



Notice of a Meeting of the

REDCAR & CLEVELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Proceedings of the
Borough Council and reports to Council**

October/November 2022

**Councillor Stuart Smith
Mayor**

**J Sampson
Managing Director (Head of Paid Service)**

REDCAR AND CLEVELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

That a meeting of the Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council will be held on Thursday 24 November 2022 at 2pm in the Civic Centre, Ridley Street, Redcar and all and several Members of the said Council are hereby summoned to attend.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Elect a person to preside if the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are not present.

- 1. Apologies for absence.**
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest.**
- 3. To confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2022.**
- 4. To note the attendance matrix from the last meeting**
- 5. To receive any Announcements from the Mayor, the Leader of the Council or Cabinet Members.**
- 6. To receive any Announcements from the Managing Director (Head of Paid Service).**
- 7. To consider Questions from the Public for which Notice has been given.**
- 8. To receive Reports from Portfolio Holders.**
 - A) Report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth (HEREWITH)**

(A period of 10 minutes, or such longer period at the discretion of the Mayor, will be set aside for questions which must be succinct and relate directly to matters within the report).

- 9. To consider Reports.**

Report of the Governance Director and Monitoring Officer:

- A) Members Allowance Scheme**

10. To appoint Members.

Where there are vacancies or changes in appointment:

- To appoint Members of Council Bodies and Representatives to serve on other bodies to which Members are appointed by the Council; and
- To approve any changes to Committee membership and to appoint Chairs and Vice Chairs where appropriate.

Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee.

Appointment of Vice Chair

11. To reply to Questions from Members of the Council.

Questions to the Chair, Members of the Cabinet, Chairs of any Committee or Sub-Committee, Members of the Fire Authority, Police and Crime Panel or the Tees Valley Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee, for which notice has been given.



JOHN SAMPSON

Managing Director (Head of Paid Service)
Redcar and Cleveland House
Kirkleatham Street
Redcar
Yorkshire
TS10 1RT

16 November 2022

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BOROUGH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Borough Council was held on 13 October 2022 in the Civic Centre, Redcar.

PRESENT His Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Stuart Smith),
Councillors Ayre, Baldwin, Barnes, Berry, Brady, Brook,
Brown, Cawley, B Clarke, Craig, Cutler, Davies, Dowson,
Fisher, Foggo, Gallacher, Griffiths, Hannaway, Head,
Holyoake, G Jeffery, S Jeffrey, Kay, King, Lanigan, Lax-
Keeler, Lockwood, Massey, Moody, Morgan, Ovens,
Rees, Rider, V Smith, Thomson, Wells, Westbury,
Williams and Wilson.

OFFICIALS K Boulton, D Boville, E Dale, S Newton, P Rice,
J Sampson, C Styles and P Winstanley.

The Mayor announced the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Members joined him in a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were submitted on behalf of Councillors
R Clark, Fletcher, Foley-McCormack, Gray, Hixon, C Holmes, L Holmes,
Hunt, Jones, G Nightingale, I Nightingale, Pallister, C Quartermain,
L Quartermain, Richardson, Sandra Smith, Turner, Waterfield and Watts.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillor Griffiths declared an interest in all matters relating to
Guisborough Town Council, Prior Pursglove College and Take Heart
Support Group.

Councillor S Jeffrey declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Veritau
report as a family member works for Veritau Tees Valley Limited.

28. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022
be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record and the
attendance matrix be noted.

29. ANNOUNCEMENTS**29.01 Mayor's Announcements:**

"Thank you to all those Councillors who have purchased tickets,
sponsored horses and donated to my charity race night on Saturday, I'm
sure it will be a good night. I will also be hosting a Thai Mezze evening
on 14th November, details will be sent out to you all.

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On Tuesday I attended the Redcar & Cleveland College Graduation ceremony at the Kirkleatham Walled Garden, which was a lovely event and enjoyed by everyone.

The Inspiring Women Award is now open for nominations. Democratic Services will circulate information on how to make a nomination.”

29.02 **Leader’s Announcements:**

“When we last came together as a Council, we had just learned that Her Majesty The Queen had fallen seriously ill.

We very quickly received the further news that she had sadly passed away and the country went into a period of mourning. Our Council, along with others across the country, played a leading role in the lead-up to the funeral and the passing of the crown to King Charles.

This role was fulfilled impeccably, and I would like to particularly pay tribute to the Mayor who represented our Council with such grace and dignity.

Many people in our borough are facing hardship due to the cost of living crisis.

I’m pleased to say our Council is implementing a range of measures to help all our residents and particularly the most vulnerable. I have written to the two Members of Parliament and the Prime Minister but to date I have had no replies or acknowledgment.

We are including warm spaces in public buildings across the borough, advice on where to find help and advice, specific help for our most vulnerable residents and advice on cheap and healthy cooking and free hot meals for residents with no family support.

We will continue to develop this package as we go into the winter months. We will need the help of everyone including our community groups as this is not going to go away in fact it looks set to get worse.

The Council has launched a campaign to increase the amount and quality of recycling in the borough.

Pupils from South Bank Primary School launched the campaign where council recycling staff put them through their paces on what can and cannot be recycled.

