



Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Agenda

10.00 am

Thursday, 8 January 2026

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Darlington. DL1 5QT

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

1. Introductions/Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve the Minutes of this Scrutiny Committee held on 31 October 2025 (Pages 3 - 6)
4. Medium-Term Financial Plan –
Report of the Assistant Director of Resources
(Pages 7 - 80)
5. Work Programme –
Report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance
(Pages 81 - 96)
6. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS (if any) which in the opinion of the Chair of this Committee are of an urgent nature and can be discussed at this meeting
7. Questions

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'A. C. Wennington', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Amy Wennington
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Wednesday, 31 December 2025

Town Hall
Darlington.

Membership

Councillors Coe, Baker, Dillon, Durham, Haszeldine, Henderson, Marshall, McGill, Ray and Mrs Scott

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other queries on this agenda please contact Olivia Hugill, Democratic Officer, Resources and Governance, during normal office hours 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Fridays E-mail: olivia.hugill@darlington.gov.uk or telephone 01325 405363

ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Friday, 31 October 2025

PRESENT – Councillors Baker (Chair), Dillon, Henderson, Marshall and Mrs Scott

APOLOGIES – Councillors Coe, Durham, Haszeldine, McGill and Ray,

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Brett Nielsen (Assistant Director Resources), Anthony Hewitt (Assistant Director Highways and Capital Projects), Brian Robson (Head of Capital Projects), Anthony Sandys (Assistant Director - Housing and Revenues) and Olivia Hugill (Democratic Officer)

ER170 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

ER171 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THIS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 26 June 2025.

RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 4 September 2025 be approved as a correct record.

ER172 COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT - SCHEME APPROVAL 2026-27

The Assistant Director of Housing and Revenues submitted a report (previously circulated) for Members to consider the draft Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme for 2026-27 before recommendations to Cabinet and approval at Council in November.

The report explained that on 28 November 2024, Council approved the local CTS scheme for 2025-26 and the scheme became operational on 1 April 2025. It was stated that the Council are required to set a CTS scheme each year and as part of the exercise they should consider whether any changes should be made to the existing scheme and where changes are made, consider what transitional protection, if any should apply to anyone affected by those changes.

The report sets out the details of the CTS scheme for 2026-27 and it was identified that there are no significant changes proposed to the existing scheme.

RESOLVED – That the draft CTS scheme for 2026-27 be considered and agree the onward submission to Cabinet.

ER173 PROJECT POSITION STATEMENT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING QUARTER 2 2025/26

The Executive Director of Resources and Governance and the Executive Director of Environment Highways and Community Services submitted a report (previously circulated) which is to be presented at the November Cabinet meeting.

Members considered the report which provides information on the delivery of the Council's capital programme and a summary of current construction projects. The report included the projected outturn of the Capital Programme is £339.385m against an approved programme of £339.992m.

Members discussed different construction projects such as Woodland Road, Hopetown, Skinnergate and the Northern Echo Building, the Committee asked for clarification on where some of these projects were in their phases.

RESOLVED – That Members note the report.

ER174 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2025-26 QUARTER 2

The Executive Director of Resources and Governance submitted a report (previously circulated) providing an early forecast of the 2025/26 revenue budget outturn as part of the Council's continuous financial management process to be presented at November Cabinet.

Members were provided with the second revenue budget management report 2025/26 which included financial records to August and managers projections for the remainder of the year. Assumptions had been made concerning the future demand for services, therefore changes in the projected outturn are inevitable as the Council is a large and complex organisation.

The report included the Council's projected revenue reserves position at the end of 31 March 2026 which are £6.517m, £1.872m lower than the initial 2025-29 MTFP position. The changed position related to the £2.880m of departmental pressures and a decline of £0.481m from corporate resources, offset by £1.489m of additional balances following the 2024/25 outturn.

The Committee discussed the overspend in Children's Services to understand the pressures in that area.

RESOLVED – That Members note the report.

ER175 BORROWING - HIGH LEVEL HEADLINES

The Assistant Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) which provided Members with a high-level summary of the Council's borrowing position.

The report explained that each year Full Council approves the Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy which includes proposals on the Council's borrowing need for the upcoming year. The 2025-26 Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Report was agreed by Council on 20th February 2025.

It was clarified that borrowing is part of the Council's Treasury Management function, and all borrowing is in accordance with statutory requirements. All borrowing is affordable within the agreed MTFP and is used to fund The Council's capital programme, to deliver investment returns and for cash flow purposes.

The report stated that the Mid Year Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy 2025-26 was reported to Audit Committee on the 13th October 2025, the Committee noted the current borrowing as £162.668m with a projected year end borrowing of £173.268m. This is £31.878m less than the original agreed borrowing limit (operational boundary) of £205.146m agreed by Full Council in February.

RESOLVED - That Members note the report.

ER176 WORK PROGRAMME

The Assistant Director Law and Governance submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny's Committee's work programme.

RESOLVED – That the Work Programme be noted.

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**ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
8 JANUARY 2026**

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27 – 2029/30

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2026/27 to 2029/30.

Summary

2. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the MTFP report which has been approved by Cabinet as a basis for consultation at their meeting on 2 December 2025.
3. Members received a briefing on the MTFP by the Assistant Director Resources, on 15 December 2025.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that:
 - (a) Members are requested to consider the MTFP 2026/27 to 2029/30 and forward any views and comments, in particular those in relation to the services and finances within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee, to a Special meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee.
 - (b) That the Chair, in consultation with the Lead Scrutiny Officers supporting this Scrutiny Committee, be given authority to agree the Minutes of this Scrutiny Committee, to enable the Minutes to be considered at a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee scheduled to be held on 20 January 2026.

**Brett Nielsen
Assistant Director Resources**

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Brett Nielsen: Extension 5403

Council Plan	The Council's MTFP contributes to all priorities in the Council Plan. Consultation with Members in the MTFP contributes to the delivery of the Plan.
Addressing Inequalities	The report does not contain any proposals that impact on equality issues.
Tackling Climate Change	There are no specific climate change impact issues in this report.
Efficiency & Resources	This report contains updated information regarding efficiency savings and use of resources contained in the MTFP.
Health and Wellbeing	There are no specific issues relating to health and wellbeing in this report.
S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for crime and disorder.
Wards Affected	This report has no specific impact on individual wards.
Groups Affected	This report has no specific impact on individual groups.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This report does not require a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This report does not require an urgent decision.
Impact of Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. Cabinet at its meeting held on 2 December 2025, approved the attached Medium Term Financial Plan as a basis for consultation.
6. As part of consultation process, the MTFP will be presented to each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees to discuss and consider the overall contents of the MTFP, particularly those contents in relation to the services and finances falling within the remit of that Scrutiny Committee.
7. Members are asked to forward any views and comments from this Committee to a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
8. Once all the Scrutiny Committees have met, a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee will be held on 20 January 2026, to agree a formal response to Cabinet on behalf of all the Scrutiny Committees as part of the consultation process. The Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees will be invited to attend this meeting to present their findings and answer any questions.

9. In view of the timescales involved in responding to the consultation, it is not possible for the individual Scrutiny Committees to formally approve their Minutes prior to the Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 20 January 2026, and it is therefore being suggested that authority be given to the Chairs, in consultation with the Lead Scrutiny Officers, to agree the Minutes in advance of the next Ordinary Meetings. The Minutes will still be an item on the agenda of the next meeting for formal approval as usual.

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**CABINET
2 DECEMBER 2025**

**MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP)
FOR CONSULTATION**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Stephen Harker
Leader and all Cabinet Members**

Responsible Director – Strategic Leadership Team

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To propose a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2026/27 to 2029/30 for consultation, including setting a budget and Council Tax increase for 2026/27.

Summary

2. After years of austerity the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan remains in a fragile position. The reduction in public spending between 2010 and 2019 where the Council's budget was reduced by £46m in real terms, the significant increase in demand for services in the aftermath of Covid along with the unstable economic climate where the country saw the cost of living increasing, high inflation and poverty rising, is a challenge for all. The Council is facing a spiralling increase in cost and demand for services in Children's and Adults' Social Care which have a direct impact on the Council's contracted expenditure.
3. The Council has previously met the challenges faced head on through value for money service delivery, shared services, economic growth, and strong financial management and has utilised built up reserves to continue to provide vital services for the residents of Darlington.
4. The Government has recognised the inherent unfairness in the current funding model for local government along with the significant pressures faced in public services, and on 20 June 2025 published a comprehensive consultation on the reform of local government funding. The Government have committed to a policy statement at the end of November which will outline final policy positions, however, the draft local government finance settlement will not be published until late December, which is not helpful for planning purposes. Encouragingly, the Government has committed to a three-year finance settlement which will allow for more effective planning in the future.
5. Analysis of the consultation indicates Darlington should benefit from the redistribution of funding given our low Council Tax base and relative needs.

These changes are long overdue, and the Council has been lobbying for these reforms for many years, so the funding reforms are welcome news. Whilst initial assessments are encouraging, the position remains challenging with reserves required over the next two years to meet the sustainability gap and continued demand pressures need to be stemmed.

6. Over two thirds of our expenditure is on Adult and Children's Social Care, looking after our most vulnerable residents and children. Inflation, the national living wage and interest rate levels directly impact on the cost of our adult care contracts; in addition, there has been a continual rise in the demand for children's care services. We are seeing more vulnerable children with increasingly complex needs requiring help and support; last year we saw a 50% increase in contacts from partner agencies and people concerned for a child's welfare, a 45% increase in referrals and an 11% increase in children in our care since pre pandemic levels. These are our largest budgets, and we have a statutory requirement to provide these services. This consequently impacts on the funding available for all other Council services, in particular discretionary areas which keep our town clean, vibrant and safe.
7. Darlington is not alone in facing these pressures, councils across the country are struggling with the same issues, which have been widely reported in the media over the last year with a significant percentage indicating the inability to balance their books. The Government acknowledge the pressures councils are facing, and fair funding reforms are a step to improving the position.
8. In addition to the anticipated increase in government funding and to protect services as far as possible, the Council continues to review its cost base and challenge all service areas to ensure Value for Money. The transformation programmes identified in the 2025/26 MTFP are progressing well and the savings anticipated have been realised. In addition, further transformation programmes have been identified and if agreed will progress on a spend to save basis.
9. As part of the funding reform consultation, the Government confirmed the intention and expectation that councils would increase their Council Tax by 5% per annum, including the Adult Social Care precept. This MTFP therefore proposes a Council Tax increase of 2.99% and an Adult Social Care precept of 2% which will generate £2.126m and £1.422m respectively. Adult Social Care is by far our largest overall budget with a spend of £59.7m and the precept is crucial to meet the overall costs and pressure faced in this service area.
10. The Council Plan vision is for Darlington to be one of the best places to live, learn, work and invest in the UK, with a strong and sustainable economy, healthy and thriving communities and opportunities for all. There are three core principles running through everything we do: addressing inequalities, tackling climate change and the efficient and effective use of resources. The Council's priorities are:
 - (a) Economy – a strong and stable economy and highly skilled workforce with opportunities for all.
 - (b) Homes – affordable and secure homes that meet the current and future needs of residents.
 - (c) Living Well – a healthier and better quality of life for longer, supporting those who need it most.

- (d) Children and Young People – the best start in life, realising the potential and raising aspirations.
 - (e) Communities – safer, healthier and more engaged communities.
 - (f) Local Environment – a well-connected, clean and sustainable borough.
11. This MTFP is shaped to help meet these priorities, despite the financial challenges faced, by directing the resources available to the areas where most impact can be made. Darlington has some significant inequalities across the borough from a financial as well as a health perspective. The best thing you can do to improve health is to have a good home, a good job, and a good friend. The Council is determined to address inequalities, and to have the best possible chance of doing this we need to continue to grow the Darlington economy, attract businesses and companies to the area helping to create more better paid jobs and to provide a good mix and range of homes for our residents to benefit from.
 12. However, this ambition is not an overnight fix, inclusive economic growth takes time, particularly in this economic climate. Over the last decade, the structural landscape of Darlington has changed, new businesses and government departments have relocated to the town bringing high quality jobs, and 365 new Council houses have been built providing good quality affordable housing. Significant investment has gone into Darlington station paving the way for improved rail services for the town and wider area, as well as a significant development occurring across the borough, all of which boosts regeneration, job opportunities and revenue. But more needs to be done and we will allocate the resources we do have into realising this ambition.
 13. This report has necessarily been prepared before the Chancellor's budget announcement on the 26 November 2025, and the 2026/27 Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS), consequently, several assumptions have been made in this draft. The fair funding consultation offers a direction of travel, however, the proposals are open to interpretation with regards to the scale of the reforms to be implemented. There is a commitment to implement the reforms from 1 April 2026, although they are likely to be phased in across three years given the funding envelope is not increasing and some councils by necessity will see a reduction in funding levels.
 14. The MTFP has an eye to future years but does not seek to presume what the future will look like. It aims to ensure that the Council can set a legal budget in 2026/27 and continue to provide our core offer level of services to the residents of Darlington.
 15. The Council operates a core offer which is at a statutory service level with a small provision for discretionary services and this is the base level the new MTFP has been prepared on. Reserves have been maintained for medium term stability, and this is now a crucial component of the budget strategy given the pressures faced in the coming year. It is proposed general fund reserves are utilised to meet the 2026/27 and 2027/28 funding gap whilst the full effect of the reforms come into play.
 16. This is a prudent position to ensure our statutory services are maintained along with a small proportion of discretionary services, which are important to the vitality of the town and residents in the borough and continue some preventative services which stop the need for more costly service provision in the future.

At this juncture it would be unwise to reduce much needed discretionary and preventative services, which are key to enabling our Council Plan priorities, before funding levels are clarified.

17. In summary, if the recommendations are agreed, the Council can deliver a 2026/27 budget which will allow net revenue investment in Darlington and its residents of £149m and new capital investment of £84m to add to the current capital programme of £340m.

Recommendations

18. It is recommended that Cabinet approve for consultation the Revenue MTFP as set out in **Appendix 6** and the Capital Programme as set out in **Appendix 7**, including the following:
- (a) A Council Tax increase of 2.99% plus a 2% Adult Social Care Precept to help fund social care for 2026/27.
 - (b) The Schedule of Charges as set out in **Appendix 3**.
 - (c) The efficiency savings and transformation programme proposed.

Reasons

19. The recommendation is supported by the following reasons:
- (a) The Council must set a budget for the next financial year.
 - (b) To enable the Council to continue to plan services and finances over the medium term.
 - (c) To ensure decisions can be made in a timely manner.
 - (d) To reduce the pressures on the MTFP in the medium term.
 - (e) To ensure investment in our assets is maintained.

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Elizabeth Davison: Extension 5830

Council Plan	The MTFP proposals direct resources to the priorities of the Council Plan.
Addressing inequalities	The MTFP proposals direct resources to assist in reducing inequalities.
Tackling Climate Change	The MTFP proposals seek to continue to support the Council's responsibilities and ambitions to reduce carbon impact in the Council and the Borough.

Efficient and effective use of resources	The MTFP proposals include savings to ensure the efficiency and effective use of resources.
Health and Wellbeing	The report contains proposals to continue to allocate resources in support of the Council's Health and Well Being responsibilities.
S17 Crime and Disorder	The report contains proposals to continue to allocate resources in support of the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities.
Wards Affected	All wards are affected.
Groups Affected	All groups are affected by the Council Tax increase.
Budget and Policy Framework	The MTFP, Budget and Council Tax must all be decided by full Council.
Key Decision	The MTFP, Budget and Council Tax must all be decided by full Council.
Urgent Decision	The MTFP, Budget and Council Tax must all be decided by full Council.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Children's social care continues to be resourced to provide good outcomes for Looked after Children or Care Leavers.

MAIN REPORT

Background and context

20. After years of austerity the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan remains in a fragile position. The reduction in public spending between 2010 and 2019 where the Council's budget was reduced by £46m in real terms, the significant increase in demand for services in the aftermath of Covid, along with the unstable economic climate where the country saw the cost of living increasing, high inflation and poverty rising, is a challenge for all. The Council is facing a spiralling increase in cost and demand for services in Children's and Adults' Social Care, which have a direct impact on the Council's contracted expenditure.
21. Over two thirds of our expenditure is on Adult and Children's Social Care, looking after our most vulnerable residents and children. Inflation, the national living wage and interest rate levels directly impact on the costs of our adult care contracts, in addition, there has been a continual rise in the demand for children's care services. We are seeing more vulnerable children with increasingly complex needs requiring help and support, last year we saw a 50% increase in contacts from partner agencies and people concerned for a child's welfare, a 45% increase in referrals and an 11% increase in children in our care since pre pandemic levels. These are our largest budgets, and we have a statutory requirement to provide these services, this consequently impacts on the funding available for all other Council services, in particular discretionary areas which keep our town clean, vibrant and safe.
22. The Council has previously met the challenges faced head on through value for money service delivery, shared services, economic growth, and strong financial management and has utilised built up reserves to continue to provide vital services for the residents of Darlington.
23. Darlington is not alone in facing these pressures, councils across the country are struggling with the same issues, which have been widely reported in the media over the last year, with a significant percentage indicating the inability to balance their books.
24. The Government has recognised the significant pressure in public services and on 20 June 2025 published a comprehensive consultation on the reform of local government funding. The Government have committed to a policy statement at the end of November, which will outline final policy positions, however, the draft local government finance settlement won't be published until late December, which is unhelpful for planning purposes. Encouragingly, the Government has committed to a three-year finance settlement which will allow for more effective planning in the future.
25. Analysis of the consultation indicates Darlington should benefit from the redistribution of funding given Council Tax equalisation and relative needs. These changes are long overdue, and the Council has been lobbying for these reforms for many years. Whilst initial assessments are encouraging, the position remains challenging with reserves required over the next two years to meet the sustainability gap and continued demand pressures to stem.

26. Income and resource levels are discussed in detail later in this paper, however, as the Local Government Financial Settlement will not be received until late December, it makes it challenging to predict expenditure and income levels moving forward. Consequently, best estimates have been used and assumptions made on the impact of inflation and demand in 2025/26 going into 2026/27 and the income and resources we will receive in future years.

