It is proposed that the Council considers making it an explicit part of the Council's Standing Orders for Contracts and Procurement to give consideration to whether the Council is able to buy locally, i.e. from businesses in Newton Aycliffe.*

*It is noted that the Council does not currently have a formal procurement policy on buying local, but that this is identified as a future aspiration within the Carbon Reduction Action Plan.*

*Officers already give consideration to the location of suppliers and contractors in a number of procurement decisions, as reflected in various committee reports, particularly those relating to capital projects.*

*Standing Order 15 (Award Criteria and Evaluation of Tenders and Contracts) permits the Council to take non-financial sub-criteria into account, and this could accommodate consideration of local suppliers alongside the existing sub-criteria.*

*It is proposed that the Council's Finance Manager is tasked with seeking advice from Durham County Council Procurement Department, under the Procurement Service Level Agreement, with a view to formally considering and, where practicable, recording whether a local supplier is able to meet the Council's requirements at a competitive price and to the required standard of value for money, before a procurement decision is finalised, and incorporating this into the next annual review of the Standing Orders for Contracts and Procurement.*

*For clarity it is not intended that this policy would require the Council to purchase locally in every instance, but would ensure that local sourcing has been actively considered and that this consideration can be evidenced in the Council's procurement records and committee reporting".*

***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, Brian Sowerby, Michael Stead, Tracey Williams, Anne Woodward and John Woodward (+ 1 vacancy).