



Legal and Corporate Services

THE CHAIR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Tuesday 1 September 2026

Dear Member

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough to be held on **Wednesday 9th September, 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 for more than 10 seconds attendees will be advised to evacuate the building via the nearest fire exit and assemble at the Bottle of Notes opposite MIMA.

Members of the public have the right to film, record or photograph public meetings. If you intend to do so, please advise the Chair of this intention. You may be asked to stop filming, photographing or recording a meeting if the Chair feels that the activity is disrupting the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned

- *Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) or*
- *Non-Pecuniary Interest (including personal or prejudicial interest)*

(2) the nature of the interest concerned.

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

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|-----|---|-----------|
| 4. | Minutes - Council - 15 July 2026 | 5 - 14 |
| | <i>To receive the minutes of the last meeting</i> | |
| 5. | Announcements | |
| | <i>To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Council or the Chief Executive</i> | |
| 6. | Mayor's Report | 15 - 24 |
| | <i>To receive a written update from the Mayor and deal with questions and answers arising therefrom</i> | |
| 7. | Executive Member Updates | 25 - 94 |
| | <i>To receive written updates from Executive Members, and deal with questions and answers arising therefrom</i> | |
| 8. | Questions from Members of the Public (if any) | 95 - 96 |
| | <i>To receive questions from members of the public</i> | |
| 9. | Petitions (if any) | |
| | <i>To receive petitions</i> | |
| 10. | Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board | 97 - 102 |
| | <i>To receive the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board</i> | |
| 11. | Update on Urgent Decisions (if any) | |
| | <i>To receive a report on any urgent decisions taken since the last Council meeting</i> | |
| 12. | Members' Questions on Notice (if any) | |
| | <i>To receive questions on notice from Members</i> | |
| 13. | Motions on Notice (if any) | 103 - 106 |
| | <i>To consider any motions on notice</i> | |
| 14. | Urgent Motions on Notice (if any) | |
| | <i>To consider any urgent motions on notice</i> | |

15.	Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan	107 - 124
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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "CJ Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The "CJ" is written as a single unit, followed by "Benjamin". The signature is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

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 email: sue_lightwing@middlesbrough.gov.uk/scott_bonner@middlesbrough.gov.uk.

Address: Democratic Services, Middlesbrough Council, Town Hall, Middlesbrough TS1 9FX

Website: www.middlesbrough.gov.uk

There is no on-site parking at Municipal Buildings. A map of town centre parking is attached below. A full map of town centre parking can be found on the Council's website:

[Middlesbrough Town Centre Parking Plan](#)



This document was classified as: OFFICIAL
COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 15 July 2026.

PRESENT: Councillors J Banks (Chair), J Kabuye (Vice-Chair), I Blades, D Branson, P Gavigan, E Clynych, C Cooke - Elected Mayor, J Cooke, C Cooper, D Coupe, J Ewan, T Furness, TA Grainge, L Henman, N Hussain, D Jackson, L Lewis, T Mohan, I Morrish, J Nicholson, M Nugent, A Romaine, J Rostron, J Rush, J Ryles, M Saunders, M Smiles, P Storey, S Tranter, Z Uddin, N Walker, G Wilson and L Young

OFFICERS: C Benjamin, S Bonner, G Field, A Glover, T Harrison, S Lightwing, H McGaw, R Williams and K Whitmore

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Davison, S Hill, B Hubbard, L Hurst, D Jones, L Mason, D McCabe, J McConnell, J McTigue, J Platt, S Platt, J Thompson and J Young

26/16 **WELCOME AND FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

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

26/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

26/18 **MINUTES - COUNCIL - 20 MAY 2026**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 May 2026 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

26/19 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair referred to the recent death of Ann Widdecombe in distressing circumstances. All present stood and observed one minute's silence in memory of the former MP and MEP.

26/20 **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor moved his report as written.

Questions in relation to the Mayor's Report

Councillor L Young on Development at Middlehaven

The Mayor stated that there would be a decision on the Middlesbrough Development Corporation at the end of the month. The development at Middlehaven illustrated that if the Council went into partnership with Developers such as Carbon Centric, there was much that could be achieved. The scheme would be broken down into three main sections: residential, educational and waterfront. The current focus was on the residential development and there would be an opportunity for Councillors to view the detail of the other phases of the development and get involved in the coming months, with Ward Councillors being prioritised. This development was taking place in tandem with the Old Town Hall development and the building of the new school.

Councillor Clynych on 10 by 10 Programme

The Mayor invited more businesses to be involved in the 10 by 10 Programme by emailing 10x10@middlesbrough.gov.uk The Mayor welcomed all businesses, whether small, medium or large to get in touch to enable a wide variety of activities and opportunities to be offered throughout the town. In respect of the child enrichment guarantee, the Mayor stated that he was humbled to say that there had already been enquiries in respect of the terminal illness support package that was available. Families would now be able to access extra holiday activities through that support.

26/21

EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATES*Question in relation to the update of the Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education – Councillor Storey*

Councillor L Young on the National Literacy Trust (NLT)

The Deputy Mayor explained that this initiative was part of the early years pathway with the Family Hubs, in partnership with the NLT Middlesbrough and The Book Trust. It began in the first year of a child's life and was linked to children's earliest memories of books, stories, songs and rhymes. The pathway supported families by gifting books at key contact points. Books were gifted at intervals from 16-18 weeks gestation at the midwife appointment up to the age of 27 months.

The NLT Middlesbrough deserved a huge thank you for being a trail blazer in gifting books to the neonatal ward at James Cook Hospital. It could be an incredibly stressful and upsetting time for families and these books helped build bonds when holding your baby wasn't possible.

Books were also gifted to children with hearing and sight impairments between 0-4 years, tailored to their needs, to schools through EYFS, KS1, KS2, Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme and through events and festivals and partnerships with Mima.

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

Councillor Saunders on Early Help

The Executive Member stated that early help was really important in terms of ensuring children got the best outcomes and reducing the number of children who needed additional interventions or to go into residential settings. In line with the Government's Family First Programme, Children's Services were working hard to control budgets and achieve better outcomes. Over the last twelve months only 4.7% of open cases escalated into children being taken into care. This year's budget was more realistic and the Executive Member sat on both the Children's Improvement Board and Budget Clinics. Ensuring high quality, consistent practice, early on would ensure the budget was where it needed to be.

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

Councillor Saunders on Pride of Place Board

The Executive Member explained that the two co-chairpersons selected for the Pride of Place Board were local stakeholders with links to Everyone Active and the Middlesbrough Football Club Foundation. The Executive Member added that he was not involved in their selection. Councillors and local MPs would also be involved in the initiative which would bring targeted investment to one of the most deprived areas of Middlesbrough.

The Mayor added that the Government had not yet made a decision on the boundaries of the Board but that co-Chairs had to be appointed to progress the initiative. An interview and selection process had taken place and very few eligible residents had applied. There would be a further recruitment exercise to appoint at least six residents to the Board and the Mayor was keen to work with Councillors to promote this as widely as possible.

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

Councillor Ewan on road improvements

The Executive Member agreed that the condition of roads and pavements in Middlesbrough did deteriorate for more than a decade, principally due to underfunding from Central Government. A record £7.3 billion multi-year investment programme had been introduced by the current Government to help Middlesbrough and other local authorities tackle the backlog of repairs and potholes. In January 2026, Middlesbrough was one of only 16 local authorities from a total of 154, to receive a prestigious green rating in respect of road repairs.

Question in relation to the update of Executive Member for Finance – Councillor Walker

Councillor Ewan on Reserves

The Executive Member explained that the level of reserves in relation to the Council's financial recovery were crucial. Referring back to when Middlesbrough Council received exceptional financial support, the Council's reserves at that time had been depleted by overspends. This year the Council had been able to invest further in reserves and services as well as keeping the Council Tax increase down. The Council had turned around the depletion of reserves and would continue to build on them.

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

Councillor Clynych on anti-social behaviour

The Executive Member explained that there had been "Weeks Of Action" across the town which had produced faster responses to anti-social behaviour with more visible foot and vehicle patrols. There had been strong joint working between Council teams, Police, social and private landlords and this had delivered a clear reduction in anti-social behaviour. The number of evictions, house closures, Criminal Behaviour Orders, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Community Protection Notices issued had increased. This focussed neighbourhood approach worked and this model would be applied where required to drive down anti-social behaviour and restore public confidence.

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

Councillor Uddin on residential homes

The Executive Member agreed that the Council was in a really good position with all of its seven residential children's home rated good or outstanding by OFSTED. This represented a huge change from a few years ago and one that all those involved should be really proud of. Residential homes had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board, which had included the views of the staff and the young people's experiences. The great work of the staff in supporting young people through key moments in their lives was highlighted such as bereavement. One former resident had invited all the staff to their wedding. This demonstrated the impact staff in the residential homes had giving young people a safe and stable place to live. The new Head of Residential and Supported Accommodation was now in post and plans were in place to keep the service performing well, expand it and make sure more young people could benefit from it.

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

Councillor Clynych on the new Southlands Community and Sports Facility

The Executive Member for Development stated that the opening of the new Southlands Community and Sports facility was fantastic news. The Executive Member recalled when he was elected in 2019 when it was agreed that the new Southlands Centre would be built, however it had not happened. In 2023, when the Executive Member was re-elected it was a prime ambition of the administration to achieve this aim. Middlesbrough Football Club's Community Foundation had been engaged to help deliver the project and along with plans for Pride of Place in East Middlesbrough, the potential for that area would be game-changing and hopefully inspire a new generation. The Executive Member invited all Councillors who wished to, to have a tour of the new facility.

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

Councillor Uddin on the new pest control service

The Executive Member replied that the Council's new pest control service became operational on 6 July 2026 and was already providing residents with a dedicated and responsive service for pest related issues. Since the service launched, the Council had received 142 requests for pest

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control. There had been 101 requests regarding rats, 12 regarding mice, 3 regarding cockroaches, 7 regarding bed bugs and 19 regarding wasps. Wasp control was a chargeable service and this would benefit the Council. These figures indicated the demand and the importance of having a responsive and accessible service available to residents which helped prevent and protect public health and address issues promptly within local communities.

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

Councillor Ewan on the new food waste collection service

The Executive Member acknowledged that there had been some teething troubles with the new food waste recycling service, although this was to be expected with any new large-scale initiative. The following information was provided for context: during the first two weeks of the service, residents had already helped divert 75 tonnes of food waste from general waste collections. Participation levels had been extremely encouraging, demonstrating strong commitment from residents to recycle more and reduce waste. Similarly, the response to the new paper and cardboard recycling collection had also been excellent. Collection crews were reporting high levels of participation with vast majority of residents placing materials in the correct bins. This positive engagement was helping to improve recycling quality and maximise the environmental and financial benefits of the new service.

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QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (IF ANY)

The following question for the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability had been submitted by a Member of the Public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.15:

Middlesbrough has committed to ambitious environmental targets, including biodiversity restoration, expanded tree and meadow planting, and progress toward the 2029/2039 net-zero goals. Given the scale of these commitments and the capacity challenges faced by councils nationally, would the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability be open to exploring a collaboration model where independent organisations — working alongside Teesside University students — can help design, deliver, and monitor blue-green infrastructure projects that accelerate progress toward these targets?

The Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability explained that the Council remained committed to the targets referenced in the question. The Executive Member agreed that the targets were challenging and the Council did not have unlimited resources. For these reasons, and others, it was wise to acknowledge the resources and expertise of third parties. The Executive Member stated that he would happily endorse the Council collaborating with Teesside University and other independent organisations who could help accelerate progress towards the targets referred to in the question.

The following question for the Mayor had been submitted by a Member of the Public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.15:

What safeguards and audit trails does the Council have in place within its incident reporting systems to ensure that health and safety records cannot be deleted or altered after they have been submitted and can you confirm if the Council has identified any instances in the last 5 years where health and safety incident reports were deleted or removed from the official reporting system before their legal retention period expired?

The Mayor stated that it was important to highlight the difference between removal from a system into a different system and also the retention period. All incidents were recorded within the Council's health and safety management system. Once submitted, records could not be deleted or removed by general users. System permissions restricted this function to a single authorised role ensuring appropriate oversight and control. Where removal from the live reporting system was required, this was only undertaken in exceptional justified circumstances, for example; duplicate entries, incorrect classifications, errors, or where it was subsequently determined that an incident did not fall within the health and safety criteria. In any of those cases, a clear rationale for removal was documented, the original incident was recorded and retained and transferred to the Council's corporate records management system which was currently in Sharepoint, previously Objective. The record was then retained in accordance with the Council's retention policy, which was a minimum of five years. The original reporter was

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notified of the actions and the reasons for this via email. The record of the action was maintained and provided a transparent audit trail throughout. This approach ensured that no incident was permanently deleted and that all records remained available for review, audit, legal purpose or viewing, should it become a matter of inquiry through internal audit or otherwise. The Council's retention policy for health and safety records was informed by statutory requirements and limitations under UK law and corporate records management policy, which had been refreshed recently. Over the past five years, a total of fifteen records had been removed from the live system. The reasons for removal included duplicate entries, false allegations or incidents subject to independent investigation and cases that were subsequently deemed not to be health and safety. All the above information from the record had been retained outside the live system and was most likely within Sharepoint or one of the other systems and would remain accessible in line with the records management and legal retention requirements. There had been no instances in the last five years where incident records had been deleted without retention or removed inappropriately prior to the expiry of the required retention period by the current Risk and Health and Safety Manager. The Council maintained appropriate controls and processes to ensure transparency, accountability and the integrity of health and safety records. When the Council's approach to health and safety was last subject to an internal audit in 2024, it was given substantial assurance with no actions for recommendation.

The following question for the Mayor had been submitted by a Member of the Public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.15:

Can you confirm when the Council's Whistleblowing Policy was last reviewed to ensure it aligns with the latest best practices for protecting those who speak up in the public interest and what specific mental health and legal support mechanisms does the Council provide to whistleblowers during and after an investigation to prevent victimisation or 'detriment' as defined under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998?

The Mayor stated that it was not appropriate for him to be personally involved in whistleblowing incidents. The Council had a Whistleblowing Policy which the Mayor encouraged people to follow if they felt something had gone wrong or needed to be changed. The Whistleblowing Policy was subject to review by Veritau, the Council's Internal Auditor, every three years. The policy was currently under review by Veritau. The review would take into account recent changes to the Employment Rights Act to ensure the Policy was up to date. One of the key changes to the Act was that sexual harassment was now a qualifying disclosure under whistleblowing law. The Council did not provide legal support to any whistleblower. However, if employees were Trade Union Members, they were encouraged to seek support from their Trade Union. Whistleblowers often wanted to remain anonymous, which made it difficult to target individuals with support. The Mayor encouraged anyone who felt comfortable to do so, to request extra support and provided reassurance that there were support mechanisms in place including mental health first aid, employer assistance programmes, a 24 hour helpline and access to face to face counselling.

26/23 **PETITIONS (IF ANY)**

No valid petitions had been submitted for this meeting.

26/24 **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.

OSB and the scrutiny panels were in the process of agreeing topics for the work programme for the current year.

The Chair thanked those Councillors who had attended the Scrutiny Workshops held in June 2026.

The Chair highlighted the changes to the OSB meeting structure for this Municipal Year to align with the Council Plan. It was anticipated this would allow OSB more time scrutinise additional topics throughout the year.

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The Chair invited Members to note the report.

ORDERED that the report was noted.

26/25 **UPDATE ON URGENT DECISIONS (IF ANY)**

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

26/26 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS ON NOTICE (IF ANY)**

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

26/27 **MOTIONS ON NOTICE (IF ANY)**

Consideration was given to Motion No. 182 moved by Councillor L Young and seconded by Councillor Ewan of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules Nos, 4.28-4.34 as follows:

"Planning reform - 'track record' test for developers

This Council notes that:

1. The quality, pace and completion of development directly affects residents' quality of life.
2. Communities here and across the country are blighted by stalled or abandoned schemes and long-term derelict 'blight sites', often where developers have secured permission but failed to build out.
3. Under current planning law there is no clear, statutory 'track record' test for developers, and councils have limited ability to take full account of an applicant's track record of delivery and compliance.

This Council believes that:

4. A developer's track record - including any pattern of uncompleted developments or creation of blight sites - should be a material consideration when determining planning applications.
5. Councils should have explicit powers to require transparency over ownership and company structures, and to refuse, condition or phase permissions where there is evidence of repeated failure to deliver or serious non-compliance.

This Council therefore resolves to:

6. Write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government to call on the UK Government to reform planning law and policy, including the Town and Country Planning Act and the National Planning Policy Framework, to:

- Introduce a statutory 'track record' test for developers;
- Make a clear track record of uncompleted developments and blight sites a material planning consideration; and
- Strengthen councils' powers to secure completion, remediation and timely delivery of sites.

7. Write to:

- Both Members of Parliament representing Middlesbrough; and
- The Local Government Association, setting out the Council's position and seeking support for these reforms."

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Councillor Morrish declared a non-pecuniary interest – his daughter worked for a national housebuilder.

Councillors L Young and Ewan spoke in support of the motion.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the motion.

Councillors Morrish and Coupe spoke in support of the motion.

On a vote being taken the motion was unanimously CARRIED.

With the consent of the Chair, consideration was given to an amended Motion No. 183 moved by Councillor Morrish and seconded by Councillor Saunders of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules Nos, 4.28-4.34 as follows:

“Improving the Handling of Member’s Code of Conduct Complaints procedure:

- Public confidence in the standards regime depends upon complaints being handled fairly, transparently and within reasonable timescales.
- The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman expect councils to determine complaints within a reasonable period, and Middlesbrough Council has consistently failed to meet those expectations.
- Unlike many local authorities, Middlesbrough Council has no clear timetable governing the completion of Members’ Code of Conduct complaints, leading to unnecessary delays and reduced confidence in the standards process.
- The Monitoring Officer has access to commissioned resources, including Independent Persons and external legal advisers, and therefore delays attributable to those parties should not be treated as exceptional circumstances.

This Council believes that:

- Members and the public are entitled to a complaints process that is timely, transparent and accountable.
- Delays undermine confidence in the standards framework and the Council’s commitment to good governance.
- Introducing clear performance standards and democratic oversight of lengthy investigations will improve efficiency and public trust.

Council therefore resolves that:

1. A target of 20 weeks shall apply to the completion of all Members’ Code of Conduct complaints from the date the complaint is received to the conclusion of the matter.
2. Any delays to this timescale will be reported in as much detail as is appropriate to the standards committee.
3. The only exception to this target timescale shall be where delays arise from external statutory bodies outside the Council’s control, such as the police or other law enforcement agencies.
4. Time taken by individuals or organisations commissioned, instructed or engaged by the Council—including Independent Persons, external solicitors or any other advisers—shall count within the 20 weeks period, as these resources are under the authority’s control.
5. The Monitoring Officer is instructed to prepare and implement a formal Code of Conduct Complaints Timetable and Procedure incorporating these requirements and to report regularly to Council on compliance with the agreed standards. Council further believes that adopting a clear timetable comparable to that used by many other local authorities

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will strengthen governance, improve accountability, drive greater efficiency within the standards process and restore confidence amongst councillors and the public that complaints will be dealt with promptly and fairly.

Councillor Morrish spoke in support of the motion.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the motion.

The Mayor spoke in support of the motion.

On a vote being taken the motion was unanimously CARRIED.

26/28 **URGENT MOTIONS ON NOTICE (IF ANY)**

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

26/29 **ADOPTION OF THE COULBY NEWHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2024 – 2039**

The Executive Member for Development presented a report of the Director of Regeneration to request Council to adopt the Coulby Newham Neighbourhood Plan 2024-2039.

The Coulby Newham Neighbourhood Plan had been prepared by the Coulby Newham Neighbourhood Forum and, following the Independent Examination, had recently been subject to a referendum in accordance with legislation.

Following the outcome of the referendum, the Council was required to formally adopt the Plan which would form part of the statutory development plan for the area.

ORDERED that the Coulby Newham Neighbourhood Plan 2024-2039 was adopted by Council.

26/30 **VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES 2026-2027**

A report of the Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer), was presented to seek Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on Committees, Scrutiny Panels and Outside Bodies, due to vacancies that were not filled at the Annual Council Meeting and resignations from Committees.

The report included a list of current vacancies on various Committees and Outside Bodies and nominations were put forward at the meeting by individual members.

ORDERED that the following appointments, allocated in accordance with the wishes of the political groups, were approved by Council:

Audit Committee - Councillor Uddin
Constitution and Members Development Committee - Councillor Walker
Place Scrutiny Panel – Councillor Thompson
Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency – Councillor Blades

26/31 **RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT FOR INDEPENDENT PERSONS**

A report of the Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) was presented to seek approval for a reciprocal arrangement with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council for the cross-authority use of each Council's appointed Independent Persons (IPs) in the event of their own IPs' unavailability.

The Localism Act 2011 (the Act) placed the Council under a duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct for elected and co-opted members. The Act required that the Council had Code of Conduct Complaint Arrangements (the Arrangements) in place to handle complaints relating to allegations of breaches of the Council's adopted Members Code of Conduct (The Code).

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Under Section 28(7) of the Act, the Council was required to appoint at least one Independent Person whose views were to be sought in relation to complaints before making a decision on an allegation of a breach of the Code.

Middlesbrough Council had appointed two independent Persons. Having a small pool of IPs to rely on created a vulnerability in the event of unexpected conflicts of interest, IP absences or limits of IP capacity. A reciprocal arrangement with Redcar and Cleveland was considered necessary to ensure that the Council still had access to an alternative IP.

When a Council required an IP's advice but the one(s) appointed was unavailable, a cost neutral reciprocal arrangement allowed each Council to quickly borrow a fully trained IP to ensure continued adherence with the Act, enabling compliance with the Council's existing Code of Conduct Arrangements and providing resilience in the administration of Code of Conduct complaints by reducing any delay in their handling.

It was a requirement of the Act that Full Council formally approved the appointment of IPs. Approval by Full Council of the appointment of IPs, duly appointed by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council under the Localism Act 2011, as substitute IPs for Middlesbrough Council under a reciprocal arrangement, was sufficient for the purposes of the Act.

ORDERED as follows that Council approved:

- entering into a reciprocal arrangement with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council for the cross-authority use of appointed Independent Persons (IPs).
- the appointment of the designated Independent Persons duly appointed by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council under the Localism Act 2011 to act as substitute Independent Persons for Middlesbrough Council, subject to conflict of interest checks.

26/32

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - RESOLUTION

A report of the Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) was presented to seek Council approval, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.5 (ii) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Dave Budd.

ORDERED as follows that Council approved that:

- an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purposes of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Dave Budd would be convened.
- the date of the Extraordinary meeting would be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council.

26/33

AMENDMENTS TO COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2026-2027

A report of the Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer) was presented to seek Council approval to an amended date for the next Annual Council Meeting and to note an amended date for the Children's Scrutiny Panel.

At the Annual Council Meeting held on 20 May 2026, Council approved a timetable of meeting dates for the Municipal Year 2026-2027, for Council, Executive, Overview and Scrutiny Board, Scrutiny Panels, and working groups. Subsequent to the Annual Meeting, two changes to the previously agreed timetable had been proposed.

Since that meeting it had been identified that the original date agreed for the Annual Council Meeting in 2027 had been scheduled for a Thursday rather than the usual Wednesday and the original date agreed for the second March meeting of Children's Scrutiny Panel had been scheduled on a Bank Holiday.

ORDERED as follows that:

Council approved:

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- The next Annual Council meeting date would be held on 26 May 2027.

Council noted:

- Children's Scrutiny Panel would be held on 30 March 2027 rather than Easter Monday.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Mayor Chris Cooke

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

- **Update:**
- We are now even closer to delivering town-wide youth provision, with nine of the ten wards that previously had no provision now having an allocated provider, thanks to the investment approved in the last budget.
- Plans for the most significant transformation of Middlesbrough town centre in a generation have been unveiled, bringing forward a range of new developments and improvements across the heart of the town.
- The Employment and Skills Hub at the Cleveland Centre is now open. Operated by Middlesbrough Community Learning, the hub offers accessible support and high-quality learning opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.
- It has been a fantastic summer of community activity, with family fun days delivered by our dedicated neighbourhood teams across the town. Residents have also joined council staff for a number of community action days, helping to keep neighbourhoods clean, safe and welcoming for all.

