



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

Contact: Amy Bryan - Governance Manager
Tel: 01246 217391
Email: amy.bryan@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
Date: Friday, 20 February 2026

To: **Members of the Council**

Please attend a meeting of the Council to be held on Monday, 2 March 2026, at 2.00 pm in Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield S42 6NG.

The meeting will be live streamed from [The Council's YouTube Channel](#).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Steuberg".

Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any items on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

3 Minutes of Last Meeting (Pages 5 - 15)

To approve as a correct record and the Chair to sign the attached Minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 January 2026.

4 Chairman of the Council's Announcements

5 Leader of the Council's Announcements

6 Public Participation

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 8 to allow members of the public to ask questions about the Council's activities for a period up to fifteen minutes. The replies to any such questions will be given by the appropriate Cabinet Member. Questions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12 noon twelve clear working days before the meeting.

No questions have been submitted under Procedure Rule No 8 for this meeting.

7 Level of Council Tax 2026/27 (Pages 16 - 23)

Report of Councillor P R Kerry, Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance

The decision requested is part of the Budget and Policy Framework and thus can only be made by Council.

8 NEDDC Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27 (Pages 24 - 39)

Report of the Chief Executive Officer and Head of Paid Service

The decision requested is part of the Budget and Policy Framework and thus can only be made by Council

9 Proportionality of the Council (Pages 40 - 47)

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer.

10 Community Governance Review (Pages 48 - 61)

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer.

11 To answer any questions from Members asked under Procedure Rule No 9.2

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 9.2 to allow Members to ask questions about Council activities. The replies to any such questions will be given by the Chair of the Council or relevant Committee or the appropriate Cabinet Member. Questions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12 noon twelve clear working days before the meeting.

The following questions have been submitted.

Question A – Proposed by Councillor N Baker to Councillor L Hartshorne, Chair of Planning Committee

In the Council meeting in July 2025 I asked the following question:-

'Given the long period which has now elapsed since Covid restrictions were lifted, is it not now time that planning committee site visits are carried out in person, instead of continuing them virtually, in order to allow committee members to acquaint themselves, more fully, with the nuances and details of each site they are being asked to consider?'

The answer given by Councillor Pickering was, 'yes'.

However, the vast majority of the Planning Committee site visits still appear to be being held on-line. When is it proposed to fully reinstate Planning Committee site visits?

Question B – Proposed by Councillor C Cupit to Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council

Further to the joint letter to DCC just before Christmas, could you provide an update on the relocation of the Clay Cross library planned as part of the Clay Cross Town Deal?

12 To consider any Motions from Members under Procedure Rule No 10

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 10 to consider Motions on notice from Members. Motions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12 noon twelve clear working days before the meeting.

The following motion has been submitted.

Motion A – Submitted by Councillor R Shipman

Motion: Opposition to the Proposed Tourist Tax by the East Midlands Mayor

This Council notes with concern the proposal by the East Midlands Mayor to introduce a regional tourist tax on overnight stays.

While this Council recognises the importance of sustainable funding for public services and regional infrastructure, it believes a tourist tax would be counter-productive for our district and the wider East Midlands economy.

Tourism plays a vital role in supporting local businesses, including hotels, guest houses, pubs, restaurants, attractions and event venues. Many of these businesses are small or family-run and are already facing significant pressures from rising energy costs, staffing shortages and increased operating expenses. A tourist tax risks discouraging visitors, particularly families and short-stay domestic tourists, at a time when the sector is still recovering.

The East Midlands is not a mass-tourism destination comparable to major international cities. Applying an additional charge risks making our region less competitive than neighbouring areas that do not impose such a levy, diverting visitors elsewhere and reducing footfall in our town centres.

This Council is also concerned that the proposal lacks clear detail on how funds would be collected, administered and ring-fenced, and whether revenues would genuinely be reinvested into the communities most affected.

