



Legal and Corporate Services

THE CHAIR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Tuesday 12 May 2026

Dear Member

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY, 2026

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough to be held on **Wednesday 20th May, 2026** at **7.00 pm** in the Council Chamber to transact the following business, namely:-

1. Welcome and Fire Evacuation Procedure

In the event the fire alarm sounds attendees will be advised to evacuate the building via the nearest fire exit and assemble at the Bottle of Notes opposite MIMA.

2. Election of the Chair of Council for the Municipal Year 2026-2027

To elect the Chair of the Council for the Municipal Year 2026-2027.

3. Election of the Vice Chair of Council for the Municipal Year 2026-2027

To elect the Vice Chair of the Council for the Municipal Year 2026-2027.

4. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence

5. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest

6. Minutes - Council - 1 April and 6 May 2026

5 - 14

To receive the minutes of the Council meetings held on 1 April and 6 May 2026

7.	Vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair	
	<i>To receive a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair, if applicable.</i>	
8.	Announcements	
	<i>To receive any announcements from the Chair, the Mayor and/or the Head of Paid Service</i>	
9.	Membership of Executive 2026-2027	15 – 30
10.	Political Balance Allocation of Places 2026-2027	31 – 38
11.	Council Committees - Establishment - Terms of Reference - Allocation of Places - Memberships - 2026-2027	To Follow
12.	Appointments by the Council and Executive to Joint Committees and Outside Bodies - 2026-2027	39 – 42
	Appendix A	To Follow
	Appendix B	To Follow
	Appendix C	To Follow
13.	Annual Review of the Constitution and Non-Executive Scheme of Delegations	43 - 86
14.	Council Diary 2026-2027	87 – 92
15.	Members' Scheme of Allowances 2026-2027	93 – 114
16.	Annual Scrutiny Report 2025-2026	115 - 132



Charlotte Benjamin, Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS RESTRICTED
DISABLED ACCESS TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

Inspection of Papers – Documents referred to on this Summons may be inspected between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday at the Town Hall, Middlesbrough. Copies may also be downloaded from the Council's Website.

Questions/Motions – Details of questions or notices of motion received and not enclosed with the Summons will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Should you have any queries in regard to the items on this agenda please contact Sue Lightwing/Scott Bonner, Democratic Services on: Direct Line 01642 729712/729708 or e-mail on: sue_lightwing@middlesbrough.gov.uk/scott_bonner@middlesbrough.gov.uk.

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This document was classified as: OFFICIAL
COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 1 April 2026.

PRESENT: Councillors J Banks, (Chair), J Kabuye (Vice-Chair), I Blades, D Branson, P Gavigan, E Clynch, C Cooke - Elected Mayor, J Cooke, C Cooper, D Coupe, D Davison, J Ewan, T Furness, L Henman, B Hubbard, N Hussain, D Jackson, L Lewis, L Mason, J McConnell, T Mohan, I Morrish, M Nugent, J Platt, A Romaine, J Rostron, J Rush, J Ryles, J Thompson, S Tranter, Z Uddin, N Walker, G Wilson, J Young and L Young

OFFICERS: C Benjamin, S Bonner, A Glover and S Lightwing

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were submitted on behalf of Councillors T A Grainge, S Hill, L Hurst, D Jones, D McCabe, J McTigue, J Nicholson, S Platt, M Saunders, M Smiles and P Storey

25/108 **WELCOME AND FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting and read out the Fire Evacuation Procedure.

25/109 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Name of Member	Type of Interest	Item/Nature of Business
Councillor J Kabuye	Non-pecuniary	Agenda Items 6 and 7 – Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme. Director of Ubuntu Multicultural Centre - a service provider for HAF.

25/110 **MINUTES - COUNCIL - 14 JANUARY 2026 AND 18 FEBRUARY 2026**

The minutes of the Council meetings held on 14 January and 18 February 2026 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

25/111 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Announcements for this meeting.

25/112 **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor moved his report as written.

Questions in relation to the Mayor's Report

Councillor Rush on how funding priorities are assessed

The Mayor explained that when funding was provided, the outcomes were expected to be in line with the Government's ambitions. Where funding was more flexible, for example when budgets were set, the Council tried to support those in greatest need wherever possible. Recognising that need came in many different forms, universal offers were in place across every ward. The Mayor highlighted recent investments in the Nunthorpe Ward which included a new Community Centre, road infrastructure improvements and youth provision. The Mayor extended an invitation to Councillor Rush to meet with him to further discuss the points raised.

Councillor Uddin in relation to Levick Court

The Mayor stated that Levick Court had been marked as a red saving on the budget for several months but in this case, outcomes had outweighed financial risks. Families across the region had faced closures of this type of respite provision. The re-opening of Levick Court had been a massive benefit both for existing and new residents. Respite offered an amazing opportunity

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for those who provided care to other family members. The Mayor also commented on the fantastic care provided by an ageing population of carers and that the Council should do whatever it could to continue to provide respite for them.

Councillor Morrish on City of Culture

The Mayor agreed with the Councillor's comments that the City of Culture nomination was hugely important for Middlesbrough and encourage all Councillors to support the bid. The Mayor also agreed with the Councillor's comments in respect of homelessness in the town and that the Council needed to ensure people were housed. Later this year the Council would be introducing a new Homelessness Strategy. Three new posts in the Homelessness Team had been recruited to recently including a Head of Social Care and Housing. Numbers of homeless people in Middlesbrough had been increasing since 2021 and this was a shocking sign of the times. The Mayor added that house building needed to continue and the Council needed to gain control of empty properties and renovate them to ensure that quality homes could be provided to support those people who were furthest away from the property market to gain their own tenancies. A briefing would be provided to all Members in respect of homelessness issues and demonstrate what actions were being taken to help those who needed housing. Responding to a suggestion of setting aside a secure area for rough sleepers, the Mayor explained that it was difficult to create specific sites since this could bring further issues such as encouraging people from other areas to move to the town. The key to addressing the issue was to identify problems earlier and ensure that adequate housing available for people identifying as homeless, rather than normalising people living in tents. In respect of cleaning up the environment, additional neighbourhood caretakers and a back alley cleansing team had been employed.

25/113

EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATES

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Children's Services – Councillor Henman

Councillor Uddin on school attendance.

The Executive Member for Children's Services commented that 339 of Middlesbrough's school aged children in care had a school place. In terms of six who did not currently have a school place, there were a range of reasons, a couple of examples were provided which were: being placed out of area as a protection from criminal activity and moving to another local authority and awaiting a placement there. All children were currently accessing alternative forms of education and these were standard circumstances that the virtual school supported young people with.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Development - Councillor Furness

Councillor Rush on Nunthorpe Community Centre

The Executive Member for Development explained that the opening date for the Nunthorpe Community Centre had not been confirmed as yet. There had been some issues with the water connection which had delayed the opening. The Executive Member stated that he would inform the Councillor when he had a confirmed date.

Councillor Morrish on Nunthorpe Parish Council

This question was not permitted by the Chair since the topic did not appear within the Executive Member's Update.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability – Councillor Gavigan

Councillor Rush on pedestrian crossings

Councillor Gavigan stated that he could not answer the question directly but that there were a number of new pedestrian crossings being installed during the next financial year. All requests

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were assessed against a matrix by a panel of officers and included an overall score based on multiple factors. Schemes were implemented when funding was secured. The Council had a limited budget to progress multiple requests for schemes and there were currently in excess of 100 schemes across the Borough on the list. In relation to the number of pedestrian crossings in Nunthorpe and the criteria for determining provision, the Executive Member invited Councillor Rush to email her question and he would provide a response, as he did not have that information to hand.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods – Councillor Blades

Councillor Rush on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods explained that each of the four neighbourhood areas across the town focussed on issues such as ASB. The Executive Member suggested that the Councillor should contact the Neighbourhood Manager for the Nunthorpe area in relation to the complaints received from residents. In relation to youth provision, in conjunction with Middlesbrough Football Club, a bus had been fitted out as a roving youth club for the time being until further evidence was gathered in relation to what was required in terms of provision. It was important to try and go to where young people congregated in order to engage with them and ascertain what the most appropriate venues for youth provision were. Further information would be communicated to Ward Members.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Development - Councillor Furness

Councillor Rush on Development Across the Borough Section 106

The Executive Member for Development explained that the use of Section 106 money was determined by Officers in terms of infrastructure requirements around new developments. In terms of how and when Section 106 money was allocated, this was determined by the planning application system. The Executive Member also highlighted the Members' Small Scheme Allowance was available for Councillors to bid for improvements such as pedestrian crossings.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability – Councillor Gavigan

Councillor Rush on Marton Shops Junction

The Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability stated that he was aware of an email exchange between Councillor Rush and the Head of Transport in respect of the issues raised in relation to the Marton Shops Junction and that he had nothing further to add.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods – Councillor Blades

Councillor Morrish on CCTV Patrols

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods explained that 3 patrol vehicles had been off the road for servicing, repair or camera upgrades. The other 4 vehicles were not on the road on the particular day to which the Freedom of Information Request had been submitted by Councillor Morrish. The costs of hiring extra vehicles had increased due to the requirements of the number of additional staff now employed by the Council. The Executive Member stated that the Neighbourhood Caretakers were currently using hire vehicles and were being used to patrol all areas.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Development - Councillor Furness

Councillor Branson on Coulby Newham Infrastructure

The Executive Member for Development congratulated the Councillor and Officers on the successful Neighbourhood Plan. The masterplan for Newham Hall designated an area for a Community Centre. Whilst that did not guarantee that a Community Centre would be built, it

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was a priority for the current administration to ensure there was one in every area. It was likely that a shopping centre and a primary school would also be viable following the development of over 100 new houses Coulby Newham. Construction had started on the new road and roundabout.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability – Councillor Gavigan

Councillor Morrish on Marton Interchange

The Executive Member was unable to comment on traffic surveys undertaken or whether the sliproad near the crossing would be re-opened. The Executive Member agreed to email a response to the Councillor.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Development - Councillor Furness

Councillor Morrish on Carbon Savings

The Executive Member confirmed that the rooftop solar energy system installed at Fountain Court would deliver carbon savings equivalent to the items in his report – planting trees, removing petrol use and avoiding coal burning as a whole. The new system cost £160K and had been part funded by the Tees Valley Combined Authority. Battery storage was included and this week there had been two days when there had been no electricity usage from the grid. Payback for the investment was anticipated between 6 and 7 years. It was hoped that similar technology could be rolled out across all Council buildings in future. Although there was an initial cost this would also help protect against future energy costs.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability – Councillor Gavigan

Councillor Morrish on Waste Services

The Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability thanked Councillor Morrish for his comments on the roll out of the red top bins and food caddies. In relation to communication with the public, it was confirmed that the Council was three months away from the scheme coming into use in June and the roll out was on track. Closer to the start date, all available communication methods would be used to make sure residents were fully aware of the scheme. The Executive Member added that he looked forward to everyone playing their part in ensuring a greener, cleaner town with improved recycling rates.

Question in relation to the update of the Executive Member for Development - Councillor Furness

Councillor Morrish on Restaurant

The Executive Member for Development added his congratulations to Umami, a new restaurant joining the culinary line up at Captain Cook Square, in 2026. The new restaurant was part of the plans for the town centre rather than the historic retail offer. People liked choice and venues clustered together – such as STACK, Level X and inflate space. The Council was looking at the town centre as a whole and developing a marketing package to encourage people to come and shop and eat. Middlesbrough was historically the centre of the Tees Valley but it now needed to be reimagined and the Executive Member encouraged all Councillors to back the plans. In relation to the impacts on employers of the national minimum wage, increased cost of living and business rates, the Executive Member stated that he thought the national minimum wage increase was a good thing and unfortunately, he did not have any power over business rates which were set by Government.

25/114

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (IF ANY)

No valid questions had been submitted by members of the public, within the required timescale for this meeting.

25/115 **PETITIONS (IF ANY)**

No valid petitions had been submitted for this meeting.

25/116 **REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) presented a report, the purpose of which was to provide an update on the current position regarding progress made by the Overview and Scrutiny Board and the individual Scrutiny Panels.

The Executive Members for Development and for Environment and Sustainability had attended the February and March meetings respectively and provided updates on their portfolios.

The next meeting of OSB would take place on 15 April 2026 and not 7 April as stated in the report.

The Chair of OSB reminded Members to submit suitable topics for consideration for next year's Work Programme and also to complete the Scrutiny Survey that had been circulated by Democratic Services by 13 April 2026.

25/117 **LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Chair of Audit Committee presented a report seeking Council approval to the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance.

The Local Code of Corporate Governance (LCCG) provided a framework that enabled the Council to assess its governance arrangements against best practice and accordingly it was recommended that the LCCG was reviewed annually.

The report proposed a slight change to the content of the LCCG, to include information previously set out in the Annual Governance Statement (AGS). This reflected an addendum to the 2016 CIPFA guidance issued in 2025, which recommended that Councils did this to enable them to concentrate on the effectiveness of those arrangements within the Annual Governance Statement. The change had been to include information on systems in place to support governance. The change would enable the AGS to concentrate on an assessment of the effectiveness of internal controls, enabling the document to be shorter, easier to read and more focussed.

On a vote being taken, it was **ORDERED** that Council approved the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance.

25/118 **UPDATE ON URGENT DECISIONS (IF ANY)**

No urgent decisions had been taken since the last Council meeting.

25/119 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS ON NOTICE (IF ANY)**

No Members' Questions on Notice had been submitted within the specified deadlines for this meeting.

25/120 **MOTIONS ON NOTICE (IF ANY)**

Consideration was given to Motion No. 180 moved by Councillor Rush and seconded by Councillor Morrish of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules Nos, 4.28-4.34 as follows:

"National Colour Coded Recycling Packaging System, to include accessible labelling such as Braille or raised tactile markings.

Many residents wish to recycle responsibly but often face confusion due to inconsistent and unclear packaging labels. This confusion can lead to recyclable materials being placed in general waste or non-recyclable materials contaminating recycling collections.

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Recycling instructions are frequently printed in very small text, making them difficult to read, particularly for blind and visually impaired residents, older residents, or those with reading difficulties. As a result, residents may unknowingly dispose of recyclable items incorrectly.

Both Government and local councils are encouraging residents to recycle more. This is reflected in the increasing number of recycling bins and collection streams now provided to households. If residents are being asked to recycle more, it is only reasonable that the information on packaging is clear, consistent and accessible. A clear and consistent national approach would make recycling easier for residents and help improve recycling rates. It would also support the UK's wider environmental objectives, including increasing recycling levels and reducing waste sent to landfill.

A simple colour coded system displayed clearly on packaging would allow residents to quickly identify how an item should be disposed of. Such a system could help residents recycle correctly, reduce contamination in recycling collections, and provide clearer guidance for households across the country.

I therefore request that, if this motion is passed, the Chair of Council writes to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs within 28 days of the decision, urging the UK Government to consider introducing a national traffic light style colour coded system on packaging to clearly indicate recyclability, alongside accessible labelling such as Braille or raised tactile markings.

This would help ensure recycling information is accessible to everyone and allow residents to independently identify how items should be disposed of. A clear colour coded, and tactile system would therefore promote greater inclusivity while supporting improved recycling outcomes.

The proposer of the motion will work with the Chair to include in the letter the benefits such a system would bring to residents, councils and national recycling targets.”

Councillors Rush and Morrish spoke in support of the motion.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the motion.

In response to a query by Councillor Rush in respect of her efforts to secure a seconder for the motion, the Mayor explained that any requests to second a motion from opposition Members were agreed by the Labour Group rather than individual Labour Councillors. As such, sufficient notice would be required for the Labour Group to give such a matter consideration, which the Mayor indicated the Group would be happy to do.

On a vote being taken the motion was **CARRIED**.

Consideration was given to Motion No. 181 moved by Councillor Clynych and seconded by Councillor Gavigan of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules Nos, 4.28-4.34 as follows:

“Supporting scrapping of two-child benefit cap

This Council supports the decision of the Government to scrap the two-child benefit cap. It has been estimated that 2 million children across the country will see increases in their household income thanks to the decision to lift the cap. This will help tackle child poverty and meet the government's aim to give all children the best start in life.

We know child poverty affects children's physical and mental health, their educational attainment and future employment opportunities. In Middlesbrough, we have some of the highest levels of child poverty in the country. This includes in some wards where 6 out of 7 children are growing up in poverty.

Currently excellent work is being undertaken by Middlesbrough Council including: 10x10 programme, the HAF programme (Holiday Activities and Food programme) and other support under the Council's Welfare Strategy such as auto-enrolment of free school meals, the Household Support Fund and the amazing work of our Welfare Rights Team. The ending of the two-child cap will help to lift more children out of poverty and improve the lives of children across Middlesbrough.

This Council commits itself to continuing to support families and tackle child poverty.

This Council therefore resolves to: Request that the Chair of the Council write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Education and recommit ourselves to working together to improve the lives of all of Middlesbrough's young people."

Councillor Mason raised a point of order, citing Council Procedure Rule (CPR) 4.8.24 (a) that motions on notice would not be accepted as valid if CPR 4.8.7 (b) applied. Councillor Mason expressed the view that Motion 181 appeared to be an expression of opinion on a national policy matter and therefore CPR 4.8.7 (b) (vi) applied and that the motion should not be put to the meeting as it contained expressions of opinion.

The Chair adjourned proceedings for consideration of the point of order raised by Councillor Mason.

The meeting was reconvened and the Chair of Council stated that the main purpose of the motion was not to give opinion or a speech, instead the motion was a request for Full Council to restate its intent to support families and to tackle child poverty and also a request for the Chair of Council to recommit for Council's efforts to improve the lives of young people. The Chair declared that the motion was valid.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the motion.

Councillors Gavigan, Branson, Kabuye, Walker, L Young, Henman and The Mayor spoke in support of the motion.

Councillors Morrish, Coupe, Rush and Mason spoke against the motion.

Responding to a point of clarification raised by Councillor Morrish, the Chair confirmed that he had elected to take the advice of the Monitoring Officer on Council Procedure Rules.

Councillor Mason proposed an amendment to the motion as follows:

"We know child poverty effects children's physical and mental health, their educational attainment and future employment opportunities. In Middlesbrough, we have some of the highest levels of child poverty in the country. This includes in some wards where 6 out of 7 children are growing up in poverty.

Currently excellent work is being undertaken by Middlesbrough Council including: 10x10 programme, the HAF programme (Holiday Activities and Food programme) and other support under the Council's Welfare Strategy such as auto-enrolment of free school meals, the Household Support Fund and the amazing work of our Welfare Rights Team.

This Council commits itself to continuing to support families and tackle child poverty.

This Council therefore resolves to: Request that the Chair of the Council write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Education and recommit ourselves to working together to improve the lives of all of Middlesbrough's young people."

The proposed amendment was seconded by Councillor Coupe.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the proposed amendment to the motion.

Councillor Clynych spoke against the proposed amendment to the motion.

On a vote being taken, the amendment was **LOST** and the debate returned to the substantive motion.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the substantive motion.

Councillor Clynych exercised his right of reply and spoke in support of the motion.

On a vote being taken, the motion was **CARRIED**.

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In respect of the time permitted for consideration of motions on notice at a Council meeting, and in accordance with CPR 4.8.26 (u), the remaining motion on notice, Motion 182, was deferred to the next ordinary meeting of the Council and would be dealt with at that meeting in the same order and before any other motions of which notice was given.

25/121 **URGENT MOTIONS ON NOTICE (IF ANY)**

No Urgent Motions on Notice had been submitted within the specified deadlines for this meeting.

This document was classified as: OFFICIAL
COUNCIL

An Extraordinary meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 6 May 2026.

PRESENT: Councillors J Banks, (Chair), J Kabuye (Vice-Chair), D Branson, P Gavigan, E Clynch, C Cooke - Elected Mayor, J Cooke, D Coupe, T Furness, L Henman, S Hill, D Jackson, L Lewis, T Mohan, I Morrish, J Platt, S Platt, J Rostron, M Smiles and N Walker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: T Watson, Deputy Lieutenant of North Yorkshire

OFFICERS: C Benjamin, S Bonner, R Duce, T Frankland, R Horniman, S Lightwing, E Scollay, T Whitehead and A Wilson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were submitted on behalf of Councillors I Blades, C Cooper, J Ewan, TA Grainge, B Hubbard, N Hussain, J Rush, M Saunders, P Storey, J Thompson, Z Uddin and J Young

25/122 **WELCOME AND FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair welcomed all present to the Extraordinary Council meeting.

