

# FORWARD PLAN FOR THE PERIOD: 5 FEBRUARY 2025 - 30 JUNE 2025

#### 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: <a href="https://www.lynne.wood@darlington.gov.uk">lynne.wood@darlington.gov.uk</a>.

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Title

Adoption of Finalised Appraisal for the Stockton and Darlington Railway: Northgate Conservation Area Including Changes to its Boundary and Name

# **Brief Description**

Following Consultation, consideration to the adoption of the Amended Northgate Conservation Area.

Decision Type Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Economy Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Economy and Public Protection

# Wards Affected

Brinkburn and Faverdale; North Road; Northgate; Pierremont; Stephenson

# **Consultation Process**

Six seek consultation undertaken - results of the consultation detailed within the Appraisal at Appendix 1.

**Document to be submitted** Report and Conservation Area Appraisal

Title Adult Social Care Transport Policy 2024

# **Brief Description**

To consider an overview of the updated Adult Social Care Transport Policy.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

**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** Consultation with Adults Scrutiny Committee

**Document to be submitted** Report and updated Adult Social Care Transport Policy.

# Title

Consideration of the Use of Ingenium Parc, Maidendale Farm and part of Morton Palms for Residential Use

# **Brief Description**

Consideration of use of employment land at Ingenium Parc for residential purposes.

Decision Type Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Economy Portfolio

# Contact Officer/Report Author

Lynne Wood, Elections Manager Lynne.Wood@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Economy and Public Protection

### Wards Affected

Eastbourne; Hurworth; Sadberge and Middleton St. George

**Consultation Process** None

Title Customer Services Strategy 2025/30

**Brief Description** To approve the Customer Services Strategy 2025-30.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

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** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** On-line consultation with all residents.

**Document to be submitted** Report and Customer Services Strategy

Title

**Darlington Transport Plan** 

# **Brief Description**

Update on the 2023/24 delivery of the Transport Programme inc annual monitoring data, Transport Programme for 2024/25 and progress on the Local Implementation Plan.

Decision Type Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Local Services Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms

Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Environment, Highways and Community Services

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

Title Digital Darlington Strategy 2025-30

**Brief Description** To approve the Digital Darlington Strategy 2025/30.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

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** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

**Document to be submitted** Report and Strategy

**Title** Land at Coniscliffe Road, Darlington

# **Brief Description**

To consider the strategic acquisition of land at Coniscliffe Road, Darlington

**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 4 Mar 2025

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Chief Executive and Economic Growth

Wards Affected Hummersknott

**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 4 Mar 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Economy Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Chief Executive and Economic Growth

Wards Affected Brinkburn and Faverdale

**Consultation Process** None

**Document to be submitted** Report and draft agreement

Title

Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025/30

#### **Brief Description**

To consider and approve the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025/30.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

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** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** Consultation with Scrutiny Committee.

**Document to be submitted** Report and Strategy

# Title

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) and Renewal of Town Centre Order

### **Brief Description**

To consider Public Space Protection Orders and the renewal of the Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

# Decision Type Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

# Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

# **Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee

# Relevant Cabinet Member(s)

Stronger Communities Portfolio

# **Contact Officer/Report Author**

Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Environment, Highways and Community Services

# Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** Consultation with public and partners

Title

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)

# **Brief Description**

To inform and update Members about issues relevant to the use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 and developments and recent developments.

Decision Type Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 4 Mar 2025

**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** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** None

## Title

To consider the Use of Land at Faverdale including the Former St Modwen Land for Biodiversity Net Gain and Nutrient Neutrality Credits

#### **Brief Description**

To consider the potential of using the former St Modwen site at Faverdale for Biodiversity Net Gain mitigation and assess the financial implications

**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 4 Mar 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Economy Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Environment, Highways and Community Services

Wards Affected Brinkburn and Faverdale

**Consultation Process** N/A

**Title** Annual Procurement Plan Update

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

To consider the Procurement Planand to agree direct contrac

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

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** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** None

**Document to be submitted** Report and Plan

Title Dolphin Centre – Invest to Save Projects

# **Brief Description**

Update report on the Invest to Save Projects at the Dolphin Centre.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

**Relevant Cabinet Member(s)** Health and Housing Portfolio

# **Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Environment, Highways and Community Services

Wards Affected Park East

**Consultation Process** N/A

Title Household Support Fund

# **Brief Description**

To consider a programme of support as part of the Household Support Fund 2025.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

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** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

Title

Long Term Plan for Towns

# **Brief Description**

To update Cabinet on the allocation of £20m from the Government's Long Term Plan for Towns fund to spend on Darlington's urban core over the next 10 years.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Economy Portfolio

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

**Department** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

**Title** North East Smokefree Declaration

# **Brief Description** To consider the Council signing the North East Smokefree Declaration.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

# **Relevant Cabinet Member(s)** Health and Housing Portfolio

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

**Department** People

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

**Document to be submitted** Report and Declaration.

**Title** Physical Activity Strategy

**Brief Description** To consider the adoption of a Physical Activity Strategy.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

**Relevant Cabinet Member(s)** Health and Housing Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Resources and Governance

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** Scrutiny and Health and Well Being Board

**Document to be submitted** Report and Strategy

Title

Schedule of Transactions

# **Brief Description**

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

**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 8 Apr 2025

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** 

Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

Department

Environment, Highways and Community Services

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

**Document to be submitted** Report and Schedule of Transactions.

#### Title

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy

#### **Brief Description**

To present the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy 2025-2029 following the completion of the public consultation. It details the key elements of the Strategy and the planned implementation with partners.

Decision Type Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

# Relevant Cabinet Member(s)

Children and Young People Portfolio

# **Contact Officer/Report Author**

Sarah Foster sarah.foster@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** People

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** Public consultation.

**Document to be submitted** Report and SEND Strategy

Title Strategic Asset Plan

# **Brief Description**

Public document setting out the Asset Management Strategy, Policy and Action Plan 2024-2029.

Decision Type Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

Decision Maker Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Resources Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Environment, Highways and Community Services

Wards Affected All Wards

**Consultation Process** N/A

**Document to be submitted** Report and Asset Plan

**Title** Woodland Road Waiting Restrictions

# **Brief Description**

To consider setting aside objections to proposed waiting restrictions on Woodland Road.

**Decision Type** Non-Key

**Decision Status** For Determination

Urgent Decision No

Anticipated Restriction Open

**Decision Maker** Cabinet Date of Decision 8 Apr 2025

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Cabinet Member(s) Local Services Portfolio

**Contact Officer/Report Author** Lucy Simms Lucy.Simms@darlington.gov.uk

**Department** Environment, Highways and Community Services

Wards Affected College; Pierremont

**Consultation Process** N/A