Around 40% of recycling we collect is contaminated and the council is appealing to residents to ‘ensure that items such as plastic bags, food waste, clothes and textiles, nappies, takeaway boxes, polystyrene and electrical items and batteries don’t end up in their recycling.

Doing this will reduce the amount of recycled materials which go to

landfill and benefit the council financially.

Our Children and Families colleagues have introduced a new scheme which will provide extra support to fostered children and young people.

We are the first borough in the Tees Valley to take part in a scheme based on the support and relationships an extended family provides.

Again, it is an excellent example of how the council is supporting those most in need.

Work has started on an adventure golf course and a children's play area on the seafront in Coatham.

It is encouraging to see that after the months of planning and preparation that the vision is starting to become a reality.

I am sure that you are all aware that the cinema is due to open and you will all be informed shortly when that is going to happen.

Just to let Members know that Brian Archer is going to be our new Director and hopefully we will have him here if not for Christmas then it will be early January. He was an excellent candidate and he is coming to us from Harrogate. I am sure you will all make him very welcome. I want to thank the Panel for the time they have taken.

I was also at the college with the Mayor for the awards with people from the University. It was extremely enlightening to see the young people thriving given that we have gone through Covid and yet they still achieved their degrees.

I was up at Durham recently regarding changes from the CCG. I know Members have been into a presentation prior to this meeting. I feel that the NHS are taking the lead on this but it is important that Councils feed into it. We do have a representative from Hartlepool Borough Council, their Leader, who sits on the Board and we have agreed along with the other 12 Northern area Councils to feed in to it and to make sure we get what we need. It is important to make sure all our residents benefit from it, as I actually felt that under the old regime they did not realise what we as Councils were doing. We are the people on the ground who know what our residents need and it is up to all of us to contribute to make sure we all get the right results."

29.03 Cabinet Member for Children announcement:-

"This is a statement on the 2020/22 Ofsted report for Children and their Families in Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. The report on our Ofsted visit over the Summer was published on the 22 September 2022 and was embargoed until that date. We could not discuss it publicly or publish any of its findings. The overall judgement was requires

improvement to be good and although we were disappointed we acknowledge that we are still on our improvement journey. The overall judgement was the same as it was in 2006 at the time of our last Ofsted inspection and you may have concerns that Children's Services have not made any progress since. This is not true, there has been a great deal of progression and improvements made and Ofsted has acknowledged this is a statement of our strengths of which there are many.

In addition the whole inspection framework has changed since 2017. We are now inspected under the ILAX which is the Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services system. Ofsted themselves state that under the SIF, Single Inspection Framework, we delivered a standard four week inspection to all Local Authorities, the ILAX framework is a more complex system of inspection. Ofsted 2017 was based on a snapshot taken over 4 weeks, Ofsted 2022 was based on information gathered over a year and as everyone knows, our data and the whole service has been affected over the last few years by the Cyber Attack and Covid and its associated lockdowns and their knock on effects.

The strengths:

- improvements in progress achieved;
- LADO;
- private fostering;
- quality of assessments;
- plans and direct work;
- initiatives in edge of care and foster care;
- clear model of practice;
- comprehensive offer of early help;
- thresholds most consistent and appropriate;
- assessments comprehensive leading to effective multi agency plans;
- child protection plans are comprehensive;
- core groups well attended;
- responsive edge of care team;
- stickability;
- care leavers extremely positive about support;
- timely pre proceedings for most and decisions for children to enter into care are appropriate;
- Social Workers build strong relationships;
- creative in seeking children's views;
- effective oversight and support for children at risk of exploitation;
- effective processes to track children who are missing from education and EHE;
- most children live in stable placements with carers who meet their needs;
- children's needs mostly well addressed in care planning;
- virtual school;

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- works proactively with other agencies to avoid permanent exclusion;
- education and employment needs identified and well supported;
- partnerships have been strengthened since the Pandemic;
- the culture of learning;
- and staff are valued and proud to work for Redcar and Cleveland.

However, what needs to improve:

- the effective and consistent recording of management oversight and decision making and quality assurance;
- the quality of referrals which meet the threshold of statutory services;
- the quality of written records including timely assessments and decision making to demonstrate impact for children;
- the response to neglect;
- homeless 16 to 17-year-olds and return home interviews with children who have been missing;
- the use of unlawful and unregulated placements and the application of the correct legal framework around the child and
- the corporate parent response to care leavers.

We are not complacent, and we will continue to work to address the areas of concern and take on board the feedback we have received.

A Cabinet report will be issued shortly, and we will discuss the OFSTED findings at Scrutiny.

If anyone wishes to contact me following Council, I will do my best to answer their queries.

Finally, I want to stress that I will advocate most strongly on behalf of our dedicated Officers in the Children and Family's Directorate. I know that the service is in a far better place than it was previously owing to the strong leadership of Kathryn and her Assistant Directors, and the huge efforts made by all the staff."

30. QUESTION FROM THE PUBLIC

30.01 Question from Terry Galloway to Councillor Lanigan, Leader of the Council:-

"By the time I'd left care I'd lived in over 100 places, as a child in care I did not think people listened. As a care leaver I felt that I left care with no voice and dumped to fend for myself.

