

## THE CHAIR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Tuesday 22 March 2022

Dear Member

### COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH, 2022

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough to be held on **Wednesday 30th March, 2022** at **7.00 pm** in the Council Chamber to transact the following business, namely:-

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest  
To receive any declarations of interest.
3. Minutes - Ordinary Council Meeting - 26 January 2022 and Budget Council Meeting - 23 February 2022 3 - 16
4. Announcements/Communications  
To receive and consider any communications from the Chair, Mayor, Executive Members or Chief Executive (if any).
5. Questions from Members of the Public (if any).
6. Mayor's Statement and Report
7. Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board 17 – 24
8. Urgent Items  
To consider and Deal with any urgent business brought before the Council by the Proper Officer (if any).
9. Members' Question Time 25 – 26
10. Notice of Motions 27 – 28
11. Notice of Urgent Motions (if any)
12. Council Diary Report 29 – 34

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "CJ Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Charlotte Benjamin,  
Director of Legal and Governance Services

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS RESTRICTED  
DISABLED ACCESS TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

Inspection of Papers – Documents referred to on this Summons may 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 Bernie Carr, Democratic Services on (Direct Line 01642 729714 or e-mail on: [bernie\\_carr@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:bernie_carr@middlesbrough.gov.uk)).

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Website: [www.middlesbrough.gov.uk](http://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk)

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**COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 26 January 2022.

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Hobson, A Bell (Vice-Chair), D Branson, C Cooke, B Cooper, D Coupe, C Dodds, L Garvey, A Hellaoui, T Higgins, S Hill, C Hobson, B Hubbard, N Hussain, L Mason, T Mawston, J McTigue, M Nugent, J Platt, E Polano, A Preston (The Mayor), J Rathmell, D Rooney, R Sands, M Saunders, M Smiles, M Storey, J Thompson, Z Uddin, S Walker, G Wilson and C Wright

**OFFICERS:** S Bonner, C Breheny, B Carr, D Johnson, T Parkinson, A Perriman, S Reynolds, K Whitmore and I Wright

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors R Arundale, D Davison, S Dean, T Furness, A High, D Jones, L Lewis, D McCabe, C McIntyre, G Purvis, J Rostron, P Storey and J Walker

21/87 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Coupe declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 11 – Stainton and Thornton Neighbourhood Plan, as Councillor for the Stainton and Thornton Ward.

21/88 **MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL - 17 NOVEMBER 2021 AND ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL - 24 NOVEMBER 2021**

The minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 17 November 2021 and the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 November 2021 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

21/89 **ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chair congratulated Councillor Nicky Gascoigne on her election as Councillor for the North Ormesby Ward on 16 December 2021.

The Chair announced with sadness, the recent death of former Middlesbrough Councillor, Joe Michna who represented Park Ward from 1988 – 2015, first as a Liberal Democrat then as the Council's first Green Party councillor.

The Chair also announced the sad death of former County Councillor, John Garvey who represented the Park End Ward from 1985 until 1996 when Cleveland County was abolished.

The Chair asked members to join him in a minutes silence as a mark of respect.

21/90 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (IF ANY).**

The Chair announced that two questions had been received from members of the public. The details of the specific questions were included at Agenda Item 5.

The Chair invited the member of the public that had submitted Question 1/21 to read her question out. The Chair invited Councillor Smiles to respond.

The Executive Member thanked the member of the public for her question.

In response to the question, the Executive Member advised that the relevant service responsible for the issue was the Middlesbrough Sensory Teaching Advisory and Resource Service. The Executive Member advised that she had spoken to officers about the situation and had been advised that the Council would be able to assist families with any difficulties in accessing services. There was a dedicated Social Worker dealing with children with hearing difficulties. The officer concerned would be able to work with parents who had children with deaf or hearing impaired difficulties to assist them in applying for specific funding to meet the child's needs.

The Council also worked with a number of different charities, including the ESME Foundation and the Birkdale Trust and Family Fund. Middlesbrough College was also providing British Sign Language courses, free of charge, for any person who did not have a Level 3 qualification.

The Chair advised that the member of the public who submitted question 2/21 was unable to attend the meeting. The Chair read the question out and advised that a written response would be provided.

21/91

## **MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND REPORT**

The Mayor stated that he wished to speak on the following issues:

### Anti-social behaviour

The Mayor stated that anti-social behaviour was an issue across the whole of the country. Although progress had been made in some areas, anti-social behaviour was still too high in Middlesbrough.

The Mayor advised that there had been longstanding issues with anti-social behaviour in the Hemlington area. Many of the issues were mainly due to a small group of people who were committed to carrying out acts of anti-social behaviour. The police were unable to police the area 24 hours a day and there was a limit to what they were able to do.

The Council could spend more money on youth services, but more needed to be done. There needed to be consequences for bad behaviour. The Mayor urged people to continue to report anti-social behaviour and crime in the area, so that the police had enough data/evidence to prosecute the offenders. Twenty four new security cameras had been ordered, and were due to be installed throughout the Hemlington area. The delivery had been delayed due to Covid, but they were due to arrive in three weeks. It was anticipated that the cameras would deter crime and capture any incidents in the area. This would assist in any action being taken against the offenders. More resources would be allocated to Hemlington in the near future.

The Mayor stated that every Ward had some elements of anti-social behaviour/crime, but by continuing to report it, hopefully the perpetrators would be caught and prosecuted.

### BOHO X

The Mayor advised that it was anticipated that BOHO X would be completed in the following ten months. The Council was currently in advanced discussions with those interested in occupying the site.

### Tollesby Shops

The Mayor advised that Tollesby shops had been derelict and an eyesore for a number of years and the site had attracted anti-social behaviour and damaged people's mental health. Following the Council's acquisition of the Tollesby shops, there would be new apartments for retired people and shops for the community would be put in place of the old shops. The Mayor urged people to get in touch if they had any issues regarding sites that had become an eyesore and the Council would try and deal with the issue.

### Cleveland Centre

The Mayor advised that the Council had purchased the Cleveland Centre for two reasons. The price of the centre had fallen from £100m to £12m and the rental that the Council received from the occupiers of the Centre, exceeded the cost of the loans and the interest that the Council had to pay. Doing nothing was not an option, and the centre needed to be looked after.

### Captain Cook Square Shopping Centre

The Mayor advised that the builders were currently on site in the former T J Hughes store. A private company had taken over the premises. The plans for the site, included an indoor Go Carting/Golf/Bowling Centre which would be open from 10.00am until 2.00am. It was

anticipated that the facility would open in April 2022.

