



Hartlepool
Borough Council

Annual Council

21 May 2026



Hartlepool
Borough Council

Civic Centre

Hartlepool

12th May 2026

Councillors Anderson, Bailey-Fleet, Bruce, Buglass, Clayton, Cook, Cowie, Darby, Dodds, Doyle, Dunbar, Feeney, Gaiety, Gaines, Hall, B Harrison, G Harrison, Holbrook, Hughes, Jorgeson, Lindridge, Little, Male, Napper, Nelson, Oliver, Reeve, Roy, Scarborough, Smith, Stevenson, Storey, Thompson, Wallace, Wiley and Young

Madam or Sir,

You are hereby summoned to attend the ANNUAL COUNCIL meeting to be held on THURSDAY, 21 May 2026 at 6.30 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool to consider the subjects set out in the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

Matt Wilton
Chief Executive

Enc



Hartlepool
Borough Council

Council Agenda

21st May 2026 at 6.30

**in the Council Chamber,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

1. To elect a person to preside at the meeting if the Chair (Ceremonial Mayor) and Vice Chair (Deputy Ceremonial Mayor) is not present;
2. To receive apologies from absent Elected Members;
3. To elect the Chair of Council (Ceremonial Mayor) for the coming municipal year;
4. To elect the Vice Chair of Council (Deputy Ceremonial Mayor) for the coming municipal year;
5. To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council (Ceremonial Mayor) and/or Head of Paid Service;
6. To elect the Leader of the Council and a Deputy Leader of the Council for the coming municipal year:
7. To approve a programme of meetings of the Council for the year;
8. To make appointments to Council Committees and Forums as required by the Constitution;
9. To make appointments to Outside Organisations and Other Bodies where appointment is reserved to Council; and
10. To resolve to adjourn the Annual Meeting to 26 May 2026 at 6.30 pm to receive suitable presentations from the newly elected Chair of Council (Ceremonial Mayor).

.Civic centre evacuation and assembly procedure

In the event of a fire alarm or a bomb alarm, please leave by the nearest emergency exit as directed by Council Officers. A Fire Alarm is a continuous ringing. A Bomb Alarm is a continuous tone. The Assembly Point for **everyone** is Victory Square by the Cenotaph. If the meeting has to be evacuated, please proceed to the Assembly Point so that you can be safely accounted for.



ITEM (7)

**Programme of Council
Meetings for 2026/27**



Council

21 May 2026

Report of: Director of Legal, Governance and HR

Subject: Programme of Council Meeting Dates 2026/27

1. Council Plan Priority

Hartlepool will be a place:

with a Council that is ambitious, fit for purpose and reflects the diversity of its community. (Organisation)

2. Purpose of Report

2.1. To confirm meeting dates for future Council meetings for the municipal year 2026-27

3. Background

3.1. The Annual Council meeting allows Council to approved meeting dates for future Council meetings. Once agreed this programme of ordinary Council meetings can only be amended by full Council. Details of the final proposed dates will be tabled at the meeting (**Appendix A**).

4. Proposals

4.1. Members are asked to consider the proposed schedule of Council meetings for the municipal year 2026-27.

5. Other Considerations/Implications

Risk Implications	Ordinary Council dates can only be set by full Council and must be scheduled to allow the statutory business of Council to take place.
Financial Considerations	None

Subsidy Control	None
Legal Considerations	Ordinary Council dates can only be set by full Council and must be scheduled to allow the statutory business of Council to take place.
Single Impact Assessment	None
Staff Considerations	None
Asset Management Considerations	None
Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change Considerations	None
Consultation	The Chief Executive and Director of Legal, Governance and HR have been consulted on the proposed dates.

6. Recommendations

6.1. Council is requested to consider and approve the proposed dates for Council meetings for the municipal year 2026-27 (as tabled).

7. Reasons for Recommendations

7.1. To allow the business of Council to continue as required.

8. Background Papers

None.

9. Contact Officers

Hayley Martin
 Governance and Human Resources
Hayley.martin@hartlepool.gov.uk
 01429 523002

ITEM (8)

**Appointments to
Committees and Forums**



Council

21 May 2026

Report of: Director of Legal, Governance and Human Resources

Subject: Appointments to Council Committees and Forums

1. Council Plan Priority

Hartlepool will be a place:

with a Council that is ambitious, fit for purpose and reflects the diversity of its community. (Organisation)

2. Purpose of Report

2.1. To agree appointments to Council Committees and Forums for the 2026-27 municipal year.

3. Background

3.1. The Council at its annual meeting agrees:

- i) **The allocation of Committee seats**, in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The number of seats allocated to political groups / independent Councillors being, as far as is reasonably possible, in proportion to representation on full council.
- ii) **Appointments to Council Committees and Forums**, allocated in accordance with the requirements of the and Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. The allocation of positions also being, as far as reasonably possible, in proportion to the political balance of the local authority.

3.2. Following the local election on the 7th May, political proportionality figures have been calculated and consultations undertaken with group leaders, and

independent Members, in relation to the allocation of committee seats and the membership of committees. These consultations include a ‘Round Table’ meeting, to be held on the 14 May 2026, to discuss proposals for consideration by full council.

4. Proposals

4.1. Given the tight timescale between the election and the requirement to hold the Annual Council meeting, it was not possible to conclude the consultation process and hold the Round Table meeting before the deadline for circulation today’s Full Council agenda. As a result of this, following completion of discussions at the Round Table meeting on the 14 May, Full Council will be provided with an addendum to this report seeking approval of the:

- i) Allocation of Committee seats (**Appendix A - to be attached to the addendum report**); and
- ii) Appointments to Council Committees and Forums (**Appendix B - to be attached to the addendum report**).

