

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 13th January 2026

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)
Councillor Beverley Addy
Councillor Moses Crook
Councillor Nosheen Dad
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Amanda Pinnock
Councillor Jane Rylah
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Masood Ahmed
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Hanifa Darwan
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Habiban Zaman

Apologies: Councillor Tyler Hawkins

76 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Hawkins.

77 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 December 2025 be approved as a correct record.

78 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

79 Admission of the Public

It was noted that Agenda Item 12 (Minute No. 87 refers) contained exempt information.

80 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

81 Questions by Members of the Public

No public questions were received.

82 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received the following questions in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 2.3;

Question from Councillor Scott

“In a BBC report on 2 December 2025, the Leader said that Officers would bring forward options for new burial spaces in the next few weeks, at a time when burial provision was described as being at a critical point. Given that there is no effective burial space in Dewsbury, where do you believe families should be burying their loved ones right now?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor H Zaman

“In regards to burial land, what practical interim arrangements are currently in place to support families from Dewsbury who cannot access burial plots nearby?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor Darwan

“You have said there are sufficient burial plots in Kirklees for several years, whilst also confirming that Dewsbury cemetery for Muslim burials is effectively full. Families in Dewsbury are already being directed elsewhere. Given that reality were do you believe families from Dewsbury should be burying their loved ones right now?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor Cooper

“All party groups on the Council get a budget for sending letters to constituents. It has been common practice by the Labour Group to send mass mailouts promoting their Councillors in wards that they represent to 1000s of voters just before the pre election period. Will you be doing this again this year and if so which wards will you be sending letters to?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor Safdar

“I’ve received numerous messages from residents regarding an increase in fly tipping and problems surrounding overflowing bins. Many residents think this is linked to missed bin collections, which is causing a lot of issues in the community. I believe that Councillor Hawkins and Officers have been in communications with my ward colleagues but can the Cabinet have conversations with the ward councillors about reversing waste collection arrangements over festive periods and can we potentially have the odd swap of grey bin collections just after Christmas, and then go back to the normal routine?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor Scott

“Residents are telling us that they did not want the permit parking removed. They want the cost reduced to nothing, or a minimal cost, yet people were encouraged to support the removal so they don’t have to pay. Does the Leader accept that this

misrepresents what residents are actually asking for? People are now not using the car parks in the town centre and are parking on the streets in the Eastborough area.”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor H Zaman

“If enforcement levels are below what residents where led to expect will the Council consider refunds, credits or fee reductions for these that have already paid?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor Safdar

“I welcome the comments from Councillor A U Pinnock recently regarding drug enforcement and awareness, especially regarding the problems with nitrous oxide. I'd like there to be a further conversation with Cabinet, and maybe a walkabout, to see how we can work with different agencies, organisations and the voluntary sector about how we can challenge this scourge of drug related waste being tipped?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Communities (Councillor A U Pinnock).

Question from Councillor Darwan

“In regards to parking permits, residents are furious as they feel that it has been framed as them not wanting permit parking when in reality they objected to the price, not the scheme. Why was reducing the cost not properly explored before encouraging removal?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison).

Question from Councillor Scott

“In regards to parking permits, do you accept that the burden has been put on families? Its another burden per car, plus visitor permits to pay for on top of that.”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport (Councillor Crook).

83

Annual RIPA Update

Cabinet received the annual RIPA (Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act) update, which advised that there had been no incidents which required RIPA to be used since the previous report to Cabinet in 2024.

It was noted that the number of RIPA authorisations granted since the previous annual report was zero and that the Council would be subject to an IPCO (Investigatory Powers Commissioners Office) inspection during 2026.

RESOLVED - That the Annual RIPA report be received and noted.

84 Kirklees Tourism Strategy 2026-2029

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Scott).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of the Kirklees Tourism Strategy 2026-2029. The report advised that the strategy sought to develop the current offer in the district, link activity with the emerging Kirklees cultural and heritage strategies and plans and guide future activity, investment decisions and partnership working in the visitor economy.

Cabinet noted that, in 2026, local delivery plans for culture would be co-developed with communities, which would support the shaping of tourism related actions. The report advised that the strategy would give direction to promoting the district to residents, visitors and businesses and would connect to improved infrastructure and regeneration schemes, forming part of the region wide activity to deliver a Local Visitor Economy Partnership Destination Management Plan, in conjunction with other West Yorkshire Local Authorities and WYCA.