25/123 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at this point in the meeting.

25/124 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements for this meeting.

25/125 **RESOLUTION - FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH**

It was **MOVED** by the Mayor and **SECONDED** by Councillor Gavigan:

"That Mr Alan Peacock, who rendered eminent service to the Borough of Middlesbrough within the meaning and in pursuance of the provisions of Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, be admitted as a recipient of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Middlesbrough, in recognition and appreciation of that eminent service, the detailed particulars whereof are recorded on the Roll of Honour".

Prior to being put to the vote the Chair provided an opportunity for the Mayor, Councillor Gavigan, other Councillors and other people present, to speak in support of the Motion.

The Motion was then put to the meeting and **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

The Chair presented a copy of the resolution of the Council to Mr Peacock's daughter, grandson and great grandson and congratulated the family on behalf of the Council and the people of the Borough.

The Chair spoke in support of the decision to award Mr Peacock the Freedom of the Borough. The Deputy Lieutenant of North Yorkshire also addressed the meeting and offered his congratulations to Mr Peacock's family.

Mr Peacock's daughter, Diane Symington, thanked the Council for the honour conferred and expressed her thanks and appreciation to family, friends and others present.

The Chair announced the conclusion of the formal proceedings and invited the Deputy Lieutenant, the Mayor, Councillors and invited guests to join him for refreshments.

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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL



Report of:	Chris Cooke, The Mayor Charlotte Benjamin - Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Membership of Executive 2026-2027
Report for:	Information
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)

That the Council note the number and identity of Councillors appointed to the Executive.

Executive summary

Section 4.8.3(b)(vi) of the Constitution requires the Council be informed by the Mayor of the number and identity of Councillors appointed to the Executive at the Annual Meeting.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report sets out to Members, as required by section 4.8.3(b)(vi) of the Constitution, the number and identity of Councillors appointed to the Executive. An overview of Executive portfolios is attached to the report for Members information.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council
- Note the number and identity of Councillors appointed to the Executive.

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The Mayor is responsible for determining his Scheme of Delegation and this covers the following areas of delegated powers: the Executive collectively, individual

Executive Members, officers and joint arrangements. When he considers it appropriate however, the Mayor may still take any decision regardless of whether it has been delegated within his Scheme. An overview of Executive portfolios is detailed at Appendix 1.

3.2 The composition of the Executive is as follows:

- Mayor – C Cooke
- Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education and Culture. (Cllr P Storey)
- Executive Member for Adult Social Care (Cllr J Rostron)
- Executive Member for Children’s Services (Cllr L Henman)
- Executive Member for Development (Cllr T Furness)
- Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability (Cllr P Gavigan)
- Executive Member for Finance (Cllr N Walker)
- Executive Member for Neighbourhoods (Cllr I Blades)
- Executive Member for Public Health (Cllr J Ryles)

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

4.1 To not inform Council about the composition to the Executive. However, this was not recommended as there was a constitutional requirement for the update to be presented to Council.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	There are no changes to the financial implications since the previous update on the Executive Scheme of Delegation.
Procurement	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Legal	The Mayor is required to appoint an Executive consisting between 2 and 9 Executive Members in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended).
Risk	If the Council does not respond effectively and efficiently to legislation it could be in breach of statutory duties in relation to service delivery and fail to make the most of opportunities. The Council is obliged to comply with any legislation or statutory guidance to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.
Reducing poverty	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Climate Change / Environmental	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Children and Young People Cared for by	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

the Authority and Care Leavers	
Data Protection	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

Appendices

1	Executive Portfolio Summary
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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

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Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

THE MAYOR

*DIRECTOR: CHIEF EXECUTIVE/
LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE SERVICES*



CHRIS COOKE

Correspondence address:

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Relevant Service Areas

- Human Resources
- Legal Services
- Marketing and Communications
- Policy, Governance, and Information
- Strategy Business and Customer
- ICT
- Democratic Services

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Mayor has overall responsibility for delivering the Mayor's Priorities and associated initiatives. The Mayor will also be the lead Member on the Council's Transformation journey.

The Mayor has overall responsibility for executive functions together with those general responsibilities detailed above. Service responsibilities have been delegated to the Executive Members.

The Mayor is the first citizen of the town and will promote the town as a whole and act as a focal point for the community. He will also take precedence with regard to any civic duties, but these may be delegated to the Chair/Vice-Chair of the Council.

As the town's First Citizen, the Mayor promotes Middlesbrough in the sub-region, region and nationally.

Duties and responsibilities of the Mayor include: -

- Providing strong and visible leadership in relation to the Council, citizens, stakeholders and partners of the Council.
- Leading on partnerships and strategic matters of significance to Middlesbrough on a local, sub-regional, regional and national basis.



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

- Promoting, wherever possible, public engagement in the work of the Council.
- Leading in promoting the core values and objectives of the Council.
- Leading on the development of the budget.
- Leading on promoting of relevant proposals in relation to the Policy Framework.
- Leading on the delivery of continuous improvement in Council services.
- Promoting the highest standards of conduct and ethics within the Council.
- Making appointments to the Executive, determining portfolios and chairing the Executive.
- Delivering Best Value for the Council.
- Determining the Executive Scheme of Delegation.
- Responsibility for the Armed Forces Covenant.
- The Mayor (or whoever he decides to nominate) to exercise the Council’s rights as a shareholder in BCCP Limited on behalf of the Teesside Pension Fund

As part of the Legal and Governance element of their portfolio the Mayor will take the lead on ensuring the Council operates efficiently, openly and fairly.

Transformation Theme: Target Operation Model

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Plan (Overview) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Transformation ➤ Corporate Governance Improvement Plan ➤ Corporate Equality and Diversity Policies ➤ People Strategy ➤ Digital Strategy ➤ Strategic Risk Register ➤ Corporate Business Continuity Plan ➤ Member Development Strategy ➤ Information Strategy ➤ ICT Strategy ➤ Estates Strategy ➤ Pay Policy Statement ➤ Surveillance Policy ➤ Risk and Opportunity Management Policy

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITIES AND CULTURE



COUNCILLOR PETER GAVIGAN

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Relevant Service Areas

- Area Care and Arboriculture Services.
- Fleet Services
- Highways
- Transport and Infrastructure
- Waste Services
- Winter Maintenance

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability has responsibility for ensuring a safer environment for Middlesbrough – ensuring Middlesbrough is cleaner and more resilient to a changing climate.

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Environment and Waste Policies and Strategies • One Planet Living and Assisted Energy Strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Green Strategy ➤ Public rights of way ➤ Surface water management



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

PUBLIC HEALTH

DIRECTOR: JOINT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH



COUNCILLOR JAN RYLES

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Relevant Service Areas

- Public Health (South Tees)
-

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Public Health leads on improving population health, reducing health inequalities and ensuring Middlesbrough is a healthier place to live.

Transformation Theme: Adult Social Care

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LiveWell South Tees Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2024-2030) • Public Health South Tees Strategy (2023-26) • NHS Commissioning and Delivery Plans – Local, Regional and National • UK Health Security Agency and the NHS Office for Health Improvement and Disparities plans – local, regional and national 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National Health Service Long Term Plan ➤ NENC Integrated Care Board strategy – “Better health and wellbeing for all” ➤ South Tees Joint Strategic Needs Assessment ➤ Middlesbrough Pharmacy Needs Assessment



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

DIRECTOR: ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH



COUNCILLOR JULIA ROSTRON

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Relevant Service Areas

- Access and Safeguarding
- Prevention, Provider and Support
- Specialist and Lifelong Services

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Adult Social Care leads on the delivery of ensuring vulnerable adults are protected.

Transformation Theme: Adult Social Care

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Local Act Personal, The Direction for Social Care Services • Health and Social Care Reform. • NHS Commissioning and Delivery Plans – Local, Regional and National 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Better Care, Higher Standards ➤ Older Peoples’ Strategy ➤ Physical Disabilities Strategy ➤ Social Services’ Equalities Plan ➤ Social Services’ Care Service Plan ➤ Mental Health Strategy ➤ Mental Health Champion ➤ Learning Disabilities Strategy ➤ Joint Strategic Needs Assessment ➤ Homelessness Strategy ➤ Teesside Safeguarding Adults Board



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR: REGENERATION AND HOUSING



COUNCILLOR THEO FURNESS

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Relevant Service Areas

- Community Learning and Employability
- Growth
- Planning
- Property
- Transport

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Regeneration will have responsibility for delivering the Mayor’s Priorities with regard to ensuring a fair access to high-quality homes, fair access to secure, well-paid jobs and meaningful training, strengthening and diversifying our local economy, and strengthening our transport links.

Transformation Theme: Property

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan • Local Transport Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investment Prospectus ➤ Regeneration service plan ➤ Policies and strategies for housing activity ➤ Development briefs and master plans ➤ Town Centre Plan ➤ Housing Strategy



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

DEPUTY MAYOR AND EDUCATION & CULTURE

DIRECTOR: EDUCATION AND PARTNERSHIPS



COUNCILLOR PHILIPPA STOREY

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Relevant Service Areas

- Culture
- Community Learning
- Inclusion and Specialist Support Service
- Access to Education
- Achievement
- Partnerships (including Youth Justice, Missing and South Tees Safeguarding Partnership)

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education and Culture will Chair meetings of the Executive and act in place of the Mayor, if for some reason the Mayor is unable to act.

As part of the Education element of their portfolio the Executive Member for Education and Culture has responsibility to ensure that all children and young people are provided with the opportunity to realise their educational attainment potential.

The Executive Member will also oversee the provision of educational statutory services to address the needs of all children and young people and adults who need services (including youth justice). As part of the Culture element of their portfolio, the Executive Member for Education and Culture also has responsibility for strengthening the town’s cultural sector.

Policy Framework - Education	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Curriculum • Relevant Frameworks and Parliamentary Acts including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Children & Families Act 2014 (relevant to portfolio e.g. SEND) ➢ School Finance Regulations 2013 ➢ Education Act 2011 ➢ Academies Act 2010 ➢ Education and Skills Act 2008 ➢ Education and Inspection Act 2006 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Children and Young People’s Plan ➢ Education and Skills Strategy ➢ Children’s Services Improvement Plan ➢ Capital Strategy & Asset Management Plan (Schools) ➢ Scheme for Financing Schools ➢ Youth Employment Strategy



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

<p>Policy Framework – Education Cont.</p>	<p>Other Plans and Strategies Cont.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Children Act 2004 (relevant to portfolio) ➤ Education Act 2002 ➤ School Standards & Framework Act 1998 as amended ➤ Education Act 1996 as amended ➤ Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage ➤ Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 ➤ Early Years Foundation Statutory framework ➤ Crime and Disorder Act 1998 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms ➤ School Improvement Strategy ➤ Healthy Child Programme (5 – 19) (including School Nursing service) ➤ SEND Strategy ➤ Inclusion Strategy ➤ Anti-Poverty ➤ Youth Justice
<p>Policy Framework – Culture</p>	<p>Other Plans and Strategies</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Strategy 	<p>Community based events programme.</p>



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

NEIGHBOURHOODS

DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITIES AND CULTURE



COUNCILLOR IAN BLADES

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Relevant Service Areas

- Public Protection
- Neighbourhoods
- North East Migration Partnership

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Communities will be responsible for creating safer communities, in accordance with the Mayor’s Priorities. They will also have responsibility for community safety and development as well as empowering communities and individuals to access opportunities.

Transformation Theme: Place Based Services

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Sector • Strategic Approach to Addressing Poverty • Community Safety including Law and Order Issues • Community Development • Community Hub Development • Civil Contingencies Act 2004 • Crime and Policing Act 2014 • Human Rights Act • Licensing Authority Policy Statement 2003 Act • Statement of Principle Gambling (2005 Act) • Environmental Health and Trading Standards • Trading Standards (including Metrology) • Licensing (Inc. Taxi Licensing) • Selective Landlord Licensing 	



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

DIRECTOR: CHILDREN'S SERVICES



COUNCILLOR LUKE HENMAN

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Relevant Service Areas

- Children's Care
- Residential Services
- Prevention
- MACH Assessment and Pre-Birth Services
- Corporate Parenting
- SCP/ CWD

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Children's Services will be the Lead Member for Children's Social Care, ensuring that our children are protected, to safeguard their welfare and wherever possible, seek to enable or provide a safe environment that reduces dependency on services, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable and their families and carers.

Transformation Theme: Children

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services • General principles of UN convention on the rights of the child • Children Act 1989 • Section 19 of the Children Act 2004 • National Standards for Youth Justice Services • Children Act 2004 • Ofsted policy Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Children's Services Improvement Plan ➤ Corporate Parenting Strategy ➤ Middlesbrough Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan ➤ Looked After Children Strategy ➤ MSCB Business Plan ➤ Children and Young People's Plan ➤ Children's Services Partnership ➤ Youth Employment Strategy ➤ Youth Justice Plan ➤ Missing/ Harm Outside the Home



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

FINANCE

DIRECTOR: FINANCE (s151 Officer)



COUNCILLOR NICKY WALKER

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Relevant Service Areas

- Financial Planning and Support
- Strategic Commissioning and Procurement
- Resident and Business Support
- Finance and Investment

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Executive Member for Finance has the responsibility of ensuring that the Council is financially sustainable, delivers value for money and operates openly and fairly in these respects. The Executive Member for Finance has oversight of all financial and budget management and monitoring. The Executive Member for Finance is also the Member Champion for Councillor Communications.

Transformation Theme: Customer

Policy Framework	Other Plans and Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council’s Annual Budget and Council Tax Strategy • Medium Term Financial Plan • Reserves Policy • Capital Strategy and Capital Programme • Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators • Council Tax Reduction Scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Counter Fraud Strategy ➤ Anti Money-Laundering Policy ➤ Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure ➤ Anti-Fraud Bribery and Corruption Policy ➤ Corporate Procurement Strategy ➤ Supplier No PO No Pay Policy ➤ Equality & Diversity in Procurement Policy ➤ Flight Booking Policy ➤ Commissioning & Consultant Policy ➤ Purchasing Card Policy ➤ Business Welfare Strategy ➤ Corporate Crisis Policy ➤ Corporate Food Poverty Policy



Executive Scheme of Delegation - Member Portfolios

Policy Framework Cont	Other Plans and Strategies Cont
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Welfare Strategy ➤ Empty Homes Strategy ➤ Problem Property Action Plan ➤ Corporate Credit Note Policy ➤ Debt Management Policy ➤ Corporate Debt Write Off Policy ➤ S13a Policy ➤ Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan ➤ Vulnerability Policy ➤ ASC Non-Residential Charging Policy ➤ ASC Residential Charging Policy ➤ Discretionary Rate Relief ➤ Residential Charging Policy ➤ Members small schemes ➤ Community Asset Transfer Policy ➤ Customer Strategy

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Charlotte Benjamin, Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Political Balance Allocation of Places 2026-2027
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)

That the Council:

Approves the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance.

Executive summary

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that the Council periodically reviews the political composition of the Council and how this is applied to appointments to committees and sub-committees of the Council.

The report outlines the rules with regard to political balance and provides details of the total number of places on committees and how those places will be allocated in a manner that reflects the overall political balance.

Council is recommended to approve the allocation of places on committees and sub-committees for 2026-2027 in accordance with the political balance of the Council and to ensure robust and effective corporate governance.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To seek approval for the allocation of places on committees and sub-committees for 2026-2027 in accordance with the political balance of the Council.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Council:

Approves the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance.

3. Background and relevant information

3.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that the Council periodically reviews the political composition of the Council, and how this is applied to appointments to committees and sub-committees of the Council.

3.2 The rules for securing political balance on committees and sub-committees appointed by local authorities are contained in sections 15 and 16 of the Act and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

3.3 The Council is under a duty to:

- (i) Ensure that the membership of those committees and sub-committees covered by the rules reflect the political composition of the Council, as far as practicable.
- (ii) Review the allocation of seats to political groups at, or as soon as practical after, the Annual Council meeting and at certain other specified times for example, as a result of changes in political balance or an increase in the number of committees established.
- (iii) Allocate seats on the committees to the political groups in proportion to their numerical strength on the Council, as far as practicable;
- (iv) Accept nominations made by the groups for the filling of seats allocated to them.

3.4 In determining the allocation of seats, the Council must also apply the following four principles, as far as reasonably practicable:

- (i) Not all seats to be allocated to the same political group.
- (ii) If a political group has a majority on the Council, it must have a majority of seats on committees.
- (iii) Subject to (i) and (ii) above, the total of all seats on ordinary committees be allocated to the groups in proportion to their respective strengths on the Council, and
- (iv) Subject to (i) to (iii) above the number of seats on ordinary committees or sub-committees to be allocated to each political group in proportion to the number of all the seats on the committee or sub-committee in proportion to their respective strengths on the Council.

- 3.5 As per the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) regulations 1990, appointments are made in accordance with the wishes of a political group, then, as long as that person's seat continues to be allocated to that group, the authority or committee which made the appointment shall act in accordance with the wishes of that group in determining whether and when to terminate the appointment. If a group fails to express its wishes within a period of three weeks of being notified of the allocation or vacancy, the Council may make such appointment as it thinks fit.
- 3.6 Where a Group chooses not to take up their full allocation, according to political balance, those vacant places will become available for all groups to take up. Once the seat has been reallocated at Council, this appointment will remain in place for the whole of the Municipal year.
- 3.7 Independent Members who have not formed a political group in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, are to be allocated in accordance with section 16 (3) of the Regulations: i.e. any seats not allocated according to the requirements in section 15 and 16 of the Act, to be allocated to members who are not members of any political group.
- 3.8 Certain committees and steering/working groups of the Council are exempt from the requirements relating to political balance as they are established under separate legislation. For this reason the following committees and steering/working groups are not covered by the recommendations of this report, in relation to the political balance calculation. Where places are not reserved for particular members for example by virtue of their title or position, those remaining places have been allocated in accordance with the numbers shown in Table 3. These committees and steering/working groups include:
- The Executive.
 - All Executive committees and sub-committees.
 - Corporate Health and Safety Steering Group.
 - Corporate Parenting Board.
 - Live Well South Tees Board.
 - Licensing Sub-Committees.
 - Local Plan Working Group.
 - Works Council.
- 3.9 The total number of places on committees is, therefore, **123** places and these will be allocated in a manner that reflects the overall political balance of the Council.
- 3.10 The calculations relating to the allocation of the **123** places on those committees to be subject to political balance rules are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.11 As can be seen from Table 4 in Appendix 1, the outcome of applying the required

method of calculation would result in the following:

Name of Group/Unallocated	No. of Seats
Conservative	11
Labour	64
Marston Independent East Group	5
Middlesbrough Independent Councillors Association (MICA)	24
Reform UK	5
Unallocated	14
Total	123

Method to Calculate Places

3.12 The principles in paragraph 4.4 are applied as below:

- (i) Calculate the total number of seats with votes on all the committees subject to Political Balance.
- (ii) Calculate the proportion that each political group forms of the total membership of the Authority. Reserve an appropriate number of seats for ungrouped members.
- (iii) Apply those proportions to the total number of ordinary seats to give the aggregate entitlement of each group; the requirement to apply the proportions “so far as reasonably practicable” are met by rounding down fractional entitlements of less than half, and rounding up entitlements of a half or more; if this results in a greater aggregate than the number of seats available, the fractional entitlement(s) closest to a half should be rounded in the other direction until entitlements balance the available seats.
- (iv) Apply the proportions to the number of Councillors on each committee to give provisional entitlement to seats on that committee.
- (v) Finally, adjust the seats on each committee so that the total allocated to each group is as near as possible to their aggregate entitlement, whilst preserving the results reached at steps (iv) and (v). Where calculations identify additional seats (not allocated) the largest group followed by the next largest group etc., will have their choice of which committee places they wish to take their allocation from in the unallocated column.
- (vi) Unallocated spaces will be available to any independent members (who are not members of a group) – where more than one independent member is nominated for a seat then the seat is allocated at the discretion of Full Council.

3.13 In line with usual practice, it is recommended that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend memberships of committees following resignations received from Members and to appoint to vacancies in accordance with group preferences or, where not in a group, in accordance with individual Member’s wishes. However, where more than one person (non-group members) applies for the same place, they should decide

amongst themselves how those places should be allocated. If agreement cannot be reached between the individual Members, the Council will make that determination.