This Council therefore resolves to:

1. Formally oppose the introduction of a tourist tax in the East Midlands.
2. Call on the East Midlands Mayor to abandon the proposal.
3. Request meaningful consultation with district councils, tourism bodies and local businesses before any similar measures are considered.
4. Write to the Mayor outlining this Council's objections

13 Chair's Urgent Business

To consider any other matter which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

Access for All statement

You can request this document or information in another format such as **large print** or **language** or contact us by:

- **Phone** - 01246 231111
- **Email** - connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
- **Text** - 07800 00 24 25
- **BSL Video Call** – a three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call North East Derbyshire District Council with [Sign Solutions](#) or call into the offices at Wingerworth.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on 0800 500 888 a free phone service
- **Visiting** our offices at 2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth, S42 6NG

COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 26 JANUARY 2026

Present:

Councillor Lee Hartshorne (Chair) (in the Chair)

Councillor Graham Baxter MBE (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Frank Adlington-Stringer	Councillor Neil Baker
Councillor Nigel Barker	Councillor Jayne Barry
Councillor Richard Beech	Councillor Joseph Birkin
Councillor David Cheetham	Councillor Stephen Clough
Councillor Andrew Cooper	Councillor Suzy Cornwell
Councillor Charlotte Cupit	Councillor Alex Dale
Councillor Lilian Deighton	Councillor Peter Elliott
Councillor Michelle Emmens	Councillor Stuart Fawcett
Councillor Clive Fletcher	Councillor Mark Foster
Councillor Christine Gare	Councillor Kevin Gillott
Councillor David Hancock	Councillor Daniel Higgon
Councillor Pam Jones	Councillor William Jones
Councillor Pat Kerry	Councillor Carol Lacey
Councillor Tony Lacey	Councillor Heather Liggett
Councillor Fran Petersen	Councillor Stephen Pickering
Councillor Michael Roe	Councillor Kathy Rouse
Councillor Ross Shipman	Councillor Derrick Skinner
Councillor Caroline Smith	Councillor Mick Smith
Councillor Richard Spooner	Councillor Jessica Stokes
Councillor Lee Stone	Councillor Martin E Thacker MBE JP
Councillor Richard Welton	Councillor Helen Wetherall
Councillor Pam Windley	

Also Present:

L Hickin	Managing Director and Head of Paid Service
M Broughton	Director of Growth and Assets
J Dethick	Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer)
S Sternberg	Assistant Director of Governance (Monitoring Officer)
L Pepper	Assistant Director of Communities & Environmental Health
D Thompson	Assistant Director of Planning
A Smith	Legal Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer
A Bryan	Governance Manager
M E Derbyshire	Members ICT & Training Officer

COU Apologies for Absence

172/2

5-26 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors P Antcliff, K Clegg, M Durrant, P Elliott, M Emmens, N Morley, S Reed, C Renwick, Christine Smith, and K Tait.

COU **Declarations of Interest**

173/2

5-26

In respect of Item 7, Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 – 2028/29:

- Councillor K Gillott declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the HRA as a Board Member of Rykneld Homes Limited but had been granted a dispensation by Standards Committee to participate and vote on the matter.
- Councillor M Thacker MBE declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the HRA as a Board Member of Rykneld Homes Limited and would withdraw from the meeting for that part of the item and take no part in the vote.
- Councillors C Lacey, S Pickering, and P Windley declared that they were tenants of Rykneld Homes.

COU **Minutes of Last Meeting**

174/2

5-26

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Council meeting held 1 December 2025 be approved as a true and correct record.

COU **Chairman of the Council's Announcements**

175/2

5-26

The Chair began his announcements by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. He reported that over December he had attended a number of Christmas carol concerts throughout Derbyshire and that he would be attending the Derbyshire Amateur Swimming Association Gala in January.

Finally, the Chair recognised that tomorrow was Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Council had recently reaffirmed its commitment to the EHRC definition on antisemitism and its commitment to fight antisemitism and all forms of racism. He asked that Members who could not attend a service to take a moment to reflect on what was one of humanity's darkest ever chapters.

COU **Leader of the Council's Announcements**

176/2

5-26

The Leader provided an update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), the next stage was for the Government to undertake a consultation on all Derbyshire proposals and then following the consultation the Government was expected to announce its decision. The Leader also provided information on the Structural Change Order that would be required, and the ongoing preparatory work.

The Leader reported that he continued to chair the Strategic Leadership Board, which helped coordinate the Derbyshire council's relationship with EMCCA.

The Leader also reported that the Post Office had recently announced the closure of the Pilsley branch at short notice. Given the impact on the community the Leader had written to the Post Office offering the Council's support to reinstate Post Office services in Pilsley.

