



Council

North Tyneside Council

To All Members of the Council

Wednesday, 16 November 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, 24 November 2022** for the transaction of the following business.

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
1. Public Questions	3 - 4
Two valid question has been received from a member 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.	

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.

For further information please call 0191 643 5318.

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4. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2022.	5 - 12
5. Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2022.	13 - 14
6. Motions	15 - 22
Seven valid Motions on Notice, signed by at least three Members of the Council, have been received for consideration at this meeting.	
7. Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel	23 - 32
A report to consider the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2023/24.	
8. Appointment of Senior Coroner	33 - 36
The report invites Council to confirm the appointment of the new Senior Coroner for North Tyneside following a recent recruitment process.	
9. Chair's Announcements	
To receive any announcements by the Chair of Council.	
10. Elected Mayor's Announcements	
To receive any announcements by the Elected Mayor.	

Yours faithfully



Chief Executive

North Tyneside Council Report to Council 24 November 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 Ms S Bennett from Whitley Bay

It is widely known that St. Mary's Island car parks are hotspots for anti-social and illegal behaviour throughout the evening and night. The 24-hour vehicle access sees a night time increase in activities such as

- Gathering of cars.
- "Dogging" (the practice of watching or engaging in exhibitionist sexual activity in a public place).
- Racing of cars both up and down reserve road and around the carparks.
- "Donutting" (where a driver revs the engine hard and puts the car into a spin with tyre rubber burning).
- Continuous and synchronized blaring of horns.
- Deliberate hard revving of car exhausts and other exhaust noise enhancing effects.
- Blatant use of drugs.
- Playing loud music.
- Littering.
- Urinating and defecating.
- Use of offensive language.
- Intimidating behaviour to visitors and volunteers working on site.

It is not uncommon to have all of these activities occurring in a single evening. St. Mary's Island Nature Reserve is a place where people should be able to enjoy the peace and quiet of the natural environment and a place where wildlife is afforded protection from disturbance which surely puts these activities in conflict with the very ethos of a Nature Reserve.

We are aware that Northumbria police have carried out operation Dragoon in conjunction with the DVLA and North Tyneside Council is proposing possible controls on certain activities. However, neither are intended to be a long-term solution to tackling the widespread anti-social behaviour I have mentioned.

As this behaviour has been going on for some time my question is Does NTC intend to address the problem of night-time anti-social behaviour on the nature reserve and if so how and when?

2. Question to the Elected Mayor from Mr A Steele of Tynemouth

In the recent review of the council's Local Plan (North Tyneside Local Plan Five Year Review 2022 - Summary report) there are several references to the Plan not keeping up to date with national policy developments.

Despite this, the review considers that the Plan does not *'give rise to serious conflicts or omissions'* and is *'broadly aligned [and] flexible enough'* not to require review.

Considering this, and referencing sections 3 & 4, particularly around the Plan's commitments to housing - eg *'Presumption in favour of sustainable development'*, *'Affordable housing'*, *'Biodiversity net gain'*, *'Tree lined streets'* - and the connection between these elements of housing and the council's commitment to the *'promotion of sustainable development ... and tackling climate change'*,

Why has the council allowed developments with low environmental and design standards to be agreed or considered (eg developments at the Trinity Church and Tynemouth Station sites) saying *'while we would always like to see all new buildings developed with enhanced sustainability measures beyond those required by Building Regulations, it is not for the Council to impose such additional measures through the planning process'* when other councils are doing exactly that?

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

Local Government Act 1972

Borough of North Tyneside

Thursday, 22 September 2022

At the meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Tyneside duly convened and held on Thursday, 22 September 2022 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 P Oliver (Chair)
N Redfearn (Elected Mayor)

Councillor K Barrie	Councillor L Bartoli
Councillor G Bell	Councillor L Bell
Councillor L Bones	Councillor B Burdis
Councillor C Burdis	Councillor K Clark
Councillor D Cox	Councillor N Craven
Councillor J Cruddas	Councillor E Darke
Councillor D Drummond	Councillor P Earley
Councillor L Ferasin	Councillor M Fox
Councillor S Graham	Councillor T Hallway
Councillor J Harrison	Councillor Janet Hunter
Councillor John Hunter	Councillor V Jamieson
Councillor C Johnson	Councillor H Johnson
Councillor C Johnston	Councillor J Kirwin
Councillor F Lott	Councillor W Lott
Councillor G Madden	Councillor L Marshall
Councillor P McIntyre	Councillor A McMullen
Councillor J Montague	Councillor J Mudzingwa
Councillor T Mulvenna	Councillor M Murphy
Councillor T Neira	Councillor A Newman
Councillor J O'Shea	Councillor A Percy
Councillor S Phillips	Councillor B Pickard
Councillor M Rankin	Councillor P Richardson
Councillor W Samuel	Councillor O Scargill
Councillor J Shaw	Councillor M Thirlaway
Councillor J Walker	Councillor J Wallace
Councillor G Westwater	Councillor M Wilson

Apologies: Councillor L Arkley, Councillor C Davis, Councillor M Green, Councillor M Hall, Councillor R O'Keefe and Councillor E Parker-Leonard

C34/22 Two Minute Silence

A two-minute silence was observed to reflect on the life and legacy of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

C35/22 To receive any Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were reported as follows:

Councillor C Johnson – Non-Registrable personal Interest – Item 4 Motion 1, Member of the North of Tyne Combined Authority Member and North-East Combined authority Joint Transport Committee – Tyne & Wear Sub-committee.