- 3.14 In order to avoid the need to completely recalculate all committee memberships in the case of an ad hoc (or other) committees being established prior to the next review, it is proposed that any committees or sub-committees be appointed on the basis of the places shown in Table 3 attached.

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

- 4.1 Do Nothing - The Council must ensure that places on committees are allocated in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	There are no financial implications or impact on any budgets or the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) arising from the content of this report.
Procurement	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance.
Legal	The Council must adhere to the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
Risk	If the Council does not respond effectively and efficiently to legislation it could be in breach of statutory duties in relation to service delivery and fail to make the most of opportunities. The Council is obliged to comply with any legislation or statutory guidance to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance and does not change any policy.
Reducing Poverty	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance and does not change any policy.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance and does not change any policy.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance and does not change any policy.
Data Protection	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance and does not change any policy.

Appendices

1	Appendix 1 Step 1 - Total places on those committees subject to rules of proportionality. Step 2 - Calculate overall proportionality for all eligible committees. Step 3 - Political balance according to size of committee. Step 4 - Application of figures in Table 3 to each committee.
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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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APPENDIX 1

Step 1 - Total places on those committees subject to rules of proportionality

Table 1

Name of Committee	Places
Audit Committee	7
Chief Officer Committee	7
Constitution and Members' Development Committee	9
Corporate Affairs Committee	7
Licensing Committee	14
Planning and Development Committee	10
Staff Appeals Committee	9
Standards Committee	9
Teesside Pension Fund Committee	9
Overview and Scrutiny Board	15
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel	9
Children's Scrutiny Panel	9
Place Scrutiny Panel	9
Total	123

Step 2 - Calculate overall proportionality for all eligible committees (i.e. politically balanced)

Total Places:	123
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Formula: (Number in Group x Number of Committee Places) ÷ Total number of members:	46
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Table 2

Group	Number in group	Allocation of places	Number of places (rounded)
Labour	24	64.17	64
Conservative	4	10.70	11
Middlesbrough Independent Councillors Association	9	24.07	24
Marton East Independent Group	2	5.35	5
Reform UK	2	5.35	5
Unallocated* Independent/Lib Dem	5	13.37	14
Total	46	123.00	123

* Do not count as a group

Mayor not counted

Step 3 - Political balance according to size of committee

Formula: (Number in group x number on committee) ÷ number of members:

46

Table 3

Size of committee	Labour Group	Conservative Group	Middlesbrough Independent Councillors Association	Marton East Independent Group	Reform Uk	Unallocated
	24	4	9	2	2	5
1	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	2	0	1	0	0	0
4	2	0	1	0	0	1
5	3	0	1	0	0	1
6	3	1	1	0	0	1
7	4	1	1	0	0	1
8	4	1	2	0	0	1
9	5	1	2	0	0	1
10	5	1	2	0	0	2
11	6	1	2	0	0	2
12	6	1	2	1	1	1
13	7	1	3	1	1	0
14	7	1	3	1	1	1
15	8	1	3	1	1	1
16	8	1	3	1	1	2

Table 4

	Total	Lab	Cons	MICA	MEIG	Reform	Unallocated
Audit Committee	7	4	1	1	0	0	1
Chief Officer Committee	7	4	1	1	0	0	1
Constitution and Members' Development Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Corporate Affairs Committee	7	4	1	1	0	0	1
Licensing Committee	14	7	1	3	1	1	1
Planning and Development Committee	10	5	1	2	0	0	2
Staff Appeals Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Standards Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Teesside Pension Fund Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Overview and Scrutiny Board	15	8	1	3	1	1	1
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Children's Services Scrutiny Panel	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Place Scrutiny Panel	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Totals		67	13	25	2	2	14
Total Allocation Allowed (as per Step 2)	123	64	11	24	5	5	14
ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED		-3	-2	-1	3	3	0

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Charlotte Benjamin, Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Appointments by the Council and Executive to Joint Committees and Outside Bodies – 2026-2027
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)

That the Council

Approves:

1. Subject to amendments to places indicated in the attached schedules, the appointments which are the responsibility of the Council.
2. Bodies identified in the schedules submitted be regarded as approved duties for the payment of travel and subsistence allowance.
3. Subject to consultation with the Deputy Mayor (for Executive appointments), the Group Leader (where a vacancy rests specifically with that political group), or the Chair of Council (for all other nominations/appointments), that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to remove or replace representatives on outside bodies.
4. That a report on any outstanding Outside Body vacancies be submitted to the next Council meeting.

That the Council

Notes:

5. The nomination of representatives/vacancies detailed in Appendix B – Council/Executive appointments and Appendix C – Executive appointments.

Executive summary

The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) provide for the discharge of the Council's functions through Executive arrangements.

The appendices to the report set out details of the Joint Committees and Outside Bodies to which Middlesbrough Council may make nominations or appointments.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the appointment of representatives to Joint Committees and Outside Bodies for the Municipal Year of 2026-2027, or until amended by Council/Executive (whichever is the latter).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council:

Approves:

- 2.1.1 Subject to amendments to places indicated in the attached schedules, the appointments which are the responsibility of the Council.
- 2.1.2 Bodies identified in the schedules submitted be regarded as approved duties for the payment of travel and subsistence allowance.
- 2.1.3 Subject to consultation with the Deputy Mayor (for Executive appointments), the Group Leader (where a vacancy rests specifically with that political group), or the Chair of Council (for all other nominations/appointments), that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to remove or replace representatives on Outside Bodies.
- 2.1.5 That a report on any outstanding Outside Body vacancies be submitted to the next Council meeting.

Notes:

- 2.1.6 The nomination of representatives/vacancies detailed in Appendix B – Council/Executive appointments and Appendix C – Executive appointments.

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The report provides an opportunity for the Council and the Executive to review its appointments to Outside Bodies and to make any necessary changes.
- 3.2 The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) provide for the discharge of the Council's functions through Executive arrangements.

3.3 The appendices to this report set out details of the joint committees and outside bodies to which Middlesbrough Council may make nominations or appointments and identify:

(i) proposed representation requiring approval by the Council:

Appendix A – Council nominations

Appendix B – Council/Executive nominations (Nominations within Appendix B are local choice matters which are nominated on a shared basis between Council and Executive).

(ii) Appendix C - representation approved by the Executive via delegation to the Deputy Mayor as outlined in the Mayor’s Executive Scheme of Delegation:

Deputy Mayor – Delegated Authority

The Deputy Mayor has delegated powers:

- a. To appoint to outside bodies, made by the Executive or jointly with Council.
- b. To appoint to Executive Advisory Bodies (Excluding membership to the Full Executive).

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

4.1 Decide not to appoint to Outside Bodies - As a representative on an Outside Body, Councillors may report back to the Council whenever they or the organisation feel that a matter is of major significance to the Council or to the town.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	There are no financial implications or impact on any budgets or the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) arising from the content of this report.
Procurement	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the allocation of representatives to Outside Bodies.
Legal	The Council is required to fill vacancies in accordance with Local Government legislation.
Risk	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. The Council can be kept up to date on any significant developments that may affect the town or the authority by the representative on the Outside Body.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.
Reducing Poverty	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Climate Change / Environmental	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Data Protection	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

Appendices

1	Appendix A - Council Appointments to Outside Bodies
2	Appendix B – Council/Executive Appointments to Outside Bodies
3	Appendix C – Executive Appointments to Outside Bodies

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Charlotte Benjamin, Monitoring Officer
Submitted to:	Full Council (Annual Meeting)
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Annual Review of Constitution
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)
<p>That the Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTES the information in this report • APPROVES the non-Executive scheme of delegations as they appear in the Constitution

Executive summary
<p>The Council’s Constitution provides for the Monitoring Officer to report to each Annual Council meeting a review of the Constitution. The current Constitution has been in use since September 2025, after a significant review. Since implementation the Constitution has been and will continue to be subject to oversight and review by the Constitution and Member Development Committee. Full Council has received reports from that committee about amendments made to the Constitution during this municipal year. Members are asked to note this information and to endorse the ongoing work of the Constitution and Member Development Committee, supported by the Monitoring Officer and colleagues.</p> <p>Full Council is required by the Constitution to approve the non-Executive scheme of delegations (in Part B of the Constitution) at each Annual Meeting. The current schemes were implemented by the new Constitution in September 2025. Given their recent implementation, Annual Council is asked to approve the schemes as drafted in the Constitution.</p>

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Constitution requires the Monitoring Officer to report to Full Council at the Annual Meeting with an annual review of the Constitution. This report fulfils that requirement and provides a summary of the work done in relation to the Constitution since its implementation in September 2025.
- 1.2 The Constitution further requires Full Council to approve the non-Executive scheme of delegations at the Annual Council meeting; Full Council is asked to approve the current schemes (at Part B of the Constitution) on the basis that they have been in place for less than a municipal year and do not require further revision.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council
 - NOTES the information in this report
 - APPROVES the non-Executive scheme of delegations as they appear in the Constitution

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution was implemented to provide a clear and accessible framework for decision-making, governance, and accountability across the authority. Since its implementation, arrangements have been put in place to ensure that the Constitution remains current, effective, and aligned with legislative requirements and good governance practice.
- 3.2 The Constitution and Member Development Committee has met on a quarterly basis since the Constitution was implemented and has taken the lead role in overseeing the ongoing review of the Constitution. The Committee provides a forum for considering proposed amendments, identifying areas for clarification or improvement, and ensuring that the Constitution continues to support effective governance and member development.
- 3.3 The Monitoring Officer, supported by colleagues, works collaboratively with the Constitution and Member Development Committee to develop and maintain a work plan for constitutional review. This includes:
 - Bringing forward proposed changes as required
 - Responding to matters raised by the Committee
 - Reviewing feedback arising from the application of the Constitution in practice
 - Ensuring compliance with legislative or regulatory changes

Points and themes emerging from Committee discussions are picked up through the work plan and addressed in a timely and proportionate way.

- 3.4 The established review arrangements have enabled issues to be identified early and dealt with through incremental updates rather than requiring significant revision. This approach supports stability while allowing flexibility for continuous improvement.

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

- 4.1 The Constitution requires that the Monitoring Officer reports on the annual review of the Constitution. Not providing such a report would create a situation of non-compliance with the Constitution.
- 4.2 The Constitution requires that the non-Executive scheme of delegations is approved annually at the Annual Meeting of the council.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	Monitoring the effectiveness of the Constitution supports strong financial stewardship and helps to deliver social value.
Procurement	The Constitution supports efficient, effective and economic procurement activity. The recommended decision supports assurance of procurement activity by audit committee.
Legal	An effective Constitution underpins strong decision-making which supports efficient, effective and economic use of public funds to have a positive impact on the communities the council serves.
Risk	The Constitution creates a framework for good governance which reduces organisational risk.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	An effective Constitution promotes adherence to the public sector equality duty and transparency in decision making on behalf of the communities the council serves.
Reducing poverty	Monitoring the effectiveness of the Constitution enables a positive impact on poverty reduction.
Climate Change / Environmental	Monitoring the effectiveness of the Constitution enables a positive impact on climate change reduction by creating a strong decision-making framework that is focussed on the council's priorities.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	Monitoring the effectiveness of the Constitution enables a positive impact on Middlesbrough's children by creating a strong decision-making framework that is focussed on the council's priorities.
Data Protection	An effective Constitution supports effective information management and data protection.

Appendices

1	Part B Constitution
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2	
3	

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date
Constitution and Member Development Committee	Constitution updates – quarterly report	11.12.25
Constitution and Member Development Committee	Constitution updates – Quarterly report	26.03.26
Constitution and Member Development Committee	Constitution	26.03.26

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin
Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Part B Non-executive Functions

- 10.6 - Full Council
- 10.7 - Audit Committee
- 10.8 - Chief Officer Committee
- 10.9 - Constitution & Member Development Committee
- 10.10 - Corporate Affairs Committee
- 10.11 - Licensing Committee
- 10.12 - Overview & Scrutiny Board & Committees
- 10.13 - Planning & Development Committee
- 10.14 - Staff Appeals Committee
- 10.15 - Standards Committee
- 10.16 – Teesside Pension Fund Committee
- 10.17 - You Matter to Us – Corporate Parenting Committee
- 10.18 - Joint Committees:
 - Durham Darlington Teesside Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee
 - Joint Archives Committee
 - Live Well South Tees Board
 - South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee
 - Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee
 - Tees Valley Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee

10.6 Full Council

Which Non-executive Functions are reserved to Full Council?

10.6.1 The Full Council discharges the following Non-executive Functions:

- (a) save as otherwise set out in section 2, adopting, amending and changing this Constitution;
- (b) approving or adopting the Policy Framework, the Budget and any application to the Secretary of State in respect of any Housing Land Transfer;
- (c) subject to the urgency procedure contained in paragraph 13.12, making decisions about any matter in the discharge of an Executive Function which is covered by the Policy Framework or the Budget where the decision maker is minded to make it in a manner which would be contrary to the Policy Framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the Budget;
- (d) in respect of a Committee, other than an Executive Committee:
 - (i) agreeing and / or amending the terms of reference;
 - (ii) deciding their composition;
 - (iii) making appointments to them;
- (e) subject to any provision of regulations¹:
 - (i) making arrangements for the discharge of functions by a joint committee or officer²; and
 - (ii) making appointments to joint committee³;
- (f) appointing representatives to outside bodies unless the appointment is an Executive Function or has been delegated by the Council;
- (g) in accordance with paragraph 5.8.1(c), adopting, amending and revoking a Members Allowances Scheme⁴ (see [paragraph 5.10](#));
- (h) changing the name of the Borough, conferring the title of honorary alderman of Middlesbrough, or granting Freedom of the Borough;

1 section 20 (joint exercise of functions) of the Local Government Act 2000

2 section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the 1972 Act")

3 section 102 (appointment of committees) of the 1972 Act

4 Regulation 2(5) & (6) of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 ('2000 Regulations')

- (i) functions relating to:
 - (i) name and status of areas and individuals⁵;
 - (ii) changing governance arrangements⁶;
 - (iii) making an order giving effect to recommendations made in a community governance review⁷;
 - (iv) community governance⁸;
- (j) confirming the appointment of the Head of Paid Service;
- (k) terminating the appointment of the Statutory Chief Officers in accordance with the procedure set out in the Officer Employment Procedure Rules (see [paragraph 9.10](#));
- (l) designating:
 - (i) an officer as the head of the council's paid service; and
 - (ii) an officer as the monitoring officer
 and providing them with such officers, accommodation and other resources as are in their opinion sufficient to allow their duties to be performed;
- (m) making arrangements for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs, including the power to make standing orders;
- (n) appointment of "proper officers" for particular purposes under the Local Government Act 1972 and powers in relation to staff under section 112 of that Act;
- (o) making arrangements in relation to elections⁹;
- (p) making, amending, revoking, re-enacting, or adopting Byelaws and promoting or opposing the making of local legislation or personal bills (being bills related to the personal affairs of an individual);
- (q) all Local Choice Functions set out in the Scheme of Delegation which the Council decides should be undertaken by itself rather than the Executive; and

5 Section E of Schedule 1 to the 2000 Regulations

6 Section EA of Schedule 1 to the 2000 Regulations

7 Section 86 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007;

8 Section EB of Schedule 1 to the 2000 Regulations

9 Section D of Schedule 1 of the 2000 Regulations

(r) all other matters which by law must be reserved to the Council.

What local choice functions are reserved to Council?

10.6.2 The Full Council has designated the local choice functions set out below as non-executive functions and confirms what, if any, onward delegation is permitted in respect of the local choice functions:

Table 1: Local Choice Functions

URN	Function	Delegatee	
		Members	Officers
a.	Any function relating to contaminated land ¹⁰	Yes	
b.	The control of pollution or the management of air quality ¹¹	Yes	
c.	To serve an abatement notice in respect of a statutory nuisance ¹²		Yes
d.	To pass a resolution that Schedule 2 of the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 should apply in the authority's area ¹³	Yes	
e.	To inspect the authority's area to detect any statutory nuisance ¹⁴	Yes	
f.	To investigate any complaint about the existence of a statutory nuisance ¹⁵	Yes	

10 Part IIA Environmental Protection Act 1990 and subordinate legislation

11 Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999; Part IV Environment Act 1995; Part I Environmental Protection Act 1990; Clean Air Act 1993

12 Section 80(l) Environmental Protection Act 1990

13 Section 8 of the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993

14 Section 79 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

15 Section 79 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

g.	To obtain information about interests in land ¹⁶		Yes
h.	To obtain particulars of persons interested in land ¹⁷		Yes
i.	To make agreements for the execution of highways works ¹⁸		Yes
j.	To appoint (and revoke any such appointment) any individual: (a) to any office other than an office in which they are employed by the authority;	None – Full Council decision	
	(b) to any body other than – (i) the authority; (ii) a joint Committee of two or more authorities; or	None – Full Council decision	
	(c) to any Committee or sub Committee of such a body	None – Full Council decision	
k.	To make agreements with other local authorities for the placing of staff at the disposal of those other authorities	Yes	

What Committees has the Full Council established?

10.6.3 The Full Council has established committees to discharge Non-executive functions in accordance with section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, as set out at paragraphs 10.7 to 10.17.

16 Section 330 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

17 Section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

18 Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980

10.7 Audit Committee

10.7.1 The Audit Committee is an advisory committee providing the Full Council with an independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk and control arrangements within the Council in accordance with Chartered Institute for Public Finance Accountancy ('CIPFA') guidance¹⁹.

10.7.2 The committee consists of 7 Members. Executive Members may not be members of the Audit Committee. The Council may co-opt up to two independent non-voting members to the Audit Committee.

10.7.3 The committee ensures there is sufficient assurance over governance and risk and gives greater confidence to all those charged with governance of the Council that those arrangements are effective. The committee has oversight of both internal and external audit, together with the financial and governance reports, helping to ensure there are adequate arrangements in place for both internal challenge and public accountability.

10.7.4 The following CIPFA terms of reference for the committee have been adopted and it will:

Governance, risk and control

- (a) review the council's corporate governance arrangements against the good governance framework, including the ethical framework, and consider the local code of governance;
- (b) monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council;
- (c) monitor progress in addressing risk-related issues reported to the committee;
- (d) consider reports on the effectiveness of internal controls and monitor the implementation of agreed actions;
- (e) consider reports on the effectiveness of financial management arrangements, including compliance with CIPFA's Financial Management Code;
- (f) consider the Council's arrangements to secure value for money and review assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements;
- (g) review the assessment of fraud risks and potential harm to the council from fraud and corruption;

¹⁹ Audit Committees: Practical guidance for local authorities and police, 2022 edition Cipfa.org

- (h) monitor the counter fraud strategy, actions and resources;
- (i) review the governance and assurance arrangements for significant partnerships or collaborations.

Financial and governance reporting

Governance reporting

- (j) review the Annual Governance Statement ('AGS') prior to approval and consider whether it properly reflects the risk environment and supporting assurances, including the Chief Officer responsible for Internal Audit's annual opinion;
- (k) consider whether the annual evaluation for the AGS fairly concludes that governance arrangements are fit for purpose, supporting the achievement of the authority's objectives;

Financial reporting

- (l) monitor the arrangements and preparations for financial reporting to ensure that statutory requirements and professional standards can be met;
- (m) review the annual statement of accounts. Specifically, to consider whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the council;
- (n) consider the external auditor's report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the accounts;

Arrangements for audit and assurance

- (o) consider the council's framework of assurance and ensure that it adequately addresses the risks and priorities of the council;

External audit

- (p) support the independence of external audit through consideration of the external auditor's annual assessment of its independence and review of any issues raised by Public Sector Audit Appointments ('PSAA') or the authority's auditor panel as appropriate;
- (q) consider the external auditor's annual letter, relevant reports and the report to those charged with governance;
- (r) consider specific reports as agreed with the external auditor;
- (s) comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money;
- (t) consider additional commissions of work from external audit;

- (u) advise and recommend on the effectiveness of relationships between external and internal audit and other inspection agencies or relevant bodies;
- (v) provide free and unfettered access to the audit committee chair for the auditors, including the opportunity for a private meeting with the committee;

Internal audit

- (w) approve the internal audit charter;
- (x) review proposals made in relation to the appointment of external providers of internal audit services and to make recommendations;
- (y) approve the risk-based internal audit plan, including internal audit's resource requirements, the approach to using other sources of assurance and any work required to place reliance upon those other sources;
- (z) approve significant interim changes to the risk-based internal audit plan and resource requirements;
- (aa) make appropriate enquiries of both management and the Chief Officer responsible for Internal Audit to determine if there are any inappropriate scope or resource limitations;
- (bb) consider any impairments to the independence or objectivity of the Chief Officer responsible for Internal Audit arising from additional roles or responsibilities outside of internal auditing and to approve and periodically review safeguards to limit such impairments;
- (cc) consider reports from the Chief Officer responsible for Internal Audit on it's performance during the year, including:
 - (i) updates on the work of internal audit, including key findings, issues of concern and action in hand as a result of internal audit work;
 - (ii) regular reports on the results of the Quality Assurance Improvement Programme ('QAIP');
 - (iii) reports on instances where the internal audit function does not conform to the Global Internal Audit Standards ('GIAS')²⁰ and Local Government Application Note ('LGAN')²¹,

²⁰ Mandatory for all public sector organisations.

