

# ***Minutes***



## Sunderland City Council

At a meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2023 at 4.00pm

**Present:** The Mayor (Councillor D Trueman) in the Chair  
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor A Chisnall)

Councillors	Ali	Gibson	Miller, G	Snowdon, D E
	Ayre	Graham-King	Mordey	Speding
	Blackburn	Guy	Morrissey	Stewart
	Bond	Haque	Mullen	Thornton
	Burnicle	Hartnack	Nicholson	Trueman, H
	Burrell	Haswell	O'Brien	Tye
	Butler	Heron	Peacock	Usher
	Chapman	Herron	Price	Vera
	Chequer	Hodson	Reed	Walker, M
	Crosby	Hunter	Rowntree	Walker, P
	Curtis	Johnston, K	Samuels	Walton
	Dixon	Johnston, S	Scanlan	Warne
	Dodds	Jones	Scott	Williams
	Donaghy	Laverick	Smith, A	Wilson
	Dunn	Leonard	Smith, G	Wood
	Edgeworth	Mason-Gage	Smith, P	
	Foster	Miller, F	Snowdon, D	

### Also Present: -

Honorary Alderman Greenfield.

The notice convening the meeting was read.

### Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Fagan, Fletcher, Laws, McKeith, Potts and Watson together with Honorary Alderman Tate

### Variation of Order of Business

It was moved by Councillor Mullen and duly seconded by Councillor Reed, that the order of business of the meeting be varied pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13 to allow the following items of business to be heard at this juncture: -

Item 17, Motions on Notice - (ii. Notice of Motion – Sunderland City Council's Summer of Failures), and Item 8, Reception of Petitions.

- 14. RESOLVED that** the order of business of the agenda be varied pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13 to allow the items to be considered during the timeframe set for the meeting and to allow members of the public attending specifically for those items to leave thereafter.

At this juncture, Councillor Chequer declared an interest in the above items as a Trustee of Grace House. Councillor K Johnston also declared an interest in the items. Councillors Chequer and K Johnston left the meeting during consideration of the items taking no part in any debate or decision thereon.

## **Motions on Notice**

### **(ii) Sunderland City Council's Summer of Failures**

Councillor S Johnston, duly seconded by Councillor Reed, moved the following motion: -

"This Council recognises that it has a responsibility to provide high-quality services to residents of Sunderland, Washington and the Coalfields and, therefore:

- Its actions affect how residents feel about living in the city.
- It represents the city on the national and international stage and must ensure that its actions promote the city in a positive light.

Therefore, Council regrets the reputational damage done to the city by its actions over the summer as a consequence of:

- Its failure of vulnerable residents and their families by not ensuring that respite services continue to operate at Grace House. This problem is compounded by the Council's inability to secure suitable alternative provision.
- The total lack of commentary from the Council's leadership to reassure residents concerned about the loss of the city centre cinema and the Wilko store
- Its failure to provide adequate leadership at, or show due concern following, the World Triathlon Championship Series event, where at least 88 athletes fell ill after competing.

Council resolves:

- That the Leader of the Council should write letters to the families devastated by the Grace House closure, apologising for the authority's failures and detailing how he plans to resolve the situation.
- That the Leader will set up a cross-party city centre working group which will engage with businesses and leisure providers to address concerns relating to the loss of retail and leisure opportunities.
- That the Leader should write an open letter to competitors at the triathlon, apologising for the Council's failure to ensure that they had a positive experience while competing in the city and for his lack of compassion in his initial media remarks following their illness."

Upon being put to the vote the Motion was defeated with 21 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Ayre	Dunn	Johnston, S	Vera
	Bond	Edgeworth	Morrissey	Walton
	Burnicle	Graham-King	Mullen	Wood
	Crosby	Hartnack	Peacock	
	Dixon	Haswell	Reed	
	Donaghy	Hodson	Trueman, D	

43 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Ali	Heron	Price	Stewart
	Blackburn	Herron	Rowntree	Thornton
	Burrell	Hunter	Samuels	Trueman, H
	Butler	Jones	Scanlan	Tye
	Chapman	Laverick	Scott	Usher
	Chisnall	Leonard	Smith, A	Walker, M
	Curtis	Mason-Gage	Smith, G	Walker, P
	Dodds	Miller, F	Smith, P	Warne
	Foster	Miller, G	Snowdon, D	Williams
	Guy	Mordey	Snowdon, D E	Wilson
	Haque	Nicholson	Speding	

And 1 Abstention: -

Councillor Gibson

## Reception of Petitions

- 15. RESOLVED** that the petitions listed below submitted by the Councillors named be received and referred to the appropriate Chief Officer for consideration in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme: -

Councillor Mullen – Petition asking the Council to urgently review the short break respite provision delivered at Grace House.