It was noted that, during 2026, Local Cultural Delivery Plans would be developed with communities through a programme of work led by the Council, the University of Huddersfield and cultural organisations.

RESOLVED - That the Kirklees Tourism Strategy 2026-2029 be adopted.

85 Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools in 2027/2028

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Darwan, Scott and H Zaman).

Cabinet received a report which presented the results of this year's consultation and sought to determine admission arrangements for all Kirklees community and voluntary controlled schools for 2027/2028. It was noted that arrangements must be determined by 28 February 2026 in order to comply with the national School Admissions Code.

The report explained that the proposed arrangements for 2027/2028 were similar to the arrangements agreed for 2026/27, with the exception of (i) three proposed reductions in Published Admission Numbers (PAN) detailed in section 2.4 of the report and (ii) updates to Appendix 1C for tie-break arrangements, the wording around how oversubscription criteria is applied, admission requests for out of normal year group (including summer born requests). It was noted that these changes intended to bring clarity to parents and schools and ensure compliance with the national School Admission Code.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Kirklees co-ordinated admission schemes for 2027/28, including in-year admissions, as set out in Appendix 2, be approved.
- 2) That admission arrangements for Kirklees community and voluntary controlled schools, as detailed in Appendix 1C, including the updated

sections related to tie-break arrangements and admission requests for out of normal year group (including summer born requests), be approved.

- 3) That approval be given to the Published Admission Numbers (PAN) for each community and voluntary controlled school, as set out in appendix 1D, including: Birkby Junior School – PAN decrease from 150 to 120 in 2027/28, Dalton School – PAN decrease from 70 to 60 in 2027/28 and Roberttown CE (VC) J & I School – PAN decrease from 34 to 30 in 2027/28.

86 Half Yearly Monitoring on Treasury Management activities 2025/2026

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Darwan, Scott and H Zaman).

Cabinet received a report which set out the treasury management performance during the first half of 2025/2026, prior to its submission to Council.

The report provided assurance that the Council's treasury management function was being managed prudently and pro-actively and that the Council complied with its treasury management prudential indicators in the year, as set out at Appendix 4.

The report advised that external investments, including the £10.0 million Local Authority Property Fund (LAPF), averaged £98.8 million during the period at an average rate of 4.21% and that investments ranged from a peak of £139.2m million in July 2025 to a low of £58.0 million in April 2025. It advised that the Council's net borrowing increased by £10.2 million in the 6 month period, from £715.4 million at 31 March 2025 to £725.6 million at 30 September 2025. It was noted that the treasury management revenue budget for 2025/26 was £36.1 million.

Cabinet noted that all treasury management activities undertaken during the period complied fully with the principles in the Treasury Management Code and the Council's approved Treasury Management Strategy.

RESOLVED - That the half yearly treasury management activity 2025-2026 be noted and that the report be referred to the meeting of Council on 21 January 2026.

87 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Capital Plan Investment for the new build Woodley School and College

(The report included exempt information in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely it contains information relating to financial and business affairs of third parties (including the Authority holding that information)).

(The report included exempt information in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely that it contains information relating to financial and business affairs of third parties (including the Authority holding that information)). It was considered that the disclosure of the information would not be in the public interest as disclosure could adversely affect overall ability to obtain value for money, compromise the commercial confidentiality of organisations mentioned in the report, which is considered to outweigh the public interest in disclosing information including, greater

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accountability, transparency in spending public money, and openness in Council decision-making).

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received a representation from Councillors Darwan and Scott).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to draw down capital allocations, primarily from the Children's and Families section of the Capital Plan, approved by Council on 16th July 2025, in order to enable the construction and completion of the new build Woodley School and College, which would expand special school provision to replace the existing school sites.

The report advised that the anticipated start on site date for the new build Woodley School and College was during Summer 2026, with completion scheduled during Autumn 2027, and that these dates aligned to the most recent report issued by Children's Services colleagues in relation to the DfE safety valve targets/funding.

