



Civic Centre
HARTLEPOOL

4 July, 2022

Councillors Allen, Ashton, Boddy, Brash, Brown, Buchan, Cassidy, Clayton, Cook, Cowie, Cranney, Creevy, Falconer, Feeney, Fleming, Groves, Hall, Hargreaves, Harrison, Howson, Jackson, Leedham, Lindridge, Little, Loynes, Martin-Wells, Moore, Morley, D Nicholson, V Nicholson, Picton, Prince, Reeve, Smith, Tiplady and Young.

Madam or Sir,

You are hereby summoned to attend the COUNCIL meeting to be held on THURSDAY, 14 July 2022 at 6.00 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool to consider the subjects set out in the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

D McGuckin
Managing Director

Enc

COUNCIL AGENDA



Thursday 14 July 2022

at 6.00 pm

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

Those wishing to attend the meeting should phone (01429) 523568 or (01429) 523019 by midday on 13 July 2022 and name and address details will be taken.

You should not attend the meeting if you are displaying any COVID-19 symptoms (such as a high temperature, new and persistent cough, or a loss of/change in sense of taste or smell), even if these symptoms are mild. If you, or anyone you live with, have one or more of these symptoms you should follow the [NHS guidance on testing](#).

- (1) To receive apologies from absent Members;
- (2) To receive any declarations of interest from Members;
- (3) To deal with any business required by statute to be done before any other business;
- (4) To approve the minutes of the last meetings of the Council held on 24 March 2022, the Special Council meeting held on 24 March 2022 and the Annual Council meeting held on 24 May 2022 as the correct record;
- (5) To answer questions from Members of the Council on the minutes of the last meeting of Council;
- (6) To deal with any business required by statute to be done;
- (7) To receive any announcements from the Chair, or the Head of Paid Service;
- (8) To dispose of business (if any) remaining from the last meeting and to receive the report of any Committee to which such business was referred for consideration;

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.

(9) To consider reports from the Council's Committees and to receive questions and answers on any of those reports;

1. Business Report - Report of Constitution Committee

(10) To consider any other business specified in the summons to the meeting, and to receive questions and answers on any of those items;

(11) To consider reports from the Policy Committees:

(a) proposals in relation to the Council's approved budget and policy framework; and

(b) proposals for departures from the approved budget and policy framework;

(12) To consider motions in the order in which notice has been received;

1. "With energy bills skyrocketing, prices through the roof and the highest taxation in peacetime, this council believes that the cost of living crisis is causing enormous harm to Hartlepool people. Too many people are being forced to choose between eating and heating.

With further hikes in energy bills on the way, inflation hitting double figures and a bleak winter for many on the horizon, it is completely unacceptable for this council to pile on yet more pain with inflation busting increases to fees, such as parking and allotment charges.

At the same time there has been an inexplicable failure to make savings that could offset such increases. The recent decision to reject changes to our election cycle, which would have saved £160k over 4 years and led to, according to the council leader, a 'better system', is unforgivable. Council therefore resolves to:

- In line with council procedure rules, review, at the first permitted opportunity, the decision to not change our electoral cycle.
- Identify how the resultant saving of £160k over four years could be used to prevent future increases in council fees, such as those to residents' parking and allotments, to lessen the financial pressure on residents."

Signed: Councillors Harrison, Brash, Allen, Boddy, Clayton, Creevy, Feeney, Hall, Hargreaves, Howson, Morley and Prince.

2. "Our fishing industry has been decimated since the Autumn of 2021 where thousands of deceased and dying crustaceans were washed up on the beaches in our region. Our fishermen and women have been unable to justify the costs of fuel to put to sea, and several of Hartlepool's fishing fleet have been advertised for sale.



It is unlikely that the area will recover from this environmental disaster in the short term.

We believe that the reports by Defra were flawed, given the independently commissioned report concluded so differently from the official reports.

The timing of this, with works beginning on piling around the Teesworks site, demolition works on site, and with dredging in and around the River Tees is really concerning and residents, fishermen and politicians and people from Whitby to Hartlepool, are worried and need reassurance as to what really happened, and action to resolve it.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Request the appropriate bodies (which should include EA, Cefas, NEIFCA, MMO, FSA and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Teesworks and the TVCA), attend an appropriate public meeting, with councillors and interested members of the public present, to explain the discrepancies, and explain what action or recommendations can, or have been taken to support the future of our fishing industry.
- Refer to Economic Growth and Regeneration Committee to explore how to regenerate this vital and traditional industry in our town.
- Write to the Minister of State for the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, to seek an independent investigation into this environmental and economic disaster”

Signed: Councillors Harrison, Brash, Allen, Boddy, Clayton, Creevy, Feeney, Hall, Hargreaves, Howson, Morley and Prince.

3.

“We’re Right Here” is a National campaign to shift power to communities, so that local people can shape the places where they live. The campaign is supported by nine national organisations long committed to ‘Community Power’ – these are Power to Change, The Cares Family, New Local, Locality, the Young Foundation, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Local Trust, People’s Health Trust and Friends Provident Foundation. The campaign is led by people with direct experience of making things happen in their local areas. The campaign seeks to draw on the energy and ambition of those committed to their communities and places, but also their frustration at a system that too often gets in the way. We’re Right Here is campaigning for a Community Power Act – a landmark piece of legislation which will fundamentally change where power lies, so that communities can take back control for real. More information about the campaign and what the Act will do can be found at <https://www.righthere.org/>. The purpose of this motion is to simply show support to the campaign in a bipartisan way as this proposed new legislation



will require increased exposure and support if it has any chance of being added to the statute book. Therefore Members are asked to agree to write to the campaign leaders and to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to show our support for the “We’re Right Here” campaign and the Community Power Act.”

Signed: Councillors Young, Moore, Groves, Martin-Wells and Cassidy.

- (13) To receive the Managing Director’s report and to pass such resolutions thereon as may be deemed necessary;
- (14) To receive questions from and provide answers to the public in relation to matters of which notice has been given under Rule 9;
- (15) To answer questions of Members of the Council under Rule 10;
 - a) Questions to the Chairs about recent decisions of Council Committees and Forums without notice under Council Procedure Rule 10.1
 - b) Questions on notice to the Chair of any Committee or Forum under Council Procedure Rule 10.2
 - c) Questions on notice to the Council representatives on the Police and Crime Panel and Cleveland Fire Authority
 - d) Minutes of the meetings held by the Cleveland Fire Authority held on 11 February 2022 and the special meetings of Police and Crime Panel on 1, 8 and 16 December 2021, the scheduled meeting on 1 February 2022 and a confirmation hearing on 10 February 2022.



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

24 MARCH 2022

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm in the Civic Centre

The Deputy Ceremonial Mayor (Councillor Cook) presiding:

COUNCILLORS:

Ashton	Boddy	Brash
Brown	Cassidy	Clayton
Cowie	Cranney	Falconer
Feeney	Groves	Hall
Harrison	Jackson	Lindridge
Little	D Loynes	Moore
D Nicholson	V Nicholson	Picton
Price	Prince	Richardson
Riddle	Smith	Stokell
Young		

Officers: Denise McGuckin, Managing Director
Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor
Julian Heward, Communications and Marketing Team
Amanda Whitaker, David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

107. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENT MEMBERS

Councillors Creevy Elliott, Fleming, Hargreaves, Howson and Tiplady

108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

None.

109. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE BEFORE ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

110. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The Minutes of Proceedings of the Council held on the 24 February 2022, having been laid before the Council.

RESOLVED - That the minutes be confirmed.

111. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

None.

112. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

None.

113. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

114. TO DISPOSE OF BUSINESS (IF ANY) REMAINING FROM THE LAST MEETING AND TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF ANY COMMITTEE TO WHICH SUCH BUSINESS WAS REFERRED FOR CONSIDERATION.

None.

115. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

None.

116. TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS SPECIFIED IN THE SUMMONS OF THE MEETING

None.

117. REPORT FROM THE POLICY COMMITTEES

(a) Proposal in relation to the Council's budget and policy framework

None.

(b) Proposal for Departure from the Budget and Policy Framework

None.

118. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

None

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

119. OFSTED FOCUSED VISIT – CARE LEAVERS

Full Council was advised that a focused visit in relation to the support provided to care leavers in Hartlepool had taken place in January 2022. Elected Members were referred to a letter from Ofsted, appended to the report, which outlined the findings. The report reflected a strong performing service that supported care leavers well, had continued to deliver a high quality service to care leavers and the number of care leavers engaged in education, employment and training was improving, despite the impact of the pandemic. Whilst the report identified one area for improvement, work had commenced in this regard but the inspectors had not yet been able to see the impact of that work.