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

1.1 Summer Savings Scheme Helps Families Enjoy Middlesbrough Attractions

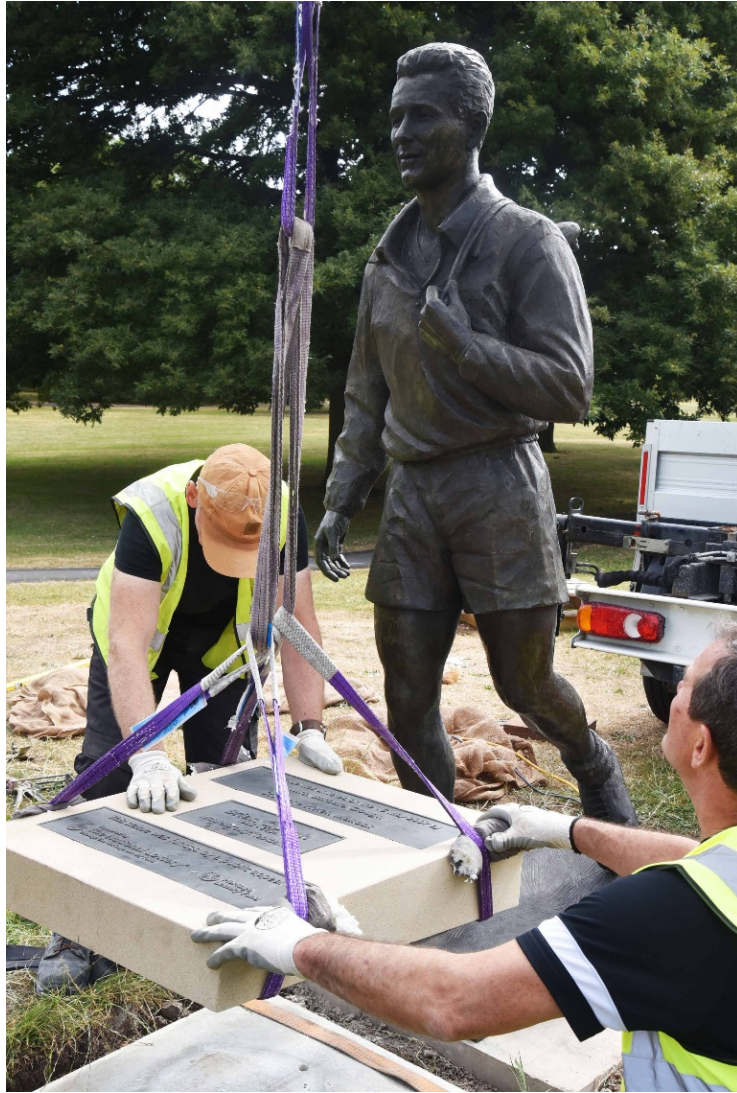
- 1.1.2** I am pleased that throughout the summer holidays, families were able to enjoy lower-cost visits to both Newham Grange Farm and the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum.
- 1.1.3** On top of the 5% VAT reduction introduced by the Government, the Council introduced even further reductions to ensure these popular venues remain affordable and accessible for local families during the school holidays.
- 1.1.4** At Newham Grange Farm, admission prices were reduced from £5.80 to £5 for adults and from £4.90 to £4 for children. The family ticket price has also been reduced from £19.50 to £15 for two adults and two children or one adult and three children.
- 1.1.5** Newham Grange Farm remains one of the town's most popular visitor attractions, offering opportunities to meet a wide range of farm animals, enjoy outdoor play areas and take part in seasonal activities. During the summer holidays, the farm

has also hosted a range of themed events and entertainment designed to attract families and encourage repeat visits.

- 1.1.6** The Captain Cook Birthplace Museum also benefited from the scheme. Family ticket prices have been reduced to £10, while adult admission has dropped to £4.20 and tickets for children and concessions have been reduced to £3.30.
- 1.1.7** The reduced admission prices have enabled greater access to the museum's exhibitions and activities, while also allowing visitors to enjoy unlimited admission until 30th August.
- 1.1.8** The school holidays can be an expensive time, and it is important that local people can continue to enjoy high-quality attractions and experiences close to home. By supporting affordable days out, we are helping more families discover everything Middlesbrough has to offer while supporting some of our most valued cultural and leisure assets.

1.2 Brian Clough Statue Returns to Albert Park Following Restoration Work

- 1.2.1** I am delighted that the much-loved Brian Clough statue has returned to its place in Albert Park following a programme of specialist restoration and strengthening works.
- 1.2.2** The sculpture created by renowned artist Vivien Mallock, was originally unveiled in 2007 and has since become a popular landmark for football fans, residents and visitors. Depicting Brian Clough walking from his Valley Road home towards Middlesbrough's former Ayresome Park ground, the statue celebrates one of the town's most famous sporting figures.
- 1.2.3** Over the years, the statue's popularity has unfortunately led to occasional damage caused by visitors climbing on or placing weight on the structure. To ensure its long-term preservation, specialist repairers undertook restoration work, including strengthening the statue and securing it within a new foundation block.
- 1.2.4** As part of the improvements, the statue has been lowered to ground level and reinstalled at its customary location near the Dorman Museum entrance to Albert Park. Additional landscaping works have also been carried out, including the creation of a new flowerbed around the base and the installation of a protective fence designed to discourage climbing while maintaining clear views of the artwork.
- 1.2.5** The return of the statue provides an opportunity to celebrate Clough's remarkable legacy and the important role he continues to play in Middlesbrough's sporting heritage. The sculpture remains a valued attraction within Albert Park and an enduring tribute to one of the greatest players and managers the game has ever seen.
- 1.2.6** I would like to thank everyone involved in the restoration project for their efforts in safeguarding this significant piece of public artwork for many years to come.



1.3 New Free Pest Control Service Launched for Middlesbrough has early success

- 1.3.1** I am pleased that the new free pest control service has been launched and has been very successful in its first few months. The service has been well utilised, with residents across the town accessing its services.
- 1.3.2** The service is available to homeowners and residents living in private rented accommodation and offers free treatment for some of the most common and harmful pests found within domestic properties, gardens and garages. These include; rats, mice, bedbugs and cockroaches.
- 1.3.3** Pest infestations can have a significant impact on people's health, wellbeing and quality of life, particularly for vulnerable residents. By removing the financial cost of treatment, the Council is helping households take swift action to address problems before they become more serious.
- 1.3.4** As part of their visits, officers will provide practical advice and guidance on hygiene, property maintenance and other preventative measures that can reduce the likelihood of future infestations. This proactive approach will support residents in maintaining healthier and safer living environments.
- 1.3.5** Residents can access the service by booking an appointment online or by telephone. Morning and afternoon appointments are available Monday to Friday, and where necessary technicians may undertake multiple visits to ensure treatments are completed effectively.
- 1.3.6** This new service demonstrates our commitment to improving public health, supporting vulnerable residents and maintaining clean, safe neighbourhoods across Middlesbrough. By providing free access to treatment and preventative advice, we are helping residents tackle pest problems quickly and effectively whilst improving quality of life for communities throughout the town.



1.4 Albert Park Receives Major Investment in Tennis Facilities and Community Safety

- 1.4.1** I am delighted to share that the tennis courts at Albert Park have reopened following a major refurbishment programme delivered through a partnership between Middlesbrough Council, the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and the LTA Tennis Foundation.
- 1.4.2** The refurbished courts will support a range of opportunities for residents to get active, including weekly Barclays Free Park Tennis sessions delivered by the Council's tennis partner, We Do Tennis. Equipment will be provided, helping remove barriers to participation and ensuring tennis is accessible to all.
- 1.4.3** In addition, I am pleased to report that Albert Park has also benefited from a significant investment in public safety through the installation of new CCTV cameras and supporting infrastructure at six locations across the park.
- 1.4.4** As part of the improvements, new CCTV columns and cameras have been installed throughout the park, while existing cameras have also been upgraded to improve coverage and effectiveness. The enhanced network is directly linked to Middlesbrough's CCTV control room, allowing incidents to be monitored and responded to quickly.
- 1.4.5** The Council's CCTV network continues to play an important role in preventing crime, supporting investigations and promoting community confidence. These latest enhancements strengthen that network further and demonstrate our ongoing commitment to creating safe, welcoming public spaces.
- 1.4.6** I would like to thank all officers and partners involved in delivering this project. Alongside the investment in the tennis courts, these improvements represent a substantial commitment to the future of Albert Park, ensuring it remains a safe, vibrant and well-used community asset for years to come.





2.THE TIME AHEAD

Update:

2.1 Turner on Tees: Bringing the Turner Prize to Communities Across Middlesbrough

- 2.1.1** I am delighted that as part of Middlesbrough hosting the Turner Prize later this year, cultural events across the town will be happening through the Turner on Tees programme. While the Turner Prize brings national and international attention to our town, this programme is focused on ensuring local communities directly benefit from the opportunities it creates.
- 2.1.2** Running through to March 2027, Turner on Tees is one of the largest cultural engagement programmes ever delivered across the Tees Valley. Its ambitions extend far beyond the exhibition itself, with a strong focus on increasing participation in arts and culture, raising aspirations and strengthening civic pride across Middlesbrough.
- 2.1.3** A major element of the programme is its work with schools and young people. More than 2,600 Middlesbrough pupils have already been engaged through assemblies, with the wider education programme expected to reach at least 17,000 participants by December. Weekly visits and outreach sessions are introducing hundreds of young people to MIMA and helping them explore creative opportunities that may previously have felt out of reach.
- 2.1.4** Through the Make Your Mark initiative, the programme is working with 16 Middlesbrough schools. Local artists are supporting pupils to create new artworks, which will be displayed at the Dorman Museum alongside works on loan from Tate, providing young people with a unique opportunity to see their creativity celebrated in a public setting.
- 2.1.5** The programme also supports young people through initiatives such as the National Saturday Club at MIMA, helping participants develop skills, confidence

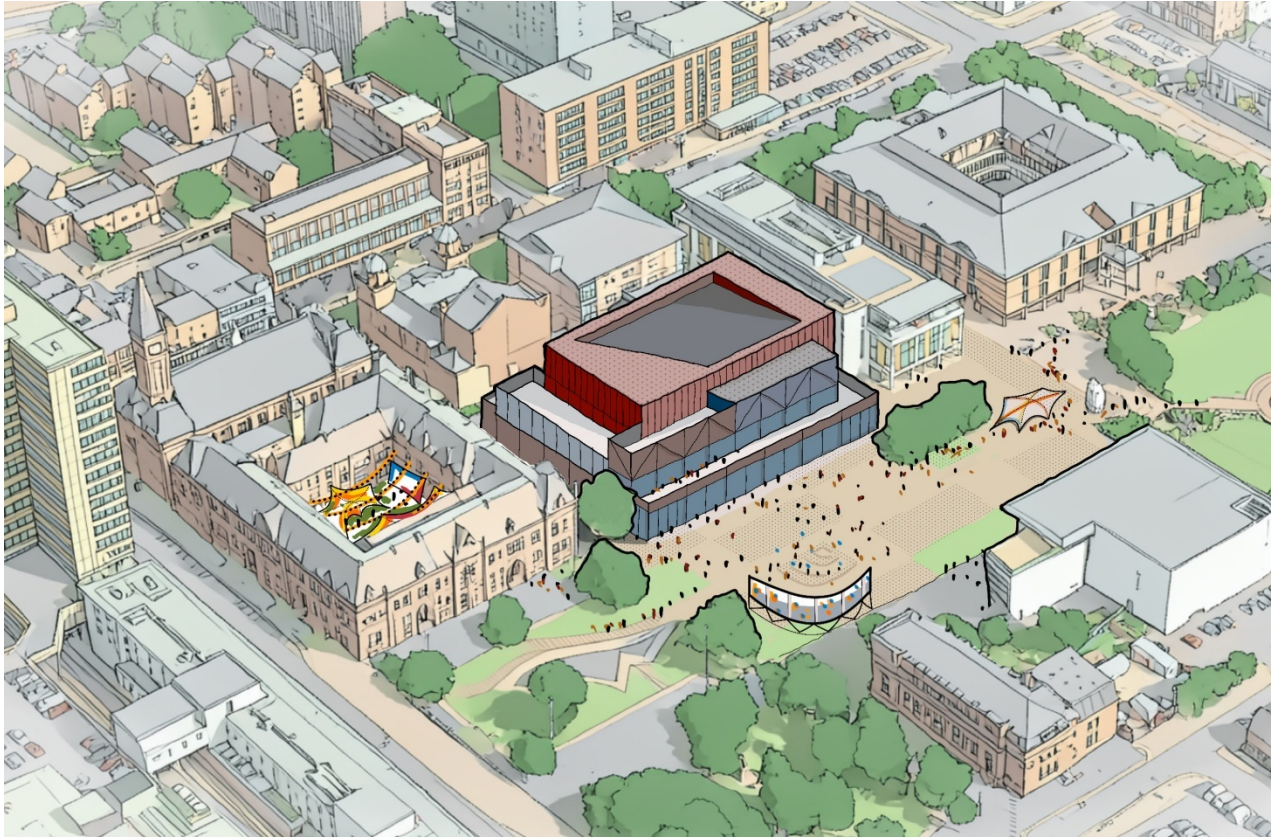
and ambition. Family-focused activities, including free creative sessions and affordable food offers, are ensuring that cultural participation remains accessible to as many residents as possible.

- 2.1.6** The true success of Turner on Tees will not be measured solely by visitor numbers, but by the lasting impact it leaves behind. If more young people feel that Middlesbrough's cultural venues belong to them, if more families experience arts and culture together, and if communities feel a stronger sense of pride in their town, then the programme will have created a meaningful and lasting legacy for Middlesbrough and future generations.

2.2 Place Strategy and Investment Prospectus Set Out Bold Vision for Middlesbrough's Future

- 2.2.1** I am pleased that Middlesbrough's new Place Strategy and Investment Prospectus has been published which together set out an ambitious long-term vision for the future of our town. Developed through the newly established Place Leaders Partnership, the strategy aims to deliver transformational change and ensure Middlesbrough remains an attractive place to live, learn, work, invest and visit.
- 2.2.2** The partnership brings together a wide range of organisations from across the public, private, education and voluntary sectors, including Middlesbrough Council, Teesside University, Middlesbrough College, Tees Valley Combined Authority, Middlesbrough Football Club, major employers, NHS organisations, Cleveland Police and the North East Chamber of Commerce. Their shared ambition is to make Middlesbrough a creative place for young people to live, learn and realise their future.
- 2.2.3** The strategy has been shaped by extensive consultation with more than 1,300 young people, parents and carers. Feedback highlighted strong pride in the town, belief in its untapped potential and the importance of creating safe, welcoming and vibrant places for residents and visitors alike.
- 2.2.4** At the heart of the vision is the continued transformation of Middlesbrough town centre, recognising the changing ways people work, shop and spend their leisure time. The proposals seek to create a more attractive, accessible and vibrant town centre that responds to modern demands while supporting economic growth and investment.
- 2.2.5** Key aspirations outlined within the Investment Prospectus include:
- Creating new urban spaces through the redevelopment of underused and end-of-life buildings
 - Developing a new theatre venue as a major cultural attraction
 - Bringing forward a new hotel development to meet growing visitor demand
 - Strengthening the town centre retail offer
 - Delivering thousands of new homes in Middlehaven and Gresham to support town centre growth and vitality
 - Improving public transport connections and passenger facilities
- 2.2.6** The strategy also places a strong emphasis on investing in neighbourhoods, supporting business growth, creating jobs in digital and innovation sectors, improving public spaces and retaining talented young people within Middlesbrough. Alongside town centre regeneration, these priorities aim to improve opportunities and quality of life across the whole town.
- 2.2.7** The publication of the Place Strategy and Investment Prospectus marks an important milestone for Middlesbrough. By bringing together partners around a

shared vision and identifying opportunities for future investment, the strategy provides a clear roadmap for how the town can build on its existing strengths and realise its full potential. I would like to thank all members of the Place Leaders Partnership, Council officers and the many residents who helped shape this ambitious vision for Middlesbrough's future.



2.3 Making Middlesbrough Thrive: A Coordinated Response to Deprivation and Inequality

- 2.3.1** Significant progress has been made in developing the Council's response to deprivation and inequality through the new Making Middlesbrough Thrive approach. Following extensive engagement with residents, local communities and elected members, priorities for investment in areas identified through the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) have now been agreed, ensuring funding is directed towards the issues that matter most to local people.
- 2.3.2** The consultation process provided valuable insight into the challenges and opportunities within some of Middlesbrough's neighbourhoods. Residents shared their experiences, highlighted local priorities and helped shape proposals that will support long-term improvement, growth and stronger communities.
- 2.3.3** This new approach which will ensure that all Council Directorates explicitly consider deprivation and inequality when developing their Service Plans. This will strengthen the link between evidence of need and service delivery, ensuring Council resources and activity are focused where they can have the greatest impact.

- 2.3.4** Under the new framework, each Directorate will identify specific commitments demonstrating how its services contribute towards reducing inequality, alleviating poverty and improving outcomes for residents. These commitments will be brought together into a single consolidated report, providing a clear picture of the Council's collective response to deprivation across the town.
- 2.3.5** The work supports the ambitions set out in the Council Plan 2026-2029 and will contribute to delivering:
- A successful and ambitious town
 - A healthy place
 - Safe and resilient communities
 - Better value through targeted and evidence-led investment
- 2.3.6** Importantly, we recognise that the challenges highlighted through the IMD cannot be addressed by local government alone. As a result, partners across the town will be engaged through the Place Leaders Partnership and wider governance arrangements to develop a coordinated, place-based response to deprivation.
- 2.3.7** This approach will bring together the commitments of key organisations across the public, private, education, health and voluntary sectors, creating a shared plan for addressing inequality and supporting communities most in need. By aligning resources and ambitions across organisations, we can maximise collective impact and deliver meaningful change for residents.
- 2.3.8** While the challenges facing Middlesbrough are significant and long-standing, this work demonstrates a clear commitment to tackling them in a coordinated and purposeful way. I would like to thank residents, ward councillors, partner organisations and Council officers for their contribution to this process, which will help ensure that future investment and activity are focused on improving outcomes and creating opportunities for those communities that need them most.

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Executive Member Reports and additional Executive decision information

Council Meeting: 9 September 2026

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INTRODUCTION

This document contains the Executive Member reports relevant to the Council meeting to be held on **9 September 2026**.

The booklet, in addition to containing details of Executive Member activities covering the period following the last Council meeting (section 1), also details those Executive decisions taken since the last booklet was published (section 2) together with those decisions planned to be taken from dispatch of this booklet up until the date of the Council meeting (section 3) and those decisions planned to be taken following the Council meeting (section 4).

The table at section 2 contains details of decisions taken by individual Executive Members, the full Executive, Executive Sub-Committees and Joint Archives Committee. The public reports that were considered are also available through the Modern Gov system.

The tables at section 3 and 4 contain details of the decisions to be taken by individual Executive Members, the full Executive, Executive Sub-Committees and Joint Archives Committee. Further details on key decisions that are to be taken can also be found on the Modern Gov Forward Plan.

The Executive Member reports and the additional decision-making information will hopefully assist Members when considering any questions they may have for Executive Members at Council, which can be asked within accordance of the Council's procedure rules.

Details of those decisions to be taken, as outlined in Section 3 and 4, may sometimes be subject to change (e.g. dates of meetings may alter). Members are therefore advised to check with the Democratic Services should they have an interest in specific issues.

Charlotte Benjamin
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(01642) 729024

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Democratic Services Manager
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EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COUNCIL MEETING: 9 SEPTEMBER 2026

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• Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education and Culture <i>Councillor Philippa Storey</i>
• Executive Member for Adult Social Care <i>Councillor Julia Rostron</i>
• Executive Member for Children's Services <i>Councillor Luke Henman</i>
• Executive Member for Development <i>Councillor Theo Furness</i>
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SECTION 2 – Table of Executive decisions taken and that have been through the Call-In period, since the last booklet, published on 7 July 2026.

SECTION 3 – Table of Executive decisions planned to be taken from dispatch of this booklet up until the date of the Council meeting.

SECTION 4 – Table of Executive decisions planned to be taken following the Council meeting.

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EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Philippa Storey - Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education and Culture

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

- *Successful & Ambitious Town*
- *A Healthy Place*

Update:

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

- Middlesbrough Mela
- Archives
- BBC Proms
- NPO Programme
- Venues Equipment Programme
- City of Culture Bid
- Community Learning
- Best Start Family Hubs
- SEND
- Access to Education

Culture

1.1 Middlesbrough Mela

1.1.1 Middlesbrough Mela returned to Albert Park on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 August. The event brought communities together to celebrate and promote the diverse cultures within the region by playing host to a high-quality programme of world class music covering a rich mix of hip hop, Bhangra and traditional Asian sounds, Market Bazaar, street theatre, family fun zone and fun fair. Across the weekend, it is estimated more than 50,000 visitors came through the park. The programme featured a headline Michael Jackson tribute act on the Saturday and Miss Pooja headlined on Sunday.

1.1.2 I'd like to thank the Mela Committee and especially Kash and John for the work they put in to make this event so successful.

1.2 Archives

- 1.2.1** After a long slog, the born Digital Preservation programme was agreed with the other Local Authorities in Teesside. The team are now populating the system and developing policies in order to manage the material that we retain. Work is going well, but it will be a little while before we can make it accessible to the public.

1.3 BBC Proms

- 1.3.1** Middlesbrough Town Hall successfully hosted the BBC Proms for the first time in July 2026, marking a significant milestone for the Venue and Middlesbrough's cultural programme. Delivered in partnership with BBC & The Glasshouse International Centre for Music, the event welcome a sell out audience and brought one of the UK's most prestigious music festivals to the town. The Town Hall team did an outstanding job on the evening and its run up. Thank you to everyone on the team.

1.4 NPO Programme

- 1.4.1** Musinc have continued delivery of weekly music engagement sessions, providing accessible opportunities for young people and communities across Middlesbrough. Through the Holiday Activity Funding Musinc & MTH hosted Gig School, Industry and Stagecraft Performing Arts activity, giving young people practical experience of music, performance and the wider creative industries. As well as their fun days, reading to the beat and classic programming.
- 1.4.2** Musinc's young people have also played an active role in the wider cultural activity across Middlesbrough, including Orange Pip Market, Middlesbrough Mela and Middlesbrough Storytelling festival, where young producers helped lead stage activity alongside young performers.

1.5 Update on Venues Equipment Programme

- 1.5.1** Procurement is ongoing for upgrades to Middlesbrough Town Hall & Middlesbrough Theatre's capital works and equipment upgrades. The upgrades include updating the Theatre rigging system, purchase of a new PA for MTH Main Hall, upgrades to lighting across both Venues spaces and air conditioning for Middlesbrough Theatre.

1.6 UK City of Culture 2029 Bid

- 1.6.1** Middlesbrough's bid for UK City of Culture 2029 was submitted to DCMS on 10 August. The bid, led by Middlesbrough Council, Tees Valley Combined Authority, Teesside University and Middlesbrough Cultural Partnership, will now be reviewed by the UK City of Culture Expert Advisory Panel, who will shortlist four cities from the long list of nine. The shortlisted cities are expected to be announced towards the end of October.
- 1.6.2** If Middlesbrough makes the shortlist, the judging panel will visit in person during November/December, before the winning city is announced in January 2027. Between the submission and the shortlist announcement, the bid partners will continue work across several areas including delivery of a communications programme to build momentum, plus developing our proposed governance and

delivery structures, which would need to be in place for January if we were to be successful.

1.6.3 A full briefing for elected members is being planned for Tuesday 22 September.

Community Learning

1.7 Employment and Skills Hub

1.7.1 The employment and Skills Hub has opened to the public on the 1st August 2026 as a soft launch, there will be an official open day on the 3rd September where the hub will be opened by the Mayor and myself, as Deputy Mayor. Classes recommence 8th September 2026.

1.8 NEETS (Not in Education Employment or Training)

- 1.8.1** MCL (Middlesbrough Community Learning) is working closely with the MBC NEET team on the delivery of the trailblazer project, we have 39 funded placements for 5 months for young people 18-24 and funding to provide training and resources to help them secure employment. Delivery commences next week.
- 1.8.2** We are also working with Middlesbrough college to pilot a foundation apprenticeship alongside South Tees in health and social care and are aiming to recruit some young people from the NEET group to offer these opportunities too.
- 1.8.3** We also have a contract with the DWP and have worked with 205 young people since April 2026 to provide information advice and guidance and support with job search alongside the DWP advisers who are based in our employment and skills hub each day.
- 1.8.4** We are also working with our AP (alternative provision) to develop a pathway for AP leavers to access employment support from the employment and skills hub.

Education

1.9 Best Start Family Hubs – Progress

- 1.9.1** Middlesbrough has continued to transform its Family Hub model, with a stronger emphasis on education, school readiness, parenting, inclusion, and early intervention.
- 1.9.2** The developing model brings together education, health, early help, SEND and family support and is increasingly focused on creating a coherent pathway from pregnancy through to starting school.
- 1.9.3** Key developments include the Middlesbrough Commitment, borough-wide Reception Transition Protocol, Launchpad for Literacy, WellComm, the Literacy Pathway, Parent Champions, Experts at Hand and an integrated School Readiness Framework.
- 1.9.4** There has also been significant success in increasing access to early education. Middlesbrough achieved 106% take-up of the Department for

Education's extended childcare expansion, demonstrating the effectiveness of partnership working between providers, Family Hubs, Schools, and Council services.

- 1.9.5** The next phase is to strengthen the connection between Family Hub reach, participation, and educational outcomes, enabling us to understand how many families access services and the impact that engagement makes to children's development and readiness for school.

1.10 School Readiness Workstream

- 1.10.1** The Education Alliance Board School Readiness Workstream continues to provide the strategic framework for bringing schools, PVI providers, childminders, Family Hubs, health, and wider partners together around a common ambition for children from birth to five.

- 1.10.2** The workstream has deliberately moved school readiness away from being viewed solely as an early years or reception issue. It is now a shared system responsibility, with a stronger focus on communication and language, early literacy, parenting and the home learning environment, SEND and inclusion, attendance at early education and effective transition.

- 1.10.3** The Middlesbrough Commitment and Reception Transition Protocol are creating greater consistency between providers, while WellComm, Launchpad for Literacy and the Literacy Pathway are strengthening the focus on communication, language, and early literacy. The evidence available indicates improved collaboration between schools, PVI providers and health professionals and stronger arrangements for early identification and intervention.

1.11 Phonics

- 1.11.1** The Family Hub and School Readiness programme is increasingly supporting this ambition before children reach statutory phonics assessment. Launchpad for Literacy, the Literacy Pathway, National Literacy Trust activity, book gifting and workforce development are intended to strengthen the foundations of communication, language, and early reading.

- 1.11.2** The next stage will be to use the final 2026 Phonics data alongside GLD outcomes to identify the relationship between children's performance at the end of Reception and their subsequent success in Phonics, particularly for disadvantaged pupils and children with SEND.