### Executive Members

The Mayor advised that he had appointed two new Executive Members. Councillor Luke Mason had been appointed as Executive Member for Young Adults and Political Engagement, and Councillor Tony Grainge had been appointed as Executive Member for Neighbourhood Safety.

### Holocaust Memorial Day

The Mayor reminded people that the following day was Holocaust Memorial Day. He urged members to think about the Holocaust and also to remember the people caught up in the conflict in Ukraine.

### Jobs and the future

The Mayor stated that the television and the press were full of negative things. Utility bills were due to increase and this would hit the poorest people hardest and the Government and the Council needed to plan for that.

The Mayor advised that he had recently attended a jobs fair, and had been informed that there was difficulties in filling all of the vacancies. He advised that the opportunity to work had never been so vast.

Councillor M Storey stated that in respect of the Holocaust, everyone need to reflect on the event, He advised that it was getting to the point that there would be nobody left alive who had suffered as a result of the event and lessons needed to be learned.

Anti-social behaviour was a major issue, and although the focus was currently on the Hemlington area, there needed to be a strategic policy on anti-social behaviour and crime to cover the whole of the town. The PSPO currently only covered the Central and Newport Wards and this was an issue as all Wards were experiencing anti-social behaviour and crime, which was why a strategic policy that covered the whole of the town was required.

Councillor Storey also stated that it was good that the Mayor was speaking about the lack of police officers. 500 police officers and 50 PCSOs had been lost. The Council had lost 40% of its budget from Central Government. The Mayor needed to speak out more about funding received from Central Government. The Mayor needed to understand community triggers,

Councillor Storey stated that he was pleased with the proposed developments at Tollesby shops and he congratulated Councillor Dean with regard to all her previous work in pushing for improvements at the site.

News about the Helepad was pleasing.

In terms of the Cleveland Centre, Councillor Storey stated that it was pleasing to see that the Cleveland Centre would be brought back into use.

Councillor Storey advised that in terms of the increase in utility bills, the Labour Party had a policy of scrapping VAT on bills.

Councillor Uddin referred to anti-social behaviour in the town and he stated that the family of the children committing anti-social behaviour needed supporting. He stated that prison was not the answer.

In response to the comments about anti-social behaviour, the Mayor advised that prison sentences did work as a deterrent to others. A prison sentence would take people off the streets, it would warn others that there were consequences and so would act as a deterrent in the future. There had been too little enforcement in the past.

Councillor Mawston advised that everyone should remember the Holocaust.

The referred to the Endeavour ship that was previously located in the Cleveland Centre.

In terms of anti-social behaviour, he advised that he and Councillor Davison reminded people to report anti-social behaviour and crime but many were afraid of retributions.

The Mayor stated that the he would be happy to discuss the Endeavour ship.

Councillor McTigue stated that more effort needed to be made to get the perpetrators of crime off the streets. The current Criminal Justice system needed to be scrapped. Parents should be fined for the actions of children committing anti-social behaviour and crime.

Councillor Bell stated that he agreed with the comments about anti-social behaviour in Hemlington. Parents needed to be held responsible for the actions of their children. Detention centres needed to be brought back so that the parent and the child who had committed anti-social behaviour would have to attend at certain times of the day. Councillor Bell advised that the Neighbourhood Safety Officer was working with the Police and Thirteen were working together to tackle the issue.

Councillor Cooke stated that the root cause of many of the causes of anti-social behaviour was because of organised gangs. It was the leaders of these gangs that needed to be targeted.

The Mayor stated that the issue in Hemlington was different to that in Gresham. In Hemlington, it was a small number of 15 to 16 year olds that were causing the issues. If more cameras and wardens had been committed to the area four or five years ago, the situation might not be as bad as it was at the moment.

21/92 **AMENDMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

As required by the Council's Constitution, a report was submitted setting out the revised membership of the Executive, appointed by the Mayor, together with details of the amended Executive Scheme of Delegation.

**ORDERED** that the report be noted.

21/93 **REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

Council received and noted a report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board outlining the work of the Board and Scrutiny Panels.

21/94 **CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2022/23**

The Director of Finance and the Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance submitted a report, the purpose of which was to set the council tax base for the financial year 2022/2023 by the statutory deadline of 31 January 2022.

The Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance presented the report.

The Council had a legal obligation to calculate a council tax base each financial year. The calculation of the council tax base was a part of the Council's budget strategy which formed part of the Council's Policy Framework, and as such must be agreed by Full Council.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer reminded Members that any Member who was more than 2 months in arrears with their Council Tax must make a Declaration of Interest under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and must not take part in the voting.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer conducted a Recorded Vote. The result of the vote was as follows:

Votes For: (30)

Councillors Bell, Branson, Cooke, Cooper, Coupe, Dodds, Garvey, Hellaoui, Higgins, Hill, C Hobson, J Hobson, Hubbard, Hussain, Mason, Mawston, McTigue, Nugent, Platt, Polano, Rooney, Sands, Saunders, Smiles, M Storey, Thompson, Uddin, S Walker, Wilson, Wright



Against: Councillor J Rathmell (1)

Abstentions: Mr A Preston (1)

**ORDERED** as follows:

That the Council notes the contents of the report.

That the Council approves the council tax base for 2022/2023 as **35,228**.

That the Council approves **2,168** and **1,240** as the council tax bases for the parishes of Nunthorpe and Stainton & Thornton respectively for 2022/2023.

That the Council agrees to notify the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Cleveland Fire Authority and the Parish Councils of the 2022/2023 council tax base.

21/95

### **CORPORATE DEBT WRITE OFF POLICY**

The Director of Finance and the Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance submitted a report the purpose of which was to seek approval of the Corporate Debt Write Off Policy.

The purpose of the new policy was to provide a corporate approach to the writing off of bad and irrecoverable debts in a fair and timely manner, whilst seeking to maximise the opportunity for collection thereby minimising the need for write off.

All service areas were required to follow this policy to allow the Council to operate a consistent approach to debt write off, whilst having due regard to the customer's ability to pay.

Whilst some parts of debt write off were governed by particular legislative requirements such as Council Tax, Business Rates, Adult Social Care Debt, etc., wherever possible the overall principle of debt write off should be efficient and effective, always giving consideration to the financial impact on the Council when debt was written off.

The policy would underpin any specific recovery strategies and would be applied across all directorates.

