

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2026

(as part of the Annual General Meeting)

Minutes of the meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on Wednesday 13th May 2026.

PRESENT

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, Andy Hill, Sharon Hutchinson, Sandra Kirby, John Moore, Carl Robinson, Kyle Robinson, Ken Robson, Brian Sowerby, Michael Stead, Tracey Williams, Anne Woodward and John Woodward.

OFFICIALS

Mr. Dan Austin (Town Clerk)
Mrs. Tracey Woodhead (Finance Manager)
Miss. Amanda Donald (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mrs. Sharna Stretch (Senior Administrative Officer)

IN ATTENDANCE Councillor Brian Haigh
Three members of the public.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Michael Stead and seconded by Councillor Kyle Robinson, that Councillor Lindsey Aston be nominated as Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

It was further proposed by Councillor Tony Beddard and seconded by Councillor Ken Robson, that Councillor Martin Ashcroft be appointed Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

A vote took place with the following results:

Councillor Lindsey Aston 14 votes
Councillor Martin Ashcroft 11 votes

RESOLVED – that Councillor Lindsey Aston be appointed Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Councillor Lindsey Aston took the Chair for the meeting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Arun Chandran and seconded by Councillor Kyle Robinson, that Councillor Sharon Hutchinson, be nominated as Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

It was further proposed by Councillor Ken Robson and seconded by Councillor Jaci Beddard, that Councillor Carl Robinson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

A vote took place with the following results:

Councillor Sharon Hutchinson	14 votes
Councillor Carl Robinson	11 votes

RESOLVED – that Councillor Sharon Hutchinson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Jackie McFadden Lewis and Phil Hawkins.

4. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

There had been no applications for dispensations.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Policy and Resources Committee considered the appointment of members to the following Sub Committees:

- (a) Service Review Sub-Committee
- (b) Personnel Sub-Committee
- (c) Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee
- (d) General Appeals Sub-Committee
- (e) Audit Risk and GDPR Sub-Committee
- (f) Asset Management Sub-Committee
- (g) Pre-School Learning Centres' Sub-Committee
- (h) Member Appeals Panel

It was proposed by Councillor Arun Chandran and seconded by Councillor Martin Ashcroft and

RESOLVED – as follows:

(a) Service Review Sub Committee

- (i) That a Service Review Sub Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Service Review Sub Committee comprise of 15 members plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio members.
- (iii) That the membership be:

Councillors: Tunde Akinsanya, Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Lindsey Aston, Jaci Beddard, Tony Beddard, Arun M. Chandran, Neil Collinson, Luke Ellis, Andy Hill, Richard Hutchinson, Sharon Hutchinson, Jackie McFadden Lewis, Carl Robinson, Kyle Robinson, Brian Sowerby, Michael Stead.
- (iv) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Service Review Sub Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 be appointed at its first meeting.

(b) Personnel Sub Committee

- (i) That the Personnel Sub Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Personnel Sub Committee comprise of 16 members plus the Mayor as ex-officio member.
- (iii) That the membership be:

Councillors: Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Lindsey Aston, Jaci Beddard, Tony Beddard, Richard Burchell, Arun M. Chandran, Chris Clement, Neil Collinson, Luke Ellis, Phill Hawkins, Richard Hutchinson, Sharon Hutchinson, Jackie McFadden Lewis, Carl Robinson, Kyle Robinson and John Woodward.
- (iv) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Personnel Sub Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 be appointed at its first meeting.

(c) Personnel Appeals Sub Committee

- (i) That the Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee comprise of 4 members plus the Deputy Mayor as ex-officio member.
- (iii) That the membership be:

Councillors: Tunde Akinsanya, Dorothy Bowman, George Gray, Ken Robson and Michael Stead.
- (iv) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 be appointed at its first meeting.

(d) Generals Appeals Sub Committee

- (i) That the General Appeals Sub-Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That appointments to the General Appeals Sub-Committee be chosen from the relevant Service Committee as required and when necessary by the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee and the Chairman of the relevant committee and that no more than seven councillors make up the sub-committee.
- (iii) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be appointed at its first meeting.

(e) Audit, Risk and GDPR Sub Committee

- (i) That an Audit, Risk and G.D.P.R. Sub-Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Audit, Risk and G.D.P.R. Sub-Committee comprise 6 members plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio members.
- (iv) That the membership be:

Councillors: Tunde Akinsanya, Arun M. Chandran, Chris Clement, Neil Collinson, Richard Hutchinson, Sharon Hutchinson, Carl Robinson and Michael Stead.
- (iv) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Audit, Risk and GDPR Sub Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 be appointed at its first meeting.

(f) Asset Management Sub Committee

- (i) That an Asset Management Sub Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Asset Management Sub Committee comprise 16 members plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio members.
- (iii) That the membership be:

Councillors: Tunde Akinsanya, Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Lindsey Aston, Jaci Beddard, Tony Beddard, Richard Burchell, Arun M. Chandran, Chris Clement, Neil Collinson, Luke Ellis, Phill Hawkins, Richard Hutchinson, Sharon Hutchinson, Carl Robinson, Kyle Robinson, Ken Robson and Michael Stead,
- (iv) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Asset Management Member Sub Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 be appointed at its first meeting.

(g) Pre-School Sub-Committee

- (i) That a Pre-School Sub-Committee be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Pre-School Sub-Committee comprise 11 members plus the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio members.
- (iii) That the membership be:

Councillors: Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Lindsey Aston, Jaci Beddard, Tony Beddard, Arun M. Chandran, Neil Collinson, Sharon Hutchinson, Sandra Kirby, Jackie McFadden Lewis, Carl Robinson, Michael Stead, Tracey Williams, Anne Woodward and John Woodward.
- (iv) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Pre-School Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2026/27 be appointed at its first meeting.

(h) Member Appeals Panel

- (i) That a Member Appeals Panel be appointed for the Municipal Year 2026/27.
- (ii) That the Member Appeals Panel comprise 6 members from the Personnel Sub Committee.
- (v) That the membership be:

Councillors: Lindsey Aston, Richard Burchell, Chris Clement, Martin Ashcroft, Carl Robinson and Tony Armstrong.
- (ii) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Member Appeals Panel be appointed at its first meeting.

CHAIRMAN