

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

ANNUAL COUNCIL

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**At the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 20 May 2026
(and thereafter reconvened on Thursday 28 May 2026)**

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Karen Allison) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Masood Ahmed	Councillor Khuram Amjad
Councillor Ammar Anwar	Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Timothy Bamford	Councillor Tina Bamford
Councillor Jane Barraclough	Councillor David Birch
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Councillor Tanisha Bramwell
Councillor Damian Brook	Councillor Simon Brophy
Councillor Richard Burton	Councillor Robert Butler
Councillor Eric Butterworth	Councillor Tracy Clayton
Councillor Lee Cliff	Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Toby Cooper	Councillor Aziz Daji
Councillor Hanifa Darwan	Councillor Stephan Dransfield
Councillor Simon Duffy	Councillor Luke Fallas
Councillor Gill Floyd	Councillor Graham France
Councillor Charles Greaves	Councillor John Hardie
Councillor Glennis Harrison	Councillor Pip Harvey
Councillor Simon Holbrook	Councillor Michael Howard
Councillor Yusra Hussain	Councillor Abdul Jabar
Councillor Philip James	Councillor Maryam Jawaid
Councillor Zahid Kahut	Councillor Maciej Kapsa
Councillor Akhtar Kasia	Councillor Chris Kennedy
Councillor David Knight	Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor Matthew Maude	Councillor Susan Maxfield
Councillor Brian Moughtin	Councillor Richard Noon
Councillor James O'Leary	Councillor Khalid Patel
Councillor Andrew Pinnock	Councillor Kath Pinnock
Councillor Martin Price	Councillor David Ridgway
Councillor Ashleigh Robinson	Councillor Julia Roebuck
Councillor Dave Rowan	Councillor Imran Safdar
Councillor Joshua Sheard	Councillor Michael Simmons
Councillor Anthony Smith	Councillor Christine Smith
Councillor Mark Smith	Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor John Taylor	Councillor Craig Wiles
Councillor Sarah Wood	Councillor Alex Vickers
Councillor Habiban Zaman	

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1 To Elect the Mayor for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year

Councillor Karen Allison was elected as Mayor of the Borough for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year.

2 To Appoint a Deputy Mayor for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year

Councillor Lee Cliff was appointed as Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year.

3 Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive

The Chief Executive advised of the official return of the election of Councillors held on 7 May 2026, as set out at Agenda Item 3.

The Mayor welcomed all new Councillors to the new municipal year, including newly elected Councillors.

Group Leaders were invited to pay tribute to former Councillors.

4 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council - 11 March 2026

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 11 March 2026 be approved as a correct record.

5 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

6 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Bamford, Butterworth, Rowan and Smaje.

7 Election of the Leader of Council

It was moved by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Zaman that Councillor Cooper be elected as Leader of the Council, whereupon it was moved by Councillor Wood and seconded by Councillor C Smith that Councillor Wood be elected as Leader of the Council.

Upon being put to the vote, neither of the nominations were carried.

An adjournment of the meeting then followed. Upon reconvening, a further vote for the election on the Leader of the Council was taken on the nominations that had been received previously. Upon being put to the vote, neither of the nominations were carried.

The Mayor advised that as a Leader of the Council had not been elected, the Council would reconvene to consider this matter at a later date.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Zaman, and seconded by Councillor A Smith, that a suspension of Council Procedure Rules be applied to enable a head to head vote of the two nominated candidates.

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It was then moved by Councillor Bolt, and seconded by Councillor Kahut, that a suspension of Council Procedure Rules be applied to enable a question and answer session with the two nominated candidates to take place.

The proposal by Councillor Zaman, to suspend the requirements of Council Procedure Rule 24(6), was put to the vote, and was not carried.

The Mayor then advised that Council would proceed to consider the next agenda item.

8 Appointment of Committees, Boards and Panels

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED - That approval be given to the establishment of the Committees, Boards and Panels as listed within the report, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

9 Allocation of Seats

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED -

- 1) That the requirements of Section 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 shall not apply to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for the ensuing municipal year.
- 2) That the number and proportion of Members of Committees, Boards and Panels be in accordance with the report as set out at Agenda Item 9.

10 Membership of Committees, Boards and Panels

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED - That the memberships of Committees, Boards and Panels, as set out in the circulated report, be approved and that the allocation of any outstanding places on any Committee, Boards and Panels, or any subsequent amendments, be delegated to Group Business Managers.

11 Calendar of Meetings for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED - That the dates and times of Committees, Boards and Panels be in accordance with the scheduled as set out at Agenda Item 11.

The Meeting concluded at this point and reconvened on Thursday 28 May 2026

12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors TV Bamford, Ridgway and Smaje.

13 Election of the Leader of the Council

The Mayor sought confirmation that there remained to be two nominees for the position of Leader of the Council and that there were no further nominations. The Mayor then advised that, following a request from Group Leaders, Council would hold a question and answer session with both nominees, Councillor Cooper and Councillor Wood.

Following the question and answer session an adjournment took place. Upon reconvening, it was proposed by Councillor A Smith and supported by five other Members, that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 24(4) the vote be taken by ballot.