²¹ Application Note Global Internal Audit Standards in the UK Public Sector - applicable from 1 April 2025

considering whether the non-conformance is significant enough that it must be included in the AGS;

- (dd) consider the Chief Officer responsible for Internal Audit's annual report, including:
 - (i) the statement of the level of conformance with the GIAS and LGAN and the results of the QAIP that support the statement (these will indicate the reliability of the conclusions of internal audit);
 - (ii) the opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and control, together with the summary of the work supporting the opinion (these will assist the committee in reviewing the AGS);
- (ee) consider summaries of specific internal audit reports as requested.
- (ff) receive reports outlining the action taken where the Chief Officer with responsibility for Internal Audit has concluded that management has accepted a level of risk that may be unacceptable to the authority or there are concerns about progress with the implementation of agreed actions;
- (gg) contribute to the QAIP and in particular to the external quality assessment of internal audit that takes place at least once every five years;
- (hh) consider a report on the effectiveness of internal audit to support the AGS where required to do so by the accounts and audit regulations²²;
- (ii) provide free and unfettered access to the audit committee chair for Chief Officer responsible for Internal Audit , including the opportunity for a private meeting with the committee;

Accountability arrangements

- (jj) report to those charged with governance on the committee's findings, conclusions and recommendations concerning the adequacy and effectiveness of their governance, risk management and internal control frameworks, financial reporting arrangements and internal and external audit functions;

²² The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended)

- (kk) report to full council on a regular basis on the committee's performance in relation to the terms of reference and the effectiveness of the committee in meeting its purpose;
- (ll) publish an annual report on the work of the committee, including a conclusion on the compliance with the CIPFA Position Statement.

10.8 Chief Officer Committee

10.8.1 This is an occasional committee of 7 councillors (at least one of which shall be an Executive Member²³) plus up to 3 ex officio members:

- (a) The Mayor;
- (b) The Deputy Mayor;
- (c) An Executive Member.

10.8.1 The Council is required to have a committee to deal with employment matters relating to the Chief Officers with responsibility for Governance.

10.8.2 To discharge its functions, the Chief Officer Committee has two occasional sub-committees, drawn from the membership of the committee, as follows:

- (a) Appointment Sub-committee;
- (b) Disciplinary Sub-committee.

10.8.3 The membership of a sub-committee must include at least one Executive Member.

10.8.4 The Chief Officer Committee or its sub-committee may be required to convene as a matter of urgency to discharge disciplinary and dismissal procedures, as set out in the Officer Employment Procedure Rules (see [paragraph 9.10](#)).

10.8.5 Where the establishment of a sub-committee is required, three members shall be appointed as follows:

- a) The Chair will serve as a member if available; if the Chair is unavailable, the Vice Chair will be contacted. Should both be unavailable, a Chair will be appointed at the meeting.
- b) The remaining two members shall be selected in rotational order from a predetermined list, with at least one being an executive member as per 10.3.
- c) Sub-committees are not required to reflect political proportionality

10.8.6 The Chief Officer Committee and appropriate sub-committee are authorised, subject to compliance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules set out in paragraph 9.10, to discharge the following Non-executive Functions:

²³ Paragraph 4(2) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001

Appointment

- (a) Shortlist, interview and make recommendations to Full Council to appoint the Head of Paid Service²⁴;
- (b) Shortlist, interview and appoint Chief Officers other than the Head of Paid Service²⁵ provided that no objection is received from the Executive, unless such appointment is on an interim basis (six months or less), in which case the appointment will be made by the Head of Paid Service;
- (c) Consider Joint Committee / Partner Organisation vacant posts at Director level and above.

Disciplinary

- (d) suspend, and keep under review the suspension of, a Chief Officer;
- (e) make recommendations to Full Council as to the dismissal of Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer or Chief Financial Officer²⁶;
- (f) take disciplinary action²⁷ short of dismissal against Chief Officers;
- (g) hear any grievance submitted by the Head of Paid Service and referred to it by the Chief Officer responsible for Human Resources;
- (h) hear any appeal, referred to it by the Chief Officer responsible for Human Resources, against the outcome of the first formal stage of a grievance against the Head of Paid Service;
- (i) deal with appeals²⁸ relating to grading, grievance and disciplinary action short of dismissal in respect of the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer;
- (j) deal with appeals relating to grading, grievance, dismissal and disciplinary action short of dismissal in respect of Chief Officers;

²⁴ Paragraph 4(1) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001

²⁵ As defined in section 2 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989

²⁶ Paragraph 4(1A) Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001

²⁷ 'Disciplinary action' has the meaning set out in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 (as amended)

²⁸ Any such appeals shall be heard by a differently constituted sub-committee from that which heard the original grievance or dealt with the original disciplinary proceedings, as the case may be

10.9 Constitution and Member Development Committee

10.9.1 This is an advisory committee of 9 Members which focuses on the maintenance of the constitution and the development of Members of the Council. The membership of the committee will include the Members appointed to the following roles:

- (a) Chair of the Council;
 - (b) Vice-Chair of the Council;
 - (c) Deputy Mayor;
 - (d) Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board
- plus 5 other members.

10.9.2 The Constitution and Member Development Committee is authorised to:

- (a) review the Constitution and make recommendations to Full Council in respect of changes to the Constitution;
- (b) advise and make recommendations to the Council on any matter relating to civic and ceremonial functions of the Council;
- (c) develop and review the Member Development Policy.

10.10 Corporate Affairs Committee

10.10.1 This occasional committee has 7 Members, including the Chair of the Council, who shall be the chair of the Committee. Executive Members cannot be members of this committee.

10.10.2 The Corporate Affairs Committee is authorised to:

- (a) consider and determine any Non-executive Function delegated to an officer, which is not within the terms of reference of any other committee;
- (b) consider any items of urgency that would require the approval of the Council, as determined by the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Chair of the Council and the Leader of the Majority Group;
- (c) make recommendations to Full Council in connection with the discharge of any of its Non-executive functions.

10.11 Licensing Committee

- 10.11.1 The Council is the licensing authority under the Licensing Act 2003 (the '2003 Act') and the Gambling Act 2005 (the '2005 Act').
- 10.11.2 The Licensing Committee is constituted as the statutory committee established under the 2003 Act²⁹ and the 2005 Act³⁰. It discharges the Council's functions under the 2003 Act (in respect of the supply or sale of alcohol, regulated entertainment and the provision of late-night refreshment) and the 2005 Act (in respect of premises and permits used for gambling).
- 10.11.3 The Licensing Committee and its sub-committees also discharge regulatory functions not delegated to officers in respect of:
- (a) site and premises licences (caravans, sex shops, tattooing etc);
 - (b) private hire and hackney carriage regulation;
 - (c) animal licences (zoos, pet shops, wild animals etc);
 - (d) food licences (food preparation, fishing etc); and
 - (e) health and safety matters.
- 10.11.4 The Licensing Committee is comprised of 14 Members, with a quorum of 4 unless the Committee (or any subcommittee formed by it) exercises functions under the Licensing Act 2003 or the Gambling Act 2005, when the quorum shall be 3 voting members.
- 10.11.5 The Licensing Committee may establish one or more sub-committees consisting of 3 members drawn from the membership of the Licensing Committee as needed and has appointed:
- (a) Licensing Sub Committees A, B and C to exercise the Council's licensing functions under the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 except so far as such functions have been delegated to Officers or another sub-committee;
 - (b) a Casino Licensing Sub Committee to determine applications for a large casino, should the Council decide to launch a competition under the Gambling Act 2005; and
 - (c) a Licensing Sub Committee General to exercise any other licensing function not otherwise delegated.
- 10.11.6 The Chair of the Licensing Committee will chair Licensing Sub-Committee A, the Licensing Sub Committee General and the Casino Licensing Sub

²⁹ Sections 6 and 7 of the Licensing Act 2003

³⁰ Section 154 of the Gambling Act 2005

Committee. The Licensing Committee will appoint the Chairs of Licensing Sub-Committees B and C.

10.11.7 The committee and its sub-committees operate in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules except when statutory rules of procedure apply³¹.

10.11.8 Where the Licensing Committee is unable to discharge any function delegated to it because of the number of its Members who are unable to take part in the consideration of discussion of any matter or vote on any question with respect to it, the Committee must refer the matter back to full Council as licensing authority³², and full Council must discharge that function.

10.11.9 The licensing functions are delegated to officers as set out in Part D of this section save for the following which are reserved to the Licensing Committee or respective Sub-committee:

Table 2: Table of Licensing Functions

URN	Function	Committee	Sub-Committee
General Non-executive licensing functions			
(a)	review and make recommendations to the Council where appropriate on policies in relation to licensing functions;	Yes	
(b)	pass a resolution that Schedule 2 to the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 should apply in the Council's area.	Yes	
(c)	licence ³³ sex shops, sex cinemas, sexual entertainment venues and		upon referral by an officer

³¹ Licensing Sub Committees hearings are subject to the Gambling Act (Proceedings of Licensing Committees & Sub Committees) (Premises Licences & Provisional Statements) (England and Wales) Regulations 2007, the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 together with any associated guidance, policy and codes of practice.

³² Section 7(9) of the 2003 Act and sections 154(3) and s232(2) of the 2005 Act

³³ Part II and Schedule 3 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982

	sex establishments, including reviews, and to carry out associated functions		
(d)	pass a resolution that Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 should apply in the Council's area	Yes	
(e)	designate areas for street trading ³⁴ as either consent, licensed or prohibited streets and associated functions	Yes	
(f)	determine applications for village greens or common land and associated functions ³⁵	Yes	
(g)	regulate the performance of hypnotism ³⁶		Upon referral by an officer
(h)	regulate charitable collections ³⁷	Where objections have been received or upon referral by an officer	
(i)	advise Full Council on the adoption, revision or replacement of the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Policy	Yes	

³⁴ Part III and Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

³⁵ Commons Act 2006 and the Commons Registration Act 1965

³⁶ Hypnotism Act 1952

³⁷ Section 5 of the Police, Factories etc (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916 and section 2 of the House to House Collections Act 1939

(j)	license hackney carriages and private hire: (a) vehicles; (b) drivers; (c) operators	Yes	Upon referral by an officer
Licensing Act 2005 functions			
(k)	determine an application for a Personal Licence		If Police and or immigration officers object
(l)	determine an application for a Personal Licence with unspent convictions		If police object
(m)	determine applications for: a. Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate; b. provisional statement c. variation of Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate		If a relevant representation is made and not withdrawn
(n)	determine applications to: a. vary designated Premises Supervisor; b. transfer Premises Licence;		If Police and or immigration officers object
(o)	determine applications for interim authorities		If Police object
(p)	review Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate		Yes
(q)	determine an objection to a Temporary Event Notice		Yes
Gambling Act 2005 functions			

(r)	determine stages 1 and 2 of any “large casino competition” ³⁸		Casio Licensing Sub-committee
(s)	regulation of premises used for gambling.	Yes	
(t)	determine applications for Premises Licences, Permits, Transfers, Provisional Statements and Temporary Use Notices		Sub-Committees A, B and C where representations have been received and not withdrawn
(u)	determine reviews of licences or permissions.		Yes

³⁸ should a competition be launched in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Gambling Act 2005, the Council’s Statement of Principles, any relevant Regulations, Code of Practice and Guidance.

10.12 Overview and Scrutiny Board and Committees

- 10.12.1 The Council is required to have at least one overview and scrutiny committee. Further details of the overview and scrutiny functions and arrangements are found in Section 7.
- 10.12.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Board comprises 15 members with quorum of 4 members. The Board's reports and recommendations advise the Council and the Executive on matters relating to policy, service delivery and the Budget.
- 10.12.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Board may appoint standing scrutiny panels or task and finish scrutiny panels to operate in accordance with the terms of reference set by the Board.
- 10.12.4 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board is responsible for a number of functions as set out throughout this constitution. They are summarised at paragraph 5.7.9.

10.13 Planning & Development Committee

- 10.13.1 The discharge of planning functions can have a substantial and emotive impact on the community. The Council has therefore determined that not all planning matters should be delegated to officers. It has established the committee to make decisions on behalf of the local planning authority on the most impactful planning applications and related similar regulatory matters.
- 10.13.2 The committee comprises 10 councillors. The Council has chosen not to have planning area or sub-committees.
- 10.13.3 The committee operates in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules except when statutory rules of procedure apply.
- 10.13.4 The planning and development functions are delegated to officers as set out in Part D of this section save for the following which are reserved to the Planning and Development Committee:
- 10.13.5 The Planning and Development Committee is authorised to:
- (a) require information as to interests in land.
 - (b) give notice etc. of applications for planning permission.
 - (c) determine applications for planning permission.
 - (d) decline to determine applications for planning permission.
 - (e) grant planning permission for development already carried out.
 - (f) grant or refuse planning permission for development without complying with conditions to which previous planning permission is subject.
 - (g) determine applications for planning permission made by a local authority, alone or jointly with another person.
 - (h) make Tree Preservation Orders and determine applications for consent to take action in relation to trees within Tree Preservation Orders.
 - (i) consider and adopt supplementary planning guidance relating to Development Control matters and to develop Local Planning Guidance.
 - (j) consider Conservation Area Boundary Reviews and Designation and Conservation Area Character Assessments.
 - (k) issue a certificate for existing proposed lawful use or development.
 - (l) perform duties relating to applications for listed building consent and conservation area consent.
 - (m) apply for an injunction in relation to a listed building.
 - (n) grant consent for the display of advertisements.
 - (o) determine applications for listed building consent and related powers.

- (p) determine applications for conservation area consent.
- (q) issue enforcement notices in relation to demolition of unlisted buildings in a conservation area.
- (r) impose any condition, limitation or restriction, or determining any other terms, on an approval, consent, licence, permission or registration granted in the exercise of its functions.
- (s) determine whether to take enforcement action in respect of any breach of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration granted or breach of any condition, limitation or term to which any such approval, consent, licence, permission or registration is subject to the exercise of its functions.
- (t) revoke any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration granted in the exercise of its functions.
- (u) amend, modify or vary any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration granted in the exercise of its functions or any condition, limitation restriction or term to which it is subject.
- (v) determine whether a charge should be made, and the amount of any such charge, for any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration where there is a power to charge and the amount of the charge is not otherwise prescribed.

10.14 Staff Appeals Committee

10.14.1 This committee has 9 Members and will meet as sub-committees of 3 Members (being the Chair plus 2 other members) for the purpose of discharging its functions.

10.14.2 The Staff Appeals Committee is authorised to consider and determine any appeal made by an officer below the grade of Chief Officer³⁹ regarding:

- (a) disciplinary action;
- (b) grievances;
- (c) grading.

³⁹ As set out in section 2(6) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989

10.15 Standards Committee

10.15.1 This statutory committee is responsible for discharging obligations in respect of standards of Member conduct (see Section 8).

10.15.2 The Standards Committee is authorised to:

- (a) promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members of the authority⁴⁰;
- (b) advise the Council in respect of the adoption, revision or replacement of the Member Code of Conduct;
- (c) consider and determine written allegations that a member or co-opted member of the authority has failed to comply with the authority's code of conduct, or that a member or co-opted member of a parish council in the borough has failed to comply with the parish council's code of conduct⁴¹;
- (d) following a determination of whether or not a member or co-opted member of the authority has failed to comply with the code of conduct, to consider whether or not action might be necessary, and to make recommendations⁴² on the form of action⁴³.
- (e) advise the authority in relation to the adoption, revision or replacement of the code dealing with the conduct that is expected of employees of the authority⁴⁴.
- (f) grant dispensations⁴⁵ to Members, Co-opted members, Parish Councillors and the Mayor from the requirements relating to declarations of interest. The Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee, may grant a dispensation where the matter is urgent and report it to the next available Standards Committee.

⁴⁰ Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011.

⁴¹ Section 28(6), (7) and (9) of the Localism Act 2011

⁴² Including to full Council, the Leader, the Head of Paid Service, or the relevant Group Whip

⁴³ Section 28(11) of the Localism Act 2011

⁴⁴ It is not the function of the Committee to determine or become involved in individual employee conduct or disciplinary cases

⁴⁵ Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011

10.16 Teesside Pension Fund Committee

10.16.1 The Council is the Scheme Manager and Administering Authority for the Teesside Pension Fund. Members of this committee are obliged to adhere to the Fund's Knowledge and Skills Policy, including attendance at training events.

10.16.2 The membership of this committee comprises:

- (a) 1 member nominated by Hartlepool Borough Council;
- (b) 9 members nominated by Middlesbrough Borough Council;
- (c) 1 member nominated by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council;
- (d) 1 member nominated by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council;
- (e) 1 representative of the other Scheme Employers in the Teesside Pension Fund, appointed in accordance with procedures agreed by the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.
- (f) 2 representatives of the scheme members of the Teesside Pension Fund, appointed in accordance with procedures agreed by the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

10.16.3 The Chair and Vice Chair of the committee shall be members of Middlesbrough Borough Council, elected annually by the Council. The Chair will be the Council's nominated representative, on behalf of Teesside Pension Fund, on the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Joint Committee.

10.16.4 The quorum of the committee is 8, at least 5 of which must be councillors of Middlesbrough Borough Council.

10.16.5 Members of the Teesside Pension Board⁴⁶ shall be permitted to attend the committee meetings, including during consideration of exempt items.

10.16.6 The terms of office of members of the committee shall be:

- (a) Up to 6 years for representative members (for other scheme employers and scheme members);
- (b) Until the next ordinary local government election following their appointment for Councillors

All members of the committee may be reappointed for further terms.

10.16.7 In consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and professional advisers of the pension fund, the committee is authorised to:

⁴⁶ to assist the Council in its role as a scheme manager of the Teesside Pension Fund

- (a) ensure the Teesside Pension Fund is managed in compliance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations, Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs requirements for UK registered pension schemes and all other relevant statutory provisions;
- (b) ensure robust risk management arrangements are in place;
- (c) ensure the Teesside Pension Fund is managed with due regard to, and in the spirit of, all relevant statutory and non-statutory best practice guidance;
- (d) determine the Pension Fund's aims and objectives, strategies, statutory compliance statements, policies and procedures for the overall management of the Fund, including in relation to the following areas:
 - (i) Governance - approving the Fund's Governance Policy and Compliance Statement for the Fund within the framework as determined by Middlesbrough Council and making recommendations to Middlesbrough Council about any changes to that framework;
 - (ii) Funding Strategy - approving the Fund's Funding Strategy Statement including ongoing monitoring and management of the liabilities, ensuring appropriate funding plans are in place for all employers in the Fund, overseeing the triennial valuation and interim valuations, and working with the actuary in determining the appropriate level of employer contributions for each employer;
 - (iii) Investment strategy - approving the Fund's Investment Strategy Statement and Compliance Statement including setting investment targets and ensuring these are aligned with the Fund's specific liability profile and risk appetite;
 - (iv) Administration Strategy - approving the Fund's Administration Strategy determining how the Council will the administer the Fund including collecting payments due, calculating and paying benefits, gathering information from and providing information to scheme members and employers;
 - (v) Communications Strategy - approving the Fund's Communication Strategy, determining the methods of communications with the various stakeholders including scheme members and employers;
 - (vi) Discretions - determining how the various administering authority discretions are operated for the Fund.