Following presentation of the report, the Chair together with Elected Members welcomed the report and spoke in support of the service acknowledging the care, commitment and skill of the staff who had contributed to the positive inspection findings.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

120. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN HBC AND JOMAST

The Managing Director reported that Hartlepool Borough Council and Jomast had agreed to work together to develop options for delivering key strategic redevelopment sites involving:

- Collaborating in the development of a concept masterplan for the regeneration of waterfront/marina sites and the Wesley Chapel;
- Cooperating to develop option appraisals to outline short, medium and long term priorities, within an overall 5 year plan;
- Jointly managing the involvement and collaboration of other partners such as the NMRN, Homes England, Combined Authority and Network Rail;
- Developing and agreeing a development phase financing strategy including partner contribution; and
- Jointly prepare a vision document covering marketing, branding and publicity.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

121. COVID UPDATE

The Managing Director updated Full Council on the coronavirus position in Hartlepool with regard to case numbers and the vaccination programme. It was noted that the Authority would move towards a pilot hybrid working model and this would take place from Monday 4th April for a period of six months. This would minimise the potential numbers of employees in the workplace at any one time, whilst also supporting the direction of travel to work more flexibly and allow Officers to get back in the office to interact with colleagues, working together as teams and also provide support for new employees.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

122. A19 GRADE SEPARATED JUNCTION, ELWICK BYPASS AND HARTLEPOOL WESTERN LINK

The Managing Director reported that an update report had been considered by Finance and Policy Committee on 14th March 2022 and was appended to the report. The report provided a detailed update on the progress to date on the Western Link Scheme and the negotiations with land owners. It was noted that it could be necessary to progress to Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) for some land but this would be the subject of a further report requiring formal approval.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

123. PUBLIC QUESTION

None.

124. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- a) Questions to the Chairs about recent decisions of Council Committees and Forums without notice under Council Procedure Rule 12.1

None.

- b) Questions on notice to the Chair of any Committee or Forum under Council Procedure Rule 12.2

Two questions had been received:-

- 1. Councillor Harrison to Councillor Moore, Chair of Finance and Policy Committee

“The safety of women on our streets is an important issue to all of us and we have been horrified events which highlighted in the media, such as the horrific

kidnap and murder of Sarah Everard by an officer in the Metropolitan Police. We also need to acknowledge that these events are the tip of the iceberg.

Can the Leader of the Council outline what steps the local authority is taking, in conjunction with its partners, to improve the safety of women on our streets?"

The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee responded that the Sarah Everard case had raised concerns across the country and all Police officers had received further awareness training in relation to abusing their position as a police officer or behaviour that could be considered an abuse of that position. Any reports of such behaviour would be challenged and investigated.

It was highlighted that although the question related specifically to the vulnerability of women on streets, most cases involving violence to women in Hartlepool was that of domestic violence. Cleveland Police had a policy around positive actions and safeguarding those most at risk with Domestic Violence Protection Orders used in Hartlepool, which had seen persons arrested for breaching such orders and prosecuted. This Authority was also taking action as recently approved at Finance and Policy Committee on 14th March the new Domestic Abuse Strategy which ensured that the new legal requirement for local authorities and their partners was met to review their Domestic Abuse Strategies to ensure that they are meeting the new statutory duties.

The Council and partners were also supporting several schemes and initiatives such as the "Ask for Angela" campaign – Trading standards and Police Licensing Team – allowing people that feel unsafe, vulnerable or threatened can discreetly seek help from pub and club staff. Furthermore residents were protected by providing significant investment to CCTV coverage across the Borough which is monitored 24/7 all year round. The CCTV staff participate in "pub watch" and both door staff and CCTV operators are trained to recognise the vulnerability of women under the influence of alcohol. CCTV staff have a trigger plan around concerns for lone and potentially vulnerable women in such a scenario and work in conjunction with "Street Pastor volunteers" who patrol the night time economy areas on weekends. In addition the Police led joint partnership daily morning briefing, discusses all aspects of vulnerability and ensures safeguarding is addressed.

The Chair concluded that there were also a number of practical steps which had been introduced, details of which Councillor Moore suggested could be forwarded to Councillor Harrison.

During the debate which followed the response, elected members referred to the culture which existed and suggested that the issues should be examined more closely. Full Council agreed to a suggestion that the issue be referred to the next meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

2. Councillor Elliott to Councillor Moore, Chair of Finance and Policy Committee

"The town has come together in a number of ways to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and the horrendous situation in which they find themselves.

However, while the public have been extraordinary, the Government have been slow to react and the system for accepting refugees has been mired in red tape.

Will the leader of the council agree to write jointly, with all members, to the Home Secretary to urge her to strip out the bureaucracy and ensure that those desperately fleeing this despicable conflict have swift, safe passage into the UK?"

The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee responded by acknowledging that the war in Ukraine is a humanitarian crisis and it is right that the UK does its part to support those refugees and asylum seekers who are fleeing their homes in search of places of safety. Officers had contributed to several meetings with the Government regarding the urgent roll out and administration of a scheme that will welcome and support Ukrainians in the UK. Offers had been received from members of the public in Hartlepool willing to host individuals and families who need support and a system had been created to hold this information to ensure hosts were available for those who may arrive in Hartlepool. It was highlighted that the national picture was changing rapidly, however teams had been briefed and ready to respond as the Government scheme was rolled out. It is important that this is done swiftly, but also safely for all involved. The Chair had been assured that Teams will do their utmost to support refugees as the Authority had done over several years as families from Syria and Afghanistan were welcomed. The Managing Director and her Corporate Management Team would act swiftly and responsively to those who need assistance and fully support the programme.

With regard to sending a letter, the Chair added that since the question had been submitted, notification had been received that Hartlepool would be receiving the first Ukrainian refugees in the next couple of days. It was questioned, therefore, that it may no longer be appropriate to send the letter referred to in the question. Members debated issues arising from the question and expressed support for a letter being sent.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Home Secretary and Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to urge they give their urgent attention to rolling out the scheme ensuring it is accessible, responsive, and enables Ukrainians to have swift safe passage into the UK.

- c) Questions on notice to the Council representatives on the Police and Crime Panel and Cleveland Fire Authority

None.

- d) Minutes of the meetings held by the Cleveland Fire Authority and the Police and Crime Panel

The minutes of the meeting held by the Cleveland Fire Authority on 10 December 2021 were noted.

Prior to closing the meeting, the Deputy Ceremonial Mayor referred to elected members who were not seeking re-election in the forthcoming elections and thanked those members for their contribution to Council and the town.

Elected Members paid tribute to Councillors Riddle, Stokell and Richardson who responded in appropriate terms.

The meeting concluded at 7.40 p.m.

DEPUTY CEREMONIAL MAYOR

SPECIAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

24 March 2022

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm in the Civic Centre.

The Deputy Ceremonial Mayor (Councillor Cook) presiding:

COUNCILLORS:

Ashton	Boddy	Brash
Brown	Cassidy	Clayton
Cowie	Cranney	Falconer
Feeney	Groves	Hall
Harrison	Jackson	Lindridge
Little	D Loynes	Moore
D Nicholson	V Nicholson	Picton
Price	Prince	Richardson
Riddle	Smith	Stokell
Young		

Officers: Denise McGuckin, Managing Director
Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor
Lorraine Bennison, Electoral & Members' Services Manager
Ed Turner, Julian Heward, Communications and Marketing Team
Amanda Whitaker, David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

103. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENT MEMBERS

Councillors Creevy Elliott, Fleming, Hargreaves, Howson and Tiplady.

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

None.

105. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE BEFORE ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

106. MONITORING OFFICER'S REPORT – ELECTORAL CYCLE

Further to minute 68(1)(3) of the meeting of Full Council held on 16 December 2021, the Monitoring Officer presented details of consultation which had taken place between 20 December 2021 and 27 February 2022. The poll had asked "Do you think that Hartlepool Borough Council should move to "whole Council" elections, where the whole council would be elected at the same time once every four years". There were 107 votes, of which:

- 80 (74.8%) voted "yes"
- 27 (25.2%) voted "no"

A copy of the consultation report was appended to the report. It was highlighted that the Your Say system does not require people to include where they live when signing up so we are unable to provide any data on the demographics.

The report set out legal considerations in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Full Council was requested to consider the outcome of the public consultation and decide whether to retain the current electoral cycle of elections by thirds or to move to whole council/all-out elections from 2024.

Elected Members debated issues arising from the report. A number of members advised that although they had expressed support for the proposal previously, they could no longer support "whole Council" elections for a number of reasons including the low consultation response and residents who they had spoken to had not supporting the proposal. Other elected members expressed their support for the proposal referring to the outcome of the consultation, the financial savings and the democratic benefits of the proposal.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.5 of the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken on moving to "whole Council" elections:-

Those for:-

Councillors Boddy, Brash, Clayton, Cook, Feeney, Hall, Harrison, Prince, Richardson and Riddle

Those against:-

Councillors Ashton, Brown, Cassidy, Cowie, Cranney, Falconer, Groves, Jackson, Lindridge, Little, D Loynes, Moore, D Nicholson, V Nicholson, Picton, Price, Smith and Young

Those abstaining:-

Councillor Stokell.

It was announced that the vote had not been carried by two thirds of the members voting.

The meeting concluded at 17:50

DEPUTY CEREMONIAL MAYOR

ANNUAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

24 May 2022

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm in the Civic Centre.

The Deputy Ceremonial Mayor (Councillor Cook) presiding:

COUNCILLORS:

Allen	Ashton	Boddy
Brash	Brown	Cassidy
Clayton	Cowie	Cranney
Creevy	Falconer	Feeney
Fleming	Groves	Hall
Hargreaves	Harrison	Howson
Jackson	Leedham	Lindridge
Little	Loynes	Moore
Morley	D Nicholson	V Nicholson
Picton	Prince	Reeve
Smith	Tiplady	Young

Officers: Denise McGuckin, Managing Director
Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor
Ed Turner, Communications and Marketing Team
Amanda Whitaker, Denise Wimpenny, Democratic Services Team

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENT MEMBERS

Councillors Buchan and Martin-Wells.

