

Local Government Act 1972

Borough of North Tyneside

Thursday, 16 May 2019

At the meeting of the Annual Council of the Borough of North Tyneside duly convened and held on Thursday, 16 May 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 T Mulvenna (Chair)
N Redfearn (Elected Mayor)

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

Apologies: Councillor N Craven, Councillor M Hall and Councillor M Rankin

C1/19 To Elect the Chair of the Council for the 2019/20 Municipal Year

The following nomination was received for the Office of Chair of the Council for the ensuing

year:

Nominee

Proposer

Seconder

Councillor W Lott

Councillor B Pickard

Councillor C Johnson

The nomination was approved by 49 votes to 0 votes.

Resolved that Councillor W Lott be, and is hereby elected, Chair of the Council for the ensuing year and until the acceptance of Office by a successor.

C2/19 Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Chair

The Chair made the formal declaration of acceptance of Office in pursuance of the Local Government Act 1972.

(Councillor W Lott in the Chair).

C3/19 To Elect the Deputy Chair of the Council for the 2019/20 Municipal Year

The following nomination was received for the Office of Deputy Chair of the Council for the ensuing year:

Nominee

Proposer

Seconder

Councillor D Drummond

Councillor W Samuel

Councillor S Day

The nomination was approved by 49 votes to 0 votes.

Resolved that Councillor D Drummond be, and is hereby elected, Deputy Chair of the Council for the ensuing year and until the acceptance of Office by a successor.

C4/19 Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Deputy Chair

The Deputy Chair made the formal declaration of acceptance of Office in pursuance of the Local Government Act 1972.

(At this stage the Council adjourned to allow the newly elected Chair and Deputy Chair to receive their chains of office and return to the Council Chamber).

C5/19 Vote of thanks to retiring Chair and Chair's Consort

A vote of thanks for the retiring Chair, Councillor T Mulvenna, was moved by Councillor C Burdis and seconded by Councillor B Burdis.

In the position of Chair of Council, Councillor Mulvenna had conducted himself with fairness and integrity. He had a strong belief in civic duty and pride and cared for the people and Borough. This was demonstrated by the amount of work he had undertaken to raise lot of money to support the local community. The Council and borough appreciated all the work he had accomplished during his period of office.

C6/19 To receive any Declarations of Interest and Notification of any

Dispensations Granted

Councillor F Lott declared a non-registerable personal interest in Minute C01/05/19 in the light of his wife's nomination for the position of Chair of Council.

C7/19 Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 21 March 2019 (previously circulated)

Resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 March 2019 be taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chair.

C8/19 Municipal Elections - 2 May 2019 - Return of Councillors

The Council received the following return of Councillors elected on 2 May 2019.

WARD	NAME
Battle Hill	Julie Cruddas
Benton	Janet Hunter
Camperdown	Ray Glindon
Chirton	Alan Percy
Collingwood	Martin Rankin
Cullercoats	Ken Barrie
Howdon	John Harrison
Killingworth	Erin Parker-Leonard
Longbenton	Karen Clark
Monkseaton North	Paul Richardson
Monkseaton South	David Drummond
Northumberland	Andrew Newman
Preston	Matt Wilson
Riverside	Wendy Lott
St Mary's	Leslie Miller
Tynemouth	Lewis Bartoli
Valley	Carole Burdis
Wallsend	Matthew Thirlaway
Weetslade	Muriel Green
Whitley Bay	John O'Shea

The Chair welcomed the newly elected and re-elected Members

C9/19 Address by the Elected Mayor including Cabinet Composition and Delegation Scheme

The Mayor circulated details of the Cabinet membership, the portfolios of each member of the Cabinet and their key areas of responsibility.

The Mayor extended her thanks to the retiring Chair of Council, Councillor Tommy Mulvenna and his consort Maureen Mulvenna for all of their hard work over the last year.

The Mayor congratulated the new Chair of Council, Councillor Wendy Lott and Councillor Davey Drummond on his appointment as Deputy Chair.

The Mayor also welcomed newly elected Councillors Ken Barrie, Lewis Bartoli, Julie

Cruddas, Les Miller, Erin Parker-Leonard, Paul Richardson and Matt Wilson onto the Council and thanked all of the officers whose work had ensured that the elections in North Tyneside had run smoothly.

The Mayor also thanked all those involved in the regeneration scheme at Spanish City and the Central Lower Promenade sea defence scheme and highlighted that both had received awards.

Finally the Mayor thanked all employees for their work in delivering the services to residents on a day to day basis and made the ambitious plans and vision for North Tyneside a reality.

The Cabinet would consist of 9 councillors and the Elected Mayor, as shown below.