The Leader also reported:

- that supporting the local economy remained a priority, the Council's food and drink trail included over 40 businesses.
- officers had been delivering customer service sessions across the District.
- over 100 Community Action Grants had now been awarded. The work of

Pig Pals, a mental health support group, was highlighted as an example of community impact.

- that the Council continued to take firm action against crime and environmental offences; successful prosecutions for fly-tipping and closure orders had been issued.
- that the Council's housing stock had achieved a C1 accreditation.
- on the opening of Clay Cross Active

The Leader thanked Members and officers for their commitment and perseverance during what had been a demanding year.

COU Public Participation

177/2

5-26 No questions from the public had been received.

COU Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2029/30

178/2

5-26 The report to Council sought approval for the Current Budget for 2025/26 and Original Budget for 2026/27 for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme as part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan covering the years 2025/26 to 2029/30.

Members were informed that Cabinet had considered and endorsed the proposals at its meeting on 15 January 2026 following on from scrutiny at the Joint Scrutiny Committee on 14 January 2026.

The Director of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer gave a presentation on the budget proposals. Members then asked any technical questions of the officer.

Councillor P Kerry, Deputy Leader of the Council, provided background to the budget setting and moved a Motion that Council approve recommendations 1 to 6 in the report. Councillor N Barker spoke and seconded the Motion.

Councillor A Dale moved an amendment to freeze Council Tax (to amend recommendation 3 to 0% instead of 2.99%). This was seconded by Councillor Helen Wetherall.

Councillors M Thacker MBE, K Gillott, H Wetherall, R Shipman, D Hancock, J Barry and F Adlington-Stringer spoke regarding the budget proposal and amendment.

The amendment was put to the vote. As required by law this was taken as a recorded vote. The amendment failed.

For: 14

Councillors F Adlington-Stringer, N Baker, S Clough, A Dale, L Deighton, M Foster, P Jones, W Jones, H Liggett, R Spooner, J Stokes, M Thacker MBE, R Welton, H Wetherall

Against: 27

Councillors N Barker, J Barry, G Baxter, R Beech, J Birkin, D Cheetham, A

Cooper, S Cornwell, S Fawcett, C Fletcher, C Gare, K Gillott, D Hancock, L Hartshorne, D Higgon, P Kerry, C Lacey, T Lacey, F Petersen, S Pickering, M Roe, K Rouse, R Shipman, D Skinner, Caroline Smith, M Smith, L Stone

Councillor R Shipman moved an amendment to increase Council Tax by 1% (to amend recommendation 3 to 1% instead of 2.99%). This was seconded by Councillor D Hancock.

The amendment was put to the vote. As required by law this was taken as a recorded vote. The amendment failed.

For: 16

Councillors F Adlington-Stringer, N Baker, S Clough, A Dale, M Foster, D Hancock, P Jones, W Jones, H Liggett, M Roe, R Shipman, R Spooner, J Stokes, M Thacker MBE, R Welton, H Wetherall

Against: 24

Councillors N Barker, J Barry, G Baxter, R Beech, J Birkin, D Cheetham, A Cooper, S Cornwell, S Fawcett, C Fletcher, C Gare, K Gillott, L Hartshorne, D Higgon, P Kerry, C Lacey, T Lacey, F Petersen, S Pickering, K Rouse, D Skinner, Caroline Smith, M Smith, L Stone

The original Motion was put to the vote. As required by law this was taken as a recorded vote. The Motion was approved.

For: 23

Councillors N Barker, J Barry, G Baxter, R Beech, J Birkin, D Cheetham, A Cooper, S Cornwell, S Fawcett, C Fletcher, C Gare, K Gillott, L Hartshorne, D Higgon, P Kerry, C Lacey, F Petersen, S Pickering, K Rouse, D Skinner, Caroline Smith, M Smith, L Stone

Against: 17

Councillors F Adlington-Stringer, N Baker, S Clough, A Dale, L Deighton, M Foster, D Hancock, P Jones, W Jones, H Liggett, M Roe, R Shipman, R Spooner, J Stokes, M Thacker MBE, R Welton, H Wetherall

RESOLVED – That:

- (1) that the view of the Director of Finance and Resources; that the estimates included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2029/30 are robust and that the level of financial reserves are adequate at this time; be accepted.
- (2) that officers report back to Cabinet and the Services Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council's budgets.

