

THE CHAIR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Tuesday 13 May 2025

Dear Member

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY, 2025

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough to be held on **Wednesday 21st May, 2025** at **7.00 pm** in the Council Chamber to transact the following business, namely:-

1. Welcome and Evacuation Procedure
2. Election of the Chair of Council for the Municipal Year 2025-2026
3. Election of the Vice Chair of Council for the Municipal Year 2025-2026
4. Apologies for Absence
5. Declarations of Interest
To receive any declarations of interest.
6. Minutes - Council - 26 March 2025 5 – 12
7. Announcements/Communications
To receive and consider any communications from the Chair, Mayor, Executive Members or Chief Executive (if any).
8. Mayor's Annual Address
Verbal Report
9. Executive Scheme of Delegation
Verbal Report
10. Political Balance Allocation of Places 2025-2026 13 – 20
11. Appointment of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs 21 - 28

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|-----|---|---------|
| 12. | Council Committees - Establishment - Terms of Reference -
Allocation of Places - Memberships - 2025-2026 | |
| | Report To Follow | |
| 13. | Appointments by the Council and Executive to Joint
Committees and Outside Bodies - 2025-2026 | 29 - 32 |
| | Appendix A – To Follow | |
| | Appendix B – To Follow | |
| | Appendix C – To Follow | |
| 14. | Council Diary 2025-2026 | 33 – 38 |
| 15. | Extraordinary Council Meeting - Resolution | 39 – 42 |

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "CJ Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The "CJ" is large and prominent, followed by "Benjamin" in a more continuous script.

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 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 Susan Lightwing/Scott Bonner, Democratic Services on (Direct Line 01642 729712/729708 or e-mail on: susan_lightwing@middlesbrough.gov.uk; scott_bonner@middlesbrough.gov.uk;

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

Website: www.middlesbrough.gov.uk

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COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 26 March 2025.

PRESENT: Councillors J Rostron, (Chair), J Ewan (Vice-Chair), J Banks, I Blades, D Branson, E Clynch, C Cooke - Elected Mayor, J Cooke, C Cooper, D Coupe, D Davison, P Gavigan, S Hill, D Jackson, J Kabuye, L Lewis, T Livingstone, L Mason, D McCabe, J McConnell, J McTigue, I Morrish, J Nicholson, M Nugent, J Platt, S Platt, A Romaine, J Ryles, M Saunders, P Storey, J Thompson, S Tranter, N Walker, G Wilson, J Young and L Young

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: M Edgell, W Sampson, Middlesbrough Independent Improvement Advisory Board

OFFICERS: C Benjamin, S Bonner, M Brown, B Carr, G Field, S Lightwing, J Hedgley, T Hodgkinson, A Johnstone, A Davis, E Scollay, J Weston and K Whitmore

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were submitted on behalf of Councillors T Furness, L Henman, B Hubbard, L Hurst, N Hussain, D Jones, M McClintock, M Smiles and Z Uddin

24/109 **WELCOME AND FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

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

24/110 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

24/111 **MINUTES - COUNCIL - 15 JANUARY, 19 FEBRUARY AND 5 MARCH 2025**

The minutes of the Council meetings held on 15 January, 19 February and 5 March 2025 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

24/112 **ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no Announcements or Communications for this meeting.

24/113 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PEER REVIEW AND MIDDLESBROUGH INDEPENDENT IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS AND PLANNED APPROACH TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT - MOVING FORWARD**

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted that set out the Council's planned response to two recently issued reports from the Local Government Association and the Council's Independent Improvement Advisory Board respectively.

The purpose of the report was to ensure the Council continued to deliver continuous improvement activity that would strengthen and embed compliance with the Best Value Duty and maximise the Council's ability to deliver the 2024-2027 Council Plan.

Both reports were positive and identified the great strides the Council had made in the last eighteen months in order to be in a position where it was able to continue on its improvement journey within a Council-led business as usual approach, supported by the regular oversight and challenge mechanisms provided by scrutiny, partners, the public, internal and External Auditors.

The submitted report included a Continuous Improvement Plan, attached at Appendix 3, which set out the planned approach over the next 12 months.

The Mayor invited the Chair of the Middlesbrough Council Independent Improvement Advisory Board to present the Board's final report to Council.

The final report was intended to provide an element of reflection of progress over the past

eighteen months, but mainly focus on looking forward and the issues on which, the MIIAB felt the Council needed to concentrate most, whilst moving forward to support its continuous improvement journey.

As the Council had moved from “recovery” through to “reset” and now on to “delivery”, the MIIAB considered that there were five areas of focus:

- Culture change.
- Governance.
- Plans, priorities, and strategies.
- Financial planning and management.
- Organisational capacity.

As per the MIIAB report, an update was provided on each theme.

The Chair acknowledged that the Council had embraced the approach of the MIIAB and although some conversations had been quite difficult and challenging, the Council had entered into the relationship constructively. The Chair thanked the Chief Executive and the Leadership Team and also the former Chief Executive for their engagement and support.

Several Members asked questions in relation to Member and Officer relationships. The Chair acknowledged that whilst the Council had made good progress in relation to culture change, there was still work to do on this theme.

On a vote being taken it was **ORDERED** as follows that Council:

1. Approved the recommendations set out in the Local Government Association (LGA) Corporate Peer Challenge peer review letter and the final report of the Middlesbrough Independent Improvement Advisory Board.
2. Agreed to formally thank the Middlesbrough Independent Improvement Advisory Board and the support of the LGA senior regional advisor, for their support and oversight during the Council's improvement journey.
3. Agreed to formally thank the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge team for giving up time in their substantive roles as leaders in other local authorities, to support the Council in its continuous improvement journey.
4. Agreed the Continuous Improvement plan.
5. Agreed the planned reporting and assurance arrangements for the Council's continuous improvement activity.
6. Noted the Council's planned approach to continuous improvement going forward and the formal closure of the Corporate Governance Improvement Plan.

24/114

SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 4.13.2 – ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair proposed a motion without notice to change the order of business in the agenda of the meeting in accordance with the Constitution paragraph 4.30.1 (c). The motion was seconded by Councillor Blades.