However, in the end I made a life for myself despite the early trauma and run several companies and campaign nationally.

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However, my brother and sister lost their children to the care system. The cycle repeats. My brother has serious trauma and is still butting up against a system not designed for care experienced people, he is in and out of prison, addicted to drugs and will inevitably die early. By the time he was 32 he had cost the state £1.2m. People from care are 70% more likely to die prematurely than others.

My sister Hazel, was so traumatised, abused and neglected in care and never received the help she needed and at 33 years old, after many bad relationships was stabbed in the heart by her boyfriend, 2 days after disclosing to statutory services she felt was going to die. The system is broken.

It was tragic, and it is tragic, but the real tragedy is... It is still happening.

Leader - How do you think the motion listed later on the agenda for this meeting about care leavers is going to give voice to care experienced people and what difference do you think it will make?"

30.02 Councillor Lanigan replied as follows:-

"Thank you Mr Galloway for coming today and for bringing this to our attention. I am really sorry to hear your experience. What happened to you in the care system is more than tragic it is heart rendering to know that we have young people going through that system and what had actually happened to them. My heart goes out to you and I know that you have come through that but for you that was your strength and pushed you to where you are today and to actually come to the Council to say to Councillors do you realise what is going on? Without people like you we would not be made aware. We are all corporate parents and some of us sit on the Corporate Parenting Board and we talk to these young people. We still need people like you to come and say to us this is what happened and this is what I still feel is going on. I am aware of the disadvantages that those in care experience and how this can adversely affect them and this is why we have this motion coming to Council so that we can address these very issues.

I feel Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council do an awful lot but there may be some missing elements in there that people with your experience can help us with. The motion is before Council today and I am quite sure that everyone will vote for the motion and bring this through. The motion acknowledges that thousands of care experienced people living in our society today continue to live with actual tragic consequences following trauma and discrimination, suffered throughout their childhood and beyond. What happens to those young people in care if they have a bad experience and it seems as if that is exactly what happened to you and your family. Once you are embedded in that it is very difficult, without a lot of help, to get out of at the other side because those young people are damaged and that damage runs deep in a lot of these young people. The

motion will make us all stop and think about whether we are doing the right thing and consider the individual needs of the child and the adult so that our acts or decisions are not discriminating against them either directly or indirectly.

Acceptance of the motion means that any decisions made by the Council must consider the impact on care experienced people in the same way as other protected characteristics such as race, gender or accessibility and it means that any actions taken that could be discriminatory will be challenged thus ensuring that all individuals are treated fairly.

Mr Galloway I hope that following this motion we do not lose you and that your experience can feed in to help us. I know that you have campaigned a great deal and because of the knowledge that you have it may help us an organisation to make sure that we are doing everything possible to try to alleviate what has happened. Unfortunately, we are not able to catch everybody but with this motion and with you on board then maybe we can prevent this happening and that can only be a positive so thank you very much for coming.”

30.03 Supplementary Question from Terry Galloway to Councillor Lanigan, Leader of the Council:-

“The motion starts here but this is about everyone having responsibility. Care experienced people are the only group for whom you are Corporate Parents and that is what makes it different. By passing the motion today and calling upon the extension of Corporate parenting to all public bodies it will galvanise your communities and your networks to help you help our children as that is what this is about. I would really like to know Leader how you would feel if you got unanimous support today from all colours as this is not a political issue this is our children?”

30.04 Councillor Lanigan replied as follows:-

“I am sure Mr Galloway that everyone in the Chamber is well aware of that, this is not just about a motion that has come to Council today. It is not just about the motion it has to be embedded here and in other bodies that we work with inside and outside the Council. We have got to take this seriously. We will make sure with the Cabinet Member that everybody is involved in every aspect of what we do as a Council.”

31. CHILDREN IN OUR CARE BRIEFING APRIL-JUNE 2022.

The Cabinet Member for Children updated Members on the work undertaken by the Council’s Children in our Care and Resource Service.

RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Barnes and duly seconded by Councillor King that the report be noted.

32. **REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING.**

Councillor Kay presented a report which gave an update on his portfolio and answered Members' questions in relation to it: - **NOTED.**

33. **VERITAU TEES VALLEY LIMITED – APPROVAL TO BE AN ADMITTED BODY OF THE TEESIDE PENSION FUND.**

The Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer) sought approval for Veritau – Tees Valley Ltd to become an “Admitted Body” of the Teesside Pension Fund.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Council gives its approval for Veritau – Tees Valley Ltd to become an “Admitted Body” of the Teesside Pension Fund.
2. The Managing Director (Head of Paid Services) be authorised to execute any appropriate agreement.

34. **TO CONSIDER MOTIONS.**

MOVED by Councillor Barnes and duly seconded by Councillor King that:

Care Leavers Protected Characteristic Motion

The Independent Review of Children’s Social Care headed by Josh McCallister published in May 2022 a final report and recommendations that included:

“Government should make care experience a protected characteristic” and “New legislation should be passed which broadens corporate parenting responsibilities across a wider set of public bodies and organisations.”