Financial Analysis

Projected Expenditure

27. As noted previously the core offer budget is the level of service provision the MTFP is based upon. Estimates attached at **Appendix 1** have been prepared based on current service levels and include known pressures and the savings proposed which are summarised below and detailed in **Appendix 2**. The most significant are discussed in the following paragraphs. The assumptions used when preparing the estimates are set out at **Appendix 4**.

<u>Summary of Pressures</u>	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 £m
Service Demand	4.989	4.810	2.724	1.979
Price Inflation	0.344	0.499	0.581	2.169
Reduced Income	0.420	0.345	0.345	0.345
Pay Award	0.980	1.002	1.024	1.059
Other	1.044	0.823	0.538	0.883
Total	7.777	7.479	5.212	6.435

Pressures

28. There are some significant pressures emerging which fall into one of five categories, being: increased service demand, price inflations, reduced income, pay award and other.
29. **Service Demand** – the largest pressure area regarding increased demand in 2026/27 is Children’s Social Care, accounting for £3.928m in 2026/27 and £10.618m across the MTFP. This is a continuation of the pressure we are seeing in the 2025/26 budget, in particular the growth in children with complex cases and the significant rise in the cost of residential placements. The children’s sufficiency programme is helping to alleviate these costs, however, there is a fundamental and nationwide issue regarding the availability and cost of children’s residential placements.
30. The second largest pressure is in the Adult Social Care budget where there has been an increase in the number of residential and care packages required at a cost of £0.855m in 2026/27 and £3.329m across the MTFP. A spend to save transformation programme is proposed which will review care for working age adults, with the aim of improving outcomes as well as providing savings to the MTFP.

31. **Price Inflation** – the main driver of inflation in the 2026/27 budget is energy costs, whilst gas prices are holding the electricity charges have increased above the 2% provided for.
32. **Reduced Income** - the main area of reduced income is at Hopetown where the anticipated car parking income is £0.220m lower than the original business case. Now the main celebrations are finished, a full review of the Hopetown business case is being undertaken to see how this pressure can be mitigated.
33. There will also be reduced income at the Dolphin Centre whilst the Phase 3 Mechanical and Electrical works are completed during next year.
34. **Pay Award** – the 2025/26 pay award was settled at 3.2%, 0.2% higher than budgeted for creating an in-year pressure. In addition, given the current inflation rate it is felt prudent to budget for a 3% pay award in 2026/27 as opposed to the 2% currently in the estimates.
35. **Other** – this includes several pressures across all service areas, however, the largest is financing costs with a pressure of £0.801m in 2026/27. This is due to interest rates remaining at higher levels than previously forecast, which impacts on the cost of borrowing for new capital schemes such as the Dolphin Centre refurbishment. In addition, the closure of one of the Council's property funds has reduced dividend income, however, the funds returned have been used to repay maturing loans, therefore saving on interest whilst options are considered for future investment opportunities.

Savings

Summary of Savings	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 £m
Back-Office Efficiencies	(0.422)	(0.301)	(0.274)	(0.298)
Energy Savings	(0.085)	(0.085)	(0.085)	(0.085)
Increased Income	(0.190)	(0.197)	(0.339)	0.328
Other	(2.040)	(2.124)	(2.133)	(2.135)
Pressure Offset	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.160)	(0.160)
Transformation Review	(0.000)	(0.750)	(0.750)	(0.750)
Total	(2.937)	(3.657)	(3.741)	(3.100)

36. To protect front line services to our residents as far as possible we continually work to maximise savings and efficiencies across the Council. In total £2.937m has been identified in 2026/27 totalling, £13.435m across the MTFP.
37. **Back Office** - by reducing costs in back office, general housekeeping and process review, £0.422m has been identified in 2026/27, and £1.295m over the life of the MTFP. These savings come from staffing vacancies through redesign of service provision, removal of historic underspends and reduction in general running costs.
38. **Energy** – whilst electricity prices are rising there is a slight reduction in gas through pricing and usage.

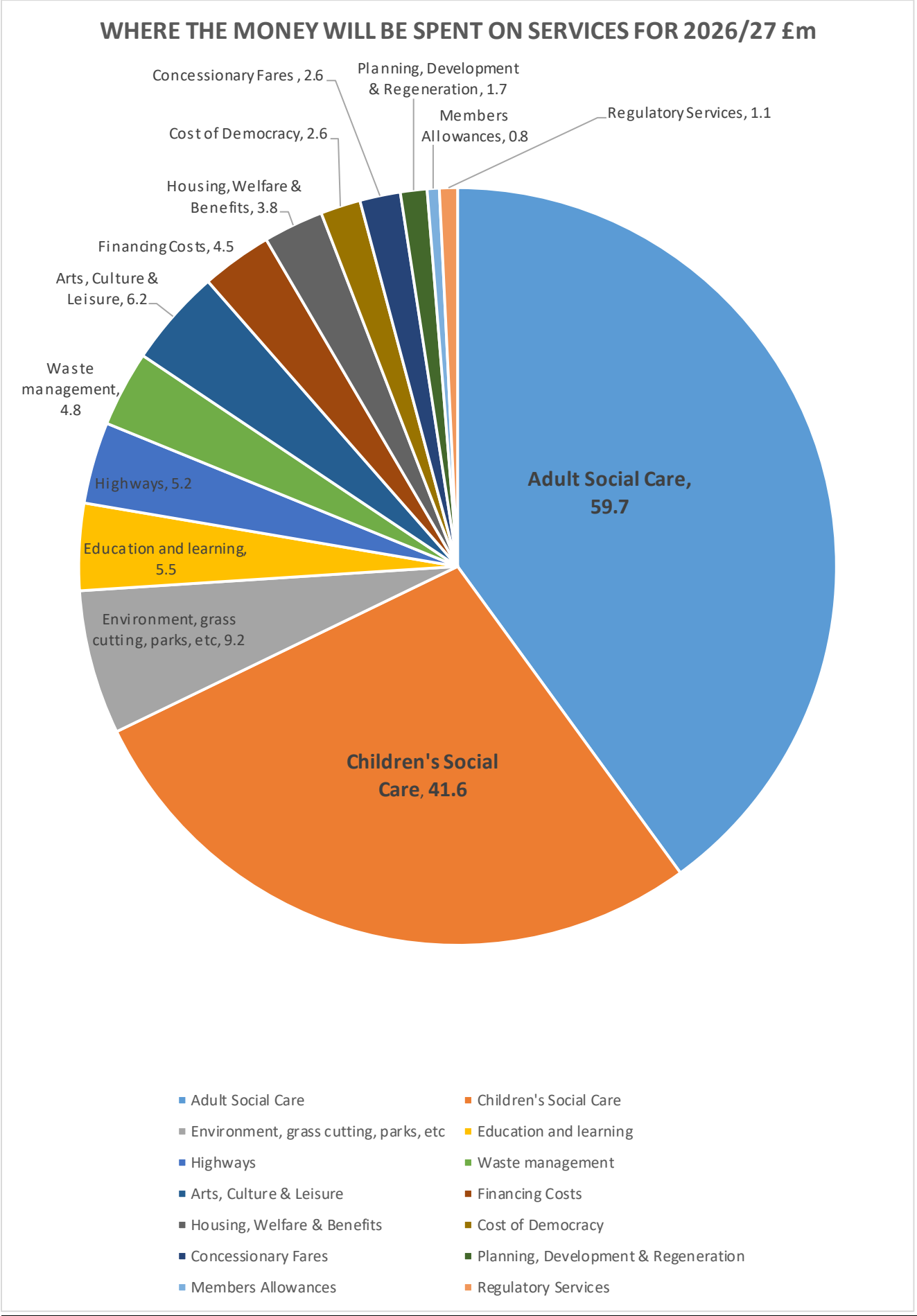
39. **Increased Income** - income returns from our Joint Venture companies have been slightly increased and reprofiled due to the demand for the homes and sales earlier than anticipated.
40. **Other** – following a triannual review of the Durham Pension fund, the actuaries have reduced the contributions the Council needs to make for pension provisions providing a general fund saving of £1.9m per annum. In addition, there has been a reduction in contributions required for concessionary fares of £0.140m per annum.
41. **Transformation** – in addition to the programmes initiated last year, all of which are progressing well, there is a spend to save transformation proposal in Adult Social Care which is discussed in detail earlier on the Cabinet agenda.

Total Expenditure

42. Taking the above savings, pressures and the transformation proposal into account the summarised projected expenditure is shown in the table below:

Service	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 £m
Chief Executives Office	0.342	0.349	0.356	0.364
People Services	100.743	102.676	104.215	106.665
Economy & Public Protection	2.208	2.145	2.052	2.124
Environment, Highways and Community Services	27.792	28.319	28.888	29.818
Resources & Governance	16.824	17.339	17.823	18.184
Financing costs	4.507	4.057	4.157	4.473
Investment Returns - Joint Venture	(2.188)	(1.942)	(1.855)	(1.188)
Council Wide Savings	(1.169)	(1.153)	(1.137)	(1.120)
Council Wide Contingencies	0.278	0.202	0.202	0.202
Total Expenditure	149.337	151.992	154.701	159.522

43. This proposed net investment in services of £149m in 2026/27 covers a wide range of areas from adult residential care to refuse collection, from children's services to street lighting and grass cutting to our leisure and culture provision. The chart below shows the split of investment and as can be seen social care, both children's and adults, are the most significant proportion of funding, accounting for two thirds of the overall budget.



Projected Income

Fair Funding Review 2.0 (FFR 2.0) and the Local Government Finance Settlement

44. The Government has recognised the inherent unfairness in the current funding model for local government and on 20 June 2025 published a comprehensive consultation on the reform of local government funding. The consultation was referred to by the Government as Fair Funding Review 2.0 which distinguishes it from the previous Government's review in December 2018 which did not result in any meaningful change to local authority funding allocations. The changes represent the first major overhaul to the funding formula since 2013/2014, and one Darlington has been calling upon for years.
45. The Government have committed to a policy statement at the end of November which will outline final policy positions, however, the draft Local Government Finance Settlement will not be published until late December, which is once again unhelpful for planning purposes. The consultation papers do however confirm that local authorities will receive a 3-year settlement covering the period 2026-27 to 2028-29, which is the first time this will have occurred for ten years and is welcome from a financial planning perspective.
46. The consultation contains a large amount of detail around the new relative needs and weighting of different components of the proposed new formula but does not include the detail that underpins the calculations of relative needs, rather it provides an outline of the datasets and formulae being applied. The consultation is however reasonably transparent on the proposed methodology to be used to distribute funding in 2026-27 and over the next 3 years, with the proposal being under-written by a commitment to try and simplify the formulae through a combination of consolidating a range of specific grants into the general grant formula and by simplifying and reducing the number of Relative Needs Formulae used to distribute funding.
47. Significantly, the proposals include a commitment to 100% Council Tax resource equalisation, the first time this will have been reset since 2013/14.
48. The consultation does not include any provisional allocations at local authority level at this stage. However, officers have worked through the principles and details that have been set out in the FFR 2.0 Consultation documents to estimate the allocation Darlington could receive. This work has been informed by colleagues at Pixel, the Society of Municipal Treasurers and through discussions with colleagues across the region.
49. The funding reforms as set out are likely to have significant implications for local government, with some winners and losers at a regional and national level and in different types of authorities across the sector. There is an emphasis on linking funding to deprivation and to account for Council Tax bases given the huge variation across the country.
50. Analysis of the consultation indicates Darlington should benefit from the redistribution of funding, however, whilst initial assessments are encouraging, the position remains challenging with reserves required over the next two years to meet the sustainability gap and continued demand pressures to stem.

51. The broad principles of the FFR 2.0 proposals are

- (a) **Needs Assessments:** The Government will use Relative Needs Formulae (RNF) to assess differences in demand between councils for different functional service areas. Some of these service areas are existing and there are some new proposed ones. As with previous reviews of funding allocations, an Area Cost Adjustment (ACA) is then be applied to each RNF to account for the different costs of delivering services in different places. The RNFs and ACAs are then combined to give each council an overall “relative needs share”, by weighting each RNF according to the size of (national) expenditure on that functional service area.
- (b) **Resources Adjustment:** In order to account for differing Council Tax raising abilities by councils, the Government is proposing to multiply each council’s tax base (the number and band of properties) by a notional level of Council Tax. The notional Council Tax available to be raised is added to the current quantum of grant funding available to local government and the level of retained business rates available nationally, to give the total notional amount of funding available to local government. This funding resource is then allocated according to each council’s needs share. Each council’s notional tax contribution is deducted from their resources, to give each council a Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA), which indicates how much a council needs relative to one another.

52. A local authority’s Settlement Funding Assessment is driven by a combination of the strength of their taxbase and their measure of relative need.

Transitional Support

53. As there will be winners and losers in the redistribution of funding, the government have proposed that the transition to the new formula will take place over 3 years. The consultation papers refer to this time-period being “*gradually over 3 years*” and in one third increments across that period.
54. The Government is proposing to fund the cost of the transition by top slicing the national funding and through scaling-back gains expected by other authorities. This means it may take up to three years for the Council to see the benefits of this funding transition perpetuating the current inequities for a further two years. The Council has argued in its consultation response that it is unfair to scale back the gains of councils in the first two years (2026/27 and 2027/28) to pay for the phasing for those councils losing out, and these transition costs should be funded separately.
55. Our funding assumptions have assumed the phasing will happen over three years so any changes following consultation would be of benefit.

Core Grant funding to Local Government

56. **Revenue Support Grant (RSG)** - after years of significant reductions, the RSG will become the second largest revenue stream for the Council after Council Tax. This grant has increased to reflect resource adjustments through the fair funding reforms consultation and also will subsume a number of grants currently received, including the Recovery Grant, Social Care Grant and the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund.

57. **Better Care Fund (BCF)** - the fund supports local systems to successfully deliver the integration of health and social care in a way that supports person centred care, sustainability and better outcomes for people and carers. The BCF grant is pooled with the NHS BCF grant and is agreed annually by the Health and Wellbeing Board and signed off by the Department of Health and Social Care.
58. **Extended Producer Responsibility Grant (EPR)** – to try and reduce packaging the Government introduced an EPR levy on organisations responsible for producing packaging in the first place. Fees are paid by those organisations with the revenue being passed to local authorities to help mitigate the cost of waste collection and disposal of household waste from kerbside and communal collections, brought to Household Recycling Centres. Darlington has received a draft allocation of £2.7m for 2026/27 and it has been estimated to reduce by 20% per annum as producers make changes to their packaging.
59. **Children and Families Grant** - this grant was paid outside of the Core Spending Power calculations in 2025/26 and consolidated a number of previous Department for Education grants including the Supporting Families, Virtual Headteacher grants. Within the fair funding reforms consultation this grant is expected to be consolidated with other Children's grants to be paid as one grant for children in addition to the RSG. It has been assumed that this funding will remain at the 2025/26 allocation level.

Council Tax Income

60. Council Tax is the largest single funding stream to provide Council services in Darlington and will increase further as a percentage over the coming years representing 56% of projected resources anticipated by 2029/30. The ongoing increases reflect the Cabinet's view that income from Council Tax needs to increase to protect key service provision and enable investment in vital services. Members will recall that a 1% increase in Council Tax equates to an annual revenue of circa. £0.711m.
61. As part of the consultation on the reform of local government funding, the Government confirmed the intention and expectation that councils increase their Council Tax by 5% per annum, including the Adult Social Care precept. This MTFP therefore assumes a Council Tax increase of 2.99% across the life of the MTFP and an Adult Social Care precept of 2%. As can be seen in the chart in paragraph 43, Adult Social Care is by far our largest overall budget with a spend of £59.7m. The precept will raise circa. £1.422m which is crucial to meet the overall costs and pressure faced in this service area.
62. Darlington currently has the second lowest Council Tax in the North East. To put this in perspective, if Darlington had the average North East Band D level, the Council would generate an additional £3.3m per annum, and if we had the average England band D level, we would generate an additional £8.7m per annum.
63. Darlington has a low Council Tax Base with 43% of our properties in Band A and 78% of our homes in Band A – C, which means significantly less Council Tax is generated for each 1% raised than in some other more affluent areas and highlights the disparity in how local government is funded. However, as mentioned previously, the Government is looking to adjust resource levels to take this into account and this adjustment has been included in our RSG assumptions.

64. Despite some turbulent years in house building due to Covid, Nutrient Neutrality and high interest rates, Darlington's house building remains stable. Planning estimates anticipate growth levels to be an average of 461 Band D equivalent properties over the period of this plan, which is a growth on the tax base of 1.25% per annum. This growth is helping to address the national housing shortage and the increasing demand for homes in Darlington. These figures have been used to prepare the estimates; clearly should this be any different, income levels will differ. The collection rate (of collectable debt) is anticipated to remain at 99% in 2026/27.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

65. The Council retains 49% of NNDR collected and can gain or lose depending on whether the net tax collected increases or decreases. The Government via the valuation office sets rateable values and the rate paid in the pound is increased each year in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The business tax-base is far more volatile than the Council Tax base and requires very close monitoring. In addition to the potential to "lose" income due to business closures, the Council also carries the risk of losing appeals by businesses against valuations.
66. Growing the economy is a key priority for the Council and the Economic Strategy gives priority to increasing business within the borough and significant effort has been put into achieving growth. This has been rewarded with a positive net increase in NNDR collection. Sites such as Symmetry Park and Central Park are all contributing to the growth and work has begun on the new Darlington Economic campus at Brunswick Street which will house His Majesty's Treasury Department along with several other government departments including the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. This is providing a boost to the town with other employers looking to relocate to Darlington.
67. Notwithstanding these major developments, attracting businesses into the town by their very nature takes time and upfront investment and therefore is an area which needs continued prioritisation and pump prime funding so growth can continue. It needs to be remembered that net growth in NNDR collected relies on growth outstripping revaluations and reductions which can be very challenging in the current economic climate.
68. As anticipated, along with FFR 2.0 the Government have also announced plans to undertake a full reset of the baselines for the Business Rates Retention Scheme, which will result in a resetting of the target collection baseline for the Council's Business Rates and an associated adjustment of the Council's Top-up Grant. The estimated impact of these changes is reflected in the financial planning assumptions set out in this report, with further clarity required from Government on these impacts over the coming months.
69. The in-year collection rate target for NNDR is 98.0% and as at the end of October 2025 is 66% and on track to achieve the target.