1.12 Provisional 2026 Outcomes

- 1.12.1** The provisional 2026 Key Stage 2 outcomes are particularly encouraging and demonstrate improvement in several important measures.

- 1.12.2** The combined Reading, Writing and Mathematics measure has increased from 61.9% in 2025 to 63.2% in 2026, a 1.3 percentage-point improvement. This moves Middlesbrough from 0.1 percentage points below national in 2025 to 0.2 percentage points above national in 2026.

1.12.3 Writing remains a particular strength at 73.8%, compared with the national figure of 73%, placing Middlesbrough 0.8 percentage points above national.

1.12.4 Maths has improved from 73.4% to 74.4%, reducing the distance from the national position to just 0.6 percentage points.

1.12.5 Reading remains an area requiring further attention. Middlesbrough stands at 73.2% compared with 75% nationally, leaving a 1.8 percentage-point gap.

1.12.6 This provides a clear priority for 2026/27 and reinforces the importance of the borough's work on literacy beginning in the earliest years.

1.12.7 This is important because it moves the Council away from viewing individual programmes or attainment measures in isolation. Instead, it provides the basis for understanding how investment and intervention during the earliest years can contribute to a holistically improved educational outcomes over time.

1.13 *Priorities for 2026/27*

1.13.1 The next phase will focus on accelerating improvement while reducing inequalities. Priorities will include increasing GLD and narrowing gaps between groups; strengthening communication, language and early literacy; improving Year 1 Phonics towards the 90% ambition; maintaining the improvement in KS2 combined outcomes; addressing the remaining reading gap; embedding the Middlesbrough Commitment and Reception Transition Protocol; and using Family Hub, education and community intelligence more systematically to target support.

1.14 *Executive Member Summary*

1.14.1 There is a positive and increasingly measurable direction of travel:

- Middlesbrough has secured more than £1.3 million to transform its Family Hub offer, achieved 106% take-up of the expanded childcare entitlement
- Increased GLD (Good Level of Development) to 66.2%
- Phonics increased to 77.1%
- Provisional 2026 KS2 results show 63.2% achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics combined – 0.2 percentage points above the national figure

1.14.2 The challenge now is to accelerate improvement and ensure that progress is experienced equally by children across Middlesbrough.

1.14.3 The strategic approach for 2026/27 will therefore be to strengthen the line of sight from Best Start → School Readiness → GLD → Phonics → KS2, using data and intelligence to identify where intervention has the greatest impact and ensuring that resources are targeted towards children, families and communities where inequalities remain.

1.14.4 This supports the Council's ambition to give every child the best start in life while demonstrating that early investment, strong partnership working and a

relentless focus on educational outcomes are beginning to translate into measurable improvement.

1.15 Local Area SEND Reform Plan

- 1.15.1** On 23 February 2026, the Government published it's Schools White Paper 'Every Child Achieving and Thriving' and its proposals regarding the SEND Reforms in a detailed consultation 'Putting Children and Young People First'.
- 1.15.2** In response to this, the Local Authority submitted a detailed Local Area Reform Plan to the DfE in June outlining the local area partnership delivery plan for Middlesbrough.
- 1.15.3** If successfully approved by the DfE, the Local Area Reform Plan could unlock a stability grant to the value of up to 90% of historical cumulative DSG (Dedicated School Grant) deficit. The Local Authority will be notified of the outcome of this by the DfE in September 2026.
- 1.15.4** To enable the shift in practice and capacity required to deliver the reforms, Middlesbrough Council was awarded a £1.48m Experts at Hand Grant Allocation from the DfE in June. As a result, work towards the operationalisation of the Local Area Reform Plan has now begun.

1.16 SEND Free School

- 1.16.1** Work continues with the Department for Education regarding the new 100 place secondary age free school for neurodiversity and communication needs. The school offers significant opportunity for additional capacity within the system locally and the plans for development of the new school will be fully integrated into the Local Area SEND Reform Plan to ensure as many children as possible benefit from the new provision.

1.17 Exclusions

- 1.17.1** Academic Year 2025-26 has seen a reduction in the number of permanent exclusions issued by Middlesbrough Schools. This is the fourth consecutive year that there has been a reduction and there is evidence of the rate plateauing and beginning to reduce.
- 1.17.2** The most frequent reason for exclusion continues to be persistent disruptive behaviour. This is in line with previous years where this reason was the most commonly recorded and is in line with both regional and national data.

Academic Year	Total Number of Permanent Exclusions
2023-24	111
2024-25	106
2025-26	99

1.18 Access to Education

- 1.18.1** Construction of the new school at Middlehaven is on track and is scheduled to open early 2027. The contractor expects to reach practical completion and hand the building over to OGAT in January 2027. The academy is planning to “move in” during February half term. Fantastic views of the Transporter Bridge from the 2nd and 3rd floor classrooms are sure to give the students a real sense of belonging.
- 1.18.2** Overall school attendance improved slightly over the last year, and primary school attendance is now at the national average, which is a real cause for celebration. The LA is reviewing the structure of the attendance support team, with the aim of strengthening it over the next year to provide all schools, and particularly those experiencing attendance difficulties to be able to access bespoke expert support when they need it.
- 1.18.3** The Virtual School has supported looked after children attending school in Middlesbrough and further afield. The Virtual School is planning a celebration of progress and achievement for looked after children in the autumn term.

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EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Julia Rostron - Executive Member for Adult Social Care

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

- A Healthy Place
- Safe & Resilient Communities

1. Update:

1.1 *Middlesbrough's Adult Social Care Academy*

- 1.1.1 We have concluded our first term of the Adult Social Care Academy (referenced in July report to Council). The academy aims to strengthen our workforce capability, improve practice quality and embed continuous learning across Adult Social Care. Its founding principle is "from potential to practice – growing our own" in which we aim to nurture internal talent, build sustainability and reduce reliance on external recruitment.
- 1.1.2 Following the conclusion of the first term an evaluation has been undertaken to determine how participants found the experience and what could be learnt for future terms.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation outcome highlighted:
 - 95% overall satisfaction with the course
 - 95% of attendees would recommend the programme
 - 85% felt their confidence has improved as a result of attendance
 - 88% felt there was real value in the networking opportunity
- 1.1.4 Strengths were identified as having excellent facilitators, and a positive learning environment. Some improvement opportunities that were identified were having more practical examples and showcasing more stories of difference. Content of the academy programme for the autumn term will now reflect the improvement opportunities identified.

2. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

2.1 *Principal Occupational Therapist:*

- 2.1.1 A **Principal Occupational Therapist (Principal OT)** is the most senior occupational therapy professional within a local authority, typically providing strategic leadership for occupational therapy services across adult social care, housing, health integration, and prevention services. While they may not usually hold a large caseload themselves, they are responsible for ensuring that occupational therapy expertise influences organisational strategy, service design, workforce development, commissioning, and practice standards.
- 2.1.2 Occupational therapists are uniquely trained to focus on what people **can do**, rather than what services they require. A Principal OT helps shift organisational culture towards:
- Prevention rather than crisis response.
 - Independence rather than dependency.
 - Enablement rather than long-term care provision.
- 2.1.3 This aligns directly with the Care Act's wellbeing principle and strengths-based practice. The Benefits are:
- Reduced demand for long-term care.
 - Improved citizen outcomes.
 - Better use of resources.
- 2.1.4 Whilst the authority is not mandated to have a Principal Occupational Therapist, we are exceptionally pleased that we have recently created and recruited to this position as part of the strategic direction to move toward prevention-based support. I am really pleased to welcome Amanda Sparrow into this critical post which will help shape the future of Adult Social Care, particularly in light of the national announcements linked to expedited reform.

2.2 National Plan to End Homelessness

- 2.2.1 The recently published national plan to end homelessness represents a significant opportunity to deliver a more coordinated and preventative approach to tackling one of the most pressing social challenges facing our communities. The plan recognises that homelessness is not solely a housing issue but is often linked to wider factors including poverty, mental ill health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, and a lack of appropriate support. It has an emphasis on prevention, early intervention, and partnership working.
- 2.2.2 The national plan provides a framework to strengthen local responses and improve outcomes for residents at risk of homelessness. This includes a focus on identifying people earlier, supporting individuals and families before a housing crisis develops, and ensuring access to suitable and affordable accommodation. The plan also recognises the importance of delivering person-centred services that address the underlying causes of homelessness rather than responding only when a crisis has occurred.
- 2.2.3 We welcome the commitment to closer collaboration between central government, local government, the NHS, and community organisations. Homelessness can have profound impact on health, wellbeing, employment, and community cohesion, and therefore requires a whole-system response. Integrated approaches that combine housing support with health, social care,

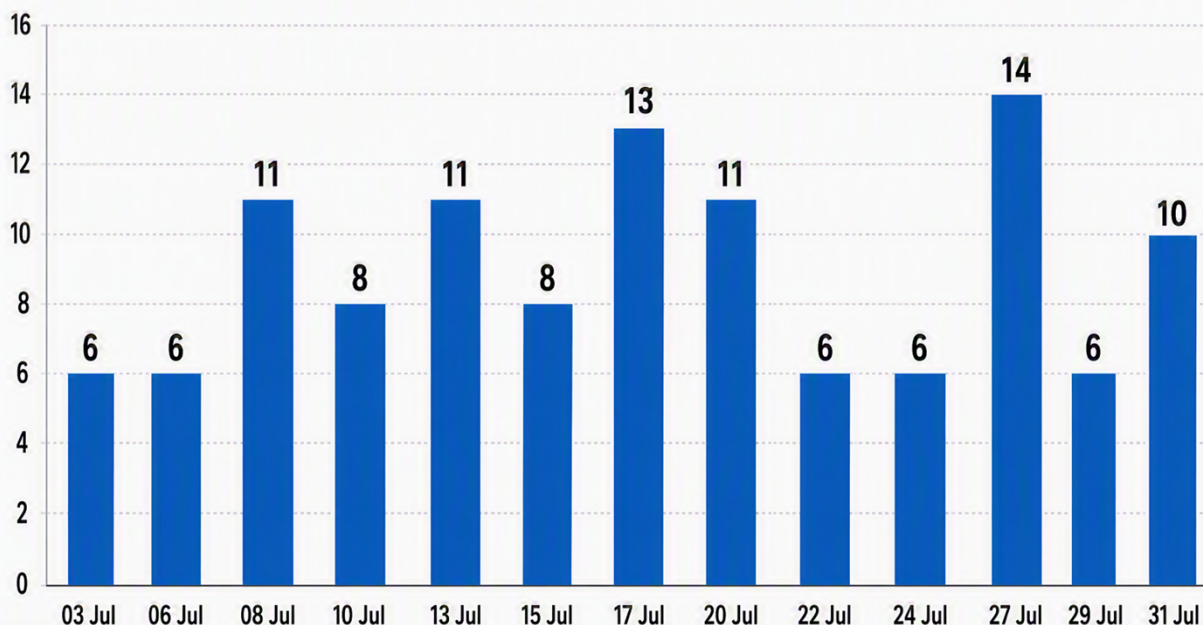
and employment services offer the best opportunity to support people to achieve sustainable independence and improve their quality of life.

We will be presenting our response to the national plan through our revised Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy at Executive in October, which has been co-produced with individuals with lived experience.

- 2.2.4 In addition, as set out in the National Plan to End Homelessness, the government has committed to a national target to halve long-term rough sleeping by the end of this Parliament. There is a recognition that resolving rough sleeping is not solely a responsibility of councils as it requires a multi-agency approach which considers a person's health, wellbeing, and housing in addition to considering ways in which we can prevent people rough sleeping.
- 2.2.5 Middlesbrough has high levels of rough sleeping and as a result has been asked to develop a local Long-Term Rough Sleeping Partnership Plan that contributes to the national target. Plans must go beyond incremental improvements and identify ambitious improvements to the way that the systems supporting individuals with complex needs are working. This may include testing and embedding new and innovative ways of working, strengthening partnership delivery, and generating models of best practice that can be scaled and applied more widely. The Partnership Plan should align with and complement our homelessness strategy and form part of a wider action plan to improve performance against the Local Outcomes Framework (LOF) metrics relating to homelessness and rough sleeping.
- 2.2.6 Partnership Plans are expected to be collaborative and place-based, involving a wide range of partners, including commissioned and non-commissioned support providers, and partners from health, social care, housing, and community safety. Plans should be co-produced and co-signed by at least one Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) partner. Plans should also be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board and by a named senior lead from the Safeguarding Adults Board. In September, all partners will come together for a full day workshop to co-design Middlesbrough's Rough Sleeping Partnership Plan, which builds on dialogue already taking place at our Homelessness forum.
- 2.2.7 The partnership meeting will also afford the opportunity to discuss Middlesbrough's collective response to the Prime Ministers announcement that every rough sleeper will be offered accommodation this winter. Reference has been made to the response to rough sleeping during the covid pandemic called everybody in. This programme used a range of temporary accommodation (including hotels) to ensure people sleeping rough had a safe place to stay. Whilst it was successful in providing accommodation during the period of the pandemic, it was not the catalyst for change, and over time, many people supported returned to the streets, therefore the Plan will need to address a more sustainable response.
- 2.2.8 The Council has a Housing Solutions Rough Sleeper Team, that undertake multiple sweeps each week to both find, and engage with, all rough sleepers within Middlesbrough. As can be seen from the data below throughout the month of July 2026 the team have identified an average of 9 rough sleepers per each sweep undertaken. The same people will have been counted during the sweeps. Sweeps are undertaken early in the morning, and staff take the opportunity to

check on welfare, and provide advice and guidance. We have previously welcomed members whom have expressed an interest in attending a sweep to see the valuable work the team undertake.

Over the Month by Date Breakdown



2.2.9 Further data analysis and a detailed plan will form part of the Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy, which is in development for October Executive, and will include the multi-agency approach locally to tackling rough sleeping.

3. THE TIME AHEAD

Update:

3.1 *We are Social Care*

3.1.1 Our annual “We Are Social Care Event” will be held on the 9th September in the Town Hall Crypt. This year’s theme is “Making a difference every day”. It will focus on the every day impact our staff have on people’s lives, big or small and will shine a light on our improvements. This annual event is an opportunity to bring Adult Social Care staff together across the Directorate, celebrate the incredible work taking place across our services and hear inspiring stories from people with lived experience. In addition, there will be a performance from the wonderful Impact Drama Group.

3.2 *Adult Social Care Reform*

3.2.1 Recent announcements regarding social care reforms have renewed the focus on creating a more sustainable, person-centred care system that

promotes independence, prevention, and improved outcomes for people who draw on care and support. Alongside efforts to strengthen the adult social care workforce, improve integration with health services, and make better use of technology, there is increasing recognition of the need to involve citizens and communities in shaping future services. The Big Conversation has been launched which provides an important opportunity to engage residents, people with lived experience, carers, providers, and partners and the wider public in an open dialogue about the future of social care. A link to the Big Conversation is provided below and it would be appreciated if members can inform residents during ward surgeries of the opportunity to take part:

[The Big Conversation on Care | The Casey Commission](#)

- 3.2.2 Furthermore it is worth noting the ongoing Casey Review regarding the adult social care reforms has been expedited and will now report in 2027.

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EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Luke Henman – Executive Member for Children's Services

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

We will show Middlesbrough's children that they matter and work to make our town safe and welcoming and to improve outcomes for all children and young people.

Update:

- **Number of children accessing early help via Middlesbrough Council:** 619 open episodes and 1281 episodes open to partners (as of 31st July 2026)
- **Number of foster carers with Middlesbrough Council:** 75 foster carers, 32 connected carers
- **Number of children in our care:** 557
- **Children in our care attending school (since the start of the school year):** 403
 - 11 children do not have a school place, with 4 receiving education in a non-school setting (referred to as EOTAS)
 - The percentage of children actively attending their education placement is 82%

1. HIGHLIGHTS

ILACS inspection

1.1 Overview and oversight

- 1.1.1 I have focussed on the recent outcome of our ILACS inspection in this report. We received our full ILACS inspection between 8 and 19 June. The inspection looked at all aspects of Children's Services. Prior to the inspection, the service had been working to an improvement plan, overseen by the Middlesbrough Children's Improvement Board, of which I am a member, and which is independently chaired by Caroline O'Neill from the Local Government Association. Following the findings of the ILACS inspection, we have reframed the improvement plan to focus on progress to date, evidence gathered during the inspection and longer-term improvement plans within our services. We are also reframing improvement activity now that our full DMT is in post, and in response to a wide range of public sector reforms.
- 1.1.2 I met with one of the inspectors in a one-to-one session and attended the verbal feedback to understand the findings. The outcome, which highlighted that we require improvement to be good in the four key areas, was not a surprise to us. We knew prior to the inspection how much work we have to do and the inspection

reaffirmed to us that we understand where we need to focus on to get the results we want to see.

1.1.3 Inspectors recognised the scale of challenges faced within our services and the impact that changing senior leadership has had on our improvement trajectory. I am pleased that we have a stable and permanent DMT in Children's Services to drive forward the improvement we need to see. Inspectors commended the decision to proactively establish an externally chaired improvement board earlier this year. They expressed optimism about progress to date stating:

1.1.4 *"With a stable and experienced leadership team now in place, strategic planning and decision-making are improving, with clearer priorities and expectations beginning to drive more consistent practice. Throughout the inspection, inspectors agreed with our self-evaluation, with the areas of progress and areas for further improvement identified by DMT."*

1.2 Early Help and the Front Door

1.2.1 There were notable findings in relation to progress since the December 2025 Focused Visit, with evidence found by inspectors that progress had been made in a number of key areas. They were assured that the Front Door is now secure and found several examples of good practice within Early Help and the Front Door. While there are ongoing practice improvements still to be made, buy in from staff to progress to date was evident in their conversations with inspectors giving confidence that this positive trajectory will continue. Inspectors also found progress in relation to the quality of audit and recognised the direct impact of the work of our Sector-Led Improvement Partners on this in recent months.

1.3 Other strengths

1.3.1 Culture within teams is changing, with positive feedback in relation to our new workforce strategy and improvement priorities. This was evident across Early Help, the Front Door and our Virtual School. It was also the case where leaders had stepped in to provide support and improvement at short notice, for example with Children With Disabilities and Short Breaks teams. There was also considerable support from colleagues in the commissioning service and from our data lead and his team. Other strengths identified during the inspection included:

- LADO practice was noted as strong, with strong assurance in relation to line of sight
- Improvements were found in Private Fostering – "Visits and assessments are thorough and consider the views of the child."
- The quality of coordination of and preparation for the inspection was praised throughout by inspectors. Considerable support from leaders across children's services to help staff before meetings with inspectors and through the debriefing sessions afterwards
- High quality analysis and leadership by members of DMT and our acting Principal Social Worker in response to the 12 cases raised with us for formal response
- Recognition of the strength of leadership and experience of new Service Directors joining the team, and that Middlesbrough Children's Services is collaborating more effectively within the region - and starting to be seen as

somewhere strong and experienced leaders and practitioners would choose to work

1.4 Areas for improvement

- 1.4.1 **The extent to which leaders and the workforce are aspirational and ambitious for children in Middlesbrough** was highlighted as an area for improvement. They also highlighted the need to improve how we enable children, young people and their families to actively shape service improvements through participation, engagement and influence.
- 1.4.2 **What we are doing to address this:** This area of improvement reflects two areas of improvement from our improvement plan. Under 1a - Culture Change, we are focusing on strengthening relationships between teams and articulating a strong vision for the service. In 2a - Participation Strategy, we are recruiting to new roles and reviewing all our participation activities to make sure they are meaningful and allow young people and families to co-design services.
- 1.4.3 **The quality of written records for children, young people and families** was highlighted as needing improvement. This area reflects previously identified issues in relation to quality of practice and the impact of quality assurance on improving record keeping and management oversight. I have long highlighted the need for consistency and quality of practice to be improved and, while we have made real improvements recently, the inspectors rightly highlight this as an area for continued focus.
- 1.4.4 **What we are doing to address this:** We have captured the detail of this in priority 10 - Quality Assurance & Practice. We have a new Service Director, Quality Assurance & Practice in place, driving forward change. In our plan, we are focussing on clear perimeters for audit for staff and improving reporting. We will support staff to ensure that written records which reflect children's lives, experiences and needs. This is an area where we are seeing an impact - Ofsted noted that recent audits are child focused, comprehensive, well written and evidence based.
- 1.4.5 **The identification and quality of support to young carers** was raised as an area we need to improve. This became a key line of enquiry during the inspection due to variability of practice and a culture of low expectations.
- 1.4.6 **What we are doing to address this:** We accepted this finding and as a result, we have added this into our priorities for the improvement plan. We will appoint a case-holding practice lead to act as a champion for young carers, across children's services – and in particular children's social care. We will also develop an action plan to upskill staff in identification and support of young carers and incorporate young carers actions into work of the participation steering group.
- 1.4.7 **The quality and impact of management supervision** in progressing children's assessments and plans, including decision-making for children entering care.
- 1.4.8 **What we are doing to address this:** This area of improvement is captured across improvement priority 1 - leadership. We will ensure that all practitioners have routine,

high quality supervision which empowers them to progress support for children.

1.4.9 The exploration and engagement of family networks for children in need of help, care and protection. This was a key line of enquiry during the inspection, in particular during the evidence-gathering for our safeguarding and children in care services.

1.4.10 What we are doing to address this: We have captured this as an explicit focus within updated priorities. We will develop family network procedures and training for practitioners. We will embed family networking in practice expectations and provide support to managers.

1.4.11 The impact of challenge and escalation from independent reviewing officers, including the timeliness of children receiving permanence and life-story work.

1.4.12 What we are doing to address this: This area is captured as a new sub priority within improvement priority: Quality Assurance and Practice and 9d – IROs. The role of IROs is an important element of our improvement plan, and we will ensure quality of records and their challenge of poor practice both improve in order to ensure that their practice has the impact it should. We are refreshing the practice standards to ensure we can model best practice.

1.4.13 In our improvement plan, we are also focusing on measures to:

- Secure permanent positions for key practitioners who are supporting some of our most vulnerable children, e.g. Social Worker working with children in care with the most complex needs; Social Worker leading our work with Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)
- Build on excellent practice in relation to supporting our global majority children in recognition of our diverse population
- Improve system-wide understanding of domestic abuse to improve practice and partnership working
- Creative, preventative practice in relation to younger siblings
- Improve practice in relation to acute family crisis and avoid mislabelling episodes as being linked to homelessness
- Review family time offer and resources to address social work capacity issues

2. THE TIME AHEAD

2.1 I will continue to work to support our foster carers and provide oversight through a period of transition as government reforms are implemented. I spent some time ringing our foster carers recently to thank them for all they do for our young people in Middlesbrough. We will hold a celebration event for foster carers in September and I am looking forward to fosterers being recognised for all they do.

2.2 I will continue to contribute to our Children's Services Improvement Board and work with the board to agree updated improvement plans in response to our recent Ofsted inspection.

- 2.3 I will build on improvements made in our Corporate Parenting Board, ensuring our young people's voices are heard and they have input in shaping the support we give them.
- 2.4 I will continue to provide challenge and oversight of budget and performance through regular meetings alongside the Executive Member for Finance.
- 2.5 I would like to thank all of our staff for their hard work in keeping young people safe and giving them the best start in life.

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EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Theo Furness - Executive Member for Development

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

Place & People

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

1.1 Place Strategy

- 1.1.1 To determine a cohesive strategic direction for Middlesbrough, the Council convened a number of 'anchor institutions' and key businesses to form a Place Leaders Partnership in 2025. Members of the partnership include organisations such as AV Dawson, Behaviour UK, Teesside University, Middlesbrough College, TVCA, Cleveland Police, the NHS – Integrated Care Board, NECC, the Creative Factory, Network Rail and Middlesbrough Council.
- 1.1.2 The Middlesbrough Place Leaders Partnership has brought together a range of independent organisations from public, private and voluntary sectors to develop an overarching strategy to improve the town. This is known as the Middlesbrough Place Strategy.
- 1.1.3 The objectives of Middlesbrough's Place Strategy are co-designed and co-owned with stakeholders across the Town. Middlesbrough Council is one, amongst many, stakeholders who are encouraged to adopt the objectives of the strategy and embed the principles into the working practices and strategic priorities for the long term.
- 1.1.4 Through research and consultation, and having reviewed previous strategies, the group debated how best to influence the future direction of the town. The Place Leaders Partnership agreed that the best way to drive real change was to focus on younger people and the ambition that:

Middlesbrough be the UK's most creative place for young people to live, learn, and realise their future.

- 1.1.5 The definition of young people is intentionally abstract and is not prescriptive to any specific age boundaries – it could mean children in some contexts, young digital

professionals or people at the beginning of their journey in business. The vision is also not designed to exclude any others, but to consider critical growth issues through the eyes of younger people, and to use the perspectives of younger people to drive better outcomes for everyone and shape Middlesbrough for the future.

