

CABINET
8 SEPTEMBER 2026

DEATH IN SERVICE – CHER WIGGLESWORTH

Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Mandy Porter, Resources Portfolio

Responsible Director - Elizabeth Davison, Executive Director Resources and Governance

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Members of the recent Death in Service on 22 July 2026 of Cher Wigglesworth. Cher was employed as a social worker in Assessment & Safeguarding Team East (Children's Services) and was a very valued member of the team.

Summary

2. It is with great sadness that I have to inform Members of Cher Wigglesworth's death on 22 July 2026.
3. Cher was 49 years old and has a total of two months Local Government service. Cher had joined Darlington Borough Council via an agency in November 2025.
4. Cher was a well-respected member of the team and will be greatly missed.
5. A letter has been sent to Cher's family conveying the Council's sympathy and Human Resources are ensuring they receive appropriate advice and support.

Recommendations

6. It is recommended that the Cabinet note: -
 - (a) with great sadness the recent death in service of Cher Wigglesworth, a respected employee of the Council; and
 - (b) the actions of the Council in conveying the sympathy to Cher's family and the support offered from Human Resources.

Reasons

7. The recommendations are supported to make Members aware of the recent death in service.