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

ORDERED that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 4.57, Council agreed to vary the order of business to deal with the items in the following order: Agenda Item 15, Agenda items 6 - 14, and Agenda Items 16 - 18.

24/115

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (IF ANY).

The Chair read out Questions 2/24 and 3/24 submitted by Susan Peat and Rachel Forster, who were not in attendance.

The Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability thanked the members of the public for their questions. The Executive Member stated that due to the financial turnaround, the

Council was in a stronger position to review previous decisions. In relation to parking permits, the Council had listened to residents' concerns and the implementation of charges had been paused. A report would be submitted to Executive in the near future recommending removal of charges and looking at a fairer and more proportionate approach.

24/116 **TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY (TVCA) UPDATE**

The Tees Valley Combined Authority Cabinet was due to meet on Friday 28 March 2025 and would be discussing the Adult Education Budget. This agenda item was currently exempt. The Mayor stated that he would like further information in relation as to who the providers were, and what the outcomes would be for the learners, before a decision was taken.

In relation to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the Mayor commented that he was disappointed that Councils had not been better consulted on projects that could be submitted. However, the Mayor would be putting forward projects that were of great importance to the town, including the expansion of Middlesbrough College to cope with rising numbers of school leavers, and also the development of Middlehaven.

24/117 **MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND REPORT**

A new Neighbourhoods Policy and Model would be submitted to the Executive for approval at the end of April 2025. The change in approach would cement the recent development of the north, east, south and west teams and engagement approach. Additional staff would be recruited into the teams with the aim of better outcomes for residents and Councillors. Staff would also be placed into other settings including schools, hospitals and doctors' surgeries. It was important to develop better engagement with schools to support them to resolve issues raised by parents or carers and other recurring issues to ensure a quicker response.

The Middlesbrough Priorities Fund would also be discussed at the April meeting of the Executive. The Mayor invited all Councillors to bring forward suggestions for revenue projects and discuss with him what priorities the Council should be investing in. Some Ward funding would also be allocated in due course for localised projects.

In response to a request for an update on the removal of the Linthorpe Road cycle lanes, the Mayor confirmed that the work was going out to tender and it was anticipated that the tender would be awarded in approximately two months and work would commence shortly afterwards.

Members raised issues in relation to damage to pavements, grass verges and parking obstructions. The Mayor agreed that further thought needed to be given in relation to remediating damaged grass verges and whether there were better permanent solutions such as removal.

24/118 **EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS**

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Development.

Councillor Cooper agreed to email her question to the Executive Member for Development

Question in relation to the Report of the Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education and Culture.

Councillor Morrish on VE Day 80.

The Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Education and Culture explained that previously the Civics Officer would have contacted veterans associations in advance of civic events. The Civics Officer post no longer existed and organisation of such events was now undertaken by the Events Team. Contacting veterans associations in respect of events was not a task that would be carried out by an Elected Member. The Executive Member suggested that there should be further discussion and clarification in relation to the Champion roles and expectations of Elected Members.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Children's Services.

Councillor Wilson on Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

In the absence of the Executive Member, the Mayor responded stating that this process was the responsibility of the Integrated Care Board (ICB). However it was a valid point that children were having to wait a long time and often travel out of the area for their assessment. The Mayor said he would get some data on this issue. The Mayor also highlighted the the Finlay Cooper Centre who working with people to support people at both the pre and post-diagnosis stages as one of the main issues was the wait time for results. The Mayor praised the excellent work carried out by the Centre.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability.

Councillor Saunders in relation to the Transporter Bridge.

The Executive Member explained that the Transporter Bridge was one of Middlesbrough's most iconic bridges and the Council was fully committed to securing its future. Responsibility for its maintenance was shared with Stockton On Tees Borough Council. Atkins Realis had been appointed to carry out the preliminary design phase of the restoration project which would take up to 10 months to complete. The cost was just over £768,000 which would be split between Stockton and Middlesbrough Councils, funding from existing budgets, with no new requests for capital. No funding had been provided to date by the Tees Valley Combined Authority. The restoration would require a detailed design plan which would take between 8 and 10 months, followed by the tender process and construction work which would last a minimum of 3 years.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods.

Councillor Kabuye in relation to Community Newsletters.

The Executive Member agreed that the Community Newsletters, sent to residents in the East and South Neighbourhood areas had been a huge success. Work had now started on a Newsletter that would be delivered to every household in Middlesbrough. The Executive Member added her thanks to Officers involved in the newsletters production.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health.

Councillor McCabe in relation to Council priorities.

The Mayor provided an explanation that the wording in the report under the heading of Council Priorities: A Healthy Place – Helping our residents to live longer, healthier lives – was the description from the Council Plan and not part of the report.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Finance.

Councillor Livingstone in relation to Customer Strategy.

The Executive Member for Finance confirmed that the digital first approach in the Customer Strategy was not exclusive. In 2023/24 over 125,000 calls were made to the Council's Customer Centre, there were over 4,700 in-person visits and the website attracted over 2.9 million visitors. Whichever way residents needed to contact the Council would still be available. With regard to payments – this was a separate issue and cash payments would continue. The Strategy stated that Council business processes would be designed around customers and would provide consistency through the route that served the customer best. The Executive Member stated that undertaking would also be included in the Customer Charter.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health.

Councillor Saunders in relation to the inspection outcome.

The Executive Member agreed to provide further information in relation to the low scores for

assessing needs and safeguarding and the action that would be taken to address this.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods.

Councillor Morrish in relation to commemoration of three years of war in Ukraine.

The Executive Member highlighted that regular events were held to support people arriving in Middlesbrough from Ukraine and this included donating second-hand IT equipment. The Executive Member thanked the Councillor for his suggestion that vehicles that were no longer of use to the Council or untaxed vehicles that had been seized could be sent to Ukraine for charities to use. The Councillor's suggestion would be passed on to Council Officers.

Question in relation to the Report of the Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability.

Councillor Saunders in relation to the Linby and Belle Vue Footbridges.

