



Council

North Tyneside Council

To All Members of the Council

Wednesday, 12 January 2022

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Tyneside to be held in **Chamber - Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY at 6.00 pm on Thursday, 20 January 2022** for the transaction of the following business.

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
1. Public Questions	3 - 4
Four valid questions have been received from members of the public for this meeting.	
2. Apologies	
3. To receive any Declarations of Interest	
You are invited to declare any registerable and/or non-registerable interests in matters appearing on the agenda, and the nature of that interest.	
Please complete the Declarations of Interests card available at the meeting and return it to the Democratic Services Officer before leaving the meeting.	
You are also invited to disclose any dispensation from the requirement to declare any registerable and/or non-registerable interests that have been granted to you in respect of any matters appearing on the agenda.	
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2021 (previously circulated)	

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and receive information about it.

North Tyneside Council wants to make it easier for you to get hold of the information you need. We are able to provide our documents in alternative formats including Braille, audiotape, large print and alternative languages.

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
5. Motions Four valid Motions on Notice, signed by at least three Members of the Council, have been received for consideration at this meeting.	5 - 10
6. Timetable of Meetings 2022/23 To consider a draft programme of Council and committee meetings for the 2022/23 municipal year.	11 - 16
7. Chair's Announcements To receive any announcements by the Chair of Council.	
8. Elected Mayor's Announcements To receive any announcements by the Elected Mayor.	
9. Questions by Members of the Council No questions have been received for a response at this meeting.	

Yours faithfully



Chief Executive

North Tyneside Council Report to Council 20 January 2022

Title: Questions by Members of the Public

Notice has been received of the following questions from members of the public to be put to the Council meeting.

1. Question to the Elected Mayor from Mrs S Armstrong of Shiremoor

Please can you tell me what NTC are doing to combat litter and rubbish which is becoming a huge issue in my area. I walk my dog every day at the Cobalt Nature Reserve, which your offices directly overlook, and I am horrified at the amount of litter in this beautiful place.

The Algernon industrial estate, also less than a mile away from your offices, is an utter disgrace with rubbish and litter everywhere. I'm sure this is not a unique problem and this must be issue across the whole borough.

Could the council consider litter wardens who issue on the spot fines for people dropping litter?

This used to happen in the 80's and we didn't have the litter issue that we have now.

2. Question to the Elected Mayor from Ms Prospert of Whitley Bay

"The Council appear committed to the provision of a coastal active travel route - and this is very welcome - but will the Council commit to extend this provision to the rest of the Borough and have a comprehensive active travel network by issuing and consulting on its Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)?

Other local authorities in the North East of England have either already consulted and issued their LCWIP (e.g. Newcastle, South Tyneside, Durham) or are currently consulting on it (e.g. Sunderland) and it is unclear when North Tyneside Council will undertake the same exercise and ensure meaningful community input. Without a LCWIP and associated work programme, any proposed cycling and walking improvements will remain "ad hoc" and disjointed."

3. Question to the Elected Mayor from Ms Stenning of North Shields

The council's Winter Maintenance Policy states that "the safe movement" of cyclists and pedestrians must be ensured as part of the winter maintenance policy, but we see little evidence of this commitment on the borough's designated cycle paths. Moreover, following Storm Arwen and the considerable impacts across the borough, obstructions and debris remain on many of the borough's cycle, pedestrian, and shared paths many weeks later, posing a particular danger to those cycling and to their cycles.

Research shows that failing to clear cycle paths not only deters cyclists on days when there is ice/snow/other debris but also more generally as travel choices need to be safe, reliable and consistent day in day out (see

<https://twitter.com/NTyneLivingSt/status/1467424856014794753?s=20>)

In this light, we ask the mayor and her cabinet:

- What resources are committed to clearing and ensuring the safety of cycle paths in the borough, in the context of both snow/ice and other weather events, and how are the council's cycle paths currently prioritised for clearing?
- How is winter maintenance integrated into the council's current schemes for extending and upgrading its cycle network (on the seafront, in town centres, metro links etc.) to meet the council's expressed desire to enable more residents to walk and cycle safely in the borough, not least to achieve the council's Net Zero commitments?

4. Question to the Elected Mayor from Mr Appleby of Cullercoats

As we are all aware, we're in the midst of a serious and deteriorating climate and nature emergency. Having adopted soft targets in 2019, the council has now accepted the need to take stronger action.

However, due to the delay, we don't have yet an adequate climate emergency action plan and as such the budget commitments to this issue are out of date and wholly inadequate.

Given this, can the council confirm when the revised Climate Emergency Action Plan will be ready and given the urgency of action, will the council recognise the need to pre-allocate funds in the budget to enable rapid action this year, as planning proceeds.

North Tyneside Council Report to Council 20 January 2022

Title: Motions

Notice has been received of the following motions from Members of the Council to be put to the Council meeting.

1. Motion signed by Councillors G Westwater, L Bones, S Brockbank

On the 27th September 2017 Council agreed to sign up to the non-legally binding International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of Antisemitism, and the supporting guidelines. This was subsequently adopted within the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy. With Holocaust Memorial Day just a few days away and with many new faces in the Chamber we are asking for Councillors elected after September 2017 and those that were not able to be present to be given the opportunity to show our support for this definition and for the remaining Councillors to reaffirm their support.