Councillor S Graham - Non-Registrable personal Interest – Item 4 Motion 1, Substitute Member of North of Tyne Combined and North-East Combined Authority Joint Transport Committee Authority Joint Transport Committee.

Elected Mayor Norma Redfearn - Non-Registrable personal Interest – Item 4 Motion 1, Substitute Member of North of Tyne Combined Authority Joint Transport Committee.

Councillor G Bell – Registerable Personal Interest – Item 4 Motion 2, Works in the Criminal Justice System and closely engage with the PCC Office.

C36/22 Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2022

Resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 July 2022 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chair.

C37/22 Motion 1

It was moved by Councillor L Bartoli and seconded by Councillor C Johnston that:

Over the last few years the residents of Tynemouth and Cullercoats have had to suffer increasing levels of antisocial behaviour as visitor numbers to our coast have increased. This has ranged from vandalism and criminal damage to knife attacks and assaults and our residents have been left to pick up the mess. Our swimmers and dog walkers are met each morning with bottles, cans and used barbecues strewn across our beaches. Much of this antisocial behaviour comes via our Metro system and what is perceived by many as free travel to and from the coast. Those that wish to come and cause trouble do not even need to pay the price of a ticket. The Council believes that installing ticket barriers that are manned at strategic times would assist in deterring and monitoring those who wish to come and cause antisocial behaviour. The Council therefore ask The Mayor to write to Nexus requesting that:

1. They install ticket barriers on Tynemouth and Cullercoats Metro Station before Summer 2023 to assist in reducing ASB at the coast.
2. These barriers are manned by Nexus staff at strategic times to be agreed between the Police, Nexus and the Council when levels of antisocial behaviour are high.

An amendment was moved by Councillor C Johnson and seconded by Councillor C Burdis as follows:

To add the following paragraphs after paragraph 1:

“North Tyneside council notes the decision of NEXUS to make permanent the extra security officers which are currently on the network and as a direct result of this and the multi-agency operation coast watch saw ASB numbers on the metro go down year on year.

Notes the Conservative government have cut the NEXUS capital renewals program budget which would be used to fund investment into ticket barriers.

Notes North Tyneside council staff clean and litter pick the beach every day.”

To add an additional bullet point after bullet point 2:

“3. Write to the Transport Secretary asking him to increase NEXUS budget to allow for capital investment into ticket barriers.”

The amended motion therefore read:

Over the last few years the residents of Tynemouth and Cullercoats have had to suffer increasing levels of antisocial behaviour as visitor numbers to our coast have increased. This has ranged from vandalism and criminal damage to knife attacks and assaults and our residents have been left to pick up the mess. Our swimmers and dog walkers are met each morning with bottles, cans and used barbecues strewn across our beaches. Much of this antisocial behaviour comes via our Metro system and what is perceived by many as free travel to and from the coast. Those that wish to come and cause trouble do not even need to pay the price of a ticket. The Council believes that installing ticket barriers that are manned at strategic times would assist in deterring and monitoring those who wish to come and cause antisocial behaviour.

North Tyneside council notes the decision of NEXUS to make permanent the extra security officers which are currently on the network and as a direct result of this and the multi-agency operation coast watch saw ASB numbers on the metro go down year on year.

Notes the Conservative government have cut the NEXUS capital renewals program budget which would be used to fund investment into ticket barriers.

Notes North Tyneside council staff clean and litter pick the beach every day.

The Council therefore ask The Mayor to write to Nexus requesting that:

1. They install ticket barriers on Tynemouth and Cullercoats Metro Station before Summer 2023 to assist in reducing ASB at the coast.
2. These barriers are manned by Nexus staff at strategic times to be agreed between the Police, Nexus and the Council when levels of antisocial behaviour are high.
3. Write to the Transport Secretary asking him to increase NEXUS budget to allow for capital investment into ticket barriers.

The amendment, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 46 votes to 8 votes.

The substantive motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved unanimously.

C38/22 Motion 2

It was moved by Councillor O Scargill and seconded by Councillor L Bones that:

Anti-social behaviour has been a huge problem for residents across North Tyneside. It consistently appears in their top three priorities, but while some progress has been made with projects across the borough there is still a lot yet to be tackled.

As elected members we all need to work together to tackle the issue of crime and anti-social behaviour in North Tyneside. This includes the Police and Crime Commissioner.