The Executive Member was not aware of any plans to add lighting to the path leading to the footbridges and asked the Mayor to comment further. The Mayor stated that a meeting had taken place earlier in the day in relation to upcoming transport schemes. A project called Tees to the Topping had been discussed that was being led by The National Trust to connect those two areas. One of the key parts to the plan was the inclusion of the green corridor alongside Berwick Hills and Park End. The Mayor was hoping to get the green light for this scheme fairly soon. The Mayor was keen to ensure that the paths were wide enough and well lit. In respect of the repair work needed to the bridges – funding was being sought. The Mayor agreed to keep the Councillor updated on progress.

24/119 **REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

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

The Chair invited Members to ask questions and to note the report.

ORDERED that the report was noted.

24/120 **URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items submitted within the specified deadlines for this meeting.

24/121 **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

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

24/122 **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

Motion No. 173

Consideration was given to Motion No. 173 moved by Councillor Branson and seconded by Councillor L Young of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules No. 53-60 as follows:

Motion on the current state and future of bus services in Middlesbrough and the wider Tees Valley.

This Council notes:

- Bus deregulation in England has led to a significant reduction in bus services, with research by Friends of the Earth highlighting that bus services in England (outside of London where they have remained regulated) have reduced by 48% in urban areas and 52% rural areas

since 2008.

- The Labour government's commitment to empowering local communities to take back control of their bus services and the achievement of the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, in successfully ending the deregulation of Greater Manchester's bus network.
- Research from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) highlights that, excluding London, the region with the greatest number of residents without private motor vehicle access in England is the North East. This means it is vital for our local economy that public transport options effectively serve our communities.
- Buses account for up to 83% of all public transport journeys in the region and, excluding London, the North East has more residents without private motor vehicle access than any other region.
- In Middlesbrough, bus journeys are often excessively long, timetables are seen as unreliable, some services are infrequent, and shelters at bus stops are inadequate.
- According to a report by Transport for the North entitled Transport and Social Exclusion in the North (published in February 2024), 44% of respondents said that poor public transport was impacting on their ability to socialise and 29% reported that they were forced to spend money on a vehicle at the expense of other essentials.
- An end to deregulation of buses in the Tees Valley would empower local decision-makers accountable to local people to set routes, timetables and fares, which could help drive much-needed improvements to services in Middlesbrough and the Tees Valley as modelled in other parts of the country.

This Council resolves to:

To write to the Mayor of the Tees Valley Combined Authority and the Secretary of State for Transport calling for an end to the deregulation of buses in the Tees Valley, allowing communities to take back control of their buses.

Councillor Branson spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor L Young reserved his right to speak.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the motion.

Councillors Coupe, Livingstone, Storey, Mohan, and L Young spoke in support of the motion. Councillors Saunders, J Platt, Wilson and Morrish spoke against the motion citing the potential financial implications.

Councillor Branson reminded Members that it was important to bear in mind that the motion was in relation to franchising and not nationalising.

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

Motion No. 174

Consideration was given to Motion No. 174 moved by Councillor Morrish and seconded by Councillor Storey of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules No. 53-60 as follows:

"Middlesbrough Council resolve to establish a non politically balanced, cross party working group of five councillors. The purpose of which is to support the council's events team with civic events and when and if funding is available, to expand on the civic events calendar. The committee will receive no remuneration and will have no dedicated budgets, seeking volunteers from elected members who wish to restore civic pride."

Councillor Morrish spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Storey spoke in support of the motion.

The Chair invited Members to speak to the motion.

The Mayor added his support to the motion.

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

24/123 **NOTICE OF URGENT MOTIONS (IF ANY)**

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

24/124 **PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

A report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services was presented in respect of the Pay Policy Statement 2025/2026.

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.

This included 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 Statement had to be approved by full Council before publication on the Council's website and before 31 March each year.

A Member suggested that Council should have the opportunity to review the Chief Officer structure. The Mayor clarified that this would be within the remit of the Chief Executive.

On a vote being taken, it was **ORDERED** that the Pay Policy Statement 2025/2026, as set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, was approved.

24/125 **APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2025 - 2030 AND CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT 2025 - 2028**

A report was presented to seek Council's approval of the Statement of Licensing Policy 2025 - 2030 and Cumulative Impact Assessment 2025–2028. Copies of the policies were attached as appendices to the submitted report.

Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") required Licensing Authorities to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy that they proposed to apply in exercising their functions under the Act. Such statements were to apply across a stated five-year period. Pursuant to the Act, the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy must be approved by Council. During each five-year period the Council had to keep its Licensing Policy under review and make such 'revisions as it considered to be appropriate'.

The Statement of Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessment had been developed in accordance with the Act. Evidence provided in the cumulative impact assessment justified the inclusion of three additional ward areas in the Off Licence Cumulative Impact Policy, which were:

Park End and Beckfield.
Brambles and Thorntree.
Berwick Hills and Pallister.

A consultation exercise had been carried out with statutory consultees and wider partners. The consultation ran for a period of 8 weeks from 1 July 2024 until 26 August 2024.

On a vote being taken it was **ORDERED** as follows that Council:

1. Approved the Statement of Licensing Policy 2025–2030
2. Approved the Cumulative Impact Assessment 2025–2028.

FLEXIBLE USE OF CAPITAL RECEIPTS STRATEGY

The Executive Member for Finance presented a report on Flexible Use of Capital Receipts (FUoCR) Strategy 2025/2026.

An error on the first page of the submitted report was highlighted. The report did not contain a key decision as stated on the first page.

Local authorities were ordinarily only able to utilise capital receipts from the sale of fixed assets for specific purposes, and this precluded the financing of revenue expenditure under s15(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (as amended).

However, from 2016/17 statutory regulations had allowed capital receipts to be used to finance eligible revenue expenditure in specific circumstances and subject to certain conditions. This was achieved through the adoption of a Flexible Use of Capital Receipts (FUoCR) Strategy that was required to be approved by Full Council and was overseen (but not approved) by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Eligible expenditure under the regulations related to revenue expenditure which:

- was designed to generate ongoing expenditure savings, income generation, and/or more efficient delivery of services, and/or
- transformed service delivery to reduce costs/ reduce demand; and/or
- improves the quality-of-service delivery in future years.

