



Ashington Town Council  
Town Hall, 65 Station Road  
Ashington  
Northumberland  
NE63 8RX

17<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**To all Members of the Council**

You are hereby summoned to attend the Full Council Meeting of Ashington Town Council, at **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 65 STATION ROAD, NE63 8RX, on Tuesday 25th March, commencing at 6:00pm.**

The agenda for the meeting is set out below, along with supporting documents. If you have any questions about any of the items on the agenda, please contact the office, as set out in agenda item 5. Public Participation. The meeting is open to the press and public.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Eden".

**Sarah Eden**  
**Executive Officer**

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**AGENDA**

**1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR**

Welcome by the Chair.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

*Members are also reminded that they need to regularly review their declarations of interest forms and ensure they remain up to date.*

**4. DISPENSATIONS**

To receive and consider any dispensations.

**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair to receive any items put forward by members of the public and to put questions to or draw relevant matters to the attention of the Council. This is for a period of 15 minutes overall and is limited to 3 minutes per person.

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<https://www.facebook.com/ashingtontowncouncil>

<https://www.instagram.com/ashingtontc/>

Please email/telephone the Executive Officer with questions on items on the agenda no later than 5.00pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

## **6. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

To receive and sign as a true record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (enc)<sup>i</sup>

## **7. PRESENTATION FROM COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM – PROJECT SHIELD**

Northumberland County Council's Community Safety Team in attendance to update on recent work and data.

## **8. REPORT FROM THE CIVIC HEAD OF ASHINGTON (CLLR CAROLINE BALL)**

To receive a verbal report from the Civic Head of Ashington.

## **9. RESIGNATION OF CLLR GEMMA HEMSLEY (College Ward)**

### ***Casual Vacancy following resignation***

To formally receive the resignation of Cllr Gemma Hemsley, received on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025. To note that as of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (being within 6 months of the May 2025 elections), under Section 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, any casual vacancies arising in the council:

- Must still be declared
- Will not trigger the right for electors to call an election
- Can be filled through co-option at the council's discretion, but as there is only one meeting remaining, this will not be advanced.

## **10. DRAFT POLICY COUNCILLOR-OFFICER PROTOCOL**

To receive the model policy 'Councillor-Officer Protocol' endorsed by NALC and SLCC as part of the Civility and Respect Campaign, to build and maintain good working relationships between councillors and officers as they work together, and to agree to adopt (enc)<sup>ii</sup>

## **11. NALC COUNTY COMMITTEE**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (enc)<sup>iii</sup>

## **12. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Members are invited to consider passing the following resolution:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, permitted under Section 1 (2) LGA 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business being transacted.

## **13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – LEGAL MATTER**

To receive information on confidential item, and agree action to be taken (*shared with FGS Meeting Papers 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025*)<sup>iv</sup>

## **14. STAFFING MATTER**

To consider confidential report and agree action (enc)<sup>v</sup>

## **15. DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Annual Meeting of the Council - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 6:00pm at Town Hall

Tel: (01670) 624521

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## **ENCLOSURES**

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- i Draft Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- ii Draft Policy Councillor-Officer Protocol
- iii NALC County Committee – Minutes of Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- iv Confidential Report (*shared with FGS Meeting Papers 11th March 2025*)
- v Confidential Report

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