On Protected Characteristics for Care Experience – (Care Review May 2022).

“Many care experienced people face discrimination, stigma, and prejudice in their day to day lives. Public perceptions of care experience centre on the idea that children are irredeemably damaged and that can lead to discrimination and assumptions being made.

One young person told the review that a teacher had told them “You’re smart - for a kid in care”, another young person said “I don’t want people to point out that I am in care if I don’t want that mentioned. It makes me so cross – that shouldn’t happen.”

This stigma and discrimination can be explicit, and often comes with assumptions about the likely characteristics of children and adults that have care experience. They can also be implicit and are evidenced in the way care experience is discussed in schools, workplaces, and the media.

At its worst this can lead to care experienced people being refused employment, failing to succeed in education or facing unfair judgements about their ability to parent when they have children and families of their own.

Hearing testimony from care experienced people sharing the discrimination they have experienced, even from a very young age, it is clear that such discrimination can be similar in nature to other groups that have a legally protected characteristic under the Equality Act (2010). So, while there may be ways that society can help reduce stigma and discrimination, including creating greater public consciousness on these issues, just as with other areas of equality, there is a case to go further. Therefore, the government should make care experience a protected characteristic.

Making care experience a protected characteristic would provide greater authority to employers, businesses, public services, and policy makers to put in place policies and programmes which promote better outcomes for care experienced people. It will make the UK the first country in the world to recognise care experienced people in this way. As a measure, it will bolster and pave the way for a number of the recommendations in this chapter.”

Care Review May 2022.

“Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives;

Despite the resilience of many care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account;

Care experienced people often face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships, employment and in the criminal justice system;

Care experienced people may encounter inconsistent support in different geographical areas outside of Redcar and Cleveland;

As Corporate Parents, councillors have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by us as an authority;

All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the

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voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work;

Councillors should be champions of the children in our care and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society;

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation of people with protected characteristics;

This Council therefore resolves: -

That it recognises that care experienced people are a group who are likely to face discrimination;

That it recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of disadvantaged people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;

That future decisions, services and policies made and adopted by the Council should be assessed through Equality Impact Assessments to determine the impact of changes on people with care experience, alongside those who formally share a protected characteristic;

That in the delivery of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council includes care experience in the publication and review of Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a protected characteristic in services and employment;

That this Council will treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic;

To formally call upon all other bodies to treat care experience as a protected characteristic until such time as it may be introduced by legislation; and,

For the Council to continue proactively seeking out and listening to the voices of care experienced people when developing new policies based on their views.

RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Barnes and duly seconded by Councillor King the following motion was put to the vote and declared carried:-

This Council therefore resolves: -

That it recognises that care experienced people are a group who are likely to face discrimination;

That it recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of disadvantaged people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;

That future decisions, services and policies made and adopted by the Council should be assessed through Equality Impact Assessments to determine the impact of changes on people with care experience, alongside those who formally share a protected characteristic;

That in the delivery of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council includes care experience in the publication and review of Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a protected characteristic in services and employment;
That this Council will treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic:

To formally call upon all other bodies to treat care experience as a protected characteristic until such time as it may be introduced by legislation; and

For the Council to continue proactively seeking out and listening to the voices of care experienced people when developing new policies based on their views.

35. **TO APPOINT MEMBERS**

RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Lanigan and duly seconded by Councillor King that the following changes to Committee membership be agreed:

Employment, Health & Safety Committee

Councillor Craig Holmes to fill the vacant position

Sir William Turner's Hospital

Councillor Brady to replace Councillor Leah Quartermain

36. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

36.01 **Question from Councillor Lockwood to the Leader:-**

“Earlier this year you were made aware of anomalies in the authorisation for spending a “substantial amount of money” from the 2021/22 Highways Maintenance Budget on resurfacing unadopted alleyways in Lockwood Ward.

You later said that the person responsible for the irregularity in the authorisation procedure was an Officer who is no longer with the council and who you named in a minuted meeting. You said that there were emails and a “paper trail” to prove this. Despite agreeing at the time to

make this “paper trail” available and in spite of several requests since, the emails are still not available to members.

We have now been asking for the said “paper trail” for over 6 months and so it seems unlikely that it will ever actually materialise. It’s also 5 weeks since I originally asked this as a supplementary question at the last full council meeting with no reply, in contravention of the constitution. With all this in mind and so that the workings of the Council can be seen to be open and transparent do you now think that it would be appropriate to bring in an outside body to hold an inquiry into this and will you set the procedure in motion for this to happen?”