- (vii) Monitor the implementation of policies and strategies on an ongoing basis.
- (viii) in relation to the Borders to Coast asset pooling collaboration arrangements:
 - a. Monitor performance and recommend actions to the Committee, the Mayor or his Nominee (as the nominated person to exercise Shareholder rights and responsibilities), Officers Groups or BCPP Ltd, as appropriate;
 - b. Undertake the role of Authority in relation to the Inter Authority Agreement, including but not limited to:
 - i. Requesting variations to the Inter Authority Agreement;
 - ii. Withdrawing from the Inter Authority Agreement;
 - iii. Appointing Middlesbrough Council officers to the Officer Operations Group.
- (ix) consider the Fund's financial statements and annual report.
- (x) select, appoint, dismiss and monitor the Fund's advisers, including actuary, benefits consultants, investment consultants, global custodian, fund managers, lawyers, pension funds administrator, independent professional advisers and AVC provider;
- (xi) liaise with internal and external audit, including providing recommendations in relation to areas to be covered in audit plans, considering audit reports and ensuring appropriate changes are made following receipt of audit findings
- (xii) make decisions relating to employers joining and leaving the Fund, including which employers are entitled to join the Fund, any requirements relating to their entry, ongoing monitoring and the basis for leaving the Fund.
- (xiii) Agree:
 - a. the terms and payment of bulk transfers into and out of the Fund;
 - b. Pension Fund business plans and monitoring progress against them;
 - c. the Fund's Knowledge and Skills Policy for all Pension Fund Committee members and for all officers of the

Fund, including determining the Fund's knowledge and skills framework, identifying training requirements, developing training plans and monitoring compliance with the policy;

d. Administering Authority responses to consultations on LGPS matters and other matters where they may impact on the Fund or its stakeholders.

(xiv) receive reports from the Chief Finance Officer, the Head of Investments and Treasury Management and other relevant officers in relation to delegated functions.

10.17 You Matter to Us – Corporate Parenting Committee

10.17.1 This standing committee promotes the Council’s role as a Corporate Parent to those children and young people who are looked after and accommodated by the Council.

10.17.2 The committee comprises 9 Members, including the Executive Members responsible for Children and Education as ex-officio members. It may also co-opt a maximum of 4 non-voting members representing education and other agencies. It is not subject to political balance requirements.

10.17.3 The Corporate Parenting Committee promotes the seven principles of corporate parenting⁴⁷ by:

- (a) acting in the best interests, and promoting the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people;
- (b) encouraging those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings;
- (c) taking into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people;
- (d) helping those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners;
- (e) promoting high aspirations, and seeking to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people;
- (f) ensuring those children and young people are safe, and have stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work;
- (g) preparing those children and young people for adulthood and independent living

10.17.4 The committee is authorised to:

- (a) ensure that the Council acts as a good corporate parent to children and young people in care and care leavers, including:
 - (i) children and young people in residential care;
 - (ii) children and young people in foster care;
 - (iii) children and young people placed for adoption;
 - (iv) children and young people placed at home under Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations;

⁴⁷ Section 1 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017

- (v) young people who are living in supported lodgings;
 - (vi) young people in secure services;
 - (vii) young people in custody.
- (b) engage with, and listen to, the views of children, young people and their carers for whom the Council is the parent;
 - (c) work in partnership with other statutory agencies to drive forward improvements in care;
 - (d) act as the governing body for the Virtual School for looked after children and young people;
 - (e) disseminate information, concerned with its responsibilities associated with corporate parenting, to all elected Members and relevant staff;
and
 - (f) implement, maintain and review the Council's 'Corporate Parenting and Strategy' document.

10.18 Non-executive joint arrangements

The bodies listed in this section are all the joint arrangements which are not solely the responsibility of the Executive.

10.18.1 Cleveland Fire and Rescue Combined Fire Authority

- (a) Cleveland Fire Authority⁴⁸ was established on 1 April 1996 as a Combined Fire Authority. It has 16 members appointed by the following authorities:
 - (i) appointed by Hartlepool Borough Council;
 - (ii) 4 appointed by Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (iii) 4 appointed by Redcar and Cleveland (Borough Council); and
 - (iv) 5 appointed by Stockton on Tees Borough Council.
- (b) The Chair of Cleveland Fire Authority is appointed from within the members of the fire authority at its Annual Meeting and has its own constitution.
- (c) Cleveland Fire Authority is responsible for the provision of fire and rescue services to the areas covered by the borough councils of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton on Tees. It is a corporate body with many of the rights, duties and status of a local authority and is authorised to provide the functions of a fire authority as set out in:
 - (i) Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
 - (ii) Civil Contingencies Act (CCA);
 - (iii) Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- (d) Cleveland Fire Authority adopts, and is responsible for, its own constitution and the appointment of the required statutory officers.

10.18.2 Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

- (a) Cleveland Police and Crime Panel is responsible for supporting the effective exercise of the functions of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner ('CPCC').
- (b) The Panel has 12 members appointed by the following authorities:
 - (i) 2 appointed by Hartlepool Borough Council;

⁴⁸ <https://www.clevelandfire.gov.uk/about/fire-authority/>

- (ii) 3 appointed by Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (iii) 3 appointed by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council; and
 - (iv) 4 appointed by Stockton on Tees Borough Council.
- and two independent members.
- (c) The authority administering the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel is Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.
 - (d) The Cleveland Police and Crime Panel is authorised to:
 - (i) Review the draft Police and Crime Plan;
 - (ii) Scrutinise the CPCC's Annual Report;
 - (iii) Review the CPPC's proposed appointments to the roles of:
 - a. CPPC chief executive;
 - b. CPPC chief finance officer
 - c. Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
 - d. Chief Constable
 and indicate whether the candidate should be appointed
 - (iv) Review the actions of the CPCC;
 - (v) Review and veto the CPCC's proposed precept levels;
 - (vi) Respond to complaints about the CPCC;
 - (vii) Consult his Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) on potential dismissals.

10.18.3 Durham Darlington Teesside Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- (a) This committee, which last met on 12 June 2019, comprises 21 members, with each of the following local authorities nominating three members:
 - (i) Darlington Borough Council;
 - (ii) Durham County Council;
 - (iii) Hartlepool Borough Council;
 - (iv) Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (v) North Yorkshire Council
 - (vi) Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
 - (vii) Stockton on Tees Borough Council

- (b) The committee is supported by Durham County Council and also attended by representatives of:
 - (i) County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust;
 - (ii) South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust;
 - (iii) North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust;
 - (iv) North Durham, DDES, Darlington, Hartlepool and Stockton and South Tees CCG⁴⁹
 - (v) North of England Commissioning Support

10.18.4 Live Well South Tees Board

- (a) The Live Well South Tees [Health and Wellbeing] Board is a statutory joint committee which meets the requirements of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
- (b) The Board comprises the following voting Executive and Non-executive members⁵⁰:
 - (i) 5 Members from each local authority. For the Council the democratic representation will include:
 - a. the Mayor;
 - b. the Deputy Mayor;
 - c. 3 non-executive councillors nominated by Council;
 - (ii) the following officers, ex officio:
 - a. the Chief Officer with responsibility for Adult Social Care at Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council;
 - b. the Chief Officer with responsibility for Adult Social Care at Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - c. Director of Public Health for Teesside;
 - d. The Chief Officer with responsibility for Children's Services at Middlesbrough Borough Council.

⁴⁹ Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) were established as part of the Health and Social Care Act in 2012, replacing primary care trusts on 1 April 2013. On 1 July 2022, integrated care systems (ICSs) became legally established through the Health and Care Act 2022, and CCGs were closed down

⁵⁰ in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and as determined by the Executive and Council.

- (c) The following are non-voting members of the Board:
 - (i) Chief Executive of Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (ii) Managing Director of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
- (d) The quorum for a meeting of the Board shall be 50%, which must include:
 - (i) the Chair or Vice Chair of the Board; and
 - (ii) an officer of the Council; and
 - (iii) an officer representing the Integrated Care System ('ICS').
- (e) Administration of the Board alternates between the Council and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.
- (f) The Board is authorised to:
 - (i) assess the health and wellbeing needs of their population by preparing, publishing and reviewing a joint strategic needs assessment ('JSNA');
 - (ii) publish a Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS), which sets out the priorities for improving the health and wellbeing of its local population and how the identified needs will be addressed, including addressing health inequalities, and which reflects the evidence of the JSNA;
 - (iii) provide oversight of Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments;
 - (iv) sign off Better Care Funds and ensure a strategic, joined-up approach to the planning and delivery of services to improve the health and wellbeing of communities and to address inequalities where they exist;
 - (v) strengthen democratic legitimacy by involving democratically elected representatives and patient representatives in commissioning decisions alongside commissioners across health and social care. The Board will also provide a forum for challenge, discussion, and the involvement of local people;
 - (vi) bring together commissioners of services to develop a shared understanding of the health and wellbeing needs of the community;
 - (vii) agree the framework for engaging all stakeholders, recognising the role of the independent, voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors and ensuring that the public are consulted on health and wellbeing issues;

- (viii) review and monitor commissioning plans relevant to the JLHWS, facilitating integrated working (commissioning or service provision) where appropriate;
- (ix) maximise the opportunity to make use of pooled budgets and joint commissioning arrangements to meet the needs of the local population, aligned to the JLHWS;
- (x) monitor and evaluate the strategies and related performance through a relevant set of indicators and measures, agreed across the whole system and to report on progress to all stakeholders including public health outcome requirements;
- (xi) maintain clear accountability, and liaison with appropriate bodies, including the Partnerships, Joint Commissioning Groups, Local Safeguarding Boards, Local Strategic Partnership and statutory bodies of the member organisations;
- (xii) align the strategic priorities of member organisations and, where a dispute arises, ensure it is resolved in a timely and positive manner;
- (xiii) be open to internal and external scrutiny, working positively and constructively with regulators and scrutiny bodies.

10.18.5 North East Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

- (a) This joint committee comprises 12 Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee members, one from each of the constituent authorities.
- (b) The Chair of the Committee is drawn from its membership, appointed by the committee on an annual basis. Democratic support of the committee will be provided by the authority of which the Chair is a member.
- (c) Executive members may not be members of an overview and scrutiny committee⁵¹.
- (d) Members of the constituent local authorities who are Non-Executive Directors of the NHS cannot be members of the Joint Committee.
- (e) The joint committee is authorised to convene task and finish working groups.
- (f) The objectives of the joint committee are to:

⁵¹ Section 21(9) of the Local Government Act 2000

- (i) develop an understanding of the health of the North East region's population and contribute to the development of policy to improve health and reduce health inequalities;
- (ii) ensure, wherever possible, the needs of local people are considered as an integral part of the commissioning and delivery of health services;
- (iii) undertake all the necessary functions of health scrutiny in accordance with the NHS Act 2006, regulations and guidance relating to reviewing and scrutinising health service matters;
- (iv) review proposals for consideration or items relating to substantial developments/substantial variations to services provided across the North East region by NHS organisations, including:
 - a. Changes in accessibility of services;
 - b. Impact of proposals on the wider community;
 - c. Patients affected.
- (v) examine the social, environmental and economic well-being responsibilities of local authorities and other organisations and agencies within the remit of the health scrutiny role.

10.18.6 Northumbria Regional Flood Defence Committee

- (a) The Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) is a committee established by the Environment Agency⁵². It comprises independent members with relevant expertise and one member appointed by each of the following north east Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs):
 - (i) Darlington Borough Council;
 - (ii) Durham County Council;
 - (iii) Gateshead Borough Council;
 - (iv) Hartlepool Borough Council;
 - (v) Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (vi) Newcastle City Council;
 - (vii) North Tyneside Council;
 - (viii) Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council;

⁵² Section 22 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

- (ix) Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
 - (x) South Tyneside Borough Council;
 - (xi) Sunderland City Council
- (b) The joint committee is administered by the Environment Agency for the following purposes:
- (i) ensuring there are coherent plans for identifying, communicating and managing flood and coastal erosion risks across catchments and shorelines;
 - (ii) encouraging efficient, targeted and risk-based investment in flood and coastal erosion risk management that represents value for money and benefits local communities
 - (iii) providing a link between the Environment Agency, LLFAs, other risk management authorities, and other relevant bodies to build understanding of flood and coastal erosion risks in its area

10.18.7 River Tees Port Health Authority

- (a) River Tees Port Health Authority is a body corporate created by the Secretary of State for Health⁵³. Its membership comprises the following representatives from the four riparian authorities of the Port of Tees and Hartlepool:
- (i) 2 members from Hartlepool Borough Council;
 - (ii) 5 members from Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (iii) 5 members from Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council;
 - (iv) 5 members from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
- (b) The Authority is managed by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.
- (c) The purpose of the Authority is to ensure compliance with controls in relation to imports, hygiene, environmental standards and immigration.
- (d) The Authority is authorised to discharge the following functions:
- (i) manifest and documentary checks relating to third country food and feed;
 - (ii) identity and physical checks, including sampling;

⁵³ River Tees Porth Health Authority Order 2016

- (iii) inspection of ships and responding to all requests for ship sanitation certificates;
- (iv) ensuring conditions onboard ships are hygienic, in particular, food preparation and storage, pest control, communicable disease control, and international pollution prevention;
- (v) investigating and reducing the incidence of food poisoning and food-borne disease at the port and on ships entering the port;
- (vi) monitoring the wholesomeness and sufficiency of water supplies at the port and onboard ships entering the port.

10.18.8 South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

- (a) This joint committee comprises 5 members from Middlesbrough Borough Council and 5 members from Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.
- (b) The quorum for a meeting of this joint committee is 4, provided that both councils are represented.
- (c) Administration of this committee will alternate between the councils.
- (d) The committee is authorised⁵⁴ to review and scrutinise relevant health service providers and commissioners in Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland and any issue or topic pertaining to the south of the Tees health economy in accordance with agreed protocols.

10.18.9 Tees Valley Combined Authority

- (a) This body brings together the five councils which serve the Tees Valley:
 - (i) Darlington Borough Council;
 - (ii) Hartlepool Borough Council;
 - (iii) Middlesbrough Borough Council;
 - (iv) Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council;
 - (v) Stockton on Tees Borough Council
 to secure investment, create jobs and grow the economy.

⁵⁴ under powers for local authorities to scrutinise the NHS contained in the Health and Social Care Act 2001, the NHS Act 2006, the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and related regulations.

- (b) The Council nominates members to a number of committees created by the combined authority, including non-executive joint committees in respect of:
 - (i) audit and governance;
 - (ii) overview and scrutiny.

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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Charlotte Benjamin, Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Council Diary 2026-2027
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)

That Council approves:

1. The timetable of meetings for the Municipal Year 2026-2027, as detailed in the attached Appendix A.
2. With the exception of the following:
 - Budget/Council Tax Setting Meetings – Wednesday 24 February 2027 and Wednesday 10 March 2027
 - Annual Meeting – Wednesday 27 May 2027

the dates for ordinary meetings of the Council are designated as meetings at which questions will be taken from members of the public.

Executive summary

In order to schedule meetings for the Municipal Year 2026-2027, Council is requested to approve the attached timetable for Council, Executive, Overview and Scrutiny Board, Scrutiny Panels, and working groups.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To seek approval of the timetable of meetings of Council, Executive, Overview and Scrutiny Board, Scrutiny Panels and working groups for the Municipal Year 2026-2027.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Council approves:

1. The timetable of meetings for the Municipal Year 2026-2027, as detailed in the attached Appendix A.
2. With the exception of the following:
 - Budget/Council Tax Setting Meetings – Wednesday 24 February 2027 and Wednesday 10 March 2027
 - Annual Meeting – Wednesday 27 May 2027

the dates for ordinary meetings of the Council are designated as meetings at which questions will be taken from members of the public.

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The Constitution requires that Council approves a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council and its Non-executive Committees for the Municipal Year 2026-2027.

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

- 4.1 Do Nothing: No Council decisions would be able to be taken if there were no meetings scheduled.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	There are no financial implications or impact on any budgets or the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) arising from the content of this report.
Procurement	Not applicable as this is a report to approve the timetable of Council meetings for the Municipal Year 2026-2027.
Legal	The dates of the meetings for the approval of the budget have been scheduled to enable to budget to be agreed by 11 March 2027, in accordance with statutory requirements.
Risk	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. By setting the diary of meetings for the year the Council is ensuring that good governance is in place in line with the Council's Constitution so this would have a positive impact on this risk.

	If the Council does not respond effectively and efficiently to legislative changes it could be in breach of statutory duties in relation to service delivery and fail to make the most of opportunities. The Council is obliged to hold meetings with members of the public being able to provide questions. By setting a diary of meetings this allows this to happen and has a positive impact on the Council fulfilling its statutory duties.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.
Reducing Poverty	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Climate Change / Environmental	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Data Protection	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

Appendices

1	Appendix A – Middlesbrough Council - Council and Committee Meetings 2026-2027
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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

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**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL
TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2026-2027**

Committee	Time	Day	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	Aug 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027	Feb 2027	Mar 2027	Apr 2027	May 2027
Council	7.00pm (unless indicated otherwise)	WED (unless indicated otherwise)	20(#1)		15*		9*		4*	16*		24 #2	Extra Budget Mtg 10(#2)	7*	27(#1)
Executive	5.00 pm	WED		10	8		2	7	11	9	13	3	17	14	
(Pre-Executive)	12.30 pm	WED	27	24		19	23	28	25	23	20		3, 31	28	
Overview and Scrutiny Board	4.30 pm	WED			7 (Tues) 29		16	14	18	21 (Mon)	6	4 (Thur)	10	21	
Licensing Committee	1.00 pm	MON	11	22	20		7, 28	19	9, 30	21	11	1, 22	15	5, 26	
Planning & Development Committee	1.30 pm	THUR		4	2		10	8	5	3	14	11	11	8	
Audit Committee	1.30 pm	THUR		25	23 2.00 pm		3 2.30 pm	1, 29		17	28	25	24 (Weds)	29	
Constitution and Members Development Committee	1.00 pm	THUR			30		17			10			25		
Corporate Affairs Committee (Ad-Hoc)	TBC	TBC		30											
Staff Appeals Committee	10.00 am	TUES	12	16	14		8	6	3	1	12	9	9	6	4
Teesside Pension Fund Committee	11.00 am	WED		17			16			8 (Tues)			10		
Teesside Pension Board	2.00 pm	MON			6				2			8			
Works Council	11.30 am	THUR		11			3			3			11		

APPENDIX A

Committee	Time	Day	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	Aug 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027	Feb 2027	Mar 2027	Apr 2027	May 2027
Corporate Health & Safety Steering Group	10.00 am	THUR		11			3			3			11		
Standards Committee	10.00 am	MON		15				12			18			12	
Joint Archives Committee	3.00 pm	WED						7					3		
You Matter to Us (Corporate Parenting Board)	5.00 pm	THUR			9			15			21			22	
Live Well South Tees Board	1.00 pm	THUR			16		24			10			18		
Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Panel	10 am	THUR		2	23			1		10			4		
Adult Social Care & Health Scrutiny Panel	4.00 pm	TUE		23	21		29	27	24	22	19	16	16	12	
Children's Scrutiny Panel	4.30 pm	MON		29	27		21	20 (Tues)	16	7	18		1, 29	19	
Place Scrutiny Panel	1.30 pm	MON			6, 28		14	26	23	14	25	15	22	12	

NOTES:

- * Council meetings at which questions may be taken from members of the public.
- (#1) Annual Meeting.
- (#2) Budget/Council Tax Setting Meeting

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL



Report of:	Corporate Director of Legal & Corporate Services, Charlotte Benjamin on behalf of the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Members' Scheme of Allowances
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)

That Council consider the recommendations proposed by the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration outlined in its report at Appendix 1 and accept or reject those recommendations.

Executive summary

Following its 2026 review of Members' allowances, the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration recommend an increase to the Basic Allowance from £7,608 to £8,330 and an annual payment of £800 to Independent Persons co-opted onto the Audit Committee. The Panel also recommend freezing Special Responsibility Allowances, and all other allowances, at their current levels. Neither Basic nor Special Responsibility Allowances should reflect Staff Pay Awards at this time. However, it will review allowances links to staff pay awards as part of its 2027 review. The Council is asked to consider the Panel's recommendations and either accept or reject them. If, after having due regard of the Panel's recommendations, the Council reject the Panel's proposals it will need to create its own Scheme of Allowances or choose to maintain the existing Scheme of Allowances.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide Members with the opportunity to consider the proposals of the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration and adopt the Scheme of Allowances.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Council consider the recommendations proposed by the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration outlined in its report at Appendix 1 and accept or reject those recommendations.