The Council was required to deliver transformational change of its service delivery models to achieve financial sustainability over the period of the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) from 2025/26 to 2028/29, and the Council's Transformation Programme was an integral part of the Council's MTFP.

The transformation expenditure could only be financed by capital receipts given the low level of revenue reserves held by the Council. The FUoCR strategy therefore provided the funding solution for the revenue costs of transformation work to be funded from capital receipts generated from the review of assets as approved by the Executive in November 2023.

The FUoCR Strategy for 2025/26 set out plans for up to £7.5m of expenditure linked to the Council's Transformation Programme to be incurred during 2025/26 to be funded by capital receipts in accordance with statutory regulations.

The Council was not permitted to apply flexible capital receipts to fund expenditure more than the sum set out in the approved FUoCR Strategy. However, the regulations enabled the revision of the FUoCR strategy during the financial year to reflect an increase in the plan if it was approved by Full Council and notified to MHCLG.

On a vote being taken it was **ORDERED** that Council approved the proposed Flexible Use of Capital Receipts (FUoCR) Strategy for 2025/26.

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Director of Legal and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	21 May 2025
Title:	Political Balance Allocation of Places 2025-2026
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Not applicable

Proposed decision(s)
<p>That the Council:</p> <p>Approves the allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the rules relating to political balance.</p>

Executive summary
<p>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.</p> <p>The report outlines the rules with regard to political balance and provides details of the total number of places on committees and how those places will be allocated in a manner that reflects the overall political balance.</p> <p>Council is recommended to approve the allocation of places on committees and sub-committees for 2025-2026 in accordance with the political balance of the Council and to ensure robust and effective corporate governance.</p>

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

- 1.1 To seek approval for the allocation of places on committees and sub-committees for 2025-2026 in accordance with the political balance of the Council.
- 1.2 This report will contribute towards the Council Plan ambition to deliver best value by ensuring robust and effective corporate governance.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council:

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

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

- 3.1 The decision is recommended to ensure that places on committees are allocated in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

4. Background and relevant information

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

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

- 4.3 The Council is under a duty to:

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

- 4.4 In determining the allocation of seats, the Council must also apply the following four principles, as far as reasonably practicable:
- (i) Not all seats to be allocated to the same political group.
 - (ii) If a political group has a majority on the Council, it must have a majority of seats on committees.
 - (iii) Subject to (i) and (ii) above, the total of all seats on ordinary committees be allocated to the groups in proportion to their respective strengths on the Council, and
 - (iv) Subject to (i) to (iii) above the number of seats on ordinary committees or sub-committees to be allocated to each political group in proportion to the number of all the seats on the committee or sub-committee in proportion to their respective strengths on the Council.
- 4.5 As per the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) regulations 1990, appointments are made in accordance with the wishes of a political group, then, as long as that person's seat continues to be allocated to that group, the authority or committee which made the appointment shall act in accordance with the wishes of that group in determining whether and when to terminate the appointment. If a group fails to express its wishes within a period of three weeks of being notified of the allocation or vacancy, the Council may make such appointment as it thinks fit.
- 4.6 Where a Group chooses not to take up their full allocation, according to political balance, those vacant places will become available for all groups to take up. Once the seat has been reallocated at Council, this appointment will remain in place for the whole of the Municipal year.
- 4.7 Independent Members who have not formed a political group in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, are to be allocated in accordance with section 16 (3) of the Regulations: i.e. any seats not allocated according to the requirements in section 15 and 16 of the Act, to be allocated to members who are not members of any political group.
- 4.8 Certain committees and steering/working groups of the Council are exempt from the requirements relating to political balance as they are established under separate legislation. For this reason the following committees and steering/working groups are not covered by the recommendations of this report, in relation to the political balance calculation. Where places are not reserved for particular members for example by virtue of their title or position, those remaining places have been allocated in accordance with the numbers shown in Table 3. These committees and steering/working groups include:
- The Executive.
 - All Executive committees and sub-committees.

- Corporate Health and Safety Steering Group.
- Live Well South Tees Board.
- Licensing Sub-Committees.
- Local Plan Working Group.
- Works Council.

- 4.9 The total number of places on committees is therefore **132** places and these will be allocated in a manner that reflects the overall political balance of the Council.
- 4.10 The calculations relating to the allocation of the **132** places on those committees to be subject to political balance rules are attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.11 As can be seen from Table 4 in Appendix 1, the outcome of applying the required method of calculation would result in the following:

Name of Group/Unallocated	No. of Seats
Conservative	11
Labour	69
Liberal Democrats	6
Marton Independent East Group	6
Middlesbrough Independent Councillors Association (MICA)	34
Unallocated	6
Total	132

Method to Calculate Places

- 4.12 The principles in paragraph 4.4 are applied as below:
- (i) Calculate the total number of seats with votes on all the committees subject to Political Balance.
 - (ii) Calculate the proportion that each political group forms of the total membership of the Authority. Reserve an appropriate number of seats for ungrouped members.
 - (iii) Apply those proportions to the total number of ordinary seats to give the aggregate entitlement of each group; the requirement to apply the proportions “so far as reasonably practicable” are met by rounding down fractional entitlements of less than half, and rounding up entitlements of a half or more; if this results in a greater aggregate than the number of seats available, the fractional entitlement(s) closest to a half should be rounded in the other direction until entitlements balance the available seats.
 - (iv) Apply the proportions to the number of Councillors on each committee to give provisional entitlement to seats on that committee.

- (v) Finally, adjust the seats on each committee so that the total allocated to each group is as near as possible to their aggregate entitlement, whilst preserving the results reached at steps (iv) and (v). Where calculations identify additional seats (not allocated) the largest group followed by the next largest group etc., will have their choice of which committee places they wish to take their allocation from in the unallocated column.
- (vi) Unallocated spaces will be available to any independent members (who are not members of a group) – where more than one independent member is nominated for a seat then the seat is allocated at the discretion of Full Council.

- 4.13 In line with usual practice, it is recommended that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend memberships of committees following resignations received from Members and to appoint to vacancies in accordance with group preferences or, where not in a group, in accordance with individual Member's wishes. However, where more than one person (non-group members) applies for the same place, they should decide amongst themselves how those places should be allocated. If agreement cannot be reached between the individual Members, the Council will make that determination.
- 4.14 In order to avoid the need to completely recalculate all committee memberships in the case of an ad hoc (or other) committees being established prior to the next review, it is proposed that any committees or sub-committees be appointed on the basis of the places shown in Table 3 attached.

