

Council Agenda

**6.00p.m., Thursday, 19th July 2012
Town Hall, Darlington**

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

- 1. Attendance at Meeting**
- 2. Minutes** - To approve the Minutes of the meetings of this Council held on:
 - (a) 10th May 2012;
 - (b) 17th May 2012 (Annual Council); and
 - (c) 31st May 2012.
- 3. Declarations of Interest**
- 4. Sealing**
- 5. Announcements**
- 6. Questions – To answer questions (where notice has been given) from:-**
 - (a) The Public;
 - (b) Members to Cabinet / Chairs;
 - (c) Members to the nominated Member of the Police Authority in accordance with Section 20 of the Police Act 1996.
- 7. Council Reports**
 - (a) Academies – Pension Arrangements - Director of Resources (report enclosed).
 - (b) Armed Forces Community Covenant – Director of People (report enclosed).
 - (c) Hundens Depot Relocation – Director of Place (report enclosed).
 - (d) Police and Crime Panel Arrangements – Director of Resources (report enclosed).

8. Cabinet Reports

- (a) Overview Reports of Cabinet Member (enclosed):-
 - (i) Adult Social Care and Housing Portfolio;
 - (ii) Children and Young People Portfolio;
 - (iii) Economy and Regeneration Portfolio;
 - (iv) Efficiency and Resources Portfolio;
 - (v) Health and Partnerships Portfolio;
 - (vi) Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio;
 - (vii) Transport Portfolio; and
 - (viii) Leader's Overview.
- (b) Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators Outturn Report 2011/12 – Director of Resources (report enclosed).
- (c) Cabinet Urgent Decisions – Chief Officers Executive (report enclosed).

9. Scrutiny Reports

To consider Scrutiny Overview Reports (enclosed):-

- (a) Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee;
- (b) Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee;
- (c) Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee;
- (d) Health and Partnership Scrutiny Committee; and
- (e) Place Scrutiny Committee.

- 10. Notices of Motions** – (a) To consider a Motion to be moved by Councillor L. Hughes.

Regional and Local Public Sector Pay

- (a) That this Council notes that:-
 - (i) The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the 2012 Budget the Government's desire to introduce 'more market facing' public sector pay. This could mean regional or local public sector pay;
 - (ii) This recommendation has come in advance of the Pay Review Bodies reporting on the issue in July and September 2012; and
 - (iii) There has been no independent assessment of the impact and consequences this policy could have for public services or the economies of low pay regions.

(b) That this Council believes that:-

- (i) The Government's case is based on the claim that public sector pay is 'crowding out' the private sector and this is not supported by evidence, particularly at a time of high unemployment and there are currently 8 JSA claimants for every job vacancy across Darlington;
- (ii) This approach also ignores the real reasons for the differences between public and private sector pay, for instance, there are more high skilled workers in the public sector (such as teachers and nurses), and a smaller pay gap between top and bottom earners and a smaller gender pay gap.
- (iii) Public sector employers already have some flexibility to adjust pay in response to local conditions, and higher rates are paid in London and the South East;
- (iv) All other English regions and devolved nations stand to be affected by this, with the possibility of years of pay falling behind the cost of living;
- (v) Workers in Darlington are paid £73 less per week than the British average; and
- (vi) 65% of public sector workers are female.

(c) That this Council further believes that:-

- (i) Regional or local public sector pay would have a harmful effect across the North East;
- (ii) It will make it harder for schools and other public services to recruit and retain good quality professionals who could earn more for doing the same job elsewhere;
- (iii) There are 13,900 public sector workers in Darlington and reducing their real terms pay each and every year will dramatically reduce spending power and have a negative impact on the private sector;
- (iv) This policy will not improve the pay of private sector workers but instead could encourage further depression of wages in all sectors;
- (v) We do not want to be forever defined as a 'low pay' region; and
- (vi) This policy is therefore counter to our Borough's vision and ambitions for the future.

(d) That in view of the above this Council:-

- (i) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Chief Secretary to the Treasury stating this Council's opposition to plans for regional and localised public sector pay;
- (ii) Write to all local MPs within the next month outlining concerns about the impact that this policy would have on services and the local economy; and
- (iii) Sign up to the Pay Fair campaign and raise awareness of the implications and risks of this policy locally, regionally and nationally.

(b) To consider a Motion to be moved by Councillor Mrs. D. Jones.

Play Areas and Open Spaces in Middleton St. George

That this Council provides and supports the same level of care and provision to play areas and open spaces in the rural village of Middleton St George as it does in the urban areas of the Borough

11. Membership Changes – To consider any membership changes to Committees, Subsidiary Bodies and Other Bodies.

**Paul Wildsmith
Director of Resources**

11th July 2012.

Membership

The Mayor; Councillors Carson, Cartwright, Copeland, Cossins, Coultas, Crudass, Curry, Dixon, Donoghue, Francis, Galletley, Grundy, Harker, Harman, Haszeldine, L. Haszeldine, C. L. B. Hughes, L. Hughes, Hutchinson, Johnson, B. Jones, Mrs. D. Jones, Kelley, Knowles, Landers, Lawton, Lee, Lewis, Lister, Long, D. A. Lyonette, J. M. Lyonette, Macnab, Maddison, McEwan, Newall, Nutt, Regan, E. A. Richmond, S. Richmond, A. J. Scott, Mrs. H. I. Scott, Stenson, Swainston, C. Taylor, J. Taylor, Thistlethwaite, J. Vasey, L. Vasey, Wallis, Wright and York.

**Town Hall,
Darlington.**

If you have any further queries on this agenda please contact Paul Dalton in the Democratic Services Section, Resources Group, during normal office hours 8.30a.m. to 5.00p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30a.m. to 4.30p.m. Fridays (Direct Line (01325) 388387) or E-mail paul.dalton@darlington.gov.uk

If English is not your first language and you would like more information about this document, or if you require information in large print or braille or tape, please contact (01325) 388351.

Arabic

إذا رغبتم الحصول على هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى غير اللغة الإنجليزية نرجو الاتصال بنا على رقم الهاتف التالي 01325 388351 مع ذكر رقم الإشارة.

Bengali

যদি আপনার ইংরেজী ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় এই প্রকাশনাটির দরকার থাকে, তাহলে নম্বরে ফোন করুন এবং সূত্র নম্বর উল্লেখ করুন। 01325 388351

Cantonese

如果你需要其它語言的版本，請與以下電話聯係並報出參考號碼：01325 388351

Hindi

यदि आप यह प्रकाशन अंग्रेजी के अलावा अन्य भाषा में चाहते हैं तो कृपया संदर्भ नम्बर (रेफरन्स नम्बर) बताकर निम्नलिखित 01325 388351 पर संपर्क करें।

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਨੰਬਰ 01325 388351 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਰੈਫਰੈਂਸ (ਹਵਾਲਾ) ਨੰਬਰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Urdu

اگر آپ کو یہ کتابچہ انگریزی کے علاوہ کسی دوسری زبان میں درکار ہو تو براے مہربانی ٹیلیفون نمبر 01325 388351 پر فون کر کے حوالہ نمبر بتائیں۔

Polish

Jeśli chciał(a)by Pan(i) otrzymać polską wersję językową tego dokumentu, proszę zadzwonić pod numer 01325 388351 i podać numer identyfikacyjny dokumentu.