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The establishment of an Independent Panel on Members Remuneration and its resultant recommendations is required under sections 20 and 21 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. The Panel consists of five members and currently meets on an annual basis to review Member Remuneration. The membership of the Panel consists of Mrs A McClaren (Chair), J Carss, S Green P Hopson and J Lawther.
- 3.2 As part of its deliberations the Panel have acted independently of all other considerations, carefully reviewed all the relevant quantitative and qualitative information presented to them and been sensitive to wider socio-economic factors affecting Middlesbrough and the Council and elected Members.
- 3.3 When considering the Scheme of Allowances, the Panel only considered the level of responsibility and commitment required for the role the allowance is afforded; it could not consider personal perceptions of a person appointed to a post, particularly for Special Responsibility Allowances.
- 3.4 The 2026 review was a quadrennial review. It compared Middlesbrough's remuneration levels with a cohort of 16 other Councils ("the cohort"). Those Councils were chosen due to their geographic proximity to Middlesbrough and/ or similar governance arrangements. The full methodology of the 2026 review is contained in the IRP report at Appendix 1 of this report.
- 3.5 The Panel recognises that the role of an elected Member is a form of public service, supported by allowances rather than a full salary, with duties that underpin local democracy and reflect a commitment to improving residents' lives.
- 3.6 The Panel is also mindful that, regardless of personal circumstances, elected Members devote a significant proportion of their time to carrying out this vital function.

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

- 4.1 The Council could reject the Panel's recommendations and propose its own Scheme of Allowances having had due regard to the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Members Remuneration. Should Council reject the Panel's recommendations and not propose its own Scheme of Allowances it can decide to continue operating the current Scheme of Allowances.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	<p>Should Council agree the recommendations this would increase Basic Allowance spending from £357,576 to £391,510 an increase of £33,934. Importantly, the Independent Panel act independently from the Council and neither Council officers nor elected Members have any influence over its recommendations.</p> <p>The Members Allowance budget is held within Legal and Corporate Services. The increase will be met from the corporate contingency budget for this financial year and will be included as growth within the Medium-Term Financial Plan in future years.</p>
Procurement	Not applicable as this a report does not require the procurement of goods or services.
Legal	The Council are required under The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 to publish a Members Scheme of Allowances on an annual basis and to have due regard to the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Members Remuneration.
Risk	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. A potential consequence of not having a comparable Scheme of Allowances with other Tees Valley authorities is that it may discourage a wider demographic for standing for Council.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.
Reducing poverty	The proposed recommendations in this report do not directly impact on Reducing Poverty.
Climate Change / Environmental	The proposed recommendations in this report do not directly impact on Climate Change/Environmental issues.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	The proposed recommendations in this report do not directly impact on Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers.
Data Protection	The proposed recommendations in this report do not directly impact on Data Protection issues.

Appendices

1	IRP Report
2	Proposed Scheme of Allowances 2026
3	

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date
Legislation	The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003	

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

MEMBERS' REMUNERATION – APPENDIX 1

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON MEMBERS' REMUNERATION

The Panel

1. The establishment of an Independent Panel on Members Remuneration (herein the Panel), and its resultant recommendations is required under sections 20 and 21 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. The Panel consists of five members and currently meets on an annual basis to review Member Remuneration.
2. A resignation from the Panel in early 2026 meant Middlesbrough's IRP was inquorate. Consequently, a recruitment exercise was undertaken resulting in three new members being appointed. The expertise of the Panel includes skills from the private and public sectors ranging from academia, executive recruitment, social housing and the NHS.
3. As part of its deliberations the Panel have acted independently of all other considerations, carefully reviewed all the relevant quantitative and qualitative information presented to them and been sensitive to wider socio-economic factors affecting Middlesbrough and the Council and elected Members.

Quadrennial Review - 2026

4. The Panel undertakes an annual "light touch" review of the Scheme of Allowances. This involves using quantitative comparators against Tees Valley Councils as well as approaching all elected Members for their views via email.
5. The Scheme of Allowances is also reviewed quadrennially. This involves a more in-depth approach whereby quantitative comparisons are made with a wider cohort of Councils and involves a more targeted consultation process.
6. When considering the Scheme of Allowances, the Panel was advised it can only consider the level of responsibility and commitment required for the role the allowance is afforded; it cannot consider personal perceptions of a person appointed to a post, particularly for Special Responsibility Allowances.

7. The 2026 review was a quadrennial review. It compared Middlesbrough’s remuneration levels with a cohort of 16 other Councils (“the cohort”). Those Councils were chosen due to their geographic proximity to Middlesbrough and/ or similar governance arrangements. Data was collected from the cohort and

Authority	Council Type	Governance
Darlington	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Doncaster	Unitary	Elected Mayor
Durham	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Gateshead	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Hartlepool	Unitary	Committee
Kirklees	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Middlesbrough	Unitary	Elected Mayor
North Tyneside	Unitary	Elected Mayor
North Yorkshire	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Northumberland	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Redcar Cleveland	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Rotherham	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Sheffield	Unitary	Committee
Stockton	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Sunderland	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
Wakefield	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet
York	Unitary	Leader/ Cabinet

arranged in a template, generally separated between those allowances paid under Schedule one and two of Middlesbrough’s Scheme of Allowances and termed “Basic Allowances” “Special Responsibility Allowances”. “Basic Allowances” included the Basic Allowances, Carer’s allowances and Travel and Subsistence. “Special Responsibility Allowances” were those allowances afforded to Members carrying out additional duties such as Chairs of Committees and Portfolio holders. For the purposes of the data collection process Special Responsibility Allowances also included remuneration levels of Independent Persons for

Audit Committee.

2026 Review Methodology

8. Quantitative data was collected from the cohort via a survey issued to those Democratic Services for the “Basic Allowances.” Given the relative complexity of collecting Special Responsibility Data on a like for like basis, a desktop review was undertaken of the cohorts Scheme of Allowances and Constitutions.
9. Qualitative data was collected via a standard invitation for elected Members to submit their representations on remuneration. The consultation window was between 17 March and 10 April. As part of this consultation exercise the data collected from the cohort collection was sent to all Members on 17 March. Several responses were received and included comments relating the time spent on ward work versus the relatively low levels of Basic Allowances, becoming an elected Member to make difference to their area or the town and potentially indexing allowances to staff pay awards.
10. A workshop for elected Members was held on 9 April, during which discussion took place about remuneration levels and the roles and expectations of being an elected Member. The comments made at the workshop were sent to all elected

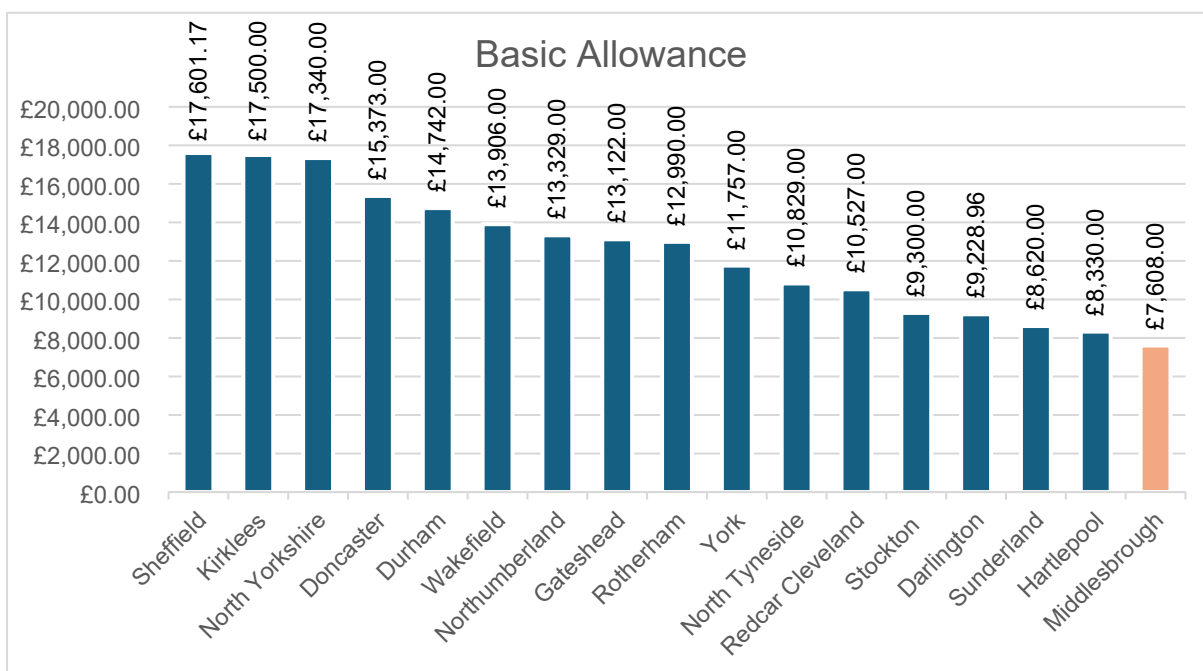
Members and submitted to the Panel. The comments made at the workshop included allowances being commensurate to incentivise becoming an elected Member, some elected Members not being aware of allowances being available at the time they were elected and additional time required if holding extra responsibilities. At the workshop it was agreed the deadline for the consultation would be extended to 17 April.

11. Two targeted consultations were also carried out with elected Members who were entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance. This was carried out via two separate surveys: one for Committee Chairs and one for Portfolio holders. The results of both surveys and the responses received from the standard consultation were submitted to the IRP. The Panel were also made aware of a Member's analysis of allowances based on electorate size.
12. The Panel was provided with all qualitative and quantitative data collected and background information including the Executive Scheme of Delegation, web links to the Local Government Association (specifically its pages on the role of Councillors) and the relevant legislation governing the remuneration process.
13. Both the Panel and elected Members were advised that comparator information against other Councils was not possible on an exact like for like basis, as each authority has a different political structure and committee make-up. However, data was examined on a best fit basis.
14. The Panel had an initial meeting on Monday 30 March during which it was provided with a broad overview of the remuneration process; the role of an elected Member; the types of allowances available and Council functions. The Panel then met on 23 April where it discussed both the quantitative and qualitative data collected from other Councils and elected Members.
15. The Panel was provided with the recent historical context of the Scheme of Allowances and advised that in 2019 Council agreed to the Panel's recommendations to raise the basic allowances to meet the Teesside average for Basic Allowances (at that time £8,330). It was also agreed that increase rise over four years in increments of approximately £430 per year. Simultaneously, Council agreed to the Panel's recommendations to reduce all Special Responsibility Allowances by 14%. These changes suspended the previously used multiplier system (which used the basic allowances as a base and applied multipliers ranging from 0.5 to 10 to SRAs).
16. During its deliberations the Panel had regard of several important considerations including the current socioeconomic situation in Middlesbrough, economic conditions for local authorities and recent pay settlements for MBC employees.

17. Through consideration of elected Member comments and from information provided to it, the Panel were made aware of the time commitment and challenges faced in being an elected Member in a modern democracy. It was within this context the Panel considered all allowances as well as recognising the well-established principle of voluntary unpaid public service.
18. In conducting the 2026 review, the Panel examined the levels of the Basic Allowance in line with the 2025 review.

Basic Allowances

19. During the 2026 review the panel discussed the role of elected Members and recognised the vital role they play. As with previous reviews, the Panel continues to express its thanks to all elected Members and recognises the hard work, and dedication they contribute to local democracy.
20. The Panel’s 2025 recommendations were to increase the Basic Allowance to the, then, Teesside average of £8,999 and not to reflect staff inflationary pay awards. This was not accepted by Council when it considered the recommendations in November 2025.
21. The Panel recognises that a significant part of being an elected Member was the desire to contribute to their local community and Middlesbrough as whole. It also appreciates that every elected Member has different personal circumstances. The Panel also understand that Members Allowances are not salaries. Instead, they are offered in recognition that elected Members sacrifice a significant portion of their time to carry out their duties. When comparing against the cohort of 16



Councils, the Panel noted that Middlesbrough's Basic Allowance has continued to drift from its neighbours and peers. Of the 16 Councils compared, Middlesbrough remained the lowest Basic Allowance (the next lowest being Hartlepool Council at £ 8,330). Middlesbrough also remains below the Teesside average (£8,998).

22. It is within this context the Panel deliberated wider socioeconomic factors, such as:
- Increased cost of living (which could impact on both recruitment and retention of elected Members and impact existing elected Members).
 - The relatively high levels of deprivation in the town (which potentially impacts on elected Member workloads) and
 - The financial position of the Council.
23. The Panel felt the Basic Allowance was too low and this could potentially have a negative impact on local democracy. As such the Panel feel the Basic Allowance should rise to £8,330. The Panel feels this increase improves the position of Basic Allowance, places the Council into a position of some parity with its neighbours and recognises the current Basic Allowance was too low.
24. At this time the Panel feel a standalone increase is more appropriate than to index the Basic Allowance with any other externally influenced increases, such as Staff Pay Awards.

Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA)

25. As with the Basic Allowance, the Panel continues to express its thanks to those elected Members carrying out additional duties in addition to their work as Ward Members and recognises the hard work, and dedication they contribute to effective decision making.
26. The Panel felt those roles attracting an SRA were still relevant, recognising the time commitment and responsibilities involved. As the Council has not undergone any significant governance changes since the last quadrennial review the Panel were confident that the comparators used in their deliberations continued to be relevant.
27. In the process of reviewing the entire Scheme of Allowances the Panel felt that Middlesbrough's SRA were not significantly adrift from its neighbours and peers to warrant proposed changes at this time. The Panel is keen, however, to maintain a "watching brief" on the SRAs. It wants to ensure the SRAs do not drift too significantly and was to examine SRAs more fully in 2027. Nevertheless, the Panel felt it important to highlight the levels of remuneration for SRAs for Member's attention.

28. The Panel were advised that the ‘Guidance on Consolidated Regulations for Local Authority Allowances’ stated that SRAs should only be paid when Councillors have “significant additional responsibilities” over and above the generally accepted responsibilities of a Councillor.
29. By means of context, the Panel were made aware of how SRAs were determined prior to 2019. Until then then the method of determining SRAs was based on a ‘multiplier’, using the Basic Allowance as a base then multiplying it by a factor ranging from 0.5 to 10, depending on the role.
30. As part of their deliberations, the Panel considered SRA roles in their entirety and that an allowance was not solely based on the number of meetings held/attended.
31. For Portfolio holders the Panel were provided with the Executive Scheme of Delegation and considered responses to the consultation issued to Portfolio holders. The Panel considered the depth and range of the portfolio; the level of responsibility; policy development; work with senior officers; level of accountability, decision making, and the time commitment required.
32. For Committee chairs, information on the number of committees operated by the Council and their frequency were considered. In addition, responses from the consultation sent to Committee Chairs was considered. Similar issues identified for Portfolio holders were also considered such as work with senior officers and time commitment required. For Overview and Scrutiny Panel chairs other commitments were also considered, e.g. researching topics, site visits, external meetings with contributors to Panels, effective challenge and the coordination and selection of topics for review and call ins etc.

Authority	Est. Pop	Mayoral Allowance
Hackney	263,150	£98,043.00
Newham	324,322	£93,575.00
Lewisham	291,933	£88,743.00
Watford	95,505	£81,992.00
Croydon	104,894	£81,894.00
Tower Hamlets	284,015	£81,579.00
Salford	242,040	£75,044.00
Leicester	337,653	£70,807.00
Bedford	163,924	£70,322.00
North Tyneside	202,744	£68,499.00
Doncaster	304,185	£64,493.00
Middlesbrough	139,119	£55,952.00
Mansfield	104,893	£49,377.00

33. Regarding the Mayor, the Panel examined the responsibilities of the Mayor and considered comparators with other Mayoral authorities. Similarly to the Basic Allowance, it found that the allowance to the Mayor of Middlesbrough was below the average of other Mayoral authorities (£75,409). It was also felt that regardless of the population or the size of an authority, the time, commitment, and responsibilities of an elected Mayor are comparable. The Panel feel the Mayoral allowance should be examined

with all other SRAs as part of its 2027 review, but that until then the Mayor's SRA was adequate when supplemented with the Basic Allowance.

Independent Person (IP) – Audit

34. The Panel were made aware the Council already had existing provision for Independent Persons to sit on the Audit Committee to provide expert advice. However, the Council had failed to recruit to this post when it last tried.
35. The Panel was made aware of the 2018 CIPFA guidance on Audit Committees which stated:
'CIPFA endorses the approach of mandating the inclusion of a lay or independent member and recommends that those authorities, for whom it is not a requirement, actively explore the appointment of an independent member to the committee.'
36. Following the Council's adoption of the full CIPFA terms of reference in 2025, the Audit Committee had agreed to increase its meeting frequency, rising from four to 10 times per year. The Audit Committee has also seen a significant increase in the volume of business it considered compared to previous years.
37. The Panel was advised that Independent Persons of the Audit Committee would likely be specialists in audit or finance fields and would be providing the Committee with detailed technical advice. As part of the data collection from the cohort of 16 Councils, the Panel found that, on average, amounts ranged from approximately £600 to £1,000 per annum (for those that paid an allowance). Considering this, and the need to appoint a person with the appropriate skill set, the Panel felt that an annual payment of £800 would be appropriate.

Co-Opted Members

38. The Panel agreed that Co-Opted Members should be allowed to make claims for allowances since they are acting voluntarily and that the current £10 per meeting rate remained reasonable and that no changes should be made.

Travel & Subsistence

39. The Panel considered the rates for mileage that are currently based on His Majesties Revenues and Customs national rates i.e. 45p per mile; and subsistence was in line with those paid to staff. It also found these rates were comparable with the cohort of 16 Councils.
40. As the allowance for Travel and subsistence was linked to staff allowances the Panel felt no changes were necessary.

Dependent Carers Allowance

41. Elected Members can claim an allowance for dependents that they care for (adults or children). This is to allow their attendance at Council meetings. This rate of allowance is currently based on the national living wage and limited to seven hours per week. The Panel found linking the allowance to the national living wage was like other Councils. The Panel also felt that the claimable time differed between Councils Middlesbrough's allowance for Dependent Carers was broadly like others.

Pensions

42. The Panel was made aware of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Elected Member Pensions) Regulations 2026 which were expected to come into force on 11 May 2026. While there was little detail about how the new regulations would operate in practice, guidance had been provided to elected to Members by the Council's Pensions administrator (Tyne and Wear Pension Fund). That guidance stated that all elected Members had the opportunity to opt-in to the Local Government Pension Scheme, and if they wanted to do so they would need to write to the appropriate officer.
43. Guidance also stated that pensionable pay was based on any income from the Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowance or other relevant allowance.
44. As this was a new development at the time of the Panel's review, the Panel were unable to make any recommendations at this time.

The Panel's Recommendations

45. The Panel recognises that the role of an elected Member is a form of public service, supported by allowances rather than a full salary, with duties that underpin local democracy and reflect a commitment to improving residents' lives.
46. However, the Panel are also conscious that, regardless of personal circumstances, elected Members sacrifice a significant proportion of their time in carrying out this vital function.
47. Upon reviewing the Scheme of Allowances, the Panel feel the Basic Allowance is, and has been for some time, too low in comparison to the Council's neighbours and peers. While comparison against other Councils is only one measure, the Panel are also aware that that the time commitment, dedication and time sacrifice made by elected Members in Middlesbrough is comparable to elected Members in other Councils.

48. For these reasons the Panel recommends that the Basic Allowance should increase from its current levels to £8,330 as a starting point of bringing Middlesbrough into parity with its neighbours and peers.
49. The Panel feels the Basic Allowance requires immediate action, as per the recommendation above. The Panel also feel SRAs require further examination to ensure they do not drift from the Council's neighbours and peers, especially as they have been frozen since 2019. However, for the purpose of this review the Panel are satisfied that immediate action is not required and will review the SRAs in isolation in 2027 and therefore remain frozen and not linked to Staff Pay awards.
50. The Panel recommend that an allowance of £800 per annum be afforded to any Independent Persons appointed to advise the Audit Committee.
51. Due to the introduction of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Elected Member Pensions) Regulations 2026 the Panel are unable to make recommendations on this element of the Scheme of Allowances.
52. The Panel feel that all other allowances contained in the Scheme of Allowances were satisfactory and recommend no change.