Collection Fund

70. The Collection Fund account reflects the statutory requirements for the Council to maintain a separate fund in relation to the operation of Council Tax and the Business Rates Retention Scheme (BRRS).

The Fund records all the transactions for billing in respect of National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) and Council Tax, exemptions and discounts granted, provision for bad debts and appeals and payments made to the Council's General Fund, the Police and Fire and Rescue precept authorities and Central Government.

Other Grants

71. Set out below are the estimated specific grants which as the title suggests are for specific areas of expenditure as dictated by the Government and cannot be used for other areas; the main areas being the Dedicated Schools Grant which funds Darlington's maintained schools, special educational needs and early years provision and Public Health Grant, both which are ring-fenced. These grants are included in service estimates at Appendix 1.

Description	2026/27 £m
Housing Benefits	0.410
Public Health Grant	10.343
PFI Grant	3.200
Youth Justice Board	0.292
Local Reform & Community Voices	0.071
Adult & Community Learning	0.992
Garden Village	0.093
Pupil Premium	1.130
Dedicated Schools Grant	37.767
Heritage Lottery Fund	0.127
Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children	1.026
Homeless	0.594
War Pensions	0.060
DFE Phonics	0.004
Children's Prevention Grant	0.617
Bikeability	0.028
	<hr/> 56.754 <hr/>

Fees and charges

72. The proposed fees and charges of the Council are set out in **Appendix 3**. The increases proposed are based on the cost of providing the services and take account of inflation and market conditions. Overall, the proposed increases are anticipated to generate approximately £0.213m of income to help offset the cost of service provision.

Total Income

73. The table below summarises the Council's estimated income for the period of this plan, which thanks to continued economic growth and house building activity, and the subsequent increases in Council Tax and NNDR, confirms a much-needed increase in income given our expenditure pressures.

Resources - Projected and Assumed	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 £m
Council Tax	74.633	79.308	84.334	89.671
Business Rates	25.886	26.202	26.544	26.884
Revenue Support Grant	35.376	36.302	37.431	37.157
Better Care Fund	5.537	5.537	5.537	5.537
Extended Producer Responsibility Grant	2.704	2.163	1.730	1.384
Children and Families Grant	0.922	0.922	0.922	0.922
Total Resources	145.058	150.434	156.498	161.555

Projected MTFP

74. Set out in the table below are the projections based on the income and expenditure analysis discussed in the previous sections, as can be seen there is a funding gap for the next two years whilst the funding reforms are fully established. We are anticipating having £6.517m reserves which can be utilised to support the plan over that period, however, it is clear the financial position is fragile and reliant on the funding reform predictions along with Council Tax increases to ensure sustainability.
75. It is encouraging that predictions for future years put the finances back on an even keel, however, caution should be taken at this juncture given the continued demand pressures placed on the Council.

	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 £m
Projected Total Expenditure	149.337	151.992	154.701	159.522
Projected Total Resources	(145.058)	(150.434)	(156.498)	(161.555)
Projected budget deficit	4.279	1.558	(1.797)	(2.033)

Revenue Balances

76. The projected revenue outturn for 2025/26 is detailed at **Appendix 5**, and after taking into account the Risk Reserve of £6.0m, it is anticipated we will have £6.517m of usable reserves which will be required to cover the sustainability gap in 2026/27 and 2027/28. As previously mentioned, this is a fragile position and not a sustainable if funding reform estimates do not come to fruition. Savings and efficiencies have been found for 2026/27 which will continue into future years, through transformation, back office efficiencies, economic and income growth and a review of fees and charges.

Revenue Balances	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 £m
Opening balance	6.517	2.238	0.680	2.477
Contribution to/(from) balances	(4.279)	(1.558)	1.797	2.033
Closing balance	2.238	0.680	2.477	4.510

Capital Expenditure

77. The Council has an extensive capital programme with significant resources invested to purchase, improve, protect, and maintain our assets, to enable the Council to deliver its priorities, for example purchasing land to enable road improvements or investing in modernising school buildings and housing. The Council continues to deliver a significant capital investment programme in the main funded from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and grant or other external funding which is targeted at specific schemes and programmes such as Transport and Schools. Furthermore, investment from the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) along with other external funding sources are being used for economic growth initiatives.
78. The Council can also supplement these funding sources with its own resources such as capital receipts or prudential borrowing where there is a need, however, as capital receipts are limited, and prudential borrowing comes with future revenue implications there must be a strong case for doing so.
79. In recent years there has been acceleration of economic investment some of which is funded or has been pump primed by the Council; examples of such schemes include key road infrastructure that facilitated developments at Symmetry Park, and Central Park that now house the College, two University buildings, the National Biologics Centre and two Business Incubator buildings with further developments on the horizon. The Council owned and funded Feethams House in the Town Centre has been the catalyst in attracting the Darlington Economic Campus, and recent Town Centre investment funded from the Towns Fund and Indigenous Growth Fund are both reinvigorating key parts of the Town Centre and, importantly, enabling the Council to be well positioned for the future and to reshape the Town through its next phase of private sector redevelopment.

The Council's Investment Fund is vital in helping to stimulate more private sector economic investment across the town that ultimately increases business rates and contributes to the finances of the Council, thereby helping to fund vital services

80. The current capital programme stands at £340m as summarised in Table 1 below. The programme is monitored monthly and reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis; the latest available monitoring report for 2025/26 was presented to Cabinet on 4 November 2025 and noted there was a projected £0.607m underspend on the approved capital programme.

Table 1

	Construction				Non construction	Capital investment fund	Housing New Build - not yet allocated	Total
	Live Schemes 75k & Over	Annualised Schemes	Completed Schemes awaiting review	Live Schemes under 75k				
Area	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Housing	43.551	26.945	0.000	0.033	2.097	0.000	15.925	88.551
Economic Growth	33.057	0.099	0.440	0.348	8.284	77.834	3.476	123.538
Highways/Transport	50.023	15.687	2.756	1.304	2.418	17.977	1.512	91.677
Leisure & Culture	22.026	0.125	2.545	0.310	0.000	3.974	0.000	28.980
Education	3.768	0.509	1.061	0.177	0.079	0.000	0.000	5.594
Adult Social Care	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.071
Other	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.581	0.000	0.000	1.581
Total	152.425	43.365	6.802	2.172	14.530	99.785	20.913	339.992

81. In addition to the current agreed programme the Council looks ahead to future capital requirements based on the principles of the capital strategy. A four-year timeframe has been adopted to fall in line with the revenue Medium Term Financial Plan. Attached at **Appendix 7** are the priority proposals for addition to the plan along with the funding methods. Most schemes are focused on 'Housing and Transport, funded via the HRA and government grants respectively; there are also a number of Council funded corporate schemes that have already been approved.
82. The following paragraphs describe the major elements of the capital programme priorities for approval. Specific scheme funding release will be subject to detailed reports to Cabinet.

Corporate Schemes – funding required.

83. As noted previously, the Council can supplement government capital funding, albeit options are limited in the current financial climate. Funding can come from prudential borrowing, repaid via revenue, which puts additional pressure on the revenue account or from capital receipts. Given the financial position of the Council, only schemes that are a health and safety risk or that are self-funding have been considered while there is uncertainty over the overall funding envelope.
84. The risk assessed usable capital receipts over the next four years are in the region of £11m although they are not guaranteed so caution needs to be taken when allocating.

85. There are likely to be many competing priorities against the available resources for both regeneration and refurbishment these schemes will emerge over the coming year/s. At this stage, Members are requested to make capital provision for three schemes with a total value of £2.050m, which will be subject to full reports to Cabinet in due course, these are:

- (a) **Capitalised Repairs - £0.250m** – capitalised repairs of £0.250m have been included in the MTFP until for repairs on the Council building stock until 2028/29 to ensure it is fit for purpose, however it is clear with inflation and the age of some of our building that this is not sufficient. An additional £0.250m has been included for the next three years and the full £0.500m continue into 2029/30. This is a rolling programme and details on specific areas of spend will be brought to Cabinet for consideration.
- (b) **Energy Performance Certification compliance - £0.200m** - the Council has an extensive commercial estate which generates income from rents and leasing. Energy performance regulations which are to be introduced in 2028 will mean works are likely to be required in some of our commercial buildings. EPC surveys will need to be undertaken before any work is carried out, so this is a provisional estimate at this stage.
- (c) **Advanced Design Fees - £0.150m** - per annum is requested to ensure that resources are available to work up any new schemes brought forward in relation to Economic Growth including site investigations on development sites, industrial and housing land. This funding has been invaluable in the past in enabling the Council to be site ready and without this it is likely schemes would stall and not progress.

Government Funding

86. Set out below are details of the levels of Government funding available for investment by the Council in 2026/27 and an outline of the proposed use of these funds.

	2026/27 £m
Children's Services	
School Condition Allocation	0.154
Transport	
Local Transport Plan	3.068
Other	
Disabled Facilities Grant	1.319
Total Capital Grant Available	4.541

School Condition Allocations

87. The Local Authority now only receives school condition funding for Maintained Schools. Maintenance funding for Academies is available through other routes. The funding received by the Local Authority will be spent in line with key priorities identified with each maintained school through the locally agreed asset management planning (LAMP) process, carried out each January. There are no strict spend deadlines for these small-scale condition related projects, which are prioritised and completed as funding becomes available.

Transport and Highways

88. A Local Transport Plan for the Tees Valley was endorsed by the Tees Valley Cabinet in 2021. This will help set the spending plans for the funding allocations from the Department for Transport and from the Devolution deal. The Integrated Transport Programme (ITP) of TVCAs Investment plan identifies £256.7m of investment over the next 10 years. There will be projects and initiatives delivered in Darlington from this fund.
89. The Tees Valley Local Transport Plan has several accompanying documents that set the strategy and vision for different modes of transport. Each Local Authority is required to produce a Local Implementation Plan, which will effectively replace the Local Authority Local Transport Plan. In Darlington, the Darlington Transport Plan 2022-2030 was approved by Council in November 2022 and covers local priorities and maintenance requirements. Previously the Council received funding via TVCA that was based on needs formula. However, all the funding has now been merged into the new City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), which is a 5-year allocation of funding. The Tees Valley have been allocated £310m. The details of this allocation have been finalised, and the Council has been awarded £15.340m over the 5 years to 2026/27. The annual amount of £3.068m is based on the following breakdown which includes £0.893m for the Integrated Block, £1.206m for the Highways Maintenance Block plus £0.969m for the Pothole action programme. In the Budget 2024 a further £500m was pledged nationally for Road Maintenance, of which Darlington were awarded £0.902m. Currently no additional Road Maintenance funding has been confirmed for 2026/27. From 2027/28 highway maintenance funding will form part of the Transport for City Regions (TCR) funding to TVCA. TVCA have been allocated £978m and in January 2024 TVCA Cabinet approved £83m for Local Highway Authority Consolidated Funding, of which Darlington will receive £15.340 over the five year period.

Disabled Facility Grants

90. These grants are available if you are disabled and need to make changes to your home, with examples being:
- (a) widen doors and install ramps;
 - (b) improve access to rooms and facilities – e.g., stair lifts or a downstairs bathroom;
 - (c) provide a heating system suitable for your needs, and
 - (d) adapt heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use.

Housing

91. All Housing capital schemes are funded fully from the Housing Revenue Account. The priorities identified through the Housing Business Plan will be funded from the estimated capital resources for 2026/27. Further detail is given in the Housing Revenue Account financial plan but in summary includes:

- (d) Adaptations and lifts - £0.153m
- (e) Heating Replacement - £1.352m
- (f) Structural Works - £0.250m
- (g) Lifeline Services - £0.379m
- (h) Repairs before Painting - £0.069m
- (i) Roofing and Repointing work - £1.000m
- (j) Garages - £0.329m
- (k) External Works - £0.214m
- (l) Pavements - £0.028m
- (m) Window & Door Replacement - £2.025m
- (n) Internal planned maintenance (IPM) - £3.672m
- (o) Communal Works - £0.204m
- (p) Energy Efficiency Improvements - £5.237m
- (q) New Build and acquisitions - £1.000m
- (r) Fees - £0.386m

Consultation

92. This report will be available for public viewing from the 25 November 2025 with official consultation running from 3 December 2025 to 21 January 2026.

Conclusion

93. The Council has faced significant financial challenges over the last decade, with substantial reductions in government funding followed by the financial instability during the pandemic, but to date has risen to these challenges well which has previously enabled a balanced MTFP. 2025 has presented further challenges with increased demand for services particularly in social care where complexity and costs are rising significantly.
94. Until the outcome of the Fair Funding Reform 2.0 is known, the future of local government financing remains uncertain; there have been several councils issuing a Section 114 notice and even more requesting exceptional financial support with evidence of more to come if funding isn't forthcoming.
95. However, on current assumptions, the Council can deliver a balanced MTFP, by achieving the savings and transformation programmes in train and by utilising reserves in 2026/27 and 2027/28 as per our financial strategy, followed by an in year balanced position in the following years.
96. In summary, the Council continues to face significant budget pressures, however, the savings identified in this MTFP and proposed Council Tax rise have reduced the sustainability gap.

Due to the previous actions to protect reserves where possible, the Council can afford a 2026/27 budget and have reserves available to meet the funding requirement until the Government's FFR 2.0 is initiated. If estimates prove incorrect and no funding is forthcoming, making savings to meet the gap will be extremely challenging. There are no easy options without significantly reducing our discretionary services and preventative services which, as previously highlighted, assist towards making our town, clean, safe, vibrant and a place where people want to live and work, and businesses want to relocate to.

97. As the Council's Statutory Chief Financial Officer, the Executive Director of Resources and Governance must advise the Council on the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves. In assessing the robustness of the estimates, the Chief Finance Officer has considered the general financial standing of the Council; the underlying budget assumptions in the financial strategy; the adequacy of budget monitoring and financial reporting in place; the assumptions made on budget pressures and savings proposals; the adequacy of the Council's internal control systems relying on the assurance statements provided in the Annual Governance Statement for the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts; and the level of reserves to cover any potential financial risks faced by the Council.
98. The budget presented to Members in this report has been based on the most accurate information available at the time of writing and the assumptions made based on the interpretation of the Government's Fair Funding Reform 2.0. On that basis, the Director is confident that they are an accurate reflection of the Council's financial position. Notwithstanding this there is a significant degree of uncertainty about the future economic position and Local Government funding, so the position presented whilst as accurate as possible will change, however, at this juncture I cannot be sure if that will be for the better or worse.
99. General Fund reserves are adequate for the coming financial year; however, the position is fragile and if funding is not forthcoming changes in service provision and/or increased income will be required. It is essential we maximise income where possible, ensure we are providing our services in the most efficient manner, and address the growing pressures in social care through transformation.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Detailed Revenue Estimates 2026/27
Appendix 2	Budget Pressures/Savings
Appendix 3	Fees and Charges Proposals 2026/27
Appendix 4	Assumptions used to prepare estimates
Appendix 5	Projected Revenue Outturn 2025/26
Appendix 6	Proposed MTFP 2026/27 to 2029/30
Appendix 7	Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 – 2029/30

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REVENUE ESTIMATES 2026/27 -SUMMARY

Appendix 1

	2025/26 Net Budget	2026/27			
		Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Chief Executive's Office	349	423	(81)	0	342
People Services	92,248	178,242	(21,997)	(55,502)	100,743
Environment, Highways & Community Services	28,217	66,570	(38,623)	(156)	27,792
Resources & Governance	16,101	48,740	(30,913)	(1,003)	16,824
Economy & Public Protection	2,299	4,936	(2,635)	(93)	2,208
Service Total	139,214	298,911	(94,249)	(56,754)	147,909
Financing Costs	4,028	4,507	0	0	4,507
Investment Returns - Joint Ventures	(1,977)	(2,188)	0	0	(2,188)
Council Wide	(15)	(1,169)	0	0	(1,169)
Contingencies	272	278	0	0	278
Grand Total	141,522	300,339	(94,249)	(56,754)	149,337

PEOPLE SERVICES - Revenue Estimates 2026/27

	2025/26 Net Budget	2026/27			
		Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Executive Director of People	195	205	0	0	205
<u>People Support Services</u>					
Transformation & Performance	820	910	(68)	0	842
Business Support	1,767	1,744	(14)	0	1,730
<u>Children's Services</u>					
Children's Services Management & Other Services	679	700	0	0	700
Assessment Care Planning & LAC	4,449	4,525	0	0	4,525
First Response & Early Help	4,303	5,071	(30)	(617)	4,424
Adoption & Placements	21,981	26,333	0	(1,026)	25,307
Disabled Children	1,643	1,775	(239)	0	1,536
Youth Offending	312	768	(142)	(292)	334
Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	101	200	(99)	0	101
<u>Development & Commissioning</u>					
Commissioning	2,373	2,854	(213)	0	2,641
Voluntary Sector	292	355	0	(57)	298
<u>Education</u>					
Education	992	42,911	(2,884)	(39,053)	974
Schools	0	4,040	0	(4,040)	0
Transport Unit	3,416	3,452	(52)	0	3,400
<u>Public Health</u>					
Public Health	0	10,343	0	(10,343)	0
<u>Adult Social Care & Health</u>					
External Purchase of Care	40,860	60,838	(15,280)	(60)	45,498
Intake & Enablement	762	3,101	(2,338)	0	763
Older People Long Term Condition	2,117	2,483	(327)	0	2,156
Physical Disability Long Term Condition	6	30	(24)	0	6
Learning Disability Long Term Condition	2,361	2,449	(24)	0	2,425
Mental Health Long Term Condition	1,252	1,544	(249)	(14)	1,281
Service Development & Integration	966	1,063	0	0	1,063
Workforce Development	601	548	(14)	0	534
Total People Services	92,248	178,242	(21,997)	(55,502)	100,743