The report sought permission to draw down capital funds to enable a building contract to be awarded for the construction of the new build Woodley School and College, within the budget as set out in Appendix 3. It was noted that, subject to approval, a robust procurement exercise would take place to appoint a construction partner to deliver the new build school in line with the estimated programme stated in this report. Appendix 2 included images to illustrate what the new building and site.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the draw down of capital funds as detailed in Appendix 3 of this report to enable the procurement and appointment of a building contractor to construct a 180 place new build Communication & Interaction / Autism school to replace the existing Woodley School and College site at Dog Kennel Bank, Huddersfield and to facilitate the completion of this project, in line with procurement regulations and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
- 2) That in order to manage the successful delivery of the new build Woodley School and College site at Fernside Avenue without the need to return to Cabinet should any further unexpected costs arise that exceed the approved budget as stated in Appendix 3, authority be delegated, if required, to the Service Directors for Development and for Learning and Early Support in consultation with the Service Director for Finance (S151 Officer) to use the provisions within the Council's Financial Procedure Rules dated June 2025, specifically paragraphs 3.9 to 3.10.
- 3) That authority to the Executive Director of Place to authorise the award of the contract to ensure that a construction contract can be signed for the proposed new build school and the project completed so that the required additional SEND school places can be successfully delivered.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into any necessary legal agreements or instruments to facilitate the recommendations.

88 Homes and Neighbourhoods Service Governance Review

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Darwan, Scott and H Zaman).

Cabinet received a report which set out the outcome of a review of the governance arrangements for the Homes and Neighbourhoods Service. The report outlined a process of review that had assessed (i) the current format of governance, considering strengths and gaps (ii) the requirements of the regulator, reflecting upon the changing environment and implications for the service, and (iii) the current service risk register. Cabinet noted that the proposals sought to evolve the model of governance, while maintaining a critical focus on tenant scrutiny, and the role of the Tenant Led Panel.

It was also noted that strategic and key decisions would be referred to Cabinet, along with new policies and significant changes to policy. The report set out information on the approach to the review, service risks, the existing and proposed structures and the role of corporate and operational governance.

It was noted that the review process had sought to amend and develop the Homes and Neighbourhoods structure to ensure control over areas of significant risk and provide assurance to tenants.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the service risks as set out at paragraph 2.12 of the report be noted.
- 2) That the proposed structure as set out at paragraph 2.14 of the report be noted.
- 3) That it be noted that the proposal includes (i) the change of title for Homes and Neighbourhoods Improvement Board to Homes and Neighbourhood Assurance Board (ii) delegation of the decision for timing of the name change to Portfolio Holder for Transport and Housing and Executive Director of Place (iii) the broadening scope of Homes and Neighbourhood Assurance Board to cover all areas of regulation (iv) the continued importance of the Tenant Led Panel as a bridge between the service and our tenant base (v) the addition of two new officer operational boards (Housing Capital and Revenue Investment Board and Service Quality Assurance Board) to cover risks as identified in section 4.3 and (vi) the broadening of scope of the Transformation Board to include data, and service culture workstreams.

89 Response to Awaab's Law - Interim Policy Updates, Repairs, and Maintenance Policy and Damp, Mould and Condensation Policy

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Darwan, Scott and H Zaman).

Cabinet received a report which set out proposed interim policy updates that would ensure meeting the requirements of Awaab's law and build upon the work carried out in recent months to reduce the significant backlog of damp, mould and condensation cases, and provide a proactive repairs service to Council tenants. It was noted that Awaab's Law introduced new statutory duties for social landlords to address damp,

mould and condensation hazards, and other hazards, within strict timescales.

The report set out the detail of the proposed policy updates and proposed an intention to embark on a meaningful programme of tenant engagement which would allow tenants to inform the services provided. It was noted that the proposals to engage with tenants on related policies sought to provide meaningful opportunities for tenants to influence and scrutinise the Council's strategies.

Cabinet noted that, for 2025-2026, there was a budget for repairs and maintenance works of £31.3m, increasing to £32.7m in 2026- 2027, which included a budget of £12.6m for responsive repairs and damp and mould. The report advised that a budget of £3.1m had been provided to carry out stock condition surveys over the next three years.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Repairs and Maintenance Policy: Interim Update be noted and approved.
- 2) That the Damp, Mould and Condensation (DMC) Policy: Interim Update be noted and approved.
- 3) That the intention to consult further with tenants on the detail and effectiveness of these policies, which may lead to subsequent policy amendments be noted.
- 4) That the intention to develop further supporting policies and procedures in consultation with tenants.