Cabinet Member	Cabinet Portfolio	Key Areas of Responsibility
Norma Redfearn	Elected Mayor	Overall Strategic Policy Direction National and Regional Engagement Leadership within the North of Tyne Combined Authority Devolution Leadership of the North Tyneside Strategic Partnership Law and Democracy
Councillor Bruce Pickard	Deputy Mayor	Delivery and presentation of Strategic Policy Direction Regeneration, Planning, Business and Economic Development Digital and Customer Services Human Resources Delivery of the Efficiency Programme (including the Capita Partnership) Delivery of the Investment Programme
Councillor Ray Glindon	Cabinet Member responsible for Finance and Resources	Finance Assets and Property Audit, Assurance and Risk Commercials and Supply Chain Delivery of the Efficiency Programme (including the Engie Partnership)

Details of the Mayor's proposed approach to managing executive decision making, which included her delegation scheme of executive decision making to Cabinet Members, were also circulated.

The following decisions would be delegated to Cabinet Members in 2019/20:

- a) approving the Authority's response to government consultation papers;
- b) approval of service specific plans;
- c) debt write off up to £50,000 in relation to Council Tax, Business Rates, Sundry Debts and Housing Benefit Overpayments (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance and Resources);
- d) to approve responses to regional strategies that impact on the Borough;
- e) to determine Traffic Regulation Orders where any objections are not withdrawn (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Environment and Transport);
- f) to consider any objections received, but not withdrawn, in relation to the proposed construction of road humps (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Environment and Transport);
- g) to approve any proposals directly related to the delivery of objectives in the approved Our North Tyneside Plan;
- h) to approve the Member Development Programme (Deputy Mayor);
- i) to consider any applications received for discretionary relief for Council Tax or Business Rates, considered only when exceptional circumstances apply, as set out in the Policy for the awarding of local taxation discretionary relief (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance and Resources); and
- j) Debt write off between £3,000 and £50,000 in respect of current and former Council house tenant arrears and write off of credit balances between £3,000 and £10,000 associated with untraceable former tenants (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing).

Executive decision making on other matters not listed above would, except in exceptional (urgent) circumstances, be taken by Cabinet collectively.

Any decisions taken by Cabinet Members would have to comply with many of the same good governance requirements that would apply to collective decision-making by Cabinet, namely:

- Publication on the Forward Plan
- Presentation of a written report to the Cabinet Member - the report to be in the same format as current Cabinet reports including reference to legal and financial implications background papers, etc.
- Publication of a record of the decision and availability for call in within specific deadlines.

C10/19 Leaders of Political Groups

1. It was reported that N Redfearn, Elected Mayor had been appointed as Leader of the Labour Group.
2. It was reported that Councillor J Wallace had been appointed as Leader of the Conservative Group.

C11/19 Deputy Leaders of Political Groups

1. It was reported that Councillor B Pickard had been appointed as Deputy Leader of the Labour Group
2. It was reported that Councillor A Austin had been appointed as Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group.

C12/19 Annual Review of the Constitution

The Council received a report on the annual review of the Constitution and associated documents undertaken by the Monitoring Officer.

The report contained recommendations on proposed amendments to the main Constitution and Officer Delegation Scheme, to ensure they continued to be fit for purpose and provided a framework which ensured the efficient discharge of the Authority's business by allowing for decision making at the appropriate level.

The Senior Leadership Team and Members of the Council had been requested to submit any proposed amendments to the Constitution and associated documents as part of the review. Proposals received had been submitted to the Constitution Task Group for consideration. The proposals that had been approved by the Task Group were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Constitution and associated documents would continue to be kept under review and updated to reflect any changes in the organisational structure of the Council or any legislative changes. The Council had previously authorised the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Chair of the Constitution Task Group, to make such changes when the power remained unaltered and these did not need to be reported to Council.

It was moved by Councillor F Lott and seconded by Councillor T Mulvenna that:

The Council approve the proposed changes to the Constitution and Officer Delegation Scheme 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.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 58 votes to 0 votes.

C13/19 Annual Appointments

The Council was requested to consider the appointment of committees and sub committees, Chairs and Deputy Chairs of those committees/sub committees, the allocation of seats to political groups on those committees/sub committees, the appointment of co-opted members on the Audit Committee and the appointment of representatives to serve on outside bodies that exercised non-executive functions for the 2019/20 Municipal year.

