

# Local Government Act 1972

## Borough of North Tyneside

Thursday, 28 November 2019

At the meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Tyneside duly convened and held on Thursday, 28 November 2019 at 6.00 pm in Chamber - Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY at which a quorum of Members were present, that is to say: -

### Present

Councillor W Lott (Chair)

Councillor J Allan	Councillor A Austin
Councillor G Bell	Councillor L Bell
Councillor T Brady	Councillor S Brockbank
Councillor B Burdis	Councillor D Cox
Councillor S Cox	Councillor N Craven
Councillor E Darke	Councillor L Darke
Councillor C Davis	Councillor S Day
Councillor D Drummond	Councillor P Earley
Councillor R Glindon	Councillor M Green
Councillor Janet Hunter	Councillor John Hunter
Councillor N Huscroft	Councillor C Johnson
Councillor J Kirwin	Councillor K Lee
Councillor F Lott	Councillor G Madden
Councillor M Madden	Councillor T Mulvenna
Councillor A McMullen	Councillor M Hall
Councillor J O'Shea	Councillor K Osborne
Councillor A Percy	Councillor S Phillips
Councillor B Pickard	Councillor M Rankin
Councillor M Reynolds	Councillor W Samuel
Councillor J Stirling	Councillor M Thirlaway
Councillor J Walker	Councillor J Wallace
Councillor L Miller	Councillor M Wilson
Councillor E Parker-Leonard	Councillor P Richardson
Councillor L Bartoli	

**Apologies:** Councillor C Burdis, Councillor J Cassidy, Councillor K Clark, Councillor S Graham, Councillor P McIntyre, Councillor J Mole, Councillor A Newman, Councillor P Oliver, Elected Mayor N Redfearn, Councillor F Weetman, Councillor K Barrie and Councillor J Cruddas

### **C37/19          Public Questions**

The Chair addressed the meeting to inform the Council that due to the calling of a General Election and upon considering statutory guidance for local authorities about publicity in a

pre-election period, the decision had been taken that no questions would be accepted for this meeting. Those questions that had been received would be given a written response soon after the Election.

**C38/19 To receive any Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

**C39/19 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2019 (previously circulated)**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 September 2019 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chair.

**C40/19 Motions**

The Chair announced that no Motions had been received for this meeting.

**C41/19 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

Council gave consideration to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2020/21.

The Chair welcomed Mr John Anderson, the Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel, who presented the report to the meeting.

The Panel had recommended that no change be made to the current Members' Allowances Scheme for the 2020/21 financial year and supported the adoption of a parental leave policy for Members.

The Chair thanked the Panel for the report.

It was moved by Councillor B Pickard and seconded by Councillor E Parker-Leonard that:

Council approve the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2020/21, including the adoption of a parental leave policy for Members

The Motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 48 votes to 0 votes.

**C42/19 In-year review of the Constitution**

The Council received a report on the In-year review of the Constitution undertaken by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Constitution Task Group.

The report contained recommendations on proposed amendments to the main Constitution with remaining items (such as the annual update of the Officer Delegation Scheme) following in early 2020 for consideration at the Annual Council meeting on 21 May 2020.

The report contained recommendations on proposed amendments to the Constitution in relation to the following items:

- Budget and Policy Framework – relating to the budget setting process
- Approval of the Authority's Accounts – relating to the role of Audit Committee
- Common Seal – regarding arrangements for authorising and affixing the seal
- Parental Leave Policy for Elected Members – to consider the adoption of a discretionary policy setting out entitlement to maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave and relevant allowances
- Contract Standing Orders – relating to Framework Agreements.

It was moved by Councillor T Mulvenna and seconded by Councillor B Pickard that:

Council (1) approve the proposed changes to the Constitution set out in Appendix 1 to the report and refer the approved changes to the Elected Mayor for her consent in accordance with Article 15 of the Constitution; and

(2) note the revised dates of meetings of Cabinet and Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee as part of the budget setting process, as set out in section 1.5.2 of the report.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 43 votes to 0 votes.

#### **C43/19 Common Seal**

**Resolved** that the Common Seal be affixed to all deeds and documents required for carrying into effect the various decisions of the Council made since its last meeting.

#### **C44/19 Chair's Announcements**

The Chair made the following announcements:

- The Chair congratulated the Council for the work undertaken in supporting the Remembrance Services and conveyed the Lord Lieutenant's congratulations for the excellent organisation of the events, commenting that it was one of the best they had experienced.
- Operation Veteran had received the Armed Forces Silver Covenant.
- The Chair's Office would be sending only electronic Christmas Cards this year and the savings made would be donated to the Chair's charity.
- The Chair encouraged everyone to attend an indoor Christmas Market that was being hosted in the Quadrant Building on the 6 December with some proceeds going to the Chair's Charity. The event would take place between 11-2pm.
- The Chair's Ball was arranged to take place on the 15 February, and tickets were available to buy.
- The Chair thanked Ashleigh Willis for supporting the Chair's Office and welcomed back Carol Girvan following her secondment.

#### **C45/19 Elected Mayor's Announcements**

There were no Elected Mayor announcements.

**C46/19            Questions by Members of the Council**

The Chair referred to her earlier comment that due to the calling of a General Election, the decision had been taken that no questions be accepted at this meeting.