The new policy would also support cross directorate communication where a shared customer base existed. It was envisaged that the approach would work within Data Protection legislation, and should be considered at a corporate level to reduce multiple officer engagements across directorates with the same resident and or business base.

Following a vote, it was **ORDERED** as follows:

That

- a) the Corporate Debt Write Off Policy be approved.
- b) the Budget Policy Framework and the officer delegated scheme of delegation be amended
- c) delegated authority be given to the Section 151 Officer to approve any future modifications to the Corporate Debt Write Off Policy.

21/96

### **STAINTON AND THORNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Director of Regeneration and Culture and the Executive Member for Regeneration submitted a report, the purpose of which was to seek approval of the Stainton & Thornton Neighbourhood Plan, incorporating the recommendations of the Independent Examiner's Report.

The Executive Member for Regeneration presented the report.

Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, parish councils and neighbourhood forums could prepare Plans that put in place a vision and planning policies for the

development, and use of land within their designated Neighbourhood Area.

Stainton & Thornton Parish Council had prepared its draft Neighbourhood Plan, which had been assessed by an Independent Examiner. The Independent Examiner had submitted his report to the Council, and recommended that a number of amendments, needed to be made before the Plan could proceed to the referendum stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process.

Officers had incorporated the necessary amendments to the Plan and the Parish Council had agreed that the Plan accorded with the Examiner's recommendations.

Approval was sought from the Council, for the Plan with the incorporated amendments to proceed to the referendum stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process. Once approved, a decision statement would be issued and placed on the Council's website outlining its decision that the Plan, should proceed to a referendum.

Following a successful outcome of the referendum, a further Council report would be prepared, in order for the Neighbourhood Plan to be formally adopted by the Council, as part of its Statutory Development Plan, against which future planning applications within the designated Neighbourhood Area would be determined.

Following a vote, it was **ORDERED** as follows:

That the Stainton & Thornton Neighbourhood Plan, incorporating the recommendations of the Independent Examiner's Report, be approved.

21/97 **URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items submitted for this meeting.

21/98 **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions submitted within the specified deadlines for Members' Questions for this meeting.

21/99 **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

21/100 **NOTICE OF URGENT MOTIONS (IF ANY)**

There were no Urgent Motions submitted within the specified deadlines for Urgent Motions for this meeting.

21/101 **UPDATE - COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report which proposed the following amendments to the Council's Constitution:

- amendments to the Contract Procedure Rules, Financial Thresholds.
- an amendment to the wording for rules in relation to Ordinary Motions at Paragraph 76 of the Council Procedure Rules.
- an amendment to Page 8 – paragraph 3 of the Officer Employment Procedure Rules - Change of wording for the Appointment of Head of Paid Service to provide for the appointment to be made by Full Council or by recommendation from the Chief Officer Appointments Committee.
- insert Procedure and Guidance for Councillor Calls for Action into the Constitution.
- insert Political Balance Procedure Rules into the Constitution.
- amendment to the Standards Committee and Corporate Affairs and Audit Committee, Terms of Reference.

The report also sought approval of a Social Media Framework: Policy and Guidelines for Elected Members to be included in the Members' Handbook.

Following a vote, it was **ORDERED** that Council approve the following:

- (a) The proposed changes to the Constitution as detailed in the report and notes that the

Monitoring Officer will, under delegated powers, amend the Constitution accordingly.

- (b) The Social Media Framework: Policy and Guidelines for Elected Members for inclusion within the Members Handbook.
- (c) That the Monitoring Officer, under delegated powers be authorised to amend the Constitution and make any necessary minor textual changes or further adjustments to comply with any subsequent legislative changes, changes to reflect decisions taken by Council and/or Executive and changes which are of typographical/drafting error nature.

21/102

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES - VACANCIES**

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report, the purpose of which was to seek Members' approval to nominations for appointment, arising from vacancies, as a result of resignations from Committees.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer requested Council to agree appointments, arising from vacancies and resignations from the following Committees:

### **Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel**

1 Vacancy – Open to Conservative Councillors initially

1 nomination: Councillor D Coupe – **Councillor Coupe appointed**

### **Vice-Chair of Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel**

2 nominations: Councillor Hellaoui and Saunders

Following a vote, **Councillor Saunders was appointed.**

### **Corporate Health and Safety Steering Group**

1 Vacancy – Open to all Councillors

1 nomination was received for Councillor Higgins – **Councillor Higgins appointed.**

### **Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel**

1 Vacancy – Open to Conservative Councillors initially

No nominations were received from the Conservative group

1 nomination was received from Councillor Nugent – **Councillor Nugent appointed.**

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**COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 23 February 2022.

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Hobson, R Arundale, D Branson, C Cooke, B Cooper, D Coupe, D Davison, S Dean, C Dodds, T Furness, TA Grainge, A Hellaoui, T Higgins, A High, S Hill, C Hobson, B Hubbard, N Hussain, L Lewis, L Mason, T Mawston, D McCabe, M Nugent, J Platt, E Polano, A Preston (The Mayor), G Purvis, J Rathmell, D Rooney, J Rostron, R Sands, M Saunders, M Smiles, J Thompson, Z Uddin, G Wilson and C Wright

**OFFICERS:** C Benjamin, S Bonner, B Carr, A Hoy, A Humble, D Johnson, S Lightwing, T Parkinson, S Reynolds, K Whitmore and I Wright

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors A Bell (Vice-Chair), L Garvey, N Gascoigne, D Jones, C McIntyre, J McTigue, M Storey, P Storey, J Walker and S Walker

21/103 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

21/104 **PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2022/2023**

The Director of Legal and Governance Services and the Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance submitted a report, the purpose of which was for Council to agree the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23.

The Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance advised that the Pay Policy Statement set out the Council's policies on remuneration of its staff in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011. The policy was required to be approved by full Council and was subject to annual review.

The Pay Policy Statement set out details of the various employee policies relevant to the remuneration of Chief Officers in operation within the Council. The actual content of those policies included within the statement would continue to be determined by current mechanisms.

The Pay Policy highlighted that where an employee was contractually entitled to a payment in excess of £100,000 on the grounds of compulsory redundancy, failure to comply with this would place the Council in breach of contract and leave it exposed to litigation. Therefore, there was an exemption from the requirement to give Council an opportunity to vote on those cases where the payment of a severance package did not involve any discretion, this was because the Council was legally bound to comply with severance terms in any event.

The planned HR policy for settlement agreements, to outline the procedure and approval routes, had been delayed as a government consultation had taken place which would cover such payments (attached at Appendix 1 to the report). Following the publication of the results of the consultation, a policy would be developed.