1.1.6 To inform the direction of the strategy in relation to young people a significant engagement exercise was conducted with over 1,300 younger people, young professionals, parents and carers. Shaped by consultation, six themes provide the focus for decision making, investment, and delivery:

- a) *Developing New Neighbourhoods* - Creating new homes, mixed-use development and future-focused communities in areas with the capacity to support growth. *Neighbourhood Renewal* - Investing in established communities, improving housing, public spaces, local facilities and connectivity, while capitalising on the powerful strengths and identities that already exist.
- b) *Celebrating Digital and Innovation* - Our ambition is for Middlesbrough to be a place where talent is developed, new ideas are tested and innovation creates high-value opportunities for our businesses and residents.
- c) *Driving Investment and Connectivity* - Improving transport, digital networks, grid infrastructure and wayfinding, linking people to opportunities to support the needs of businesses, residents, tech-savvy young people, students and start-ups.
- d) *Reshaping the Town Centre* - The town centre should be a place of possibility. A place where a young person can meet friends, discover something new, study, start a business, experience culture, access services and imagine a future.
- e) *Creating Safe, Green and Vibrant Spaces* - Middlesbrough is a place with safe, green and vibrant spaces, where people feel welcome, confident and connected.
- f) *Prioritising Skills, Education and Employment* - Education is one of Middlesbrough's greatest strengths. Our ambition is to turn that strength into a lasting advantage for the town. Talent should not have to leave Middlesbrough to find opportunity.

1.2 Investment Prospectus

1.2.1 The strategic direction provided by the Place Strategy is supported by the development of the Investment Prospectus. This will act as a strategic funding and lobbying tool in relation to resources but also gives specific detail to both the Town Centre Strategy and the Place Strategy itself. It is a more dynamic document of the ambitions presented, as projects will inevitably evolve as they are either funded or superseded by others.

1.2.2 Early publications of the Investment Prospectus will be limited to how specific it can be with respect to commercial assets. There is a need within the strategy to acquire, demolish or remodel certain types of floorspace but the balance will need to be

found within the Investment Prospectus between providing clarity and unduly influencing the values of targeted properties.

1.2.3 The key projects featured in the Investment Prospectus include:

- a) The development of a new community with over 2,000 new homes at Middlehaven
- b) The development of a new community at Gresham
- c) Removing redundant retail floorspace and focusing premium retail activity around the Hillstreet Centre
- d) Removing significant amounts of end-of-life office floorspace
- e) Providing 'Out of Town' retail opportunities within the town centre
- f) Development of a major new theatre venue on the Civic Centre site
- g) Development of a new hotel in Gurney House to bolster the existing cluster
- h) Making the town centre a creative canvas to be 'playable' for young people
- i) Creation of major urban spaces to replace redundant retail/office floorspace and improve connectivity
- j) Development of high-quality bus Super Stops to change how people use public transport
- k) Creation of a major Taxi Hub to provide taxi users with a better experience
- l) Development of a cultural department store concept known as 'House of Art'
- m) Establishment of an Academic Centre of Excellence for Surgery at JCUH
- n) Provision of major new housing site opportunities at Newham Hall
- o) Supporting the commercial purchase of existing residential empty properties

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EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Peter Gavigan - Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

- *A healthy place - Protect and improve our environment*
- *Safe and resilient communities - Improved transport and digital connectivity*

Update:

1: 24th July. Site Visit, Longlands: A resident requested clearer road markings to improve safety.

2: 31st July. Site Visit, Acklam Cemetery and Teesside Crematorium to consider future plans.

3: 3rd August. "Buddy Benches" photoshoot in Linthorpe with Councillor Storey.

4: 13th August: Demonstration of "The Glutton", the electric urban waste cleaner. Photoshoot with Mayor Cooke outside MIMA.

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Highways and Infrastructure

Transport Planning and Road Safety

1.1 Traffic Signals/UTMC

1.1.1 Traffic Signal Junction upgrades 2026/27:

1.1.2 There is the potential refurbishment of several traffic signals across Middlesbrough to be completed in 26/27, sites have yet to be agreed.

Pedestrian crossing upgrades 2026/27

1.2 Highways

1.2.1 Verge replacement and footway improvement work programmes have been developed, and we are underway with implementation of the programme for 2026/27.

1.2.2 Verge works complete so far are 1 of the planned 13 schemes.

1.2.3 Footway Works complete so far are 2 of the planned 21 schemes.

Bridges and Structures

1.3 Transporter Bridge

1.3.1 Preliminary design of the repair and strengthening works are progressing well. A contract for ECI (early contractor involvement) has been awarded and we are in the stand still period before any announcement can be made. This contract can be carried forward to construction, subject to funding. Completion of preliminary design works are expected in Q4 of 2026, detailed design will follow in 2027/28. Clarification of funding streams available for the detailed design phase is required to prevent project delay.

1.4 Newport Approach Road Bridge & Structures

1.4.1 Future programme: Works to replace/rebuild the footways on the main part of the approach structures will be programmed over the next 2-3 years subject to funding.

1.4.2 Temporary netting is required to the underneath of the footways to ensure the safety of the rail infrastructure – these works will be undertaken in collaboration with Network Rail, and we are negotiating rail possession with a works start date to be confirmed. Consultation with Network Rail has started and is ongoing.

1.5 Longlands Road overbridge

1.5.1 Middlesbrough Council has submitted a bid for funding from the DfT's Structures fund with the announcement expected this Autumn. If successful, the bridge will be replaced in its entirety in 2029. The council have also started to engage with potential contractors ahead of the funding announcement.

1.6 A66 Structures

1.6.1 A contract for repairs to several structures along the A66 in Middlesbrough has been awarded to WSP. The contract documents are currently awaiting signature. The A66 programme will take place over three years. Year 1 2026-27 will see abnormal loads assessments and options reports for the works. Year 2 2027-28 will be the design phase, and Year 3 2028-29 will be the construction phase.

1.7 A174 Marton Interchange Overbridge (A172 Stokesley Rd, Marton)

1.7.1 The A174 Marton Interchange's works will deliver:

- Replacing the bridge deck joints
- Re-waterproofing and resurfacing
- Concrete repairs to the abutments

- Alterations to the footways with addition of new pedestrian guard rails
- Installation of a higher 1.8m parapet
- Renewal of the existing traffic signal junction

1.7.2 The works started on 2nd March 2026, with completion expected in early September.

1.7.3 Further information can be sought from the Council's web site at the following link:
[A174 Marton Interchange Overbridge refurbishment | Middlesbrough Council](#)

1.8 Linby & Belle Vue Footbridges

1.8.1 Painting; installation of suicide prevention parapets/cages; structural repairs to piers and decks; new bearings; concrete repairs; other repairs; and install lighting. The ground investigation works are complete, and the project work will progress in 2026/2027.

1.9 Coulby Newham Footbridges

1.9.1 The Coulby Newham Footbridges by the Parkway are due to have their parapets replaced and minor refurbishment works in early 2027. Documents for the Tender process are currently being drafted.

1.10 Carriageways

1.10.1 The micro asphalt schemes are completed barring several schemes off Levick Crescent which were paused due to voids being found underneath the carriageways. We have repaired the voids and will use a different product to complete these schemes as micro asphalt is no longer suitable due to the underlying condition.

1.10.2 The following resurfacing schemes are to be undertaken in 2026-27 are:

ROAD NAME	LOCATION DETAIL	LENGTH m	TREATMENT	NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA
A66 Eastbound Newport Slip	Full Slip Road	292	Resurfacing	North
Acklam Road	Malvern Drive to Staindrop Drive	506	Resurfacing	West
Alan Peacock Way	Roundabout to James Cook Car Park	n/a	Installation of Traffic Calming	South
Ashford Avenue	Full Street	306	Resurfacing	West
Aster Close	Full Street	78	Resurfacing	West
Brass Castle Lane	New Development to Zebra Dixons Bank	360	Resurfacing	South
Briscoe Way Speed Tables	Junctions with Spaunton & Pexton Closes	53	Resurfacing	South
Corby Avenue	Full Street	174	Resurfacing	West
Cumberland Road Phs 1	Southwell Road to Phillida Terrace	167	Resurfacing	North

Cumberland Road Phs 2	Half Lane Width Outside 98-100 Shops	23	Resurfacing	North
Cypress Road Phs 1	Community Centre to Rosewood Court	291	Resurfacing	South
De Brus Park	Number 6 to Road End	206	Resurfacing	South
Dixons Bank	Stainton way to St Cuthbert Avenue	520	Resurfacing	South
Downside Road	Full Street	320	Resurfacing	West
Eden Road Phase 1	Easson Street to Lambton Road	68	Resurfacing	West
Endsleigh Drive	Full Street	310	Resurfacing	West
Glebe Road	Full Street	159	Resurf & Renew T Calming	North
Glendale Road	Number 74 to Kieth Road	814	Resurfacing	West
Glendale Road	Full Street	n/a	Installation of Traffic Calming	West
Jubilee St South/ Coronation St	Full Streets	151	Resurfacing	East
Ladgate Lane/ Westwick Terrace	At Junction and Westwick Terrace	110	Resurf & Renew T Calming	West
Ladgate Lane Phs 2	At Entrance to Ormesby Hall	n/a	Installation of Traffic Calming	West
Laura Street	Park Lane to Granville Rd	28	Resurfacing	North
Mallowdale	Stainton way to Cookgate	80	Resurfacing	South
Maltby Street	Beaumont Rd to Thornton St	76	Resurfacing	East
Mandale Roundabout	Both Overbridges	170	Resurfacing	West
Oxfield	Full Street	95	Resurfacing	South
Pexton Close	Full Street	97	Resurfacing	South
Phillida Terrace	Vincent St to Cumberland Rd	186	Resurfacing	North
Priory Road Acklam	Full Street	170	Resurfacing	West
Ravenscroft Avenue	Side 45 Emerson Ave to O/S Number 41	219	Resurfacing	North
Seamer Close	Full Street	170	Resurfacing	West
South Bank Road Phase 1	Council Boundary to Light Column PPR34	53	Resurfacing	North
Spaunton Close	Cul -De-Sac 9 to 18, and 27 to 35	108	Resurfacing	South
Stainton Way	West Bound Mallowdale to Shevington Dr	157	Resurfacing	South
Stoneyhurst Avenue	Full Street	177	Resurfacing	West
The Fairway Roundabout	Full RAB and arms to crossing points	93	Resurfacing	South
Trimdon Avenue Phs 2	Blue Bell Beck to Acklam Road	453	Resurfacing	West
Trimdon Avenue	Full Street	n/a	Installation of Traffic Calming	West

1.10.3 The contract for the works is imminent.

1.10.4 We will also undertake investigative core samples at the following locations to ascertain future treatment requirements. The core sampling will be undertaken by Middlesbrough Labs Service.

Core Sampling In Addition To Resurfacing schemes		
Easterside Road & 2-6 Deighton Road	Full Street Easterside Road And Outside 2-6 Deighton Road	Undertake Core Samples
Hutton Road	Outside 28 To 76 (New Devt To Highfield Road)	Undertake Core Samples
Southwell Road	Full Street	Undertake Core Samples
Unnamed Street (End Macbean St To Thornton St)	Between Macbean Street & Thornton St North Ormesby	Undertake Core Samples
Bilsdale Road	Full Road	Undertake Core Samples
The Greenway	Outside Numbers 113-119	Core Sampling/ Ground Testing
Grange Road	Side Of Library To Fountains Court Bend	Undertake Core Samples
Granville Road	Laura Street To Linthorpe Road	Undertake Core Samples
Crescent Road	Worcester Street To Costa Street	Undertake Core Samples
Penrith Road	Delemere Rd To Ladgate Grange	Undertake Core Samples
Greenacres	Full Street But Particularly Outside Number 3	Undertake Core Samples
Boynton Road	Full Street	Undertake Core Samples
Cleveland Drive	Outside Number 7a	Undertake Core Samples
Toronto Crescent	Full Street	Undertake Core Samples

1.11 Flood Management

1.11.1 The Gully Cleansing Programmes have been reviewed for 2026/2027, and we are working through cleaning the Gullies in line with the programme's schedules. A number of longstanding flooding issues have recently been resolved which have affected some key routes and these will be monitored. We continue to work proactively on wider flood risk management through joint working with the EA and NWL as well as our knowledge of the wider drainage network.

1.11.2 The introduction of the new Becks & Drainage team has seen some immediate improvements in a number of known hotspots and has ensured that the Grills to culverts are routinely inspected and cleared ensuring that flood risk is reduced.

- 1.11.3 We are continuing to work through our historical information to update our records and the new surface water flood maps to identify any areas affected by flooding and what action can be done to reduce the risk. Work also continues reviewing and updating the Flood Risk Asset Register and in identifying potential flood risk of Culverts.

1.12 Public Rights of Way

- 1.12.1 We are continuing with the survey of the currently recorded Public Rights of Way network and identifying furniture improvements and surfacing works to be carried out during 2026/2027.

1.13 Highway Licences

- 1.13.1 Work continues to make more applications available online along with payments. Following the migration of highway licence management to our updated Asset Management Software System we are looking to expand its use and recording of historic information.

1.14 Street Lighting

- 1.14.1 The 2026/27 column replacement programme is now underway.
- 1.14.2 We are currently installing new street lighting on Stainton Way, Marton and are due to start installing columns on Alan Peacock Way in the next few weeks.

2 Environmental Enforcement

All information within this report relates to activity between 1/7/26 – 31/7/26

- 2.1 Middlesbrough Council Environmental Enforcement Wardens are responsible for investigating all matters of environmental crime. This includes Fly Tipping, Littering, Waste Presentation at both domestic and commercial premises. The team are also responsible for responding to enforcement of untaxed and abandoned vehicles, stray dogs and matters relating to repairing or selling vehicles on a highway.
- 2.2 The team when at full capacity consist of 1 Environmental Enforcement and Pest Control Service Delivery Manager, 9 x Environmental Enforcement Officers and 6 x Waste Operatives that form the flying squad. We will have 6 Pest Control Technicians which will form 1x Senior Pest Control Technician and 3 x Pest Control Technicians with a further 2 technicians awaiting to be recruited with a start date week commencing 14th September 2026. We have a 1 Environmental and 1 Pest Control business support officer that assists with allocation of service requests, invoicing, release of untaxed and abandoned vehicles and taking calls from the public relating to our service area.
- 2.3 In the month of July, the team have investigated 1649 service requests, these are made of 875 waste related, 146 vehicle related and 566 pest control related reports for open public spaces and domestic visits.

2.4 The Pest Control Team launched a new and free domestic service for the residents which commenced on the 6th of July 2026. The team has since received 491 services requests for the following pest types:

- Rats – 370
- Mice – 47
- Bed bugs – 11
- Cockroaches – 4
- Wasps – 59



[Free pest control service set to be launched in Middlesbrough | Middlesbrough Council](#)

2.5 In comparison to the month of July 2025 the team investigated a total of 748 service requests. These requests were made up of 538 waste related, 113 vehicles related, 45 Dog related and 52 Pest Control related. There has been a significant increase to service demand with a total of 901 jobs.

2.6 Actions and outcomes for July 2026:

- 10 stray dogs recovered – 5 returned to owners
- 20 vehicles seized for being either untaxed or abandoned
- 4 Fixed penalty notice issued for various Environmental offences
- 1 prosecution in the courts for a littering offence on 8th July 2026 to an individual in the Hemlington area of Middlesbrough, which resulted in £220 Fine, £88VS, £563.50 Costs – Total £871.50 to be paid within 28 days and a collection order made
- 1 case file prepared and passed to legal for review and listed for court in August 2026.



2.7 Waste Services

2.7.1 The Waste Collection Service continues to make strong progress in delivering Middlesbrough Council's new recycling reforms, with early performance indicators demonstrating that the changes are having a positive impact across the service.

2.7.2 The first four weeks following implementation have provided encouraging results. We have seen a significant reduction in contamination rates within our recycling streams, indicating that residents are increasingly separating their waste correctly and engaging with the new collection arrangements. This improvement has also

resulted in a notable reduction in disposal costs, generating efficiencies for the Council and supporting our wider environmental and financial objectives.

- 2.7.3 In addition, for the first time in many years, the service has experienced an increase in the rebate received for fibre materials. This reflects improvements in the quality of recyclable materials being collected and presents a positive indication that the reforms are delivering tangible benefits both operationally and financially.
- 2.7.4 Whilst progress has been positive, there remain some challenges. We are still awaiting delivery of our four new food waste Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs). The absence of these vehicles is currently impacting the availability of onboard technology that will support the efficient delivery and monitoring of food waste collections. We are currently anticipating their arrival within the next four weeks and expect this to further enhance service delivery and operational performance.
- 2.7.5 Resident feedback regarding the new waste and recycling services has been overwhelmingly positive, with many residents recognising the benefits of the changes introduced. However, some operational issues remain, particularly concerning residents placing incorrect materials within recycling and waste containers. Addressing this will continue to be a key focus over the coming weeks.
- 2.7.6 The service is working closely with residents, elected members and the wider community to provide ongoing education, guidance and support to improve recycling behaviours and reduce contamination further. Through continued engagement and communication, we are confident that these issues will continue to improve as the new arrangements become more established.
- 2.7.7 Overall, the early outcomes from the recycling reforms are very encouraging. The service is delivering measurable improvements in recycling quality, reducing disposal costs, increasing material value returns and maintaining strong public support, while continuing to address operational challenges and prepare for the next phase of service development.

2.8 Area Care

- 2.8.1 Area Care ceased grass mowing in July due to the drought conditions and staff concentrated on other works such as strimming and spraying areas that required attention. Mowing re-commenced on 17th August as the grass in some areas required cutting, we will not be cutting areas that are still struggling with drought however we need to plan ahead as we have had a small amount of rainfall, and some areas are greening up.
- 2.8.2 Contractors are still helping with the mowing of large areas and main road sweeping.
- 2.8.3 Winter works schedules have been updated in preparation for the cease of grass mowing which is usually around the 31st October.

Transport Planning and Road Safety

2.9 Road Safety

- On-going liaison with Cleveland Casualty Reduction Group, North East Road Safety Partnership and other stakeholders
- Attended road safety promotion events at Middlesbrough College and several primary schools
- Continue to support schools who have 'junior road safety officers' (organised a town and wider region wide campaign on seatbelt safety)
- Workshop resources/plans given to secondary schools
- Resources distributed regarding legalities of e-bikes and scooters
- Identified 5 schools to re-implement school travel plans

2.10 School Crossing Patrols

- Recruitment ongoing
- The implementation of casual staff has made a positive difference to being able to cover sites during periods of absence (ie awaiting recruitment checks to be completed)

2.11 Capital Programme 2025/26 – Scheme Updates

- Ormesby Beck Cycleway Phase 1 – Works ongoing and progressing well
- Hollyhurst Avenue / Holmwood Avenue – Civil engineering works substantially complete; installation of the bus stop remains outstanding prior to completion of the final wearing course

2.12 Members' Small Schemes 2025/26

- Alan Peacock Way Lighting / Traffic Calming – to be delivered
- Kingsbridge Crescent Path – Works close to completion
- Glendale Road (LJ/CW) – To be delivered alongside planned resurfacing works
- Stockton Road / Longford Street – Scheme progressing
- Trimdon Avenue Phase 1 & Phase 2 Speed Humps – To be programmed

2.13 Capital Programme 2026/27 & Members' Small Schemes

2.13.1 The 2026/27 Capital Programme and associated Members' Small Schemes are currently in the preliminary stages of development, including initial design, feasibility, and prioritisation activities. All schemes are expected to be delivered within the current financial year.

2.13.2 More detailed progress updates, including confirmed programmes and delivery timelines, will be provided as part of the Quarter 2 reporting cycle.

2.14 Linthorpe Road Cycleway removal

- Scheme completed bar:
- Albert Terrace re-opening (issues regarding utilities)
- Bus stops at Victoria Road (awaiting supplier to complete)

2.15 Newport Road sustainable transport corridor

- Awaiting TVCA to complete business case. Aiming to commence October 2026

2.16 Green Lane Sustainable transport corridor

- Scheme to be considered at Executive in October

2.17 Marton Road Sustainable transport corridor

- Design on-going
- To consult in 2026 (TVCA lead)
- Ormesby Beck route element - undertaking Environmental Impact Assessment to enhance delivery rate from TVCA funding

2.18 *Stainton Way*

- To be considered at September Executive

2.19 *Longlands Road*

- To be considered at October Executive

EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Nicky Walker - Executive Member for Finance

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

Delivering Best Value

Update:

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

1.1 *Budget timetable*

1.1.1A recent meeting of members of the Constitution and Member Development Committee examined the budget setting process and considered if the constitution provided for ample opportunities for all members to have an input in that process and at the budget setting meeting itself, including the asking of questions and contributing to the debate.

1.1.2 Some queries were also raised on the budget timetable, so I include below the key dates which were part of an update of the Medium Term Financial Plan and Budget Timetable that I presented in a report to the Executive in July 2026. I have highlighted:

- Key meetings of the Executive and Council in yellow, and
- All member briefings in green.

Date	Responsible	Activity
July 2026 – January 2027	Executive Member for Finance / S151 Officer	Cross Party Engagement and Oversight, including Monthly Financial Resilience Working Group meetings.
June 2026 – November 2026	LMT / Executive	Development of budget proposals – Fortnightly PDG
July 2026	Elected Mayor / S151 Officer	All Elected Members Briefing – Budget timetable and approach
31 st July 2026	LMT / Executive	Revenue - High level submissions for consideration and potential inclusion in the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

31 st July 2026	LMT / Executive	Capital - High level proposals to be submitted for early consideration, prioritisation, and alignment with emerging MTFP and capital strategy assumptions
7 th October 2026	Executive	Executive Report – 2027/28 budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2027/28 to 2030/31 Update
October 2026	Elected Mayor / S151 Officer	All Elected Members Briefing – MTFP update and 2027/28 budget development
30 th September 2026	LMT / Executive	Revenue - Detailed submissions, including full financial workings and supporting evidence
30 th September 2026	LMT / Executive	Detailed capital submission including full financial appraisals, funding sources, deliverability, and risk assessments, to be submitted via Finance Business Partners using agreed templates.
October 2026 (subject to confirmation)	Finance	Local Government Finance Policy Statement (Published by Government)
11 th November 2026	Executive	Approval of Council Tax Base for 2027/28
9 th December 2026	Executive	Executive Report- 2027/28 Draft Budget Report and MTFP to 2030/31
10 th December 2026 – 14 th January 2027	Finance	Budget consultations period with public, political groups, OSB, Business community and other stakeholders
December 2026	Elected Mayor / S151 Officer	All Elected Members Briefing – 2027/28 Draft Budget Proposals
Late December 2026 (date subject to confirmation)	Finance	Consider Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement and effect on budget proposals
January 2027	Elected Mayor / S151 Officer / LMT	Amend budget proposals considering consultation, feedback, updated officer advise and consider any alternative budget proposals.
Late January 2027 / early February 2027	Elected Mayor / S151 Officer	All Elected Member Briefing – 2027/28 Budget Proposals
Early February 2027 (date subject to confirmation)	Finance	Consider Final Local Government Finance Settlement
3 rd February 2027	Executive	Executive Report – 2027/28 Revenue Budget, 2027/28 Council Tax, revised MTFP to 2030/31, and Capital Strategy 2027/28
24 th February 2027	Council	Full Council – to consider and set 2027/28 Revenue Budget, 2027/28 Council Tax, revised MTFP to 2030/31 and Capital Strategy 2027/28

- 1.1.3 As well as the briefings for all elected members shown in the table above, the Financial Resilience Working Group comprising cross party membership representation will be re-established and will play a key role in the budget setting process. In addition the Council's Corporate Director of Finance (s151 Officer) has agreed to meet all political groups and those members who are not in a political group to discuss the budget and any suggestions they may have relating to it.

1.2 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update

1.2.1 In an update within a report on the MTFP I presented to the Executive in July. It was highlighted that whilst the funding position has improved, the Council continues to face significant and ongoing financial challenges primarily driven by demand-led pressure and external cost factors, most of which are facing many other councils. Key risks to the MTFP include:

- Demand pressures in Adult and Children's Social Care, where increasing complexity of need, workforce pressures and market conditions continue to drive

costs, with further risks associated with potential future policy changes such as the Adult Social Care Fair Pay Agreement;

- Placement sufficiency and cost volatility in Children's Services, alongside continued reliance on agency staffing and emergency accommodation, although mitigating actions are being implemented through the Directorate Improvement Plan and workforce strategy;
- Waste Service pressures, including cost increases in waste disposal and the introduction of new statutory requirements under Simpler Recycling where funding remains uncertain;
- Income risks, particularly in relation to commercial property holdings, where market conditions continue to affect occupancy and rental income; and
- Future costs pressures and investment requirements, including emerging digital and service delivery initiatives, where feasibility work is ongoing but may result in future revenue commitments.

1.2.2 In addition, there remains uncertainty within key elements of the funding system, including business rates retention arrangements, the longer-term position beyond the current settlement period and wider national reform areas such as SEND funding.

1.3 Revenue Budget-1st Quarter Outturn

1.3.1 In July and August, I chaired the Quarter One Member and Officer Integrated Performance and Budget Clinics which were completed across all directorates, attended by the Mayor, CEO, relevant executive portfolio holders, directors and officers, as well as the Corporate Director of Finance and the Head of Financial Planning & Business Partnering.

1.3.2 The Council's approved net revenue budget for 2026/27 is £200.840m. Following the integrated performance and budget clinics, I am due to present a report to the Executive on 02 September on the financial position at the end of Quarter 1. This projects the forecast year-end position if no further action is taken of a **£8.479m (4.22%)** pressure/overspend after the proposed use of corporate contingencies and other budgets. This should not be viewed as the anticipated year-end outturn as further work will be undertaken with the aim of mitigating the current forecast pressure and members may recall that the year-end position has not been the same in previous years as the Quarter 1 forecast.

1.3.3 The most significant pressures, as they are nationally and have been in Middlesbrough for many years, continue to be within Children's Social Care £8.472m driven primarily by agency staffing, emergency resource workers, increasing numbers of children looked after and high-cost external placements. The number of children looked after has increased steadily over the last 12 months, rising from 493 in June 2025 to 541 in June 2026, with increasing complexity of need contributing to higher placement and support costs.