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

- 5.1 Not applicable.

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

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

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and 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.
Legal	The Council must adhere to the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
Risk	If the Council does not respond effectively and efficiently to legislation it could be in breach of statutory duties in relation to service delivery and fail to make the most of opportunities. The Council is obliged to comply with any legislation or statutory guidance to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties.

Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	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.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not Applicable.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	Not Applicable.
Data Protection	Not Applicable.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Allocate places on committees according to the Political Balance.	Democratic Services Manager	31 May 2025

Appendices

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

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

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

Table 1

Name of Committee	Places
Audit Committee	7
Chief Officer Committee	7
Constitution and Members' Development Committee	9
Corporate Affairs Committee	7
Corporate Parenting Board	9
Licensing Committee	14
Planning and Development Committee	10
Staff Appeals Committee	9
Standards Committee	9
Teesside Pension Fund Committee	9
Overview and Scrutiny Board	15
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel	9
Children's Scrutiny Panel	9
Place Scrutiny Panel	9
Total	132

Table 2

Group	Number in group	Allocation of places	Number of places (rounded)
Labour	24	68.87	69
Conservative	4	11.48	11
Middlesbrough Independent Councillors Association	12	34.43	34
Marton East Independent Group	2	5.74	6
Liberal Democrats	2	5.74	6
Unallocated* Independent and vacant	2	5.74	6
Total	46	132.00	132
* Do not count as a group			
mayor not counted			

Step 3 - Political balance according to size of committee

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

46

Table 3

Size of committee	Labour Group	Conservative Group	Middlesbrough Independent Councillors Association	Marton East Independent Group	Liberal Democrats Group	Unallocated
	24	4	12	2	2	2
1	1 0.52	0 0.09	0 0.26	0 0.04	0 0.04	0
3	2 1.57	0 0.26	1 0.78	0 0.13	0 0.13	0
4	2 2.09	0 0.35	1 1.04	0 0.17	0 0.17	1
5	3 2.61	0 0.43	1 1.30	0 0.22	0 0.22	1
6	3 3.13	1 0.52	2 1.57	0 0.26	0 0.26	0
7	4 3.65	1 0.61	2 1.83	0 0.30	0 0.30	0
8	4 4.17	1 0.70	2 2.09	0 0.35	0 0.35	1
9	5 4.70	1 0.78	2 2.35	0 0.39	0 0.39	1
10	5 5.22	1 0.87	3 2.61	0 0.43	0 0.43	1
11	6 5.74	1 0.96	3 2.87	0 0.48	0 0.48	1
12	6 6.26	1 1.04	3 3.13	1 0.52	1 0.52	0
13	7 6.78	1 1.13	3 3.39	1 0.57	1 0.57	0
14	7 7.30	1 1.22	4 3.65	1 0.61	1 0.61	0
15	8 7.83	1 1.30	4 3.91	1 0.65	1 0.65	0
16	8 8.35	1 1.39	4 4.17	1 0.70	1 0.70	1

Step 4 - Apply figures in Table 3 to each committee**Table 4**

	Total	Lab	Cons	MICA	MEIG	Lib Dems	Unallocated
Audit Committee	7	4	1	2	0	0	0
Chief Officer Committee	7	4	1	2	0	0	0
Constitution and Members' Development Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Corporate Affairs Committee	7	4	1	2	0	0	0
Corporate Parenting Board	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Licensing Committee	14	7	1	4	1	1	0
Planning and Development Committee	10	5	1	3	0	0	1
Staff Appeals Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Standards Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Teesside Pension Fund Committee	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Overview and Scrutiny Board	15	8	1	4	1	1	0
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Children's Services Scrutiny Panel	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Place Scrutiny Panel	9	5	1	2	0	0	1
Totals		72	14	33	2	2	9
Total Allocation Allowed (as per Step 2 above)	132	69	11	34	6	6	6
ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED		-3	-3	1	4	4	-3

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Director of Legal and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Full Council
Date:	21 May 2025
Title:	Appointment of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan Priority:	Delivering Best Value
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Not an Executive decision

Proposed decision(s)
<p>That Full Council approves the amendment to the Constitution at paragraph 4.59 of the Constitution to read as follows:</p> <p>4.59 How are Committee chairs appointed?</p> <p>4.59.1 All Committee chairs and vice chairs will be appointed by each committee of the council at its first meeting following the annual council meeting. In order to facilitate the election of the chair, the first meeting of any committee will be chaired by a member of that committee elected to be chair pro tem by the committee members simply for the purpose carrying out the vote for the chair. When the chair is elected, they will take over chairing of the meeting.</p> <p>4.59.2 Where there is a Committee chair vacancy, the relevant vice chair shall act as the chair until a replacement is appointed by the Committee members.</p> <p>4.59.3 A chair or vice chair may resign from their post by written notice to the Monitoring Officer. Their resignation will take effect when the Monitoring Officer receives the notice.</p> <p>4.59.4 If the chair and the vice chair of a Committee are absent from a meeting, the Committee members will appoint a chair for the meeting. The person presiding at the meeting may exercise any power of the chair. If the chair or the vice chair joins the</p>

meeting part-way through, they will act as chair for the remainder of the meeting, save for at the first meeting of the Committee as per the provisions of paragraph 4.59.1.

4.59.5 Chairs and vice chairs of sub-committees shall be appointed by their parent Committee.

4.59.6 The Committee may at any time remove the chair or vice chair of a Committee.

4.59.7 An Executive Member may not chair any meeting of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Board, a Scrutiny Panel, the Standards Committee, the Corporate Affairs Committee or the Audit Committee.

4.59.8 Where the Council Procedure Rules apply to Committee meetings, references to the Chair should instead be read as references to the chair of that Committee

Executive summary

Whereas at present the Council's Constitution provides that chairs and vice chairs are voted in by Full Council, Full Council is asked to consider an amendment to the Constitution to provide that chairs and vice chairs of committees are voted in by members of the committee. In practical terms this proposed amendment would mean that chairs and vice chairs would be voted in at the first meeting of the committee in any new municipal year, by those Committee members in attendance at that first meeting.