36.02 The Leader replied as follows:

“The answers you got yesterday were ones that I had not seen they came from our Managing Director. I did ask the questions when this was brought by to me by one of my Cabinet Members and we met to discuss this issue. I was assured that everything was in place that should have been in place. The Council policy was to invest in areas to basically improve the appearance of the Borough. I have looked at the paperwork and evidently Council approved both the Corporate Plan and the Medium Term Financial Plan Strategy which had this funding allocated within it although it was not specified. It was then approached by the new Cabinet Member as I was unaware. As Leader of this Council I am not aware of everything that goes through my Cabinet office, Officers and my Cabinet Members. When it was brought to my attention by the Cabinet Member we decided to pull this funding and concentrate our investment in other priority areas. There has been situations in the past where we have put money into areas for unadopted roads or roads that were not safe. I also understand that a further one was done in another area of the Borough which I found out in the last 10 days and that was prior to Councillor Craig stopping the funding on this. I understand that this was a great deal of money. Can I also say that Councillor Hunt came to see me about this because he was not the Cabinet Member at the time. I have to inform you that Councillor Hunt had no recollection of this and he was not aware of this and he had no e mails in relation to it. He is extremely upset that he has been named as the Cabinet Member because he knew nothing about if whatsoever. I understand that the Officers following what had happened with the Corporate Plan and the Medium Term Financial Plan Strategy had authorisation to move forward.”

36.03 Supplementary Question from Councillor Lockwood to The Leader:

“Can I just make it clear Councillor Lanigan that it was not me who named Councillor Hunt or the officer or Councillor Craig but there still seems to be irregularities in the approval for this funding. Neither the Cabinet Member when the work started or the Cabinet Member who took over were aware of this work being done until Councillor Craig found out

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and stopped it. Do you still not think that this warrants some sort of inquiry or investigation into how this happened? We are not talking about peanuts here we are talking about £246,000 and another £196,000 was earmarked for Lingdale which was what Councillor Craig actually stopped. So do not think we should be holding some sort of investigation into how this happened and to make sure it does not happen again?"

36.04 **The Leader replied as follows:**

"Councillor Hunt could not be here today as he is at a funeral. He has asked for an investigation to be undertaken and for any paperwork that you have not received. I am sure that Council Members would like to see that as well, so he has formally asked me to start an investigation. We will be coming back to full Council with all the facts."

The Mayor thanked Members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

AGENDA ITEM 4

ATTENDANCE RECORD - 2022/23

Surname	First name	19.05.22 (AGM)	09.06.22	14.07.22	08.09.22	13.10.22	24.11.22	12.01.23	16.02.23	30.03.23	27.04.23	25.05.23 (AGM)	Total Meetings Attended / total possible
Ayre	Billy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apols						/11
Baldwin	Neil	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Barnes	Alison	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Berry	Peter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Brady	Charlie	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Brook	Adam	✓	Apols	✓	✓	✓							/11
Brown	Alec	X	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Cawley	Ceri	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Clark	Robert	Apols	✓	Apols	Apols	Apols							/11
Clarke	Bill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Cook	Carrie	✓	Apols	✓	✓	Apols							/11
Craig	Julie	✓	Apols 4	✓	✓	✓							/11
Cutler	Graham	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Davies	Wayne	✓	Apols	Apols	Apols	✓							/11
Dowson	Deborah	✓	Apols	✓	Apols	✓							/11
Fisher	Dave	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Fletcher	Martin	✓	✓	Apols2	✓	Apols							/11
Foggo	Cliff	✓	Apols 1	✓	✓	✓							/11
Foley McCormack	Chris	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apols3							/11
Gallacher	Chris	✓	✓	✓	Apols5	✓							/11
Gray	Tim	✓	✓	Apols	Apols5	Apols 1							/11
Griffiths	Malcolm	Apols (3)	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Hannaway	Craig	✓	✓	Apols	✓	✓							/11
Head	Malcolm	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Hixon	Andrew	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apols2							/11
Holmes	Craig	X	Apols	Apols	✓	Apols							/11
Holmes	Lee	X	Apols	✓	Apols	Apols							/11
Holyoake	Shelagh	✓	✓	Apols1	Apols5	✓							/11
Hunt	Barry	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apols							/11
Jeffery	Graham	Apols	Apols	Apols	Apols	✓							/11
Jeffrey	Sue	Apols (3)	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Jones	Chris	✓	Apols	Apols	✓	Apols							/11
Kay	Steve	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
King	Karen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Lanigan	Mary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Lax-Keeler	Yvonne	✓	Apols	Apols	✓	✓							/11
Lockwood	Mike	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Massey	Chris	✓	✓	✓	Apols5	✓							/11
Moody	Shaun	✓	Apols	Apols2	✓	✓							/11
Morgan	Carole	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Nightingale	Glyn	✓	Apols	✓	✓	Apols5							/11
Nightingale	Irene	Apols	✓	✓	✓	Apols5							/11
Ovens	Mary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Pallister	Lynn	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apols							/11
Quartermain	Carl	Apols	Apols	✓	Apols5	Apols5							/11
Quartermain	Leah	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apols							/11
Rees	Dan	✓	Apols	✓	✓	✓							/11
Rider	Vera	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Smith	Sandra	Apols	✓	✓	✓	Apols							/11
Smith	Stuart	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Smith	Vince	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Thomson	Philip	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Turner	Andrea	Apols	✓	✓	✓	Apols							/11
Waterfield	Stephen	X	✓	Apols5	✓	Apols							/11
Watts	Anne	✓	✓	Apols3	✓	Apols							/11
Wells	Billy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Westburny	Louise	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11
Williams	Geraldine	✓	✓	✓	Apols	✓							/11
Wilson	Margaret	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							/11