ENVIRONMENT, HIGHWAYS & COMMUNITY SERVICES - Revenue Estimates 2026/27

	2025/26 Net Budget	2026/27			
		Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Executive Director - Environment, Highways & Comm. Services	191	195	0	0	195
<u>Highways & Capital Projects</u>					
AD - Highways & Capital Projects	117	119	0	0	119
Building Design Services	(14)	621	(643)	0	(22)
Capital Projects	468	710	(302)	0	408
Car Parking R&M	613	597	0	0	597
Concessionary Fares	2,767	2,591	(2)	0	2,589
Flood and Water Act	323	91	0	0	91
Highways	4,347	5,476	(1,217)	(28)	4,231
Highways - DLO	(344)	9,131	(9,568)	0	(437)
Investment and Funding	503	177	(70)	0	106
Sustainable Transport	127	161	(62)	0	99
<u>Community Services</u>					
AD - Environmental Services & Community Safety	173	147	0	0	147
Allotments	21	27	(8)	0	19
Building Cleaning - DLO	37	446	(446)	0	(0)
Cemeteries and Crematorium	(711)	1,185	(1,927)	0	(742)
Street Scene	7,361	10,509	(2,197)	0	8,312
Transport Unit - Fleet Management	6	0	0	0	0
Transport Unit - Fleet Management, MOT & Private	(14)	33	(69)	0	(36)
Waste Management	4,492	4,572	0	0	4,572
Winter Maintenance	645	708	(26)	0	682
<u>Community Safety</u>					
CCTV	341	421	(107)	0	314
Community Safety	926	898	(83)	0	815
Parking	(2,424)	357	(2,927)	0	(2,570)
Parking Enforcement	17	318	(294)	0	24
<u>Leisure and Culture</u>					
Dolphin Centre	1,219	4,726	(3,762)	0	964
Eastbourne Complex	75	306	(254)	0	52
Hippodrome	220	5,908	(5,818)	0	90
Hopetown Darlington	498	2,430	(1,635)	0	795
Stockton & Darlington Railway NLHF	2	127	0	(127)	(0)
Indoor Bowling Centre	32	17	0	0	17
Libraries	1,065	1,117	(21)	0	1,096
Move More	0	116	(116)	0	0
Outdoor Events	492	443	(30)	0	413
Community Catering	0	358	(358)	0	0
Culture and Heritage Fund	133	127	0	0	127
<u>Building Services</u>					
Construction - DLO	(346)	4,599	(4,871)	0	(272)
<u>Corporate Landlord</u>					0
Corporate Landlord	4,649	6,593	(1,808)	0	4,785
<u>General Support Services</u>					
Works Property & Other	78	79	0	0	79
<u>Joint Levies & Boards</u>					
Environment Agency Levy	132	135	0	0	135
Total Environment, Highways & Community Services	28,217	66,570	(38,623)	(156)	27,792

RESOURCES & GOVERNANCE - Revenue Estimates 2026/27

	2025/26 Net Budget £000	2026/27			
		Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Executive Director Resources & Governance	142	241	(94)	0	147
Resources					
AD Resources	129	135	0	0	135
Financial Services	1,689	2,448	(773)	0	1,675
Financial Assessments & Protection	325	432	(43)	0	389
Xentrall (D&S Partnership)	2,144	2,965	(734)	0	2,231
Human Resources	846	896	(161)	0	735
Health & Safety	213	254	(47)	0	207
Head of Strategy Performance & Communications					
Communications & Engagement	1,125	1,276	(188)	0	1,088
Systems	1,344	1,332	(3)	0	1,329
Law & Governance					
AD Law & Governance	142	128	0	0	128
Complaints & FOI	387	331	0	0	331
Democratic Services	1,593	1,681	(17)	0	1,664
Registrars	(33)	272	(318)	0	(46)
Administration	445	478	(54)	0	424
Legal	1,912	2,122	(153)	0	1,969
Procurement	257	316	(40)	0	276
Coroners	334	394	0	0	394
Xentrall Shared Services					
ICT	768	1,301	(204)	0	1,097
Maintenance					
Maintenance DLO	(718)	8,228	(9,039)	0	(811)
Housing & Revenues					
Local Taxation	517	1,197	(584)	0	613
Rent Rebates / Rent Allowances / Council Tax	1,061	18,033	(16,834)	0	1,199
Housing Benefits Administration	728	1,093	(10)	(410)	673
Customer Services	261	471	(201)	0	270
Homelessness	334	2,404	(1,262)	(593)	549
Service, Strategy & Regulation and General Services	156	312	(154)	0	158
Total Resources & Governance	16,101	48,740	(30,913)	(1,003)	16,824

CHIEF EXECUTIVES OFFICE - Revenue Estimates 2026/27

	2025/26 Net Budget £000	2026/27			
		Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Chief Executive	225	233	0	0	233
Darlington Partnership	124	190	(81)	0	109
Total Chief Executives Office	349	423	(81)	0	342

ECONOMY & PUBLIC PROTECTION - Revenue Estimates 2026/27

	2025/26	2026/27			
	Net Budget	Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Executive Director of Economy and Public Protection	196	200	0	0	200
Emergency Planning	97	99	0	0	99
Building Control	174	429	(257)	0	172
Development Management	73	809	(727)	0	82
Economy	389	345	0	0	345
Environmental Health	380	411	(27)	0	384
Place Strategy	697	734	(26)	(93)	615
Property Management and Estates	(225)	934	(1,195)	0	(261)
Head of Public Protection	78	83	0	0	83
Private Sector Housing	128	185	(45)	0	141
General Licensing	32	192	(157)	0	35
Taxi Licensing	2	226	(196)	0	30
Trading Standards	278	290	(6)	0	284
Total Economy & Public Protection	2,299	4,936	(2,635)	(93)	2,208

APPENDIX 2

<u>Analysis of Pressures/Savings</u>				
	Estimate 26/27 £m	Estimate 27/28 £m	Estimate 28/29 £m	Estimate 29/30 £m
<u>SAVINGS</u>				
Savings - Back Office				
People Services - Reduced running costs across services	(0.276)	(0.225)	(0.241)	(0.260)
Resources & Governance - Reduced running costs across services	(0.138)	(0.068)	(0.025)	(0.030)
E,H & CS - Reduced running costs across services	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.008)
	(0.422)	(0.301)	(0.274)	(0.298)
Savings - Energy				
Corporate Landlord - Reduced gas prices	(0.085)	(0.085)	(0.085)	(0.085)
	(0.085)	(0.085)	(0.085)	(0.085)
Savings - Increased Income				
Investment Returns - Reprofile JV income	(0.182)	(0.189)	(0.331)	0.336
Registrars - Increased fee income from weddings	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.008)
	(0.190)	(0.197)	(0.339)	0.328
Savings - Other				
Concessionary Fares - Reduced contributions to TVCA	(0.140)	(0.140)	(0.140)	(0.140)
Democratic Services - Reduction in Councillors following review	0.000	(0.084)	(0.093)	(0.095)
Council Wide - Reduction in pension fund contributions	(1.900)	(1.900)	(1.900)	(1.900)
	(2.040)	(2.124)	(2.133)	(2.135)
Savings - Offset Pressures				
Waste Management - Reduced Tonnages	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.160)	(0.160)
	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.160)	(0.160)
Savings - Transformation Projects				
People Services - Review of working aged adult packages of care	0.000	(0.750)	(0.750)	(0.750)
	0.000	(0.750)	(0.750)	(0.750)
TOTAL SAVINGS				
	(2.937)	(3.657)	(3.741)	(3.100)

	Estimate 26/27 £m	Estimate 27/28 £m	Estimate 28/29 £m	Estimate 29/30 £m
<u>PRESSURES</u>				
Increased Demand				
Adults - Packages of Care - Increased overall packages costs	0.841	0.748	0.842	0.842
Adults - Other service demand pressures	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014
Children's - Packages of Care - Increased overall packages costs	3.590	3.596	1.404	0.630
Children's - Other service demand pressures	0.338	0.347	0.353	0.360
Homeless - Loss of Housing Benefit Subsidy	0.115	0.014	0.019	0.007
Waste Disposal - Increased growth from new builds	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.024
Community Safety - Abandoned cars removal and disposal	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
Street Scene - Changes in the law to introduce food waste collection	0.036	0.036	0.037	0.037
Street Scene - Increased service to new build property	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.010
Tree Team - Borough wide tree inspections.	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025
	4.989	4.810	2.724	1.979
Price Inflation				
Adults - Change in budgeted inflation from 25/26 MTFP	(0.236)	(0.140)	(0.112)	1.094
Economic Growth - Contractual inflation & fixed rental income	0.007	0.010	0.010	0.039
Children's - Change in budgeted inflation from 25/26 MTFP	0.025	0.114	0.204	0.233
Corporate Landlord - Water charges	0.018	0.032	0.047	0.063
Coroners - Increase recharges from Durham CC	0.049	0.051	0.052	0.053
Resources & Governance - Revised inflation from 25/26 MTFP & contractual inflation	0.047	0.047	0.050	0.050
E, H & CS - Contractual inflation & fixed rental income	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.120
Waste Disposal - Contractual inflation	0.089	0.085	0.082	0.128
Corporate Landlord - Increased electricity prices	0.290	0.250	0.197	0.336
Estates - Increased electricity prices	0.021	0.015	0.015	0.016
Corporate Management - Impact of NI changes	0.034	0.035	0.036	0.037
	0.344	0.499	0.581	2.169
Reduced Income				
Hopetown - Lower car parking patronage	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.220
Licensing - Lower take up of licenses	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.065
Land Charges - Realignment of budget based on previous receipts	0.028	0.027	0.027	0.027
Dolphin Centre - Reduced room hire and income during Phase 3 M&E works	0.107	0.033	0.033	0.033
	0.420	0.345	0.345	0.345
Other				
Adult Services - Staff changes	0.112	0.134	0.137	0.164
Street Scene - Vandalism to play areas	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020
Estates - Feethams House - Reprofile of income	0.000	0.131	0.034	0.034
Financing Costs - Capital financing and lower property fund returns	0.801	0.425	0.232	0.548
Audit Fees - Increases following PSSA	0.043	0.044	0.045	0.045
Cultural Services - Staff changes	0.068	0.069	0.070	0.072
	1.044	0.823	0.538	0.883
Pay Award				
Pay Award 2025/26 - Additional cost of agreed award	0.199	0.205	0.211	0.229
Pay Award 2026/27 - Additional 1% to cover estimated pay award	0.781	0.797	0.813	0.830
	0.980	1.002	1.024	1.059
TOTAL PRESSURES	7.777	7.479	5.212	6.435
TOTAL NET PRESSURES	4.840	3.822	1.471	3.335

