

Contact Officer: Leigh Webb

COUNCIL

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**At the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 12 October 2022**

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Masood Ahmed) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Karen Allison	Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Aafaq Butt	Councillor Cahal Burke
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Moses Crook	Councillor Paola Antonia Davies
Councillor Paul Davies	Councillor Donald Firth
Councillor Eric Firth	Councillor Charles Greaves
Councillor Adam Gregg	Councillor David Hall
Councillor Steve Hall	Councillor Tyler Hawkins
Councillor Lisa Holmes	Councillor James Homewood
Councillor Yusra Hussain	Councillor Manisha Roma Kaushik
Councillor Viv Kendrick	Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Jo Lawson	Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Vivien Lees-Hamilton	Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor Aleks Lukic	Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Naheed Mather	Councillor Harry McCarthy
Councillor Tony McGrath	Councillor Bernard McGuin
Councillor Matthew McLoughlin	Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Darren O'Donovan	Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Carole Pattison	Councillor Mussarat Pervaiz
Councillor Andrew Pinnock	Councillor Jackie Ramsay
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds	Councillor Mohammad Sarwar
Councillor Cathy Scott	Councillor Joshua Sheard
Councillor Will Simpson	Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Anthony Smith	Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor Mohan Sokhal	Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Mark Thompson	Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Sheikh Ullah	Councillor Lesley Warner
Councillor Michael Watson	Councillor Adam Zaman
Councillor Habiban Zaman	

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- 57 **Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive**
There were no announcements from the Mayor or Chief Executive
- 58 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Anwar, Bamford, Dad, Loonat, Lowe, Perry, A U Pinnock, K Pinnock, Stephen, K Taylor and White.
- 59 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, and
- RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 September 2022 be approved as a correct record.
- 60 **Declaration of Interests**
No interests were declared.
- 61 **Petitions (From Members of the Council)**
No petitions were submitted from Members of the Council.
- 62 **Deputations & Petitions (From Members of the Public)**
There were no deputations or petitions received from members of the public.
- 63 **Public Question Time**
No questions were received from members of the public.
- 64 **Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027 (Reference from Cabinet)**
It was moved by Councillor Pattison, seconded by Councillor Pandor and
- RESOLVED** – That the Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027, as attached at Appendix 1, be adopted.
- 65 **Corporate Governance and Audit Committee – Terms of Reference (Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee)**
It was moved by Councillor Hussain, seconded by Councillor J Taylor and
- RESOLVED** –
- 1) That Council amend the Terms of Reference of Corporate Governance & Audit Committee as described in paragraph 2.3
 - 2) That Council note and endorse the arrangements for the appointment of an Independent Person, in accordance with the role profile as set out at Appendix 2 and the methodology as set out at Appendix 3.
- 66 **Member Attendance Rules**
It was moved by Councillor Sokhal, seconded by Councillor Pandor, and
- RESOLVED** – That Council note the non attendance of Councillor Fran Perry and give approval to the waiver of Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972,

permitting Councillor Perry to continue to be a Member of the Council, and adding a six month period for her continued recovery.

67 Written Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons

Council received the following written questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12;

Question from Cllr R Smith to the Leader of the Council (Cllr Pandor)

“What are you doing to assist Kirklees residents with the cost of living?”

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Corporate responded thereto

Question from Cllr McGuin to the Cabinet member for Culture and Greener Kirklees (Cllr Simpson)

“I asked a question about the capacity of Huddersfield Crematorium at July's meeting. After checking on the booking system on Wednesday 5th October, there were only bookings until 12:15 being taken. Will Councillor Simpson amend his answer given at July's meeting?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto

Question from Councillor Andrew Pinnock to the WYCA Transport Committee Spokesperson (Councillor Butt)

“There have recently been considerable cuts in bus services by Arriva in North Kirklees, about which I have had a number of complaints from local residents. What is the Combined Authority able to do to ensure that our public transport system is capable of providing users with ample opportunity to take advantage of the Mayor's recent fare offers?”

The WYCA Transport Spokesperson responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Paola Davies to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Cllr Turner)

“Have the Council fully assessed the impact of rising Capital borrowing costs and of their impact on the costs of the Huddersfield Blue Print and the Cultural Heart. Especially as these will be in addition to the spiralling inflation construction costs that are being felt in all sectors.”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Paola Davies to the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Cllr Paul Davies)

“Have the Council fully assessed the impact of rising energy costs and their impact on bills faced by the Council in the running of Council properties and public buildings?”