Member Report

Report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth

Public

To:	Borough Council	Date:	24 November 2022
From:	Cabinet Member for Economic Growth	Decision type:	For information
Portfolio:	Economic Growth	Forward Plan reference:	
Priority:	All priorities		
Ward(s):	All		

1 Introduction

- 1.1 I am proud to share with members the excellent progress we are making in the delivery of the Economic Growth portfolio. In the eight months since I last presented to Borough Council there have been challenges to overcome, however through staying true to our Corporate Plan commitment to “Improve the Physical Appearance of the Borough and Enhance Prosperity” we are really beginning to see the benefit of all our hard work. Be that through new facilities opening, or spades going in the ground for other projects, supporting major planning applications, or helping local people into work we are making a real positive difference.
- 1.2 As Members will be aware this portfolio, incorporates the work of a number of interdependent teams, including Place Development, Planning, Business Support, Adult Learning and Skills and Strategic Assets, as such a number of the achievements highlighted are very much a product of the whole team.
- 1.3 It is also to be recognised that the work we do within the Economic Growth portfolio is very much the product of a wider team. This includes key partners, funders, businesses, but most importantly our residents who actively engage in much of our work.

2 Our Progress

- 2.1 Over the following paragraphs I have set out some of the key things that we have delivered, as well as the progress we are making with other important work. A number of these projects have been the culmination of a number of years hard work, delivered during extremely challenging economic conditions, through COVID-19 and more recently inflation across the economy.
- 2.2 **Regent Cinema** - construction of the Regent completed in March 2022, on programme and under budget. Shortly thereafter, we began negotiations with our now operator Merlin and I’m pleased to say they opened on 21 October 2022 to

rave reviews, selling 4,600 tickets in the first nine days. Given the difficulties of construction during a global pandemic and securing Merlin as our operator in a time of increasing obstacles for all businesses, especially hospitality, I am particularly proud of our accomplishment. And in June the Regent won “Building Project of the Year” at the Constructing Excellence North East awards! Hopefully we’ll be as successful at the national finals in London in November.

- 2.3 **Guisborough Town Hall** - conservation works to Guisborough Town Hall (GTH) completed in March 2022. This project was not only about the rescue and repurposing of a heritage building, but GTH now also provides a focal point serving the whole of East Cleveland, with the ability to be a visitor and economic generator for the ‘High Street’. The building has been designed to provide high quality yet affordable accommodation of a type and scale not readily available in the Tees Valley or North Yorkshire with heritage interpretation, tourist information, and flexible commercial space on the ground floor, currently occupied by an award winning artisan gin distiller and retailer. I’m also pleased to advise that because of this work, Historic England have removed Guisborough from their ‘At Risk’ Register.
- 2.4 **Loftus Future High Street Fund** - I am happy to report that we are making real progress in the delivery of the programme funded in part by the government’s Future High Street Fund. In the region of £11 million worth of projects is being utilised to deliver the vision for Loftus High Street which was developed alongside the local community. So far Handale car park has been refurbished and is being well used, the former Barclays Bank building has been fully restored, inclusive of ground floor commercial space and accommodation upstairs opened its doors to the public and is already welcoming guests.
- 2.5 It is also great that we have started on site at Duncan Place to create the new multi-purpose community facility, which should be complete in Autumn 2023. We’ve also secured planning permission to refurbish Coronation Park and are out to tender for a contractor and are making progress with the designs for Temperance Square. It is with a little frustration, I have to highlight that there have been some delays to the work to replace overhead cables on the High Street, we are however working hard to address the issues which have arisen. All things considered though it is a positive picture in Loftus.
- 2.6 **Redcar Town Deal** – I’m also pleased to report that progress is being made in the delivery of the £25 Redcar Town Deal. Whilst I’m a board member I must highlight that the Town Deal Board is externally chaired, and is made up of a variety of stakeholders, including the Council, local MP and businesses, together though, we are beginning to make the Town Investment Plan a reality.
- 2.7 In recent months work began on site for the Clean Energy Education Hub at Redcar and Cleveland College, which is a state-of-the-art facility which will enable local people to gain the skills that will equip them to secure and sustain employment in the green economy, particularly the skills that will be needed at Teesworks, the Freeport and the supply chain that serves them. The building should be completed in February 2023 for immediate student intake.
- 2.8 Over recent months, lots of background work has been undertaken to meet the requirements of funders, completing business cases, carrying out design work as well as consulting residents, who have so generously contributed their time to this process. This culminated in government approving the final business cases for the

full £25m funding package in November. This means we'll be able to get on and deliver the Coastal Activity Centre, Indoor Family Activity Centre, improved outdoor space for events as well as improving the public realm.

2.9 Area Growth Plans – whilst we regularly update Scrutiny on the progress of our Area Growth Plans, I'd like to highlight some of the work we've done in recent months. It's testament to the team that alongside the marquee projects highlighted above we have made progress with the following:

- Securing £6million for the refurbishment of Redcar Station in order to improve this vital gateway into the town. This is now within the planning process.
- Construction of new facilities and attractions at Coatham including play areas, adventure golf and car parking.
- Delivered the initial car parking improvements at Saltburn creating an extra 34 spaces at Cat Nab.
- Skinningrove visitor car park, wider Skinningrove access and connectivity enhancements have started on site with the purpose of supporting investment at The Land of Iron (previously called Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum).