Upon the resignation or removal of any chair or vice chair during the municipal year, the committee would be responsible for voting in a replacement chair or vice chair from within the existing committee membership.

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

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek a decision from Full Council as to whether to amend the Constitution in relation to the provisions for electing chairs and vice chairs of committees of the council.
- 1.2 At present, the Constitution at paragraph 4.59 provides that Full Council is responsible for electing chairs and vice chairs onto committees.
- 1.3 In the context of wider discussion about cross party involvement in decision-making and a review of the Constitution, it is timely as we move into the new municipal to invite Full Council to consider its preference in relation to the election of committee chairs and vice chairs: specifically whether the preference is to give committees the responsibility for voting their own chairs and vice chairs.
- 1.4 Whilst the Constitution currently provides that Committee chairs and vice-chairs are elected by Full Council, there has previously been custom and practice in

Middlesbrough Council for Committees to elect their chairs and vice chairs. There is no prescribed approach in law; the matter is one upon which councils can choose. Practice is mixed around the country.

- 1.5 It could be said that to allow Committees to vote their own chairs and vice chairs allows for more nuance, and a greater focus on and consideration of the skills of Committee members and their suitability for the role, in the context of the purpose and terms of reference of the committee.
- 1.6 The following motion was carried by Full Council on 16 October 2024:

The people of Middlesbrough voted for a mix of Labour, Independent, Conservative and Liberal Democrat Councillors. The Mayor promised the people of Middlesbrough that he would ensure fairness and scrutiny. Accordingly, this Council resolves to assess how minority voices can be given a significant formalised role within the scrutiny process, as part of broader constitutional reforms which will be explored over the coming year through Constitution and Members' Development Committee. These reforms would be subject to consultation and the concurrent introduction of measures to improve standards in key areas such as attendance, standards of behaviour, and other reasonable expectations of members. In line with our commitment to learning from best practice across the country, we will look to successful measures implemented by other councils to inform this process, such as formalised 'opposition lead' positions and other solutions. This is to ensure that the people of Middlesbrough are fairly and conscientiously represented and their voices are heard.

- 1.7 It could be said that the proposed changes in this report are in the spirit of the motion.

Our ambitions	Summary of how this report will support delivery of these ambitions and the underpinning aims
A successful and ambitious town	Not relevant for this proposed decision
A healthy Place	Not relevant for this proposed decision
Safe and resilient communities	Not relevant for this proposed decision
Delivering best value	The proposed decision supports robust and effective corporate governance by enabling council committees to appoint their own chairs and vice-chairs and thereby promoting an increased focus on the terms of reference, role and purpose of those committees when appointing to the chair and vice chair role.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Full Council amends the Constitution at paragraph 4.59 to read as follows:

4.59 How are Committee chairs appointed?

4.59.1 All Committee chairs and vice chairs will be appointed by each committee of the council at its first meeting following the annual council meeting. In order to facilitate

the election of the chair, the first meeting of any committee will be chaired by a member of that committee elected to be chair pro tem by the committee members simply for the purpose carrying out the vote for the chair. When the chair is elected, they will take over chairing of the meeting.

4.59.2 Where there is a Committee chair vacancy, the relevant vice chair shall act as the chair until a replacement is appointed by the Committee members.

4.59.3 A chair or vice chair may resign from their post by written notice to the Monitoring Officer. Their resignation will take effect when the Monitoring Officer receives the notice.

4.59.4 If the chair and the vice chair of a Committee are absent from a meeting, the Committee members will appoint a chair for the meeting. The person presiding at the meeting may exercise any power of the chair. If the chair or the vice chair joins the meeting part-way through, they will act as chair for the remainder of the meeting, save for at the first meeting of the Committee as per the provisions of paragraph 4.59.1.

4.59.5 Chairs and vice chairs of sub-committees shall be appointed by their parent Committee.

4.59.6 The Committee may at any time remove the chair or vice chair of a Committee.

4.59.7 An Executive Member may not chair any meeting of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Board, a Scrutiny Panel, the Standards Committee, the Corporate Affairs Committee or the Audit Committee.

4.59.8 Where the Council Procedure Rules apply to Committee meetings, references to the Chair should instead be read as references to the chair of that Committee

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

3.1 The Constitution at paragraph 2.5 provides as follows, regarding proposed changes to the Council's Constitution:

2.5 When can the Constitution be changed and by whom?

Any change to the Constitution must be approved by Full Council after consideration of a proposal by the Monitoring Officer, unless:

- (a) it is, in the reasonable opinion of the Monitoring Officer, a minor change or is required to remove an inconsistency, ambiguity or typographical error;
- (b) it is required to put into effect any decision of the Council or its Committees; or
- (c) it is required to comply with a legislative provision, in which case, the change may be made by the Monitoring Officer, who will report the change at the next Full Council meeting. 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 Therefore the approval of Full Council is required to amend the Constitution to reflect the proposal in this report. The report on this discrete issue is brought forward now, rather than with other amendments to the Constitution that will be brought to Full Council later in the year, because of the timeliness of the proposed change since it relates to election of chairs at the start of the new municipal year.

4. Background and relevant information

- 4.1 At present the provision in the Constitution at paragraph 4.59 relating to the election of committee chairs and vice-chairs reads as follows (direct extract from the Constitution, including numbering):

4.59 How are Committee chairs appointed?

4.59.1 The Council will appoint all Committee chairs and vice chairs at its Annual Meeting.

4.59.2 Where there is a Committee chair vacancy, the relevant vice chair shall act as the chair until a replacement is appointed at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

4.59.3 A chair or vice chair may resign from their post by written notice to the Monitoring Officer. Their resignation will take effect when the Monitoring Officer receives the notice.

4.59.4 If the chair and the vice chair of a Committee are absent from a meeting, the Committee members will appoint a chair for the meeting. The person presiding at the meeting may exercise any power of the chair. If the chair or the vice chair joins the meeting part-way through, they will act as chair for the remainder of the meeting.