SCHEDULE OF CHARGES 2026/27				
Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LEARNING SKILLS - LEARNING FOR LIFE				
Fees Policy: August 2025 to July 2026 (Next Review July 2026)				
Full Fees (including enrolment and tuition fees) per hour	L	3.00	3.00	NIL
Please see APPENDIX 3a for full Fees Policy 2025 - 2026				
REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS				
The following fees do not incur VAT				
Marriages				
Entering a Notice of Marriage or Civil Partnership	N			
For a Registrar to attend a Marriage at the Register Office	N			
Civil Partnership Registration	N			
Incumbents for every Entry Contained in Quarterly Certified	N			
Copies of Entries of Marriage	N			
Registrars fee for attending a marriage at a registered building or for the housebound or detained	N			
Superintendents Registrar fee for attesting a notice of marriage away from his office for housebound or detained	N			
Superintendents Registrar fee for attending the marriage of the housebound or detained	N	These charges set nationally by Statute and will be charged at the advised rate for 2025/26	These charges set nationally by Statute and will be charged at the advised rate for 2026/27	
Certification for Worship and Registration for Marriages				
Place of Meeting for Religious Worship	N			
Registration of Building for Solemnisation of Marriage	N			
Certificates issued from Local Offices				
Standard Certificate (SR)	N			
Standard Certificate (RBD) (at time of Registration)	N			
Standard Certificate (RBD) (after Registration)	N			
Short Certificate of Birth (SR)	N			
Short Certificate of Birth (RBD)	N			
Certificates of Civil Partnership (at time of Ceremony)	N			
Certificates of Civil Partnership (at later date)	N			
General Search fee	N			
Each Verification	N			
Civil Partnership Ceremony	N			
All Ceremonies – Approved Premises				
Application Fee for licence as an approved venue (valid for 3 years)	N	1,925.00	2,020.00	
Fee for Attendance - All days including Bank Holidays	L	670.00	705.00	
Non-refundable booking fee (inclusive of VAT)	L	55.00	55.00	
All Ceremonies – Town Hall				
The Oak Room (Monday to Saturday)	L	360.00	380.00	
The Council Chamber Foyer (Monday to Saturday)	L	165.00	175.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
REGISTER OF ELECTORS, OPEN REGISTER AND MONTHLY UPDATES - SALE				
The following fees do not incur VAT.				
Register – Printed Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Printed	N	5.00	5.00	
Register – Data Form	N	20.00	20.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Data	N	1.50	1.50	
LIST OF OVERSEAS ELECTORS – SALE				
The following fees do not incur VAT.				
List – Printed Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Printed	N	5.00	5.00	
List – Data Form	N	20.00	20.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Data	N	1.50	1.50	
MARKED COPY OF THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS AND MARKED ABSENT VOTERS LIST - SALE				
The following fees do not incur VAT				
Register – Printed Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Printed	N	2.00	2.00	
Register – Data Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Data	N	1.00	1.00	
Proof Life Certificate - for those who claim pension abroad	L	20.00	20.00	
				8,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
TOWN HALL				
Hire of Committee Rooms – all charges shown exclusive of VAT. Charges will be made plus the appropriate VAT rate.				
All rooms are to be charged by the hour, rather than by session				
Committee Rooms per hour	L	38.00	38.00	
Counci Chamber per hour	L	48.00	48.00	
				NIL
LAND CHARGES				
The following fees are inclusive of VAT				
Con 29 Required				
Residential Property				
CON29	L	87.60	111.00	
Additional Parcels	L	26.28	30.00	
Commercial Property				
CON29	L	139.20	156.00	
Additional Parcels	L	26.28	30.00	
Con 29 Optional				
Optional Questions	L	8.40	15.00	
Own Questions	L	8.40	30.00	
Personal Search	L	No charge	No charge	
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
FINANCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES				
Category				
Work up to and including the date upon which the court makes an order appointing a deputy for property and affairs	N	944.00	944.00	
Annual management fee where the court appoints a local authority deputy for property and affairs, payable on the anniversary of the court order:				
a) for the first year	N	982.00	982.00	
b) for the second and subsequent years	N	824.00	824.00	
c) where the net assets are below £20,300, the local authority deputy for property and affairs will take an annual management fee not exceeding 3.5% of the net assets on the anniversary of the court order appointing the local authority as deputy	N	See Description	See Description	
d) Where the court appoints a local authority deputy for health and welfare, the local authority will take an annual management fee not exceeding 2.5% of the net assets on the anniversary of the court order appointing the local authority as deputy for health and welfare up to a maximum of £703.	N	See Description	See Description	
Annual property management fee to include work involved in preparing property for sale, instructing agents, conveyancers, etc or the ongoing maintenance of property including management and letting of a rental property	N	380.00	380.00	
Preparation and lodgement of an annual report or account to the Public Guardian	N	274.00	274.00	
Conveyancing Costs	N	See Description	See Description	
Travel Rates are allowed at a fixed rate per hour for travel costs	N	51.00	51.00	
Please note that these rates are set by The Office of Public Guardian and are the rates as of 1st April 2025, these may be amended during 2026/27				
Adminstration Fee				
Adminstration fee for arranging the care and support needs for those with capital in excess of the upper capital limit or those who have chosen not to disclose their financial information.	L	133.00	140.00	
				Minimal
DEFERRED PAYMENT FEES				
Administration cost for setting up a Deferred Payment Agreement	L	410.00	425.00	
plus cost of valuation (this will be dependant on property type)	L	Actual cost of valuation	Actual cost of valuation	
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LIBRARIES				
Fines On Overdue Items				
Adults – per day	L	No charge	No charge	
Maximum charge per book	L	No charge	No charge	
Senior Citizens – per day	L	No charge	No charge	
Children – per day	L	No charge	No charge	
Reservation Fees for Books Obtained from Outside the Authority				
Single charge for all books obtained from other libraries	L	6.00	7.50	
Repeat Fee for Renewal of Books from Outside the Authority				
Single Charge for all books obtained from other local authorities	L	6.00	6.00	
Replacement Tickets				
Adults	L	1.50	1.50	
Senior Citizens	L	1.50	1.50	
Children/Unemployed	L	1.50	1.50	
Local History Research				
Look Up Service	L	5.00	5.00	
Photocopies				
A4 B&W	L	0.20	0.20	
A3 B&W	L	0.40	0.40	
A3 Colour	L	N/a	1.20	
Printing				
A4 B&W	L	0.20	0.20	
A3 B&W	L	0.40	0.40	
A4 colour	L	0.60	0.60	
Reproduction of Images from Stock				
Digital copies for Private/Study purposes – per photo	L	5.50	5.50	
Digital copies for small local commercial use – per photo	L	5.50 + 2 copies of publications	5.50 + 2 copies of publications	
Digital copies for local commercial use - per photo	L	10.50 + 2 copies of book	10.50 + 2 copies of book	
Digital copies for national/international commercial	L	110.00	110.00	
Internet Use				
Library members First 60 minutes FREE, £1.00 per 30 minutes hereafter	L	1.00	1.00	
Lost & Damaged Items				
	L	Full current Replacement Cost (non-refundable)	Full current Replacement Cost (non-refundable)	
Room Hire				
Per hour	L	20.00	20.00	
Partner organisations per hour	L	15.00	15.00	
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
PLANNING FEES Planning fees are set nationally				
PLANNING – PRE APPLICATION ADVICE All charges include VAT at 20%				
Large Major Development (200+) for a written response, including up to 2 meetings	L	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Small Major Development (10-199) for a written response, including up to 2 meetings	L	800.00	800.00	
Minor Development for a written response to include a meeting if necessary	L	400.00	400.00	
Other Developments				
Minerals Processing	L	Based on areas above	Based on areas above	
Change of use for a written response to include a meeting if necessary	L	50.00	50.00	
Householder developments	L	50.00	50.00	
Advertisements	L	25.00	25.00	
Listed Building consents (to alter/extend/demolish)	L	50.00	50.00	
Certificates of lawful development	L	Application advice not appropriate	Application advice not appropriate	
Telecommunications Notifications	L	126.00	126.00	
Other Charges				
Pre-Application meeting involving Planning Committee Members	L	2,000.00	2,000.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LICENSING The following fees do not incur VAT				
Prosecution Costs				
Hourly rate for Preparation of Case Reports	L	62.00	65.00	
General Licensing				
Pavement Café Licence, per person				
1-20	L	210.00	210.00	
21-40	L	242.00	242.00	
41-60	L	273.00	273.00	
61-80	L	305.00	305.00	
81-99	L	320.00	320.00	
100 or over	L	350.00	350.00	
Duplicate licence fee	L	53.00	53.00	
Transfer of licence	L	53.00	53.00	
Change of detail	L	32.00	32.00	
Variation of Covers	L	105.00	105.00	
Goods on Highway Licence	L	163.00	163.00	
Sex Shop Grant of application	L	4,080.00	4,080.00	
Sex Shop Renewal	L	1,323.00	1,323.00	
Sex Shop transfer	L	1,323.00	1,323.00	
Cosmetics				
Premise Grant	L	309.00	309.00	
Personal Grant	L	71.00	71.00	
Variation	L	71.00	71.00	
Scrap Metal Dealers				
Collectors Licence (3 years) - grant	L	166.00	166.00	
Collectors Licence (3 years) – renewal	L	166.00	166.00	
Major Variation	L	56.00	56.00	
Minor Variation	L	17.00	17.00	
Site Licence (3 years) Grant	L	386.00	386.00	
Additional Sites (per site per year of licence)	L	215.00	215.00	
Site licence (3 years) – renewal	L	298.00	298.00	
Additional sites (per site per year of licence)	L	215.00	215.00	
Minor Variation Site	L	17.00	17.00	
Major Variation Site	L	56.00 + 72.00 per additional site per year	56.00 + 72.00 per additional site per year	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Caravan Sites				
New Application for a permanent residential site licence;	L			
1-5 pitches	L	220.00	220.00	
6-20 pitches	L	248.00	248.00	
21-50 pitches	L	265.00	265.00	
Greater than 50 pitches	L	287.00	287.00	
Annual Fees associated with administration and monitoring of site licences;				
1-5 pitches	L	No charge	No charge	
6-50 pitches	L	243.00	243.00	
Greater than 50 pitches	L	287.00	287.00	
Cost of Laying Site Rules	L	27.00	27.00	
Cost of Variation/Transfer	L	110.00	110.00	
Zoo Licensing Act				
New Application (4 years) or renewal (6 years) for a Zoo Licence (excluding the inspection costs of appointed inspector)	L	497.00	497.00	
Animal Welfare				
Breeding of Dogs - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	271.00	271.00	
2 Year Licence	L	320.00	320.00	
3 Year Licence	L	370.00	370.00	
Breeding of Dogs - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	237.00	237.00	
2 Year Licence	L	287.00	287.00	
3 Year Licence	L	336.00	336.00	
Pet Vending Commercial - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	278.00	278.00	
2 Year Licence	L	328.00	328.00	
3 Year Licence	L	377.00	377.00	
Pet Vending Commercial - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	245.00	245.00	
2 Year Licence	L	294.00	294.00	
3 Year Licence	L	343.00	343.00	
Pet Vending Home - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	271.00	271.00	
2 Year Licence	L	320.00	320.00	
3 Year Licence	L	370.00	370.00	
Pet Vending Home - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	237.00	237.00	
2 Year Licence	L	287.00	287.00	
3 Year Licence	L	336.00	336.00	
Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition - Grant of Licence				
3 Year Licence	L	259.00	259.00	
Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition - Renewal of Licence				
3 Year Licence	L	237.00	237.00	
Hiring Out of Horses - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	292.00	292.00	
2 Year Licence	L	341.00	341.00	
3 Year Licence	L	391.00	391.00	
Hiring Out of Horses - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	259.00	259.00	
2 Year Licence	L	309.00	309.00	
3 Year Licence	L	358.00	358.00	
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Commercial - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	337.00	337.00	
2 Year Licence	L	386.00	386.00	
3 Year Licence	L	436.00	436.00	
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Commercial - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	303.00	303.00	
2 Year Licence	L	353.00	353.00	
3 Year Licence	L	402.00	402.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Home - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	271.00	271.00	
2 Year Licence	L	320.00	320.00	
3 Year Licence	L	370.00	370.00	
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Home - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	237.00	237.00	
2 Year Licence	L	287.00	287.00	
3 Year Licence	L	336.00	336.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care Up to 7 Dogs - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	271.00	271.00	
2 Year Licence	L	320.00	320.00	
3 Year Licence	L	370.00	370.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care Up to 7 Dogs - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	237.00	237.00	
2 Year Licence	L	287.00	287.00	
3 Year Licence	L	336.00	336.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care 8+ Dogs - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	336.00	336.00	
2 Year Licence	L	385.00	385.00	
3 Year Licence	L	435.00	435.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care 8+ Dogs - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	303.00	303.00	
2 Year Licence	L	353.00	353.00	
3 Year Licence	L	402.00	402.00	
		144.00 + 12.00 per host + 71.00 per host inspection fee + 49.00 annual enforcement fee per year	144.00 + 12.00 per host + 71.00 per host inspection fee + 49.00 annual enforcement fee per year	
Dog Boarding Franchise in Darlington - Grant of Licence	L			
		105.00 + 11.00 per host + 68.00 per host inspection fee + 47.00 annual enforcement fee per year	105.00 + 11.00 per host + 68.00 per host inspection fee + 47.00 annual enforcement fee per year	
Dog Boarding Franchise in Darlington - Renewal of Licence	L			
Dog Boarding Franchise out of Darlington - Grant of Licence	L	66.00 + 66.00 per host	66.00 + 66.00 per host	
Dog Boarding Franchise out of Darlington - Renewal of Licence	L	61.00 + 66.00 per host	61.00 + 66.00 per host	
Additional Fees				
Cost per additional licensable activity - Grant and Renewal (each)	L	71.00	71.00	
Mandatory mid licence inspection fee - Grant and Renewal (each)	L	34.00	34.00	
Variation of licence where no inspection is required (each)	L	39.00	39.00	
Variation of licence where inspection is required (each)	L	100.00	100.00	
Application for Re-Rating (each)	L	78.00	78.00	
Copy Licence	L	17.00	17.00	
Administration Fee	L	39.00	39.00	
Dangerous Wild Animals (not including vets fee)	L	132.00	132.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Street Trading				
November / December - Full Calendar Month	L	1,075.00	1,075.00	
- Week	L	424.00	424.00	
- Day (minimum of 4 days)	L	93.00	93.00	
January / October - Full Calendar Month	L	728.00	728.00	
- Week	L	298.00	298.00	
- Day (minimum of 4 days)	L	66.00	66.00	
Note- The above to apply to Itinerant traders. For regular all year round traders - fees as follows				
Annual Consent - Town Centre	L	7,717.00	7,717.00	
If Paying Monthly	L	684.00	684.00	
If Paying Weekly	L	188.00	188.00	
Buskers selling CD's – Half Day	L	26.00	26.00	
Full Day	L	47.00	47.00	
Mobile vehicles (moving or lay-by)	L	287.00	287.00	
New Vendor Permits	L	37.00	37.00	
Skips, Scaffolding and Hoardings				
Place a skip on the highway (less than 3 days notice)	L	42.00	42.00	
Place a skip on the highway (more than 3 days notice)	L	26.00	26.00	
Erection of scaffolding	L	63.00	63.00	
Hoardings	L	63.00	63.00	
Administration Charge (per hour or part thereof)	L	39.00	39.00	
Statutory Fees				
Petroleum Licences				
Less than 2,500 litres	N	48.00	48.00	
2,500 – 50,000 litres	N	65.00	65.00	
More than 50,000 litres	N	137.00	137.00	
Gambling Act				
Statutory Fees- The following gambling fees are set within statutory bands and will be revised as changed nationally.				
Adult Gaming Centres – Annual Fee	N	600.00	600.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Betting Shops - Annual Fee	N	550.00	550.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Bingo Halls - Annual Fee	N	600.00	600.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Family Entertainment Centres – Annual Fee	N	550.00	550.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	950.00	950.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	950.00	950.00	
Betting (tracks) – Annual Fee	N	550.00	550.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	950.00	950.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	950.00	950.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
<u>Permit Type – The following fees are set by statute and will be revised as changed nationally</u>				
Small Society Lottery Registration	N	40.00	40.00	
Small Society Annual Fee	N	20.00	20.00	
FEC gaming machine – Renewal fee	N	300.00	300.00	
FEC gaming machine – Change of name	N	25.00	25.00	
Prize gaming – Application fee	N	300.00	300.00	
Prize gaming – Renewal fee	N	300.00	300.00	
Prize gaming – Change of name	N	25.00	25.00	
Prize gaming – Copy permit	N	15.00	15.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - application Fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - variation Fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - transfer Fee	N	25.00	25.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - annual Fee	N	50.00	50.00	
Change of name	N	25.00	25.00	
Copy Permit	N	15.00	15.00	
Notice of intent 2 or less gaming machines available	N	50.00	50.00	
Club Premises cert (S 72f Licencing Act 2003) application fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Club Premises cert (S 72f Licencing Act 2003) renewal fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Other applicants - application fee	N	200.00	200.00	
Other applicants - renewal fee	N	200.00	200.00	
Variation fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Annual fee	N	50.00	50.00	
Copy permit	N	15.00	15.00	
Initial fee	N	40.00	40.00	
Annual fee	N	20.00	20.00	
Temporary use notice	N	500.00	500.00	
Copy/replacement/endorsed copy of notice	N	25.00	25.00	
Licensing Act Fees				
Statutory Fees- The following gambling fees are set within statutory bands and will be revised as changed nationally.				
Premises Licences				
Band A (RV £0 - £4,300) - Initial fee	N	100.00	100.00	
- Annual fee	N	70.00	70.00	
Band B (RV £4,301 - £33,000) - Initial fee	N	190.00	190.00	
- Annual fee	N	180.00	180.00	
Band C (RV £33,001 - £87,000) - Initial fee	N	315.00	315.00	
- Annual fee	N	295.00	295.00	
Band D (RV £87,001 - £125,000) - Initial fee	N	450.00	450.00	
- Annual fee	N	320.00	320.00	
Band E (RV > £125,001) - Initial fee	N	635.00	635.00	
- Annual fee	N	350.00	350.00	
Band D with Multiplier - Initial fee	N	900.00	900.00	
- Annual fee	N	640.00	640.00	
Band E with Multiplier - Initial fee	N	1,905.00	1,905.00	
- Annual fee	N	1,050.00	1,050.00	
Club Premises Certificates				
Band A (RV £0 - £4,300) - Initial fee	N	100.00	100.00	
- Annual fee	N	70.00	70.00	
Band B (RV £4,301 - £33,000) - Initial fee	N	190.00	190.00	
- Annual fee	N	180.00	180.00	
Band C (RV £33,001 - £87,000) - Initial fee	N	315.00	315.00	
- Annual fee	N	295.00	295.00	
Band D (RV £87,001 - £125,000) - Initial fee	N	450.00	450.00	
- Annual fee	N	320.00	320.00	
Band E (RV > £125,001) - Initial fee	N	635.00	635.00	
- Annual fee	N	350.00	350.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Large Scale Events				
5,000 to 9,999 - Initial fee	N	1,000.00	1,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	500.00	500.00	
10,000 to 14,999 - Initial fee	N	2,000.00	2,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	1,000.00	1,000.00	
15,000 to 19,999 - Initial fee	N	4,000.00	4,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	2,000.00	2,000.00	
20,000 to 29,999 - Initial fee	N	8,000.00	8,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	4,000.00	4,000.00	
30,000 to 39,999 - Initial fee	N	16,000.00	16,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	8,000.00	8,000.00	
40,000 to 49,999 - Initial fee	N	24,000.00	24,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	12,000.00	12,000.00	
50,000 to 59,999 - Initial fee	N	32,000.00	32,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	16,000.00	16,000.00	
60,000 to 69,999 - Initial fee	N	40,000.00	40,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	20,000.00	20,000.00	
70,000 to 79,999 - Initial fee	N	48,000.00	48,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	24,000.00	24,000.00	
80,000 to 89,999 - Initial fee	N	56,000.00	56,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	28,000.00	28,000.00	
> 90,000 - Initial fee	N	64,000.00	64,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	32,000.00	32,000.00	
Other Licensing Act 2003 Fees & Charges				
Minor Variations	N	89.00	89.00	
Personal Licence	N	37.00	37.00	
Provisional Statement	N	315.00	315.00	
Temporary Event Notice (TEN)	N	21.00	21.00	
Theft / Loss of Licence / Notice	N	10.50	10.50	
Variation of DPS	N	23.00	23.00	
Transfer of Premises Licence	N	23.00	23.00	
Change of Name / Address	N	10.50	10.50	
Notification of Interest	N	21.00	21.00	
Notification of Alteration of Club Rules	N	10.50	10.50	
Interim Authority Notice	N	23.00	23.00	
Explosives Act/Fireworks Annual Registration	N	52.00	52.00	
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
HACKNEY CARRIAGES				
Taxi Licencing				
Taxi licensing fees are agreed annually by licensing committee and will be published separately as part of this process. Existing licence holders will be notified accordingly.				
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH				
Pest Treatment Charges – All charges shown exclusive of VAT. Charges will be made plus the appropriate VAT rate				
Insects – per Treatment	L	58.50	58.50	
Rodents in Private Premises	L	8.33	8.33	
Re-rating Food Hygiene Inspections	L	150.00	180.00	
Prosecution Costs				
Hourly Rate for preparation of case reports and carrying out works in default of legal notices	L	62.00	65.00	
Environmental Searches				
Environmental search includes environmental information held by the Council on a site (additional charges apply for sites larger than 10,000m2 and distance buffer greater than 250m radius)	L	90.00	90.00	
Additional photocopying for example copies of site investigation reports;				
A4 B&W	L	0.10	0.10	
A3 B&W	L	0.20	0.20	
A4 Colour	L	1.00	1.00	
A3 Colour	L	2.00	2.00	
Scanned Copy	L	Free	Free	
LAPPC and LAIPPC Permits				
Charges are set by Defra and are subject to change. Current charges as known are;				
LAPPC Charges				
Application Fee;				
Standard process (includes solvent emission activities)	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Additional fee for operating without a permit	N	1,188.00	1,188.00	
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners	N	155.00	155.00	
PVR I & II combined	N	257.00	257.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fee Activities	N	362.00	362.00	
Reduced fee activities: additional fee for operating without a permit	N	71.00	71.00	
Mobile plant**	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
for the third to seventh applications	N	985.00	985.00	
for the eighth and subsequent applications	N	498.00	498.00	
Where an application for any of the above is for a combined Part B and waste application add an extra to the above amounts	N	310.00	279.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Annual Subsistence Charge;				
Standard process Low*	N	772.00	772.00	
Standard process Medium*	N	1,161.00	1,161.00	
Standard process High*	N	1,747.00	1,747.00	
		(+207.00)	(+207.00)	
*the additional amounts must be charged where a permit is for a combined Part B and waste installation				
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners Low	N	79.00	79.00	
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners Medium	N	158.00	158.00	
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners High	N	237.00	237.00	
PVR I & II combined Low	N	113.00	113.00	
PVR I & II combined Medium	N	226.00	226.00	
PVR I & II combined High	N	341.00	341.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fees Low	N	228.00	228.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fees Medium	N	365.00	365.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fees High	N	548.00	548.00	
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits Low**	N	626.00	626.00	
for the third to seventh permits Low	N	385.00	385.00	
eighth and subsequent permits Low	N	198.00	198.00	
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits Medium**	N	1,034.00	1,034.00	
for the third to seventh permits Medium	N	617.00	617.00	
eighth and subsequent permits Medium	N	316.00	314.00	
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits High**	N	1,551.00	1,551.00	
for the third to seventh permits High	N	924.00	924.00	
eighth and subsequent permits High	N	473.00	473.00	
Late payment fee	N	52.00	52.00	
Where a Part B installation is subject to reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation add an extra to the above amounts	N	104.00	104.00	
Transfer and Surrender;				
Standard process transfer	N	169.00	169.00	
Standard process partial transfer	N	497.00	497.00	
New operator at low risk reduced fee activity	N	78.00	78.00	
Surrender: all Part b activities	N	0.00	0.00	
Reduced fee activities: transfer	N	0.00	0.00	
Reduced fee activities: partial transfer	N	47.00	47.00	
Temporary transfer for mobiles;				
First transfer	N	53.00	53.00	
Repeat following enforcement or warning	N	53.00	53.00	
Substantial change;				
Standard process	N	1,050.00	1,050.00	
Standard process where the substantial change results in a new PPC activity	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Reduced fee activities	N	102.00	102.00	
**Not using simplified permits				