Councillor S Johnston – Petition requesting the Council to reduce or remove the charges for memorial benches in Sunderland.

Councillor Graham-King – Petition requesting the closure of West Lodge.

Councillor Walton – Petition requesting the installation of a pedestrian crossing at 3 Whitburn Bents Road.

Councillor M Walker – Petition requesting that action be taken to stop shoplifting in Concord, Washington.

Councillor Mordey – Petition requesting repairs and road safety measures at the junction of Givens Street and Harbour View.

Councillor Hartnack – Petition in opposition to the current planning application in respect of the Halfway House.

## **Update to Council from Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable on Policing in Sunderland**

The Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, Kim McGuinness and the Chief Constable, Vanessa Jardine addressed the Council on policing matters in the Sunderland area and responded to questions submitted from each Group.

Nb The meeting adjourned for a period of 12 minutes during the above item to allow an attendee to receive medical attention.

### **Minutes**

- 16. RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14 June 2023 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **Declarations of Interest**

The following Members declared interests as follows: -

Councillors Chequer and K Johnston	Item 17(ii) Notice of Motion – Sunderland City Council’s Summer of Failures, Item 8, Reception of Petitions, Item 9 Written Questions by Members of the Public, Item 10 Written Questions by Members of the Council	Councillor Chequer – Trustee of Grace House
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### **Announcements**

#### **(i) Councillor Ivan Richardson**

The Mayor announced that the Council was saddened to learn of the death of former Councillor Ivan Richardson. Councillor Richardson had represented the Washington East Ward between 2008 and 2012 and served on a number of committees as well as being a Governor of John F Kennedy Primary School during his tenure as a councillor. Council Members and Officers stood to observe a minute’s silence as a mark of respect to their former colleague.

#### **(ii) Notice to Speak**

The Mayor thanked those Members who have given notice of their wish to speak. She advised that where notice had been given, the Member would be invited to speak at the appropriate time. If any Member who hadn’t given prior notice wished to speak at any point during the meeting, they should raise their hand to indicate, state their name and speak when invited to do so.

## **Outstanding Motions from the last ordinary meeting of the Council**

### **(i) Notice of Motion - Nuisance motorbikes**

Councillor Edgeworth, duly seconded by Councillor Morrissey moved the following motion: -

Sunderland Council notes that:

- It is increasingly common to see motorbikes and quadbikes which do not have a registration plate riding around our area;
- These motorbikes and quadbikes are often being ridden around our parks and open spaces, on pavements and on the public highway;
- Residents of Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington are experiencing regular disruption as a result of these motorbikes and quadbikes;
- Despite some police resources being committed to dealing with the problem, residents are losing faith in the ability of the police to address the problem;

Sunderland Council therefore resolves to:

- Invite the Cabinet to present an action plan to full council no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 detailing how it will restrict access for motorbikes and quadbikes to our parks and opens spaces in problem areas of the city;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that more resources are devoted to addressing the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour in Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington;
- Invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a meeting of Sunderland City Council to report back on the progress being made to address the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour. This invite will be for a meeting which will take place no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and ask the Government to ensure that local Police are equipped with the powers and the funding necessary to enable them to tackle motorbike and quadbike anti-social behaviour.

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Rowntree, duly seconded by Councillor Stewart, moved the following amendment:-

Fifth bullet point, after “invite the Cabinet”: -

Delete “to present an action plan to full council no later than 31st January 2024” and add “within six months bring forward an action plan”

After “How it will” add “work with our partners to”

Replace “opens” with “open”

Seventh bullet point

Remove “invite” and add “thank”

Remove “to attend a” and replace with “for attending our”

Remove “to report back” and replace with “and reporting back”

Delete “This invite will be for a meeting which will take place no later than 31st January 2024”

**So that the amended motion would read: -**

“Sunderland Council notes that:

- It is increasingly common to see motorbikes and quadbikes which do not have a registration plate riding around our area;
- These motorbikes and quadbikes are often being ridden around our parks and open spaces, on pavements and on the public highway;
- Residents of Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington are experiencing regular disruption as a result of these motorbikes and quadbikes;
- Despite some police resources being committed to dealing with the problem, residents are losing faith in the ability of the police to address the problem;

Sunderland Council therefore resolves to:

- Invite the Cabinet within six months to bring forward an action plan detailing how it will work with our partners to restrict access for motorbikes and quadbikes to our parks and open spaces in problem areas of the city;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that more resources are devoted to addressing the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour in Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington;
- Thank the Police and Crime Commissioner for attending our meeting of Sunderland City Council and reporting back on the progress being made to address the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and ask the Government to ensure that local Police are equipped with the powers and the funding necessary to enable them to tackle motorbike and quadbike anti-social behaviour.”