In order to tackle Anti-social behaviour in this area North Tyneside Council asks the Mayor:

- Ask the PCC to fully review and evaluate Police numbers in North Tyneside in light of the serious increase in anti-social behaviour
- To request that the PCC meets with both groups on this Council every six months to allow members to raise specific concerns
- Invite the PCC to give an update on progress on her policing priorities annually to Full Council, and take questions from members on the update

An amendment was moved by Councillor C Johnson and seconded by Councillor C Burdis as follows:

To add the following paragraphs after paragraph 2:

“North Tyneside Council thanks the Police and Crime Commissioner on her work on Anti-social behaviour, the PCC has formed a force wide strategic ASB board and has championed many initiatives to combat ASB including very successfully in North Tyneside with Operation Vita.

North Tyneside Council notes the investment made by the Mayor and Cabinet in increasing the size of the Community protection team in tackling Anti-social behaviour in the borough.

North Tyneside council notes the good work of Anti-social behaviour board which has partners such as Northumbria Police, Nexus, TWFRS, Schools, CVS, Businesses and is a cross party board chaired by the Deputy Mayor.

Notes that while Anti-social behaviour this council continues to take seriously, the latest statistics show a fall in both Anti-Social behaviour year on year.

Notes that the Conservative Government cut more than 1100 front line police officers and over £148 Million from the Budget since 2010

Notes the Police and Crime Commissioner has used the PCC precept to go above and beyond the force target for officer recruitment set by the Government adding an additional 60 officers.

To amend bullet point one to remove ‘PCC’ and replace with ‘Chief Constable’

To remove bullet point 2.

To add the following additional bullet point:

- “Write to the Home Secretary asking them to provide Northumbria Police with the required funding to replace all officers lost since 2010”

The amended motion read:

Anti-social behaviour has been a huge problem for residents across North Tyneside. It consistently appears in their top three priorities, but while some progress has been made with projects across the borough there is still a lot yet to be tackled.

As elected members we all need to work together to tackle the issue of crime and anti-social behaviour in North Tyneside. This includes the Police and Crime Commissioner.

North Tyneside Council thanks the Police and Crime Commissioner on her work on Anti-social behaviour, the PCC has formed a force wide strategic ASB board and has championed many initiatives to combat ASB including very successfully in North Tyneside with Operation Vita.

North Tyneside Council notes the investment made by the Mayor and Cabinet in increasing the size of the Community protection team in tackling Anti-social behaviour in the borough.

North Tyneside council notes the good work of Anti-social behaviour board which has partners such as Northumbria Police, Nexus, TWFRS, Schools, CVS, Businesses and is a cross party board chaired by the Deputy Mayor.

Notes that while Anti-social behaviour this council continues to take seriously, the latest statistics show a fall in both Anti-Social behaviour year on year.

Notes that the Conservative Government cut more than 1100 front line police officers and over £148 Million from the Budget since 2010

Notes the Police and Crime Commissioner has used the PCC precept to go above and beyond the force target for officer recruitment set by the Government adding an additional 60 officers.

In order to tackle Anti-social behaviour in this area North Tyneside Council asks the Mayor:

- Ask the Chief Constable to fully review and evaluate Police numbers in North Tyneside in light of the serious increase in anti-social behaviour
- Invite the PCC to give an update on progress on her policing priorities annually to Full Council, and take questions from members on the update

Write to the Home Secretary asking them to provide Northumbria Police with the required funding to replace all officers lost since 2010

A recorded vote on the amendment was requested by two Members present.

Votes for the Motion:

N Redfearn, Elected Mayor and Councillors L Bell, B Burdis, C Burdis, K Clark, D Cox, N Craven, J Cruddas, E Darke, D Drummond, P Earley, L Ferasin, M Fox, S Graham, T Hallway, J Harrison, Janet Hunter, John Hunter, V Jamieson, C Johnson, H Johnson, J

Kirwin, F Lott, W Lott, G Madden, L Marshall, A McMullen, J Montague, J Mudzingwa, T Mulvenna, M Murphy, T Neira, A Newman, P Oliver, J O'Shea, N Percy, S Phillips, B Pickard, M Rankin, P Richardson, W Samuel, J Shaw, M Thirlaway, J Walker, M Wilson.

Votes against the amendment:

Councillors K Barrie, L Bartoli, L Bones, C Johnston, P McIntyre, O Scargill, J Wallace, G Westwater.

The amendment, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 45 votes to 8 votes.

The substantive motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 45 votes with 9 abstentions.

C39/22 Motion 3

It was moved by Councillor W Samuel and seconded by Councillor M Fox that:

Council notes that proposed increase in the Ofgem energy cap will cause untold hardship to residents in North Tyneside and will result in residents being plunged into fuel poverty as well as impacting household budgets. Many of our residents, adults and children face a choice between heating and eating this winter in the face of eye watering increases in fuel prices and inflation.

The action of the Conservative Government is not sufficient setting a cap at £2500 will mean many families continue to struggle and businesses and charities will close because of this. The Conservative plan will rather than taxing unexpected excess profits of energy companies will disgracefully borrow to bail on the record profit making energy companies.

We commend North Tyneside Council for the action it is taking to try and mitigate these issues.