Mrs Anna McClaren

Chair of Middlesbrough's Independent Panel for Member's Remuneration

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APPENDIX 2

MEMBERS SCHEMES OF ALLOWANCE 2026/27

Middlesbrough Borough Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 hereby makes the following Scheme:

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Middlesbrough Borough Council Members' Scheme of Allowances', and shall have effect for the year commencing on 1st April 2026 and subsequent years, unless amended by the Council.

2. In this Scheme:

“Year” means the 12 months ending with 31st March.

3. Basic Allowance

3.1 All Elected members including the Mayor of Middlesbrough Council receive a basic allowance to recognise the time devoted to carry out their work as Members. It is also intended to cover incidental costs such as use of members' homes, attendance at meetings with officers, community meetings, and ward activities.

3.2 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 provide for the payment of a basic allowance in respect of each year to each member of an authority, and the amount of such an allowance shall be the same for each such member. Subject to paragraphs, 10 and 11 the allowance will be paid to each elected Councillor for the year 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027.

3.3 For 2026/27 the basic allowance of £8,330 will be paid in equal monthly instalments.

3.4 The Basic Allowance will not be increased in line with staff pay rises.

4. Special Responsibility Allowances

4.1 Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) are paid in addition to the basic allowance to members who hold positions with significant responsibilities over and above the general duties of a councillor and are also paid in equal monthly instalments.

4.2 For each year a special responsibility allowance shall also be paid to those Members who hold the special responsibilities in relation to the Authority that are specified in Schedule 1, PROVIDED THAT no Member shall be entitled to receive more than one Special Responsibility Allowance. SRA allowances will remain static and shall not be increased in line with any subsequent annual staff pay award.

4.3 Special Responsibility Allowances were originally arrived at by an agreed multiple of the basic allowance. This process has been suspended since 1 April 2019.

- 4.4 Subject to paragraphs 10 & 11.1 the amount of each such allowances shall be the amount specified against that special responsibility in Schedule 1.
- 4.5 A special responsibility allowance relating to the duties of a Political Group Leader shall be payable to the leader of the overall majority group and to the leaders of the two largest minority Groups, where each of the minority Groups comprise at least 10% of the total number of Members of the Council.
- 4.6 Where there is no over-all majority group, the two largest political group leaders will receive a minority special responsibility allowance. Where only one of the two largest minority Groups comprise at least 10% of the total number of Members of the Council, a special responsibility allowance relating to the duties of Political Group Leader shall be payable to the leader of the next largest minority Group.

5. Travelling and Subsistence Allowance – Councillors

- 5.1 A Councillor shall be entitled to receive appropriate travel and subsistence allowances where he/she necessarily incurs expenditure on travel or subsistence in order to perform an approved duty.
- 5.2 The amount of the allowance payable to a Member in respect of subsistence shall be the same as that approved by the Authority in respect of officers of the Council who are paid officer rates.
- 5.3 The subsistence allowance payable shall be increased or decreased to the same extent as determined by the Authority in respect of officers.
- 5.4 The allowance payable to a Member in respect of travel mileage shall be paid at the Inland Revenue rate (45p per mile).
- 5.5 For the purposes of this paragraph, approved duties shall include all those duties, which are specified in Part I of Schedule 2 to this Scheme.

6. Travelling and Subsistence – Co-opted Members

- 6.1 A Co-opted Member shall be entitled to receive appropriate travel and subsistence allowances as specified in Part II of Schedule 2 to this Scheme.

7. Dependent Carers Allowance

- 7.1 A Councillor or Co-opted Member shall be entitled to receive a dependent carers allowance to provide for children or adult care, where he/she has necessarily incurred that expenditure in respect of a dependent who is looked after by a registered provider whilst the Councillor or Co-opted Member is carrying out an approved duty.
- 7.2 The dependent carers allowance referred to in paragraph 7.1 above shall be paid per hour and be in line with the national living wage and limited to 7 hours per week.

- 7.3 The allowance will not be payable to a member of the claimant's own household.
- 7.4 For the purposes of this paragraph, an approved duty is any duty listed in Part I of Schedule 2 to this Scheme.

8. Telephone / Broadband Allowance

- 8.1 A member is entitled to a communications allowance of a £15 contribution towards their telephone connections and a £10 contribution towards broadband connections. One claim per household, subject to annual proof of service.

9. Pensions

- 9.1 Councillors are entitled to opt-in to the Local Government Pension Scheme as per the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Elected Member Pensions) Regulations 2026.

10. Renunciation

- 10.1 A Member may by giving notice in writing to the Director of Legal and Governance, or the Head of Legal Services (People) elect to forego all or part of their entitlement to an allowance under this Scheme. Where such a declaration is made, it remains in force until a further notice in writing is given to the Director of Legal and Governance or the Head of Legal Services (People) to withdraw it.

11. Part-year Entitlements

- 11.1 The provision of this paragraph shall have effect to regulate the entitlements of a Councillor to basic and special responsibility where, in the course of a year, this Scheme is amended or that Councillor becomes, or ceases to be, a Councillor, or accepts or relinquishes a special responsibility in respect of which a special responsibility allowance is payable.
- 11.2 If an amendment to this Scheme changes the amount to which a Councillor is entitled by way of a basic allowances or a special responsibility allowance, then in relation to each of the periods:
- a) beginning with the year and ending with the day before that on which the first amendment in that year takes effect, or
 - b) beginning with the day on which an amendment takes effect and ending with the day that on which the next amendment takes effect, or (if none) with the year,

The entitlement to such an allowance shall be to the payment of such part of the amount of the allowance under this Scheme as it has effect during the relevant period as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of the days in the period bears to the number of days in the year.

- 11.3 Where the term of office of a Councillor begins or ends otherwise than at the beginning or end of a year, the entitlement of that Councillor to a basic allowance shall be to the payment to such part of the basic allowance as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days during which his/her term of office subsists bears to the number of days in that year.
- 11.4 Where this Scheme is amended as mentioned in sub-paragraph 11.2, and the term of office of a Councillor does not subsist throughout the period mentioned in sub-paragraph 11.2a, the entitlement of any such Councillor to a basic allowance shall be to the payment of such part of the basic allowance referable to each such period (ascertained in accordance with that sub-paragraph) as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days during which his term of office as a Councillor subsists bears to the number of days in that period.
- 11.5 Where a Councillor has during part of, but not throughout, a year such special responsibilities as entitle him or her to a special responsibility allowance, that Councillor's entitlement shall be to payment of such part of that allowance as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days during which he has such special responsibilities bears to the number of days in that year.
- 11.6 Where a remunerated person has been absent due to exceptional circumstances, and another Member acts as chair for more than 50% of the meetings in any Municipal Year or chairperson is absent for more than two consecutive months, then the person who has acted as chair shall be remunerated in place of the appointed chairperson (on a pro rata basis).
- 11.7 Where payment of any allowance has already been made to the initially appointed person, the authority may require that such part of the allowances paid to the appointed person for any such period to be repaid to the authority (determined by the Monitoring Officer).
- 11.8 Where this Scheme is amended as mentioned in sub-paragraph 11.2 and a Councillor has during part, but does not have throughout the whole, of any period mentioned in sub-paragraph 11.2a of that paragraph any such responsibilities as entitle him or her to a special responsibility allowance, that Councillor's entitlement shall be to payment of such part of the allowance referable to each such period (ascertained in accordance with that sub-paragraph) as bears to the whole the same proportion as the number of days in that period during which he or she has such special responsibilities bears to the number of days in that period.
- 11.9 Where a scheme of allowances is amended, the Council can choose to apply any amendment retrospectively to the beginning of the financial year in which the amendment is made.

12 Claims and Payments

- 12.1 Payments of allowances shall be made as follows:
- a) Basic Allowances: Automatically Paid Monthly
 - b) Special Responsibility Allowances: Automatically Paid Monthly
 - c) Travel and Subsistence Allowance: Monthly (Claim)
 - d) Dependent Carers Allowance: Monthly (Claim)
 - e) Co-optees Allowance: Monthly (Claim)
- 12.2 All payments shall be made direct to a Bank or Building Society.
- 12.3 A claim for expenses/subsistence under this scheme shall be made within two months of the date of the meeting in respect of which the claim is made.
- 12.4 Claims for travel and subsistence (other than mileage for approved duties) shall only be approved where receipts of expenditure have been provided and have been incurred in relation to an approved duty or with the approval of the Head of Democratic Services.
- 12.5 For each claim, Members shall submit an electronic claim acknowledging that they are entitled to claim the expenses and where appropriate that they hold the appropriate valid driving documentation.
- 12.6 Members should submit their claims by the 7th day of the month
- 12.7 The Corporate Director of Legal & Corporate Services shall have authority to agree a different frequency of payment with an individual Member on request.

SCHEDULE 1**BASIC 2026/27 - £8,330 x 47 Members (including Mayor)**

These allowances are **not** subject to the inflationary increase in line with staff pay awards.

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILTY ALLOWANCES (SRAs)

The following roles are specified as those designated as receiving a special responsibility allowances, and the amounts of those allowances. These allowances are **not** subject to the inflationary increase in line with staff pay awards.

<u>OFFICE</u>	No of Positions	ALLOWANCE	<u>Total</u>
Mayor	1	£55,952	£55,952
Deputy Mayor & Executive Member	1	£19,518	£19,518
Executive Members	5	£11,190	£55,950
Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Board	1	£11,190	£11,190
Chair of Licensing Committee	1	£8,393	£8,393
Chair of Planning & Development Committee	1	£8,393	£8,393
Chair of the Council	1	£5,595	£5,595
Chair of Corporate Affairs and Audit Committee	1	£5,595	£5,595
Chairs of Scrutiny Panels	3	£5,595	£16,785
Chair of Standards Committee	1	£2,798	£2,798
Chair of Staff Appeals Committee	1	£2,798	£2,798
Chair of Teesside Pension Fund Committee	1	£2,798	£2,798
Political Group Leaders:			
Majority Group (currently not claimed)	1	£8,393	£8,393
Largest Minority Groups – maximum x 2 providing they have 10% of Council membership	2	£2,798	£5,596
Total cost of SRA	21		£209,754

Banding Scheme Index – The Council’s “Multiplier” System of calculating Special Responsibility Allowances has been suspended since April 2019.

SCHEDULE 2

TRAVEL & SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES

Part 1 Duties that may qualify for Travelling & Subsistence Allowances

- a) the attendance at a meeting of the Authority or of any Committee or Sub Committee of the Authority, or of any other body to which a member has been appointed to by the authority, or of any Committee or Sub Committee of such a body;
- b) the attendance at any other meeting, the holding of which is authorised by the Authority, or a Committee or Sub Committee of the Authority, or a Joint Committee of the Authority and one or more Local Authority within the meaning of Section 270(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, or a Sub Committee of such a Joint Committee provided that:
 - (i) where the Authority is divided into two or more political groups it is a meeting to which Members of at least two such groups have been invited, or
 - (ii) if the Authority is not so divided, it is a meeting to which at least two Members of the Authority have been invited;
- c) the attendance at a meeting of any association of Authorities of which the Authority is a Member providing no other attendance / mileage allowance is paid;
- d) the attendance at a meeting of the Executive or a meeting of any of its Committees, where the Authority is operating executive arrangements;
- e) the performance of any duty in connection with the discharge of any function of the Authority conferred by or under any enactment and empowering or requiring the Authority to inspect or authorise the inspection of premises;
- f) the carrying out of any other duty approved by the Authority, or any duty of a class so approved, for the purposes of, or in connection with, the discharge of the functions of the Authority or of any of its Committees or Sub Committees. For the purpose of this Section approved duties shall include the following:
 - i) travel in connection with Scrutiny site visits or investigations
 - ii) authorised attendance at Seminars or Conferences
- g) In cases of urgency, the Monitoring Officer is authorised to approve duties.

Travelling allowances may not be claimed for political group meetings;

Part 2 - Subsistence

1. Subsistence allowances for meals and accommodation can be reimbursed to Middlesbrough Members' for duties undertaken outside the unitary authority. This allowance reflects the scheme in place for officers of Middlesbrough Council.
2. Members are entitled to claim subsistence if their duties mean that they are away from the authority for at least 5 hours, preventing them from following their normal meal arrangements AND they have to incur expenditure which is in addition to their normal outlay.
3. Any claims for subsistence costs must be for the actual amount paid (up to the maximum amount claimable) and supporting receipts of this cost must be kept by the Member. The reimbursement of costs associated with alcohol will not be paid under any circumstances.

Part 3. Telephone / Broadband Allowance

1. A member is entitled to a communications allowance of a £15 contribution towards their telephone connections and a £10 contribution towards broadband connections. One claim per household, subject to annual proof of service.

Part 4. Co-opted Members Travelling & Subsistence Allowances

1. Co-opted Members of the following Council bodies shall be entitled to receive a combined travel & subsistence allowance as specified in paragraph (b) following production of a signed declaration that expenses had been incurred:
 - Scrutiny Committees (including Overview & Scrutiny Board, Scrutiny Panels and Scrutiny Working Groups);
 - Standards Committee (including Sub Committees and Panels)
 - The Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration,
 - Teesside Pension Fund Committee
 - School Appeal Panels
2. Independent Persons appointed to provide specialist advice to the Audit Committee will be afforded an annual allowance of £800.
3. The amount of the combined Travel & Subsistence Allowance shall be £10 per meeting.

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Councillor L Young, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board and Charlotte Benjamin, Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	20 May 2026
Title:	Annual Overview and Scrutiny Report
Report for:	Information
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)

That Council note the Annual Overview and Scrutiny report 2025/2026.

Executive summary

To provide Council with an overview of scrutiny activity during the 2025/26 Municipal year.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide Council with an overview of scrutiny activity during the 2025/26 Municipal year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council note the Annual Overview and Scrutiny Report.

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The Council is required to produce an annual report detailing the work undertaken and the progress and achievements made by Middlesbrough Council's Overview and Scrutiny function in the previous Municipal year (which runs between May and April). This report encompasses scrutiny activity between May 2025 and April 2026.

3.2 These are incredibly challenging times for local government, and despite Middlesbrough receiving a more favourable financial settlement for 2026/2027, the Overview and Scrutiny Board recognises the financial context in which decisions around service delivery and spending plans have been made. Scrutiny plays an important role in assisting to ensure that such decisions are both effective and robust and will continue to do so.

3.3 The period between May 2025 and April 2026, saw scrutiny continuing to embed changes to scrutiny panel structures which provide resilience in how scrutiny is supported. Scrutiny moved from two Panels in 2024/2025 (People and Place) to three Panels (Place, Adult Social Care and Health and Children’s) in 2025/2026. Despite these changes Scrutiny Members continued their work of scrutinising the work and performance of the Council, local health providers and other external agencies and organisations with great dedication and enthusiasm.

4. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

4.1 Not applicable.

5. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	There are no financial implications or impact on any budgets or the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) arising from the content of this report.
Procurement	Not applicable as this a report does not require the procurement of goods or services.
Legal	Statutory Guidance encourages annual updates on all scrutiny activity to Council.
Risk	Failure to adhere to Statutory Guidance and the Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. If updates on the work of the scrutiny function were not provided to Council, this would not be in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	Not applicable as this report does not change any policy.
Reducing poverty	Not applicable as this report does not change any policy.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not applicable as this report does not change any policy.
Children and Young People Cared for by	Not applicable as this report does not change any policy.

the Authority and Care Leavers	
Data Protection	Not applicable as this report does not change any policy.

Appendices

1	Annual Overview and Scrutiny Report 2025/26
2	
3	

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin
Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

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Annual Scrutiny Report 2025/26

Democratic Services


Middlesbrough
moving forward

May 2026

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FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD



Welcome to our Annual Report, which details the work undertaken and the progress and achievements made by Middlesbrough Council's Scrutiny function in the previous Municipal year (which runs between May and April). This report encompasses scrutiny activity between May 2025 and April 2026.

These are incredibly challenging times for local government, and despite Middlesbrough receiving a more favourable financial settlement for 2026/2027, the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) recognise the financial context in which decisions around service delivery and spending plans have been made. Scrutiny plays an important role in assisting to ensure that such decisions are both effective and robust and will continue to do so.

The period between May 2025 and April 2026, saw scrutiny continuing to embed changes to scrutiny panel structures which provide resilience in how scrutiny is supported. Scrutiny moved from two Panels in 2024/2025 (People and Place) to three Panels (Place, Adult Social Care and Health and Children's) in 2025/2026. Despite these changes Scrutiny Members continued their work of scrutinising the work and performance of the Council, local health providers and other external agencies and organisations with great dedication and enthusiasm.

It has been both a busy and challenging period for members including the Council emerging from a Best Value Notice, Corporate Peer Challenge as well as Care Quality Commission and Ofsted inspections in Adults and Children's services respectively. It was against this backdrop that Scrutiny members undertook a range of topics utilising a range of tools and helped to develop the Council's first pre-decision protocol which has placed emphasis on adding value at the earliest possible stage. All members have been actively involved in the Scrutiny journey to achieve a variety of positive outcomes, which are set out in this report.

I would like to thank all Members, both scrutiny and Executive, for their involvement and contribution to the work carried out, as well as those external to the Council who afforded the time to attend meetings and provide evidence. I would also like to thank officers for their continued efforts in supporting the Scrutiny process for the good of both the Council and the Borough. I particularly would like to thank the Democratic Services team for the work they do to ensure that Scrutiny is effective, and members and Chairs are fully supported.

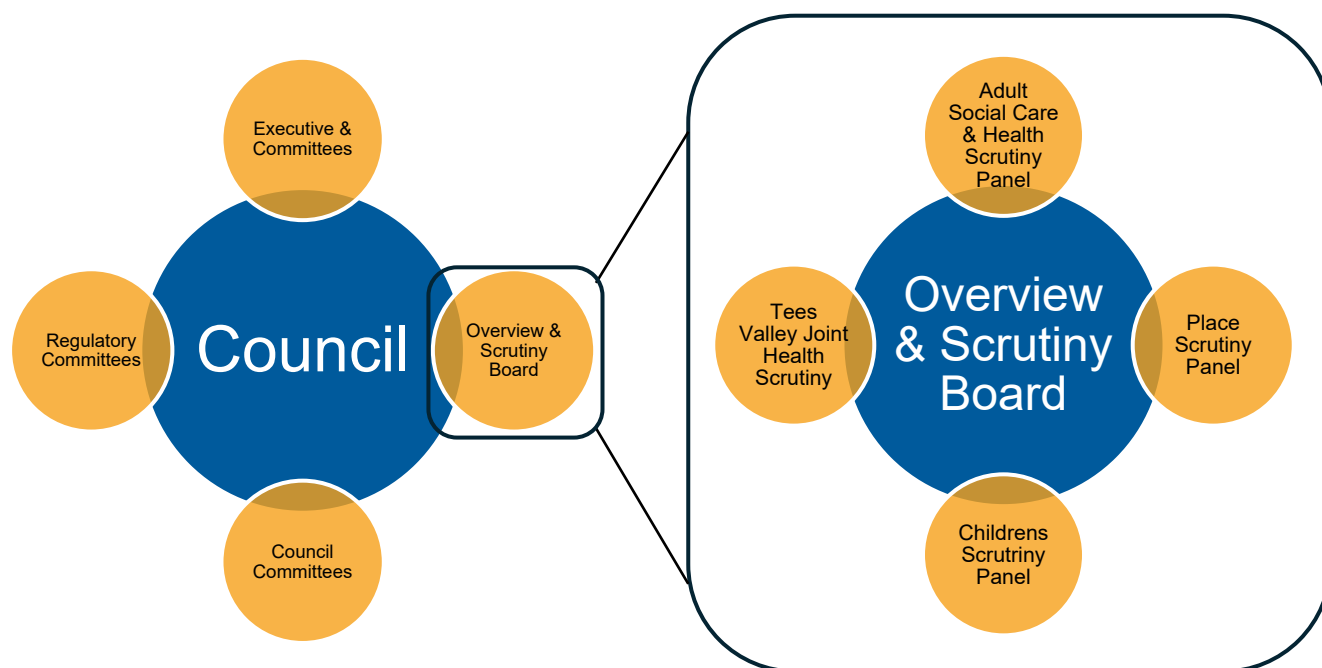
A programme of work for the Municipal year 2026/27 will be created and agreed by OSB, which I am sure will result in the same dedication and commitment to scrutinising the work of the Council and external partners over the year ahead.

I hope you find the report interesting.

SIGNATURE

Councillor Lewis Young
Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

POLITICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE COUNCIL AND SCRUTINY



The Council is responsible for setting the Budget and Policy Framework.