It was moved by Councillor B Pickard and seconded by Councillor C Burdis that:

(1) The following committees/sub committees be appointed for the 2019/20 Municipal Year on the basis of the number of seats indicated:

<u>Committee/Sub-Committee</u>	<u>No of Seats</u>
Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee	15
Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee	12
Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee	12
Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee	12
Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee	12
Environment Sub-Committee	12
Finance Sub-Committee	7

Housing Sub-Committee	12
Appointments and Disciplinary Committee	7
Audit Committee	9
	(7 elected/2 independent)
Licensing Committee	15
Planning Committee	11
Regulation and Review Committee	18
<u>Committee/Sub-Committee</u>	<u>No of Seats</u>
Standards Committee	9
Health and Well Being Board (see Resolution (6) below)	

(2) the allocation of seats to political groups on each of the committees/sub committees be as follows and the Head of Law and Governance be informed of nominations of members to each committee/sub-committee by 12 noon on Friday 17 May 2019;

Committee	Total seats	Labour	Conservative	Others
Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee	15	13	2	0
Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub Committee	12	10	1	1
Children, Education and Skills Sub Committee	12	10	1	1
Culture And Leisure Sub Committee	12	11	1	0
Economic Prosperity Sub Committee	12	10	1	1
Environment Sub Committee	12	10	2	0
Finance Sub Committee	7	6	1	0
Housing Sub Committee	12	10	1	1
Audit Committee	7	6	1	0
Licensing Committee	15	13	2	0
Planning Committee	11	9	1	1
Regulation and Review Committee	18	15	2	1
Appointments and Disciplinary Committee	7	6	1	0
Standards Committee	9	8	1	0
Total no of seats	161	137	18	6

(3) the following nominations for Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Committees/Sub Committees for the 2019/20 Municipal Year be approved:

Committee/Sub-Committee	Chair	Deputy Chair
Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee	Councillor S Graham	Councillor J Allan
Adult Social Care, Health and Well-Being Sub-Committee	Councillor K Clark	Councillor J Kirwin

Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee	Councillor M Thirlaway	Councillor P Oliver
Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee	Councillor C Davis	Councillor S Phillips
Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee	Councillor Janet Hunter	Councillor J Walker
Environment Sub-Committee	Councillor B Burdis	Councillor L Bell
Finance Sub-Committee	Councillor A McMullen	Councillor D Cox
Committee/Sub-Committee	Chair	Deputy Chair
Housing Sub-Committee	Councillor A Newman	Councillor M Reynolds
Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor M Hall	Councillor M Green
Licensing Committee	Councillor T Mulvenna	Councillor W Samuel
Planning Committee	Councillor F Lott	Councillor T Brady
Regulation and Review Committee	Councillor J Stirling	Councillor John Hunter
Standards Committee	Councillor M Rankin	Councillor K Lee

(4) the appointment of Mr Kevin Robinson and Mr Malcolm Wilkinson as the two co-opted members on the Audit Committee for a further two year period be approved;

(5) the appointment of Reverend Michael Vine as the Church of England Diocesan representative and Stephen Fallon as the Roman Catholic Diocesan representative on the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee be noted;

(6) it be noted that the Elected Mayor will nominate at least one Councillor onto the Health and Wellbeing Board for the 2019/20 municipal year;

(7) the appointment of representatives to serve on outside bodies that do not exercise executive functions for the 2019/20 municipal year, as set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes, be approved.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 49 votes to 0 votes.

C14/19 Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny 2018/19

The Council received the Annual Scrutiny Report which summarised the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny and its key achievements during 2018/19.

In presenting the report, the Chair of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee for 2018/19, Councillor S Graham thanked everybody who had been involved in the Overview and Scrutiny process in the past year and encouraged all Members to become involved in the Scrutiny process in the coming year. Councillor Graham also invited Members to make any suggestions for further scrutiny.

With respect to the work scrutiny had been undertaken in reviewing the Lettings Policy, it was asked when the report would be published. It was stated that there was an on-going consultation regarding the Lettings Policy and once this was completed a report would be submitted to Cabinet. The Housing Sub Committee had received information on the review of the Lettings Policy and comments made by the Sub Committee were contained in the minutes of its meetings.

The Council received the report.

C15/19 Annual Report of Standards Committee 2018/19

The Council received the Annual Report of the Standards Committee which summarised the work undertaken by the Committee during 2018/19.

In presenting the report, the Deputy Chair of the Standards Committee for 2018/19, Councillor K Lee thanked the Committee Members, the Authority's Independent Persons (Standards) and Officers who had worked with the Committee over the past year. On behalf of the Chair of the Committee, she also encouraged Members to think carefully before lodging standards complaints and to seek advice from Law and Governance where appropriate.

The Council received the report.

C16/19 Chair's Announcements (if any)

The Chair thanked those Members who had nominated her for the appointment of Chair and stated that her nominated charities would be announced in the near future.

C17/19 Mayor's Announcements (if any)

The Elected Mayor made no further announcements.

C18/19 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.