We request Council votes to endorse and reaffirm our commitment to the IHRA's definition of Antisemitism.

This will send a clear message that Antisemitism will not be tolerated within North Tyneside Council.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Definition of Antisemitism and supporting guidelines state:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Legal and Financial implications in relation to this Motion will be circulated prior to the meeting.

2. Motion signed by Councillors L Bones, P McIntyre, S Brockbank

Tyne Tunnel charges

Council notes the difficulties some residents have faced with the change in Tyne Tunnel payment to a cashless service. At present residents have to pay the toll online or at a Paypoint by midnight the day after their journey. Some residents have been shocked by the lack of publicity around the changes in advance of their introduction, and some residents have reported fines being issues despite tolls having been paid.

Council also notes that a petition has been running online and has, at time of writing, received over 10,000 signatures. That petition asks that TT2:

1. Cancel all unpaid toll charges issued in the last 6 months prior to 1st January 2022.
2. Increase the time period for which to 'pay later' from 48 hours to 5 working days.
3. Engage in a concerted advertising campaign to ensure people are fully aware of how the Tyne Tunnel now works and encourage frequent travellers to sign up for a pre-paid account.
4. Scrap the current penalty charge system and replace with the following more ethical structure: For those who miss their deadline to pay should receive an initial fine of no more than £20, which should be reduced to £5.00 if paid within 14 days of the date the fine was generated. These amounts are more ethical and affordable to the average user of the Tyne Tunnel - many of whom come from working class backgrounds or may be suffering from hardship due to the current economic climate. If paying a penalty charge then the original 'toll fare' should be taken out of the fine paid so that people are not being charged extra. If a person fails to pay the initial £20 fine within 28 days, it should rise to no more than £40 and only after a period of 42 days should this be passed to a debt collection agency where "additional administrative charges" of no more than a further £25 should be added.
5. Review the appeals process and produce clear guidance that is publicly available on what the policies of TT2 Limited are in relation to travel through the tunnel, what the toll prices are, and the penalty charge procedures. Ensuring that each individual case is considered carefully and with sensitivity.

Council therefore asks the Mayor to write to TT2 asking them to take the action requested in the petition.

Legal and Financial implications in relation to this Motion will be circulated prior to the meeting.

3. Motion signed by Councillors W Samuel, S Day, C Burdis

Cost of Living

Council notes with alarm the pressures on the cost of living for residents in North Tyneside.

Already facing the Government imposed cuts in Universal Credit and the National Insurance tax hike in April combined with rising inflation families in the borough will struggle to make ends meet.

To add insult to injury, it looks possible that the standard variable tariff for energy is likely to be increased by around 50% pushing many residents into fuel poverty.

Council asks the Elected Mayor to write to the Government asking that all possible measures, such as a reduction in VAT are looked into with a view to mitigating the impact of these increases on our people.

Legal and Financial implications in relation to this Motion will be circulated prior to the meeting.

4. Motion signed by Councillors C Johnson, S Graham, C Davis

Storm Arwen

North Tyneside council notes:

- Storm Arwen caused devastating damage right across North Tyneside, many homes, businesses, and public places were severely damaged with many forced to move out of their homes in the run up to Christmas.
- North Tyneside council's staff did some incredible work to assist residents in the greatest need on immediately following the storm and continue to do so in the aftermath and clean-up.

North Tyneside Council believes:

- The Conservative government's response was totally inadequate.

North Tyneside Council calls on the Mayor to:

- Write to the Prime Minister to raise our concerns with the way the situation was handled and to commit to providing funding to aid the recovery.

Legal and Financial implications in relation to this Motion will be circulated prior to the meeting.

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North Tyneside Council Report to Council Date: 20 January 2022

Title: Timetable of Meetings 2022/23

Portfolio(s): Elected Mayor	Cabinet Member(s): Mrs Norma Redfearn
Report from Service Area: Law & Governance	
Responsible Officer: Bryn Roberts, Head of Law and Governance (0191) 6435339	
Wards affected: All	

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report presents a draft programme of Council and committee meetings for the 2022/23 municipal year. It also requests the Council to determine which Council meetings during 2022/23 should be designated for the purposes of public question time.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Council:

- (1) agree the programme of meetings for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix A to this report; and
- (2) agree that the meetings of the full Council proposed for 21 July 2022, 24 November 2022 and 19 January 2023 be those at which questions will be taken from members of the public.

1.3 Forward Plan:

This report first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 10 December 2021.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report has no direct relevance to any priorities identified in the Our North Tyneside Plan.

1.5 Information:

- 1.5.1 The Council is requested to consider a programme of meetings for the Council and its committees for the 2022/23 municipal year, attached as Appendix A to this report. The

Authority's Constitution states that where possible the Council will set a programme of ordinary meetings of its committees and sub-committees for each year ahead. The timetable of meetings is normally agreed each year at the January Council meeting to allow Members and officers to plan ahead.