Upon being moved, the amendment was declared to be carried unanimously.

The Mayor read the new Substantive Motion.

The Mayor then put the new substantive motion to the meeting and accordingly it was: -



## **17. RESOLVED that:-**

Sunderland Council notes that:

- It is increasingly common to see motorbikes and quadbikes which do not have a registration plate riding around our area;
- These motorbikes and quadbikes are often being ridden around our parks and open spaces, on pavements and on the public highway;
- Residents of Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington are experiencing regular disruption as a result of these motorbikes and quadbikes;
- Despite some police resources being committed to dealing with the problem, residents are losing faith in the ability of the police to address the problem;

Sunderland Council therefore resolves to:

- Invite the Cabinet within six months to bring forward an action plan detailing how it will work with our partners to restrict access for motorbikes and quadbikes to our parks and open spaces in problem areas of the city;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that more resources are devoted to addressing the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour in Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington;
- Thank the Police and Crime Commissioner for attending our meeting of Sunderland City Council and reporting back on the progress being made to address the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and ask the Government to ensure that local Police are equipped with the powers and the funding necessary to enable them to tackle motorbike and quadbike anti-social behaviour.”

### **(ii) Notice of Motion – School Crossing Patrols**

Councillor Peacock, duly seconded by Councillor Reed moved the following motion: -

Sunderland City Council has failed to recruit a sufficient number of school crossing patrol wardens to meet the needs of local children and parents.

Notwithstanding the length of time to acquire DBS checks at the enhanced level, Council notes that the role – pro rata, term time and limited hours – will only appeal to a small number of people and, coupled with this, the Council’s recruitment process has been overly complicated for the role, with application packs spanning tens of pages. Creative ways of addressing the problem are required.

The Council therefore resolves to address this by asking the Chief Executive to explore two options and report to HR Committee.

- To create – over time – new, full-time parking enforcement staff whose role will also include undertaking school crossing patrols during term time to work alongside (not to replace) existing crossing patrol staff. When not undertaking crossing patrols, these staff members will then undertake enforcement work relating to parking.
- To consider the possibility of seconding existing members of staff (especially those with enhanced DBS checks) to undertake one crossing patrol per week as part of their existing role as a short-term solution to fill gaps whilst full-time staff are recruited.

Council also notes that there is a greater necessity to pay a market supplement premium to existing crossing patrol staff to maintain their services, rather than to Chief Officers.

Councillor K Johnson, duly seconded by Councillor Williams, moved the following amendment:-

First paragraph

Delete “has failed to recruit” and add “struggles to recruit”

Second paragraph

After “people” delete remainder of the paragraph and add “and that creative ways of addressing the problem are required.”

Third paragraph

Delete “two options and report to HR Committee”

Delete both bullet points and after “explore” add “the possibility of seeking volunteers from existing members of staff (especially those with enhanced DBS checks) to undertake one crossing patrol per week as part of their existing role as a short-term solution to fill gaps whilst staff are recruited.”

Final Paragraph

Delete

**So that the amended motion would read: -**

Sunderland City Council continues to struggle to recruit a sufficient number of school crossing patrol wardens to meet the needs of local children and parents.

Notwithstanding the length of time to acquire DBS checks at the enhanced level, Council notes that the role – pro rata, term time and limited hours – will only appeal to a small number of people and that creative ways of addressing the problem are required.

The Council therefore resolves to address this by asking the Chief Executive to explore the possibility of seeking volunteers from existing members of staff (especially those with enhanced DBS checks) to undertake one crossing patrol a

week as part of their existing role as a short-term solution to fill gaps whilst staff are recruited.