90

Huddersfield Station Gateway Masterplan

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Darwan and Scott).

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on the development of a Masterplan for Huddersfield Gateway Station and sought approval of the proposed next steps.

The report advised that the Huddersfield Station Gateway Masterplan provided a strategic framework designed to drive regeneration and investment in Huddersfield town centre and set out a vision to transform the Station Gateway into a dynamic and inclusive transport hub, enhancing connectivity, supporting economic growth, and inspiring wider regeneration.

Cabinet were advised that the proposals centred around opportunities presented by the Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU), and integrated key assets including Huddersfield Railway Station, St George's Warehouse, The George Hotel, and St George's Square, and that it also aligned with other major initiatives such as the

Huddersfield Blueprint, Our Cultural Heart, and the Station to Stadium Enterprise Corridor.

The report explained that approval of the masterplan would establish a clear framework for future project development, partnership working, and stakeholder engagement, and that the ambition was for the masterplan to guide the preparation of business cases and funding strategies for individual projects, ensuring readiness to capitalise on future opportunities and deliver long-term benefits for Huddersfield and the wider district.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the report and Masterplan document be received and noted.
- 2) That approval be given to the Masterplan.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Finance and Regeneration), to adopt the plan and publish it on the Council's website to form the basis for funding bids and investment decisions in the masterplan area.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place, in consultation with the Service Director for Legal Governance, and Commissioning, Service Director for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Regeneration to (i) progress continued engagement with partners to explore funding opportunities (ii) engage with partners, progress market engagement and explore development partner options, and (iii) enter any appropriate agreements with WYCA and other partners to further develop the masterplan in line with the Council's policies and constitution.
- 5) That authority be delegated to the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into, on behalf of the Council, any external funding agreements or legal agreements related to the Masterplan as appropriate and in accordance with the Contract and Finance Procedure Rules.
- 6) That it be noted that authority related to the procurement of a development partner, and specific projects which emerge from the Masterplan, and associated details regarding funding and delivery, will return to Cabinet for approval as required.

91 Adoption of Moving Traffic Enforcement Powers

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Ahmed, Cooper, Darwan, Scott and H Zaman).

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on the results of the Council's application to the Department for Transport to apply for trial Moving Traffic Enforcement (MTE) powers, including the outcome of public consultation, and sought approval to progress with enforcement.

Cabinet noted that the Council had applied to the DfT for trial powers at sites at Armitage Bridge, Barnsley Road (Flockton) and Heckmondwike Bus Station, following a six week public consultation period and that approval had been received in October 2025.

The report advised that the trial would be supported by WYCA, and that,

after 6-12 months after the start of the trial, a review would be undertaken as to whether the use of MTE powers should continue. It was proposed that, subject to approval, the trial would commence during summer/autumn 2026 and that, 12 months after this period, consideration would be given to new future sites.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the introduction and trial of MTE powers (introduction would be subject to receiving external funding) using Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras now that the Council has been granted powers from the Secretary of State – per DfT approval in October 2025.
- 2) That authority and the decision to begin enforcement be delegated to the Executive Director for Place, in consultation with the Service Director for Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Transport, once necessary financial and operational matters on implementation are in place.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into on behalf of the Council any associated legal formalities including any external funding agreements.
- 4) That authority to the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Service Director for Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Transport, the introduction, implementation and enforcement in relation to MTE power (including authority to continue with the MTE powers following any trial, discretion over; future site selection, review periods, relocation of cameras, cost, procurement of equipment, key decisions involving ticketing and disputes, entering into funding agreements and spending of surplus revenue generated by ticketing, in line with strict DfT mandate on appropriate use of surplus, as outlined herein).
- 5) That approval be given to the trial of the civil enforcement powers coming into place at the three proposed locations, as submitted within the Kirklees application to DfT in July 2025. The three locations being (i) Armitage Bridge – HGV weight limit no entry through the village (ii) Barnsley Road, Flockton – one way (eastbound) HGV weight limit and (iii) Heckmondwike Bus Station – no stopping 2 yellow boxes, at the bus station entrance.
- 6) That approval be given to the proposed approach (as set out in section 2.3 of the report) for the introduction and use of moving traffic enforcement at appropriate future locations as identified in accordance with the same process as the trial.