The Executive, comprising of the Mayor and eight Executive Members, is responsible for the management of the Council's services within the framework set by the Council. Each Executive Member has responsibility for a particular area of the Council's services and policies.

The responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny function are to ensure that the Council's services are delivered effectively and efficiently, to monitor the Council's performance and to develop new policies.

The Scrutiny Panels are, therefore, comprised of non-Executive members.

MEETINGS AND REVIEWS

OSB, and each Scrutiny Panel, met monthly during 2025/2026. All of which were open for the public to attend and observe.

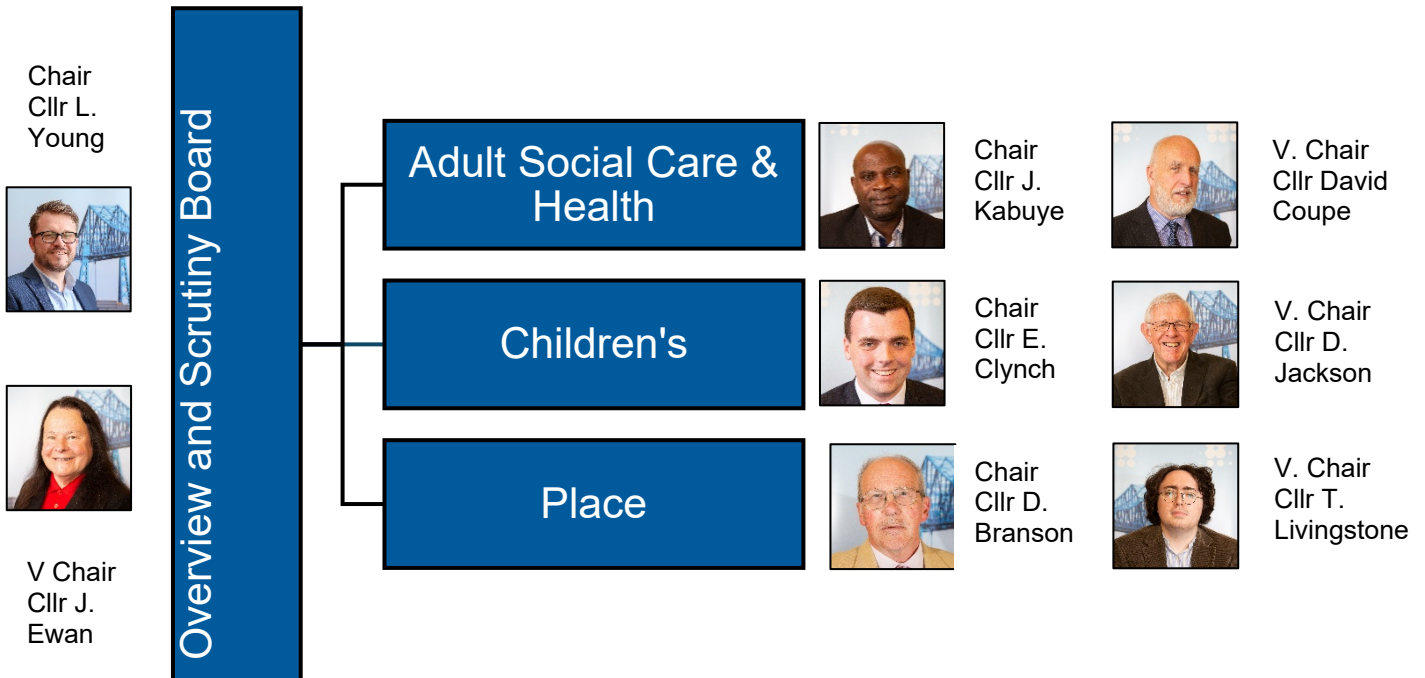


In addition to those public meetings, briefing meetings were undertaken with Chairs on a regular basis, together with informal work.

In total, five scrutiny reviews were concluded during 2025/26, generating 36 recommendations to the Executive. Two additional reviews were initiated during the year and are scheduled for completion in 2026/27, while one further review is in the drafting stage and is anticipated to be submitted in early 2026/27

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN MIDDLESBROUGH

In 2025/2026 OSB, with the support of three Scrutiny Panels carried out Middlesbrough's Scrutiny programme. Further information about Middlesbrough's Scrutiny Panels can be found on the Council's website: [Scrutiny | Middlesbrough Council](#)



DEVELOPING SCRUTINY

Scrutiny continued to develop during 2025/2026, with Members and officers undertaking several initiatives which, in addition to the work of the OSB and the work programmes of individual panels, helped to drive the scrutiny function in Middlesbrough. The following are examples of those initiatives:



- ✓ The development of the Council's first pre-decision protocol, which establishes the principles of early scrutiny intervention in decision making. The protocol is the first stage in a wider programme of work that will provide the tools and mechanisms elected members need to scrutinise decisions before they are made.
- ✓ The creation of scrutiny's first Task and Finish protocol which equips Members with the tools they need to undertake short, focused scrutiny work that complements an existing panel review.

The OSB, and its panels have a role in holding the Executive to account. This involves inviting individual portfolio holders, including the Mayor, to attend the OSB to provide an update on their respective portfolios. It is both an opportunity for the Mayor and Executive to set out their aspirations for the coming year and look back on recent successes and challenges, and for scrutiny members to identify or highlight any issues of concern or difficulty, and question what actions were planned to address them. This approach promotes cross-functional working and supports transparency, and is being expanded to individual scrutiny panels, whereby relevant

Executive Members will have a standing invitation to scrutiny panels carrying out reviews associated with their portfolios.

Scrutiny's role in the Policy Framework continues to be fully embedded within the scrutiny process in the form of reviewing the Council's major plans and strategies, as contained within the Constitution's Policy Framework.

The scrutiny function continues to play its part in joint health scrutiny arrangements with neighbouring authorities. The municipal year 2026/2027 will see Middlesbrough take its turn as the lead Authority for the Tees Valley Joint Scrutiny Committee during which the NHS will be carrying out a consultation on the merger of Tees Hospital Trusts. Middlesbrough will also hold the Chair of the Regional Scrutiny Officers group.

SCRUTINY SURVEY – FEEDBACK

A survey was issued to all members of Scrutiny Panels seeking their views on the effectiveness of scrutiny. The survey received 6 responses from 22 members, representing a response rate of 27%. Two-thirds of respondents (67%) rated scrutiny as “fairly effective”. A strong majority (83%) felt “very clear” about the respective roles of members, officers and Democratic Services in scrutiny.



Half of respondents had taken part in training, independent research, or scrutiny-related briefings. However, 50% reported no involvement in scrutiny outside formal meetings, indicating potential scope to widen informal or developmental engagement.

Most members (83%) stated that scrutiny outcomes are only “sometimes” clear. This feedback highlights the importance of ensuring scrutiny recommendations and their outcomes remain visible to Members, and work is ongoing to strengthen processes that improve oversight and transparency in how recommendations are progressed.

Final comments were generally positive, with several Members expressing satisfaction with current arrangements and recognition of officer effort.

SUPPORTING SCRUTINY

Scrutiny Members have been supported in developing their scrutiny roles through training and development opportunities. Throughout 2025/2026 scrutiny Members have had the opportunity to attend several sessions including:



7 and 8 July 2025 - Scrutiny Workshop during which topics including meeting etiquette, Task and Finish Group guidance and Work Planning were covered.

Chairs and Vice Chair Training (delivered by the Association of Democratic Services Officers).

9 December – Pre-Decision Scrutiny Conversation which included a session on horizon scanning and topics for potential future inclusion into Scrutiny's work programme.

Scrutiny Panels are supported by relevant Democratic Services Officers. Their role is to provide Members with any research and administrative support where appropriate which can include

securing relevant witnesses to participate in the scrutiny process and to liaise with relevant service areas or key partners to ensure the scrutiny process is as robust as possible.

To ensure that the recommendations arising from scrutiny reviews are successfully implemented, the team are integrating a reporting mechanism into all scrutiny reviews. This mechanism will require updates on all recommendations to be provided to the relevant scrutiny panel within a specified timeframe. Doing so will provide scrutiny Members with the sufficient oversight to ensure agreed recommendations are implemented.

ENGAGING WITH THE PUBLIC



As well as being a key stakeholder during the annual work programme consultation exercises, there are several ways the public can input to the Council's overview and scrutiny process. These include suggesting topics for review, participating in meetings, contributing to surveys, and as experts and witnesses.

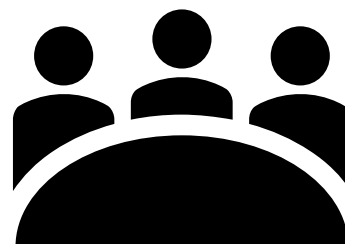
Aside from taking evidence from officers of the Council and other professionals in their field the scrutiny panels are always very interested to hear the views of the local community on matters being considered whenever it is available

To assist them in making informed decisions about policies and recommendations, Scrutiny members may find it helpful to meet with members of the public who are directly involved in the areas that are being scrutinised.

THE WORK OF THE PANELS

Scrutiny Panels aim to undertake reviews in a realistic and achievable programme and, where possible, build in capacity to consider any emerging issues.

The Scrutiny Work Programme is developed at the beginning of the Municipal Year (May/June) through a process involving consultation with both internal and external stakeholders. A call for scrutiny topics is undertaken via the Council's social media platforms, intranet bulletins and direct emails. Internal stakeholders include Scrutiny Panels, elected Members and service areas while external stakeholders include strategic partners and the public. The process also involves studying the key Council documents such as the Council Plan and its corresponding Work Plans, the Executive Forward Work Programme. Consideration of national research, Government legislation and regulations etc. is also considered.



HOW REVIEWS WERE UNDERTAKEN

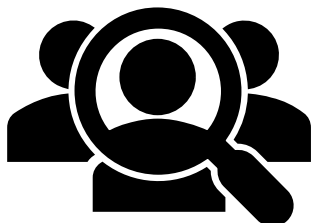
It is recognised that Scrutiny reviews need to be undertaken using a variety of methods to achieve the best results.

Instead of conducting all scrutiny business in committee environments, relying on traditional methods of receiving information, Scrutiny Members increasingly utilised tools such as Task and Finish Groups. These methods empower and enable Members to gain first-hand information from officers and organisations in their own environment.

This next section provides an outline of the reviews that have been undertaken, some of the consultation that has taken place and the positive results that have arisen. It is not the intention to recreate the Panels' final reports within this annual report. Should you wish to read one of the final reports, they are available on the Council's website (www.middlesbrough.gov.uk), or directly from the Democratic Services team.

SCRUTINY ACTIVITY (COMPLETED OR STARTED IN 2025/26)

Overview and Scrutiny Board



Reviews

- ✓ Community Cohesion (Task and Finish Group)
- ✓ Council Approach to poverty (Short Review)
- ✓ Faith and Belief in Civic Life (Short Review)

Updates

- ✓ Executive Member Updates
- ✓ Continuous Improvement Progress
- ✓ Budget and Performance Outturns
- ✓ Budget Consultation

Reviews

- ✓ Healthy Placemaking with a Focus on Childhood Obesity
- ✓ Violence Against Women and Girls

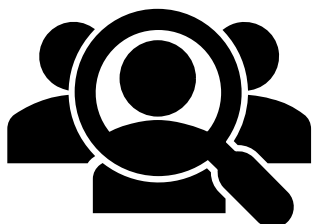
Updates

- ✓ Adult Social Care CQC Improvement Plan
- ✓ Health Determinants Research Collaboration
- ✓ Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) Annual Report
- ✓ Director of Public Health Annual Report

Adult Social Care & Health



Children's



Review

- ✓ Out of Area Specialist Provision

Updates

- ✓ South Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report
- ✓ OFSTED focussed visit to the Front Door of Children's Services (December 2025).
- ✓ Corporate Director's Updates (on matters pertinent to the Panel).

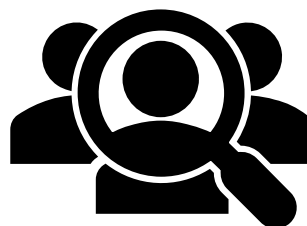
Reviews

- ✓ Barriers to Regeneration
- ✓ Middlesbrough's Bicentenary
- ✓ Council's Role in Housing

Updates

- ✓ RIPA
- ✓ PREVENT & CHANNEL
- ✓ Flood Risk Management
- ✓ Community Safety Partnership

Place



SELECT REVIEW SUMMARY

Below is a selection of reviews carried out by scrutiny in Middlesbrough this year. The reports for those reviews are available on Modern.Gov or by contacting the relevant Democratic Services Officer.

Overview and Scrutiny Board



Chair
Cllr L.
Young



V Chair
Cllr J.
Ewan

The Council's Approach to Poverty

Why?

OSB were keen to understand what, if any, policies were in place to support the Council's approach to poverty in Middlesbrough. Specifically, Members wanted to understand if the Council needed to adopt a specific poverty strategy or if it needed to embed poverty as part of its business-as-usual approach.

How?

OSB received evidence from the Chief Executive and Officers from Public Health and Resident and Business Support Services. The Board found the Council did not have a specific poverty strategy and that its approach to poverty had been contained within a business-as-usual approach via the Council's Plan thematic pillars. The Board also found the Council Plan was being refreshed which would see the Council's performance regime enhanced to allow a more joined up approach giving Council services the ability to contribute to, and report against, the poverty agenda.

What?

Members felt a dedicated poverty strategy was not necessary when existing and planned approaches were taken into consideration. The Board was satisfied that work to refresh the Council Plan, and its associated performance frameworks, provided a more consistent approach to addressing poverty than had previously been possible. OSB were keen to ensure scrutiny had continued oversight of this issue and as such agreed to embed updates on how the Council was addressing poverty within its annual update schedule going forward.

Adult Social Care & Health



Chair
Cllr J.
Kabuye



V. Chair
Cllr David
Coupe

Healthy Placemaking with a Focus on Childhood Obesity

Why?

The Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel recognised that childhood obesity is a significant and long-standing challenge in Middlesbrough and a key driver of health inequalities. As such, it was keen to understand how this issue could be challenged within the context of Healthy Placemaking,

How?

The Panel considered evidence from a wide range of sources, including Public Health, Planning, Transport and Infrastructure. Members examined national and local policy frameworks, current programmes and initiatives, and detailed data on childhood obesity prevalence and its wider determinants. The review explored how the physical environment, local policy and service delivery combine to influence everyday opportunities for children and families to live healthier lives.

What?

The Panel acknowledged there were no quick wins in addressing childhood obesity. However, Members agreed that sustained, coordinated action focused on place, prevention and partnership was essential to creating the conditions for long-term improvement.

The Panel recommended a series of actions aimed at strengthening healthy placemaking and embedding health considerations across Council policies and decision-making. The Panel's recommendations contributed to ongoing work aimed to reduce childhood obesity. After identifying required improvements to the leadership of the Council's Healthy Weight Declaration, the Panel asked Leadership Management Team to provide active oversight of the declaration.

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) – How to Tackle It

Why?

The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel selected Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) as a review topic in recognition of its significant and complex impact both nationally and locally. Evidence presented to the Panel highlighted that VAWG represents a substantial proportion of recorded crime noting that Middlesbrough is a statistical outlier in this area, with high rates of domestic abuse and VAWG-related offences. The review also reflected the importance of early intervention, education and prevention, particularly in addressing attitudes and behaviours among young people.

How?

The Panel gathered evidence through a series of meetings with key Council officers and partners including representatives from Adult Social Care, Children's Services and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. This included consideration of data, strategic priorities and services. The Panel also explored national policy context, including the Government's VAWG strategy and examined the role of education, early help and partnership working in preventing harm and supporting cultural change.

What?

The review provided the Panel with a clearer understanding of the scale and nature of VAWG locally, alongside the importance of prevention, promoting healthy relationships and challenging harmful behaviours.

The Panel identified the challenges associated with a devolved education system, where responsibility for curriculum delivery sits largely with individual schools, which can limit oversight and consistency across the area. This reinforced the importance of strong partnership working and a clear strategic role for the local authority in supporting prevention activity.

The review also led to tangible progress, with the Panel playing an integral role in initiating work towards White Ribbon accreditation. This work is now underway, with a view to strengthening the Council's commitment to tackling VAWG, promoting cultural change and embedding positive behaviours across the organisation and wider community.

Children's



Chair
Cllr E.
Clynch



V. Chair
Cllr D.
Jackson

Out of Area Specialist Provision:

Why?

The Children's Scrutiny Panel was keen to understand why the Council uses out of area provision, both in a SEND education and complex needs social care context, and to examine whether reliance on out of area provision can be reduced.

How?

The Panel examined a variety of evidence including why out of area provision and placements are necessary; what the Council's statutory duties are; understanding the needs of children and young people who may require out of area provision; where provision gaps exist; the importance of workforce training and development.

What?

The Panel acknowledged that use of out of area placements will never be completely eradicated, however, it found evidence of a strong approach to workforce development particularly within the SEND and Inclusion Service which includes a comprehensive training offer across education, health and care services, together with multi-agency training opportunities, and the implementation of a local area graduated response model. This approach has contributed to positive outcomes including a reduction in demand for specialist out of area provision through earlier intervention and strengthened inclusive practice.

The Panel also found that Children's social care teams demonstrate collaborative approaches to the commissioning and management of external and out of area placements for children with complex needs. The Panel identified several areas of best practice, including data analysis to project future demand, in order to build on internal provision as far as possible, based on need. The Panel also recognised the benefits of progressing the Regional Care Collaborative model which focuses on regional collaboration to manage regional sufficiency.

Place



Chair
Cllr D.
Branson



V. Chair
Cllr T.
Livingstone

Barriers to Regeneration

Why?

The Place Scrutiny Panel was conscious that economic growth and vitality were largely dependent on successful regeneration projects. Such projects both attracted inward investment and provided a sense of pride and stability for those living, working and visiting the town. The Panel were aware that regeneration projects could be hindered and was keen to understand what barriers existed to carrying out regeneration work and how best to overcome them.

How?

The Panel considered evidence from multiple sources, including the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Housing and officers from Neighbourhoods, Growth, Public Protection and Culture as well as external partners including Locus and Senior regeneration officers from Stockton Council. Members examined the most prevalent barriers to regeneration in the town and identified good practice from other local authorities in relation to attracting businesses to the area. The perception of anti-social behaviour was identified as a key issue and the review investigated what measures were in place to make people feel safer in Middlesbrough town centre and neighbourhoods and sought to gain an understanding of current legislation available to local authorities to tackle anti-social behaviour.

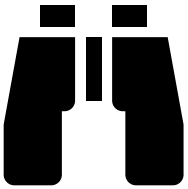
What?

Effective regeneration is in providing economic growth and vitality but also fostering a sense of pride of place in Middlesbrough. The Panel was aware the Council had been reviewing its retail/non-retail use of space as part of its regeneration projects. In view of changing retail behaviours, the Panel recommended an improved mix of uses be considered for future regeneration projects, especially those within the town centre. To achieve this the Panel also emphasised the need to focus on diversification, partnership working and improved perceptions of Middlesbrough.

The Council's Role in Housing and Middlesbrough's Bicentenary

The Panel commenced two further reviews, with overview evidence provided at meetings on "The Council's Role in Housing" and "Middlesbrough's Bicentenary". Further evidence will be provided on these subject areas during the 2026/27 municipal year.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2026/2027



During February and May each year the Council seeks suggestions for scrutiny topics from all internal and external stakeholders. The table below shows scrutiny topic suggestions that will be considered by the scrutiny function.



Overview & Scrutiny Board





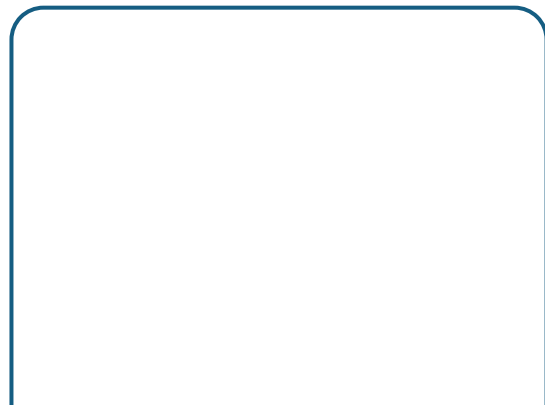
Adult Social Care and Health






Children's





Place





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