General Fund

- (3) a Council Tax increase of £6.48 will be levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%)

- (4) the Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in the report to Cabinet (Appendix 1) be approved as the Current Budget 2025/26, and the Original Budget 2026/27, and as the financial projections in respect of 2027/28 to 2029/30.
- (5) that the General Fund Capital Programme be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2025/26, and as the Approved Programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30.
- (6) That budget under spends be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to provide increased financial resilience for future years of the plan.

Having previously declared an interest in the next part of the item Councillor M Thacker MBE left the meeting.

Councillor P Kerry moved a Motion that Council approve recommendations 7 to 11 in the report. Councillor N Barker spoke and seconded the Motion.

The Motion was put to the vote. As required by law this was taken as a recorded vote. The Motion was approved.

For: 32

Councillors F Adlington-Stringer, N Baker, N Barker, J Barry, G Baxter, R Beech, D Cheetham, S Clough, A Cooper, A Dale, S Fawcett, C Fletcher, M Foster, C Gare, K Gillott, L Hartshorne, D Higgon, P Jones, W Jones, P Kerry, C Lacey, H Liggett, F Petersen, S Pickering, K Rouse, R Shipman, D Skinner, Caroline Smith, M Smith, R Spooner, L Stone, H Wetherall

Against: 2

Councillors D Hancock, M Roe

RESOLVED – That:

- (1) the Council sets its rent levels for 2026/27 be increasing rents by 4.8% from 1st April 2026.
- (2) the Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account as set out in the report to Cabinet (Appendix 1) be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2025/26, as the Original Budget in respect of 2026/27, and the financial projection in respect of 2027/28 to 2029/30.
- (3) that the HRA Capital Programme be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2025/26, and as the Approved Programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30.
- (4) that the Management Free for undertaking housing services at £13.962m and the Management Free for undertaking capital works at £1.1m to Rykneld Homes in respect of 2026/27 be approved.
- (5) that Members note the requirement to provide Rykneld Homes with a 'letter of comfort' to the company's auditors and grant delegated authority to the Council's Director of Finance and Resources in consultation with the

Leader of the Council to agree the contents of that letter.

Councillor M Thacker MBE returned to the meeting.

COU Treasury Management Report 2026/27 to 2029/30

179/2

5-26

The report to Council provided information for the approval of the Council's suite of Treasury Strategies for 2026/27 to 2029/30.

The report outlined the Council's proposed suite of Treasury Strategies, which contained:

- The Treasury Strategy which provided the framework for managing the Council's cash flows, borrowing and investments, and the associated risks for the period.
- The Capital Strategy which was intended to provide a high level, concise overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contributed to the provision of the Council's Services.
- The Investment Strategy which focused on investments made for service purposes and commercial reasons, rather than those made for treasury management.

The strategies provided an approved framework within which officers undertook the day-to-day capital and treasury activities.

Councillors P Kerry and N Barker proposed and seconded a Motion to approve the recommendations as contained within the report.

Councillor H Wetherall spoke about the general principle of centralisation of funding not allowing for local decision making, and Councillor M Thacker MBE spoke about the investment strategy and the need to get the best value long term.

RESOLVED – That:

- (1) Council approve the Treasury Management Strategy at Appendix 1 and in particular:
 - a) Approve the Borrowing Strategy
 - b) Approve the Investment Strategy
 - c) Approve the use of the external treasury management advisors Counterparty Weekly List (or similar) to determine the latest assessment of the counterparties that meet the Council's Criteria before any investment is undertaken.
 - d) Approve the Prudential Indicators.

- (2) Council approve the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix 2 and in particular
 - a) Approve the Capital Financing Requirement
 - b) Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2026/27
 - c) Approve the Prudential Indicators for 2026/27, in particular:

Authorised Borrowing Limit	£224.18m
Operational Boundary	£219.18m
Capital Financing Requirement	£211.07m

(3) Council approve the Investment Strategy as set out in Appendix 3.

(4) Council approve the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy at Appendix 4.

Councillor G Baxter MBE left the meeting.