Referring to the Constitution with particular reference to the Member Code of Conduct, an elected member challenged the conduct and behaviour of Councillor Cranney. The member referred to the sanctions which were potentially available.

It was moved by Councillor Brash and seconded by Councillor Smith:-

“That the Chief Solicitor investigate whether ‘proper and fit’ sanctions can be imposed in a timely manner on Councillor Cranney.”

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that a report would be submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee given the Committee is responsible for Elected Member conduct and standards.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.5 of the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken:-

Those for:-

Councillors Allen, Ashton, Boddy, Brash, Brown, Cassidy, Clayton, Cook, Cowie, Cranney, Creevy, Falconer, Feeney, Fleming, Groves, Hall, Hargreaves, Harrison, Howson, Leedham, Lindridge, Little, Loynes, Morley, Moore, D Nicholson, V Nicholson, Picton, Prince, Reeve, Smith, Tiplady and Young.

Those against:-

None.

Those abstaining:-

None.

It was announced that the vote had not been carried unanimously.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF COUNCIL (CEREMONIAL MAYOR) FOR THE COMING MUNICIPAL YEAR

Nominations were sought for the office of Chair of Council/Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year:-

Nomination moved by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Young:-

“That Councillor Cowie be elected Chair of Council/Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year”.

A further nomination was moved by Councillor Harrison and seconded by Councillor Brash:-

That Councillor Prince be elected Chair of Council/Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year”.

A vote was taken, by show of hands.

The Managing Director announced that Councillor Cowie was elected as Chair of Council/Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year.

The Ceremonial Mayor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Deputy Ceremonial Mayor, Councillor Cook vacated Chair

The Ceremonial Mayor, Councillor Cowie, presiding.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR OF COUNCIL/DEPUTY CEREMONIAL MAYOR

Nominations were sought for the office of Vice Chair of Council/Deputy Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year:-

Nomination moved by Young and seconded by Councillor Brown:-

“That Councillor Loynes be elected Vice Chair of Council/Deputy Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year”.

There were no other nominations.

A vote taken by show of hands was carried, with no dissent.

The Managing Director announced that Councillor Loynes was elected Vice Chair of Council/Deputy Ceremonial Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool for the ensuing municipal year.

The Deputy Ceremonial Mayor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

5. TO ELECT THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Nominations were sought for the Leader of the Council.

A nomination was moved by Councillor Young and seconded by Councillor V Nicholson:-

“That Councillor Moore be elected as Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year”

Nomination moved by Councillor Brash and seconded by Councillor Creevy:-

“That Councillor Harrison be elected as Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year”

A vote was taken by show of hands.

The Managing Director announced that Councillor Moore was appointed Leader of the Council.

It was highlighted, therefore, that Councillor Moore was appointed Chair of the Finance and Policy Committee, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, Chair of the Constitution Committee and appointed to Appointments Panel.

Nominations were sought for Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Nomination moved by Councillor Harrison and seconded by Councillor Creevy:-

“That Councillor Brash be elected as Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year”

Nomination moved by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor V Nicholson:-

“That Councillor Young be elected as Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year”.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

The Managing Director announced that Councillor Young was appointed Deputy Leader of the Council.

It was highlighted, therefore, that Councillor Young would take a place on the Finance and Policy Committee.

6. MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

Council approval was sought to a schedule of meetings of Full Council for the municipal year 2022/23 which had been circulated.

It was proposed at the meeting, by Councillor Moore, that the Annual Council meeting scheduled for 23 May 2023 be brought forward a week to 16th May 2023 and therefore the investiture ceremony also be brought forward to 18th May 2023.

RESOLVED, with no dissent – That the schedule of Council meetings be approved, subject to the dates of the Annual Council Meeting and the Investiture Ceremony being changed to 16th May 2023 and 18 May 2023 respectively.

7. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, FORUMS AND OTHER BODIES

A document tabled at the meeting advised that in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, elected members had given notice to the Managing Director of their wish to be regarded as members of the political groups as set out below:-

Conservative and Independent Union Group

Councillors, Ashton, Buchan, Cassidy, Cowie, Falconer, Fleming, Groves, Leedham, Lindridge, Loynes, Martin-Wells, Moore, D Nicholson, V Nicholson, Reeve, Tiplady and Young.

Labour Group

Councillors Allen, Boddy, Brash, Clayton, Creevy, Feeney, Hall, Hargreaves, Harrison, Howson, Morley and Prince.

Hartlepool People Group

Councillors Brown, Cook, Jackson and Picton.

Putting Seaton First

Councillors Little and Smith.

It was reported that the proposed membership of Committees, Forums and other bodies had been circulated prior to this meeting of Full Council. An invitation had been extended to leaders of the political groups to make nominations which were indicated on the schedule circulated to elected members.

Votes were taken as follows:-

Licensing Committee

Chair – Councillors Martin-Wells and Prince had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Martin-Wells had been appointed Chair of the Committee.

Vice Chair– Councillors Fleming and Prince had been nominated. Following the vote, the Vice Chair announced that Councillor Fleming had been appointed Vice Chair of the Committee.

There were no remaining contested seats and Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Planning Committee

Chair – 2 nominations had been received – Councillors Brown and Morley.

Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Brown had been appointed Chair of the Committee.

Vice Chair – Councillors Morley and Young had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Young had been appointed Vice Chair of the Committee.

There were no remaining contested seats on the Committee and Full Council approved the remaining membership of the Committee.

Adult and Community Based Services Committee

Chair – Cllr Buchan and Harrison had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Buchan had been appointed Chair of the Committee.

Vice Chair – Councillors Harrison and Little had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Little had been appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Councillor Clayton was consequently appointed to seat 7 on the Committee.

There were no remaining contested seats and Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Neighbourhood Services Committee

Chair – Councillors Cassidy and Creevy had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Cassidy had been appointed Chair of the Committee.

Vice-Chair – Councillors Moore and Creevy had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Moore had been appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Seat 7 – Councillors Feeney and Little had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Little had been appointed to the Committee.

There were no remaining contested seats and Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Economic Growth and Regeneration Committee

Chair – Councillors Hargreaves and Young had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Young had been appointed Chair of the Committee.

Vice-Chair – Councillors Brown and Hargreaves had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Brown had been appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee.

It was clarified that nomination for Seat 6 was Councillor Lindridge, not Councillor Cook as had been stated on documentation circulated to Council.

There were no remaining contested seats and Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Children Services Committee

Chair – Councillors Boddy and Lindridge had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Lindridge had been appointed Chair of the Committee.

Vice Chair – Councillors Leedham and Boddy had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Leedham had been appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Seat 7 – Councillors Little and Creevy had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Little had been appointed to the Committee.

There were no remaining contested seats and Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Finance and Policy Committee

As a consequence of votes held earlier in the meeting, the Finance and Policy Committee membership was agreed.

Health and Wellbeing Board

Seat 4 – Councillors Cook and Harrison had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Cook had been appointed to the Board.

The remaining elected member representation was agreed.

Audit and Governance Committee

Chair – Councillors Cook and Hall had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Cook had been appointed Chair of the Committee

Vice-Chair – Councillors Hall and Smith had been nominated. Following the vote, the Managing Director announced that Councillor Smith had been appointed Vice-chair of the Committee.

Seat 3 – vacancy – Councillor Tiplady.

Seat 10 – Councillor Hall.

There were no remaining contested seats and Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Constitution Committee

Seats 6 and 7 – vacancies – Cllrs Young and Brown.

Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Appointments Panel

Seats 7 and 8 vacancies – Councillors Lindridge and Little.

Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

Civic Honours Committee

Labour vacancies – seats 4 and 5 - Councillors Brash and Harrison.

Full Council approved the remaining membership of this Committee.

8. APPOINTMENTS TO JOINT COMMITTEES AND OTHER OUTSIDE BODIES

It was highlighted that a list setting out suggested representation on joint committees and other outside bodies had been circulated. Leaders of the political groups had been invited to make nominations.

Prior to consideration of appointments, the appointment to the Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee, which had changed from a Labour position last year to Conservative this year, was queried. It was agreed that clarification should be sought from the Combined Authority. It was agreed that labour and conservative nominations should be submitted and dependent on the advice received, the Managing Director be authorised to submit the appropriate nomination. The following elected members were nominated:-

Conservative – Cllr Tiplady
Labour – Cllr Feeney

Concerns were expressed also that a number of nominations appeared to have been allocated to Chairs of Policy Committees. It was clarified that although recommendations had been made by Officers, the vacancies were open to other nominations.

Full Council approved the outside bodies where there were no contested seats as set out in the schedule. Votes were taken on contested seats and updates, since the schedule had been circulated, were presented at the meeting as set out below:-

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

Substitute for Chair Finance and Policy Committee – Cllr Tiplady

Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee – rather than refer to the Audit and Governance Committee, Chair of Audit and Governance Committee and Councillor Falconer) and Councillor Creevy were appointed.

PATROL – Chair Neighbourhood Services Committee nomination withdrawn, Cllr Prince appointed.