1.3.4 A comprehensive Children's Improvement Plan has been developed to address the areas for further improvement identified through the recent inspection of Children's Services. Whilst these actions are expected to improve outcomes and reduce financial pressures over time, it is recognised that many of the anticipated benefits will be realised over the medium term rather than generate immediate in-year savings. Work is also ongoing regarding examining the current staff establishment within Children's Social Care.

- 1.3.5 Additional pressures are also forecast within Environment, Communities and Culture £1.342m, Regeneration & Housing £0.488m and Adult Social Care & Health £0.199m. These pressures are partially offset by favourable positions within Central Budgets, Finance and the Chief Executives Department.
- 1.3.6 This forecast represents the position before the full impact of planned mitigating actions, strengthened financial controls and Financial Recovery Plans are realised. The Leadership Management Team and Executive acknowledge the severity of the current forecast outturn position and Directors are required to identify and implement immediate actions to reduce forecast overspends, improve financial sustainability and strengthen financial resilience.
- 1.3.7 Directors are now required to prepare Financial Recovery Plans that identify measurable in-year recovery actions and mitigating measures to improve the forecast outturn position. In addition, Monthly Member and Officer review meetings are being held to provide enhanced oversight of the Children's Social Care financial position, monitor delivery of the Financial Recovery Plan and support the development of sustainable medium-term solutions to workforce, placement and demand-led pressures. These meetings are intended to ensure that immediate recovery actions are progressed whilst informing future Medium-Term Financial Plan assumptions and longer-term service improvement activity.
- 1.3.8 The Council has achieved significant improvement in its financial position over the last 2-3 years, through our own improved financial management and supported by a significantly improved 2026/27 financial settlement relative to previous years. However there remains an ongoing need to maintain strong financial discipline in order to manage expected overspends and meet the Council's Reserves Policy. The forecast for Quarter One 2026/27 demonstrates the importance of delivering approved savings and maintaining robust governance and financial control arrangements.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Ian Blades - Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities. I have focused the updates on the 4 Neighbourhood areas North, East, South and West and this report highlights some of the initiatives and success of the past month.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

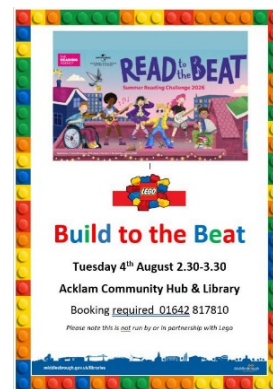
- *Neighbourhoods*
- *Neighbourhood Safety*
- *Community Cohesion*

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

1.1 Summer Activities for children and families across Libraries and Community Hubs over the Summer

- 1.1.1 A diverse programme of activity took place across all libraries and hubs. Events have been fully booked and extremely well attended.
- 1.1.2 Many events are linked to the Summer Reading Challenge, to encourage children to continue reading during the summer break, following the 'Read to the Beat' theme of this year's challenge.
- 1.1.3 Events included music workshops with Musinc, storytelling through music, children aged 4+ got a chance to play musical instruments and a build to the beat Lego session at Acklam.
- 1.1.4 A fun slime workshop took place at Hemlington Library & Hub.



- 1.1.5 At the Central Library on the 7th August, popular author James Harris will run an interactive workshop for children.
- 1.1.6 Acklam Library are also hosting a bedtime story competition – the winners will be invited to a pyjama party at the library.
- 1.1.7 Marton Library hosted a bee morning, to give people a chance to see bees in an observation hive, and a chance to taste their honey, and enjoy bee related crafts.



1.2 Adult activities

- 1.2.1 Marton Library are also hosting a men's group to alleviate loneliness and isolation.
- 1.2.2 The Rekindle Research Group had a packed audience at the "Middlesbrough Revealed" session at Acklam Community Hub and Library on the 31st of July, showcasing photographs of Middlesbrough never seen before.



- 1.2.3 In the month of July 2026 over 6,000 people visited Central Library with over 1,200 adult books, over 2,000 children's books and over 170 teenage books being issued in that month too. Out E-Books are also proving popular with almost 500 being issued in July, almost 400 e-audio books, over 460 e-magazines and almost 550 e-newspapers.
- 1.2.4 When compared to July 25, issue figures for E-materials, show an overall 35.4% increase in July 26. Let's get the message out there... however you like to read, we've got the format for you! Let's get Middlesbrough reading more.

1.3 North Middlesbrough

- 1.3.1 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour:
- 14 Criminal Behaviour Order Obtained
 - 14 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC) issued to young people in partnership with Police
 - Criminal Behaviour Order bundles being prepared for 2 prolific beggars

- 23 Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPW) and 6 Community Protection Notice's issued
- Business engagement in Town Centre and Linthorpe Ward
- Ongoing ABCs, warnings and CPWs in relation to ASB
- 4 Civil Injunction breach/leading on to custodial sentence

1.4 The Potteries – Linthorpe

- 1.4.1 The neighbourhood team have been engaging with residents at The Potteries to help improve the situation at the development of flats. A resident meeting had highlighted concerns and the team worked with the property management company, PCSO's and residents to find a solution to the issues and then worked with the management company to ensure that the solutions were implemented.
- 1.4.2 Door locks needed changing (as some were broken and there had been issues with youths gaining access and causing problems), the bin stores were full of fly tipping and the main gates were broken – the site was unsecure and being used by shoppers and parents during school drop off times.
- 1.4.3 In early August the bin stores have been fixed and all outer door locks changed. Residents have been given new keys. The gates on the bin stores have locks on them with a code (shared with residents and waste teams).



1.5 Middlesbrough Mela 15th/16th August 2026

- 1.5.1 The Neighbourhood Team joined with several of our volunteers to showcase the work of the Middlesbrough North Team, hubs and library provision at Middlesbrough Mela.
- 1.5.2 The stall was supported by The National Literacy Trust who provided books for us to give out to people who came to talk to the team. The weekend was busy, seeing almost 500 people engage with the team.
- 1.5.3 Our volunteers were excellent at completing surveys with those residents from Middlesbrough North and valuable information was gathered. The atmosphere was extremely positive, and we look forward to attending again next year.



1.6 East Middlesbrough

- 1.6.1 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour:

- The Neighbourhood team worked hard to respond to the illegal encampment on Penrith Rd on a playing field which was dealt with swiftly
- Problem property on Kings Road – worked with landlord and the property has been vacated and secured
- During the past month, we have seen a significant reduction in reports of ASB at the Overdale Rd/Sandringham play park area. Encouragingly, there have been no reports of fires or other ASB-related incidents
- Proactive Warden patrols at Norfolk Shops and Morrisons have continued to deliver positive results, with only 3 reports of begging received over the past 6 weeks. Reports of youth-related ASB have also reduced significantly, with several local businesses providing positive feedback about the improvements they have seen in the area
- Involved in Op Artemis with Police – 2 off road bikes and a quad bike seized. VR Knife Crime presentation was delivered to Outwood Ormesby & Lift Academy

1.7 Community Development East

- 1.7.1 As part of the Thorntree Community Action Day, partners came together to deliver a range of activities aimed at improving the local environment and engaging with residents. Children from Thorntree Primary School and Outwood Academy Ormesby took part in a litter-picking event in Thorntree Park, supported by dedicated caretakers who helped inspire the next generation of Junior Caretakers.



- 1.7.2 Community engagement included door knocking on Barrington Crescent, business visits to Beresford Shops, and a multi-agency cohesion pop-up event involving Street Wardens, PCSOs and Youth Focus North East. Thirteen Group carried out garden inspections across the estate, while a community skip, generously provided by Cleveland Fire Brigade, was made available behind Thorntree Cemetery to help residents dispose of unwanted waste. In addition, work was undertaken to clear vegetation along the Black Path at Spencerbeck, helping to improve the appearance and accessibility of the area.



- 1.7.3 Thorntree Primary School Festival - Our Community Cohesion Officers attended the Thorntree Primary School Festival, engaging with pupils and families throughout the event. As part of the activities, officers carried out Pride in Place surveys, encouraging young people to share their views, ideas and aspirations for their local area. The feedback gathered will help inform future community projects and contribute to plans for upcoming investment in Thorntree, ensuring that residents and young people have a voice in shaping improvements within their neighbourhood.



1.8 South Middlesbrough

1.8.1 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour:

- Partnership work is helping to tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental issues across South Middlesbrough
- Extra patrols have taken place around the Parkway Centre following reports of anti-social behaviour and enforcement action has been taken against a number of young people
- One youth has been served an Acceptable Behaviour Contract, which sets out expectations for their future conduct which if broken, can result in further legal action
- Work is progressing to issue civil injunctions - powerful, court-backed orders to deal with those causing antisocial behaviour - to three other youths
- Targeted patrols at Hemlington Lake involving our neighbourhood team, police colleagues and the Environment Agency has also resulted in action being taken against illegal fishing, anti-social behaviour and other offences
- Two £300 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued for unlicensed fishing and four warning notices were issued
- And a new Environmental Safety Officer has joined the South Neighbourhood Team to strengthen its response to environmental crime such as fly-tipping and littering. Several cases are now progressing through the courts

1.8.2 Youth Services Expand in Marton:

- Young people in Marton are benefiting from a pledge to bring youth services to every corner of the town
- Dedicated activities for children and young people will be set up in each of the borough's 20 wards as part of the Middlesbrough Childhood Guarantee

- The MFC Foundation's Youth Bus has now launched in Marton to provide regular outreach sessions
- The mobile youth club will visit Marton Community Centre, Stewart Park, the Stokesley Road shopping area and key routes used by young people travelling home from school
- The sessions, which will run through the summer holidays, provide a short-term solution in two areas with little or no youth provision
- Organisations are now being identified to deliver longer-term services in both wards and in other areas of need across Middlesbrough
- The Youth Bus provides young people with a safe place to meet, take part in activities and build positive relationships with experienced youth workers
- Foundation staff engage and gain an understanding of what young people would like to do in their area. The bus can accommodate video game competitions and other activities, depending on the location and attendance level

1.9 Neighbourhood Caretakers South

1.9.1 Working across the area, they contributed to clearing vegetation, removing litter and carrying out maintenance work on the newly reopened 5k and 8k walking and cycling route through Coulby Newham, a project led by Middlesbrough Erimus Rotary Club.



1.9.2 The route links a number of local landmarks including Hemlington Lake, Fairy Dell and Coulby Newham, following a mixture of traffic-free paths and quieter roads.

1.10 West Middlesbrough

1.10.1 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour:

- Three off-road bike warning letters were issued to residents in response to reports and concerns relating to the use of off-road bikes within local neighbourhoods. This included one letter issued in Saltersgill and two letters issued within the Grove Hill/Longlands area. The incidents were reported and shared with Thirteen to ensure they were aware of the concerns and any appropriate tenancy-related actions is also being considered
- A young person identified as being involved in anti-social behaviour within the Grove Hill area has been issued with an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) to address concerns raised and to encourage positive behaviour moving forward. This intervention forms part of ongoing partnership work to tackle anti-social behaviour, support local communities, and improve the quality of life for residents
- In Clairville Common, multiple intelligence forms have been submitted to Cleveland Police regarding individuals riding off-road bikes in and around the area. The information provided has helped to build a clearer picture of the ongoing issues and support enforcement activity
- In response, Cleveland Police have utilised drone technology to assist with monitoring and identifying those involved in the illegal use of off-road bikes. In

addition, the Proactive Team has been carrying out targeted operations and patrols within the area to address the concerns raised by residents. This ongoing partnership approach aims to reduce anti-social behaviour, improve community safety, and provide reassurance to local residents affected by off-road bike activity

1.11 Grove hill community fun day – 10/08/26

1.11.1 The event provided accessible activities for local families while creating valuable opportunities for residents to engage with support services and community organisations in an informal and welcoming environment. It demonstrated strong partnership working and significantly increased the visibility and awareness of local services within the community. Approximately 350 local residents attended, coming together to enjoy a range of free and low-cost activities that promoted community cohesion, wellbeing, and social inclusion.



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EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Jan Ryles - Executive Member for Public Health

DATE OF MEETING: 09 September 2026

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

A healthy place:

- *Improve life chances of our residents by responding to health inequalities*
- *Promote inclusivity for all*
- *Reduce poverty*

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

1.1. Creating Healthy Environments Programme

- 1.1.1. **The Welcome to Breastfeed Scheme** continues to be promoted across communities with a wide variety of venues signing up to the scheme.
- 1.1.2. **Breastfeeding Boroughs** – infant feeding research is being commissioned to identify any gaps across services which provide infant feeding support across Middlesbrough.
- 1.1.3. **Public Health E-Learning Hub** – approval has been granted from PH DMT to commission a new E-Learning Hub for the whole of PH to utilise in increasing awareness and knowledge of PH priorities and workstreams. Currently awaiting approval from the Technical Design Authority to proceed with procurement.
- 1.1.4. **MUST** - The Managing Undernutrition South Tees (MUST) Service is now fully implemented in all but 1 disability and mental health care homes in Middlesbrough. The final home is in the process of implementation.

1.2. Health Protection Programme

- 1.2.1. Public Health have been working with young people to co-produce sexual health awareness videos which will be launched during Sexual Health Week 14th-20th September and to support the regional Elephant in the Room campaign promoting condom use and STI awareness in under 25's. The Elephant in the Room is a regional resource funded by the Directors of Public Health and the ICB.

- 1.2.2. The HIV Prevention and Support Service Pilot which launched in April 2026, has delivered 12 peer support meetings, supported people to access and re-engage with HIV treatment working closely with James Cook University Hospital, and presented its work at a regional HIV conference. The service is also working with our Drug and Alcohol services to develop a South Tees chemsex training programme for frontline staff (Chemsex refers to the use of specific drugs before or during sexual activity).
- 1.2.3. Additional developments include a more consistent and accessible service offer for people involved in sex work, helping to reduce barriers to support and improve outcomes.
- 1.2.4. Following the syphilis care pathway work, Public Health have been working in partnership with UKHSA and James Cook University Hospital to secure funding to pilot a universal opt out testing for syphilis in the third trimester. The pilot is in response to the high rates of syphilis in Middlesbrough which are highest in heterosexual females.
- 1.2.5. Work is progressing on the South Tees Sexual Health Strategy with a multi-disciplinary reference group meeting every 6 weeks, providing assurance.

1.3. *III Health Prevention Programme*

- 1.3.1. **Schools Fluoride Varnish Programme** - awaiting contracts being distributed to the dental practices for the schools in Middlesbrough. Working with the PH Dental Consultant to develop the medical and consent forms to be distributed to schools along with a communications plan for schools and parents.
- 1.3.2. **Supervised Toothbrushing Programme** – the Tees Oral Health Group has collaborated to develop a recruitment video for schools and nurseries to highlight what the Supervised Toothbrushing Programme is, how it is delivered and the benefits of participating in the programme. This will be utilised from September 2026 to support the recruitment of settings across South Tees.
- 1.3.3. **Colgate Resources** – the first delivery of 2026/27 has taken place. The supplier is preparing toothbrushing packs to be distributed to schools, nurseries and community settings from August 2026 onwards.

1.4. *Vulnerabilities Programme*

- 1.4.1. **Changing Futures** programme (CF) has commenced in Middlesbrough with Keyworkers embedded within Middlesbrough Council's Housing Solutions team, receiving referrals directly from housing colleagues and working with individuals who meet the programme's multiple vulnerabilities criteria. The team is integrated within these new arrangements, enabling earlier identification and engagement of people with complex needs and strengthening partnership working around housing stability and prevention. During the first quarter of delivery, six people were supported to the point where they no longer required ongoing intensive support, demonstrating positive early outcomes for some of the most vulnerable residents.

- 1.4.2. Middlesbrough successfully submitted its draft **CF Delivery Plan** to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The plan was intentionally structured at a high level around the agreed priority themes and cohort groups, an approach endorsed by MHCLG colleagues at this stage. This provides the programme with the flexibility and time required to work with partners to develop and agree the detailed delivery model, outcomes framework and associated costings by October 2026.
- 1.4.3. **Enhanced Caseworkers**, commissioned through NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) Reducing Health Inequalities funding are embedded within frontline services at James Cook University Hospital's Accident and Emergency Department, the Crisis Suite at Roseberry Park, and the local Emergency Services call centre. Working alongside staff in these settings, they identify and engage people experiencing multiple disadvantage, bridge gaps between services and support access to appropriate interventions with the aim of preventing crises and reducing unplanned demand on services. In the first quarter, 66% of the individuals supported by the Enhanced Caseworker team experienced a reduction in subsequent attendance at James Cook University Hospital and/or the Crisis Suite.

1.5. Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme

- 1.5.1. **Mental Health Awareness Week 2026**, themed '**Action**'. The South Tees Wellbeing Network launched the '**Just One Thing**' campaign, encouraging partners, community groups, organisations and individuals to take a simple action to support wellbeing. In partnership with local voluntary sector mental health providers, the network delivered a briefing and shared wellbeing resources and support services to help organisations promote and embed wellbeing in their workplaces.
- 1.5.2. **Tees Mental Health Training Hub** contract has been funded for a further 3 years following a Tees Authorities quotation exercise. The hub will provide a range of free courses to people who work or volunteer across Tees. The wide range of courses delivered via flexible formats including digital are designed to increase mental health and suicide prevention knowledge and skills across a range of settings and develop confidence to initiate and engage in conversations about mental health.
- 1.5.3. **Dementia Action Week 2026** – Middlesbrough Dementia Network coordinated a full programme of activities to improve public awareness, understanding of dementia and access to community activities. Activities included a lunch and learn session with South Asian Community, support from a range of organisations at diagnostic clinics, information stands and an online question panel for 100's of NHS staff to support their learning of dementia

1.6. Start Well

1.6.1. The Start Well board for Children and Young People's public health is agreeing milestones for the key projects and priorities for the year ahead. This work will be presented to council directorates over the next month. The board will be identifying priority areas and key activities for the wider council to deliver on as part of a "Health in all family policies" approach working with Children's services and other directorates in the council. The following major projects have been agreed for the year:

- **Best Start & School Readiness:** A new workstream had been set up to develop a Public Health approach to improve early childhood development and school readiness through strengthened Best Start pathways.
- **Healthy Schools:** Develop and deliver a unified offer that supports whole-school health, strengthens PSHE delivery, and reaches all school-age children, including consideration of those outside mainstream education
- **Teenage Pregnancy:** Reduce unintended teenage pregnancy rates and improve outcomes for young parents through targeted prevention and coordinated early intervention.

1.7. Best Start & School Readiness

- 1.7.1. The first group meeting was in June and the group will focus on school readiness pathways, obesity offer and training the early years teams in Public Health approaches.
- 1.7.2. An action plan is in development to prioritise areas of work, partners involvement and measures of success. There is also an overarching discussion taking place about the CPD needs across the various workstreams, including health.
- 1.7.3. Healthy Start Scheme – continuing to promote the scheme and the vitamins available to families. Promotional cards have been distributed to midwives and health visitors to signpost families to the healthy start vitamins which can be collected from the family hubs. Training has also taken place with family hub staff to increase awareness of the scheme and how staff can support families to apply to the Healthy Start Scheme.
- 1.7.4. Infant Feeding Strategy is progressing with engagement across the infant feeding system. The group is reviewing previous investment and developing priorities for the next four years. Once the strategy is published, an action plan will be developed which will be overseen by the South Tees Infant Feeding Steering Group.
- 1.7.5. An infant feeding crisis pathway has been identified as a gap from the UNICEF Baby Friendly assessments across services in South Tees. A pathway will be developed with potential support from the Crisis and Resilience Fund to ensure support is available for families who are experiencing food insecurity to achieve food resilience.

Healthy schools

1.7.6. A whole school approach to Public Health is being developed by the “Healthy Schools” group. This will include work to:

- Create health promoting environments and relationships in school settings
- Develop a unified public health offer which is accessible to schools, young people and parents

11-19 health and well-being service

1.7.7. The development of the 11-19 Young People’s service is on track with the first phase of consultation concluded and the service model in development with a system-wide steering group along with regular communications.

1.7.8. Robust consultation activity has taken place capturing stakeholders from across the children’s system with over 65 stakeholders involved across various activities which has informed the 11-19 service Theory of Change and desired outcomes.

1.7.9. Key service priorities identified across consultation include a tiered approach to support across intensive and specialist clinical support for those young people with complex health needs and universal and community offer to support health inequalities, key themes of the offer will be healthy relationships, healthy choices and healthy lifestyles.

1.7.10. A project management approach has taken place with a Project on a page (POAP) being selected as the governance and project controls including project charter, workbook and risks logs, project timescales are still on track.

1.7.11. Procurement pathways for the clinical element of the service are still in negotiations with one chosen option being the joint service functions between Middlesbrough and RCBC school nursing services, options appraisal regarding various shared services is currently being explored.

1.7.12. One key line of work is around the website offer and digital resources as interim stop gap to help direct professionals and young people to suitable national.

Teenage pregnancy

1.7.13. The South Tees Teenage Pregnancy Partnership is now fully established, meeting 6 weekly. The partnership is working through a nationally recognised self-assessment audit tool to inform an Action Plan with the aim of reducing unintended conceptions and improving outcomes for teenage parents and their children.

1.7.14. 2-year funding for a quality assurance post to support schools with mandated PHSE will focus on teenage pregnancy, supporting the “Healthy Schools” offer.

1.7.15. Targeted communications campaign promoting sexual health support, free condom offer and contraception from pharmacy for young people planned for September, including higher education settings and those not in education.

- 1.7.16. The most recent national teenage pregnancy dataset, published in June 2026 and relating to 2023 data, showed an increase in both conceptions and maternities among under-18s in Middlesbrough. Working in partnership with a range of agencies, analysis of multiple datasets was undertaken to identify patterns and geographical areas of higher conception rates and to inform targeted support and interventions. This included reviewing postcode-level data for young women accessing abortion services alongside local maternity data, enabling resources and preventative activities to be focused where they were most needed.

1.8. Health Determinants Research Collaboration South Tees

- 1.8.1. We currently have eleven champions in Middlesbrough and are keen to recruit more HDRC Champions act as key links between the HDRC ST and services. They help us stay informed of any directorate or operational changes, support by sharing updates about research projects, training and resources and events, and promote research opportunities with colleagues. **We have a Research Champions event scheduled for 16th September** for LA staff who are interested in joining us.
- 1.8.2. To build bridges between communities and local authorities we ran sessions with local authority staff and some of our Community-based Researchers where they could discuss the issues for both in collaborating. A report is in development.
- 1.8.3. Our HDRC portal is undergoing an update, and we expect to have a page dedicated to South Tees residents soon.



EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SECTION 2 – DECISIONS TAKEN THAT HAVE BEEN THROUGH CALL-IN SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

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DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
The Mayor				
8 Jul 2026	Executive	Wholly and Partly Owned Council Companies Policy	The report sought approval of the Wholly and Partly Owned Council Companies (WPOCC) Policy 2026–29 and supporting Minimum Standard, which established the framework through which the Council would develop, operate and review wholly or partly owned council companies.	No
8 Jul 2026	Executive	Data Protection Policy and Direct Marketing and Cookies Policy	The purpose of the report was to seek approval of the Council's Data Protection Policy and Direct Marketing and Cookies Policy. It also requested that authority was delegated to the Council's Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) to approve future substantive revisions, minor amendments and administrative updates to both policies.	No

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
8 Jul 2026	Executive	Making Middlesbrough Thrive	The purpose of the report was to seek approval to embed the consideration of deprivation evidence within Directorate Service Plans for 2026/27 and to establish a coordinated approach across the Council and its partners to address deprivation and inequality in Middlesbrough.	Yes
Executive Member - Finance				
8 Jul 2026	Executive	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update and 2027/28 Budget Development approach and Timetable	The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and sought approval of the proposed budget development approach and timetable for developing the 2027/28 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan to 2030/31.	Yes
8 Jul 2026	Executive	Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Outturn – 2025/26	The report provides important information regarding the regulation and management of the Council's borrowing, investments, and cash-flow for the 2025/26 financial year. It also provides the Prudential Indicators results for the financial year in accordance with the above and the outturn position on the capital programme Both of these are requirements of the Council's reporting procedures under the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice, and by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.	No
Executive Member - Neighbourhoods				
8 Jul 2026	Executive	Making Middlesbrough Town Centre Safer for People and Business	Increase Town Centre Safety and Perception of Safety through co located approach to nuisance behaviour, retail crime and additional need.	Yes

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION

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SECTION 3 – DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN UP UNTIL THE COUNCIL MEETING

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
The Mayor				
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Risk and Opportunity Management Policy	Triennial refresh of the Council's risk and opportunities management policy and its risk appetite	No
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Service Response: OSB Short Review of the Council's Approach to Poverty	To set out the service response to the recommendations within the short review of the Council's approach to poverty	No
Executive Member - Development				
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Place Strategy and Investment Prospectus	To set out the emerging place strategy for the town and the investment prospectus that will highlight key projects to deliver the strategy	Yes
Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability				

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Cremator Refurbishment Programme	To seek approval for the refurbishment and upgrade of cremator equipment and infrastructure to ensure continued compliance with environmental legislation, maintain service resilience, improve operational efficiency, and extend the asset life of the cremators.	Yes
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Stainton Way Highway improvements	To consider the infrastructure improvement proposals at the junctions of Dalby Way and Kings Academy on Stainton Way	Yes
Executive Member - Finance				
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Quarter One 2026/7 Integrated Performance and Finance Forecast year end Outturn	Decision	Yes



SECTION 4 – DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL MEETING

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
The Mayor				
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Risk and Opportunity Management Policy	Triennial refresh of the Council's risk and opportunities management policy and its risk appetite	No
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Service Response: OSB Short Review of the Council's Approach to Poverty	To set out the service response to the recommendations within the short review of the Council's approach to poverty	No
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Partnerships Strategy	To set a strategic framework that will shape how the Council will work with Partners to deliver an agreed vision for the town and their shared legal obligations	No
11 Nov 2026	Executive	Information strategy - 1 year progress update	Will set out progress against the agreed strategy, highlight areas where progress has been slower and ID action to address this	No
Executive Member - Adult Social Care				

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
21 Sep 2026	Executive Member for Adult Social Care	Amendment to the Tees Valley Common Allocations Policy	It has become apparent through regular monitoring via the Tees Valley Homefinder Steering Group, that the practice of allocating homes to eligible applicants based on a preference for those with a local connection, is not explicit in the current allocations policy. For example, people who are eligible for a property based on their need will be shortlisted. However, those from outside of the area where the property is located will be placed below those who have a local connection to that area. Approval is therefore required to make an amended to the Tees Valley Common Allocations Policy, to ensure transparency and fairness in the allocation of partner housing stock.	Yes
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Final Report of the Adult Social Care & Health Scrutiny Panel - Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG): How to Tackle It	To approve overview report and action plan	Yes
11 Nov 2026	Executive	Homeless Needs Assessment and Strategy	To approve the homeless needs assessment, strategy and proposed commissioning model.	Yes
Executive Member - Children's Services				
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Special Guardianship Order Policy	To approve the proposed Special Guardianship Policy	Yes
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Children's Scrutiny Panel Service Response: Out of Area Specialist Provision	To set out the service response to the recommendations within the investigation into Out of Area Specialist Provision	No
Executive Member - Development				

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
11 Nov 2026	Executive	Commercial Waste Collection and Disposal	For Exec to approve the requirement for commercial waste collections and disposal from council buildings to be contracted out. No ward affected as this is internal buildings	Yes
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Place Strategy and Investment Prospectus	To set out the emerging place strategy for the town and the investment prospectus that will highlight key projects to deliver the strategy	Yes
Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability				
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Longlands Road Active Travel Corridor	To consider the infrastructure improvement proposals on Longlands Road	Yes
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Green Lane Active Travel Corridor	To consider the infrastructure improvement proposals on Levick Crescent, Croft Avenue, Green Lane, Emerson Avenue, Keith Road, Marton Burn Road transport corridor	Yes
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Cremator Refurbishment Programme	To seek approval for the refurbishment and upgrade of cremator equipment and infrastructure to ensure continued compliance with environmental legislation, maintain service resilience, improve operational efficiency, and extend the asset life of the cremators.	Yes

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
2 Sep 2026	Executive	Stainton Way Highway improvements	To consider the infrastructure improvement proposals at the junctions of Dalby Way and Kings Academy on Stainton Way	Yes
Executive Member - Finance				
7 Oct 2026	Executive	2027/28 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2027/28 to 2030/31 Update	Decision	Yes
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Welfare Strategy	To approve the proposed amends to the Welfare Strategy.	Yes
11 Nov 2026	Executive	Procurement Strategy 2027 - 2030	To present the updated Procurement Strategy for 2027 - 2030	No
9 Dec 2026	Executive	Quarter Two 2026/7 Integrated Performance and Finance Forecast year end Outturn	Decision	Yes
9 Dec 2026	Executive	2027/28 Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2027/28 to 2030/31	Decision.	Yes
3 Feb 2027	Executive	Quarter Three 2026/7 Integrated Performance and Finance Forecast year end Outturn	Decision	Yes

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
3 Feb 2027	Executive	2027/28 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2027/28 to 2030/31	Decision.	Yes
17 Mar 2027	Executive	Corporate Food Poverty Policy	To approve the Corporate Food Poverty policy	Yes
14 Apr 2027	Executive	Quarter Four 2026/27 Integrated Performance and Finance Year end Outturn	Decision	Yes
Executive Member - Neighbourhoods				
11 Nov 2026	Executive	Update on implementing the Neighbourhoods Model	To present the councils community cohesion strategy with some context of the consultation and engagement that has led to the formulation of the strategy.	No
11 Nov 2026	Executive	Update on implementing the Neighbourhoods Model	This report is for information and is intended to provide an update on the progress being made on the neighbourhood plans which is part of the neighbourhood model.	No
Executive Member - Public Health				
7 Oct 2026	Executive	Substance Use Services - Delivery Model	Exec decision on proposed new delivery model	Yes

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COUNCIL MEETING – 9 SEPTEMBER 2026
QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 4.8.15

QUESTION NO.	QUESTION FROM	QUESTION TO	QUESTION
4/26	Tayyeb Qayyum	Councillor Gavigan	What measures are being taken to ensure our tap water is clean, safe and microplastic free and is there any assurance that the river tees water will be going to residents and not data centres?

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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Councillor L Young, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board and Charlotte Benjamin, Director of Legal and Corporate (Monitoring Officer)
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Submitted to:	Council
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Date:	9 September 2026
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Title:	Scrutiny Progress Report
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Report for:	Information
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Status:	Public
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Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value
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Proposed decision(s)

That Council note the report.

Executive summary

To update the position in respect of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.
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1. Purpose

1. To update the position in respect of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Council note the report.

3. Background and relevant information:**Overview and Scrutiny Board**

- 3.1 Since the last meeting of Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Board has met on 7 July and 29 July.

- 3.2 At its meeting of the 7 July, it considered the Final Report of the Children's Scrutiny Panel regarding Out of Area Specialist Provision. The Board heard the Panel's intention was to understand why the Council used out of area specialist provision from a special educational needs and complex social care perspective. The Board approved the report and referred its recommendations to Executive.
- 3.3 The Board also approved the amended Terms of Reference for its review into how the Council engages with Faith and Belief groups in Middlesbrough.
- 3.4 The 2025–2026 year-end performance and financial information was presented to Members who were advised this was the last time separate reports on these subjects would be submitted as, going forward, a combined report would be produced.
- 3.5 At its meeting on 29 July the Mayor, Executive Member for Finance, Chief Executive, Director of Legal and Corporate Services, Director of Finance and Head of the Chief Executive's Office were in attendance to provide their respective service overviews. Members received operational overviews for Legal and Corporate Services, the Chief Executive's Office and Finance. Members were advised of the opportunities and challenges within those areas and advised of subjects that may be suitable for scrutiny attention which included the Crisis Resilience Fund and Marketing and Communications in the Council.
- 3.6 The Board also approved its work programme for the 2026-27 municipal year and agreed to the Chair's proposal that all the suggested topics be accepted and that work with Democratic Services to create schedule of works. The Board also approved the overall Scrutiny Work Programme for 2026-27.
- 3.7 The Board also considered the Final Report of the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel into Violence Against Women and Girls. The Panel heard that the issue was a significant and complex issue. It spanned domestic abuse, sexual violence, misogyny and harmful attitudes. The Board approved the report and referred its recommendations to Executive.
- 3.8 Members were also advised of the Council financial prudential indicators report which had been considered at Executive on 8 July. The Board was advised about the Council's borrowing position and the costs involved.
- 3.9 The next meeting of OSB will be held on 16 September where it will receive a portfolio update from the Executive Member for Development, the projected performance and financial outturn for quarter one 2026/2027 and information relating to the Board's short review into Marketing and Communications in the Council.

Scrutiny Panel Updates

- 3.10 The updated position in respect of the work of each of the Council's scrutiny panels is shown below.

Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel

- 3.11 The Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel met on 21 July 2026 and considered updates on Artificial Intelligence utilisation plans in Adult Social Care and Digital Inclusion in Adult Social Care.
- 3.12 Members considered a report on shortlisted scrutiny investigation topics for the 2026/2027 municipal year and agreed to undertake reviews on Barriers to Immunisation Uptake and Neighbourhood Health Management. It was further agreed that the review of Barriers to Immunisation Uptake would be the Panel's first scrutiny investigation.
- 3.13 The Panel considered the draft final report arising from its review, 'Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG): How to Tackle It' and agreed the final report for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Board.
- 3.14 The Panel's next scheduled meeting will take place on 29 September 2026, at which Members will commence the review of Barriers to Immunisation Uptake, with representatives from Public Health providing an overview presentation. Members have also requested an update from Adult Social Care on support available to Unpaid Carers.

Children's Scrutiny Panel

- 3.15 The Children's Scrutiny Panel met on 27 July 2026. The Corporate Director of Children's Services provided an overview of the services provided within the Children's Services Directorate and set out the key priorities, areas of focus, and challenges for the year ahead.
- 3.16 The Panel also considered setting its work programme for the 2026/27 Municipal Year. A report submitted by Democratic Services set out a number of topic suggestions received in response to the annual scrutiny consultation exercise with Members, Officers and members of the public. It also contained areas for potential consideration as part of an 'horizon scanning' exercise provided during scrutiny member workshops.
- 3.17 Following consideration of the report, and consideration of the Corporate Director's presentation, Members agreed the following for inclusion in its work programme:-
 - 1. Tackling Child Poverty in Schools – Full Review topic.
 - 2. Ofsted Full Service Inspection – Improvement Plan – to monitor at each meeting.
 - 3. SEND reforms – Impact in Middlesbrough – to receive regular updates.
 - 4. STSCB – Annual Report – Statutory annual update.
- 3.18 The Panel's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 21 September 2026 at 4.30pm when it will receive an introduction to its new scrutiny topic, 'Tackling Child Poverty in Schools'; an update on the Ofsted findings from its full inspection of Children's Services and associated improvement plan; and an update on the impact of SEND reforms in Middlesbrough.

Place Scrutiny Panel

- 3.19 At the Place Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 6 July 2026, the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Housing was in attendance to present an overview of the Regeneration and Housing directorate. Members received information on the service areas within the Directorate, including the functions and responsibilities of each area and were informed of the key priorities, opportunities and challenges anticipated for the year ahead.
- 3.20 The Corporate Director of Regeneration and Housing then provided an overview on matters relating to the Environment, Communities and Culture directorate in absence of the Corporate Director of Environment, Communities and Culture.
- 3.21 A report of the Democratic Services Officer was also presented to the Panel, the purpose of which was to assist Members of the Panel to consider and agree its work programme for the 2026-2027 Municipal Year. Following discussion, Panel Members agreed the following topics for review and inclusion in its work programme:
1. Middlesbrough's Bicentenary (ongoing review)
 2. The Selective Landlord Licensing Scheme/Licensing of Private Rented Properties (formal title to be agreed)
 3. Fly-tipping
 4. Future Plans for Transforming the Town Centre
- 3.22 The Place Scrutiny Panel also met on 28 July 2026 to receive further evidence as part of its review of Middlesbrough's Bicentenary celebrations. Representatives from Barnsley Civic and the Director of Community, Environment and Culture at Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council attended the meeting and shared their experiences of planning and delivering comparable milestone celebrations within their respective areas. Members received information on good practice, lessons learned and key considerations, including approaches that had proven less effective and should be avoided.
- 3.23 The Panel's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 14 September 2026. The Panel will commence the review of The Selective Landlord Licensing Scheme/Licensing of Private Rented Properties, with the Head of Public Protection providing an overview of the topic. The Head of Marketing and Communications will also attend to present further evidence in support of the Panel's review of Middlesbrough's Bicentenary celebrations. In addition, the Operational Community Safety Manager will provide an overview of Fly-tipping to assist the Panel in determining the scope and direction of any future scrutiny work in this area.

Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

- 3.25 Responsibility for the administration of the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee transferred to Middlesbrough Council for the 2026/2027 municipal year.
- 3.26 At its first meeting on 2 June 2026, Members received updates on the Delivery of Neonatal Care across the North East and North Cumbria Region, the University Hospitals Tees NHS Foundation Trust Quality Account for 2025/2026, Planned Workforce Reductions at University Hospitals Tees NHS Foundation Trust, and the

review of Adult Eating Disorder Services being undertaken by Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust. Members also considered and noted the Committee's draft Work Programme for 2026/2027.

- 3.27 The Committee met again on 23 July 2026 and received presentations regarding Accessing Specialist Community Perinatal Mental Health Services and the University Hospitals Tees NHS Foundation Trust Case for Change and Strategy.

Scrutiny Reports Submitted to Executive

- 3.28 The following reports have been reported to Executive since the last update to Council:

- OSB Task and Finish Group Final Report (Community Cohesion) (8 April 2026)
- Final Report of the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel - Healthy Placemaking with a focus on Childhood Obesity (10 June 2026)
- Final Report of the Place Scrutiny Panel - Barriers to Regeneration (10 June 2026)

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

- 4.1 That an update on the work of the scrutiny function is not provided to full Council. This would not comply with the requirements for updates on the scrutiny function, to be reported to full Council.

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 update Council on the work of the scrutiny function.
Legal	The Constitution requires regular updates on the scrutiny function, to be submitted to full Council.
Risk	Failure to adhere to 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 is a report to update Council on the work of the scrutiny function and does not change any policy.

Reducing Poverty	Not applicable as this is a report to update Council on the work of the scrutiny function and does not change any policy.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not applicable as this is a report to update Council on the work of the scrutiny function 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 update Council on the work of the scrutiny function and does not change any policy.
Data Protection	Not applicable as this is a report to update Council on the work of the scrutiny function and does not change any policy.

Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline

Appendices

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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

**COUNCIL MEETING – 9 SEPTEMBER 2026
NOTICE OF MOTIONS 184 AND 185
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NOS. 4.28 – 4.34**

MOTION NO.	PROPOSER	SECONDER	MOTION
184	Councillor Storey	Councillor Clynch	Regulation of estate management companies This Council notes that: Many homeowners on new developments are required to pay private estate management charges for the upkeep of roads, green spaces, communal doors and other communal areas, in addition to paying full council tax. Residents often have little control over the management company, the services provided, or the level of charges imposed. Concerns include rising and unclear fees, poor maintenance, excessive administration charges, difficulties challenging unreasonable costs, and the threat of disproportionate enforcement action over unpaid or disputed charges. The Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024 contains measures to strengthen homeowners’ rights, but key protections have not yet been fully implemented. This Council calls on the Government to: Bring the relevant provisions of the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024 into force without further delay, and explore other means of implementing full statutory regulation of property management companies.

			Strengthen the enforcement and regulation of estate management companies to give local authorities the powers needed to support residents. Give homeowners stronger rights to inspect accounts, challenge unreasonable charges, cap excessive administration and property-sale fees, and replace poorly performing management companies. End disproportionate enforcement powers that can place a homeowner's property at risk over relatively small or disputed estate management charges. This Council resolves to: Write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government, and Middlesbrough's MPs setting out these concerns and enclosing a copy of this motion. Explore how the Council's planning policies and negotiations with developers can reduce the use of private estate management arrangements on future developments.
185	Councillor Clynch	Councillor Storey	Maintaining a respectful online discourse in politics This Council notes: • The increasing use of artificial intelligence to create realistic but false images of real individuals. • Recent national concerns regarding the creation and circulation of AI-generated imagery depicting women and girls in degrading, sexualised or otherwise inappropriate ways. • That AI-generated imagery can also be used to ridicule, humiliate or misrepresent individuals through the manipulation of their appearance, body shape, personal relationships or conduct.

			• The growing concern that such behaviour may deter people from participating in public life, standing for election or engaging in democratic debate. This Council believes: • A robust political debate is an essential part of democracy. • Political disagreement should focus on policies, decisions and ideas rather than personal attacks on an individual's appearance or private life. • Women and girls are disproportionately affected by online abuse, intimidation, misogyny and degrading portrayals. • Those serving in public life should be able to do so without being subjected to manipulated imagery intended to humiliate, denigrate or undermine them. This Council therefore: • Condemns the use of AI-generated imagery which seeks to degrade, intimidate, harass or misrepresent individuals. • Reaffirms its commitment to respectful political discourse and democratic engagement. • Encourages all elected representatives, political parties, campaigners and members of the public to engage in political debate responsibly and respectfully. • Recognises the importance of creating an environment in which women, young people and people from all backgrounds feel able to participate in public life and consider standing for elected office. • Resolves to support initiatives which promote civility, respect and participation in local democracy.
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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Corporate Director of Regeneration and Housing – Richard Horniman
Relevant Executive Member:	Executive Member for Development – Cllr Theo Furness
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	9 September 2026
Title:	Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	A successful and ambitious town
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Council Decision

Proposed decision(s)	
That the Council (insofar as it relates to Middlesbrough):	
• approves the commencement of the preparation of the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026; and • delegates authority to the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Housing in consultation with the Executive Member for Development to: ○ explore and negotiate the terms of a new Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan, in partnership with neighbouring Tees Valley authorities; ○ prepare, publish and submit a 'Notice of intention to commence the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan'; ○ publish and update the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan Timetable monthly (or as required), to ensure an up-to-date timetable is publicly available in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026; ○ undertake a 'scoping consultation' on the joint Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan; and	

- produce all associated documentation to allow the joint Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Local Plan to progress through Gateway 1.

Executive summary

In accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, Middlesbrough Council is required to review and update its planning policy framework relating to minerals and waste development.

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to commence preparation of a new Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan, in partnership with neighbouring Tees Valley authorities. The new plan will provide an up-to-date statutory framework for managing mineral extraction, safeguarding mineral resources, waste management infrastructure, recycling facilities, landfill restoration, and associated development across the Tees Valley.

1. Purpose of this report and its contribution to the achievement of the Council Plan ambitions

1.1 The Report seeks the approval to commence the preparation of the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan, and to secure the appropriate delegated authority to progress the Plan to Gateway 1 of the new plan-making system.

Our ambitions	Summary of how this report will support delivery of these ambitions and the underpinning aims
A successful and ambitious town	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will set out policies for the delivery of sustainable development related to minerals and waste, which will support the wider development aspirations of the borough.
A healthy Place	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will support the aim to protect and improve our environment through the delivery of sustainable development related to minerals and waste.
Safe and resilient communities	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will help to ensure that the development needs of our communities are met.
Delivering best value	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will support best value through ensuring our statutory duties are met and that the policy framework will deliver sustainable development related to minerals and waste.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Council (insofar as it relates to Middlesbrough):

- approves the commencement of the preparation of the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026; and
- delegates authority to the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Housing in consultation with the Executive Member for Development to:
 - explore and negotiate the terms of a new Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan, in partnership with neighbouring Tees Valley authorities;
 - prepare, publish and submit a 'Notice of intention to commence the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan';
 - publish and update the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan Timetable monthly (or as required), to ensure an up-to-date timetable is publicly available in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026;
 - undertake a Scoping consultation on the joint Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan; and
 - produce all associated documentation to allow the joint Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Local Plan to progress through Gateway 1.

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

- 3.1 In order to meet the Council's statutory duty to prepare a development plan for the area, it is necessary to commence work on the Joint Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
- 3.2 To satisfy the Regulations, it is necessary to prepare and submit a 'Notice of intention to commence the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan' and the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan Timetable. It is also necessary to undertake a Scoping consultation and complete various other tasks before 'Gateway 1' is passed, and work can formally commence on preparing the Plan.

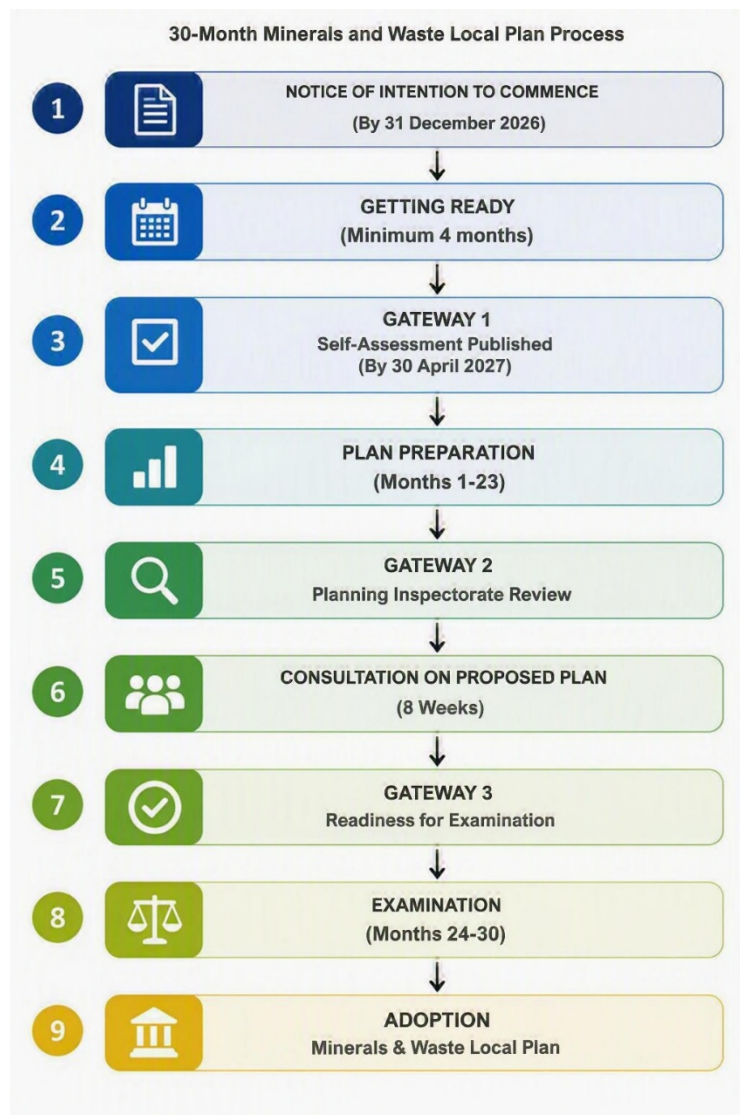
4. Background and relevant information

- 4.1 Under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to prepare a statutory development plan that sets out the policies and land allocations to guide development in the borough. The new Local Plan, that is currently at Examination and due for adoption in December 2026, covers all development matters except for Minerals and Waste.
- 4.2 Planning for Minerals and Waste has historically been undertaken jointly by the five Tees Valley local planning authorities. This is because Minerals and Waste planning is particularly specialist and is more appropriately dealt with at a spatial level that is larger than individual local authorities. The policy framework for Minerals and Waste currently comprises:
- The Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Joint Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) (2011); and
 - The Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Joint Policies & Sites DPD (2011).
- 4.3 The Joint DPDs cover the period to 2026 and are due to be reviewed. It is proposed that Middlesbrough Council continues to plan for Minerals and Waste jointly with the other Tees Valley Local Planning Authorities.

New Plan Making System

- 4.4 The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 introduced a new plan-making framework that fundamentally reshapes the development plan system with a streamlined 30-month process. The Government has subsequently introduced the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 in March 2026 confirming the procedures for this new plan-making framework.
- 4.5 The updated plan-making system has introduced new statutory requirements which the Council must comply with. This includes a 30-month timeframe for plan preparation and adoption, and involves a scoping consultation, two plan consultations and progression through three gateways as the Local Plan progresses through the system.

4.6 The overall process is outlined within the figure below:



4.7 Further details on the new plan-making system, and the various stages for preparing new plans, are included in Appendix 2.

Next Steps – the ‘Getting Ready’ Stage

4.8 The Council has agreed joint working principles with the other Tees Valley Local Planning Authorities through Terms of Reference for the Plan. An officer working group has been established with representatives from each authority. The project will be overseen by the Tees Valley Investment Board, which comprises senior managers from each authority. Each authority will be responsible for seeking political direction for the Plan, with the Local Plan Member Working Group providing political oversight for Middlesbrough Council. Decisions on the Joint Plan will need to be taken by each authority individually.

4.9 The legislation requires that a Gateway 1 self-assessment must be published by 30th April 2027 (and no earlier than 4 months after the notice is issued).

4.10 In order to achieve Gateway 1, a number of key requirements must be met:

- preparing and publishing a local plan timetable;
- issuing a notice to commence plan making (no later than 31st December 2026);
- establishing project management and governance arrangements about the preparation of the plan;
- confirming the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); and
- undertaking a Scoping consultation for a minimum of six weeks to provide an early opportunity for public engagement, which must seek views on:
 - developing an approach to consulting and engaging on the plan; and
 - developing the anticipated content of the plan, including base line information, vision, land availability and evidence.

4.11 To ensure this process is properly coordinated with the other Tees Valley Authorities, and to allow the completion of the initial 'Getting Ready' stage in a timely manner, this report seeks delegated authority to undertake a number of tasks including the Initial Notice, Timetable, Scoping consultation and the preparation of other documents required to reach Gateway 1.

4.12 Once Gateway 1 has been passed, a summary of the Scoping consultation must be published before the formal 30-month Plan preparation commences.

4.13 An indicative timetable for preparing the Plan is included in Appendix 3.

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

5.1 Not applicable. This report seeks approval to commence work on the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan that will cover Tees Valley, including Middlesbrough.

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

6.1 There is a statutory duty to prepare a development plan for the borough. The new Middlesbrough Local Plan covers all topics except for Minerals and Waste and is at an advanced stage of preparation. Therefore, it is not feasible to include Minerals and Waste issues as part of the Local Plan.

6.2 A potential alternative would be to prepare a separate Minerals and Waste Plan that covers Middlesbrough only. However, due to their strategic and specialist nature, it is considered that these issues are more appropriately dealt with at the Tees Valley spatial level. There would also be significant resource implications if such an approach was implemented. It is, therefore, not recommended that such an approach be pursued.

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	The financial implications associated with preparing the Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Local Plan will be met through established revenue budgets.