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The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr A Smith, Cabinet Member for Transport (Councillor E Firth)

“Are any Kirklees West Yorkshire Combined Authority funded projects at risk due to funding changes or gaps due to inflationary or other pressures?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr A Smith to the Cabinet Member for Environment (Cllr Mather)

“Could you clarify the Council’s policy on materials used to replace and repair road pavement surfaces in high-profile public and conservation areas?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Lukic to the Leader of the Council (Cllr Pandor)

“I am concerned that this year’s increase to councillors’ allowances, despite warnings at the time, may be in excess of some members’ expectations when the matter was considered last month. Will you please confirm the percentage increase to councillors’ basic allowances that is currently expected, and whether you would consider that amount to be appropriate given the severe financial pressures the council is facing?”

The Leader of the Council to responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Lukic to the Cabinet Member for Environment (Cllr Mather)

“Last week I received a letter from the Department for Transport that confirms its guidance for speed camera site selection is not mandatory, and that non-compliance by local authorities does not provide any defence for speeding offences. The DfT has also confirmed that its guidance supports camera installation on roads that don’t meet casualty limits but are still of community concern, and that our Local Casualty Prevention Partnership is free to set its own speed camera site criteria. Will you therefore please acknowledge that the A653 Leeds Road dual carriageway at Chidswell is a site of long-standing significant community concern over speeding, and agree that it should have permanent speed cameras installed?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Lukic to the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Cllr Paul Davies)

“As I have discussed with you previously, would you please provide an update on whether the council will enable online reporting of traffic signal faults to help relieve some of the demand on the phone lines, and whether there are any other extensions planned to online reporting for common issues?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Lukic to the Leader of the Council (Cllr Pandor)

“Will you please provide details of any proposals or suggestions that any members of your administration might have been aware of for accommodation to be provided within Dewsbury Town Centre for people who have entered the country illegally?”

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Lukic to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Cllr Turner)

“In your position of responsibility over planning, is our planning service properly prepared to stop any potential changes of use of buildings in breach of planning control to provide accommodation for people who have entered the country illegally?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr Lukic to the Cabinet Member for Transport (Cllr E Firth)

“In your position of responsibility for Dewsbury Town Centre regeneration, do you consider that the town centre is an appropriate location for accommodation to be provided for people who have entered the country illegally?”

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration responded thereto in the absence of Cabinet Member for Transport.

Question from Councillor Munro to the WYCA Transport Committee Spokesperson (Cllr Butt)

“Recently Arriva announced cuts to bus services across Kirklees including the 231 and 232 which serve Lepton. What is the Council doing about these cuts?”

The WYCA Transport Committee Spokesperson responded thereto.

Question from Cllr McGuin to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Democracy (Cllr Scott)

“Can the Cabinet Member for Housing explain why the flats in Lepton have still not had their porches repaired after I was promised they would be done by February?”

The Cabinet Member responded thereto.

Question from Cllr McGuin to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Cllr Turner)

“Can the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration tell me if the Council supports planning applications that do not want Section 106 payments or affordable housing as part of their conditions for approving building?”

The Cabinet Member to responded thereto.

Question from Cllr D Hall to the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care (Cllr Khan)

What action can or will you take against care providers who are not carrying out their duties satisfactorily?

The Cabinet Member to responded thereto.

Question from Cllr D Hall to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Cllr Turner)

What is now the average time to determine a minor planning application in Kirklees?

The Cabinet Member to responded thereto.

Question from Cllr D Hall to the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Cllr P Davies)

What is the target for asset and land disposals this year, and are we going to meet it?

The Cabinet Member to responded thereto.

Question from Cllr D Hall to the Leader of the Council (Cllr Pandor)

How many officer vacancies have we, and what is this as a proportion of our workforce?

The response was delegated to the Cabinet Member for Corporate who responded thereto.

68 Minutes of Cabinet and Cabinet Committee - Local Issues

Council received the Minutes of (i) Cabinet held on 5 July, 26 July, 9 August and 5 September 2022 and (ii) Cabinet Committee – Local Issues held on 23 March, 21 June and 18 August 2022.

RESOLVED –That the Minutes of Cabinet and Cabinet Committee – Local Issues, be received and noted.

69 Holding the Executive to Account

Council received a Portfolio Holder update from the Cabinet Member for Children, Councillor Kendrick.

70 Minutes of Other Committees

Item not considered (due to time constraints).

71 Written Questions to Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons

Item not considered (due to time constraints).

72 Oral Questions to Committee Chairs and Nominated Spokespersons of Joint Committees/External Bodies

Item not considered (due to time constraints).

- 73 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Tackling Speeding and Reviewing Road Safety Measures**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).