Hartlepool and District Sports Council

3 seats available – Chair of Adults and Community Based Services Committee nomination was withdrawn and Councillors Little, Councillor Allen and Councillor Jackson were appointed.

Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group – Following a vote, the Chair Neighbourhood Services Committee was appointed.

North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust – Chair Finance and Policy Committee recommendation was withdrawn and Councillor Young was appointed.

Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust – Following a vote, Councillor Young was appointed.

Tees Valley Combined Authority

Audit and Governance Committee – subject to clarification from Combined Authority, as agreed earlier in meeting, Cllr Feeney OR Cllr Tiplady.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – confirmation had been received of requirement for 1 Labour, 1 Con and Independent Union and 1 Independent – agreed Cllrs Harrison, D Nicholson and Independent vacancy.

The Leader of Council suggested that clarification should be sought from the Combined Authority whether the vacancy had to be allocated to an independent elected member.

Land Commission – no appointment required.

LJCC – Councillors V Nicholson and Brown appointed to vacancies

Cleveland Fire Authority – Cllr Jackson nomination withdrawn - Cllrs Falconer, Clayton and Smith appointed.

Executive – Cllr Falconer.

Teesside International Airport Board – Chairs nominations withdrawn, Cllr Cook appointed.

Teesside International Consultative Committee Chair of Economic Growth and Regeneration Committee, Cllr Young.

Fairtrade Steering Group – Chairs nominations withdrawn – Councillor Harrison appointed.

Henry Smith Educational Charity – seat 3 – Councillor V Nicholson.

River Tees Port Health Authority – Seat 2 – Councillor Creevy.

Victoria and Jubilee Homes – Councillors Picton, Brash, Allen and Hall.

Member Champions – Councillor Cowie appointed Armed Forces Champion, Veterans Champion term of office expires September 2022, remaining Champions referred to Constitution Committee.

Furness Seaman's Pension Fund – Councillor Tiplady, 1 vacancy remaining.

Teesside Environmental Trust – Chair Neighbourhood Services Committee withdrew nomination, Councillor Creevy appointed.

9. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

RESOLVED – To adjourn the meeting to 26 May 2022 to receive suitable presentations from the newly elected Chair of Council (Ceremonial Mayor)

Upon reconvening the meeting on 26 May 2022, the following Elected Members were in attendance:-

The Ceremonial Mayor (Councillor Cowie) presiding

COUNCILLORS:

Allen	Ashton	Boddy
Brash	Brown	Cassidy
Clayton	Cook	Creevy
Groves	Hall	Harrison
Howson	Jackson	Leedham
Lindridge	Little	Loynes
Moore	D Nicholson	V Nicholson
Picton	Reeve	Smith
Tiplady	Young.	

Apologies for absence had been submitted from Councillors Buchan, Cranney, Falconer, Feeney, Fleming, Hargreaves, Martin-Wells, Morley and Prince.

10. INVESTITURE OF THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL/ CEREMONIAL MAYOR

Further to the election of Councillor Cowie who had been appointed at the meeting held earlier in the week (minute 2 refers), the Managing Director invited Elected Members to speak in support of the Ceremonial Mayor. Speeches were made by Councillor Moore and Councillor Young. The Managing Director read out the “Declaration of the Ceremonial Mayor” and invited the Ceremonial Mayor to sign the document. The outgoing Deputy Ceremonial Mayor, Councillor Cook, invested the Ceremonial Mayor with the chain of office.

The Ceremonial Mayor returned thanks for his appointment and in addressing the Council advised of his chosen charities.

11. INVESTITURE OF THE VICE CHAIR OF COUNCIL/DEPUTY CEREMONIAL MAYOR

Further to the election of Councillor Loynes as Deputy Ceremonial Mayor who had been appointed at the meeting held earlier in the week (minute 3 refers), the Managing Director invited Elected Members to speak in support of the Deputy Ceremonial Mayor. Speeches were made by Councillor Young and Councillor Moore. The Managing Director invited the Deputy Ceremonial Mayor to sign the “Declaration of the Deputy Ceremonial Mayor” and the Ceremonial Mayor invested the Deputy Ceremonial Mayor with the Medal of Office.

12. CHARITY FUNDRAISING 2021/22

Cheques were presented to the former Ceremonial Mayor's chosen charities following the charity fundraising of the late Councillor Brenda Loynes.

13. TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE RETIRING DEPUTY CEREMONIAL MAYOR

Tribute was paid to the work of the retiring Deputy Ceremonial Mayor, Councillor Rob Cook. The retiring Deputy Ceremonial Mayor gave thanks for his terms of office.

The Lord Lieutenant addressed Full Council.

Bouquets were presented to the Lord Lieutenant and the retiring Deputy Mayoress.

The meeting concluded at 6.30 p.m.

CEREMONIAL MAYOR

COUNCIL
14 July 2022



Report of: Constitution Committee

Subject: BUSINESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval from Full Council regarding proposed changes to the Constitution.

2. BACKGROUND

A report was submitted to the Committee, on 1 July 2022, which sought the views of the Committee regarding proposed changes to the Constitution relating to Member Champions and irrecoverable debts – write off.

3. PROPOSALS

The Committee was requested to consider proposed changes to the Constitution with regard to the following:-

Irrecoverable Debts – Write off – The Committee was advised that Strategic Financial Management reports, considered by Finance and Policy on a regular basis, included monitoring of income collection, including sundry debts and Collection Fund. These reports give members reassurance that the Authority has a good recovery record and strives to collect all debt raised. Long term collection rates remain high and as a consequence the level of write offs remain low. Despite the robust processes in place, inevitably a number of accounts become irrecoverable each year. Writing off sums deemed irrecoverable is considered good financial practice since it enables the financial position of the Authority to reflect the reality that these debts are unlikely to be paid.

However where write-off is required, the Financial Procedure Rules, set out in the Constitution, provide that any debt due to the Authority of £1,000 or more can only be written-off with the agreement of the Finance and Policy Committee. This write-off value, requiring Member approval, is a lower value

than in other councils which have a higher limit, or delegate this responsibility to officers.

All debts proposed to be written-off from the accounting records are comprehensively scrutinised by officers. Historical accounting provisions have been created against which these debts can be written off and if any payment is subsequently received in respect of any of the individual debts, the relevant debt will also be reinstated onto the council's financial systems. In order to streamline the write off process, improving the timeliness of entries into the Authority's financial systems, and ultimately reducing the duplication of performance reporting to Finance and Policy, it is proposed that the write off values for irrecoverable debts are reviewed.

The Chair advised elected members that the Finance and Policy Committee had previously questioned the rationale for submission of reports to Committee as the debts submitted had been comprehensively scrutinised and the Committee had, at that stage, little option other than to write off the debts.

The Committee debated issues arising from the proposal. In response to clarification sought by the Committee, the Assistant Director – Finance provided further background information, reiterated the benefits of increasing the threshold and advised that he did not consider there to be any risks associated with the proposal. Elected members were assured that if the proposal to increase the threshold was increased, the comprehensive scrutiny of debts would continue.

Decision

It was agreed, with no dissent, to recommend to Council that the threshold for write-off value for irrecoverable debts be increased to £50,000.

Member Champions – A referral had been made at the Annual Council meeting for the Committee to consider the list of member champion appointments. Details of Member Champion Appointments, as set out in Part 7 of the Constitution, were appended to the report. It was noted that the Armed Forces and the Veterans Champions are required in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant. The Chief Solicitor referred elected members to previous consideration by the Committee on 6 July 2021, when public consultation had been undertaken with limited response. The outcome of the consultation had been reported to this Committee on 22 November 2021 when it had been agreed that as the remit of the majority of Member Champions reflected specific policy area remits, the Champion roles be allocated to the Chair or Vice Chair of the appropriate Committee, unless it is considered more appropriate for another member of that Committee to be appointed to the role.

Elected Members expressed support for the previous decision of the Committee. It was reiterated that it was appropriate for the Member Champion

to be the Chair or Vice Chair of the relevant Committee, unless there was an interest from another elected member to fulfil the role.

The Committee considered each of the Member Champions listed in the Constitution. Elected Members also considered the role of the Champions with specific reference to whether Member Champions should be required to submit reports to Full Council.

Decision – It was agreed, with no dissent that Full Council:-

- (i) Agree Member Champions to be the Chair or Vice Chair of the relevant Committee, unless there was an interest from another elected member to fulfil the role.
- (ii) Agree that the following Member Champions be deleted from the list included in the Constitution:-
 - Animal Rights Champion
 - Anti-Social Behaviour Champion
- (iii) Agree a strong recommendation from the Committee that Member Champions give a verbal or written update to Full Council.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Full Council considers the recommendations of the Committee in terms of the proposed changes to the Constitution

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 It is the responsibility of the Monitoring Officer to monitor the Constitution to ensure that the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect and comply with the law.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Hartlepool Borough Council's Constitution
Constitution Committee Report – 1 July 2022

8. CONTACT OFFICER

Hayley Martin | Chief Solicitor
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: (01429) 523002
Email: Hayley.martin@hartlepool.gov.uk

COUNCIL

14 July 2022



Report of: Managing Director

Subject: BUSINESS REPORT

1. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL (IRP)

The Local Authorities (Member Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require local authorities to establish and maintain an IRP which must review and make recommendations in respect of the Members' Allowances Scheme every 4 years. Hartlepool's IRP has not met since 2017 and therefore must be re-established. Members are asked to note that we will advertise the positions and in accordance with the Constitution a report will be submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee to approve appointments.