We firmly believe that the cap should be frozen at £1,971 per year and that this can be paid for by a combination of windfall taxes on energy companies and other measures. This will have the added benefit of reducing projected inflation rates. Council asks the elected mayor to write to the Chancellor of The Exchequer to ask that the price cap is frozen at £1,971 per year and this is paid for by a windfall tax on unexpected excess profits of the energy companies.

Council also asks that the Mayor publicises as widely as possible all of the available information and help the Council has on offer to help with the Conservative cost of living crisis.

At this point in proceedings, Councillor C Johnson moved a motion to exclude Councillor Bartoli from the meeting due to concerns of improper behaviour during consideration of the motion. The motion was seconded by Councillor M Thirlaway.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 46 votes to 8 votes. Councillor Bartoli left the meeting.

The substantive motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 46 votes to 7 votes.

C40/22 Motion 4

It was moved by Councillor A Newman and seconded by Councillor D Drummond that:

End the practice of discharging sewage into waterways

Water companies continue to make huge of profits whilst continuing to dump raw sewage into our waterways. In 2020 water companies made £2.8 billion of collective profits whilst at the same time discharging raw sewage 400,000 times.

It's clear that the water companies will not stop this practice and invest in the urgently needed upgrades to the water system until forced to do so. We therefore believe it's time to completely ban sewage discharges in the UK.

Therefore we ask the mayor to write to the new Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs outlining this councils support for a total ban on sewage discharge by water companies.

The motion, on being put to the vote, was agreed unanimously.

C41/22 Motion 5

It was moved by Councillor C Johnson and seconded by Councillor M Wilson that:

The south-east of England, the most affluent region in Britain outside London, last year received almost twice as much money as the north-east from the government's levelling up fund aimed at boosting deprived areas.

Various Conservative levelling up funds have refused to back North Tyneside including the levelling up fund and towns fund, which instead of being available to North Tyneside was made available to often more affluent and often Conservative voting areas.

Child poverty continues to rise in the North East and 11 in 30 children in a school class are now facing child poverty.

We call on the Mayor to:

- Write to the Prime Minister urging action on child poverty in the North East and to set out an action plan on how the Conservative government will tackle child poverty.
- Urge the Prime Minister to fund both of our £20 million levelling up bids for North Shields and Wallsend.

The motion, on being put to the vote, was agreed unanimously.

C42/22 Audit Committee - Appointment of co-opted member

Council received a report that sought approval to appoint the Chair of the Audit Committee and to appoint a new independent co-opted member to serve as Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee.

It was moved by Councillor M Rankin and seconded by Councillor C Johnson that:

Council appoint Mr Malcolm Wilkinson as the non-voting Chair of the Audit Committee for a 2-year term and appoint Dr Stuart Green as the non-voting Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee for a 2-year term.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved unanimously.

C43/22 Request for Dispensation pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972

Council received a report that sought approval for a dispensation in respect of Councillor Muriel Green under section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, based on medical grounds.

It was moved by Councillor C Johnson and seconded by the Elected Mayor that:

Council agrees to grant a dispensation for Councillor Muriel Green pursuant to Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, for a period up to and included 7 May 2023, and approves Councillor Green's non-attendance at meetings of the Authority in that period on medical grounds, and

Council agreed that the best wishes of the Council to be conveyed to Councillor Green at this time.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved unanimously.

C44/22 Chair's Announcements

The Chair informed the meeting of some of the events she had attended since the last meeting, which included:

Events following the death of HRH Elizabeth II

The Chair stated that it was her honour and privilege of accompanying the Elected Mayor to the Regional Proclamation of Accession.

The Chair stated that a great deal of work was undertaken to ensure all arrangements and protocols were adhered to and expressed her thanks to all Council staff involved for their tireless work to ensure residents could express respects and condolences.

The Chair informed of services she attended at Christ Church for the Commemoration and Thanksgiving & celebrating Superintendent Peter Dade's 30 years' service to the Fisherman's Mission.

She also had attended a performance by her nominated charity The True Colours Theatre at the Whitley Bay Playhouse.

C45/22 Elected Mayor's Announcements

The Elected Mayor expressed her gratitude to all Council Staff for their efforts for ensuring services continued during recent events.

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5

Local Government Act 1972

Borough of North Tyneside

Thursday, 3 November 2022

At the meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Tyneside duly convened and held on Thursday, 3 November 2022 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 P Oliver (Chair)
N Redfearn (Elected Mayor)

Councillor L Arkley	Councillor L Bartoli
Councillor G Bell	Councillor L Bell
Councillor L Bones	Councillor B Burdis
Councillor C Burdis	Councillor D Cox
Councillor J Cruddas	Councillor E Darke
Councillor C Davis	Councillor S Day
Councillor D Drummond	Councillor P Earley
Councillor L Ferasin	Councillor M Fox
Councillor S Graham	Councillor M Hall
Councillor T Hallway	Councillor J Harrison
Councillor John Hunter	Councillor V Jamieson
Councillor C Johnson	Councillor H Johnson
Councillor C Johnston	Councillor J Kirwin
Councillor F Lott	Councillor W Lott
Councillor G Madden	Councillor L Marshall
Councillor A McMullen	Councillor J Mudzingwa
Councillor T Mulvenna	Councillor M Murphy
Councillor T Neira	Councillor R O'Keefe
Councillor E Parker-Leonard	Councillor S Phillips
Councillor B Pickard	Councillor P Richardson
Councillor W Samuel	Councillor O Scargill
Councillor J Shaw	Councillor J Walker
Councillor J Wallace	Councillor M Wilson