2.10 Levelling Up – at the time of writing this report we are eagerly awaiting the outcome of the two excellent bids we made to the government's Levelling Up Fund. By way of reminder, if successful these bids will enable us to deliver:

Redcar constituency bid

- £7.967m to help deliver the retail and commercial regeneration of Eston.
- £7.3m to help deliver a new pool for Eston and wider regeneration of the site.
- £4.712m to deliver a cycle/footpath route linking the Teesworks site to Eston and the south of the borough and a cycle/footpath route linking Guisborough to Nunthorpe.

Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland bid

- £15.013m to help deliver town centre and public realm improvements in Guisborough as well as improved accessibility to Teesworks and the North York Moors National Park.
- £0.175m to develop a business case to deliver a transport hub at Guisborough/Nunthorpe focusing on rail and sustainable transport.
- £4.812m for the Newham Grange highway scheme (B1365) to help unlock the site for additional housing.

2.11 Teesworks and Freeport – as reported previously, the regeneration work at Teesworks has the potential to create up to 13,800 well paid jobs, with the boundaries largely within Redcar and Cleveland. As such, the Council has a key role to play in making this happen. As well as representation on the Board through the Leader of the Council, the team is working hard to make the vision for the site a reality. Of particular note in recent months the planning team, quickly and efficiently managed the application for the SeAH Wind Factory which will create hundreds of jobs. The team is also represented at Teesworks Skills Academy, helping to ensuring residents are connected with the jobs which are being created.

2.12 Skills and Employability – whilst it is positive that the number of residents in the borough in receipt of out work benefits is reducing, with 3,280 claimants in

October, compared to 4,240 residents in October last year the team is working hard to ensure this number continues to reduce and people are equipped to secure higher paid jobs. Set out below are some examples of what has been delivered by the Adult Learning and Skills teams in the last six months:

- In the last six months, through our Adult Learning team we have delivered qualifications and training to 463 residents in courses such as English, maths, digital skills, ESOL, HGV, Excavator 360 and Slinger Signaller, Vehicle Marshall & Banksman. Along with 53 apprenticeships in Team Leading, Customer Service, Horticulture, Business Administration and Teaching Assistants. 123 residents have gained employment who have attended with the Service.
- 326 residents have accessed training through the Grangetown Employment Hub, with 49 securing training from that employment,
- Routes to Employment have supported 122 people into employment over the past six months.
- Of the 62 residents accessing the Youth Employment Initiative in the past six months, 28 have progressed into education or training and 18 into employment.

2.13 **Business Support** – following a couple of years dedicated to the COVID-19 response the team is back out on the patch liaising with businesses, providing advice, support and helping them to access to funding. In addition to this the team has hosted or attended a range of events, as well as sought to secure inward investment. By way of example, as reported to scrutiny at quarter 2, the team had engaged with 237 clients, including 92 pre-start, 125 existing businesses and 20 potential inward investors.

2.14 A key part of the team's work in contributing to economic growth is bringing people together, networking and acting upon feedback received. In the past six months the team has hosted or attended the following events:

May

- Ambassador "Business" event at Wilton Centre 50 business attended

June

- Tees Valley Business Club and its members (100 delegates) at Kirkleatham Walled Garden - SeAH Wind and Redcar Town Deal were invited as key speakers

July

- Social Enterprise event at Redcar and Cleveland Community Heart highlighting key support available - 16 businesses attended
- Ambassador "Enjoy" event at Redcar Racecourse - 38 businesses attended

September

- The Thrive Hive (Enterprise Zone) at the Festival of Thrift supporting 12 businesses to trade for the first time at a festival and highlighting support available to start a business in Redcar and Cleveland

October

- Business Growth Surgery at the Bellamy Pavilion, Kirkleatham Museum - 60 businesses attended
- Cyber Security Workshop at South Tees Business Centre - 4 businesses attended

November

- Ambassador Annual Showcase event at Gisborough Hall - (196 registered)

2.15 **Regulatory Services** – colleagues from Regulatory Services underpin much of what we do to deliver economic growth, ensuring the appropriate legal processes are adhered to, ensuring sustainable development, legally sound building works undertaken as well appropriate licensing conditions put in place. With Members providing leadership in this role through Regulatory Committee we are collectively delivering this work. It is however the case that the parameters in which we operate will change in the near future with the government undertaking planning reforms. Whilst more detail is required to understand exactly how this will impact upon the Council, this is delaying the Local Plan process. Further information will of course be shared with Members in due course.

3.0 Conclusion

3.1 As indicated in the introductory paragraphs, we can be proud that we as a Council are making a real tangible difference, across the borough through the work we are doing within the Economic Growth portfolio. We are regenerating and shaping communities, we are supporting people to get work as well as being an enabler to inward investment and development. It is particularly satisfying that we've recently been able to open some attractions that the public are already enjoying, I look forward to more of it as our work continues to take shape.