5. Other Considerations/Implications

Risk Implications	The Council is obliged to comply with legislation or statutory guidance to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties. Failure to appoint committees and forums will prevent the conduct of required Council business.
Financial Considerations	None
Subsidy Control	None
Legal Considerations	<p>The Council is required to determine the allocation of seats to political groups represented on Council committees and forums in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.</p> <p>Memberships are allocated in accordance with the political balance of the Council. Should any group wish to refuse a particular allocation it will be open to any other group or independent member to take that position. Should there be more than 1 nomination the appointment will be decided by vote by Full Council.</p>
Single Impact Assessment	None
Staff Considerations	None

Asset Management Considerations	None
Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change Considerations	None
Consultation	<p>Consultation takes place with political groups to ensure that the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 are met.</p> <p>Amendments to the individual Committee and Sub-Committee allocations in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 are made in consultation with group leaders and independent Members who are not part of a political group.</p>

6. Recommendations

6.1. Following receipt of the addendum report detailed in Section 4 above, Council is recommended to agree:-

- i) The total allocation of seats to each political group and, subject to any necessary adjustments, agree the allocation of seats on each Committee (**Appendix A - to be attached to the addendum report referenced in Section 4 above**); and
- ii) Appointments to the Committees, in accordance with the Constitution of the Council and within the terms of reference set out therein (**Appendix B - to be attached to the addendum report referenced in Section 4 above**).

6.2. Authorise the Director of Legal, Governance and Human Resources:-

- i) In consultation with the relevant Group Leader, to determine any further necessary adjustments to be made to individual Committee and Sub-Committee allocations in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

7. Reasons for Recommendations

7.1. To establish memberships of Council Committees and Forums for the 2026-27 municipal year.

8. Background Papers

- Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government Housing Act 1989
- Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990
- Hartlepool Borough Council Constitution

9. Contact Officers

Hayley Martin

Director of Legal, Governance and Human Resources

Legal, Governance and Human Resources

Hayley.martin@hartlepool.gov.uk

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ITEM (9)

**Appointments to Joint
Committees and Other Outside
Bodies**



Council

21 May 2026

Report of: Director of Legal, Governance and Human Resources

Subject: Appointments to Outside Organisations and Other Bodies

1. Council Plan Priority

Hartlepool will be a place:

with a Council that is ambitious, fit for purpose and reflects the diversity of its community. (Organisation)

2. Purpose of Report

2.1. To appoint to Outside Organisations and other Bodies for the 2026-27 municipal year.

3. Background

3.1. The Council at its annual meeting agrees appointments to Outside Organisations and other Bodies for the forthcoming municipal year.

3.2. The Council is required to agree appointments to joint bodies and other bodies exercising specific statutory functions which are distinct from the Council's own functions and where Council membership is required by law. While each body will have its own purpose and constitutional arrangements, in general an appointed Member can be expected to play their part in supporting the body's work but taking particular account of the need to safeguard the Council's best interests and those of its communities.

3.3. Following the local election on the 7th May, consultations have been undertaken with group leaders, and independent Members, in relation to appointments to Outside Organisations and other Bodies. These consultations include a 'Round Table' meeting, to be held on the 14 May 2026, to discuss proposals for consideration by full council.

4. Proposals

4.1. Given the tight timescale between the election and the requirement to hold the Annual Council meeting, it has not been possible to conclude the consultation process and hold the Round Table meeting before the deadline for circulation today's Full Council agenda. As a result of this, following completion of discussions at the Round Table meeting on the 14 May, Full Council will be provided with an addendum to this report outlining (including at Appendix A) nominations for appointments to Outside Organisations and other Bodies.

5. Other Considerations/Implications

Risk Implications	<p>The Council is required at its annual meeting to decide the appointments to Outside Organisations and other Bodies to which the Council is invited to nominate representatives.</p> <p>It is important that the Council agree appointments or criteria for appointments to the Outside Organisations and other Bodies to which the Council are invited to nominate representatives to ensure that the Council and residents are appropriately represented. Failure to appoint may also impact on the work carried out by Outside Organisations and other Bodies.</p>
Financial Considerations	None
Subsidy Control	None
Legal Considerations	<p>Certain Outside Organisations and other Body, memberships are allocated in accordance with the political balance of the Council. These examples will be clearly stated in the final nominations document.</p> <p>Should there be more than 1 nomination the appointment will be decided by vote by Full Council.</p>
Single Impact Assessment	None
Staff Considerations	None

Asset Management Considerations	None
Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change Considerations	None
Consultation	Consultation takes place with political groups to ensure that the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 are met. Nominations to Outside Organisations and other Bodies are made in consultation with group leaders and independent Members who are not part of a political group.

6. Recommendations

6.1. That Council is recommended to:

- i) Agree appointments to Outside Organisations and other Bodies, as detailed in Appendix A (*to be attached to the addendum report referenced in Section 4 above*).
- ii) Authorise the Director of Legal, Governance and Human Resources, in consultation with the appropriate Group Leader(s), to make any changes to memberships of the main Outside Organisations and other Bodies approved by Council, which may become necessary during 2026/27.

7. Reasons for Recommendations

7.1. In order to establish memberships of Outside Organisations and other Bodies for the 2026-27 municipal year.

8. Background Papers

- Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government Housing Act 1989
- Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990
- Hartlepool Borough Council Constitution

9. Contact Officers

Hayley Martin

Director of Legal, Governance and Human Resources

Legal, Governance and Human Resources

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