4.59.5 Chairs and vice chairs of sub-committees shall be appointed by their parent Committee.

4.59.6 The Council may at any time remove the chair or vice chair of a Committee.

4.59.7 An Executive Member may not chair any meeting of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Board, a Scrutiny Panel, the Standards Committee, the Corporate Affairs Committee or the Audit Committee.

4.59.8 Where the Council Procedure Rules apply to Committee meetings, references to the Chair should instead be read as references to the chair of that Committee

- 4.2 If Full Council is minded to support the proposed amendments set out in this report the Constitution should read as follows,

4.59 How are Committee chairs appointed?

4.59.1 All Committee chairs and vice chairs will be appointed by each committee of the council at its first meeting following the annual council meeting. In order to facilitate the election of the chair, the first meeting of any committee will be chaired by a member of that committee elected to be chair pro tem by the committee members simply for the

purpose carrying out the vote for the chair. When the chair is elected, they will take over chairing of the meeting.

4.59.2 Where there is a Committee chair vacancy, the relevant vice chair shall act as the chair until a replacement is appointed by the Committee members.

4.59.3 A chair or vice chair may resign from their post by written notice to the Monitoring Officer. Their resignation will take effect when the Monitoring Officer receives the notice.

4.59.4 If the chair and the vice chair of a Committee are absent from a meeting, the Committee members will appoint a chair for the meeting. The person presiding at the meeting may exercise any power of the chair. If the chair or the vice chair joins the meeting part-way through, they will act as chair for the remainder of the meeting, save for at the first meeting of the Committee as per the provisions of paragraph 4.59.1.

4.59.5 Chairs and vice chairs of sub-committees shall be appointed by their parent Committee.

4.59.6 The Committee may at any time remove the chair or vice chair of a Committee.

4.59.7 An Executive Member may not chair any meeting of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Board, a Scrutiny Panel, the Standards Committee, the Corporate Affairs Committee or the Audit Committee.

4.59.8 Where the Council Procedure Rules apply to Committee meetings, references to the Chair should instead be read as references to the chair of that Committee

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

5.1 Not relevant.

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

6.1 The alternative is to maintain the status quo, that is to vote in committee chairs and vice chairs at the annual council meeting.

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and Social Value)	No implications.
Legal	The proposal is not prohibited in law, subject to the amendment of the Council's Constitution.
Risk	No implications.
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 proposal has no implications on poverty reduction as it is purely a procedural matter that concerns council governance arrangements.
Climate Change / Environmental	The proposal has no implications on climate change as it is purely a procedural matter that concerns council governance arrangements.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	The proposal has no implications on children and young people cared for the council, or care leavers, as it is purely a procedural matter that concerns council governance arrangements.
Data Protection	The proposal has no implications on data protection as it is purely a procedural matter that concerns council governance arrangements.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Amend and republish the Constitution	Monitoring Officer	As soon as practicable

Appendices

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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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

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MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Director of Legal and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	21 May 2025
Title:	Appointments by the Council and Executive to Joint Committees and Outside Bodies – 2025-2026
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Not applicable

Proposed decision(s)
<p>That the Council</p> <p>Approves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Subject to amendments to places indicated in the attached schedules, the appointments which are the responsibility of the Council. 2. Bodies identified in the schedules submitted be regarded as approved duties for the payment of travel and subsistence allowance. 3. Subject to consultation with the Deputy Mayor (for Executive appointments), the Group Leader (where a vacancy rests specifically with that political group), or the Chair of Council (for all other nominations/appointments), that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to remove or replace representatives on outside bodies. 4. That a report on any outstanding Outside Body vacancies be submitted to the next Council meeting.

That the Council

Notes:

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

Executive summary

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

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

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

- 1.1 To consider the appointment of representatives to Joint Committees and Outside Bodies for the Municipal Year of 2025-2026, or until amended by Council/Executive (whichever is the latter).
- 1.2 This report will contribute towards the Council Plan ambition to deliver best value by ensuring robust and effective corporate governance.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Council:

Approves:

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

Notes:

- 2.1.6 The nomination of representatives/vacancies detailed in Appendix B –

Council/Executive appointments and Appendix C – Executive appointments.

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

- 3.1 The Council has agreed to appoint to those Outside Bodies listed in the attached schedules and the appointments are usually agreed at the Council's Annual Meeting.

4. Background and relevant information

- 4.1 The report provides an opportunity for the Council and the Executive to review its appointments to Outside Bodies and to make any necessary changes.
- 4.2 The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) provide for the discharge of the Council's functions through Executive arrangements.
- 4.3 The appendices to this report set out details of the joint committees and outside bodies to which Middlesbrough Council may make nominations or appointments and identify:

- (i) proposed representation requiring approval by the Council:

Appendix A – Council nominations

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

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

Deputy Mayor – Delegated Authority

The Deputy Mayor has delegated powers:

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

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

- 5.1 Not relevant.

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

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

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and 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.
Legal	The Council is required to fill vacancies in accordance with Local Government legislation.
Risk	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. The Council can be kept up to date on any significant developments that may affect the town or the authority by the representative on the Outside Body.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.
Reducing Poverty	Not Applicable.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not Applicable.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	Not Applicable.
Data Protection	Not Applicable.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Inform the Outside Bodies which Councillors have been selected to sit on the various Outside Bodies.	Democratic Services Manager	30 June 2025

Appendices

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

Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

Contact: Charlotte Benjamin

Email: charlotte_benjamin@middlesbrough.gov.uk

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Director of Legal and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	21 May 2025
Title:	Council Diary – 2025-2026
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Not applicable

Proposed decision(s)

That the Council

Approves:

1. The timetable of meetings for the Municipal Year 2025-2026, as detailed in the attached Appendix.
2. With the exception of the following:
 - Budget/Council Tax Setting Meetings – Wednesday 18 February 2026 and Wednesday 4 March 2026.
 - Annual Meeting - Wednesday 20 May 2026.

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

Executive summary

In order to schedule meetings for the Municipal Year 2025-2026, Council is requested to approve the attached draft programme for Council, Executive and other Committee meetings.

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.