Following a vote, it was:

**ORDERED** that the Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23 be approved.

21/105 **APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS 2023/24 TO 2027/28**

The Director of Finance and the Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance submitted a report, the purpose of which was for Council to approve participation in the National Appointments Scheme for the procurement and selection of external auditors from 1 April 2023.

The current auditor appointment arrangements (the 'National Scheme') covered the period up to and including the audit of the 2022/23 accounts. The Council opted into the 'appointing

person' national scheme established by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for the period covering the accounts for 2018/19 to 2022/23.

PSAA was now undertaking a procurement for the next appointing period, covering audits of the accounts for the financial years, 2023/24 to 2027/28. During autumn & winter 2021, all local government bodies needed to make important decisions about their external audit arrangements from 2023/24. They had options to arrange their own procurement and make the appointment themselves or in conjunction with other bodies, or they could join and take advantage of the national collective scheme administered by PSAA.

The report considered the options available and requested Council to approve participation in the National Appointments Scheme, following endorsement by Executive and Corporate Affairs and Audit Committee.

The Council had three options under the Audit & Accountability Act 2014. The options were as follows:

- To appoint its own auditor, which required it to follow the procedures set out in the Act.
- To work jointly with other authorities to procure an auditor following the procedures in the Act.
- To opt into the national auditor appointment scheme administered by a body designated by the Secretary of State as the 'appointing person'. The body currently designated for this role is Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA).

Councillor McCabe queried whether any savings would be achieved by opting into the National Auditor Appointment Scheme. The Director of Finance advised that it was not clear at this point, as the report was requesting approval of participation in the National Appointments Scheme for the procurement and selection of external auditors from 1 April 2023.

Councillor Cooke indicated that paragraph 26 of the report suggested that it would be more cost effective to participate in the scheme.

Following a vote, it was:

**ORDERED** that participation in the National Appointments Scheme for the procurement and selection of external auditors from 1 April 2023, be approved.

21/106

### **LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT 2022/23**

The Director of Finance and the Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance submitted a report, which sought approval for the amendment of the Council's Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme for 2022/2023.

The Local Government Finance Act Section 67 (2012 Act) inserted into LGFA 1992 (Functions to be discharged by the Authority) making or revising a Council Tax Support Scheme – Section 13 (2) confirms that each billing Authority in England must make a Council Tax Support scheme by no later than 11 March each year. Any scheme cannot be made by officers, with the above legislation confirming that authorisation of the full scheme is subject to member approval.

Details of the existing Council Tax Support Scheme were outlined in the report. Following a review of the existing scheme, it was clear that the means tested CTS scheme, was too reactive to change, would not be viable in the longer term now that UC had been rolled out fully within the area and given the massive increase in UC claimants due to the COVID-19 crisis. Giving weight to those circumstances, it was considered that it would be appropriate to move to a more efficient scheme from 2022/23.

It was proposed that an alternative approach be taken from 2022/23, through the redesign of the scheme to address all of the main areas highlighted in the report.

Work had been ongoing since early 2021 on designing and modelling a proposed alternative

scheme.

Following approval at Executive on 5 October 2021, consultation with stakeholders, partners and the general public had now been undertaken, as well as with Major precepting authorities. This consultation had resulted in a few minor suggested changes to the proposed scheme. If agreed by the Council, the proposed alternative scheme would take effect from 1st April 2022.

Details of the revised scheme and how it would operate were outlined in the report.

It was highlighted that any change in scheme or a transition to a proposed alternative scheme could result in a change to the entitlement of certain claimants.

The changes to the scheme, would mean those regarded as the most vulnerable would gain in award, with others having a reduced award (i.e. those with capital over £10,000). It was proposed that the alternative scheme would contain additional provisions to protect individuals who experienced exceptional hardship. Where any claimant was likely to experience exceptional hardship, they would be encouraged to apply for an exceptional hardship payment. The Council would consider all applications for exceptional hardship on an individual basis, taking into account available income and essential outgoings. Where appropriate, further support would be given to the claimant.

This approach would enable individual claimants to be dealt with in a fair and equitable manner. The Exceptional Hardship Scheme would form part of the CTS scheme and would be paid through the Collection Fund.

The proposed changes, would simplify a complicated scheme, further assist low income households and support the collection of council tax, whilst also fulfilling the obligations on Local Authorities to support the roll out of Universal Credit.

Changes to the existing scheme had been subject to full consultation which ran from the 14 October 2021 to 7 December 2021, a period of over 7 weeks. Responses informed the scheme, were broadly accepted, and resulted in minor changes to the proposed capital limit and income bands for couples with 2 or more children.

A number of members spoke in support of the scheme, highlighting the assistance it provided to those residents who were in need of additional support.

In response to a query from Councillor Wright, it was confirmed that Care Leavers were still classed as exempt. Following a query from Councillor Cooke, it was confirmed that child benefit would be disregarded when calculating the amount of Council Tax Support.

The Monitoring Officer conducted a Recorded Vote. The result of the vote was as follows:

Votes For: (37)

Mr A Preston (Elected Mayor) Councillors Arundale, Branson, Cooke, Cooper, Coupe, Davison, Dean, Dodds, Furness, Grainge, Hellaoui, Higgins, High, Hill, C Hobson, J Hobson, Hubbard, Hussain, Lewis, Mason, Mawston, McCabe, Nugent, Platt, Polano, Purvis, Rathmell, Rooney, Rostron, Sands, Saunders, Smiles, Thompson, Uddin, Wilson, Wright

Against: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

Following the vote, it was **ORDERED** as follows:

That the revised Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme for 2022/23, be approved.

21/107

## **REVENUE BUDGET, COUNCIL TAX, MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND CAPITAL STRATEGY 2022/23**

The Mayor presented a report which set out the proposed Revenue Budget, Council Tax, Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Strategy for 2022/23.

The Mayor advised that the Council's financial position was relatively stable but it still needed to be careful, as the future was still uncertain. As part of the budget, the Council was proposing a 2.99% increase in Council Tax, comprising of a 0% increase in general Council Tax, and an additional precept of 2.99% for Adult Social Care.

The Mayor advised that the budget did not propose any cuts to any Council services. The public and the politicians had been consulted on the budget and all suggestions had been considered.

The Mayor advised that a minor amendment to the proposed budget had been received and he advised that he aimed to support the proposed amendment.