3.2 It's also important to be honest and transparent about the context we are operating within. The current economic climate makes the delivery of large scale economic growth projects more challenging and fundamentally more expensive, which will be something we as a team will work hard to mitigate as best as we can in the coming months, and is risk to our progress. The imminent announcement of the successful Levelling Up Fund bids does however provide a real source of optimism and I look forward to keeping you all up to date with our progress.



Member Report

Members' Allowance Scheme

Report to: Borough Council
Report from: Governance Director & Monitoring Officer
Portfolio: Corporate Resources
Report Date: 24 November 2022
Decision Type: Council
Council Priority: All

HEADLINE POSITION

1.0 Summary of report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek a decision from the Borough Council with regard to the Members' Allowance Scheme given the outcome of the pay negotiations for staff.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 The recommendation is that the Borough Council approves an increase in Members' Allowances of 1.49%, in line with the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel ('IRP') and affirms the principle of converting pay awards in the form of flat rate payments into percentages as set out within this report.

DETAILED PROPOSALS

3.0 What are the objectives of the report and how do they link to the Council's priorities

- 3.1 The Members' Allowance Scheme forms part of the Council's constitution. The scheme is approved by full Council having regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 3.2 The current scheme includes a principle that members should receive an annual inflationary uplift to their allowances in line with the lowest percentage applicable within the staff pay award.
- 3.3 The specific wording of the principle within the scheme is:

“Any nationally agreed inflationary pay award for staff be applied similarly to Members in respect of the Basic and Special Responsibility elements of the Members' Allowances Scheme. This will be based on the main pay award used for Council staff, excluding any separate pay award increases that are given to specific groups, for example lower paid staff or Chief Officers. For

example, if there is pay award which applies only to those earning below a certain level of salary or salary point, then that will not apply to the Members' Allowance Scheme. If there is a pay award which applies differential rates across the pay spine, the percentage increase to be applied to the Members Allowance Scheme will be the lowest rate that applies to staff."

- 3.4 The pay offer for staff (which has recently been accepted) is, in basic terms, a flat rate £1,925 increase for all employees, save for Chief Executives (or in the Council's case the Managing Director) whose pay award has not yet been agreed nationally, with the same offer of a flat rate payment of £1,925 being rejected.
- 3.5 Payment of a flat rate does not, of course, provide for a percentage uplift, nor does it specifically provide for differential rates across the pay spine – albeit the net result of a flat rate payment is a different percentage uplift for staff depending on their salary.
- 3.6 This position was not envisaged by the IRP nor the arrangements implemented to include an automatic uplift of allowances within the scheme. It is effectively unimplementable without clarification from the IRP of its intentions in circumstances such as this.
- 3.7 It is possible, of course, to translate the flat rate payment into a percentage for staff, dependant on their grade. In broad terms, across all grades of staff, the highest percentage increase would be 10.5% at the beginning of the payscale. However, the lowest percentage applicable at this point in time is 1.49% and, therefore, maintaining the principle agreed in its previous recommendations, the IRP recommendation is that members' allowances be adjusted by this figure for the year 2022/23.
- 3.8 During the IRP's consideration of potential options, confirmation was received that the national negotiations for chief executives' pay were not yet concluded due to rejection of the existing pay offer. Accordingly, it would not be possible to determine the percentage uplift that might ultimately be applied in that case. However, given the need for the Council to have financial certainty at the current time, it seemed inappropriate to wait for a further undefined period before reaching a recommended position, particularly as the outcome of the chief executives' negotiations would be unlikely to alter the final position significantly, if at all (Even if the negotiations resulted in the rejected offer of £1,925 being accepted, which seems unlikely, the resulting percentage to be applied would be 1.36%).
- 3.9 The recommendation from the IRP, therefore, is that allowances within the scheme be uplifted by 1.49% for the current year and that the same principle should apply in future years (i.e. that in the event of a pay award involving a flat rate payment, this should be converted to a percentage of salary and the lowest percentage applicable across all staff should be applied to Members Allowances).

4.0 What options have been considered

- 4.1 Changes to the Member's Allowance Scheme are considered and proposed by the Independent Remuneration Panel. The IRP considered various options including an uplift based on the average percentage increase for staff but

confirmed its previous recommendation based on the lowest percentage applicable to staff, as outlined above.

5.0 Impact Assessment

5.1 **Climate Emergency** - N/A

5.2 **Health and Safety** – N/A

5.3 **Social Value** – N/A

5.4 **Legal** – N/A

5.5 **Financial** – The increase would be within the budget for the current year but will add to existing financial pressures overall.

5.6 **Human Resources** – N/A

5.7 **Equality and Diversity** – N/A

6.0 Implementation Plan

6.1 **Timetable for Implementing Decision:** If approved, the increase will be applied retrospectively for the current year and payment of arrears will take place in December.

6.2 **Lead Officer** – Governance Director

6.3 **Reporting Progress** – N/A

6.4 **Communications Plan** - N/A.

7.0 Consultation and Engagement

7.1 The recommendations in this report are the subject of consultation with the Independent Remuneration Panel.

8.0 Appendices and Background Papers

N/A

9.0 Contact Officer

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