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LA-IPPC charges				
Every subsistence charge below includes the additional £103 charge to cover LA extra costs in dealing with reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation				
Application	N	3,363.00	3,363.00	
Additional fee for operating without a permit	N	1,188.00	1,188.00	
Annual Subsistence Low	N	1,447.00	1,476.00	
Annual Subsistence Medium	N	1,611.00	1,610.00	
Annual Subsistence High	N	2,334.00	2,333.00	
Late Payment Fee	N	52.00	52.00	
Variation	N	1,368.00	1,368.00	
Transfer	N	235.00	235.00	
Partial Transfer	N	698.00	698.00	
Surrender	N	698.00	698.00	
Subsistence charges can be paid in four equal quarterly instalments paid on 1st April, 1st July, 1st October and 1st January. Where paid quarterly the total amount payable to the local authority will be increased by £38.00				
Newspaper adverts may be required under EPR at the discretion of the LA as part of the consultation process when considering an application. This will be undertaken and paid for by the LA and the charging scheme contains a provision for the LA to recoup its costs				
				Minimal
TRADING STANDARDS				
Please note that VAT may be added to some charges. Check with the service before the work is agreed.				
Prosecution Costs				
Hourly rate for Preparation of Case Reports	L	62.00	65.00	
Measures				
Linear measures not exceeding 3m each scale	L	16.50	16.50	
Not exceeding 15kg	L	44.00	44.00	
Exceeding 15kg but not exceeding 100kg	L	76.50	76.50	
Exceeding 100kg but not exceeding 250kg	L	91.50	91.50	
Exceeding 250kg but not exceeding 1 tonne	L	159.00	159.00	
Exceeding 1 tonne but not exceeding 10 tonnes	L	254.50	254.50	
Exceeding 10 tonnes but not exceeding 30 tonnes	L	533.50	533.50	
Exceeding 30 tonnes but not exceeding 60 tonnes	L	792.00	792.00	
Charge to cover any additional costs involved in testing incorporating remote display or printing facilities based on the above fee plus a charge per hour (minimum charge of 2 hours)	L	76.00 per hour	76.00 per hour	
Measuring Instruments for Intoxicating Liquor				
Not exceeding 150ml	L	25.50	25.50	
Other	L	29.50	29.50	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Measuring Instruments for Liquid Fuels and Lubricants				
Container Type (un-subdivided)				
Multi-grade (with price computing device):	L	110.50	110.50	
Single Outlets	L	151.00	151.00	
Solely Price Adjustment	L	275.50	275.50	
Otherwise				
Other Types – Single Outlets				
Solely Price Adjustment	L	121.00	121.00	
Otherwise	L	164.00	164.00	
Other Types – Multi Outlets:				
1 Meter Tested	L	176.00	176.00	
2 Meters Tested	L	288.50	288.50	
3 Meters Tested	L	394.00	394.00	
4 Meters Tested	L	502.00	502.00	
5 Meters Tested	L	606.50	606.50	
6 Meters Tested	L	712.50	712.50	
7 Meters Tested	L	805.00	805.00	
8 Meters Tested	L	929.50	929.50	
Charge to cover any additional costs involved in testing ancillary equipment such as payment acceptors based on the above fee plus a charge per hour (minimum of 2 hours)	L	76.00 per hour	76.00 per hour	
Special Weighing and Measuring Equipment				
For all specialist work undertaken by the service which is not included above a charge per hour on site (minimum charge of 2 hours) plus cost of provision of testing equipment applies	L	76.00 per hour	76.00 per hour	
Discounts				
Fees from Measures to Certification Calibration will be discounted as follows :-				
a) Where more than a single item is submitted on one occasion the second and subsequent fees will be reduced by 20%				
b) Where tests are undertaken using appropriately certified weights and equipment not supplied by the Borough Council the fees will be reduced by 20%				
c) Special rates can be negotiated for multiple submissions or where assistance with equipment or labour is provided				
NB – Where different fees are involved the highest fee will be charged in full and any discounts calculated from the remaining lesser fees				
Licensing – VAT not applicable				
Explosives and Fireworks Licences (Statutory Fee)				
Licence for the storage of explosives	N	**See Note	**See Note	
Licence for the sale of fireworks all year round	N	**See Note	**See Note	
**These are statutory rates that are set centrally in April				
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
PARKING – all off-street charges are inclusive of VAT at 20%				
Car Parks (Short Stay) – per hour (Mon to Sun)				
Abbotts Yard, Commercial Street East & West, Feethams MSCP, Winston Street North & South & West				
1hr	L	1.20	1.20	
2hrs	L	2.40	2.40	
3hrs	L	3.60	3.60	
4hrs	L	4.80	4.80	
5hrs	L	5.00	5.00	
6hrs	L	6.00	6.00	
7hrs	L	7.00	7.00	
8hrs	L	8.00	8.00	
9hrs	L	9.00	9.00	
10hrs	L	10.00	10.00	
Car Parks – (Long Stay) (Mon to Sat)				
Archer Street, Garden Street, Kendrew Street East & West, Hird Street, St Hilda's & Park Place East & West				
1hr	L	1.20	1.20	
2hrs	L	2.40	2.40	
3hrs	L	3.60	3.60	
All day	L	5.00	5.00	
2 days	L	10.00	10.00	
3 days	L	15.00	15.00	
7 days	L	20.00	20.00	
Sunday	L	2.00	2.00	
Car Parks – Long Stay (Mon to Sat)				
Park Lane				
All day	L	5.00	5.00	
Sunday	L	2.00	2.00	
East Street MSCP				
Per hour	L	1.20	1.20	
All day	L	3.00	3.00	
Sunday	L	2.00	2.00	
Chestnut Street				
All day	L	2.00	2.00	
7 days	L	8.00	8.00	
Sunday	L	2.00	2.00	
On Street Parking Mon to Sun (up to 2 hours no return within 1 hour EXCEPT for Grange Road & Northumberland Street up to 3 hours no return within 1 hour and East Row 30 minutes maximum no return within 1 hour)				
Per 30 mins	L	0.70	0.70	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Car Parks – Contract Parking – all charges are inclusive of VAT at 20%				
Parking locations as determined by the Director of Services.				
Per year one space	L	950.00	950.00	
Per year two spaces	L	900.00	900.00	
Per year three spaces	L	860.00	860.00	
Per year four spaces	L	830.00	830.00	
Per year five to nine spaces	L	800.00	800.00	
Per year ten or more spaces	L	700.00	700.00	
Four Riggs				
Per calendar month	L	64.00	64.00	
Morton Palms				
Per year one space	L	300.00	300.00	
Silver Street				
Per year one space	L	600.00	600.00	
Car Parks – Staff & Members per year	L	173.04	173.04	
Residents Parking Permits (excluding Town Centre)				
3 month temporary permit	L	12.00	12.00	
6 month permit	L	24.00	24.00	
12 month permit	L	40.00	40.00	
Residents Parking Permits (Town Centre only)				
12 month permit	L	350.00	350.00	
Tradesmen Parking Permits				
Daily Waiver	L	5.00	5.00	
3 month permit	L	100.00	100.00	
6 month permit	L	150.00	150.00	
12 month permit	L	250.00	250.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
BUILDING CONTROL				
Items inclusive of VAT at 20%				
Letter confirming exemption	L	20.00	20.00	
Letter confirming enforcement action will not be taken	L	20.00	20.00	
Copy of historic completion/approval certificates	L	20.00	20.00	
Decision/Approval Notice (Building Control)				
Responding to request for historical information from electronic databases (email response)	L	20.00	20.00	
Responding to request for historical information from electronic databases (letter response)	L	20.00	20.00	
Responding to request for historical information from manually recorded data (email response)	L	20.00	20.00	
Personal searches (email response)	L	20.00	20.00	
The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 plus VAT at the appropriate rate				
Work charged on individual job basis	L	As agreed with client	As agreed with client	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
DOLPHIN CENTRE				
Pricing based on the introduction of a leisure card.				
Swimming				
Adult swim				
Card holder	L	4.85	5.00	
Non card holder	L	5.40	5.55	
Concession	L	3.70	4.15	
Junior Swim	L	3.10	3.25	
Family swim junior rate discount (up to 4 children accompanying 1 adult)				
Per card holder	L	2.45	2.55	
Per non card holder	L	2.75	2.85	
Under 12 months	L	Free	Free	
Lessons	L	55.00	60.00	
Fitness Areas				
The Gym				
Card holder	L	5.95	6.10	
Non card holder	L	6.55	6.75	
Concession	L	4.60	5.05	
Junior Gym	L	4.60	4.70	
Concession	L	3.50	3.60	
Health & Fitness Classes				
Health & Fitness Classes				
Card holder	L	5.15	5.40	
Non card holder	L	5.70	6.00	
Concession	L	4.30	4.50	
Half Main Hall				
Adult				
Card holder	L	49.50	50.00	
Non card holder	L	55.00	56.00	
Junior (1 hour courts only)	L	33.50	34.50	
Weekday lunchtime				
Card holder	L	40.00	41.00	
Non card holder	L	45.00	46.00	
Badminton				
Adult				
Card holder	L	9.65	9.90	
Non card holder	L	10.70	11.00	
Concession	L	8.05	8.25	
Junior (1 hour courts only)	L	5.65	5.80	
Concession (1 hour courts only)	L	5.00	5.00	
Equipment Hire				
Footballs	L	Free	Free	
Footballs – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	
Badminton	L	Free	Free	
Badminton – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	
Table Tennis Bats	L	Free	Free	
Table Tennis Bats – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	
Pram Lock	L	Free	Free	
Pram Lock – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Children's Activities				
Soft play admissions	L	5.95	6.25	
Parent/toddler (Soft play)	L	5.95	6.25	
Other Activities				
Showers				
Card holders	L	3.00	3.10	
Non card holders	L	3.00	3.10	
Fit 4 Life Packages				
12 month Full Membership	L	299.40	323.40	
12 month Seniors	L	228.00	252.00	
12 month Student	L	180.00	204.00	
6 Month Full	L	195.00	205.00	
12 Month Upfront	L	275.00	296.50	
Swimming Pools				
Main Pool - per hour	L	120.00	130.00	
Diving Pool - per hour	L	70.00	76.00	
Teaching Pool - per hour	L	70.00	76.00	
Gala - per hour				
Swimming Galas - whole complex				
Normal opening hours - per hour	L	370.00	400.00	
Outside normal opening hours - per hour	L	195.00	211.00	
Swimming Galas - Schools, Junior Clubs and Organisations				
Main Pool - Peak	L	257.00	277.00	
Main Pool - Off Peak	L	185.00	200.00	
Main Pool and Teaching Pool - Peak	L	216.00	233.00	
Main Pool and Teaching Pool - Off Peak	L	222.00	240.00	
Electronic Timing	L	110.00	119.00	
Ten Pin Bowling				
Adult Standard - 1 game	L	7.95	8.25	
Juniors (under 16) - 1 game	L	6.30	6.60	
Students & Seniors - Off Peak - 1 game	L	6.30	6.60	
Family Package - Peak - 1 game	L	26.00	28.00	
Family Package - Off Peak -1 game	L	24.00	26.00	
Adult, Students, Seniors - Peak - 2 game	L	15.90	16.50	
Adult, Student, Seniors - Off Peak - 2 game	L	12.30	12.50	
Juniors (under 16) - Peak - 2 game	L	12.60	13.20	
Juniors (under 16) - Off Peak - 2 game	L	12.10	12.50	
Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 1 game (per person)	L	5.50	5.70	
Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 2 game (per person)	L	11.00	11.40	
Dry Sports Hall				
Main Sports Hall - per hour	L	121.00	127.00	
Special Events - per hour Weekends	L	385.00	405.00	
Preparation - per hour Weekends	L	204.00	215.00	
Special Events - Schools - per hour off peak	L	55.00	58.00	
Function Room	L	30.00	31.50	
Seminar Room/Stephenson Suite meeting rooms	L	41.00	43.00	
Pease Suite/Studio	L	51.00	53.55	
Central Hall				
All Events (except commercial, exhibitions and local societies)	L	127.00	135.00	
Exhibitions - commercial - per hour	L	165.00	175.00	
Local Societies event - per hour	L	88.00	95.00	
				88,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
EASTBOURNE SPORTS COMPLEX				
3G Pitch				
Non Charter Standard Pay and Play				
1/2 3G Pitch - Adult (1 hour)	L	55.00	60.00	
1/2 3G Pitch - Junior (1 hour)	L	45.00	50.00	
Full 3G Pitch - Adult (1 hour)	L	85.00	90.00	
Full 3G Pitch - Junior (1 hour)	L	60.00	65.00	
Charter Standard and Partner Clubs				
1/2 3G Pitch (1 hour)	L	30.00	30.00	
Full 3G Pitch (1 hour)	L	55.00	60.00	
Grass Pitch Matches - Club				
Adult per match 11 v 11	L	30.00	32.50	
Junior per match 9 v 9	L	20.00	22.50	
Junior per match 7 v 7	L	20.00	22.50	
Junior per match 5 v 5	L	15.00	17.50	
3G Matches - Club				
Junior per match 5 v 5	L	20.00	22.50	
Junior per match 7 v 7	L	25.00	27.50	
Junior per match 9 v 9	L	30.00	32.50	
Junior per match 11 v 11	L	30.00	32.50	
Changing room	L	20.00	25.00	
3G Matches - Adults				
AGP 1 without changing rooms	L	45.00	50.00	
AGP 1 with changing rooms	L	65.00	70.00	
AGP 2 without changing rooms	L	65.00	70.00	
AGP 2 with changing rooms	L	105.00	110.00	
Athletics Track				
Non club rate				
Adult	L	5.20	5.40	
Junior	L	4.20	4.40	
Full track per hour	L	120.00	120.00	
Club rate				
Adult	L	4.20	4.40	
Junior	L	4.20	4.40	
Full track per hour	L	85.00	90.00	
Other				
Shower	L	2.60	2.80	
Function room and pavilion hire per hour (exclusive of VAT)	L	24.00	25.00	
Multi Purpose Studio per hour (exclusive of VAT)	L	18.00	19.00	
				10,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
HIPPODROME & HULLABALOO				
Restoration Levy (per ticket excluding children's shows)	L	2.00	2.00	
Booking Fee (per ticket)	L	1.00	1.00	
Hire & Conferencing (all pricing exclusive of VAT)				
John Wade Group Lounge - max capacity 40 (theatre style) - per hour	L	38.75	38.75	
John Wade Group Lounge - max capacity 40 (theatre style) - day hire**	L	231.75	231.75	
Living Water Tower Room - max capacity 18 - per hour	L	33.25	33.25	
Living Water Tower Room - max capacity 18 - day hire**	L	198.50	198.50	
Hippo Lounge - max capacity 70 - per hour	L	46.25	46.25	
Hippo Lounge - max capacity 70 - day hire**	L	277.75	277.75	
Hippo Education Space - max capacity 40 (workshop of approx. 25) - per hour	L	38.75	38.75	
Hippo Education Space - max capacity 40 (workshop of approx. 25) - day hire**	L	231.75	231.75	
Hullabaloo Rehearsal Space - max capacity 35 - per hour	L	38.75	38.75	
Hullabaloo Rehearsal Space - max capacity 35 - day hire**	L	231.75	231.75	
Hullabaloo Café - max capacity 70 - per hour	L	46.25	46.25	
Hullabaloo Café - max capacity 70 - day hire**	L	277.75	277.75	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/end full day	L	2,310.00	2,425.50	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/end half day	L	1,155.00	1,212.75	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/day full day	L	2,126.25	2,232.50	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/day half day	L	1,065.00	1,118.25	
Hullabaloo Theatre Hire - max capacity 150 - per hour	L	75.00	78.75	
Hullabaloo Theatre Hire - max capacity 150 - day hire**	L	546.25	573.50	
**day hire - 9am to 5pm				
Community Rate may be applicable for charities, NHS, children's groups and local artists if qualifying criteria met. This equates to 30% reduction on the above charges.				
				5,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
HOPETOWN DARLINGTON				
General Admission	L	Free	Free	
Donations welcome				
Wagon Woods Adventure Play				
Children over 1 - 1 hour peak (weekends & school holidays)	L	5.00	5.00	
Children over 1 - 1 hour off peak (weekdays term time)	L	3.50	3.50	
Experiment! immersive ride	L	5.00	5.00	
Private Hire				
The Stephenson Room - per hour	L	50.00	50.00	
The Pease Room - per hour	L	38.75	38.75	
The Carriage Works - half day	L	300.00	300.00	
The Carriage Works - full day	L	500.00	500.00	
The Carriage Works - per hour, after hours	L	100.00	100.00	
The Goods Shed/Clocktower Café - 3 hours 6-9pm	L	500.00	500.00	
The Goods Shed/Clocktower Café - per hour after 9pm	L	100.00	100.00	
Charity/Partner rate on all above hires - 30% discount	L			
Study at The Stores				
Historical research by Collections Manager - per hour	L	30.00	30.00	
Family history short research - up to 10 mins (including scans)	L	5.00	5.00	
Photographic reproduction - private use	L	6.50	6.50	
Commercial Photographic Reproduction				
Small local charitable, educational incl. websites	L	6.50	6.50	
Local commercial incl. websites	L	15.00	15.00	
Specialist magazines, journals & newspapers incl. websites	L	30.00	30.00	
Regional TV/Video/Film/DVD	L	50.00	50.00	
National/international TV/Video/Film/DVD	L	100.00	100.00	
School Visits				
Package 1 - Price per pupil	L	4.00	4.00	
Includes led workshop, Wagon Woods play, self guided time in museum and stores plus dedicated lunch area				
Package 2 - Price per pupil	L	7.50	7.50	
Includes led workshop, Wagon Woods play, Experiment! immersive ride, self guided time in museum and stores plus dedicated lunch area				
Both packages reduced by £2 per child for Darlington school children on free school meals				NIL
STRAY DOGS				
Dog held at Allington Way				
Statutory Fee	L	25.00	25.00	
Kennelling Fee	L	20.00	20.00	
Dog held offsite				
Fees incurred at Allington Way (as above) plus				
Kennelling Fee per day	L	30.00	30.00	
Handling Fee	L	50.00	50.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL				
Refuse sacks (per 25) (Exclusive of VAT)	L	131.50	137.60	
Garden Waste Sacks (Non VATable) (for collection of 10 bags)	L	14.20	14.90	
Bulky Household Collection up to 6 items	L	23.80	24.90	
Garden Waste Service	L	47.00	48.00	
Cost of replacement (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
360L Wheeled Bin	L	67.20	70.30	
240L Wheeled Bin	L	26.60	27.80	
Caddie	L	8.80	9.20	
Glass Box	L	6.50	6.80	
55L Box	L	6.50	6.80	
Lid for recycling box	L	2.60	2.70	
Lid for 240L bin	L	7.80	8.20	
Wheeled bin wheel	L	2.10	2.20	
				13,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
CEMETERIES				
Burial fees without exclusive right of burial (these fees will be tripled where the deceased is a non-resident of Darlington at time of death)				
Individual foetal remains	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Stillborn or child not exceeding 12 months	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 12 months up to 18 years	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 18 years	L	1,160.00	1,250.00	
Burial fees with exclusive right of burial (these fees will be doubled where the deceased is a non-resident of Darlington at time of death)				
Individual foetal remains	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Child not exceeding 12 months	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 12 months up to 18 years	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 18 years	L	1,160.00	1,250.00	
Cremated remains	L	250.00	300.00	
Exclusive rights of burial (these fees will be doubled if the purchaser is a non-resident of Darlington if not purchased at time of first interment).				
Exclusive burial rights (50 years) - Full Plot	L	1,200.00	1,300.00	
Exclusive burial rights (50 years) - Half Plot	L	600.00	650.00	
Exclusive burial rights (50 years) - Quarter Plot	L	300.00	325.00	
Exclusive burial rights for a bricked grave	L	2,400.00	2,600.00	
Extension to burial rights (20 years)	L	N/a	500.00	
Extension to burial rights (30 years)	L	N/a	700.00	
Extension to burial rights (40 years)	L	N/a	850.00	
Other charges				
Scattering of cremated remains	L	50.00	50.00	
Indemnity form (to produce duplicate grant)	L	50.00	50.00	
Transfer of burial rights	L	N/a	30.00	
Use of Cemetery Chapel	L	150.00	150.00	
Use of Crematorium Chapel for burial/memorial service	L	300.00	300.00	
After post mortem remains	L	250.00	300.00	
Exhumation of a body (excl. re-interment)	L	2,500.00	2,700.00	
Exhumation of cremated remains (excl. re-interment)	L	600.00	600.00	
Grave Maintenance (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Initial payment	L	60.00	70.00	
Annual Maintenance	L	45.00	50.00	
Memorials (fees will be doubled where the deceased to whom the memorial/inscription refers was non-resident of Darlington at time of death)				
Memorial rights including first inscription (30 years)	L	250.00	250.00	
Provision of kerbs – traditional sites only)	L	120.00	120.00	
Vases not exceeding 300mm	L	100.00	100.00	
Additional inscription	L	100.00	100.00	
Total financial effect for Cemeteries				15,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
CREMATORIUM				
Crematorium fees (inclusive of certificate of cremation, use of organ and scattering of remains in Gardens of Remembrance at an unreserved time)				
Individual foetal remains	N	No charge	No charge	
Hospital arrangement – foetal remains	L	250.00	300.00	
Stillborn or child not exceeding 12 months	N	No charge	No charge	
Person over 12 months up to 18 years	N	No charge	No charge	
Person over 18 years	L	1,160.00	1,200.00	
Direct Cremation	L	580.00	600.00	
After post mortem remains	L	250.00	300.00	
Other charges				
Postal Carton	L	25.00	25.00	
Metal Urn	L	60.00	60.00	
Wooden Casket	L	70.00	70.00	
Biodegradable Urn	L	85.00	85.00	
Baby Urn	L	10.00	10.00	
Extended use of Crematorium Chapel	L	300.00	300.00	
Scattering of remains at reserved time	L	50.00	50.00	
Webcasts (inclusive of VAT at the appropriate rate)	L	60.00	65.00	
Tributes (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Single Photo	L	15.00	15.00	
Basic Slideshow	L	55.00	60.00	
Slideshow set to music	L	85.00	90.00	
Themed Tribute to music	L	100.00	100.00	
Family supplied Tribute	L	30.00	35.00	
For every additional 25 images	L	25.00	25.00	
Tribute Download link	L	20.00	20.00	
Webcast Keepsake (DVD, Blu-ray, USB or audio CD)	L	60.00	70.00	
Extra copies	L	30.00	35.00	
Video Book	L	100.00	120.00	
Extra copies	L	60.00	60.00	
Memory Box	L	130.00	140.00	
Extra copies	L	70.00	70.00	
Book of Remembrance (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Single Entry (2 lines)	L	80.00	90.00	
Double Entry (3 or 4 lines)	L	120.00	140.00	
Additional lines	L	25.00	25.00	
Low rate emblem	L	N/a	100.00	
High rate emblem	L	120.00	140.00	
Memorial Cards (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Single entry card (2 lines)	L	35.00	35.00	
Double entry card (3 or 4 lines)	L	45.00	45.00	
Additional lines	L	10.00	10.00	
Low rate emblem	L	N/a	100.00	
High rate emblem	L	100.00	140.00	
Other Memorial Schemes				
Replacement kerb vase plaque	L	300.00	300.00	
Replacement flower holder	L	5.00	5.00	
Wall plaques	L	270.00	270.00	
Planter plaques	L	380.00	380.00	
Lease of space for memorial plaques (per annum)	L	27.00	28.00	
Total financial effect for Crematorium				50,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
ALLOTMENTS & STABLES				
Rent per year	L	200.00	200.00	
				NIL
HIGHWAYS				
Private apparatus in the Highway (Section 50 Licence, new installations)	L	550.00	650.00	
Private Road Openings (repair existing)	L	225.00	250.00	
Vehicle Crossings – estimate fee (taken as part of payment if go ahead with the works)	L	25.00	25.00	
Vehicle Crossings (plus actual construction costs)	L	100.00	100.00	
Vehicle Crossings if planning permission required on a classified road (plus actual construction costs)	L	150.00	150.00	
Section 184 Application for private vehicle crossings		150.00	150.00	
- Domestic dwelling	L	150.00	150.00	
- Commercial and industrial	L	150.00	300.00	
Temporary Traffic Regulation Notices (road closures etc)	L	214.00	222.50	
Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (road closures etc) (plus advertising)	L	332.00	345.00	
Urgent Traffic Regulation Notices	L	173.00	180.00	
Application to Secretary of State for TTRO extension (plus advertising)	L	135.00	140.50	
Personal Search - Highways (by email) per question	L	6.00	8.40	
Street Naming Royal Mail Income (per address, Nationally agreed price LGIH)	L	1.00	1.00	
Street Naming & Numbering of Properties:				
- Per road name (developer suggests)	L	186.00	193.50	
- Per road name (council names)	L	226.00	235.00	
- Per plot	L	16.50	17.00	
Street Naming & Numbering of Properties:				
- Per plot or renaming of a property	L	38.00	39.00	
Rechargeable Works	L	Actual cost + 10%	Actual cost + 10%	
Temporary Traffic Light Applications	L	No Charge Individually priced based on requirements	No Charge Individually priced based on requirements	
Section 50 Licence associated bond costs	L			
Access protection markings	L	No charge	No charge	
Tourist Sign (plus actual cost of sign)	L	£75.00 + VAT	£75.00 + VAT	
Accident Data Requests	L	£75.00 + VAT	£75.00 + VAT	
Traffic Count Data	L	75.00	75.00	
Street Lighting Design Service	L	Individually priced based on charge out rate	Individually priced based on charge out rate	
Oversailing Licence	L	No charge	No charge	
Banner Licence	L	No charge	No charge	
Placing Goods on the Highway	L	155.00	155.00	
Deposits upon the Highway	L	No charge	No charge	
Temporary Development Signs – Admin Fee	L	200.00	200.00	
Temporary Development Signs – DBC undertake work on behalf of developer	L	Actual costs	Actual costs	
Switch off / on traffic signal / pelican crossings – per visit	L	150.00	150.00	
Unauthorised marks or affixing of signs to street furniture	L	No charge	No charge	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Section 278 Highway works agreement	L	8% of works + legal if delivered by developer	8% of works + legal if delivered by developer	
Section 116 Stopping Up of the Highway	N	Actual Costs	Actual Costs	
Section 38 Road Adoption agreement	L	8% of works + legal if delivered by developer	8% of works + legal if delivered by developer	
NRSAWA Defect Charges	N	Nationally set scale of charges	Nationally set scale of charges	
NRSAWA Road Opening Inspection Charges (sample)	N	Nationally set scale of charges	Nationally set scale of charges	
Section 74 – charges for overstay	N	Nationally set scale of charges	Nationally set scale of charges	
				2,000
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY				
Public Path Orders (HA 80 S 118 and 119, TCPA 90 s247, 257)				
Actual cost based on charge out rate plus advertising and legal costs		3,066.00 (minimum)	3,192.00 (minimum)	
PROW Temporary Closures – as Highways fees and charges				
Landowner Rights of Way Statement and Declaration s31.6				
One parcel of land, includes 2 notices	L	256.00	267.00	
Additional parcel	L	51.00	53.00	
Additional notice	L	51.00	53.00	
Authorisation for installing a new gate or stile (HA 80 s147)	L	102.00	106.00	
Path Orders under Deregulation Act				
Actual cost based on charge out rate plus advertising and legal costs, to include but not restricted to pre-application advice, processing the application, resolving objections, making the order, confirmation of the order, and any subsequent Public Inquiry or Hearing				
				NIL
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT				
Charges for Concessionary Travel (ENCTS);				
Replacement pass for lost/stolen without a CRN	L	10.00	10.00	
Production, placement and retrieval of notices when bus stops are temporarily per bus stop	L	60.00	60.00	
Production and placement of bus timetable information when bus services have to be re-registered due to road closures – up to 6 timetables	L	84.00	84.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
TRANSPORT SERVICES				
Charges for Taxi Licensing;				
Taxi Vehicle Test	L	56.00	56.00	
Taxi Vehicle Test and MOT	L	66.00	66.00	
Failure to attend (less than 48 hours' notice)	L	56.00	56.00	
Re-test	L	27.00	27.00	
Re-test including emissions	L	39.00	39.00	
Re-test emissions only	L	12.00	12.00	
Charges for General Public;				
MOT for Standard Car Class IV	L	38.00	40.00	
MOT for Class V Vehicles	L	45.00	47.00	
MOT for Class VII Vehicles	L	45.00	47.00	
				Minimal
PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING				
Works in default & statutory activities per hour	L	62.00	65.00	
Housing inspections & consultancy per hour (inclusive of VAT)	L	62.00	65.00	
Charge for the service relevant Housing Act 2004 legal notice	L	465.00	465.00	
Administration cost for the securing empty homes (addition of VAT if completed by agreement)	L	310.00	310.00	
Houses in Multiple Occupation Activities;				
HMO licence fee per letting/let/tenancy	L	N/a	N/a	
Part A Licence Application	L	217.00	217.00	
Part B 5 year HMO licence per letting	L	155.00	155.00	
Other relevant HMO activities per hour	L	62.00	65.00	
Variation of HMO licence	L	124.00	124.00	
Housing Immigration Inspections;				
Within 10 working days (excluding VAT)	L	155.00	155.00	
Fast Track within 5 working days (excluding VAT)	L	217.00	217.00	
General Enforcement Activities;				
Hourly rate for preparation of case reports/prosecutions	L	62.00	65.00	
Additional copies of legal notices via post	L	10.00	10.00	
Additional copies of legal notices - Scanned copy by Email	L	Free	Free	
Energy Company Regulation				
ECOflex declarations (excluding VAT)	L	93.00	93.00	
The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (Amendment) Regulations 2022				
Fines for failing to provide a working smoke or carbon monoxide alarm. Offence by the same individual or organisation;				
First	N	500.00	500.00	
Second	N	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Third	N	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Fourth	N	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Fifth or more	N	5,000.00	5,000.00	
The Redress Schemes for Letting Agency Work and Property Management Work (England) Order 2014;				
Fines for failing to join an approved letting and management redress scheme;				
Businesses that have been served with a notice of intent and failed to join an approved scheme	N	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Businesses that have joined an approved scheme following the service of the notice of intent	N	4,000.00	4,000.00	
Businesses that have joined an approved scheme prior to enforcement action being taken, after the 1st October 2014	N	3,000.00	3,000.00	
**The Redress Scheme is currently undergoing a national review and may be replaced prior to April 2024 by a new civil penalty policy				