Consideration was given to the proposed amendment to the budget, moved by Councillor Cooke and seconded by Councillor Rooney of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules as follows:

"The Motion proposed remains to adopt a revenue budget of £118,328,934, but to propose the following amendment:

Replacement of Paragraph 54 of the budget report as follows:

54. A budget of £495,000 per annum has been provided for investment in services provided to residents. It is proposed that this will be spent on delivering the following main priorities

- £160,000 per annum to create a tree maintenance squad in order to initially clear the backlog of works, and create an ongoing tree maintenance programme to reduce backlogs potentially re-occurring in the future.
- £90,000 per annum to enable the Council to offer a subsidised Pest Control service to residents. This would include the recruitment of two additional pest control operatives.
- £150,000 per annum towards expanding the current youth provision, targeting areas of the town where crime and anti-social behaviour are high.
- The remaining £95,000 per annum will initially be held centrally, and will be allocated to service directorates throughout 2022/23 as other priorities develop".

The amendment had been examined by the Council's Section 151 Officer and he had confirmed that should the amendment be approved, the Council would have a balanced and legally, implementable budget.

Councillor Cooke spoke in support of the amendment to the budget.

Councillor Cooke advised that the amendment centred on issues that had been raised by members of the public.

- The Council required a pest control service.
- The issues with trees including overgrown trees and the lack of on-going maintenance of trees.
- The Council required a Youth Service offering and funding was required to resource the service.

Councillor Rooney spoke in support of the amendment to the budget and thanked the Council officers for their hard work in pulling the budget together. Most Councillors had received complaints from residents about the issues included in the motion. The funding provided the opportunity to address the issues.

Councillors Hellaoui, Mawston, Saunders, Arundale, C Hobson, Furness, Higgins, Branson, Uddin, Rathmell, Mason, Hubbard and Cooper commented on the amendment to the budget.

The Monitoring Officer conducted a Recorded Vote on the Amendment to the Budget. The result of the vote was as follows:



Votes For: (36)

Mr A Preston (Elected Mayor) Councillors Arundale, Branson, Cooke, Cooper, Coupe, Davison, Dean, Dodds, Furness, Grainge, Hellaoui, Higgins, High, Hill, C Hobson, J Hobson, Hubbard, Hussain, Lewis, Mason, Mawston, McCabe, Nugent, Platt, Polano, Purvis, Rooney, Rostron, Sands, Saunders, Smiles, Thompson, Uddin, Wilson, Wright

Against: (0)

Abstentions: (1) Councillor Rathmell

The Monitoring Officer conducted a Recorded Vote on the original Budget with the amendment included. The result of the vote was as follows:

Votes For: (36)

Mr A Preston (Elected Mayor) Councillors Arundale, Branson, Cooke, Cooper, Coupe, Davison, Dean, Dodds, Furness, Grainge, Hellaoui, Higgins, High, Hill, C Hobson, J Hobson, Hubbard, Hussain, Lewis, Mason, Mawston, McCabe, Nugent, Platt, Polano, Purvis, Rooney, Rostron, Sands, Saunders, Smiles, Thompson, Uddin, Wilson, Wright

Against: (1) Councillor Rathmell

Abstentions: (0)

Following the outcome of the vote, the Monitoring Officer confirmed that the amended budget was approved in principle. It was clarified that the Mayor had five days in which to consider the amended budget. The Mayor confirmed that he wished to waive the five day period for consideration of the amended budget so that the budget could be approved with immediate effect. On that basis, the Monitoring Officer confirmed that the amended budget was approved with immediate effect.

**ORDERED** as follows:

That the Council approves the proposed budget strategy for 2022/23 as set out in paragraphs 30 to 70, subject to the replacement of paragraph 54 as detailed above.

Having taken into account the matters set out in Section 32 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the items set out within the report, that the Council approves the budget requirement for 2022/23 to be set at £118,328,934 as detailed in Appendix 1.

That the Council approves the actual amount of Council Tax (Band D) for areas without parish precepts (excluding Fire and Police) be set at £1,809.67. This represents a total increase of 2.99%. This comprises of a 0% increase in general Council Tax, and an additional precept of 2.99% for Adult Social Care (which includes 1% relating to 2022/23, and 1.99% of unused remaining allowable allocation from 2021/22), which has been continued by the Government to contribute towards the shortfall of funding for adult social care.

That the Council approves the actual amount of Council Tax (Band D) for areas with parish precepts (excluding Fire and Police) be set at :-

Nunthorpe Parish	£ 1,819.10
Stainton and Thornton Parish	£ 1,818.98

That the amounts of Council Tax for each category of dwelling be set in accordance with table 4 of Appendix 3 within the report, be approved.

That the refreshed Medium Term Financial Plan position for 2022-25 set out in the report in paragraphs 92 to 144, be noted.

That the updated Investment Strategy for the period to 2024/25 as outlined in paragraphs 145 to 150 and detailed in Appendix 4 of the report, be approved.

That the Capital Strategy Report (Prudential indicators, Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision) 2022/23 as outlined in paragraphs 151 to 162 and detailed in Appendix 5, and the Authorised Limit for external borrowing of £356 million for the Council for 2022/23 as set out in paragraph 161, be approved.

That following confirmation from the Mayor that he wished to waive the 5 day period for consideration of the amended budget, the budget be implemented with immediate effect.

The Chair announced that as the budget was approved with immediate effect, the Council meeting that was scheduled for 4 March 2022 was now cancelled.

**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**



**COUNCIL**

<b>Report title</b>	Scrutiny Progress Report
<b>Chief Executive or Director</b>	Director of Legal and Governance Services
<b>Date</b>	30 March 2022

**Summary**

**Proposed decision(s)**

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.

<b>Report for:</b>	<b>Key decision:</b>	<b>Confidential/Exempt:</b>	<b>Is the report urgent?</b>
To be noted	No	No	Non-urgent report

**Contribution to delivery of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan**

<b>People</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Business</b>
N/A	N/A	Members will be able to keep abreast of the work carried out through the Scrutiny Process

**Ward(s) affected**

No wards in Middlesbrough are directly affected.

**What is the purpose of this report?**

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

**Why is this report necessary?**

2. The report is necessary so that Members are aware of the work being carried out by the individual Scrutiny Panels and the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

**What decision(s) are being asked for?**

3. That Council note the report.
4. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

The Overview and Scrutiny Board met on 22 February 2022 and 23 March 2022.

