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

16th July 2025

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 29th July 2025, 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

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 28th July 2025.

6. ASHINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UPDATE

To receive an update from Inspector Wayne Daniels, who will be in attendance, and to ask any questions.

7. FULL CIRCLE FOOD PROJECT

To receive information about the work of Full Circle Food Project from CEO Michelle Brannigan, who will be in attendance, and to ask any questions.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS FULL COUNCIL MEETING

To note that the minutes of the previous Full Council meeting were agreed as a true record at the FGS Committee on 8th July 2025, as this was a combined meeting..

9. DRAFT MINUTES OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTTEE

To receive the draft minutes of the Climate Change and Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2025 *(these minutes will be presented for agreement as a true record at the next Climate Change meeting)* (enc)[i]

10. REPORT FROM THE CIVIC HEAD OF ASHINGTON (CLLR PAULINE THOMPSON)

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

11. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2025-2029

To introduce the Strategic Framework document for the new Council term and initiate discussion on the Town Council's strategic direction for 2025-2029. A Strategic Framework document has been prepared outlining the previous Council's priorities, mission statement options, and values framework. This serves as a starting point for the new Council to review, refine, or redefine Ashington Town Council's strategic direction. The Council is asked to receive the Strategic Framework document and agree to schedule further strategic planning sessions to establish the Council's mission, values, and priorities for the current term (enc)[ii]

12. PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION POLICY *Placed on the agenda by Cllr David Coyle*

To receive and adopt a Proportional Representation Policy to ensure fair and transparent allocation of committee seats that reflects the political composition of the Council, currently with 12 Labour and 6 Reform UK Cllrs, and that this policy be applied to all existing and future committees (enc)[iii] The policy would:

- Ensure minority groups have meaningful representation on all committees
- Create transparent and fair allocation methods
- Apply to all current and future committees
- Be reviewed annually and following any changes in Council composition

13. VEXATIOUS, PERSISTENT, AGGRESSIVE AND ABUSIVE COMPLAINTS POLICY

To receive and consider adoption of a new policy for managing vexatious, persistent, aggressive and abusive complaints and correspondence directed at the Council, its staff, and elected members. This is a standard policy in the local government sector (enc)[iv]

ENCLOSURES

[i] Draft Minutes of the Climate Change and Environment Committee held on Tuesday 18th February 2025
[ii] Strategic Framework 2025-29
[iii] Draft Proportional Representation Policy
[iv] Draft Vexatious Complaints Policy

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