2. STATUTORY OFFICER APPOINTMENT

Elected Members will be aware that the Chris Little, Director of Resources and Development is currently ill and likely to be off work for a number of months. Approval of Full Council is therefore sought to designate James Magog, Assistant Director Finance and Customer Services as Acting Section 151 Officer.

3. OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS

Following the appointments made to Outside Bodies at the Annual Council meeting on 24 May, the following vacancies remain:-

Teesside Pension Board (4 year Term of office 2019 – 2023)****	(1) Vacancy
Furness Seaman's Pension Fund*** (4 year Term of office until 2025)	(1) Cllr Tiplady (2) Vacancy

With regard to the appointment made to the **North East Regional Employers Organisation – Executive**, It has been noted that as Cllr Moore is not nominated to be a representative of NEREO he is unable, therefore, to sit on the Executive

Committee. One of the following three representatives would need to be nominated as the Executive member:-

Councillor Young, Chair of Economic Growth and Regeneration Committee.
Councillor Boddy.
Councillor Morley.

Elected Members will recall at the Annual Council meeting the appointment to the **Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee** which had changed from a Labour position last year to Conservative this year was queried. It was agreed that clarification should be sought from the Combined Authority. It was agreed that nominations should be submitted by Labour and Conservative and dependent on the advice received the Managing Director be authorised to submit the appropriate nomination:-

Conservative – Cllr Tiplady.
Labour – Cllr Feeney.

Tees Valley Combined Authority have subsequently confirmed it is a conservative appointment. In accordance with the delegation I have submitted nomination of Cllr Tiplady to the Combined Authority

Since the Annual Council meeting, correspondence has been received from **Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust** inviting Full Council to consider appointing a representative as an Appointed Governor on their Council of Governors.

Council is requested to consider the above appointments.

4. SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS

In accordance with the requirements of the Access to Information Procedure Rules included in the Council's Constitution, Full Council is informed that **no** special urgency decision were taken in the period February 2022 – April 2022.

5. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

Since the Annual Council meeting, notification has been received of the following changes to Committee appointments:-

Planning Committee – Councillor Martin-Wells to replace Councillor Reeve.

Health and Wellbeing Board – Councillor Buchan to replace Councillor Young.

6. AWARDS

Following the success at the recent Civil Engineering awards, Elephant Rock secured a further accolade at the recent Constructing Excellence North East awards. Whilst the Civil Engineering award recognised the quality of design and the overall

engineering of the scheme, delivered by out in house team. The Constructing Excellence North East Award was perhaps even more pleasing as the authority celebrated winning the Value category.

Judges were wowed by the clever use of space and the flexibility that the space offers whilst being sympathetic to the heritage of the area and effectively managing the ecological and environmental considerations. Judges were impressed with the delivery model and the collaboration with partners, which enabled us to deliver the scheme on time and under budget.

The judges noted how the community had taken pride in this area since its opening with a noticeable reduction in litter and vandalism. We saw the site come to life for the first time over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend when hundreds of individuals joined in the celebrations and embraced the opportunities that the community events space had to offer. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and the demand for 'more of the same' was evident from many that attended. A programme of future events is now being developed and it is hoped that the space continues to provide informal and programmed opportunities for the community, visitors and businesses to utilise.

This is the third time since 2018 that the authority has won the value award including regional and national recognition, using the skill and creativity of our teams has being a critical part of the success that has been achieved, demonstrating that we can deliver impressive designs, provide high quality services and achieve positive outcomes for Hartlepool. Public consultation, collaboration and integrated supply chains has proven to be a recipe for success and the Council will continue to deliver high profile schemes with meaningful results for its residents.

Member questions for Council

Meeting: 14 July 2022

1.	From: Councillor Brash
	To: Councillor Cassidy Chair of Neighbourhood Services Committee
	Question: ""Can the chair of neighbourhood services explain why the policy of charging disabled people to park is being pursued?"

CLEVELAND FIRE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING

11 FEBRUARY 2022



PRESENT:

CHAIR

Cllr Paul Kirton – Stockton on Tees Borough Council

HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllrs Ben Clayton, Tim Fleming

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Cllrs Teresa Higgins, Naweed Hussain, Tom Mawston

REDCAR & CLEVELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllrs Billy Ayre, Cliff Foggo, Mary Ovens

STOCKTON ON TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllrs Steve Matthews, Jean O'Donnell,

AUTHORISED OFFICERS

ACFO – Strategic Planning & Finance, ACFO - Community Protection, Legal Adviser and Monitoring Officer, Treasurer

APOLOGIES:

Chief Fire Officer

Cllr Tom Cassidy - Hartlepool Borough Council

Cllr Adam Brook - Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

Cllrs Luke Frost, Lynn Hall - Stockton on Tees Borough Council

98. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST

It was noted no Declarations of Interest were submitted to the meeting.

99. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of 10 December 2021 be confirmed.

100. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the Executive Committee on 21 January 2022 be confirmed.

101. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHAIR

No communications had been received by the Chair.

RESOLVED – that Members noted that no communications had been received.

102. REPORTS OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

102.1 Draft People Plan 2022-26

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer-Strategic Planning and Resources (ACFO-SPR) presented the Draft People Plan 2022-26 for consideration. This, alongside the Corporate Risk Management and Resource plans, sits under the Corporate Plan which was approved by the Authority in July 2021.

102.1 Draft People Plan 2022-26 cont.

The ACFO-SP reported that the Plan is based on the new Integrated Talent Management Framework and covers the following four themes: Talent Management; Health & Safety; Health and Wellbeing; and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

In line with the requirements of the Fire and Rescue National Framework, the Plan has been shaped in collaboration with the workforce through insight from a number of sources. These include the Brigade's Health & Wellbeing Board, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Board and the Health & Safety Committee and their associated committees and networks. It was presented to the Executive Committee on 21 January 2022 who recommended its approval for publication and implementation.

The Plan has been Equality Impact Assessed and considered to have no detrimental effect on any group of staff. In addition it has been subject to extensive consultation with all staff and representative bodies and no issues have been reported.

RESOLVED – That the People Plan 2022-26 be approved, as recommended by the Executive Committee on 21 January 2022, for implementation and publication with effect from 1 April 2022.

102.2 HMICFRS Annual Assessment of Fire & Rescue Services in England 2021

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer – Community Protection (ACFO-CP) provided Members with an overview of the key findings of the HMICFRS State of Fire and Rescue Services in England Report 2021 included at Appendix 1. In addition, he outlined the Summary of Outcomes from the first tranche of 2021/22 inspections and presented the timelines for the Authority's own inspection scheduled for May 2022.

Councillor Ovens noted the advantages of the Brigade being inspected in the third tranche and acknowledged the direction of travel of the outcomes from Tranche 1, detailed at Appendix 2.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the report be noted**
- (ii) That Members noted that the CFO will review the Report and ensure any new areas for development are captured within the Authority's corporate planning processes and documented in the Internal Operating Plan for 2022/23 onwards.**
- (iii) That Members noted that in line with current arrangements the CFO will continue to provide the Executive Committee with update reports in regard to the next round of Inspection**

102.3 Information Pack

102.3.1 Campaigns

Councillor Mawston asked how the rise in fuel costs was expected to impact communities. The ACFO-CP confirmed that a rise in fuel poverty was likely to increase risks within households and crews had been trained to identify hazards and signpost residents to partner agencies for support where needed. Councillor Mawston thanked the Brigade for taking a pro-active approach.

102.3 Information Pack cont.

Members raised the issue of attacks on firefighters, noting that there had been 20 attacks reported to date in 2022. The ACFO-CP reported that this was a national issue that affected all emergency services. The Brigade was working closely with Cleveland Police and neighbourhood teams to tackle this growing problem.

RESOLVED – That the Information Pack be noted.

103. JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND TREASURER

103.1 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2022/23 – 2025/26

The Legal Adviser and Monitoring Officer (LAMO) reminded Members that the Authority was required to record a formal vote on budget decisions on statutory calculations and council tax precepts.

The Treasurer presented the Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy for the period 2022/23 to 25/26 which integrates the revenue budget, Asset Management Plan and Reserves Strategy and underpins the delivery of the Community Integrated Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2022-26. The report had been considered by the Executive Committee at its meeting on 21 January 2022 and covered:

- Changes in recurring funding 2013/14 to 2021/22
- Budget Requirement 2022/23
- Summary of 2022/23 Forecast Resources
- 2022/23 Revised Budget Deficit
- Financial Outlook 2023/24 to 2025/26
- Forecast Budget Scenarios 2023/24 to 2025/26
- Reserves
- Asset Management Plan
- Robustness Advice

The Treasurer reported that the budget forecast for 2022/23 had been reviewed to reflect the impact of: National Pay Awards; Non Pay Inflation; National Insurance increase and the Capital Programme resulting in a revised budget requirement of £30.621m.

The Treasurer reported that the one-year settlement for 2022/23 provides increased government funding of £0.809m, including the new Services Grant of £0.646m. This does not address the recurring grant reductions up to 2021/22 of £5.7m, so previous funding cuts are locked into the base funding.

