

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 September 2025**

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Elizabeth Smaje) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Beverley Addy	Councillor Masood Ahmed
Councillor Munir Ahmed	Councillor Itrat Ali
Councillor Karen Allison	Councillor Zarina Amin
Councillor Ammar Anwar	Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Ali Arshad	Councillor Timothy Bamford
Councillor Donna Bellamy	Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Tanisha Bramwell	Councillor Damian Brook
Councillor Cahal Burke	Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Moses Crook	Councillor Nosheen Dad
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 Vivien Lees-Hamilton	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 Alison Munro
Councillor Darren O'Donovan	Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Amanda Pinnock	Councillor Andrew Pinnock
Councillor Ashleigh Robinson	Councillor Jane Rylah
Councillor Imran Safdar	Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Angela Sewell	Councillor Joshua Sheard
Councillor Will Simpson	Councillor Anthony Smith
Councillor Richard Smith	Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor John Taylor	Councillor Mark Thompson
Councillor Graham Turner	Councillor Sheikh Ullah
Councillor Alex Vickers	Councillor Habiban Zaman

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The Mayor paid tribute to Liz Cusick (nee Twitchett), who had sadly passed away on 2 September 2025 following a brief illness. The Mayor acknowledged the significant impact that Liz had made during her career as a Highways Engineer and Manager at Kirklees and that she was well regarded as an outstanding professional among colleagues, and the wider highways industry.

The Mayor advised Council that Kirklees parks and greenspaces had been recognised amongst the country's best parks, retaining their Green Flag Awards. She highlighted that Green Flag Award has been awarded to Beaumont Park, Greenhead Park, Castle Hill, Crow Nest Park and Wilton Park and that Oakwell Hall and Country Park has also achieved Green Flag status for its twenty first year in a row. Furthermore, the Mayor advised Council that the Canal and River Trust had received a green flag for Huddersfield Narrow Canal and that Upper Hopton Community Association had been awarded a Community Green Flag for Upper Hopton Recreation Ground, and East Bierley received a community Green Flag for the whole village.

42 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Butt, K Pinnock and A Zaman.

43 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

44 **Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

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

No petitions were received.

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

No deputations were received.

Council received a petition from Daz Eastwood which requested that the Council develops the vacant Gas Works site to enable the development of a new stadium for Huddersfield Giants.

The Mayor directed that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9(3), the subject matter of the petition be referred to the appropriate Service Director for investigation.

47 **Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

48 **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 19 June 2025 were received and noted.

49 Corporate Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report (Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee)

It was moved by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Homewood, and

RESOLVED – That the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee 2024/2025 be received and that the assurances set out within the report that the Committee complies with CIPFAs position statement; Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police be noted.

50 Council Budget Strategy Update - 2026/2027 and future years (Reference from Cabinet)

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

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

51 Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework (SDF) Development Plan Document (Reference from Cabinet)

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

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the making of an agreement with Leeds City Council, Bradford City Council, Wakefield Council and Calderdale Council to commence the preparation of a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Part 1 Development Plan Document.
- 2) That authority be delegated to undertake initial Regulation 18 consultation and Regulation 19 consultation on the draft West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Joint Member Committee, in so far as it is a council planning function relating to the Development Plan Document.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Joint Member Committee to authorise initial early engagement and public consultation (Regulation 18) on the draft Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document and to prepare the submission draft and consultation for Regulation 19.

52 Key Discussion

Council received a presentation from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste (Councillor Hawkins) and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment (Councillor A U Pinnock), prior to holding a key discussion on Road Safety in Kirklees.

53 Overview and Scrutiny Report Annual Report 2024/2025

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

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

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Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

55 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Opposing Cuts to Disability and Long-Term Sickness Benefits

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

56 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Ethical Procurement and Investment Policy

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

57 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to the Growing Epidemic of Violence against Women and Girls

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

58 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to the Abolition of the Council Committee System

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

59 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to the Need for SEND Profit Caps on Private Providers

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

60 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Labour's Welfare Cuts

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).