



Northumberland County Council

Forward Plan: Northumberland County Council

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings & Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 between 1 March 2021 and 30 June 2021

This Plan gives 28 clear days' notice of key decisions which either the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Portfolio Holders expect to take over the next few months. An authority cannot take a key decision without giving 28 clear days' notice unless an urgent decision is required.

"Key decisions" are defined as those Executive/Cabinet decisions which are likely:

- a. to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget or making savings of an amount which is significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or the function to which the decision relates; or
- b. to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions within the area of the Council.

Occasionally it is not possible to give 28 days' notice of a specific decision and so include the details in the forward plan. In those circumstances urgent key decisions may still be made under the urgency procedures set out in the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution.

A decision notice for each key decision made is published within 6 days of it having been made.

Whilst the majority of decisions listed in this Plan will be taken at meetings which are open to the public to attend, there may be some decisions which are considered in private meetings because the reports for the meeting contain confidential or exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (see below for relevant paragraphs) and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

If you object to a report being considered in private you can tell us why by emailing democraticservices@northumberland.gov.uk or contacting the address below. Any representations received at least 8 working days before the meeting will be published with the agenda together with a statement of the Council's response. Any representations received after this time will be reported verbally to the meeting.

The Cabinet is made up of the Leader, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members with the following portfolios:

Leader of the Council	Councillor Glen Sanderson
Deputy Leader & Corporate Services	Councillor Richard Wearmouth
Cabinet Member (Looking After our Communities)	Councillor Gordon Stewart
Cabinet Member (Caring for Adults)	Councillor Wendy Pattison
Cabinet Member (Improving Our Roads and Highways)	Councillor John Riddle
Cabinet Member (Supporting Business and Opportunities)	Councillor Wojciech Ploszaj
Cabinet Member (Inspiring Young People)	Councillor Guy Renner Thompson
Cabinet Member (Promoting Healthy Lives)	Councillor Jeff Watson
Cabinet Member (Looking After Our Environment)	Councillor Colin Horncastle
Cabinet Member (Improving Public Health and Wellbeing)	Councillor Veronica Jones

Paragraphs under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 – Exempt Information

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under the authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals an authority proposes;
 - a. to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b. to make an order or direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of a crime

Copies of the Council's Constitution and agendas and reports relevant to any key decision may be accessed on the Council's website www.northumberland.gov.uk or may be viewed during normal office hours and copies or extracts obtained on payment of a reasonable fee (unless the publication contains exempt information) at:

Democratic Services, Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF

Telephone 0345 600 6400 Or Contact: Democraticservices@northumberland.gov.uk

Title of Report	Brief Description of Report	Cabinet Portfolio holder / Officer contact	Decision maker & earliest date decision may be made	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Wards affected	Reason for exemption under Sched 12A (if in private session)
Approval of the Council Tax Support Scheme 2024-25	The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2024-25 to continue to provide support at a maximum level of 92% of council tax liability.	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources	Cabinet 7 November 2023		All Wards	N/A
Corporate Feedback Annual Report 2022-23	The purpose of the Annual Report is to review the operation of the complaints process over twelve months (01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023), including statistical data, and to provide the local	Cabinet Member for Looking After our Communities	Cabinet 7 November 2023			N/A

	authority with how it keeps itself informed about how effective its current arrangements are for handling customer complaints.					
Delegate Authority to Award Leisure Contract Report	The purpose of this report is to seek permission to delegate authority to enable the contract award of the Northumberland Community Leisure and Well-being Service	Cabinet Member for Promoting Healthy Lives	Cabinet 7 November 2023		All Wards	N/A
North East Devolution	The purpose of this report is to consider and determine if consent should be given to the making of an Order that would abolish the North East and North of Tyne Combined Authorities, whilst at the same time establishing a new North East Mayoral Combined Authority.	Leader of Council	Cabinet 7 November 2023		All Wards	N/A
Strengthened Biodiversity Duty and Reporting	The legal duty imposed on public bodies since 2006 to have regard to the	Cabinet Member for Looking After our Environment	Cabinet 7 November 2023		All Wards	N/A

Obligations	purpose of conserving biodiversity has been significantly strengthened through a legislative amendment to a requirement to take action to conserve and enhance biodiversity, with a planning and reporting framework that has to be complied with. This report sets out the implications of this duty for the Council and sets out the actions that need to be taken over the next year to comply with it.					
Summary of New Capital Proposals considered by Officer Capital Strategy Group	This is a report of the Capital Proposals received and considered by the Capital Strategy Group	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources	Cabinet 7 November 2023		All Wards	N/A
Adaptations for disabled people	To report on additional Disabled Facilities Grant funding received from Government, and to ask the Cabinet to consider the case for	Cabinet Member for Caring for Adults	Cabinet 12 December 2023		All Wards	N/A

	revisions to the Council's discretionary grants policy.					
Financial Performance 2023-24 - Position at the end of September	The report will provide Cabinet with the revenue and capital financial performance against budget as at 30 September 2023.	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources	Cabinet 12 December 2023		All Wards	N/A
Outcomes of the tender for new school buildings for Astley High and Whytrig Middle Schools	Update Cabinet on the outcomes of the tender process for the construction of new school buildings for Astley High School and Whytrig Middle School and seek the delegated approval to award the construction contract.	Cabinet Member for Inspiring Young People	Cabinet 12 December 2023		Hartley; Holywell; Seghill with Seaton Delaval	N/A
Budget 2024-25 , Medium Term Financial Plan 2024-28 and 30 Year Business Plan for the Housing Revenue Account	The report presents to Cabinet, the updated Budget 2024-25, Medium Term Financial Plan 2024-28 and 30 year Business plan for the Housing Revenue Account.	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources	Cabinet 16 January 2024		All Wards	N/A
Notification of	The report will advise	Deputy Leader and	Cabinet 16		All Wards	N/A

<p>the Estimated Collection Fund Balances 2023-24– Council Tax and Business Rates</p>	<p>members of the estimated surplus or deficit balances on the Collection Fund in relation to Council Tax and Business Rates at 31 March 2024. The Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) requires the Council as the Billing Authority to calculate a Council Tax Collection Fund estimate by 15th January each year. The Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013 require the Council as the Billing Authority to calculate a Business Rates Collection Fund estimate on or before 31st January each year.</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources</p>	<p>January 2024</p>			
<p>Financial Performance 2023-24 - Position at the end of December 2023</p>	<p>The report will provide Cabinet with the revenue and capital financial performance against budget as at 31 December 2023.</p>	<p>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources</p>	<p>Cabinet 12 March 2024</p>		<p>All Wards</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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