At the 22 February 2022 meeting the Board considered / received information in respect of the following:

- Executive Forward Work Programme;
- Executive Member Update: Executive Member for Culture and Communities and previous Executive Member for Education
- Chief Executive's Update;
- Scrutiny Chairs Updates;
- Revenue and Capital Budget - Projected Outturn position as at Quarter Three 2021/22;
- Corporate Performance Report – Quarter 3.

At the 23 March 2022 meeting the Board considered / received information in respect of the following:

- Executive Forward Work Programme;
- Executive Member Update: Executive Member for Environment, Governance and Finance
- Chief Executive's Update;
- Scrutiny Chairs Updates;
- Town Centre Update.

## **SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATES**

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

### **Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

The Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel met on 2 March 2022.

The Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration provided Members with an update regarding the integration of Health and Social Care.

The Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration and the Advanced Public Health Practitioner were also in attendance at the meeting to provide members with an introduction to the panel's new topic of the Role of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in supporting Adult Social Care (with a focus on Covid-19 Recovery).

The next meeting of the panel is scheduled for 30 March 2022.

### **Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel**

The Scrutiny Panel continues to gather evidence in respect of its current review of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The Scrutiny Panel's last meeting was held on 21 March 2022. At this meeting, the Council's Head of Inclusion, Assessment and Review; the Head of Resources and the

Head of Service for Children with Disabilities were in attendance to provide evidence in respect of the increasing demands across the Local Area.

Information was presented to the Scrutiny Panel that detailed the pressures across education, health and social care with regards to children and young people with SEND and those at risk of exclusion.

It was highlighted to Members that:

- there had been a 63% increase in referrals for statutory assessment;
- Interim Reviews for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) had risen by 55%;
- there had been a 20% increase in EHCPs to be maintained; and
- there had been an increase in the rate of exclusions, with 43 pupils being permanently excluded since September 21 (34% of those excluded children had SEND).

Detailed information was presented to the Scrutiny Panel in respect of the mitigation measures and strategies that had been introduced/implemented, the wider system impacts and future pressures.

The Scrutiny Panel's next meeting is scheduled to be held on 25 April 2022. At this meeting, Members will receive:

- a comprehensive report on exclusions; and
- information on how the Local Authority works with schools to identify and support all the children and young people in Middlesbrough who have, or may have, SEND.

### **Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

Since the last OSB update report to Council in January, the Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel has met on 25 January, 21 February and 21 March 2022.

The Panel has continued to gather evidence in relation to its current review 'Locality Working from a Children's Services Perspective'. At the 25 January meeting, the Panel heard from several partners working within the North Ormesby locality: Youth Focus North East; Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland and North Ormesby Primary School.

At its meeting on 21 February, the Panel was attended by the Head of Stronger Communities who provided an overview of the locality working project in North Ormesby and responses to several points of clarification previously raised by the Panel.

The meeting was also attended by:

- The North Ormesby Neighbourhood Police Sergeant – who spoke about how the multi-agency approach of locality working has helped to reduce anti-social behaviour in North Ormesby.

- Two of the Children's Centre Assistant Team Managers from within Education and Partnerships – who discussed the role of the Children's Centre and school readiness within the localities.
- The Neighbourhood Safety Manager – who spoke about the contribution made by Street Wardens within the localities and the impact they were having.

At the Panel's meeting on 21 March, a presentation was provided by C O'Neill, Children's Improvement Advisor with the LGA, on developing a Council-wide approach to Children's Services, together with a brief overview of the SEND review.

In addition, the Executive Director of Children's Services provided an update on the Children's Services Improvement Plan, focussing on the previous Ofsted monitoring visit in December 2021.

The Panel's next meeting is scheduled for 26 April 2022.

### **Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel**

The Culture and Communities Panel met on 10 February 2022 and 10 March 2022 and continued their review on Tough enough? Enforcement in Middlesbrough and its impact on crime and anti-social behaviour.

At the February meeting the Panel received information in relation to locality working and heard from the officers, partners and the ward councillor from Newport Ward. The Panel were pleased to hear that locality working had had a huge impact on the community and reducing asb and crime.

At the March meeting, the Panel was joined by Harvinda Saimbhi, CEO of ASB Help and Katy Anderson, Practitioner Support Manager as well as internal officers.

ASB Help had featured on the recent BBC Panorama documentary – Anti-social behaviour- afraid in my own home, which addressed anti- social behaviour in Hemlington and discussed community triggers, putting the victim at the heart of the process.

The Panel heard about the work ASB help do and were provided with information on the community trigger process as well as learning about the ASB pledge.

The next meeting of the Panel will take place on Thursday 7 April 2022.

### **Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel**

The Economic Development Infrastructure and Environment Scrutiny Panel met on 9 February and 9 March 2022.

At the February meeting the Panel received information in relation to Bus Services from the Head of Transport of the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) and in particular the new Bus Service Improvement Plan for the Tees Valley.

As part of the current review into Middlesbrough Council's Green Strategy, the Head of Culture attended the meeting and provided information in relation to Middlesbrough Council's Culture and Community Action Group.

At the March meeting the Panel received presentations on Sheffield City Council's Grey to Grey Strategy and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council's West Bromwich Outdoor Market. Both presentations contributed to the Panel's current scrutiny review of the Green Strategy.

The next Panel meeting is scheduled for 6 April 2022 when the Panel is due to receive information in relation to the Council's new Waste Disposal Facility, from the Director of Environment and Community Services and an update on broadband installation in Middlesbrough from CityFibre.

## **Health Scrutiny Panel**

At the Health Scrutiny Panel's meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> March Members received information relating to its review into Health Inequalities from the Tees Valley CCG and the Council's Public Health Team.

The TVCCG informed Members that health inequalities across the Tees Valley were generally worse than the English average. Specific areas included higher rates of obesity and smoking

As such the TVCCG identified five priority areas that would help tackle health inequalities. These included restoring and strengthening leadership and accountability and achieving this required a need to work collaboratively, especially with system partners including Local Authorities.

The Council's Public Health Team Panel also informed Members that health inequalities needed to be reframed with the most effective means of addressing them being including structural changes to individual's environments and intensive support for disadvantaged population groups, all of which needed to be started when those groups were young.

Members were also informed that health inequalities were driven by complex interactions between lots of different factors all of which had been exacerbated by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Approaches to tackling the problem of health inequalities revolved around Place Based Action that encompassed Civic, Services and Community centered interventions. The Panel were keen to understand if health inequalities were solvable and were told that as they centered on preventable differences in health status it was possible to reduce those inequalities but a long term, collaborative approach, was required.

