

FORWARD PLAN FOR THE PERIOD: 6 MARCH 2024 - 31 JULY 2024

What is a Forward Plan?

The Forward Plan is a list of the key decisions, which are due to be taken, by the Cabinet, a Member of the Cabinet or a designated Officer in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulation 2012. It also gives notice of the decisions that are likely to be taken in private. These decisions need to be published on the Forward Plan at least 28 clear days before the decision is to be taken. The Plan is updated on an ad hoc basis, but at least once a month. It can be accessed on the Council website www.darlington.gov.uk.

What is a Key Decision?

A key decision in the Council's constitution is defined as to:

- 1. result in the Borough Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- 2. be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards in the Borough.

What are the reasons that a report can be held in private?

Whilst the majority of the Executive decisions listed in this Forward Plan will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will inevitably be some decisions to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially or personal information.

The Forward Plan is a formal notice under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012 that some of the decisions listed in this Forward Plan will be held in private because the report will contain exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (set out below) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

- 1. Information relating to any individual
- 2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
- 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)
- 4 Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under the authority

- 5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
- 6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
- 7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Who takes Key Decisions?

Under the Council's constitution, key decisions are taken by Cabinet.

Are only Key Decisions listed in the Forward Plan?

The Council only has a statutory obligation to publish key decisions and decisions that are to be heard at a private meeting.

What does the Forward Plan tell me?

The Plan gives information about:

- What key decisions are coming up
- When those decisions are likely to be made
- Which decisions will be held in private
- Who will make those decisions
- The relevant Scrutiny Committee that the decision relates to
- What consultation will be undertaken
- Whether the decision will be a open or closed report (and the reason why) (public and press are not allowed to access closed reports and will not be able to stay in the Cabinet meeting when a closed report is being considered)
- Who you can contact for further information

How to make representations

Members of the public have a right to make representations to the Council, including whether they think that any items we are proposing to consider in private should be dealt with in public. The Council will consider any representations before a decision is taken.

Anyone who wishes to make representations to the decision maker about a particular matter should do so in writing, at least a week before it is due to be considered, either by letter or email to Lynne Wood using the contact details set out below.

How and who do I contact?

Each entry in the Plan indicates the names of all the relevant people to contact about that particular item.

For general information about the decision-making process and for copies of any documents outlined in the Forward Plan please contact Lynne Wood, Elections Manager, Democratic Services, Resources Group, Town Hall, Feethams, Darlington, DL1 5QT. Tel: 01325 405803. Email: lynne.wood@darlington.gov.uk.

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Title Annual Procurement Plan

Brief Description To consider the Procurement Plan and to agree direct contract awards.

Decision Type Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 9 Apr 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Document to be submitted Report and Annual Procurement Plan

Title

Dolphin Centre Update: Phase 3 Mechanical and Electrical Replacement Programme and Release of Additional Capital Funds from Swimming Pool Support Fund

Brief Description

To update members on the delivery of phase 3 mechanical and electrical (M&E) installation, the successful outcome of a bid to the swimming pool support fund and a range of invest to save proposals at the Dolphin Centre.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 9 Apr 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Health and Housing Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author

Barbara Strickland, PA Manager Barbara.Strickland@darlington.gov.uk

Department Services

Wards Affected Park East

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Proposed Waiting Restrictions Outram Street

Brief Description

To advise Members of an objection received to a proposal for waiting restrictions at Outram Street.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 9 Apr 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Local Services Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Barbara Strickland, PA Manager Barbara.Strickland@darlington.gov.uk

Department Services

Wards Affected Park East

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Town Centre Site Development and Proposal to seek Development Partner through Framework and Acquisition of East Street Leasehold Interest

Brief Description To consider the acquisition of the head leasehold in East Street.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction

Part exempt 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 9 Apr 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)

Economy Portfolio, Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author

Barbara Strickland, PA Manager Barbara.Strickland@darlington.gov.uk

Department Services

Wards Affected Park East

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Council Plan

Brief Description

To consider the responses received as part of the consultation process and to approve the recommend the Council Plan to full Council for approval.

Decision Type Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 7 May 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, Adults Scrutiny Committee, Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)

Leader of the Council

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process Consultation with Scrutiny Committees and the public.

Document to be submitted

Report and Council Plan.

Title Housing Services Asset Management Strategy

Brief Description To approve the Housing Services Asset Management Strategy.

Decision Type Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 7 May 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Health and Housing Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process Meetings with Tenants Panel and written comments

Document to be submitted Report and Strategy

Title Housing Services Vulnerability Policy

Brief Description To consider and approve the Housing Services Vulnerability Policy.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 7 May 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Health and Housing Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process Meetings with Tenants Panel and written comments.

Document to be submitted Report and Policy.

Title

Schedule of Transactions - May 2024

Brief Description

To consider the terms negotiated by the Director on behalf of the Council to enable contractually binding contracts to be complete.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction

Part exempt 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 7 May 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author

Barbara Strickland, PA Manager Barbara.Strickland@darlington.gov.uk

Department Services

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Document to be submitted Report and Schedule of Transactions

Title Disabled Facilities Grant 2024-25

Brief Description

Permission to release fund to enable adaptations for those individuals who are eligible to receive the Disabled Facilities Grant.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 11 Jun 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Adults Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Adults Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Sarah Foster sarah.foster@darlington.gov.uk

Department People

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Land at Faverdale - Burtree Garden Village - Proposed Infrastructure Development Agreement (IDA)

Brief Description

To seek approval to enter into an Infrastructure Development Agreement (IDA) with Homes England.

Decision Type Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction

Part exempt 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 11 Jun 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Economy Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Barbara Strickland, PA Manager Barbara.Strickland@darlington.gov.uk

Department Services

Wards Affected Brinkburn and Faverdale

Consultation Process None

Document to be submitted Report and draft agreement

Title Representation on Other Bodies 2023/24

Brief Description

To appoint Members to the various outside bodies to which Cabinet can appoint.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 11 Jun 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Leader of the Council

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Collection of Council Tax, Business Rates and Rent 2023-24

Brief Description

To advise on collection rates for Council Tax, Business Rates and Rent to seek approval for the write-off of irrecoverable debts.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Council Plan Performance Report - Quarter Four

Brief Description

Report detailing progress and performance against the actions and priorities outlined in the Council Plan in Quarter 4.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Leader of the Council

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Title Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy 2024/29

Brief Description To approve the Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy 2024-29

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Councillor Matthew Roche

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Housing Services Gas and Electrical Safety Policies 2024/29

Brief Description

To approve the Housing Services Gas and Electrical Safety Policies 2024-29.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Councillor Matthew Roche

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process

Document to be submitted Report and policy

Title

Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring Outturn 2023/24

Brief Description

To provide information on the delivery of the Council's Capital Programme, the financial outturn position, financing of Capital expenditure and update on projects.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author

Gail Banyard, PA Manager, Barbara Strickland, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk, Barbara.Strickland@darlington.gov.uk

Department Services

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A

Title

Revenue Budget Outturn 2023/24

Brief Description

To present the Revenue Outturn to allow consideration of the results in light of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and to consider the Council's Collection Fund and Housing Revenue Account outturn.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author

Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process None

Title Xentrall Shared Services Annual Report

Brief Description

Review of progress and performance of Xentrall Shared Services, the Stockton and Darlington Partnership.

Decision Type Non-Key

Decision Status For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 16 Jul 2024

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

Contact Officer/Report Author Gail Banyard, PA Manager Gail.Banyard@darlington.gov.uk

Department Operations

Wards Affected All Wards

Consultation Process N/A