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

- 1.1 To seek approval of the draft programme of Council Committee meeting dates for the Municipal Year 2025-2026 as outlined in the attached Appendix A and to approve the dates and times of Council meetings.
- 1.2 This report will contribute towards the Council Plan ambition to deliver best value by ensuring robust and effective corporate governance.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council:

Approves:

2.1.1 The timetable of meetings for the Municipal Year 2025-2026, as detailed in the attached Appendix.

2.1.2 With the exception of the following:

- Budget/Council Tax Setting Meetings – Wednesday 18 February 2026 and Wednesday 4 March 2026.
- Annual Meeting - Wednesday 20 May 2026.

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

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

- 3.1 Council is required to approve the diary of meetings for the Municipal Year 2025-2026. The Director of Finance and Transformation (Section 151 Officer) was consulted with regard to the proposed meeting dates for the consideration of the Budget and Council Tax Setting Meeting.

4. Background and relevant information

- 4.1 The Constitution requires that Council approve the diary of meetings for the Municipal Year 2025-2026.

- 4.2 The dates are tentative and may be subject to change, depending on the appointment and availability of individual Chairs.

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

- 5.1 Not relevant.

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

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

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and 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.
Legal	The dates of the meetings for the approval of the budget have been scheduled to enable the budget to be agreed by 11 March 2026, in accordance with statutory requirements.
Risk	<p>Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement. By setting the diary of meetings for the year the Council is ensuring that 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.</p> <p>If the Council does not respond effectively and efficiently to legislative changes it could be in breach of statutory duties in relation to service delivery and fail to make the most of opportunities. The Council is obliged to hold meetings with members of the public being able to provide questions. By setting a diary of meetings this allows this to happen and has a positive impact on the Council fulfilling its statutory duties.</p>
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.
Climate Change / Environmental	Not Applicable.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	Not Applicable.
Data Protection	Not Applicable.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Schedule meetings as per the programme attached at Appendix A	Democratic Services Manager	31 May 2025

Appendices

1	Appendix A - Copy of the schedule of meetings.
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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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

APPENDIX A**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2025/2026**

Committee	Time	Day	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	Aug 2025	Sept 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026
Council	7 00pm (unless indicated otherwise)	WED (unless indicated otherwise)	21(#1)		9*		10*	15*	26*		14*	18 #2	Extra Budget Mtg 4(#2)	1*	20 (#1)
Monthly Members' Briefing	5.00pm	TUES	13	17	15		2	7	18	16	6	10	17	14	12
(Pre-Executive)	5.00pm	WED	28		2	20	17 (5.30pm)	29	19 (5.30pm)		7, 21-(4.30pm)	25 (5.30pm)	25	22	
Executive	5.00pm	WED		11	16		3	1	12	3	21	4	11	8	6
Overview and Scrutiny Board	4.30pm	WED			30		17	22	19	17	28	25	18	15	
Licensing Committee	1.00pm	MON		23	21		1, 22	13	3, 24	15	12	2, 23	16	13	11
Planning & Development Committee	1.30pm	THUR		5	3		4	9	6	4 (10am)	15	12	12	9	
Audit Committee	1.30pm	THUR			10, 24		25			11		19		16	
Constitution and Members Development Committee	1.00pm	THUR		26			18			18			26		
Corporate Affairs Committee	TBC (Ad-hoc)	TBC		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	
Staff Appeals Committee	10.00am	WED		11	9		3	8	5	3	21	11	11	8	6
Teesside Pension Fund Committee	11 00am	WED		18	16		24			10			4		
Teesside Pension Board	2.00pm	MON			7				17			9	31		

APPENDIX A

Works Council	11.30am	THUR		12			11(*11am)			11			TBC		
Corporate Health & Safety Steering Group	10.00am	THUR		12			11 (*9.30am)			11			TBC		
Standards Committee	10.00am	MON			14			20			19			6	
Joint Archives Committee	3.00pm	WED						8					4		
You Matter to Us (Corporate Parenting Board)	5.00pm	THUR			10			16			22			16	
Live Well South Tees Board	2.00pm	THUR			17		11			4			5		
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Panel	4.30 pm	TUES			1										
Children's Scrutiny Panel	4.30 pm	TUES		24											
Place Scrutiny Panel	4.30 pm	MON		30											

NOTES:

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

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Director of Legal and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	21 May 2025
Title:	Extraordinary Council Meeting - Resolution
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Not applicable

Proposed decision(s)
<p>That the Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.14.1 (b) is requested to pass a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purposes of awarding the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock. (ii) Agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of the Council.

Executive summary
<p>The report seeks Council approval, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.14.1(b) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.</p> <p>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.</p>

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek approval of Council, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.14.1(b) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council:

Resolves to:

- (i) call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purposes of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.
- (ii) agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council.

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

- 3.1 The Council's procedure rule 4.14.1(b) provides that Council may resolve to call an Extraordinary meeting.

4. Background and relevant information

- 4.1 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.

- 4.2 Two such persons of distinction have been nominated to be admitted to be Honorary Proposed Freeman of the Borough:

4.2.1 Norman Moorsom, former teacher and the most notable living historian of Middlesbrough, with some 40 published works on the town's history dating back to 1963. Recently, Norman has contributed to "Discover Middlesbrough", as well as the work of Ageing Better Middlesbrough and also successfully campaigned for the former St. Hilda's parish church.

4.2.2 Alan Peacock, former Middlesbrough FC and England footballer, who has worked tirelessly following his own diagnosis to raise awareness and support those also living with dementia.

- 4.3 Subject to approval of the recommendations set out at 2.1 in this report, suitable arrangements will be made for the Freedom Ceremony.

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

5.1 Not relevant.

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

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

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and Social Value)	If Council agree to the Extraordinary Council meeting there will be costs associated with the Freedom Ceremony. The costs are anticipated to be approximately £1,000 and will be met directly from the Democratic Services budget.
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	This decision will have no impact on reducing poverty.
Climate Change / Environmental	This decision will have no impact on climate change/environment.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	This decision will have no impact on Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers.
Data Protection	This decision will have no impact on Data Protection.

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

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Make arrangements for an Extraordinary Council Meeting	Monitoring Officer	As soon as practicable

Appendices

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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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