



South Tyneside Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the South Tyneside Council to be held on Thursday 30 July 2026 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, South Shields. The Meeting of the Council is to be held for the transaction of the business specified below:-

Agenda

1. Declarations of Interest
2. Minutes of the meeting of the Annual meeting of Council of the 19 May 2026
3. Mayor's Communications
4. To consider a report of the Director of Place Strategy on the Local Plan
5. To consider a report of the Director of Business & Resources on the Digital Strategy
6. To consider a report of the Director of Business & Resources on the Modern Slavery Strategy
7. To consider a report of the Director of Business & Resources on the Modern Slavery Transparency Statement
8. To consider a report of the Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) on the Standards Committee Decision Notice – Complaint C240
9. To consider a report of the Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) on the Whitburn Community Governance Review

10. To consider a report of the Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) to appoint to Committees and Outside Bodies
11. To consider a report of the Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) on In-Year Amendments to the Constitution
12. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8 to deal with questions (if any) in the following order:
 - Questions from members of the public
 - Questions from Elected Members
 - Questions from Elected Members to Representatives of the Police, Integrated Transport and Fire Authorities

Two questions have been received under Council Procedure Rule 8.3.

Steve Lavelle (member of the public) submitted the following question:

What constraints, if any, exist that may influence the council exercising their powers under Section 222 of the Local Government Act 1972 (LGA 1972) which gives local authorities power to prosecute criminal offences, namely environmental law offences, when it is expedient for the promotion or protection of the interests of their inhabitants?

Angela Taylor (member of the public) submitted the following question:

Following the Stage 2 examination of the Draft Local Plan on 16th January 2026, and subsequent discussions and statements from the independent inspector regarding the forward funding of critical and required infrastructure associated with Policy SP8 and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, concerns have been raised about the financial exposure, developer cash-flow constraints and the risks to the Council arising from the scale and timing of the potential delivery of 1200 new houses, essential infrastructure on the land south of Fellgate.

Accordingly, can the Council provide confirmation and a written response to the following questions:

- 1) *What specific measures have been or will be identified to assess and fully mitigate the financial and delivery risks associated with any forward funding arrangement, including affordability, security, repayment terms, and value for money.*

- 2) *Whether any proposed forward funding arrangement has been, or will be subject to full legal, financial, and governance due diligence, with decision-making undertaken in accordance with the Council's Constitution, the core financial regulations, other related Central Government legislation and Grampian conditions as defined and enacted by current legislation.*

13. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 to deal with any petitions submitted (two received)

Petition 1 – From residents of South Dene requesting that South Tyneside Council take urgent action to deal with the neglect and untidy site of Landreth House, South Shields. To make the site safe and tidy in the short term with the aim of demolition of the existing structure to make the area safe and restore it to a condition suitable for community use or redevelopment.

96 total signatories, all of whom reside in the Borough.

Petition 2 – To call upon South Tyneside Council and all relevant decision makers to;

- Protect Stanleys Centres and the services they provide
- Engage openly with families, staff and communities
- Consider the long term impact on children and families before any decisions are made
- Explore all possible alternatives to closures or significant reductions in provision.

12,092 signatories, with at least 10 of those residing in the Borough.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 to receive an update in respect of a petition presented to Borough Council on 15 January 2026.

Petition 1 – Protect and preserve the green fields around Marsden Primary School.

14. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 to consider the following Notices of Motion:

Motion 1 – Residents First: Review of Climate Emergency Declaration

This Council notes that:

1. South Tyneside Council declared a Climate Emergency on 18 July 2019.

2. Since then, climate-related targets and policies have become part of Council decision-making.
3. The Council's main responsibility is to deliver good local services, support vulnerable residents and provide value for money.
4. Residents expect the Council to focus on essential services, financial responsibility and local priorities.

This Council believes that:

1. The Council can continue to improve the local environment without maintaining a Climate Emergency declaration.
2. Spending decisions should be based on affordability, value for money and clear benefits for South Tyneside residents.
3. Core services, economic growth and the cost of living should take priority over climate targets that are not statutory requirements.

This Council resolves to:

1. Rescind the Climate Emergency Declaration adopted on 18 July 2019.
2. Request officers to review any policies, targets and spending commitments that were introduced as a result of the Climate Emergency declaration.
3. Report back to Council on:
 - Any financial or legal implications.
 - Opportunities to reduce costs and improve value for money.
 - Recommended changes to affected policies and strategies.
4. Ensure that future environmental initiatives are only pursued where they are practical, affordable, evidence-based and deliver clear benefits for South Tyneside residents.
5. Reaffirm the Council's commitment to clean streets, parks, recycling, flood protection and other local environmental services that matter to residents.

Signed: S. Smith (proposer)
 S. Sybenga (seconder)
 E. Curry
 P. Brown
 A. Rice

Motion 2 – Nature Recovery and Environmental Resilience in South Tyneside

This Council notes that:

Nature is essential to the health, to the wellbeing and to the prosperity of South Tyneside's communities.

Healthy woodlands, parks, coastlines, rivers, wetlands and wildlife rich habitats improve air quality, reduce flood risk, support biodiversity and also provide opportunities for recreation and better physical and mental health.

Investing in nature recovery and sustainable environmental management can help future-proof the borough, reduce long-term costs and strengthen resilience to climate change.

National legislation, including the Environment Act 2021, places increasing importance on biodiversity recovery and protecting the natural environment.

Council believes that:

Environmental stewardship should be guided by evidence, innovation and sound science.

Decisions should seek practical solutions that reduce harm to the environment while supporting economic growth, resilient communities and value for money.

Protecting and restoring nature is a shared responsibility that benefits current and future generations.

Council therefore resolves to:

Reaffirm its commitment to protecting and enhancing South Tyneside's natural environment.

Continue supporting practical measures that restore biodiversity, protect trees, improve habitats and expand access to high-quality green and blue spaces.

Ensure environmental considerations continue to inform Council policies, regeneration projects, procurement and major investment decisions where appropriate.

Encourage the use of evidence, innovation and less environmentally harmful technologies and practices that reduce pollution, improve resource efficiency and strengthen the borough's resilience.

Continue working with residents, schools, community groups, environmental organisations and local businesses to support nature recovery across South Tyneside.

Request that progress on biodiversity, habitat restoration and environmental improvements continues to be reported through the Council's existing governance and reporting arrangements.

Signed: R. Taylor (proposer)
T. Leather (seconder)
S. Ford
M. Blair
S. Stonehouse
S. McKeown
A. Muquith
D. Herbert
J. Uddin
R. Rahman

Jonathan Tew
Chief Executive