Procurement	It is likely that there will be a need to procure specialist Minerals and Waste planning support, which may include (but not limited to) evidence base studies, environmental assessments, viability work, consultation support and specialist planning advice. This will be undertaken jointly through established procedures overseen by the Tees Valley Investment Board.
Legal	There is a statutory requirement for the Council to prepare a Local Plan for the borough. The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will deal with the issues not covered by the Middlesbrough Local Plan. Any negotiated partnership agreements required to agree the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will require legal review and must adhere to all appropriate governance arrangements to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and the Council's constitutional requirements. The preparation of the Local Plan must be undertaken in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) consolidates and updates the Secretary of State's powers to intervene in a plan where the Secretary of State thinks that the local authority is failing to do anything it is necessary or expedient for them to do in connection with the preparation, adoption or revision of a local plan. Under the LURA The Secretary of State also has the ability to appoint independent Local Plan Commissioners who will act on their behalf, to investigate, analyse and report on failings that prevent a local authority from progressing its local plan. Depending on those circumstances, further interventions may also take place. Decisions on the statutory stages of the Local Plan are a non-executive function and must be made by the Council, as required by the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 and the Council's Constitution.
Risk	O8-055 - If the Council doesn't 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.

Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	An impact assessment has been completed and is attached to this report at Appendix 1. This concluded that there will not be an adverse impact on individual human rights.
Reducing Poverty	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan does not impact on Reducing Poverty.
Climate Change / Environmental	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will set out a policy framework to deliver sustainable minerals and waste development, and will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment. The approach will consider climate change impacts.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	The Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan does not impact on Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers.
Data Protection	The preparation of the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will require the collection and processing of personal data to fulfil the statutory requirements associated with plan preparation. This will be undertaken in accordance with the legislation.

Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Issue a notice to commence plan-making	Alex Conti Strategic Policy Manager	31 st December 2026
Prepare and publish a local plan timetable	Alex Conti Strategic Policy Manager	30 th April 2027
Undertake the Scoping consultation and publish a summary	Alex Conti Strategic Policy Manager	30 th April 2027

Appendices

1	Initial Impact Assessment
2	Stages for preparing plans under the new system
3	Indicative Timetable for the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Background papers

There are no background papers.

Contact: Alex Conti, Strategic Policy Manager

Email: alex_conti@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Initial Impact Assessment for the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Impact Assessment Level 1: Initial screening assessment

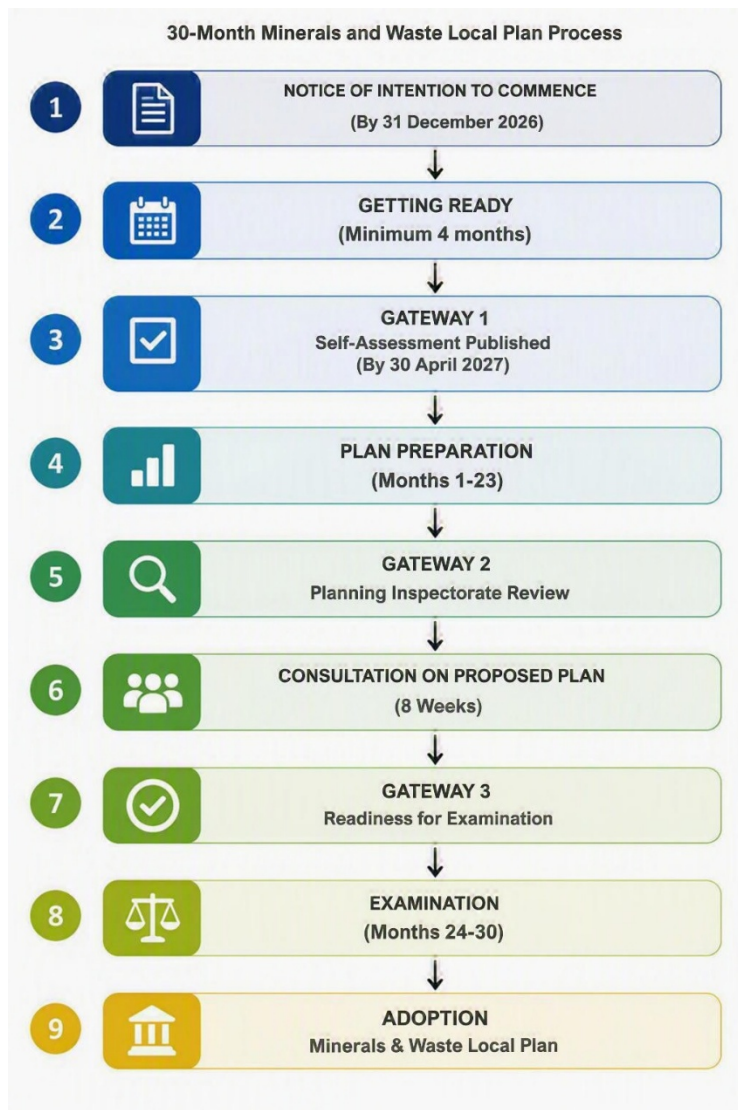
Subject of assessment:	Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan			
Coverage:	Crosscutting			
This is a decision relating to:	☒ Strategy	☒ Policy	☐ Service	☐ Function
	☐ Process/procedure	☐ Programme	☐ Project	☐ Review
	☐ Organisational change	☐ Other (please state)		
It is a:	New approach:	☐	Revision of an existing approach:	☒
It is driven by:	Legislation:	☒	Local or corporate requirements:	☐
Description:	Key aims, objectives and activities To assess the impact of the decision to commence work on the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan Local Plan through to Gateway 1, including the Notice for Commencement, Scoping Report and Evidence Base. Statutory drivers The Council must prepare Local Plans and associated planning documents, under the requirements of Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Regeneration and Levelling Up Act 2023, and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Differences from any previous approach The emerging Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will update the Council's planning framework that specifically relates to minerals and waste development in line with the latest legislation and policy/guidance. This includes new policy approaches for managing mineral extraction, safeguarding mineral resources, waste management infrastructure, recycling facilities, landfill restoration, and associated development across the Tees Valley Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external as appropriate) The key stakeholders are: The Council, other Tees Valley Local Planning Authorities, minerals and waste developers, businesses, investors and the local community. Intended outcomes.			

	To seek approval to formally commence the initial stages of work associated with the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan Local Plan through to Gateway 1, including the Notice for Commencement, Scoping Report and Evidence Base.			
Live date:	The Council will consider the report seeking approval for the Publication Local Plan on 9 th September 2026.			
Lifespan:	Once the decision is made the Council, in partnership with the other Tees Valley Local Planning Authorities, will undertake all tasks in order pass through 'Gateway 1' no later than 30 th April 2027.			
Date of next review:	Not applicable			
Screening questions	Response			Evidence
	No	Yes	Uncertain	
Human Rights Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?	☒	☐	☐	The Council is required to be prepare a local plan for the area based on an up to date evidence base. The emerging Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will be prepared in accordance with the legislation, national policy and local consultation standards, and will provide opportunities for all sectors of the community to be involved. In light of the above, it is not considered that the report will have an adverse impact on individual human rights.
Equality Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups?	☒	☐	☐	The Council is required to be prepare a local plan for the area based on an up to date evidence base. The emerging Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will be prepared in accordance with the legislation, national policy and local consultation standards, and will provide opportunities for all sectors of the community to be involved. In light of the above, it is not considered that the report will have an adverse impact on different groups or individuals in terms of equality.
Community cohesion Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?	☒	☐	☐	The Council is required to be prepare a local plan for the area based on an up to date evidence base. The emerging Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan will be prepared in accordance with the legislation, national policy and local consultation standards, and will provide opportunities for all sectors of the community to be involved. In light of the above, it is not considered that the report will impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town.
Next steps: ➡ If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed. ➡ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed.				

Assessment completed by:	Alex Conti	Head of Service:	Claire Holt
Date:	27/07/2026	Date:	29/07/2026

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Appendix 2 – Stages for preparing plans under the new system



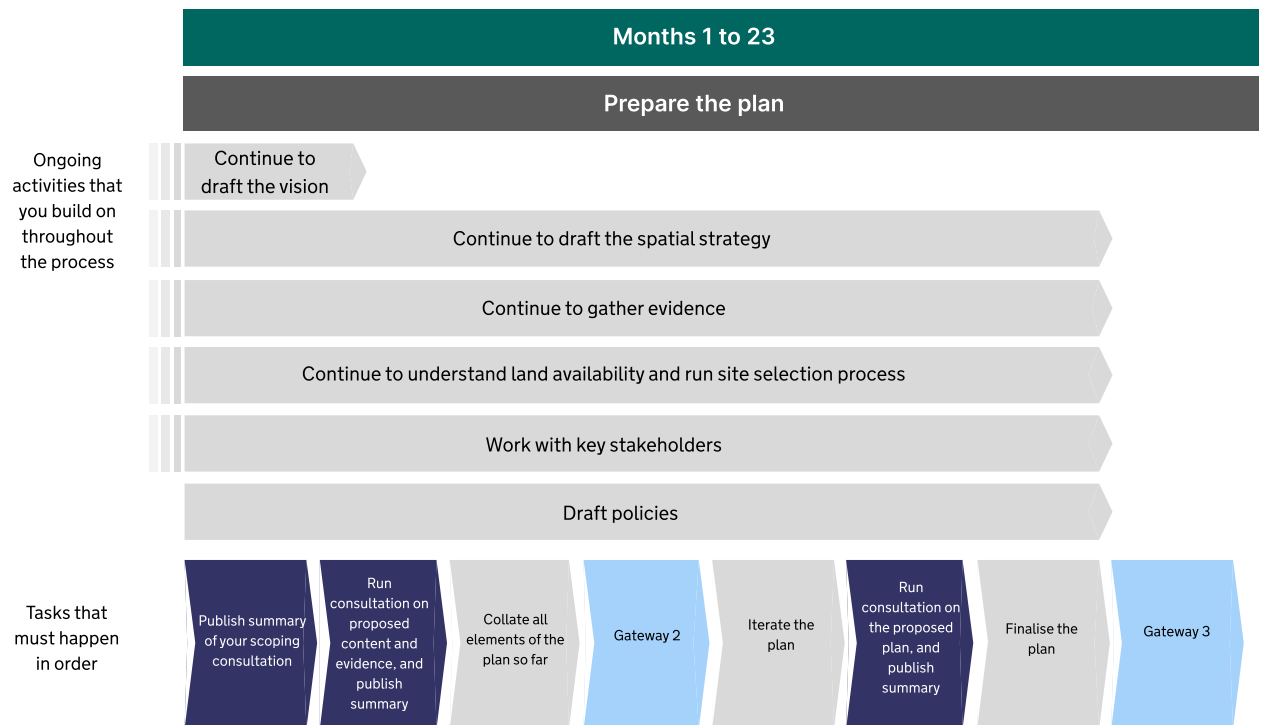
Stages 1, 2 and 3 – Notice of Intention to Commence, ‘Getting Ready’ and Gateway 1

1. Prior to progressing through ‘Gateway 1’ is the ‘Getting ready stage’. This stage is about being ready to start plan making and being confident that adoption can be achieved within the 30-month timeframe. The focus is on plan preparation rather than the technical detail.
2. The key requirements of this stage are:
 - preparing and publishing a local plan timetable;
 - issuing a notice to commence plan making;
 - establishing project management and governance arrangements about the preparation of the plan;

- confirming the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); and
 - undertaking a Scoping consultation for a minimum of six weeks to provide an early opportunity for public engagement, which must seek views on:
 - developing an approach to consulting and engaging on the plan; and
 - developing the anticipated content of the plan, including base line information, vision, land availability and evidence.
3. Once these tasks have been completed, a self-assessment must be completed and published before passing through 'Gateway 1'. For the Tees Valley Joint Minerals & Waste Local Plan this must be achieved by 30th April 2027, and this must be no sooner than 4 months after the notice to commence plan-making, or the day after your scoping consultation ends (whichever comes later).

Stage 4 – Preparing the Plan (Months 1 to 23, up to Stage 7)

4. Once Gateway 1 is passed, the 30-month period begins, and a summary of the scoping consultation must be published. This must explain the key issues raised and how the responses received have been considered.
5. During this phase the authority must also:
- finalise the draft vision, aims and objectives of the Plan;
 - consider site selection and gather evidence to support key priorities and allocations;
 - undertake stakeholder engagement and address cross-boundary matters;
 - begin drafting planning policies based on the evidence/appropriate justification; and
 - undertake public consultation on the proposed plan content and evidence for a minimum of six weeks.
6. A consultation summary must then be published, highlighting those issues raised and how they have been considered. Where appropriate this will influence the overall strategy and policies, and inform a draft version of the Plan.



Stage 5 – Gateway 2

- The next stage is to seek the observations and advice from the Planning Inspectorate on the draft version of the Plan, which seeks to achieve an early resolution on its soundness and likely areas of concern ahead of progress towards Gateway 3.

Stage 6 – Consultation on the Proposed Plan

- After consideration by the Planning Inspectorate, the advice received must be published alongside any necessary updates to the Local Plan. An eight-week consultation is then undertaken of the proposed Local Plan and associated information including policies map and supporting evidence, again a consultation summary must then be published.

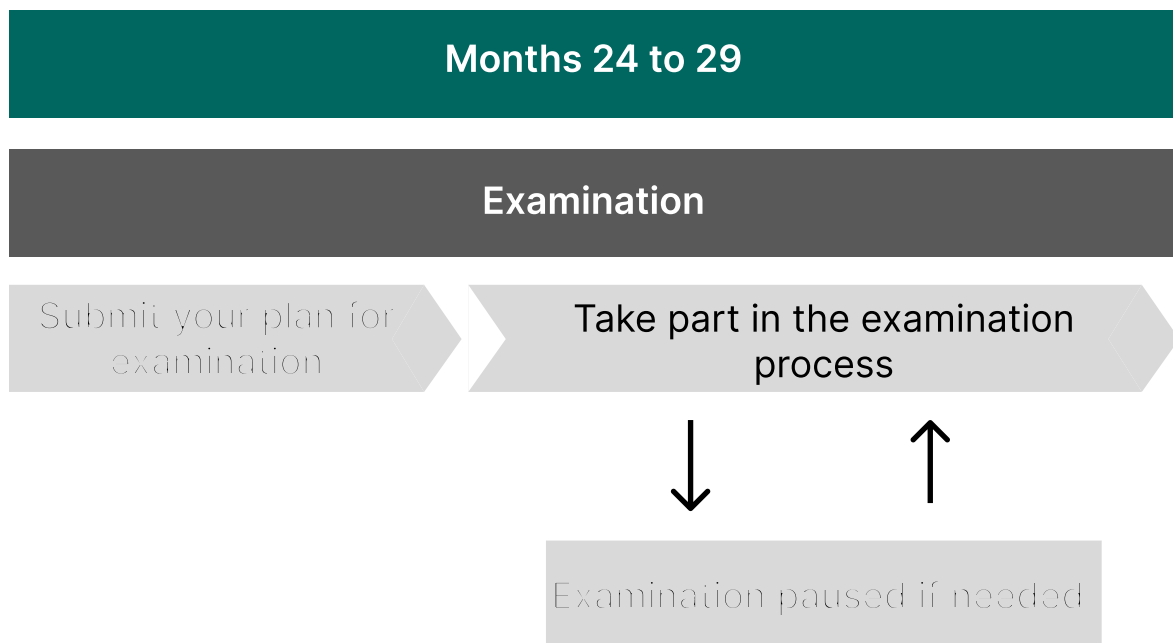
Stage 7 – Gateway 3

- This stage seeks to establish whether the plan is ready to progress to an examination. The Local Plan to be examined must be submitted alongside other supporting information and a statement of compliance.

10. An assessor from the Planning Inspectorate will advise and decide whether the plan is ready to be submitted for examination. If Gateway 3 is passed, then the plan must be submitted for examination. If not, the necessary changes will need to be made and the gateway must be done again.

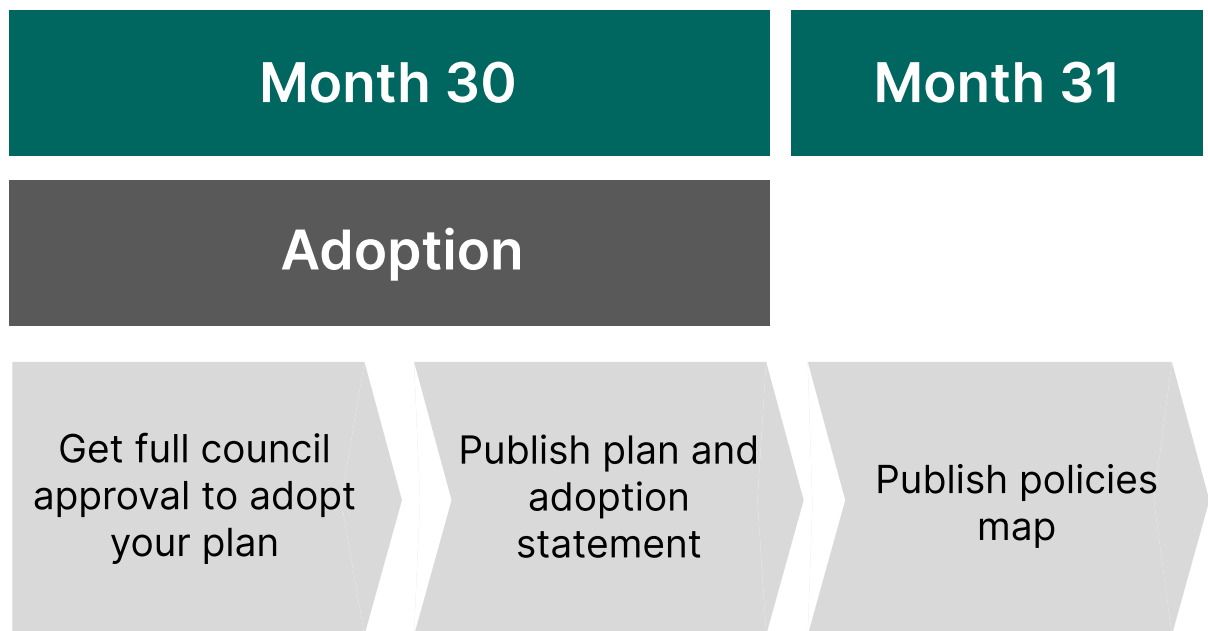
Stage 8 – Examination (Months 24 to 29)

11. When the assessor advises that you can submit your plan and supporting documents to the Planning Inspectorate for examination, you have passed through Gateway 3. An inspector will be appointed to carry out an independent examination of the plan.
12. The examination will assess whether the plan is sound – meaning it meets the test of soundness set out in national planning policy.
13. Those who have made representations on the plan during its preparation will have the right to present their views to the inspector. The inspector may recommend that you need to modify the plan for it to be found sound. If this is the case, you may need to consult interested parties on the proposed modifications. This will also likely extend the 6-month timeframe for the examination.
14. If the inspector finds that you need to do more work on the plan, the examination may be formally paused for up to 6 months for you to carry that work out.



Stage 9 – Adoption (Month 30)

15. After the examination has taken place, the inspector will provide their recommendations and reasons. If they find that the plan is sound or could become sound if you make certain modifications, the plan is expected to be adopted the plan (incorporating the modifications where necessary). Full Council approval will be required to adopt the Plan.
16. Within 1 month of adoption, a policies map must also be published. The policies map must be kept up to date and revised at the required times.



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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Chair of Constitution and Members' Development Committee, Councillor Jack Banks
Submitted to:	Full Council
Date:	9 September 2026
Title:	Constitution Updates – Quarterly Report
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)
That Full Council
APPROVES the schedule of suggested amendments to the Constitution.
NOTES the amendments made to the Constitution by the Monitoring Officer under the delegated authority as set out at Section 2.4 of the Constitution.

Executive summary
The Constitution and Member Development Committee ('CMDC') reviewed the Constitution and the updated version was approved by Full Council on 10th September 2025. As per Section 2.3 of the Constitution it is the Monitoring Officer's responsibility to monitor, review and update the Constitution. As part of the monitoring, it was agreed that a quarterly report will be provided to the CMDC to consider any suggested amendments, with any agreed amendments to be brought before Full Council for approval The Constitution is a living document that necessitates regular review and revision to ensure ongoing compliance with applicable legislation and established procedures, as well as to promote clarity and ease of use. This report sets out the suggested minor amendments that have been actioned under the delegated authority given to the Monitoring Officer, and a schedule of suggested amendments which have been agreed by CMDC for approval at Full Council.

The Monitoring Officer will also undertake an annual review of the Constitution, which shall be reported to Full Council

The implications of the recommendations have been considered by the appropriate officers of the Council and are set out in the main body of the report.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Constitution and Member Development Committee ('CMDC') reviewed the full Constitution and the updated version was approved by Full Council on 10th September 2025.
- 1.2 In order to ensure continued clarity and usability it was agreed that a regular quarterly report would be presented to CMDC to consider any suggested amendments, with any agreed amendments to be brought before Full Council for approval.
- 1.3 This report sets out the suggested minor amendments that have been actioned under the delegated authority given to the Monitoring Officer, and a schedule of suggested amendments which have been agreed by CMDC for approval at Full Council.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council
 - **APPROVES** the schedule of suggested amendments to the Constitution.
 - **NOTES** the amendments made to the Constitution by the Monitoring Officer under the delegated authority as set out at Section 2.4 of the Constitution.

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 Section 2.3 of the Constitution sets out how and when the Constitution is monitored and reviewed, and says as follows:

2.3.1 It is the Monitoring Officer's responsibility to monitor, review and update the Constitution in accordance with the requirements of this Section 2 and any authority delegated to them. The Monitoring Officer should undertake an annual review of the Constitution, which shall be reported to Council.

2.3.2 Revisions to the Constitution will have regard to:

- (a) the effectiveness of the Council's decision-making processes and its operation;*
- (b) issues raised by the Mayor, Councillors, Officers, the public and other relevant stakeholders;*
- (c) changes in legislation or statutory guidance;*
- (d) best practice across the public sector, and / or*
- (e) any other relevant information.*

2.4 When can the Constitution be changed and by whom?

Full Council delegates authority to the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution if the change is:

- (a) minor or required to remove an inconsistency, ambiguity or typographical error;*
- (b) required to put into effect any decision of the Council or its Committees; or*
- (c) required to comply with a legislative provision,*

provided that the change is reported to the next meeting of Full Council.

The change will take effect on the date decided by the Monitoring Officer or, where appropriate, the date set out in the relevant legislation.

- 3.2 This report details the proposed changes to the Constitution, both those that require approval of Full Council, and those have been authorised by the Monitoring Officer, under the delegated powers as outlined in the Constitution at Section 2.4 of the Constitution.

AMENDMENTS FOR APPROVAL AT FULL COUNCIL:

- 3.3 Full Council are asked to approve the following schedule of suggested amendments to the Constitution that were agreed at Constitution and Member Development Committee on 30th July 2026:

Para Number	Current Wording	Amended Wording	Reason for Change
4.8.10 (b)	If a quorum is not present within five minutes of the start of a Council meeting, the meeting will be abandoned. The business of the meeting will be considered at the next ordinary meeting or at an extraordinary meeting convened for that purpose.	If a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes of the start of a Council meeting, the meeting will be abandoned. The business of the meeting will be considered at the next ordinary meeting or at an extraordinary meeting convened for that purpose.	An amendment to the arrangements for inquorate meetings to allow a longer period of time

- 3.4 Full Council are also asked to approve the updated terms of reference for Teesside Pension Fund Committee, as at Appendix 1, which will require updating in the constitution.

The Teesside Pension Committee Terms of Reference have not been amended since 2017. The Pensions Act 2026 has changed the governance landscape for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the Pensions Committee Terms of Reference require updating to reflect this.

These amendments were agreed at the Constitution and Member Development Committee on 30th July 2026.

- 3.5 Following Full Council's approval of the Members' Scheme of Allowances on 20 May 2026, a number of amendments to the constitution were required. For the sake of completeness, Full Council are asked to note these amendments as follows:

Paragraph Number	Current Wording	Amended Wording	Reason for Change
5.10.8	No Member shall be entitled to pensions in accordance with this scheme.	Members can opt-in to the Local Government Pension Scheme in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Elected Member Pensions) Regulations 2026.	Members are eligible to opt into the scheme
5.10 to 5.11	To update relevant parts of section 5 (Scheme of Allowances) namely; 5.10 It was adopted by Council on 25th May 2022; 5.10.1 (d) The Basic Allowance shall be £7,608 per year; 5.10.3 (d) - The allowance payable to a Member in respect of travel mileage shall be paid at the Inland Revenue approved rate (Footnote 25 £0.45 per mile as of 31 July 2025) And to add in the following paragraphs: 5.10.5 Independent Person - Audi Committee - Independent Persons co-opted onto the Audit Committee to provide expert advice shall be entitled to receive an allowance of £800;	5.10 It was adopted by Council on 20th May 2026 ; 5.10.1 (d) The Basic Allowance shall be £8,330 per year. 5.10.3 (d) - The allowance payable to a Member in respect of travel mileage shall be paid at the Inland Revenue approved rate (Footnote 25 £0.55 per mile as of June 2026); 5.10.5 Independent Person – Audit Committee Independent Persons co-opted onto the Audit committee to provide expert advice shall be entitled to receive an allowance of £800;	Scheme of allowances updated following IRP report.