Overall, the 2022/23 Government Grant Settlement and approval off a 1.9% Council Tax would reduce the budget deficit to £184,000. The Treasurer referred Members to the tabled Appendices E and F detailing the final figures for the 2022/23 Council Tax base. He reported that due to the actual Section 31 grants being higher than forecast the budget was now balance with no residual deficit requirement from the Budget Support Fund.

A range of budget scenarios have been detailed for 2023/24 to 2025/26 which show a potential deficit of between £0.551m and £1.467m. At this stage the Treasurer recommends the CFO is instructed to develop a contingency plan to address the lower figure. The risk of higher deficit could be managed from the temporary use of the budget support fund in 2023/24 to allow plans to be developed and implemented in 2024/25 to address a higher deficit.

103.1 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2022/23 – 2025/26 cont.

Councillor Clayton highlighted the issue with utility price rises and asked if the £160k built into the budget to cover the extra was sufficient. The Treasurer confirmed fuel for appliances was the biggest concern but gave assurance that reasonable provision had been made and could be revisited in-year should additional funds were required.

Members thanked the Treasurer for the report and welcomed the positive financial position. A formal vote was taken and Members unanimously voted in favour of the Statutory Budget and Council Tax Calculations for 2022/23 and the Asset Management Plan for 2021/22 to 2026/27.

RESOLVED – That as recommended by the Executive Committee on 21 January 2022, Members:

- (i) **Noted the 2022/23 Government's forecast Spending Power increases are predicated on most FRAs increasing Council Tax by the 2% referendum limit;**
- (ii) **Approved the proposal to balance the 2022/23 budget from a combination of a 1.9% Council Tax increase and increase in Government funding and approved the supporting statutory calculations detailed in the Appendix E and 2022/23 Revenue Budget detailed in Appendix F (tabled).**

2021/22		2022/23			
Annual Council Tax	Property Band	Annual Council Tax	Weekly Council Tax	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase (pence)
£53.55	A	£54.57	£1.05	£1.02	2.0
£62.48	B	£63.67	£1.22	£1.19	2.3
£71.40	C	£72.76	£1.40	£1.36	2.6
£80.33	D	£81.86	£1.57	£1.53	2.9
£98.18	E	£100.05	£1.92	£1.87	3.6
£116.03	F	£118.24	£2.27	£2.21	4.2
£133.88	G	£136.43	£2.62	£2.55	4.9
£160.66	H	£163.72	£3.15	£3.06	5.9

Approximately 64% of

- (iii) **Agreed that to address the forecast deficit for 2023/24 to 2025/26 of £551,000 the Chief Fire Officer would be instructed to develop a contingency plan to address the potential deficit;**
- (iv) **Noted that the forecast deficits detailed in recommendation (iii) may increase if national pay awards are greater than 2% per annum, or the Pension Grant does not continue at the same level;**

103.1 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2022/23 – 2025/26 cont.

- (v) Approved the Reserve Strategy detailed in section 7, including noting the reduction in financial risks and uncertainty, and approved the reduction in the Budget Support Fund from £5.706m to £2.876m, with the resources released of £2.830m being allocated to fund the AMP and reduce the level of Prudential Borrowing.**
- (vi) Approved that as a fall back Prudential Borrowing limits include £2.830m be set for the AMP to enable the Budget Support Fund to be reinstated in 2023/24 if the forecast budget deficits increase and noted if these limits need to be used details will be reported to a future meeting.**
- (vii) Approved the updated Asset Management Plan detailed in Appendix C.**

**104. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION ORDER) 2006
RESOLVED - “That under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority) holding that information.”**

105. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of 10 December 2021 be confirmed.

106. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED – that the Confidential Minutes of the Executive (Appeals) Committee on 8 November 2021 and Executive Committee on 26 November 2021 be confirmed.

**COUNCILLOR PAUL KIRTON
CHAIR**

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

An extraordinary meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Wednesday 1 December, 2021.

Present:

Cllr Tony Riordan (Chair); Cllr Barrie Cooper, Cllr Graham Cutler, Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Sue Jeffrey, Cllr Tom Mawston, Paul McGrath, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Stephen Picton, Cllr Amy Prince, Luigi Salvati
Cllr Norma Stephenson.

Officers: Steve Newton, Alison Pearson (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council).

Apologies: Mayor Andy Preston, Cllr Chris Jones

PCP 52/21 Introduction and Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.

PCP 53/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

PCP 54/21 Exclusion of the public and press

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

PCP 55/21 Complaint Update

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer detailing three new complaint matters which had been received and providing an update in relation to previous complaints which had been referred back from the IOPC.

RESOLVED

1. The Panel be confirmed as the relevant panel for these matters.
2. The three new complaint matters be recorded and referred to the IOPC on the basis that they are serious complaint / conduct matters.
3. The referrals be notified to the relevant office holder and complainant in the form set out in the report.
4. The position in relation to the matters now referred back from the IOPC be noted.

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

An extraordinary meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Wednesday 8 December, 2021.

Present: Cllr Tony Riordan (Chair); Cllr Barrie Cooper, Cllr Graham Cutler, Cllr Sue Jeffrey, Cllr Norma Stephenson.

Officers: Steve Newton, Alison Pearson (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council).

Apologies: Mayor Andy Preston, Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Chris Jones, Cllr Tom Mawston, Paul McGrath, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Stephen Picton, Cllr Amy Prince, Luigi Salvati

PCP 56/21 Introduction and Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.

PCP 57/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

PCP 58/21 Exclusion of the public and press

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

PCP 59/21 Complaint Update

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer detailing a new complaint matter which had been received.

RESOLVED

1. The Panel be confirmed as the relevant panel for the matter.
2. The matter be recorded and referred to the IOPC on the basis that it is a serious complaint.
3. The referral be notified to the relevant office holder and complainant in the form set out in the report.

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

An extraordinary meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Thursday 16 December, 2021.

Present: Cllr Tony Riordan (Chair); Cllr Barrie Cooper, Cllr Graham Cutler, Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Tom Mawston, Luigi Salvati
Cllr Norma Stephenson.

Officers: Steve Newton, Alison Pearson (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council).

Apologies: Mayor Andy Preston, Cllr Sue Jeffrey, Cllr Chris Jones, Paul McGrath, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Stephen Picton, Cllr Amy Prince

**PCP
60/21** **Introduction and Welcome by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.

**PCP
61/21** **Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared.

**PCP
62/21** **Exclusion of the public and press**

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**PCP
63/21** **Complaint Update**

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer detailing a new complaint matter which had been received.

RESOLVED

1. The Panel be confirmed as the relevant panel for the matter.
2. The matter be recorded and referred to the IOPC on the basis that it is a conduct matter.
3. The referral be notified to the relevant office holder in the form set out in the report.

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

A meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Tuesday 1 February 2022.

Present: Cllr Tony Riordan (Chair), Cllr Barrie Cooper, Cllr Graham Cutler, Cllr Lynn Hall (Substitute for Cllr Stefan Houghton), Cllr Brenda Harrison (substituting for Cllr Amy Prince), Cllr Chris Jones, Paul McGrath, Cllr Steve Nelson, Luigi Salvati, Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE

Officers: Steve Newton, Alison Pearson (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council).

Also in attendance: Steve Turner (Police and Crime Commissioner) Lisa Oldroyd, Michael Porter and Rachelle Kipling (Commissioner's Office)

Apologies: Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Sue Jeffrey, Cllr Stephen Picton, Mayor Andy Preston, Cllr Amy Prince

PCP 64/21 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PCP 65/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

PCP 66/21 Minutes of the meetings held on 3 November, 9 November, 1 December, 8 December and 16 December 2021 and Attendance Matrix

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings held on 3 November, 9 November, 1 December, 8 December and 16 December 2021. The attendance matrix was also noted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 3 November, 9 November, 1 December, 8 December and 16 December 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

PCP 67/21 Chris Cave Foundation

Theresa Cave of the Chris Cave Foundation attended the Panel meeting to provide information on the work of the foundation in engaging, building aspiration and/or creating positive activities for young people (up to the age of 25) at risk of harm or involvement in serious violence.

The Commissioner had supported a funding bid in the sum of £25,000 from the foundation to deliver 7 point training across Cleveland and to increase support and referrals for young people to ensure they are prevented from becoming involved in serious violence and knife crime.

Theresa reported how the funding had enabled the foundation secure its running costs for the coming year, recruit 2 more volunteers and increase its

reach to young people with a greater range of support, activities and resources. Examples given included:

- The provision of bereavement days and family workshops at the office.
- Assistance with victim impact statements and ongoing support for families.
- Weekly drop in sessions.
- Working with Teesside University on an art project to promote anti-violence.
- A planned Youth Conference in June 2022.
- The purchase of a CPR dummy to teach young people how to perform CPR and treat a wound at the scene of an incident.
- The provision of stab backs for door staff.

The Panel were advised that it was sometimes difficult to get into schools with the foundation's messages as there could be a perception that this reflected a problem within the school.

Local Councillors often had good connections with local schools. The Panel suggested that the Commissioner considers some communication for Councillors to share with their respective local authorities to try to address some of these perceptions and encourage participation in as many schools as possible.

