

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

COUNCIL

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**At the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 17 July 2024**

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Nosheen Dad) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Beverley Addy	Councillor Masood Ahmed
Councillor Munir Ahmed	Councillor Itrat Ali
Councillor Karen Allison	Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor Zarina Amin	Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Ali Arshad	Councillor Timothy Bamford
Councillor Donna Bellamy	Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Tanisha Bramwell	Councillor Aafaq Butt
Councillor Andrew Cooper	Councillor Moses Crook
Councillor Aziz Daji	Councillor Hanifa Darwan
Councillor Paola Antonia Davies	Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Charles Greaves	Councillor David Hall
Councillor Tyler Hawkins	Councillor Lisa Holmes
Councillor Caroline Holt	Councillor James Homewood
Councillor Yusra Hussain	Councillor Zahid Kahut
Councillor Viv Kendrick	Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Jo Lawson	Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards	Councillor David Longstaff
Councillor Gwen Lowe	Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Harry McCarthy	Councillor Tony McGrath
Councillor Hannah McKerchar	Councillor Matthew McLoughlin
Councillor Paul Moore	Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Darren O'Donovan	Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Amanda Pinnock	Councillor Andrew Pinnock
Councillor Kath Pinnock	Councillor Ashleigh Robinson
Councillor Jane Rylah	Councillor Imran Safdar
Councillor Angela Sewell	Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Joshua Sheard	Councillor Will Simpson
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje	Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor Mohan Sokhal	Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Mark Thompson	Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Sheikh Ullah	Councillor Adam Zaman
Councillor Habiban Zaman	

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20 **Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive**

The Mayor clarified a procedural matter arising from the Annual Meeting, confirming that the role of appointed Spokespersons of External Bodies was to respond to relevant questions raised at meetings of Council, subject to information being requested not being of a confidential nature.

In acknowledgement of the recent General Election, the Mayor conveyed thanks to the former Kirklees area MPs for the work that they had done in representing local residents over their years of service, and also welcomed the newly elected MPs. The Mayor also conveyed thanks to Electoral Services staff for the organisation of the election and count.

21 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Burke, P Davies, Lees-Hamilton, A Smith and Vickers.

22 **Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to the Leadership of the Council**

It was moved by Councillor Pattison and seconded by Councillor Crook that

“We, as signatories, call for a Vote of No Confidence to remove the current Leader of the Council under section 7.6.1 of the Council's Constitution.

We believe that the current Leader and their new group have no legitimate mandate from this Council or from the people of Kirklees. Leadership from this small and newly formed minority party is not sustainable.

We therefore resolve to see the current Leader removed from office and for a new Leader be properly elected by this Council.”

Whereupon it was moved by Councillor Cooper, and seconded by Councillor Jo Lawson, by way of amendment that an additional paragraph be added as follows;

“Furthermore this Council believes that the Labour Party also has no mandate to run the Council because:

- It only secured 31% of the vote in the May Council elections compared with 38% in 2023.
- Labour lost 6 seats in the local elections.
- Labour has gone from 39 seats to 24 seats since May 2023. A total loss of 15 seats.
- In addition it has lost an MP in the Dewsbury and Batley Constituency.
- A party which can only secure 31% of the vote should not have 100% of the power over decisions in Kirklees.

This Council therefore asks the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee to consider recommending replacing the unrepresentative Strong Leader and Cabinet Model to a modern Committee System that involves Councillors of all parties and Independent Councillors, in decision making, at the earliest opportunity.”

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The amendment, upon being put to the vote, was not carried. The Substantive Motion was therefore put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED – That the Motion be carried.

Following this resolution, it was moved by Councillor Crook and seconded by Councillor Sokhal that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15(5) the Election of the Leader of the Council be considered as a Urgent Item of Business. Upon being put to the vote, it was:

RESOLVED - That Election of the Leader be considered by Council, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15(5).

(Adjournment)

23 **Election of the Leader of the Council**

It was moved by Councillor Crook and seconded by Councillor Sokhal that Councillor Pattison be elected as Leader of the Council, whereupon it was moved by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Masood Ahmed that Councillor H Zaman be elected as Leader of the Council.

Upon being put to the vote, the nomination of Councillor Pattison was carried and it was therefore;

RESOLVED – That Councillor Carole Pattison be elected as Leader of the Council, in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution.

(Adjournment)

24 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of Annual Council, held on 22 May 2024, be approved as a correct record.

25 **Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

26 **Deputations & Petitions (From Members of the Public)**

Council received (a) deputations from (i) Mick Donoghue (Unison) – Customer Service Centre Closures (ii) Kasia Akhtar – Reopening of Batley Baths and (iii) Mudassa Iqbal – Boycotting of produce from illegal settlements in the West Bank, and (b) a petition from Kasia Akhtar regarding the future use of Batley Baths.

27 **Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

28 **Petitions (From Members of the Council)**

Council received petitions from (i) Councillor Hawkins requesting the enforcement of planning conditions at Laneside Quarry and (ii) Councillor Munir Ahmed on behalf of the Friends of Kirkheaton Library requesting that the Council retain the current levels of support provided to the library.

