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

21st July 2026

To all Members of the Council

You are hereby summoned to attend the **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**, in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 65 STATION ROAD, NE63 8RX**, **on Tuesday 28th July 2026, 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.

The meeting is open to the press and public. As per the agenda and our standing orders, any resident wishing to speak should contact us prior to the meeting.

Regards

Sarah Eden
Executive Officer/RFO

AGENDA FOR FULL COUNCIL MEETING

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR
Welcome by Cllr Mark Purvis.

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.

Please email/telephone the Executive Officer with questions on items on the agenda no later than 5.00pm on Monday 27th July 2026.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS FULL COUNCIL MEETING

To receive and sign as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23rd June 2026 (enc)[i]

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING NORTHUMBERLAND

To welcome Sergeant Christopher Burt, Neighbourhood Policing, Northumberland, who will provide an update on crime, crime prevention and neighbourhood policing priorities in Ashington.

The update will cover recent crime statistics and trends for the town, current prevention activity, and any matters that can appropriately be shared in the public domain. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions or raise concerns following the briefing; where matters cannot be addressed at the meeting, Sergeant Burt may take these away for a written response or follow-up through the usual channels.

8. TREASURY MANAGEMENT – INVESTMENT OF COUNCIL FUNDS

To receive a report of the Executive Officer/RFO on the investment of council funds in the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund, together with a draft Investment Strategy and Treasury Management Policy 2026/27 and a proposed amendment to Financial Regulation 6.9(iv), and to consider the recommendation of the Finance and General Services Committee made at its meeting held on 14th July 2026 (unchanged from report shared - FGS Committee July 2026)[ii]

The Council is RECOMMENDED by the Finance and General Services Committee to:

a) approve and adopt the Investment Strategy and Treasury Management Policy 2026/27 (unchanged from draft policy shared - FGS Committee July 2026)[iii]

b) approve the opening of an account with The Public Sector Deposit Fund (CCLA Investment Management Limited) in the name of Ashington Town Council, with an initial investment of £625,000;

c) approve the amendment to Financial Regulation 6.9(iv) as set out in Section 6 of the report;

d) authorise the Executive Officer/RFO to complete the account opening documentation and to operate the arrangement in accordance with the adopted Strategy, reporting to each meeting of the Finance and General Services Committee; and

e) request that the use of fixed-term deposits be considered by way of a further report to the Finance and General Services Committee once the arrangement is established.

To receive a supplementary report following questions and comments received at the FGS Committee meeting, noting the report was shared with all members immediately following the meeting (enc)[iv]

9. STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE COUNCIL, 2025-2029 (placed on the agenda by Cllr John Tully)

To receive and consider a proposal from Cllr John Tully, with an accompanying note from the Executive Officer, on setting the Council's strategic priorities for the remainder of the 2025–2029 term (enc)[v]

Council is asked to:

AGREE which of the following options, if any, to adopt in respect of the four strategic priorities recognised and included in the 2025 Strategic Framework (not adopted):

- **Option A** – formally adopt the four priorities as stated, with immediate effect;
- **Option B** – agree the priorities as a sound foundation, subject to amendments to be confirmed at the next meeting; or
- **Option C** – agree to set priorities at a dedicated session, with a date fixed in the Council diary before the end of September 2026.

NOTE that, following agreement of priorities, Members will be encouraged to bring forward proposals and ambitions under each priority area, to be developed with the support of the Executive Officer for consideration by Council.

CONSIDER the Executive Officer's recommendation to formally adopt the Six C's values framework (Community, Collaboration, Competence, Communication, Consideration, Championing) as the Council's values framework for the 2025–2029 term.

10. ANNUAL GRANTS 2026-27 – APPLICATIONS OMMITTED

To receive a report from the Executive Officer concerning two Annual Grant applications, from Hirst Welfare and Ashington Community FC, which were received before the closing date but not considered in the June round due to an administrative oversight (enc)[vi]

Council is asked to:

a) Note the report;
b) Determine whether to approve the two applications (£5,000 each, £10,000 in total);
c) If approved, agree the source of funding from the options set out in the report;
d) Note the corrective measures in place to prevent a recurrence.

ENCLOSURES

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[i] Draft Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd June 2026
[ii] Public Sector Deposit Fund (PSDF) Investment Report (issued with FGS Committee Papers)
[iii] Treasury Management and Investment Policy 2026/27 (issued with FGS Committee Papers)
[iv] Supplementary Treasury Management Report
[v] Strategic Direction: Establishing Council Priorities 2025–2029
[vi] Annual Grants Report – Omitted Applications

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