The meeting then adjourned for a vote by ballot to take place. Upon reconvening, the Mayor advised the outcome of the ballot;

Councillor Cooper: 29 votes (for) 37 votes (against)

Councillor Wood: 29 votes (for) 35 votes (against) 2 (abstentions)

The Mayor advised that, as a Leader of the Council had not therefore been elected, the matter would be revisited at the first Ordinary Meeting of Council on 15 July 2026.

14 Appointment of Members to Joint Authorities

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED –

- 1) That Council appoint the Leader as Kirklees Council's Elected Member for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), with the Deputy Leader as the WYCA Substitute Member.
- 2) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, WYCA's Managing Director and other West Yorkshire Chief Executives, to jointly agree/appoint the 3 additional political balance Members and their substitutes to WYCA, so that the 8 constituent council members taken as a whole reflect the balance of political parties among members of WYCA's constituent councils, so far as reasonably practicable.
- 3) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the Group Business Managers, to nominate members to WYCA Weaver Network Board: the relevant Portfolio Holder for Transport, a substitute, and political balance places if required. That it be noted that the Board will appoint to the Deputy Chair role.
- 4) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the Group

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Business Managers, to nominate members to WYCA Corporate Governance and Audit Committee: the Chair of Kirklees Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, a substitute, and political balance places if required.

- 5) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the Group Business Managers, to nominate members to WYCA Investment Board: the relevant Portfolio Holder for Economy, a substitute, and political balance places if required. That it be noted that the Board will appoint to the Deputy Chair role.
- 6) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with Group Business Managers, to nominate Members to WYCA Scrutiny Committee: Kirklees Chair of Scrutiny, a substitute, and political balance places if required. That it be noted that the Chair will be appointed by WYCA and that the Deputy Chair will be appointed from the Membership of the Committee.
- 7) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the relevant Group Business Manager, to make any additional/revised nominations to any WYCA Committee or Board, as required after this Council's annual meeting.
- 8) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the relevant Group Business Manager to nominate Members to the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and note that this must reflect the political balance of Kirklees Council.
- 9) That Council delegate authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the relevant Group Business Manager to nominate Members to West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel in accordance with the requirements of that Panel, which must reflect the political balance across West Yorkshire. That it be noted that these Members will also automatically be members of the Kirklees Communities Partnership Board.
- 10) That Council delegate authority to Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the Group Business Managers to determine the appointment of Members/Representatives to the remaining Joint Authorities not otherwise set out in this report.
- 11) That it be noted that the Leader will nominate the relevant Portfolio Holder for membership of the Vision Zero Board.

15 Appointments to Outside Bodies and Other Committees

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED –

- 1) That Council notes that Group Business Managers will put forward nominations to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer) to fill places or make any adjustments to nominees on outside bodies/other bodies, as appropriate, following Annual Council.
- 2) That those bodies with executive functions be referred to the Leader of the Council to put forward nominations.
- 3) That, in relation to the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation Management Committee, Council agree to waive political balance rules which apply in accordance with Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Note: this requires approval with no Member voting against).
- 4) That, Council delegate authority to the Leader, in consultation with Group Business Managers, to nominate one nominee and a substitute to the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) Management Committee and to nominate a Director to the associated limited company: YPO Procurement Holdings Ltd.
- 5) That authority be delegated to the Service Director - Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with Group Business Managers, to determine which of the two appointed Members on Kirklees Active Leisure will be authorised, for the purposes of Member meetings (distinct from Director meetings), to exercise a vote, pursuant to Section 323 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Service Director - Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with Group Business Managers, to nominate a Director to Kirklees Henry Boot Partnership.

16 Appointment of Spokespersons for Joint Committees and External Bodies

It was moved by Councillor Clayton, seconded by Councillor Lee-Richards and

RESOLVED -

- 1) That the nomination of spokespersons to reply to oral questions at meetings of Council, on behalf of Kirklees Active Leisure and West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel, be delegated to Group Business Managers for determination.

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- 2) That it be noted that the Member appointed by Council to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will be the spokesperson for that body and its Committees.
- 3) That it be noted that the spokespersons for the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee will be notified by those bodies.
- 4) That it be noted that the appointed spokesperson for the West Yorkshire Adoption Joint Committee (One Adoption) will be the substantive representative.

17 Appointment of Chairs of Committees, Boards and Panels

RESOLVED – That the appointment of Chairs of Committees and Panels be in accordance with the schedule below;

Appeals Panel – Councillor Bramwell
Corporate Governance and Audit Committee – Councillor Amjad
District Wide Planning Committee – Councillor O’Leary
Licensing and Safety Committee – Councillor Howard
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee – Councillor Holbrook
Personnel Committee – Councillor Anwar
Standards Committee – Councillor Armer
Strategic Planning Committee – Councillor Amjad
Statutory Officer Dismissal Committee – Councillor Wood
Children’s Scrutiny Panel – Councillor Vickers
Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel – Councillor Moughtin
Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel – Councillor T V Bamford
Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel – Councillor Kasia