The Panel welcomed the information shared by Theresa Cave and commended her on the work and impact of the Chris Cave Foundation.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**PCP
68/21**

Task and Finish Group – Review of Local Police Precept

The Task and Finish Group was established to understand the key issues and financial pressures as part of the budget setting process in order to inform the work of the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel and the Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to setting the Police Precept.

The Group met on 21 January to receive information about the Police and Crime Commissioner's overall budget strategy for Cleveland Police and in particular proposals for the precept. Discussion took place about the funding and planning assumptions, funding projections and budget pressures and the feedback from the consultation exercise that had been undertaken.

This report provides details of the issues considered and questions raised by the Task and Finish Group prior to consideration of the budget and precept proposals by the Police and Crime Panel on 1 February 2022.

Key findings and conclusions of the task and finish panel included:

- The Home Office policing settlement set out an overall increase in national funding for policing of up to £1.1 billion compared to the 2021/22

funding settlement, bringing the total available for policing up to £16.9 billion.

- The settlement confirmed that PCCs would be empowered to raise additional funding through their Band D precept flexibility by up to £10 in each of the next three years without the need to call a local referendum.
- The funding settlement was predicated on the maximum precept uplift being applied.
- The future funding and planning assumptions that had been made in determining the budget strategy and LTFP for Cleveland for 2022/23 were:
 - Precept increases of £10 per annum throughout the life of the plan.
 - Government Grant increase of 1.1% in 23/24 and 1.6% in 24/25, thereafter 2% increases.
 - 1.3% increase in Tax Base in 23/24 before returning to 1% increases thereafter.
 - £160k collection surplus per annum.
 - Pensions Grant continues at current level.
 - Pay Awards are 3.5%, (22/23), then 2.5% (23/24), and then 2% thereafter.
 - Additional funding is provided to continue the Uplift Programme in future years
- 2022/23 is the final year of the Government's 3 year programme to increase Police Officers by 20000 nationally.
- The funding and precept capacity is predicated on delivering an additional 8000 Police Officers, nationally, by March 2023 on top of the 12000 that will have been delivered by March 2022.
- For Cleveland, these targets equate to a need to deliver an additional 96 Officers by March 2023 on top of the 72 delivered in 2020-21 and the 71 being delivered in 2021/22.
- Although the budget proposals include £1.6 million Police Office Uplift Grant, the full costs of 96 additional officers is closer to £3.1 million and assessed to have an ultimate cost of £5.8 million when the impact the career progression of the additional officers is taken into account.
- Whilst financial plans for 2022/23 will be balanced based on a £10 increase, the ultimate costs of the 2022/23 commitments and pressures are unaffordable in future years based on the current position with regard to funding provision.
- Even with the planned uplift, it is unlikely that there will be sufficient funding to meet the resourcing requirements from the Force. Any increase below the proposed £10 precept increase would make a very difficult position even more difficult in future years.
- A consultation exercised had gathered views from 1243 people with 448 people completing the online survey and 795 people taking part in the community events/'counter' consultation.

- There was some disparity between the responses from those who responded to the consultation online and those who attended the community events with only 36.4% of respondents to the survey indicating they would be willing to pay more towards their local policing in contrast to 91% of those who took part in the counter consultation.
- Despite these disparities, there did appear to be support from all 4 force areas to increase the precept with 71.3% of respondents indicating that they would be willing to pay more Council Tax towards the cost of local policing.
- The level of reserves was currently set at 3.3 % of the net budget requirement in 2022/23 which was in line with good practice. General Reserves were projected to be £5 million across the life of the plan.

Having considered the information available to it and discussed the funding assumptions and associated issues in detail, and assuming there was no significant change from the currently stated position, Members of the Task and Finish Panel recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner's Proposal to apply the maximum uplift of £10 to the Police Element of the Council Tax within Cleveland for 2022/23 should be endorsed by the Police and Crime Panel at its meeting on 2 February 2022.

**PCP
69/21**

Precept Proposals for 2022/23

A report from the Commissioner regarding the proposed precept for the financial year 2022/23 was considered by the Panel.

The Commissioner indicated that he had considered the following in making his proposal for the 2022/23 precept:

- The views of the public of Cleveland
- The financial impact on the people of Cleveland and the current financial environment.
- The financial needs of the organisation as currently projected both for 2022/23 and in the future.
- The limits imposed by the Government on a precept increase before a referendum would be triggered in Cleveland.

The Commissioner had also discussed his proposals with both the Chief Constable and engaged and consulted with the public on the options available to him.

The Panel noted that the Police Funding Settlement 2022/23 had been announced on 16 December in a written statement by the Crime and Policing Minister and followed the first three-year spending review for several years.

Key Headlines of the spending review were:

- £10 Precept flexibility for PCCs over the 3 years of the spending review.

- The Home Office settlement provided £4.2 billion over the Parliament, increasing from £12.3bn in 2019-20, (14.6bn in 2021-22) to £16.5bn in 2024-25
- Public Sector pay freeze was to end in 2022
- Based on the analysis released by the Government, core funding to PCCs had increased by 5.8% in 2022/23, however this assumed that all PCCs increased their precept by £10 and did not take into account the loss of the additional Local Council Tax Support Grant that PCCs received in 2021/22.

The Government had written to PCCs setting out their expectations of what the additional funding would deliver. They stated that:

“One of our top priorities will be to complete the recruitment of the 20,000 additional officers by March 2023. All forces have continued to deliver through year two of the programme and, working in partnership with you, we have already recruited 11,053 additional officers. We expect the pace of delivery to continue.

For the final year of the Police Uplift Programme, the 8,000 additional officers to be recruited will be allocated based on the forces’ share of the core grant under the police funding formula.

The allocation of 8,000 officers will support the growth of 425 officers into Regional Organised Crime Units to confront serious and organised crime. This continues our investment in to the regional-tier of policing. This investment will support the delivery of our strategic commitments as set out in the Beating Crime Plan, as well as tackling drug supply, fraud, and online harms. These officers will also allow us to do more to stop the exploitation and abuse of the most vulnerable in our communities.

The Government expects PCCs to continue to take responsibility for crime outcomes both locally and nationally, and we will support PCCs and forces to deliver well-evidenced crime interventions as part of their core business. The Spending Review has provided £150m of Government funding for specific crime reduction programmes, designed to prevent crime and keep our communities safe, in each of the next three years. This funding will be available on a ‘matched funding’ basis.

Within this Spending Review settlement, we expect to see over £100m of cashable efficiency savings per annum delivered from police force budgets by 2024/25 against the 2020/21 baseline. Following positive engagement across the sector, we have identified three key areas for efficiencies: corporate functions (“back office” including shared services), commercial and procurement, and modern working practices including estates (taking advantage for new technology and innovation). The delivery of efficiencies will be supported and monitored by the Home Office and the Efficiency in Policing Board.”

The Panel had regard to the detailed information contained within the Commissioner’s report in relation to the overall funding position, and specifically

how this related to Cleveland. In determining the budget strategy and LTFP for Cleveland in 2022/23, a number of future funding and planning assumptions had been made:

- Precept increases of £10 per annum throughout the life of the plan.
- Government Grant increase of 1.1% in 23/24 and 1.6% in 24/25, thereafter 2% increases.
- 1.3% increase in Tax Base in 23/24 before returning to 1% increases thereafter.
- £160k collection surplus per annum.
- Pensions Grant continues at current level.
- Pay Awards are 3.5%, (22/23), then 2.5% (23/24), and then 2% thereafter.
- Additional funding is provided to continue the Uplift Programme in future years
- The Panel noted that the figures quoted for the precept proposal were based on a Band D Council Tax property. The Commissioner commented that approximately 80% properties in Cleveland were in Band A-C therefore those households would pay a proportionately smaller amount of the precept.

He stated that the effect of proposals would provide Cleveland Police with £55-60m more that it had had previously which would give resources to the incoming Chief Constable to deliver the PCC's Police and Crime Plan for Cleveland 2021-24.

The Panel questioned the fairness of the Government's funding formula which was based on population size rather than need and appeared to disadvantage areas of poverty. They noted the Commissioner's commitment to fight for funding for the area and make representations for a fairer funding formula and acknowledged that there was also a role for local Councillors to make representations to their respective MPs.

With regard to the consultation exercises, the Panel commented that numerical values rather than percentages would be more helpful in both understanding the level of responses and explaining the information to residents.

The Panel noted that the level of response from Hartlepool had been significantly lower than other places within the Force Area and considered whether this may be due to residents feeling the impact of the loss of the Courts and cells in Hartlepool and therefore losing faith in policing and its relevance to them.

The Commissioner explained that the last planned consultation events in Hartlepool had been cancelled due to tightened Covid restrictions. This could account for the variation in representation, however, he had made it a priority to ensure further engagement events were arranged in Hartlepool recognising the issues mentioned by the Panel.

The Panel gave consideration to the report that had been prepared by the Task and Finish Panel and thanked the Members for their time in looking at the budget strategy and precept proposals in greater depth. The Panel had recommended that the proposal to apply the maximum uplift of £10 to the Police Element of the Council Tax within Cleveland for 2022/23 should be endorsed.

RESOLVED that the Panel endorses the Task and Finish Panel's recommendation and supports the Commissioner's proposal to set the Band D Police Element of the Council Tax within Cleveland for 2022/23 at £275.73, an increase of £10, or 3.76% over the 2021/22 level.

