

**COUNCIL MEETING – 1 APRIL 2026  
NOTICE OF MOTIONS 180, 181, 182  
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NOS. 4.28 – 4.34**

<b>MOTION NO.</b>	<b>PROPOSER</b>	<b>SECONDER</b>	<b>MOTION</b>
180	Councillor Rush	Councillor Morrish	<p>National Colour Coded Recycling Packaging System, to include accessible labelling such as Braille or raised tactile markings.</p> <p>Many residents wish to recycle responsibly but often face confusion due to inconsistent and unclear packaging labels. This confusion can lead to recyclable materials being placed in general waste or non-recyclable materials contaminating recycling collections. Recycling instructions are frequently printed in very small text, making them difficult to read, particularly for blind and visually impaired residents, older residents, or those with reading difficulties. As a result, residents may unknowingly dispose of recyclable items incorrectly.</p> <p>Both Government and local councils are encouraging residents to recycle more. This is reflected in the increasing number of recycling bins and collection streams now provided to households. If residents are being asked to recycle more, it is only reasonable that the information on packaging is clear, consistent and accessible.</p> <p>A clear and consistent national approach would make recycling easier for residents and help improve recycling rates. It would also support the UK's wider environmental objectives, including increasing recycling levels and reducing waste sent to landfill.</p> <p>A simple colour coded system displayed clearly on packaging would allow residents to quickly identify how an item should be disposed of. Such a system could help residents recycle correctly, reduce contamination in recycling collections, and provide clearer guidance for households across the country.</p>

			<p>I therefore request that, if this motion is passed, the Chair of Council writes to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs within 28 days of the decision, urging the UK Government to consider introducing a national traffic light style colour coded system on packaging to clearly indicate recyclability, alongside accessible labelling such as Braille or raised tactile markings.</p> <p>This would help ensure recycling information is accessible to everyone and allow residents to independently identify how items should be disposed of. A clear colour coded, and tactile system would therefore promote greater inclusivity while supporting improved recycling outcomes.</p> <p>The proposer of the motion will work with the Chair to include in the letter the benefits such a system would bring to residents, councils and national recycling targets.</p>
181	Councillor Clynch	Councillor Storey	<p>Supporting scrapping of two-child benefit cap</p> <p>This Council supports the decision of the Government to scrap the two-child benefit cap. It has been estimated that 2 million children across the country will see increases in their household income thanks to the decision to lift the cap. This will help tackle child poverty and meet the government's aim to give all children the best start in life.</p> <p>We know child poverty effects children's physical and mental health, their educational attainment and future employment opportunities. In Middlesbrough, we have some of the highest levels of child poverty in the country. This includes in some wards where 6 out of 7 children are growing up in poverty.</p> <p>Currently excellent work is being undertaken by Middlesbrough Council including: 10x10 programme, the HAF programme (Holiday Activities and Food programme) and other support under the Council's Welfare Strategy such as auto-enrolment of free school meals, the Household Support Fund and the amazing work of our Welfare</p>

			<p>Rights Team. The ending of the two-child cap will help to lift more children out of poverty and improve the lives of children across Middlesbrough.</p> <p>This Council commits itself to continuing to support families and tackle child poverty.</p> <p>This Council therefore resolves to: Request that the Chair of the Council write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Education and recommit ourselves to working together to improve the lives of all of Middlesbrough's young people.</p>
182	Councillor L Young	Councillor J Ewan	<p>Planning reform - 'track record' test for developers</p> <p>This Council notes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The quality, pace and completion of development directly affects residents' quality of life.</li><li>2. Communities here and across the country are blighted by stalled or abandoned schemes and long-term derelict 'blight sites', often where developers have secured permission but failed to build out.</li><li>3. Under current planning law there is no clear, statutory 'track record' test for developers, and councils have limited ability to take full account of an applicant's track record of delivery and compliance.</li></ol> <p>This Council believes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. A developer's track record - including any pattern of uncompleted developments or creation of blight sites - should be a material consideration when determining planning applications.</li></ol>

			<p>5. Councils should have explicit powers to require transparency over ownership and company structures, and to refuse, condition or phase permissions where there is evidence of repeated failure to deliver or serious non-compliance.</p> <p>This Council therefore resolves to:</p> <p>6. Write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government to call on the UK Government to reform planning law and policy, including the Town and Country Planning Act and the National Planning Policy Framework, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduce a statutory 'track record' test for developers;</li><li>• Make a clear track record of uncompleted developments and blight sites a material planning consideration; and</li><li>• Strengthen councils' powers to secure completion, remediation and timely delivery of sites.</li></ul> <p>7. Write to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Both Members of Parliament representing Middlesbrough; and</li><li>• The Local Government Association,</li></ul> <p>setting out the Council's position and seeking support for these reforms.</p>
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