Apologies: Councillor K Barrie, Councillor K Clark, Councillor N Craven, Councillor M Green, Councillor Janet Hunter, Councillor P McIntyre, Councillor J Montague, Councillor A Newman, Councillor M Rankin, Councillor M Thirlaway and Councillor G Westwater

C46/22 To receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C47/22 Local Government Boundary Commission for England - Electoral Review of North Tyneside Council (Warding Arrangements)

Council received a report that sought agreement to the proposed warding arrangement submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) as North Tyneside Council's official response.

It was moved by Councillor C Johnson and seconded by Councillor E Darke that Council:

- (1) Agrees that the proposed warding arrangement submission attached as Appendix A to the report is provided to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as North Tyneside Council's official response to the Commission's request for warding information, in time for the Commission's stated deadline of 7th November 2022; and that the Chief Executive be given authority to submit the proposed warding arrangement to the Commission on behalf of the Authority.
- (2) Notes that proposals on warding patterns may also be provided to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England by any member of the public, external body, group or organisation which wishes to make a representation regarding potential future warding arrangements within North Tyneside, and that the Commission will consider all such submissions in making recommendations on future warding arrangements for North Tyneside.
- (3) Notes that the formal determination of any future warding arrangements / warding patterns for North Tyneside will be made by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England by 27th June 2023 (following a period of further public consultation between 7th February and 17th April 2023), and confirmed by Parliamentary Order in due course.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 42 votes to 6 votes.

North Tyneside Council Report to Council 24 November 2022

Title: Motions

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

Motion 1 signed by Councillors Carole Burdis, Carl Johnson, Janet Hunter

North Tyneside Council notes that the Home Office and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) have recognised the magnificent work Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service.

The Fire Authority's budget for 2022/23 was set in February 2022 based on estimates that price inflation and wage growth would both be in the region of 2% to 3% in 2022/23. These were not unrealistic assumptions as they reflected the Government's own forecasts for inflation in 2022 and 2023, the Latest figure is above 10%

The local government and firefighter pay award for 2022/23 have yet to be resolved. This was already going to be difficult when pay was forecast to rise by around 2.5% The Fire Authority had, through careful budget management made provision for a 3% pay rise however this will no longer cover the potential pay demands now faced.

Council recognises that the financial challenge of inflation comes on top of the enormous pressures faced by the Fire Authority after a decade of Government austerity.

Council urges the Government to appreciate that the Fire and Rescue sector cannot resolve the current difficulties without national Government support.

Council calls upon The Elected Mayor in conjunction with all Tyne and Wear Council Leaders to write to the appropriate Government Minister, to seek additional financial support to allow Tyne and Wear Fire and rescue service to continue operating as a high level, give our fire fighters and service staff a decent pay rise and combat skyrocketing inflation, as a matter of urgency.

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

Motion 2 by Councillors Cath Davis, Julie Cruddas and Carole Burdis

Liz Truss, Prime Minister for 45 days, stated she was 'completely committed' to maintaining the triple lock on pensions. Given the rising cost of living crisis, especially gas and electricity and fuel costs, many elderly people are choosing between heating and eating. The state pension is vital to most pensioners, particularly women, who haven't been able to build up a private pension. UK state pensions compare dismally with most of their European counterparts.

Therefore, North Tyneside Council asks the Mayor to write to the New Prime Minister and his Chancellor to ensure that the triple lock is preserved to make sure that some of our most vulnerable residents' pensions are not reduced by the rising cost of living.

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

Motion 3 by Councillors Erin Parker Leonard, Matthew Thirlaway and Debbie Cox

Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) Women

In the 1995 Pensions Act, the Government increased State Pension age for women from 60 to 65, with a further increase to 66 in the 2011 Pensions Act.

The change was not properly communicated to 3.8m women born in the 1950s until 2012, giving some women only one year's notice of a six year increase in their anticipated retirement age.

Council notes that

- The conclusion of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality for Women, states that women born in the 1950s have suffered a gross injustice, affecting their emotional, physical and mental circumstances, in addition to causing financial hardship.
- A swift resolution is needed to address this ongoing injustice as this cohort of woman are dying waiting for compensation.
- This injustice has not only had a profound effect on the individuals involved but on the wider community in North Tyneside and on local government and public sector finances

Council believes WASPI women affected need a one-off compensation payment in align with the recommendations of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality for Women

Council calls upon The Elected Mayor, Norma Redfearn to write to the local Members of Parliament and to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to outline the effects of the injustice to 1950s women, their family's and on the communities in North Tyneside and to seek their support for an immediate compensation package.