**PCP
70/21**

Commissioner's Scrutiny Programme

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on the PCC's scrutiny programme.

Holding the Chief Constable to account was the key duty of the Police & Crime Commissioner and must encompass all the functions of the Chief Constable and functions of those who were under the Chief Constable's direction and control.

The PCC had a range of scrutiny approaches in place to engage with the Chief Constable and hold Cleveland Police to account. These take place on a daily, weekly and monthly schedule and include a range of meetings, data and feedback from partners and the public.

Since the last Police and Crime Panel the PCC there had been 2 formal scrutiny meetings which were held on 3 November 2021 and 15 December 2021 and focused on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), Public Protection Notices (PPNs) and Serious Youth Violence.

Violence Against Women and Girls

The Commissioner had sought assurance from the force about progress with reviewing all allegations of sexual misconduct, indecent exposure and domestic abuse involving their officers over the previous two years. He had also sought information about the messages the Force were putting out to the workforce in respect of the work and communication with communities and partners.

Based on the information provided from the Force the PCC was partly assured that the Force was doing all it could in respect of the VAWG agenda. It was recognised that there was always more that could be done. Comprehensive and robust performance measures were in place which would be scrutinised as part of the PCCs Performance scrutiny.

Public Protection Notices

The Commissioner had sought assurance that the focus of increasing the use of PPNs wasn't quantity over quality and that appropriate training, quality assurance and monitoring arrangements were in place.

Based on the information provided from the Force, the PCC was partly assured recognising the improvement in compliance and that the Force would welcome external feedback.

Serious Youth Violence

The PCC had sought assurance from the Force about their preparedness for the forthcoming HMICFRS Inspection of Serious Youth Violence, the information it would be presenting and what it anticipated the inspection would find.

The PCC was partly assured by the information that had been presented by the Force and noted the contextual information provided.

A further meeting had taken place on 31 January 2022 focusing on Anti Social Behaviour (ASB). The PCC had requested additional information to provide assurance on the Force's approach. Panel Members commented on recent increases in ASB towards emergency services and hesitancy from the public to provide information to progress cases. Residents were more likely to contact local Councillors on these matters.

The Commissioner advised the Panel that work was progressing with the development of an app with the aim of improving engagement with local communities and he would share information as it was available.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

**PCP
71/21**

Members' Questions to the Commissioner

The following question had been submitted by Councillor Barrie Cooper for response by the Commissioner:

"As you are ultimately responsible for the prevention of crime in Cleveland, can I ask that you participate in promoting and supporting Middlesbrough Council's Neighbourhood Watch regeneration, bringing together partners, such as the police to achieve best practice in preventing crime?"

The PCC responded that he had met with the Neighbourhood Watch representative and understood lots of work was taking place in Middlesbrough. Whilst the PCC cannot co-ordinate Neighbourhood Watch, it will support work where it can. The Crime Prevention Officer would be able to assist with professional input once a volunteer Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator was in place.

The following question had been submitted from Councillor Steve Nelson for response by the Commissioner:

"At the last meeting the commissioner confirmed he would be judged on the progress he made on 32 (iirc) performance indicators. We were told there were baseline figures for these plus they were regularly updated. I'd therefore ask

that the commissioner provides both the baseline figures and the latest updates?”

The PCC responded that he would answer this question as part of his report on the Final Police and Crime Plan, Performance Framework and Draft Delivery Plan.

**PCP
7221**

Decisions of the Commissioner and Forward Plan

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on decisions made by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Forward Plan.

The Police and Crime Commissioner made all decisions unless specifically delegated within the Scheme of Consent/Delegation. All decisions demonstrated that they were soundly based on relevant information and that the decision-making process was open and transparent.

In addition, a forward plan was included and published on the PCC website which included items requiring a decision in the future. This was attached to the report.

Each decision made by the PCC was recorded on a decision record form with supporting background information appended. Once approved it was published on the PCC website.

Decisions relating to private/confidential matters would be recorded; although, it may be appropriate that full details were not published.

Decisions made since the last meeting of the Police and Crime Panel were attached to the report.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

**PCP
73/21**

Final Police and Crime Plan, Performance Framework and Draft Delivery Plan

The Commissioner presented his final Police and Crime Plan, the draft of which had previously been shared with the Panel for comments. The Panel noted that the Plan was a statutory document and must have regard to the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) issued by the Home Secretary.

The Plan highlighted that as a result of the challenges faced by Cleveland Police and community safety agencies over recent years, it was important to ensure long term sustainable improvements were made that truly benefit the communities of Cleveland, that were quality assured and hold up to robust scrutiny.

The Plan was built around 4 strategic outcomes and 10 priorities areas for action (10-point plan). The Commissioner shared a draft delivery plan and associated performance framework, including baseline data. He confirmed that the information referred to in Councillor Nelson's earlier question was included

within the performance framework and would be reported on a regular basis to the Panel.

A Panel Member expressed disappointment that the plan still did not appear to include a specific reference to race hate crime.

A Panel Member commented that they felt the plan was well written.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and the performance information be shared with Panel Members following the meeting.

**PCP
74/21** **Public Questions**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**PCP
75/21** **Forward Plan**

Members were presented with the Forward Plan for the Panel 2021/22.

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan 2021/22 be noted.

**PCP
76/21** **Urgent Business**

The Commissioner requested that the panel consider an urgent item of business relating to the use of social media by a Panel Member. This was declined by the Chair who advised that there were alternative processes for dealing with such matters.

**PCP
77/21** **Exclusion of the public and press**

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**PCP
78/21** **Complaints Update**

The Panel received an update on status of complaint and conduct matters which had been considered by the Complaints Sub-Committee on 28 January 2022.

RESOLVED

1. The update be noted.
2. For clarity, it be confirmed that for the purpose of dealing with complaints, authority is delegated to the Complaints Sub-Committee to exercise the Panel's powers under s29 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (Power to require attendance and information).

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

A meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Thursday 10 February 2022.

Present: Cllr Tony Riordan (Chair), Cllr Barrie Cooper, Cllr Graham Cutler, Cllr Stefan Houghton, Paul McGrath, Cllr Steve Nelson, Luigi Salvati, Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE

Officers: Steve Newton, Jane Garnett, Alison Pearson (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council).

Apologies: Cllr Sue Jeffrey, Cllr Chris Jones, Mayor Andy Preston, Cllr Amy Prince

PCP 78/21 Introduction and Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.

PCP 79/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

PCP 80/21 Confirmation Hearing Purpose and Procedure

The Chair explained the purpose of the meeting was to hold a confirmation hearing before making a report and recommendation to the Commissioner in relation to his proposed appointment of the Chief Constable of Cleveland Police. The confirmation hearing was held in accordance with the requirements under Schedule 8 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (Appointment of Chief Constables).

The hearing was a meeting of the Panel at which the proposed candidate was requested to appear for the purpose of answering questions relating to the proposed appointment.

The procedure to be followed was explained, and it was indicated that following the questioning session, the Panel would go into closed session in order to consider its decision and agree its recommendations to the Commissioner.

The Panel's decision would be communicated to the Commissioner in writing as soon as possible and at the latest by the next working day following the hearing, and a copy of the communication would be provided to the candidate.

The Panel's report would normally be embargoed until a period of five days had elapsed following the hearing.

RESOLVED that the Confirmation Hearing Purpose and Procedure be noted.

Key Documents / Information associated with the appointment

A report from the Commissioner proposing the appointment Mr Mark Webster as the new Chief Constable of Cleveland Police was considered by the Panel. The report set out the recruitment process and provided details in respect of the criteria used to assess the candidate's suitability, how the candidate satisfied those criteria and the terms and conditions of the appointment.

The Panel was also provided with a report from the Independent Member of the Selection Panel.

RESOLVED that the Key Documents and Information be noted.

Questioning of the Candidate

To enable them to evaluate the candidate's suitability for the role, Panel members asked questions of the candidate relating to his skills, knowledge, plans and experience as applicable to the role.

Questions were agreed in advance at a pre-meeting of the Panel in accordance with Home Office Guidance on Confirmation Hearings and were focused around the issues of professional competence and personal independence. They covered a range of topics including partnership working, community policing, building confidence with staff and the public, driving improvement, tackling both urban and rural crime and commitment to the role.

When responses had been provided to all of the Panel Members' questions, the Candidate was given an opportunity to clarify any answers given. The hearing then concluded and the Panel went into closed session to consider its report and recommendations.

PCP 81/21 Exclusion of the public and press

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

PCP 82/21 Closed Session for the Panel to Consider its Recommendations

On the basis of the information provided by the Commissioner and the discussions held in the Confirmation Hearing, Members of the Panel unanimously agreed that Mr Webster appeared competent to carry out the role of Chief Constable of Cleveland Police and supported his appointment as proposed by the Commissioner.

The Panel considered the guidance in relation to delaying publication of their decision for five working days and felt it was in the interests of all parties to confirm their approval of the proposed appointment as soon as possible. Consequently, the Panel agreed that the embargo on publishing the report could be reduced if agreed with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

RESOLVED that the proposed candidate, Mr Mark Webster, be recommended to be appointed to the position of Chief Constable of Cleveland Police.