Upon being put to the vote the Amended motion was carried with 44 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Ali	Haque	Nicholson	Speding
	Blackburn	Heron	Price	Stewart
	Burrell	Herron	Rowntree	Thornton
	Butler	Hunter	Samuels	Trueman, D
	Chapman	Johnston, K	Scanlan	Tye
	Chequer	Jones	Scott	Usher
	Chisnall	Laverick	Smith, A	Walker, M
	Curtis	Leonard	Smith, G	Walker, P
	Dodds	Miller, F	Smith, P	Warne
	Foster	Miller, G	Snowdon, D	Williams
	Guy	Mordey	Snowdon, D E	Wilson

And 20 Members voting against:-

Councillors	Ayre	Dunn	Hodson	Peacock
	Bond	Edgeworth	Johnston, S	Reed
	Burnicle	Graham-King	Morrissey	Vera
	Crosby	Hartnack	Mullen	Walton
	Dixon	Haswell	O'Brien	Wood

The Mayor read the new substantive motion.

The Mayor then put the new substantive motion to the meeting and it was: -

#### **18. RESOLVED that:-**

Sunderland City Council continues to struggle to recruit a sufficient number of school crossing patrol wardens to meet the needs of local children and parents.

Notwithstanding the length of time to acquire DBS checks at the enhanced level, Council notes that the role – pro rata, term time and limited hours – will only appeal to a small number of people and that creative ways of addressing the problem are required.

The Council therefore resolves to address this by asking the Chief Executive to explore the possibility of seeking volunteers from existing members of staff (especially those with enhanced DBS checks) to undertake one crossing patrol a week as part of their existing role as a short-term solution to fill gaps whilst staff are recruited.

## Written Questions by Members of the Public under Rule 10

Pursuant to Rule 10 of the Council Rules of Procedure, the Leader and Members of the Cabinet were asked questions which had been submitted by members of the public.

## Variation of Order of Business

It was moved by Leader of Council, Councillor G Miller and duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Rowntree, that the order of business of the meeting be varied pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13 to allow agenda items 11 to 16 to be heard at this juncture: -

Upon being put to vote the Motion was carried with 44 members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Ali	Haque	Nicholson	Stewart
	Blackburn	Heron	Price	Thornton
	Burrell	Herron	Rowntree	Trueman, D
	Butler	Hunter	Samuels	Trueman, H
	Chapman	Johnston, K	Scanlan	Tye
	Chequer	Jones	Scott	Usher
	Chisnall	Laverick	Smith, A	Walker, M
	Curtis	Leonard	Smith, P	Walker, P
	Dodds	Miller, F	Snowdon, D	Warne
	Foster	Miller, G	Snowdon, D E	Williams
	Guy	Mordey	Speding	Wilson

And 21 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Ayre	Edgeworth	Johnston, S	Vera
	Bond	Gibson	Morrissey	Walton
	Burnicle	Graham-King	Mullen	Wood
	Crosby	Hartnack	O'Brien	
	Dixon	Haswell	Peacock	
	Dunn	Hodson	Reed	

Accordingly, it was: -

- 19. RESOLVED** that the order of business of the agenda be varied pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13 to allow specific items to be considered during the timeframe set for the meeting.

## Report of the Cabinet

The Cabinet reported and recommended as follows: -

### 1. Revisions to Constitution – Area Committees

That at its meeting held on 8 June 2023, Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities recommending that the

Council amend the terms of reference of the Council's Area Committees and make the associated changes to the Constitution.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended that Council: -

- (i) approve the changes to the terms of reference of the Council's Area Committees together with the other ancillary changes as set out in the report, with immediate effect; and
- (ii) authorise the Assistant Director of Law and Governance to make the associated amendments to the Constitution as set out in Annex 2 to the report, together with such amendments as may be required to ensure consistency between the updated provisions and the remainder of the Constitution.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor G Miller, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Rowntree, moved the report of the Cabinet.

Upon being put to vote the Motion was carried with 45 members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Ali	Heron	Rowntree	Trueman, D
	Blackburn	Herron	Samuels	Trueman, H
	Burrell	Hunter	Scanlan	Tye
	Butler	Johnston, K	Scott	Usher
	Chapman	Jones	Smith, A	Walker, M
	Chequer	Laverick	Smith, G	Walker, P
	Chisnall	Leonard	Smith, P	Warne
	Curtis	Miller, F	Snowdon, D	Williams
	Dodds	Miller, G	Snowdon, D E	Wilson
	Foster	Mordey	Speding	
	Guy	Nicholson	Stewart	
	Haque	Price	Thornton	