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) Regulations 2015				
Penalty (less than 3 months in breach) renting a non-compliant property	N	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Penalty (3 months or more in breach) renting out a non-compliant property	N	Up to 4,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 4,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Providing false or misleading information on the PRS Exemptions Register	N	Up to 1,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 1,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Failing to comply with a compliance notice	N	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Housing and Planning Act 2016				
Failure to comply with an Improvement Notice (under section 30 of the Housing Act 2004)				
Failure to comply with a Prohibition Order (under section 32 of the Housing Act 2004)				
Breach of a banning order made under section 21 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016	N	Civil penalties of up to 30,000 per offence as an alternative to prosecution	Civil penalties of up to 30,000 per offence as an alternative to prosecution	
Using violence to secure entry to a property (under section 6 of the Criminal Law Act 1977)				
Illegal eviction or harassment of the occupiers of a property (under section 1 of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977)				
COST OF REVENUE COLLECTION				Minimal
Council Tax – All Charges do not incur VAT				
Issue of Summons for Liability Order	L	41.00	42.00	
Issue of Liability Order	L	51.00	53.00	
Issue of Summons for Committal Hearing	L	264.00	264.00	
Issue of Statutory Demand	L	187.00	194.00	
Schedule 3 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992				
Penalty where				
- A person is requested to supply information and fails to	L	70.00	70.00	
- A person knowingly supplies inaccurate information	L	70.00	70.00	
- A person fails to notify a material change without a reasonable excuse	L	70.00	70.00	
Where a penalty has been imposed and there is a further request for the same information a further penalty				
- A person fails to supply information	L	280.00	280.00	
- A person knowingly supplies inaccurate information	L	280.00	280.00	
				21,000
Business Rates (NNDR) – All Charges do not incur VAT				
Issue of Summons for Liability Order	L	41.00	42.00	
Issue of Liability Order	L	51.00	53.00	
Issue of Summons for Committal Hearing	L	264.00	264.00	
Issue of Statutory Demand	L	187.00	194.00	
				1,000

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APPENDIX 4

**KEY ASSUMPTIONS USED IN PROJECTED
RESOURCES, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME 2026/27-2029/30**

Factor	Assumption
Resources	
Council Tax Base	Variable depending on projected additional properties.
Council Tax	2.99% increase in 2026/27 and future years in line with Government Core Spending Power.
Adult Social Care Precept	2% increase in 2026/27 and future years in line with Government Core Spending Power.
Council Tax collection	99% collected
Business Rates	Business Rates as per estimates from the Council's specialist advisors of the Government's Fair Funding review.
Government Grants	Provisional awaiting draft Local Government Finance Settlement.
	Revenue Support Grant increased to include Fair Funding reforms and consolidation of grant streams, as per estimates from the Council's specialist advisors of the Government's Fair Funding review.
	Better Care Grant (previously BCF) consolidated with Delayed Discharge Grant (previously shown in Departmental net expenditure) at 2025/26 financial settlement flatlined to 2029/30.
	Social Care Grant, assumed consolidated into Revenue Support Grant as per Fair Funding consultation.
	Homeless Prevention Grant, Temporary Accommodation element assumed consolidated into Revenue Support Grant as per Fair Funding consultation. Balance of grant in Department net expenditure flatlined at 2025/26 allocation.
	National Insurance Offset Grant, assumed consolidated into Revenue Support Grant as per Fair Funding consultation.
	Children's Social Care Prevention Grant, in Departmental net expenditure flatlined at 2025/26 allocation.
	Recovery Grant, assumed rolled into Revenue Support Grant as per Fair Funding consultation.
	Children & Families Grant as per financial settlement 2025/26, flatlined and assumed to continue to 2029/30.
	New Homes Bonus Grant ended as per 2025/26 final settlement
	Extended Producer Responsibility Grant as per 2026/27 provisional allocation. Assumed to reduce in future years as industry reduces packaging.

Expenditure	
Pay inflation	2026/27 3% and thereafter 2% in line with national scheme.
Price inflation	Only contractual inflation on running costs.
Local Government Pension Scheme	Contribution rate of 14.5% for 2026/27 and all years to 2029/30.
Financing Costs	
Interest rates payable	Average rate on existing debt, 2026/27 of 3.59%, 2027/28 of 3.29%, 2028/29 of 3.15% and 2029/30 of 2.97%
Interest rates payable on new debt – 10 year rate	2026/27 of 4.83%, 2027/28 of 4.70%, 2028/29 of 4.60% and 2029/30 4.60%.
Interest rates receivable	3.50% in 2026/27, 3.50% in 2027/28, 3.50% in 2028/29 and 3.50% in 2029/30
Income	
Inflationary increases	Various based on individual service considerations.

REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2025/26**Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2026**

	2025-29 MTFP (Feb 2025)
Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) :-	£000
MTFP Planned Opening Balance 01/04/2025	11,458
Approved net contribution from balances	(3,069)
Planned Closing Balance 31/03/2026	8,389
Increase in opening balance from 2024-25 results	1,489
Projected corporate underspends / (overspends) :-	
Council Wide	(146)
Financing Costs	(192)
Changes in grant income received	(143)
Projected General Fund Reserve (excluding Departmental)	at 9,397
31st March 2026	
Planned Balance at 31st March 2026	8,389
Improvement	1,008

Departmental projected year-end balances

	Improvement / (decline) compared with 2025-29 MTFP
	£000
People Group	(2,969)
Environment, Highways & Community Services Group	125
Resources and Governance Group	(28)
Chief Executive	(8)
Economy & Public Protection	0
TOTAL	(2,880)

Summary Comparison with :-

	2025-29 MTFP
	£000
Corporate Resources - increase in opening balance from 24/25 results	1,489
Corporate Resources - additional in-year Improvement/(Decline)	(481)
Departmental - Improvement / (Decline)	(2,880)
Improvement / (Decline) compared with MTFP	(1,872)
Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2026	6,517

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MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL TERM 2026/27 TO 2029/30

	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£m	£m	£m	£m
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Chief Executives Office	0.342	0.349	0.356	0.364
People Services	100.743	102.676	104.215	106.665
Economy & Public Protection	2.208	2.145	2.052	2.124
Environment, Highways and Community Services	27.792	28.319	28.888	29.818
Resources & Governance	16.824	17.339	17.823	18.184
Financing Costs	4.507	4.057	4.157	4.473
Investment Returns - Joint Venture	(2.188)	(1.942)	(1.855)	(1.188)
Council Wide	(1.169)	(1.153)	(1.137)	(1.120)
Contingencies	0.278	0.202	0.202	0.202
Contribution to/(from) revenue balances	(4.279)	(1.558)	1.797	2.033
Total Net Expenditure	145.058	150.434	156.498	161.555
<u>Resources - Projected and Assumed</u>				
Council Tax	74.633	79.308	84.334	89.671
Business Rates Retained	25.886	26.202	26.544	26.884
Revenue Support Grant	35.376	36.302	37.431	37.157
Better Care Grant	5.537	5.537	5.537	5.537
Children & Families Grant	0.922	0.922	0.922	0.922
Extended Producer Responsibility Grant	2.704	2.163	1.730	1.384
Total Resources	145.058	150.434	156.498	161.555
<u>Balances</u>				
Opening Balance	6.517	2.238	0.680	2.477
Contribution to/(from) Balances	(4.279)	(1.558)	1.797	2.033
Closing Balance	2.238	0.680	2.477	4.510

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Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 - 2029/30					Appendix 7
	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30 £'000	Total £'000
Children, Families & Learning					
School Condition Allocations	<i>154</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>154</i>	616
	<i>154</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>154</i>	616
Housing					
Adaptations / Lifts	153	156	159	162	630
Heating replacement programme	1,352	1,379	1,406	1,434	5,571
Structural works	250	255	260	265	1,030
Lifeline Services	379	380	382	73	1,214
Repairs before painting	69	134	136	139	478
Roofing	1,000	1,020	1,040	1,061	4,121
Garages	329	25	26	26	406
External Works (footpaths, fencing, etc.)	214	218	223	227	882
Pavement Crossing	28	29	30	30	117
Window and Door Replacement Programme	2,025	2,065	1,607	1,639	7,336
IPM works	3,672	3,745	3,820	3,897	15,134
Energy Efficiency	5,237	5,200	1,500	1,530	13,467
Communal Works	204	208	212	216	840
Capital Schemes approved in previous years	5,821	0	0	0	5,821
New build (net of HE grant)/regeneration	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,000
Fees	386	396	402	412	1,596
	<i>22,119</i>	<i>16,210</i>	<i>12,203</i>	<i>12,111</i>	62,643
Transport					
Highway Maintenance	<i>1,206</i>	<i>1,206</i>	<i>1,206</i>	<i>1,206</i>	4,824
Integrated Transport	<i>893</i>	<i>893</i>	<i>893</i>	<i>893</i>	3,572
Pothole Funding	<i>969</i>	<i>969</i>	<i>969</i>	<i>969</i>	3,876
	<i>3,068</i>	<i>3,068</i>	<i>3,068</i>	<i>3,068</i>	12,272
Other Capital Programmes					
Disabled Facility Grants	<i>1,319</i>	<i>1,319</i>	<i>1,319</i>	<i>1,319</i>	5,276
	<i>1,319</i>	<i>1,319</i>	<i>1,319</i>	<i>1,319</i>	5,276
Council funded Schemes					
Advanced Design Fees	150	150	150	150	600
EPC Surveys in Council Commercial estate	100	100	0	0	200
Capitalised Repairs (Already approved to 2028/29 at £0.250m)	500	500	500	500	2,000
	<i>750</i>	<i>750</i>	<i>650</i>	<i>650</i>	2,800
Total Spending Plans	27,410	21,501	17,394	17,302	83,607
Funded by:					
Capital Grants	5,861	5,824	4,541	4,541	20,767
HRA Revenue Contributions	12,261	12,210	11,903	11,811	48,185
HRA Capital Receipts	300	300	300	300	1,200
Borrowing	8,238	2,417	0	0	10,655
Corporate Resources	750	750	650	650	2,800
Total Resources	27,410	21,501	17,394	17,302	83,607
Commitments - see above	27,410	21,501	17,394	17,302	83,607
Resources Available for Investment	0	0	0	0	0

Figures shown in italics are estimates based on current allocations, awaiting confirmation of future allocations.

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**ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
8 JANUARY 2026**

**ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
WORK PROGRAMME**

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee during 2025/26 Municipal Year and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be included.

Summary

2. Members are requested to consider the attached draft work programme (**Appendix 1**) for the next Municipal Year which has been prepared based on Officers recommendations and discussions held at the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Annual Briefing which took place on 28 May 2025.
3. Once the work programme has been approved by this Scrutiny Committee, any additional areas of work which Members wish to add to the agreed work programme will require the completion of a quad of aims in accordance with the previously approved procedure (**Appendix 3**)

Recommendation

4. It is recommended that Members note the current status of the Work Programme and consider any additional areas of work they would like to include.

Amy Wennington
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

Background Papers

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

Olivia Hugill, Extension: 5363

Council Plan	The report contributes to the Council Plan in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the Plan.
Addressing inequalities	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address.
Tackling Climate Change	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Efficient and effective use of resources	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.
Health and Wellbeing	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. The format of the proposed work programme has been reviewed to enable Members of this Scrutiny Committee to provide a rigorous and informed challenge to the areas for discussion.
6. The Council Plan was adopted on 18 July 2024, and outlines Darlington Borough Council's long-term ambitions for Darlington and priorities for action over the next three years. It gives strategic direction to the Council and Council services, defining priorities, identifying key actions, and shaping delivery.

Forward Plan and Additional Items

7. Once the Work Programme has been agreed by this Scrutiny Committee, any Member seeking to add a new item to the work programme will need to complete a quad of aims.
8. Details of the items included on the Forward Plan has been attached at **Appendix 2** for information.

Climate Considerations

9. Tackling climate change is a shared responsibility. Everything the Council does either has an impact on, or is impacted by, climate change so it is important that all Scrutiny Committees ensure that everything that comes before them has considered this. The Council Plan now includes climate change as a key principle underpinning everything the Council does.
10. The Sustainability and Climate Change Lead Officer has provided questions for Members of this Committee to consider when scrutinising reports. These questions will also form part of any submitted quad of aims. A copy of the questions has been attached at **Appendix 4**.

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ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26

	Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer	Scrutiny's Role
RESOURCES				
	Performance Management Framework	Work to be undertaken to look at relevant PI's. Informal meeting to be arranged 4 September 2025 29 January 2026	Relevant Assistant Directors	To understand/monitor and challenge the indicators
	Sickness Absence Year-end turn out	To be circulated to Members of the Scrutiny Committee as a briefing report	Brett Nielsen	N/A
	Health and Safety Year-end turn out	To be circulated to Members of the Scrutiny Committee as a briefing report	Brett Nielsen	N/A
	Medium-Term Financial Plan - Monitoring	Quarterly monitoring reports to be submitted to meetings of this Scrutiny Committee September 2025	Brett Nielsen	To contribute and challenge the Medium-Term Financial Plan and assist with the implementation and development of the required savings

		October 2025 29 January 2026		
	Medium-Term Financial Plan	8 January 2026	Brett Nielsen	To provide a response to Cabinet on the proposals in relation to the Medium-Term Financial Plan
	Capital Programme and Project Position Statement	Quarterly monitoring reports to be submitted to meetings of this Scrutiny Committee September 2025 October 2025 29 January 2026	Anthony Hewitt / Brian Robson	To look at the position
	Investment Fund	4 September 2025	Brett Nielsen	To consider progress against the agreed investments being funded through the Investment Fund.
	Borrowing – High Level Headlines	30 October 2025	Brett Nielsen	To look at the position
	Complaints, Compliments and Comments - Annual Report	4 September 2025	Lee Downey	To look at the position
	Complaints Made to Local Government Ombudsman	4 September 2025	Lee Downey	To consider the outcome of cases which have been determined by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) and the Housing Ombudsman (HO) and forward any view to Cabinet

	Collection of Council Tax, Business Rates and Rent 2024/25	June 2025	Anthony Sandys	To provide Members with an update on the collection of Council Tax, Business Rates and Council rents during 2024-25 and consider the write-off of debts over £1,000 that are irrecoverable, before approval by Cabinet.
	Council Tax Support Scheme 2026-2027	30 October 2025	Anthony Sandys	To provide Members an update on the Council Tax Support Scheme 2026-2027.
ECONOMY				
	Business Engagement	16 April 2026	Seth Pearson / Andrew Perkin	To update Members of Scrutiny
	Consultation on the Housing Strategy	4 September 2025	David Hand	For Members to consult on the Strategy.
	Climate Change and Nature Strategy	4 September 2025	Margaret Enstone	To present the draft Strategy to Members.

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**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**



DARLINGTON

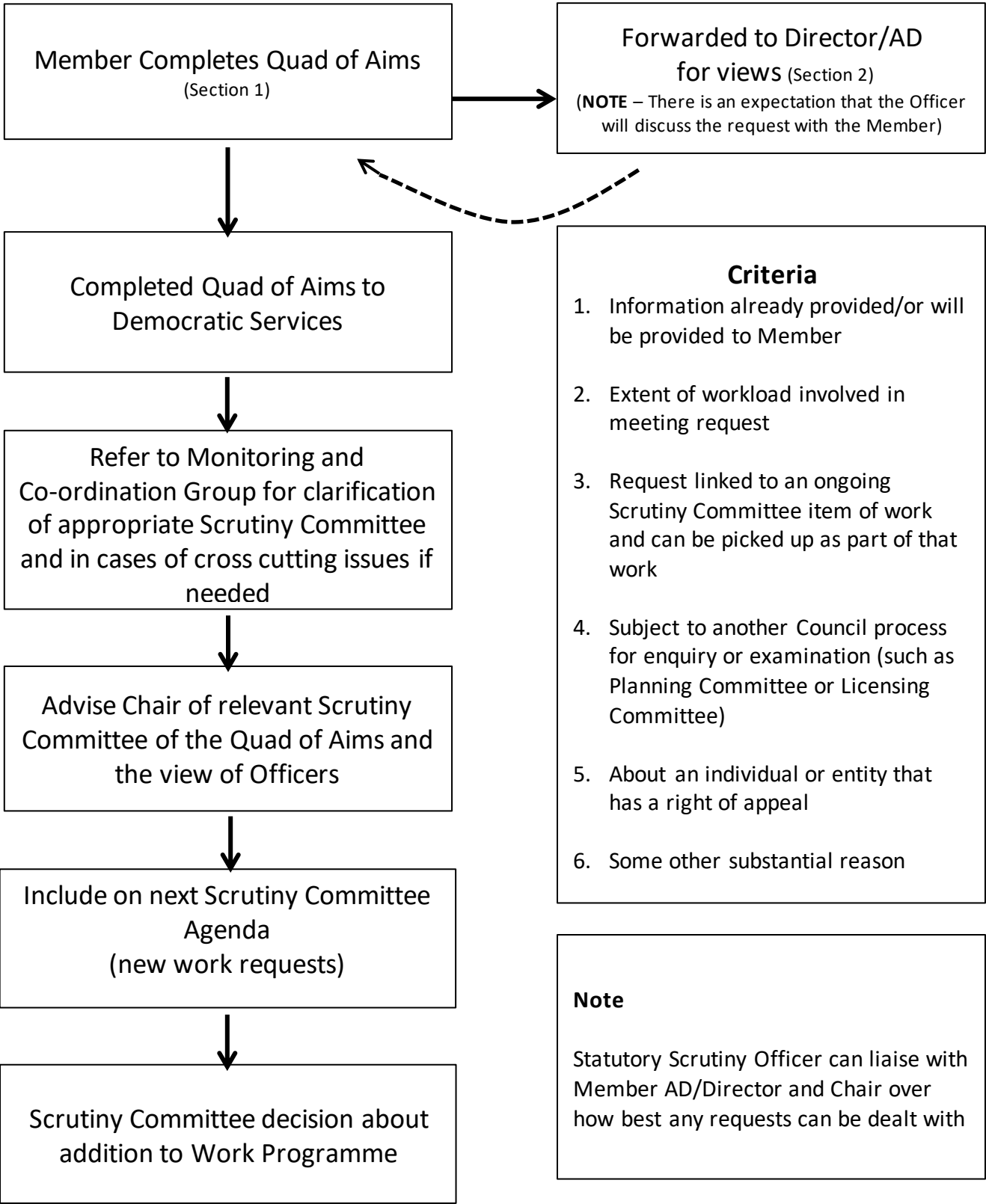
Borough Council

**FORWARD PLAN
FOR THE PERIOD: 3 NOVEMBER 2025 – 30 APRIL 2026**

Title	Decision Maker and Date
Housing Revenue Account MTFP	Cabinet 2 Dec 2025
Housing Services Tenancy Policy 2025-2030	Cabinet 2 Dec 2025
Mid-Year Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management 2025/26	Cabinet 2 Dec 2025
MTFP for consultation	Cabinet 2 Dec 2025
Pride in Place	Cabinet 2 Dec 2025
Working Age Adults Transformation Project	Cabinet 2 Dec 2025
Climate Change Progress	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Council Plan Performance Report - Quarter 4	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Council Tax Calculation of Tax Base 2026/27	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Consultation on Victoria Embankment Conservation Area Appraisal	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Consultation on West End Conservation Area Appraisal	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Museum Accreditation Policies 2026	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Land at Morton Palms Business Park - Proposed sale of plot	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Land at Salters Lane, Cummins - Proposed sale of plot	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Maintained Schools Capital Programme Summer 2026	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Release of S106 Education Capital Funds	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Schedule of Transactions	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Objections to Traffic Order – Lowson Street	Cabinet 6 Jan 2026
Biodiversity Duty Reporting	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Capital Strategy	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Land at Ingenium Parc and Morton Palms - Development Proposal	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
MTFP 2025/26 - Final Version Post Consultation	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Schools Admissions 2025/26	Cabinet 3 Feb 2026
Darlington Transport Plan	Cabinet 3 Mar 2026
Town Centre Regeneration and East Street Development	Cabinet 3 Mar 2026
Town Centre Regeneration and STEM Centre Development	Cabinet 3 Mar 2026
Annual Procurement Plan	Cabinet 7 Apr 2026
Annual Statement of Accounts 2025/26	Cabinet 7 Apr 2026
Blackwell Parkland - Proposed Village Green Registration	Cabinet 7 Apr 2026

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PROCESS FOR ADDING AN ITEM TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE’S
PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME



PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

QUAD OF AIMS (MEMBERS' REQUEST FOR ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED BY SCRUTINY)

SECTION 1 TO BE COMPLETED BY MEMBERS

NOTE – This document should only be completed if there is a clearly defined and significant outcome from any potential further work. This document should **not** be completed as a request for or understanding of information.

REASON FOR REQUEST?	RESOURCE (WHAT OFFICER SUPPORT WOULD YOU REQUIRE?)
PROCESS (HOW CAN SCRUTINY ACHIEVE THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOME?)	HOW WILL THE OUTCOME MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Signed Councillor

Date

SECTION 2 TO BE COMPLETED BY DIRECTORS/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
(NOTE – There is an expectation that Officers will discuss the request with the Member)

	Criteria
1. (a) Is the information available elsewhere? Yes No If yes, please indicate where the information can be found (attach if possible and return with this document to Democratic Services) (b) Have you already provided the information to the Member or will you shortly be doing so? 	1. Information already provided/or will be provided to Member
2. If the request is included in the Scrutiny Committee work programme what are the likely workload implications for you/your staff? 	2. Extent of workload involved in meeting request
3. Can the request be included in an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and picked up as part of that? 	3. Request linked to an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and can be picked up as part of that work
4. Is there another Council process for enquiry or examination about the matter currently underway? 	4. Subject to another Council process for enquiry or examination (such as Planning Committee or Licensing Committee)
5. Has the individual or entity some other right of appeal? 	5. About an individual or entity that has a right of appeal
6. Is there any substantial reason (other than the above) why you feel it should not be included on the work programme? 	6. Some other substantial reason

Signed **Position** **Date**

PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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Climate Considerations

Questions for scrutiny committee members to ask

1. Will the proposal/project result in an increase in carbon emissions?
 - How have you ensured that energy is not wasted or lost through poor insulation, heating the wrong areas or inefficient lighting?
 - Will there be an increase in business travel or commuting?
 - How easy will it be for people to travel by public transport, bicycle or walking?
 - Is there a need for travel at all?
 - Will there be an increase in waste disposal?
2. How will you reduce emissions?
 - How can you reduce energy use?
 - How can you reduce use of natural resources?
 - How can you ensure suppliers are working in a sustainable way?
 - How can you reduce waste?
 - How can you improve energy efficiency?
3. Will the proposal have any impacts on biodiversity (positive or negative)?
 - Will there be a net reduction in trees?
 - Are there opportunities for planting?
 - Are there other habitats or wildlife considerations?
4. Does the proposal incorporate/promote the development of renewable energy?
 - How can you increase the use of renewable energy in your project?
5. How can you minimise emissions from transport?
 - How can your project enable and encourage active travel?
 - How can you reduce the need for travel at all?
6. How will you make the proposal/project resilient to the impacts of climate change, such as more frequent severe weather, floods and heatwaves?
 - How can your project be designed to be resilient to these occurrences?
 - How can you ensure the building does not overheat in summer?
 - How will your service travel during these events?
 - How can communities using your service be protected?

Supplementary questions

- Does any procurement consider the impact on the environment?
- How does the project/proposal support the climate change strategy, tree and woodland strategy and sustainable communities strategy?
- How does the project/proposal support local businesses and employers to be sustainable?
- How can the project/proposal help develop local skills?

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