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The Mayor advised that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9(3), the subject matter of the petitions be referred to the relevant Executive Director.

29 Petitions Debate (Car Parking Charges - Cleckheaton)

Council held a petition debate on the potential impact of parking charges. This matter was considered alongside the Agenda Item 10 (Petitions Debate – Car Parking Charges Honley/Meltham).

30 Petitions Debate (Car Parking Charges - Honley/Meltham)

Council held a petition debate on the potential impact of parking charges. This matter was considered alongside the Agenda Item 9 (Petitions Debate – Car Parking Charges - Cleckheaton).

31 West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Minutes

The Minutes of West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 7 December 2023, 1 February 2024 and 14 March 2024 were received and noted.

32 Financial Outturn Report 2023/2024 (to include the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account Outturn Position and Annual Report on Treasury Management (Reference from Cabinet))

It was moved by Councillor Turner, seconded by Councillor Pattison and

RESOLVED;

- 1) That in regards to the General Fund (i) revenue outturn position of +£7.3m overspend for 2023/2024 be noted (ii) the year end position on reserves and balances of £61.2m (excluding Statutory Reserves), particularly that the level of general reserve at £25m is the desirable level on a risk based approach as presented in the 2024/2025 be noted (iii) the application of the Council's flexible capital receipts strategy to the value of £3.3m applied against eligible transformation costs in 2023/2024 be noted (iv) it be noted that regular monitoring and review of corporate reserves in 2024/2025 will be submitted to Cabinet as part of the quarterly financial monitoring cycle and (v) the year end deficit position on the Collection Fund of £8m, along with the position on the DSG as part of the Council's Safety Valve Agreement be noted.
- 2) That the Housing Revenue Account revenue outturn position of +£1m deficit for the 2023/2024 and the year end reserves balance of £33.9m be noted.
- 3) That in regards to the Capital Budget, (i) the capital outturn position at £148.2m for 2023/2024 be noted (ii) the £22.3m capital slippage from 2023/2024 to 2024/2025 be noted (iii) the revised capital plan for the period 2024/2025 on wards (after taking into account the rephasing of schemes and additional grant funding assumptions) be noted (iv) approval be given to £0.75m additional borrowing for the in-house fleet for home to school transport pilot (v) approval be given to the extension of the existing Property Investment Fund loan facility for Kingsgate Shopping Centre for a further nine months, at the prevailing interest rate (cost neutral for the Council) and (vi)

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approval be given to the use of £0.14m Libraries Improvement Grant Fund towards spend on the Kirklees Open Access pilot project.

4) That the Review of Treasury Management activity for 2023/2024 be noted.

33 **Environment Strategy: Everyday Life (Reference from Cabinet)**

Item deferred.

34 **Pay Policy Statement (Reference from Personnel Committee)**

It was moved by Councillor Pattison, seconded by Councillor Kendrick and

RESOLVED – That the Pay Policy Statement 2024/2025 be approved.

35 **Appointment of Chair - Health and Wellbeing Board**

It was moved by Councillor Pattison, seconded by Councillor Crook and

RESOLVED – That Councillor Beverley Addy be appointed as Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board for the remainder of the municipal year.

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

Item deferred.

37 **Minutes of Cabinet and Cabinet Committee - Local Issues**

Council received and noted the Minutes of (i) Cabinet held on 23 January, 13 February, 20 February, 12 March and 9 April 2024 and (ii) Cabinet Committee – Local Issues held on 22 November 2023, 31 January 2024 and 22 March 2024.

38 **Holding the Executive to Account**

Item deferred.

39 **Minutes of Other Committees**

Council received and noted the Minutes of (i) Corporate Governance and Audit Committee held on 24 November 2023, 19 January 2024, 8 March 2024, 19 April 2024, 10 May 2024 (ii) Corporate Parenting Board held on 5 December 2023, 23 January 2024, 5 March 2024, 23 April 2024 (iii) Health and Wellbeing Board held on 18 January 2024 (iv) Licensing and Safety Committee held on 14 February 2024 (v) Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee held on 5 December 2023, 9 January 2024, 27 February 2024 (vi) Personnel Committee held on 8 November 2023 (vii) Standards Committee held on 20 March 2024 and (viii) Strategic Planning Committee held on 7 December 2023, 25 January 2024, 22 February 2024, 28 March 2024 and 16 May 2024.

40 **Oral Questions to Committees/Sub Committees/Panel Chairs and Nominated Spokespersons of Joint Committees/External Bodies**

Council received oral questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13(4).

41 **Response to Motion - School Uniform Costs**

Council received and noted the response of the Department of Education to the Motion approved on 17 January 2024.

42

Response to Motion - Water Quality and Sewage Discharge

Council received and noted the response of the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs, and of Yorkshire Water, to the Motion approved on 17 January 2024.