And 21 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Ayre	Edgeworth	Johnston, S	Vera
	Bond	Gibson	Morrissey	Walton
	Burnicle	Graham-King	Mullen	Wood
	Crosby	Hartnack	O'Brien	
	Dixon	Haswell	Peacock	
	Dunn	Hodson	Reed	

Accordingly, it was: -

**20. RESOLVED** that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted.

## **Report of the Human Resources Committee**

The Human Resources Committee reported and recommended as follows: -

### **1. Grievance Procedure: Chief Executive/Amendment to Employment Procedure Rules**

That at its meeting held on 14 July 2023, the Committee gave consideration to a report of the Director of Smart Cities and Enabling Services recommending that the Council amend the Employment Procedure Rules to provide for the suspension and disciplinary functions currently assigned to the Human Resources Committee as a whole, to be undertaken by an Investigatory and Disciplinary Panel of three members, convened from the membership of the Human Resources Committee, as set out in the Grievance Procedure: Chief Executive.

The Committee approved the Grievance Procedure subject to an amendment to paragraph 2.6 to provide for the Leader of the Council to be made aware when a grievance is received. In addition, further information on the process of convening the Grievance Panel has been incorporated in an updated version of the Grievance Procedure, which is attached to this report.

Accordingly, the Committee recommended that Council amend the Employment Procedure Rules to provide for the suspension and disciplinary functions currently assigned to the Human Resources Committee as a whole, to be undertaken by an Investigatory and Disciplinary Panel of three members, convened from the membership of the Human Resources Committee, as set out in the Grievance Procedure: Chief Executive.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor G Miller, duly seconded by Councillor Stewart, moved the report of the Human Resources Committee, and it was: -

- 21. RESOLVED** that the report of the Human Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

## **Report of the Standards Committee**

The Standards Committee reported and recommended as follows: -

### **1. Appointment of Independent Person(s)**

That at its meeting on 12 September 2023, the Committee gave consideration to a report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance setting out proposals for the recruitment process for the role of Independent Person(s).

Accordingly, the Standards Committee recommended Council to: -

- (i) approve the recruitment process for the role of Independent Person(s) as outlined in the report, (subject to an amendment to paragraph 2.1 to provide that the shortlisting / interviewing panel will include representation from the three Political Groups on the Council) including the proposed approach to the appointment of Mr Hall, should he formally confirm his wish to be considered for appointment for a further term of office;

(ii) following the conclusion of the recruitment process, appoint up to two Independent Persons for terms of two years' duration, which may be extended by the Council for two further two-year terms (i.e. six years in total) and to award an annual allowance of £1,000 and reasonable travel and subsistence expenses in respect of the role;

(iii) extend the current term of office of Mr Hall until the conclusion of the recruitment process and appointment of Independent Person(s) for the new term(s) of office

(iv) authorise the Monitoring Officer to make all associated arrangements.

Councillor Dodds, duly seconded by Councillor Stewart moved the report and supplementary report of the Standards Committee.

Upon being put to vote the Motion was carried with 52 members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Ali	Foster	Miller, F	Snowdon, D
	Ayre	Graham-King	Miller, G	Snowdon, D E
	Blackburn	Guy	Mordey	Stewart
	Burrell	Haque	Mullen	Thornton
	Burnicle	Hartnack	Peacock	Trueman, D
	Butler	Heron	Reed	Trueman, H
	Chapman	Herron	Rowntree	Tye
	Chequer	Hunter	Samuels	Usher
	Chisnall	Johnston, K	Scanlan	Vera
	Curtis	Johnston, S	Scott	Walker, P
	Dixon	Jones	Smith, A	Warne
	Dodds	Laverick	Smith, G	Williams
	Dunn	Leonard	Smith, P	Wilson

No Members voting against: -

And 11 Abstentions: -

Councillors	Bond	Gibson	Morrissey	Walton
	Crosby	Haswell	Nicholson	Wood
	Edgeworth	Hodson	O'Brien	

Accordingly, it was: -

**22. RESOLVED** that the report and supplementary report of the Standards Committee be approved and adopted.

## **Report of the Audit and Governance Committee**

The Audit and Governance Committee reported and recommended as follows: -

### **1. Annual Report on the Work of the Audit and Governance Committee 2022/2023**

That the Audit and Governance Committee had given consideration to a report by the Director of Finance on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee during 2022/2023, demonstrating how they have fulfilled their responsibilities.

Accordingly, the Committee recommended Council to note the Annual Report on the Work of the Audit and Governance Committee 2022/2023.