The Panel also received its Covid-19 update and heard that Middlesbrough was placed 133 out of 149 in the league tables and averaged 200 infections per day, a situation that was stabilizing. Hospital admissions were also stabilizing and critical care cases were also low. As with previous updates, vaccination rates in the town remained low.

## **Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee**

The Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee met on 18 March 2022 and considered the following:

- Tees, Esk & Wear Valley (TEWV) NHS Foundation Trust - Response to recent CQC inspection;
- North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) Performance Update;
- TVCCG – Update including:-
  - The development of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System (NECS ICS), the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and the proposed sub-regional Integrated Care Partnership's (ICP's)
  - Opioid prescribing rates across the Tees Valley and actions taken to reduce overprescribing
  - Learning Disabilities Respite Review

## **SCRUTINY REPORTS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE**

Since the last update to Council, the Final Report of the Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel - Middlesbrough Regeneration Post Covid-19, was submitted to Executive on 14 February 2022 and approved.

The Final Report of the Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel - Cultural Events in Middlesbrough: Their Impact and Future, was submitted to Executive on 14 February 2022 and approved.

The Final Report of the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel – The Recruitment and Retention of Staff within Adult Social Care, was submitted to Executive on 8 March 2022 and approved.

### **Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended**

5. No other options were considered.

### **Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)**

#### **Legal**

6. There are no legal implications as a result of the proposed appointments.

#### **Financial**

7. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **The Mayor's Vision for Middlesbrough**

8. The report is line with the Mayor's vision for Middlesbrough.

### **Policy Framework**

9. The report does not impact on the overall budget and policy framework.

### **Wards**



10. The report does not impact on wards.

***Risk***

11. Not applicable.

***Equality and Diversity***

12. An Impact Assessment has not been completed, as it is not applicable.

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

13. Not applicable.

**Background papers**

14. No unpublished background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

**COUNCILLOR M SAUNDERS  
CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**Contact Officer:**

Caroline Breheny

Democratic Services

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**COUNCIL MEETING – 30 MARCH 2022**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 28 - 33**

QUESTION NO.	QUESTION FROM	QUESTION TO	QUESTION
9/21	Councillor Branson	The Mayor	“Given the imminent ending of government financial support for bus services, and the recent remarks of Steven Walker of Stagecoach in respect of the need for replacement financial support from the local authorities, what action is the Mayor proposing to take to prevent a substantial reduction in the already limited bus network in the region which would leave many people in Teesside being unable to access work opportunities in the near future?”
10/21	Councillor Furness	Councillor Polano	<p>“The town centre could see the ongoing trend and decline in footfall and trade given the current economic climate of high Inflation. From higher energy costs and squeezing of peoples disposable income will see overheads increase and income shrink. Considering the council has taken the strategy of buying 2 large shopping areas of the town centre.</p> <p>How will the council react in this economic environment to combat loss of trade? Can we afford to see delinquency’s on rent in these areas?”</p>
11/21	Councillor Furness	Councillor Polano	<p>“Landlord licensing.</p> <p>This scheme has worked and continues to work in North Ormesby and the roll out into Newport has been a success. Can we see it extended further in Wards like mine Park Ward?</p> <p>How many properties are under license in each ward that the scheme is operating in?”</p>
12/21	Councillor Uddin	The Mayor	“I noticed that there have been no exec member’s reports for the council meeting in fact since November 21 none has been provided. I understand that the Council staff are working tirelessly to do the best for our town, but lack of exec reports undermines all the hard work they are undertaking, for example that CYP SC and SP panel highlighted that over the year children services have made a significant improvement to our service delivery but only panel members are aware of the progress. I feel that all the members as well as

			members of the public need to know the progress. Therefore I wonder whether council would reconsider providing the regular exec reports please?".a
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**COUNCIL MEETING – 30 MARCH 2022  
NOTICE OF MOTION**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NOS. 53-60**

MOTION NO.	PROPOSER	SECONDER	MOTION
152	Councillor M Storey	Councillor Dean	<p>Middlesbrough Council recognises and sends its congratulations to Her Majesty the Queen on reaching 70 years on the throne.</p> <p>The Platinum Jubilee is an opportunity for people to pay tribute and thank the Queen for leading Britain. In her 70 years as monarch she has been a calming and reassuring presence to the people of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth. It is also an opportunity for people to reflect on the changes that have occurred during her long reign.</p> <p>This Council therefore takes this opportunity to recognise her longevity and hard work on behalf of the country in her time as sovereign.</p>

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<b>MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL</b>	
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<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance and Director of Legal and Governance Services
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<b>Submitted to:</b>	Council
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<b>Date:</b>	30 March 2022
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<b>Title:</b>	Council Diary – 2022/2023
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<b>Report for:</b>	Decision
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<b>Status:</b>	Public
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<b>Strategic priority:</b>	All
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<b>Key decision:</b>	No
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<b>Why:</b>	Not applicable
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<b>Urgent:</b>	No
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<b>Why:</b>	Not applicable
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<b>Executive summary</b>
<p>In order to prepare a diary of meetings for the Municipal Year 2022/2023, Council is requested to approve the attached draft programme for Council, Executive and other committee meetings.</p> <p>The dates are tentative at this stage and may change depending upon the meetings being re-established in the new municipal year and to the requirements of individual chairs appointed at the annual meeting.</p>

## **Purpose**

1. To seek approval of the draft programme of Council committee meeting dates for the Municipal Year 2022/2023 as outlined in the attached Appendix A and to approve the dates and times of Council meetings.

## **Background and relevant information**

2. The Constitution requires that Council approve the diary of meetings for the Municipal Year 2022/2023.
3. The dates are tentative and may be subject to change, depending on the appointment and availability of individual Chairs

## **What decision(s) are being recommended?**

That the Council:

- Approves the timetable of meetings for the Municipal Year 2022/2023, as detailed in the Appendix attached.
- That, with the exception of the following, the dates for ordinary meetings of the Council be designated as meetings at which questions will be taken from members of the public:
  - Budget/Council Tax Setting Meeting – Monday, 27 February 2023 and Wednesday 8 March 2023.
  - Wednesday 25 May 2023 (Annual Meeting)

## **Rationale for the recommended decision(s)**

4. Council is required to approve the diary of meetings for the Municipal Year 2022/2023. The Section 151 Officer and Finance Services were consulted with regard to the proposed meeting dates for the consideration of the Budget and Council Tax Setting Meeting.

## **Other potential decision(s) and why these have not been recommended**

5. Do Nothing. If this option was selected no Council decisions would be able to be taken if there were no meetings scheduled.