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

Motion 4 by Councillors Eddie Darke, Carl Johnson Brian Burdis

The Elections Act 2022 made significant changes to participation in elections in this country which have the potential to disenfranchise voters.

North Tyneside Council calls on the Returning Officer to write to every household to inform them of the significant changes in the Elections Act.

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

Motion 5 by Councillors Chris Johnston, Lewis Bartoli and Olly Scargill

At the Council meeting held in November 2021, Councillors were assured that the Borough's war memorials were 'looked after all year round' and the Council's own website proudly claims 'The duty of looking after our war memorials is one that we take extremely seriously. Our staff routinely inspect, repair, and maintain our memorials..., We also conduct full condition surveys at regular intervals. This gives us a condition profile of each memorial so that we can identify where further work and investment might be needed.'

Following this meeting, Councillors and residents from Tynemouth have monitored the condition of the two war memorials on Tynemouth Green. Prior to their annual deep cleaning in the run-up to Remembrance Day 2022, both memorials were covered in algae with moss and weeds growing between the block paving and were still strewn with the decaying poppies of 2021's event. In order to ensure that the Council takes its responsibility to look after our war memorial seriously, we ask the Mayor to commit to:

1. Publish a schedule of cleaning for all of the Borough's war memorials at least four times per year.
2. Maintain a record of work undertaken at each memorial, including cleaning and remedial repairs, that can be accessed by Councillors.
3. Invite Councillors and resident groups to monitor the condition of the memorials before and after cleaning or any repairs.
4. Establish a programme for the respectful removal of poppies at an appropriate time following each Remembrance Day Parade.
5. Affix appropriate signage near each war memorial providing a telephone contact for residents to report damage or disrepair.

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

Motion 6 by Councillors Liam Bones, Lewis Bartoli and Olly Scargill

Restaurant Week

North Tyneside has some of the best restaurants in the North East, with many award winning eateries being joined by new start ups in recent years. Neighbouring authorities like Newcastle and South Tyneside organise annual or bi-annual restaurant weeks as a way to boost the local tourism economy and show off local businesses in the area. Newcastle Restaurant Week is one of the North East's most popular leading food events, which celebrates some of the very best restaurants in the city.

North Tyneside has so far had sporadic success with the same concept, with the last restaurant week being held before the Covid-19 pandemic. Since then many new eateries have opened their doors and with the cost of living on the rise our local businesses could really do with a boost. North Tyneside Council is uniquely placed to bring together leading groups such as the Business Forum and the LEP to create an event similar in scale and success to that of Newcastle Restaurant Week.

North Tyneside Council therefore asks the Mayor and Cabinet to:

- begin work to introduce a Council-organised restaurant week in North Tyneside next spring as part of the wider culture and leisure offer
- offer free parking in council run car parks during restaurant week to encourage visitors to our borough
- Work with Nexus to reduce ticket prices for those travelling on the metro to visit our local restaurants in that week
- Use Council social media to advertise the event across the borough

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

Motion 7 - by Councillors Olly Scargill, Liam Bones and Lewis Bartoli

IVF - IN VITRO FERTILISATION

Access to NHS IVF funding in England varies according to your postcode, with the number of cycles and access criteria traditionally being determined by local Clinical Commissioning Groups, now Integrated Care Systems.

In accordance with the NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) guidelines, in North Tyneside women under 40 years old who have been trying to conceive for 2 years are offered 3 rounds of IVF. However, they face the added barrier of not being offered any rounds if one person in the relationship has a child from a previous relationship.

This is despite NICE guidance stating that IVF treatment is more effective in women who have previously been pregnant and/or had a live birth.

Council notes residents in North Tyneside are not able to access IVF treatment if one partner in the relationship has a child from a previous relationship.

Council believes this policy is dated and the criteria for IVF should match the reasonable standards set out by NICE and established by other ICSs.

Council asks the Mayor to write to the North East and North Cumbria ICS, asking to review this policy and remove this section from their IVF access criteria.

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: 24 November 2022

Title: **Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

Portfolio(s): Elected Mayor	Cabinet Member(s): Mrs N Redfearn
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Report from Service Area:	Law and Governance
Responsible Officer:	Jon Ritchie, Director of Resources Tel: (0191) 643 5701
Wards affected:	All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report requests the Council to consider the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2023/24.

The Authority is required to have in place a scheme for Members' Allowances and is required to have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel when determining its Members' Allowance Scheme.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Council:

- (1) consider the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel; and
- (2) agree a Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2023/24.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty-eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 30 September 2022.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report has no direct relevance to the Authority's Our North Tyneside Plan priorities or to the Policy Framework.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

Independent Remuneration Panel

Each local authority is required to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel. The purpose of the Panel is to make recommendations to full Council about the allowances to be paid to Elected Members.

The members of the Panel are Mr John Anderson CBE, Mr Les Watson, formerly of the Audit Commission and Dr Rachid Zemouri, Managing Director of ICAS Limited.

Panel's Recommendation

The Council is required to renew its Members Allowance Scheme for each financial year.

Under the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) the Authority is required to have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel when considering any changes to its Members' Allowances Scheme.