1.5.2 The draft programme provides for:

- a) A timetable of meetings of the Council, its overview and scrutiny, regulatory and other committees and sub-committees.
- b) Minimal number of meetings being scheduled in August, April and the later weeks in December and no meetings on key religious days.
- c) The commencement times of meetings based on those agreed for each committee and sub-committee for the 2021-22 Municipal Year.
- d) The provisional dates of Cabinet meetings are included in the timetable for information. These are determined by the Elected Mayor.
- e) A Member briefing in July, September, October, February and April.
- f) Member development including the provision of training for regulatory committees taking place between the Annual Council Meeting and the first meeting of these committees.

1.5.3 The Council is requested to specify those Council meetings during the year at which questions from members of the public will be taken. For Members' information, in the current municipal year, three meetings were specified for that purpose.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Council:

- (a) To agree the programme of meetings of the Council and its committees for the 2022/23 municipal year as set out in Appendix A.
- (b) To not agree the programme of meetings, in which case a further programme of meetings would be prepared and submitted to a future meeting of the Council for approval taking into account the reasons given by Council for not agreeing the programme.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option (a) is recommended for the following reasons:

To have in place scheduled meeting dates to enable the Authority's committees to transact their business during the Municipal Year and to enable Members and officers to plan ahead for individual committee work programmes.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix A – Draft Programme of meetings of the Council and its committees for the 2022/23 municipal year.

1.9 Contact officers:

Bryn Roberts, Director of Law & Governance (0191) 643 5339
Claire Emmerson, Senior Manager Financial Strategy and Planning Tel (0191) 643 8109

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) Report to Council on the Programme of Council meetings – 21 January 2021
- (2) The Authority's Constitution

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The running costs associated with the committee meetings held in 2022/23 can be contained within current budgets.

2.2 Legal

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the Council is required to give public notice of meetings of the Council and its committees.

The Authority's Constitution requires a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the year to be approved by the Council. The Council has agreed that the timetable of meetings of the Council and its committees/sub committees should be agreed each year at the January Council meeting to allow Members and officers to plan ahead and to enable the decision-making processes to be complied with.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

Consultation on the proposed timetable of meetings for 2022/23 has taken place with the Elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Group Leaders, Chief Executive, Heads of Service and officers within Democratic Services and Resources.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

Failure to put in place a schedule of meetings will put at risk the ability of the Authority to transact its business efficiently.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive X
- Director(s) of Service X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X
- Chief Finance Officer X
- Monitoring Officer X
- Assistant Chief Executive X

North Tyneside Council
Programme of Scheduled Meetings 2022/23

	Day	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023
Council	Thurs 6.00pm	19 Ann		21		22		24		19	16*	2* & 16		18 Ann
Cabinet	Mon 6.00pm	23	27		1	19	17	28		23 & 30*	6* & 20	27		

Scrutiny Meetings	Day	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023
Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee	Mon 6.00pm		13	18		5		7		16		13		
Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub Committee	Thurs 6.00pm		16	14		29		3		25 (Wed)		30		
Children, Education and Skills Sub Committee	Thurs 6.00pm			7		8		17		12		23		
Culture and Leisure Sub Committee	Tues 6.00pm		28		31			2		17		7		
Economic Prosperity Sub Committee	Tues 6.00pm			5		27		29		24		21		
Environment Sub Committee	Tues 6.00pm			12		6		8		10		14		
Finance Sub Committee	Tues 6.00pm			13 (Wed)		13		15			7	28		
Housing Sub Committee	Mon 6.00pm			4		26		21		23		20		

Regulatory Meetings	Day	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023
Licensing Committee	Thurs 6.00pm											31		
Planning Committee	Tue 10.00am	10	7	5	2 & 30	27	25	22	13	17	14	14	11	9
Regulation and Review Committee	Thurs 6.00pm						20				23			
Regulation and Review Committee (Panels)	Thurs 10.00am		2	14	25		6		1	12	9	23	20	

Other meetings	Day	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023
Audit Committee	Wed 6.00pm	25		27				16				22		
Health & Wellbeing Board	Thurs 10.00am		9			8		10		12		9		
Standards Committee	Thurs 6.00pm		9					10					6	
Member Briefing	6.00pm			Thurs 14		Thurs 15	Mon 31				Thurs 2		Mon 3	

Notes:

1. * denotes Extraordinary meetings to be held as part of the budget setting process. Any notices of objection would be considered at the Council meeting on 16 February 2023. The Council meeting on 3 March 2023 is held in reserve in the event that any objections to the Mayor and Cabinet's budget proposals are approved by the Council on 16 February 2023. The Overview and Scrutiny may be a meet on 31 January 2023 as a Budget Study Group rather than the full Committee meeting (to be determined).
2. Additional meetings of regulatory committees such as the Regulation and Review Committee and the Licensing Sub-Committees, may be arranged as and when required.
3. Training for regulatory committees to be provisionally held as follows: Regulation & Review 24 May 2022 (10am); Audit 25 May 2022 (6pm); Planning 26 May 2022 (10am); and Licensing 27 May 2022 (10am);
4. Member development dates are set out above for Members' information.

DRAFT