	5.10.8 - Pensions Members can opt-in to the Local Government Pension Scheme in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Elected Member Pensions) Regulations 2026.	5.10.8 - Pensions Members can opt-in to the Local Government Pension Scheme in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Elected Member Pensions) Regulations 2026.	
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AMENDMENTS AUTHORISED BY MONITORING OFFICER UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

3.6 Full Council are asked to note the following schedule of amendments to the Constitution authorised by the Monitoring Officer under delegated powers and noted by the Constitution and Member Development Committee at meetings on the 26th March 2026 and 30th July 2026:

Para Number	Current Wording	Amended Wording	Reason for Change
2.2	Meanings of Key terms used in the Constitution: “Chief Officer” Senior officers of the Council including the Statutory Chief Officers and the following non-statutory Chief Officers: (a) a person for whom the Head of Paid Service is directly responsible; (b) a person who is required to report directly, or is directly accountable, to the Head of Paid Service for the majority of their role; and (c) any person who, as respects all or most of the duties of his post, is required to report directly or is directly accountable to the local authority themselves or any committee or sub-committee of the authority	To Add key term: "Deputy Chief Officer" Senior Officers of the Council who report directly or are directly accountable to one or more of the Chief Officers.	No definition of deputy chief officer included in the key terms
4.8.15 (b)	A question from the public may only be asked if notice of it has been given to the Proper Officer it in writing or by	A question from the public may only be asked if notice of it has been given to the	The email address is to be replaced

	electronic mail to councilquestions@middlesbrough.gov.uk no later than 5.00 pm seven clear days before the date of the meeting.	Proper Officer in writing or by completing the Council Question form at (Public questions in meetings Middlesbrough Council) no later than 5.00 pm seven clear days before the date of the meeting.	with a form – weblink will be added
4.8.15 (e)	A Member of the Council may ask the Mayor, an Executive Member or the Chair of any Committee a question on notice (including about the business of joint committees, joint authorities and outside bodies) at a Council meeting (apart from the Budget Meeting) provided that notice of the question is given to the Proper Officer in writing or by electronic mail to councilquestions@middlesbrough.gov.uk no later than 5.00 pm seven clear days before the date of the meeting.	A Member of the Council may ask the Mayor, an Executive Member or the Chair of any Committee a question on notice (including about the business of joint committees, joint authorities and outside bodies) at a Council meeting (apart from the Budget Meeting) provided that notice of the question is given to the Proper Officer in writing or by electronic mail to the email address: monitoring officer@middlesbrough.gov.uk no later than 5.00 pm seven clear days before the date of the meeting.	The email address referred to is going to be removed
4.8.15 (h)	A Member of the Council may ask the Mayor or an Executive Member a question on any update provided under paragraph 4.8.4(c)(vii) or 4.8.4.(c)(xi) provided that prior notification of the topic of the question is given to the Monitoring Officer in writing or by electronic mail to councilquestions@middlesbrough.gov.uk no later than 5.00 pm the day before the meeting.	A Member of the Council may ask the Mayor or an Executive Member a question on any update provided under paragraph 4.8.4(c)(vii) or 4.8.4.(c)(xi) provided that prior notification of the topic of the question is given to the Monitoring Officer in writing or by electronic mail to the email address: monitoring officer@middlesbrough.gov.uk no later than 5.00 pm the day before the meeting.	The email address referred to is going to be removed
5.10.2	5.10.2 c	sub paragraphs should start with (a) not (c)	Sub section numbering incorrect - begins with c) rather than a)
6.17.14 (a)	(a) Members of the public may ask questions of the Mayor and Executive Members about any matter listed on the	(a) Members of the public may ask questions of the Mayor and Executive	No details of where to submit

	agenda for a meeting of the Executive. Notice of the question must be given by delivering it in writing or by electronic mail to the Proper Officer no later than 5.00 pm three clear days before the date of the meeting.	Members about any matter listed on the agenda for a meeting of the Executive. Notice of the question must be given by delivering it in writing or by electronic mail to the Proper Officer, or by completing the Council Question form at (Public questions in meetings Middlesbrough Council) no later than 5.00 pm three clear days before the date of the meeting.	question other than "the Proper Officer" Link to the form to be added
9.8.1	Table 6: Statutory Officers	Local Government Pension Scheme Senior Officer ⁵⁹ ⁵⁹ The Local Government Pension Scheme (Governance) Regulations 2026 (SI 2026 545)	Updated to include the LGPS Senior Officer into the table, including the footnote to explain where the designation comes from
10.14.2	The Staff Appeals Committee is authorised to consider and determine any appeal made by an officer below the grade of Chief Officer ¹¹⁶ regarding: (a) disciplinary action; (b) grievances; (c) grading.	The Staff Appeals Committee is authorised to consider and determine any appeal made by an officer below the grade of Chief Officer ¹¹⁶ regarding: (a) disciplinary action; (b) grievances; (c) any other dismissal	This is incorrect as the Staff Appeals Committee does not consider grading - Delete para 10.14.2 (C)
10.25.8	The Council has delegated to the Chief Finance Officer the following Non Executive functions: (e) the day to day management and administration of Teesside Pension Fund matters including ensuring arrangements for investments of assets and administration of contributions and benefits, excluding matters delegated to the Teesside Pension Fund Committee	None - Para deleted	Under the Pensions Act 2026, The Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2026 (SI 2026

			545) this function will become the responsibilities of the LGPS senior Officer – delete para (e)
10.27	Statutory Officer Delegations 10.27.1 The Statutory Officers who are not Chief Officers (see paragraph 9.8) are as set out at Table 6. They are responsible for discharging the following functions:	(d) LGPS Senior Officer The LGPS Senior Officer has responsibility across all pension functions in accordance with guidance issued by the Secretary of State including the day to day management and administration of Teesside Pension Fund matters including ensuring arrangements for investments of assets and administration of contributions and benefits, excluding matters delegated to the Teesside Pension Fund Committee.	To include the LGPS Senior Officer in the delegations
12.6.12 1	What are the Chief Finance Officer's delegated powers in relation to the Pension Fund? The Chief Finance Officer is authorised to manage the Pension Fund on a day-to-day basis, including the exercise of the Council's functions as Administering Authority, the power to seek advice from professional advisers, and to devolve the handing of the Pension Fund's investment to appropriate fund managers.	What are the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Senior Officer's delegated powers in relation to the Pension Fund? The LGPS Senior Officer is authorised to manage the Pension Fund on a day-to-day basis, including the exercise of the Council's functions as Administering Authority, the power to seek advice from professional advisers, and to devolve the handing of the Pension Fund's investment to appropriate fund managers.	Pensions Act 2026, The Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2026 (SI 2026 545) - these powers will become the responsibilities of the LGPS Senior Officer. Change the title from Chief Finance officer to Local Government

			Pension Scheme Senior Officer
ALL	Amend all Director titles to reflect the changes further to the SMT review effective 01.01.26	Titles changed	Amended to reflect change in titles
4.8.4 (f) (iv)	The business to be considered at the Budget Meeting shall be limited to the budget reports, subject to the Chair having discretion to accept additional items other than those relating to the budget in exceptional or urgent circumstances. Accordingly the following items shall be excluded from the Council Budget Meeting agenda set out at 4.8.4(c) unless the Chair agrees otherwise for the efficient discharge of Council business: (i) (iv); (ii) (vii) to (x); (iii) (xi b-d); (iv) (xii) to v).	(xii) to (xv)	Reference at this para to (iv) (xii) to v) is incorrect. Correct reference is (iv) (xii) to (xv)
5.11.14 (a)	a) If a Member or an Officer receives an offer on behalf of the Council which falls outside the general consents set out in paragraph 5.12.5, regardless of value, they must:	a) If a Member or an Officer receives an offer on behalf of the Council which falls outside the general consents set out in paragraph 5.11.12, regardless of value, they must:	Reference at this para to 5.12.5 is incorrect as this para does not exist. Correct reference is 5.11.12.
9.3.2	Deputy - Head of Legal Services (People) Head of Policy, Governance and Information	Head of Legal Services (only)	Head of Policy, Governance and Information is no longer a Deputy Monitoring Officer. Job title is also incorrect, but as this is being removed, is not relevant.

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

- 4.1 Do nothing – If the Constitution remains unchanged, it risks becoming outdated and failing to reflect current working practices. The proposed revisions aim to enhance clarity and improve usability.

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	There is no direct financial impact as the amendments recommended improve clarity and usability only.
Procurement	There is no direct procurement impact as the amendments recommended improve clarity and usability only.
Legal	There are no legal implications as the amendments recommended improve clarity and usability only and are still in line with relevant legislation.
Risk	The amendments recommended provide clarity in the identified areas and therefore improve the risk associated with governance and decision making.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	There is no change to the impact on Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion.
Reducing poverty	There is no change to the impact on Reducing Poverty.
Climate Change / Environmental	There is no change to the impact on Climate Change / Environmental.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	There is no change to the impact on Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers.
Data Protection	There is no change to the impact on Data Protection.

Appendices

1	Updated Terms of Reference for Teesside Pension Fund Committee
2	
3	

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date
Full Council Report	Refresh of the Constitution	10 th September 2025

Constitution and Member Development Committee	Teesside Pension Fund Committee Terms of Reference	30 th July 2026

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin – Director of Legal and Corporate Services
Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1 – UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR TEESSIDE PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

Teesside Pension Fund Committee

Role and Delegated Functions

The Pension Fund Committee's principal aim is to carry out the functions of Middlesbrough Council as the Scheme Manager and Administering Authority for the Teesside Pension Fund in accordance with Local Government Pension Scheme and any other relevant legislation.

In its role as the administering authority, Middlesbrough Council owes fiduciary duties to the employers and members of the Teesside Pension Fund and must not compromise this with its own particular interests. Consequently this fiduciary duty is a responsibility of the Pension Fund Committee and its members must not compromise this with their own individual interests.

The Pension Fund Committee will have the following specific roles and functions, taking account of advice from the Chief Finance Officer and the Fund's professional advisers:

- a) Ensuring the Teesside Pension Fund is managed and pension payments are made in compliance with the extant Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations, Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs requirements for UK registered pension schemes and all other relevant statutory provisions.
- b) Ensuring robust risk management arrangements are in place.
- c) Ensuring the Council operates with due regard and in the spirit of all relevant statutory and non-statutory best practice guidance in relation to its management of the Teesside Pension Fund.
- d) Determining 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 Strategy– approving the Fund's Governance Strategy 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 including setting investment targets and ensuring these are aligned with the Fund's specific liability profile and risk appetite after taking advice from Border to Coast Pension Partnership.
 - iv) Conflicts of Interest Policy - approving the Fund's Conflict of Interest Policy setting out the approach to identifying, monitoring and managing actual, potential and perceived conflicts of interest in relation to the scheme.
 - v) Training Strategy - approving the Fund's Training Strategy 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.
 - vi) 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.
 - vii) Communications Strategy – approving the Fund's Communication Strategy, determining the methods of communications with the various stakeholders including scheme members and employers.
 - viii) Discretions – determining how the various administering authority discretions are operated for the Fund.
- e) Monitoring the implementation of these policies and strategies on an ongoing basis.
- f) In relation to the Borders to Coast Pension Partnership; the Asset Pooling Collaboration arrangements:
- i) Monitoring of the performance of the Borders to Coast Asset Pooling Collaboration recommending actions to the Joint Committee, The Mayor or his Nominee (in his role as the nominated person to exercise Shareholder rights and responsibilities), Officers Groups or BCPP Ltd, as appropriate.
 - ii) Undertake the role of Authority in relation to the Inter Authority Agreement, including but not limited to:

- Requesting variations to the Inter Authority Agreement
 - Withdrawing from the Inter Authority Agreement.
- g) Considering the Fund's financial statements and the Fund's annual report.
- h) Selection, appointment, dismissal and monitoring of the Fund's advisers, including actuary, benefits consultants, investment consultants, global custodian, lawyers, pension funds administrator, independent professional advisers and AVC provider.
- i) Liaison 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
- j) Making decisions relating to employers joining and leaving the Fund. This includes which employers are entitled to join the Fund, any requirements relating to their entry, ongoing monitoring and the basis for leaving the Fund.
- k) Agreeing the terms and payment of bulk transfers into and out of the Fund.
- l) Agreeing Pension Fund business plans and monitoring progress against them.
- m) Agreeing the Administering Authority responses to consultations on LGPS matters and other matters where they may impact on the Fund or its stakeholders.
- n) Receiving ongoing reports from the Chief Finance Officer, the LGPS Senior Officer and other relevant officers in relation to delegated functions.

No matters relating to Middlesbrough Council's responsibilities as an employer participating within the Teesside Pension Fund are delegated to the Pension Fund Committee.

Composition

(a) *Membership*

The Teesside Pension Fund Committee will be composed of 15 members. Its membership will include:

- i) Nine Councillors of Middlesbrough Council, determined by the Council.
- ii) One Councillor from each of Hartlepool Borough Council, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council.
- iii) One 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.
- iv) Two representatives of the scheme members of the Teesside Pension Fund, appointed in accordance with procedures agreed by the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

Named substitutes are permitted providing they satisfy the knowledge and skills policy of the pension fund.

(b) *Term of office*

- i) The representative members (for other scheme employers and scheme members) are appointed for a period of no more than six years and may be reappointed for further terms.
- ii) Councillors of the participating Councils will have a term of office to the next ordinary local government election following their appointment. They may be reappointed for further terms.

(c) *Quorum.*

A meeting of the Pension Fund Committee shall only be quorate when four members are present

(d) *Voting*

Voting Rights are held by all members including the scheme member representatives

(e) *Chairing the Committee.*

- i) Only a Councillor of Middlesbrough Council may be the Chair.
- ii) The Chair will be elected annually by members of Middlesbrough Council.
- iii) The Vice Chair will be decided annually by members of Middlesbrough Council.

(f) *Procedure Rules*

The Council's Rules of Procedure, Codes and Protocols will apply to this Committee in the same way as they apply to other Committees unless different provision is made in this article.

Members of the Teesside Pension Board shall be permitted to attend Pension Fund Committee meetings, including exempt items.

(g) *Knowledge and Skills Requirements*

Members of the Committee will be obliged to adhere to the Fund's Knowledge and Skills Policy, including attendance at training events.

(h) *Location*

The Pension Fund Committee may occasionally meet outside of Middlesbrough Council area.

Officers

The Committee may delegate a limited range of its functions to one or more officers of the Authority.

The Pension Fund Committee will be responsible for outlining expectations in relation to reporting progress of delegated functions back to the Pension Fund Committee.

OFFICERS' DELEGATIONS

LGPS Senior Officer

The day to day management and administration of Teesside Pension Fund matters including ensuring arrangements for investments of assets and administration of contributions and benefits, excluding matters delegated to the Teesside Pension Fund Committee.

OTHER DELEGATIONS RELATING TO BORDERS TO COAST ASSET POOLING COLLABORATION

At its meeting on the 15th February 2017, Middlesbrough Council approved its participation, acting as the Administering Authority for the Teesside Pension Fund, in the Border to Coast Pension Partnership Pooling Arrangement as the Council's approach to pooling investments in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 and the Guidance on Preparing and Maintaining an Investment Strategy. The following are responsibilities delegated relating to this participation (in addition to those mentioned in part (f) of the Teesside Pension Fund Committee responsibilities above).

The Chief Finance Officer (who is the Section 151 Officer) (or whomever he decides to nominate)

The nominated person to exercise the Council's rights as a shareholder in BCCP Limited and be its representative at shareholder meetings, on behalf of the Teesside Pension Fund. The responsibilities are as set out in the Shareholders Agreement, Articles, Inter Authority Agreement and any other agreements entered into and include, but are not limited to the following :

- a) to serve a written notice on the Board of the Company to cease to be a Shareholder in the Company
- b) to vote on matters, including the reserved matters in Schedule 1 of the Shareholder Agreement as replicated below:

Reserved Matters

PART A – Matters for approval by all of the Shareholders (unanimous consent required)

1. subject to FCA rules, extend the activities of the Company outside the scope of the Business or close down any operation of the Business;
2. subject to FCA rules, give any guarantee or indemnity outside the ordinary course of the Business to secure the liabilities of any person or assume the obligations of any person (other than a wholly owned subsidiary) (e.g. guaranteeing a lease that does not relate to the Business of the Company);

3. subject to FCA rules, enter into or vary any contracts or arrangements with any of the Shareholders or directors (other than service agreements and letters of appointment as directors) or any person with whom any shareholder or director is connected (whether as director, consultant, shareholder or otherwise) (e.g. any contract which could give preferential rights to a specific shareholder);
4. enter into any agreement not in the ordinary course of the Business and/or which is not on an arm's length basis;
5. enter into or vary any agreement for the provision of consultancy, management or other services by any person which will, or is likely to result in, the Company being managed otherwise than by its directors;
6. change the name of the Company;
7. pass a resolution or present a petition to wind up the Company or apply for an administration order or any order having similar effect in a different jurisdiction in relation to the Company unless in any case the Company is at the relevant time unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 Insolvency Act 1986;
8. reduce or cancel any share capital of the Company, purchase its own shares, hold any shares in treasury, allot or agree to allot, whether actually or contingently, any of the share capital of the Company or any security of the Company convertible into share capital, grant any options or other rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares of the Company or alter the classification of any part of the share capital of the Company (in each case other than as expressly permitted by this Agreement and/or the Articles where no prior consent shall be required including, without limitation, pursuant to either clause 4 (Finance & Regulatory Capital) and/or clause 15 (Consequences of Breach) and/or Article 26 of the Articles (Issue of Shares and Pre-Emption Rights));
9. other than as expressly permitted by this Agreement and/or the Articles, redeem or buy any existing Shares or otherwise reorganise the share capital of the Company;
10. admit any person as a member of the Company or an investor in the BCPP pool;
11. enter into any partnership, joint venture or profit sharing arrangement with any person (excluding entering into any investment or investment vehicle);
12. alter any of the provisions of the Articles or any of the rights attaching to the Shares;
13. amalgamate or merge with any other company or business undertaking;
14. sell, lease (as lessor), licence (as licensor), transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its material assets otherwise than in the ordinary course of the Business;
15. the removal and replacement of any Interim Directors, but for the avoidance of doubt not including any subsequent or replacement appointments of any director which shall be made under Part B below;
16. commence, settle or defend any claim, proceedings or other litigation brought by or against BCPP, except (i) in relation to debt collection (not exceeding £500,000) in the ordinary course of the Business and (ii) in relation to any investment related claims or proceedings relevant to the ACS or other collective investment vehicles;
17. take out any third party loan(s) in respect of BCPP which (in aggregate) exceed the sum of £5,000,000;
18. form any subsidiary of BCPP, or acquire any shares in any other company, whether through subscription or transfer, such that the company concerned becomes a subsidiary of BCPP;
19. determine the composition, governance arrangements and limits of authority of any

and all subsidiaries of BCPP;

20. approving and adopting a Subsequent Strategic Plan (including the Annual Budget) and/or amending any such Plan; and

21. make any capitalisation, repayment or other distribution of any amount standing to the credit of any reserve of the Company or pay or declare any dividend or other distribution to the Shareholders save that no consent will be required to pay the B Share Dividend.

PART B – Matters for approval by a Shareholder Majority only

1. enter into or materially vary any licence or other similar agreement relating to intellectual property to be licenced to or by the Company which is otherwise than in the ordinary course of the Business;

2. appoint or remove the auditors of the Company;

3. alter the Company's accounting reference date;

4. make any significant change to any of the Company's accounting or reporting practices other than conforming with any changes made to the accounting standards adopted by the Company;

5. approve the annual accounts of the Company;

6. determine the amount of, or any increase in, remuneration payable to any directors from time to time;

7. establish or amend any pension scheme (i.e. for employees of the Company);

8. subject to FCA rules, enter into any agency, distribution or similar agreement which confers or is expressed to confer any element of exclusivity as regards any goods or services the subject of such agreement or as to the area of the agreement or vary such an agreement to include any such exclusivity;

9. incur in any financial year any item or series of items of capital expenditure including finance leases (but excluding operating leases) of more than £5,000,000 (unless provided for in the Initial Strategic Plan or any Subsequent Strategic Plan);

10. enter into or vary any operating lease either as lessor or lessee, of any plant, property or equipment of a duration exceeding 5 years or involving aggregate premium and annual rental payments in excess of £100,000 (unless provided for in the Initial Strategic Plan or any Subsequent Strategic Plan);

11. adoption of (and any amendment of) any written conflicts policy;

12. approval of any conflict or potential conflict of interest any director may have which would preclude him or her from being included in the quorum of any meeting of the directors;

13. appointment of any subsequent director, any alternate director (who is not at the time a director of the Company) and including, for the avoidance of doubt any subsequent Chair in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 or otherwise; and

14. removal of any director and, for the avoidance of doubt, the Chair in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 or otherwise.

Chairman (or Vice Chairman in their absence) of the Teesside Pension Fund Committee

The nominated representative of the Council on behalf of Teesside Pension Fund on the Border to Coast Pension Partnership Joint Committee, noting that the Joint Committee shall not making binding decisions on the matters in the Terms of Reference of the Joint Committee but may make recommendations to each Authority to individually determine.

Chief Finance Officer (who is the Section 151 Officer)

- a) The nominated officer to meet and resolve any Deadlock Situation as per Clause 11 of the Shareholder Agreement
- b) The nominated officer to consider and resolve any Dispute as per Clause 13 of the Inter Authority Agreement

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Charlotte Benjamin, Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	9 September 2026
Title:	Vacancies on Committees and Outside Bodies 2026-2027
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)
That the Council approves: subject to receipt of nominations to the vacancies listed at paragraph 2.1 of the report, the places allocated in accordance with the wishes of the political groups and other Councillors and fills the vacancies.

Executive summary
The report seeks Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on Committees, Scrutiny Panels and Outside Bodies, due to vacancies that were not filled at the Annual Council Meeting or since, and resignations from Committees.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To seek Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on Committees, Scrutiny Panels and Outside Bodies, following resignations and vacancies that remain, following the Annual Council Meeting.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Council approves:

subject to receipt of nominations to the vacancies listed at paragraph 2.1 of the report, the places allocated in accordance with the wishes of the political groups and other Councillors and fills the vacancies.

Council Committees

Licensing Committee – 3 vacancies

Teesside Pension Fund Committee – 2 vacancies

Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel – 1 vacancy

Children's Scrutiny Panel – 1 vacancy

Working Groups

Corporate Health and Safety Steering Group – 3 vacancies

Works Council – 2 vacancies

Outside Bodies

Council Appointments

South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee – 2 vacancies (reserved to Labour)

Tees Valley Combined Authority Economy and Investment Committee – 2 vacancies
2 nominations: Mayor C Cooke, Councillor T Furness

Hartlepool Power Station Local Liaison Committee - 1 vacancy

Executive Appointments

Staying Put Advisory Committee – 1 vacancy

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 Following resignations from Committees and places on Committees and Outside Bodies that were not taken up at the Annual Council meeting or since, several vacancies exist. Council is required to consider and approve nominations for appointment to the vacancies.

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

- 4.1 Do Nothing – This option could result in meetings becoming inquorate and could result in the decision-making process being delayed.

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 appointments to Committee, Working Group and Outside Body vacancies in accordance with the Constitution.
Legal	The Council is required to agree appointments to Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.
Risk	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. By ensuring that meetings are quorate then the Council is ensuring that good governance is in place and in line with the requirements of the Council's Constitution. 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 has a duty to appoint to any vacant places on Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies to ensure that all meetings remain quorate. This will have a positive impact on this risk as the Council is fulfilling its 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	Not applicable as this is a report in relation to committee vacancies and does not change any policy.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not applicable as this is a report in relation to committee vacancies 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 in relation to committee vacancies and does not change any policy.
Data Protection	Not applicable as this is a report in relation to committee vacancies and does not change any policy.

Appendices

1

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer), Charlotte Benjamin
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	9 September 2026
Title:	Extraordinary Council Meeting - Resolution
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)
That Council resolves to: - call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave. - agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council.

Executive summary
The report seeks Council approval, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.5 (ii) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave. If Council resolve to call an Extraordinary meeting then the date of that meeting will be agreed with the Chair of the Council and arrangements will be made for a Freedom Ceremony to take place.

1. Purpose of this report and its contribution to the achievement of the Council Plan ambitions

- 1.1 To seek approval of Council, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.5 (ii) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Council resolves to:

- (i) call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave.
- (ii) agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 The Council of every Borough may from time to time, by the authority of not less than two-thirds of their number present and voting at a meeting of the Council specially called for the purpose with notice of the object, admit to be Honorary Proposed Freeman of the Borough, persons of distinction and any persons who have rendered eminent services to the Borough.
- 3.2 One such person of distinction has been nominated to be admitted to be Honorary Proposed Freeman of the Borough: Ronald Cave, in recognition of 45 years of voluntary service to the people of Middlesbrough. As a boxing coach with gyms in various locations in the town, Ronald Cave has contributed to both the sport and local communities by helping to develop several national and international champions, including an Olympic Bronze medal recipient. At a time when boxing largely attracted young men with abundant energy, strong personalities and, in some cases, a greater risk of falling into trouble, he provided a positive outlet and a disciplined environment in which they could thrive. Through his patience, dedication and belief in people, he has helped countless individuals stay on the right path, teaching respect, self-discipline, resilience and responsibility. In addition to full-time employment, Ronald regularly gave up his weekends to support boxers representing their club and community at junior, novice or ABA championships. The sacrifices made by both him and his family over four and a half decades demonstrate an unwavering dedication to his local community and Middlesbrough generally.
- 3.3 Subject to approval of the recommendations set out at 2.1 in this report, suitable arrangements will be made for the Freedom Ceremony.

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

- 4.1 There is an option not to call an Extraordinary Council meeting. This is not recommended as the Freedom Ceremony could not take place.

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	If Full Council agree to hold the Extraordinary Council meeting, which includes the Freedom Ceremony, the costs are anticipated to be approximately £1,000 and will be met directly from the Democratic Services budget.

Procurement	Not applicable as this is a report requesting an Extraordinary Council meeting.
Legal	There are no legal implications as a result of this decision.
Risk	There is no impact on risk as a result of this decision.
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	
2	
3	

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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