In previous years it has been agreed that Members' allowances be index linked to the annual pay award for employees working under the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service.

The pay award offer for 2023/24 will not be a percentage increase across all NJC pay point but in the form of the same monetary sum award on all NJC pay points.

The Independent Remuneration Panel in its consideration considered a range of options, which included

- 1) To increase in line with the monetary sum a payment of £1,925.
- 2) Pay the percentage increase to the level of Payment Point 1.
- 3) Pay the percentage increase at the median payment point (21+22/2).

The Panel concluded that option 3 a median point percentage would be the most appropriate.

The Panel still considers that the approach taken in recent years should continue into future years whereby, allowance increases be in line with the annual pay award for employees working under the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service.

The Panel will continue to monitor the Members' Allowances Scheme to ensure that the allowances reflect the level of duty/responsibility in the future.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Council:

Option 1

Approve the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Option 2

Refer the matter back to the Independent Remuneration Panel for further consideration of specific issues identified by Council; or

Option 3

Defer consideration of the matter to obtain appropriate advice on the implications of any alternative proposals.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

The Authority is required to have in place a Members' Allowances Scheme before 1 April each year having had regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Independent Remuneration Panel consulted and considered a range of options, and its independent view was its recommendation detailed at 3.5 in its report at Appendix 1 be the most appropriate.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix: Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel November 2023/24.

1.9 Contact officers:

Paul Hanson, Chief Executive (0191) 643 2000
Claire Emmerson, Head of Finance (0191) 643 8109
Paul Wheeler, Democratic Services Officer, Law and Governance, (0191) 643 5318

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:

North Tyneside Council Constitution
North Tyneside Members' Allowances Scheme
Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

2.1.1 The payment of Members' allowances under the proposed Members Allowance Scheme for 2023/24, will be met from existing budgets.

2.2 Legal

2.2.1 The report sets out the legal basis for the provision of the Members' Allowance Scheme. Under the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 before making or amending a scheme the Authority is obliged to have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The Elected Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leaders of all political groups and Director of Resources were consulted as part of the Independent Remuneration Panel's preparation of the report.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

The report of the Independent Remuneration Panel was not subject to external engagement.

2.4 Human rights

2.4.1 The proposals within this report do not themselves have any direct implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

2.5.1 There are no direct equalities or diversity implications arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

2.6.1 The risks associated with this report will be managed in accordance with the North Tyneside Council risk management process.

2.7 Crime and disorder

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

2.8 Environment and sustainability

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

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

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

- Monitoring Officer

- Assistant Chief Executive

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Report of the North Tyneside Independent Remuneration Panel

November 2022

Executive Summary

The views of the Independent Remuneration Panel are required to be taken into account by the Council when considering any changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme. The Panel has been requested to consider and make recommendations in relation to the Members' Allowances Scheme for the 2023/24 financial year.

The Panel **recommends** that the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2023/24 remain unchanged and the allowance increase be in line with the median pay point of the annual pay award for employees working under the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Remuneration Panel was initially appointed in 2003 under the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. These regulations replaced the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001.
- 1.2 The Terms of Reference are as follows: -
- a) To consider issues and representations relating to Members' allowances and expenses.
 - b) To make recommendations and provide advice to the Council
- 1.3 The current Panel comprises of Mr John Anderson CBE, Mr Les Watson, formerly of the Audit Commission and Dr Rachid Zemouri, Managing Director of ICAS Limited
- ## 2.0 BACKGROUND
- 2.1 The Panel is requested to give consideration to the current Members' Allowances Scheme and to make recommendations on the level of allowance for 2023/24.
- ## 3.0 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME
- 3.1 The Panel considered the Members' Allowances Scheme to determine if it was still set at an appropriate level.
- 3.2 In previous years it has agreed that Members' allowances be index linked to the annual pay award for employees working under the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service.
- 3.3 The pay award offer for 2023/24 will not be a percentage increase across all NJC pay points but in the form of the same monetary sum award on all NJC pay points.
- 3.4 The Independent Remuneration Panel gave consideration to a range of options, which included
- 1) To increase in line with the monetary sum a payment of £1,925 a 17.8% increase.
 - 2) Pay the percentage increase to the level of Payment Point 1 a 10.5% increase.
 - 3) Pay the percentage increase at the median payment point (21+22/2) a 7.07% increase.
- 3.5 The Panel concluded a median point percentage would be the most appropriate.

3.6 The Panel still considers that the approach taken in recent years should continue into future years whereby, allowance increases be in line with the annual pay award for employees working under the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service.

The Panel will continue to monitor the Members' Allowances Scheme to ensure that the allowances reflect the level of duty/responsibility in the future.

3.5 The Panel **recommends** that the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2023/24 remain unchanged and the allowance increase be in line with the median pay point of the annual pay award for employees working under the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service.