## **Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)**

### ***Legal***

6. The dates of the meetings for the approval of the budget have been scheduled to enable the budget to be agreed by 11 March 2023, in accordance with statutory requirements.



## Strategic priorities and risks

7. The relevant risks this decision would influence are cited below, with an explanation as to why they are relevant and how it would affect each risk.

Risk No	Risk Description	Impact
O8-054	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement.	By setting the diary of meetings for the year then Council is ensuring that the good governance is in place and meetings take place in line with the Council's constitution so this would have a positive impact on this 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.	The Council are obliged to hold meetings which members of the public being able to provide questions. By setting a diary of meetings this allows this to happen and has a positive impact on the Council fulfilling its statutory duties.

## Human Rights, Equality and Data Protection

8. Not applicable

## Financial

9. There are no financial implications arising from the content of this report.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
<a href="#">Schedule the meetings</a>	Democratic Services Officers	25 May 2023

## Appendices

1	Copy of the Schedule of Meetings
2	
3	

## Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: [charlotte\\_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk)



**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL  
COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2022/2023**

Committee	Time	Day	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023
<b>Council</b>	7 00 p.m. (unless indicated otherwise)	WEDS (unless indicated otherwise)	25(#1)		6*		7*	19*	30*		11*	27 #2 (MON)	Extra Budget Mtg 8 (#2)  29*		24(#1)
<b>Executive</b>	1.00 p.m.	TUES	10	14	12		6	4	8	6	10	14	7	4	
<b>Overview and Scrutiny Board</b>	10. 00 a.m.	WED	18	22	27		21	19	16	14	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
<b>Licensing Committee</b>	1.00 p.m.	MON		13	4, 25		5, 26	17	7, 28	19	9, 30	20	13	3, 24	15
<b>Planning &amp; Development Committee</b>	1.30 p.m.	FRI		17	22		2	7	11	16	20	17	17	14	
<b>Corporate Affairs and Audit Committee</b>	3.30 p.m.	THURS		9	21		29			8		16	16		
<b>Constitution and Members Development Committee</b>	3.00 p.m.	FRI		10			9			9			10		
<b>Staff Appeals Committee</b>	10.00 a.m.	TUES	17	14	12		13	11	8	13	10	7	7	4	9
<b>Teesside Pension Fund Committee</b>	11 00 a.m.	WEDS		29	27		28			14			15		
<b>Teesside Pension Board</b>	2.00 p.m.	MON													
<b>Works Council</b>	11.30 a.m.	THUR			7			6			5			6	
<b>Corporate Health &amp; Safety Steering Group</b>	9.30 a.m.	TBA													
<b>Standards Committee</b>	10.00 a.m.	MON			4			17			23			3	
<b>Joint Archives Committee</b>	3.00pm	WED						19					1		

NOTES:

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

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<b>MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL</b>	
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<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance and Director of Legal and Governance Services
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<b>Submitted to:</b>	Council
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<b>Date:</b>	30 March 2022
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<b>Title:</b>	Vacancies on Committees
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<b>Report for:</b>	Decision
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<b>Status:</b>	Public
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<b>Strategic priority:</b>	All
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<b>Key decision:</b>	No
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<b>Why:</b>	Not applicable
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<b>Urgent:</b>	No
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<b>Why:</b>	Not applicable
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### Executive summary

To seek Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on committees and scrutiny panels further to appointment of members to the Executive and resignations from Committees.

### Purpose

1. To seek Members' approval for nominations of appointment to vacant positions on committees and scrutiny panels further to appointment of members to the Executive and resignations from Committees.

### Background and relevant information

2. Following resignations from Committees and the freeing up of places on scrutiny panels, vacated as a result of members being appointed to the Executive, a number of vacancies exist. Council is required to consider and approve nominations for appointment to the vacancies.

**What decision(s) are being recommended?**

3. That the Council:

Subject to receipt of nominations to the following vacancies, approves the places allocated in accordance with the wishes of the political groups and other councillors and fills the following vacancies:

The following vacancies resulted as a consequence of Councillor Coupe being appointed to the Executive. As all three Conservative councillors are members of the Executive, the following vacancies are open to all councillors who are not members of the Executive:

Children and Young Peoples Learning Scrutiny

1 Vacancy

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Durham Darlington Teesside Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby (DDTHRW) STP Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1 Vacancy

---

Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel

1 Vacancy

---

Health Scrutiny Panel

1 Vacancy

---

Chair of Health Scrutiny Panel (must be a member of Health Scrutiny Panel)

1 Vacancy

---

South Tees Health Scrutiny Committee

1 Vacancy

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Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Committee

1 Vacancy

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## Overview and Scrutiny Board

This vacancy should go to the newly appointed Chair of Health Scrutiny Panel if they are not already a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

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The following vacancies resulted as a consequence of the resignation of a MIG member from the committee. They are both open to MIG members initially. If there are no nominations from the MIG group, the vacancies are open to all members of the Council.

### Corporate Parenting Board (Initially open to MIG members)

1 Vacancy

---

Vice-Chair of Corporate Parenting Board (must be a member of Corporate Parenting Board)

1 Vacancy

---

Planning and Development Committee (Initially open to MIG members)

1 Vacancy

---

## **Rationale for the recommended decision(s)**

4. Council is required to appoint to any vacant places on Committees to ensure that all meetings will be quorate.

## **Other potential decision(s) and why these have not been recommended**

5. Do Nothing: This option could result in meetings becoming inquorate and could result in the decision making process being delayed.

## **Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)**

### ***Legal***

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

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

8. The Council is under a duty to:

(a) Ensure that the membership of those committees and sub-committees covered by the rules reflect the political composition of the Council, as far as practicable.

(b) Review the allocation of seats to political groups at or as soon as practical after the Annual Council meeting and at certain other specified times for example, as a result of changes in political balance or an increase in the number of committees established.

**Strategic priorities and risks**

9. The relevant risks this decision would influence are cited below, with an explanation as to why they are relevant and how it would affect each risk.

Risk No	Risk Description	Impact
O8-054	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 so this would have a positive impact on this 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.	The Council has a duty to ensure that the membership of the committees and sub committees are covered and is required to appoint to any vacant places 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, Equality and Data Protection**

10. Not applicable

**Financial**

11. There are no financial implications arising from the content of this report.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
<a href="#">Add Members to Committees</a>	Democratic Services Officers	7 April 2023

**Appendices**



1	
2	
3	

**Background papers**

Body	Report title	Date

**Contact: Charlotte Benjamin**  
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