Councillor Foster, duly seconded by Councillor H Trueman, moved the report of the Audit and Governance Committee and it was: -

- 23. RESOLVED** that the report of the Audit and Governance Committee be received and noted.

### **Action Taken on Petitions**

The Council received and noted the report below which detailed the action taken in relation to the following petition which had been presented to the Council.

#### **1. Petition – To Include Alston Crescent on Priority Gritting Routes**

A petition signed by 29 residents, was presented to Council on 14 June 2023 by Councillor Peter Walton. The petition read as follows:

“I/we the undersigned call on Sunderland City Council to include Alston Crescent on its list of priority gritting routes.”

Council Officers have considered the petition.

Throughout the summer months preparations for the forthcoming winter season take place and as part of these preparations all the gritting routes are reviewed to establish that they are still fit for purpose and delivering the outcomes that meet our requirements. This includes reviewing any additions or removal of certain roads and streets. Our winter gritting route resources are finite and there are requirements to ensure any routes can be completed within a requisite time and additions to routes will inevitably increase response times. Alston Crescent will be considered alongside any other potential additions as part of this review. Councillor Walton has been advised of the response.

- 24. RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.



## Report on Special Urgency Decisions

The Leader of the Council submitted a quarterly report on executive decisions which had been taken as a matter of special urgency. There had been no such instances since the last report.

**25. RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.

## Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The Assistant Director of Law and Governance submitted a report together with a supplementary report (copy tabled) which informed Council of changes required to the allocation of Committee seats between political groups as a result of the changes to the political balance of the Council together with additional requested changes as set out in the table below.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Member(s) to be Removed</b>	<b>Member(s) to be Appointed</b>
Human Resources Committee	Cllr O'Brien	Labour Group Nomination to be notified.
Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Potts	Labour Group Nomination to be notified.
Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Curtis	Labour Group Nomination to be notified.
Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Mordey Cllr Edgeworth	Cllr Scanlan Independent Nomination to be notified
Joint Consultative Committee	Cllr Potts	Independent Nomination to be notified.
Supportive Parenting Partnership	Cllr Gibson Cllrs Bond and Fagan (Substitutes)	Independent Nomination to be notified. Cllr Gibson (Substitute)
Audit and Governance Committee	Cllr Nicholson	Cllr Crosby
Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Cllr S Johnston	Cllr Ayre
Planning and Highways Committee	Cllr Nicholson	Cllr Haswell
Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel	Cllr Nicholson	Cllr Bond
<b>Outside Bodies</b>		
St Luke's Neighbourhood Trust	Cllr Nicholson	Cllr Haswell
Sunderland and Durham Royal Society for the Blind	Cllr Butler	Cllr Scanlan

The Leader of the Council advised that Labour Group nominations in respect of the Human Resources Committee, the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and

the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee would be considered at the November meeting of Council.

Councillor Nicholson nominated Councillor Donaghy to fill the vacancies allocated to the Independent members.

The report and supplementary report having been moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor G. Miller and duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Rowntree, it was: -

**26. RESOLVED that approval be given to: -**

- (i) the removal of Councillor O'Brien from the Human Resources Committee,
- (ii) removal of Councillor Potts from the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee,
- (iii) the removal of Councillor Curtis from the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee,
- (iv) the appointment of Councillor Scanlan in place of Councillor Mordey and the appointment of Councillor Donaghy in place of Councillor Edgeworth to the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee,
- (v) the appointment of Councillor Donaghy to the Joint Consultative Committee in place of Councillor Potts,
- (vi) the appointment of Councillor Donaghy to the Supportive Parenting Partnership in place of Councillor Gibson and the appointment of Councillor Gibson as a substitute and the removal of Councillors Bond and Fagan as substitutes,
- (vii) the appointment of Councillor Crosby to the Audit and Governance Committee in place of Councillor Nicholson,
- (viii) the appointment of Councillor Ayre to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee in place of Councillor S Johnston,
- (ix) the appointment of Councillor Haswell to the Planning and Highways Committee in place of Councillor Nicholson,
- (x) the appointment of Councillor Bond to the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel in place of Councillor Nicholson,
- (xi) the appointment of Councillor Haswell to the St Luke's Neighbourhood Project in place of Councillor Nicholson; and
- (xii) the appointment of Councillor Scanlan to the Sunderland and Durham Royal Society for the Blind in place of Councillor Butler.

The meeting adjourned at this point, having reached three hours duration.

**(Signed)     D. TRUEMAN**  
**Mayor**