4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND REFERENCES

- The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003
- Previous reports of the Remuneration Panel
- Member's Allowances Schemes of Tyne and Wear Authorities.
- Local Government Act 1972
- North Tyneside Council Constitution
- North Tyneside Members Allowances Scheme

North Tyneside Council Report to Council Date: 24 November 2022

Title: Appointment of Senior Coroner

Portfolio(s): Law and Democracy	Cabinet Member(s): Elected Mayor, Mrs Norma Redfearn CBE
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Report from Service

Area: Law and Governance

Responsible Officer: Jacqueline Laughton, Assistant Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report invites Council to confirm the appointment of the new Senior Coroner for North Tyneside following a recent recruitment process.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Council:

(1) Appoint Ms Georgina Nolan as the new Senior Coroner for North Tyneside.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 14 October 2022.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report does not directly align to the priorities in the Council Plan. The Authority has a statutory duty to appoint a Senior Coroner.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

1.5.2 The Senior Coroner is an independent judicial office holder but is appointed by the relevant local authority

- 1.5.3 The current Acting Senior Coroner for North Tyneside, Mrs Karen Dilks, has given notice of her intention to retire as Senior Coroner in early 2023. Mrs Dilks has been the Acting Senior Coroner for North Tyneside since September 2019 following the retirement of the previous Senior Coroner for North Tyneside. Mrs Dilks is also the Senior Coroner for Newcastle upon Tyne and is retiring from that role also. Whilst North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne are currently separate coronial jurisdictions, the Authorities are in discussions with central government regarding the merger of the two jurisdictions into a single combined jurisdiction. The Authorities have therefore undertaken a joint recruitment exercise to appoint a Senior Coroner for both jurisdictions in anticipation of that merger.
- 1.5.4 The recruitment exercise was carried out in accordance with the procedures set down by the Chief Coroner for England and Wales. The Chief Coroner's Office was engaged at all stages of the recruitment process. Interviews of the shortlisted candidates were held at the Civic Centre, Newcastle in September 2022. The interview panel comprised of officers from both Authorities. The Chief Coroner also observed the interviews in person but was not a member of the interview panel.
- 1.5.5. After due deliberation, the interview panel decided to offer the post to Ms Georgina Nolan as the highest-scoring candidate. Ms Nolan is currently an Assistant Coroner for both the North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne and jurisdictions, as well as the North and South Northumberland jurisdictions.
- 1.5.5 The appointment of Senior Coroner is subject to approval by the Chief Coroner and the Lord Chancellor. Both approvals have now been received.
- 1.5.6 Newcastle City Council at its full Council meeting on 2 November 2022 appointed Ms Georgina Nolan as its Senior Coroner.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Council:

Option 1

To appoint Ms Georgina Nolan as the new Senior Coroner for North Tyneside.

Option 2

Not to appoint Ms Georgina Nolan as the new Senior Coroner for North Tyneside.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

The recommendation to appoint Ms Nolan as the Senior Corner follows a recruitment exercise carried out in accordance with the procedures set down by the Chief Coroner for England and Wales. The Chief Coroner's Office was engaged at all stages of the recruitment process and both the Chief Coroner for England and Wales, and the Lord Chancellor have agreed to the appointment of Ms Nolan as Senior Coroner for North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne.

1.8 Appendices:

None

1.9 Contact officers:

Jacqueline Laughton, Assistant Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer. Tel (0191) 643 5724

John Barton, Principal Lawyer (0191) 643 5354

Claire Emmerson, Senior Manager Financial Strategy and Planning (0191) 643 8109

1.10 Background information:

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

(1) Coroners and Justice Act 2009

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The Authority's Acting Senior Coroner and the Assistant Coroners have since September 2019 been based at the Coroner's Court at Newcastle Civic Centre. The costs associated with the maintenance of the office of Coroner including, staff and accommodation has been shared between the Authority and Newcastle City Council.

An option to merge the coronial areas of North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne is currently being explored and a report on this is being presented to Cabinet on 28 November 2022. Irrespective of whether the merger is approved or not, the Authority will need to continue to fund its share of the coroner's salary costs as per the current arrangements. Potential financial implications relating to the merger are included in the 28 November Cabinet report titled 'Future of the Coroner Service for North Tyneside'.

2.2 Legal

In accordance with Schedule 3 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 the Authority must appoint a Senior Coroner for North Tyneside. The appointment cannot be made by the Authority unless the Lord Chancellor and the Chief Coroner consent to the appointment. As stated in the report, both the Lord Chancellor and the Chief Coroner for England and Wales have given their consent to the appointment of Ms Georgina Nolan as the Senior Coroner for North Tyneside.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The Cabinet and the Senior Management Team have been made aware of the proposed appointment of Ms Nolan as the Senior Coroner for North Tyneside subject to Council's approval.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

As stated in the report, a recruitment exercise was carried out in accordance with the procedures set down by the Chief Coroner for England and Wales.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equality and diversity implications from this report.

2.6 Risk management

The Authority has a statutory obligation to appoint a Senior Coroner in accordance with the Coroners and Justice Act 2009. A failure to make such an appointment would mean that the Authority is not complying with that obligation.

2.7 Crime and disorder

The Senior Coroner has a duty to investigate certain deaths, including those where the deceased has died a violent or unnatural death, or the cause of death is unknown.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications 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