COU **Implementation of a Council Tax Premium for Empty Homes**

/80/2

5-26

The report to Council sought approval of a revised policy, which proposed an increase to the Council Tax premium charge for empty homes.

The report explained that Council had been given powers to charge empty homes premiums, and there was an expectation from Government to charge the maximum allowed under the regulations. It was therefore proposed that, as set out in the revised Policy, which was attached to the report at Appendix 1, to set the following charges from April 2026:

- Homes empty from 2 – 5 years – 100% premium (200%)
- Homes empty from 5 – 10 years – 200% premium (300%)
- Homes empty from 10 years and over – 300% premium (400%).

Councillor J Birkin, Portfolio Holder for Council Services, introduced the report and moved the recommendation, which was seconded by Councillor N Barker.

Councillor D Hancock spoke in support of the item although raised concerns regarding the Equality Impact Assessment. Councillor A Dale also spoken in support of the item. Councillor R Welton stated that he would vote against the proposal.

Councillor S Fawcett left the meeting.

RESOLVED – that Council approve the revised Council Tax Empty Homes Premium Policy encompassing the implementation of an increased empty homes premium to commence on 1 April 2026.

COU **Progress Report on Development of a New Local Plan**

/81/2

5-26

Councillor S Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place, introduced a report which provided an update on the work that had been undertaken to develop a new Local Plan, since the decision in November 2024 to undertake a review of the current Plan.

Councillors S Pickering and N Barker moved and seconded the recommendation.

Councillor R Shipman spoke about the lack of infrastructure and traffic problems. Councillor M Thacker MBE spoke about the green belt, protecting community identities and areas of archaeological and historical interest.

Councillor F Adlington-Stringer left the meeting.

Councillor C Cupit spoke about concerns regarding the housing target, and proposed an amendment that 'Council requests that Cabinet consider

commissioning a full briefing note on the options available, including evaluating any risks, to the Council in pursuing a lower housing target than the new national standard method in its new Local Plan, with the report going to a future Local Plan Working Group meeting for consideration'. Councillor A Dale spoke and seconded the amendment.

Councillor K Gillott agreed that the proposed action was something that should be considered.

The amendment was accepted.

Councillor D Hancock spoke about his concerns regarding the erosion of settlement development limits and Councillor H Liggett spoke about concerns to do with flooding.

Councillor R Welton left the meeting.

Councillor S Pickering concluded that he was happy to support the amendment and look at the possible options and emphasised that the evidence for any change had to be robust and strong.

RESOLVED – That:

- (1) the report be noted.
- (2) Council requests that Cabinet consider commissioning a full briefing note on the options available, including evaluating any risks, to the Council in pursuing a lower housing target than the new national standard method in its new Local Plan, with the report going to a future Local Plan Working Group meeting for consideration.

Councillor M Roe left the meeting.

COU **The Avenue Update**

/82/2

5-26

Councillor J Barry, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Assets, introduced the item and explained that a presentation would be given on the Avenue regeneration project and the Mill Lane/A61 junction, noting that whilst significant progress had been made, substantial work remained to full realise the site's potential.

The Director of Growth and Assets gave a presentation which provided a brief history of the site, the ownership of the site and the current phase of work taking place. The Avenue Area Strategic Framework was explained, and information was provided on the Southern Gateway, EMCCA funding status, public consultation outcome and the next steps for the Mill Lane/A61 junction.

Members asked questions regarding the presentation.

Councillors S Clough and M Foster left the meeting.

COU **To answer any questions from Members asked under Procedure Rule No 9.2**

/83/2

5-26 No questions had been submitted under Procedure Rule 9.2 for the meeting.

COU To consider any Motions from Members under Procedure Rule No 10

/84/2

5-26 The Chair confirmed that one Motion had been submitted.

Motion A – Submitted by Councillor R Shipman

This Council notes that:

Derbyshire County Council and North East Derbyshire District Council have consulted on proposals to introduce traffic lights at the junction of the A61 and Mill Lane in Wingerworth.

The published consultation results show a clear majority of respondents opposed to the scheme, with approximately 65% stating they do not support the proposals, compared with fewer than 30% in support.

Local residents have raised significant concerns about increased congestion, road safety, and traffic being displaced onto surrounding residential streets.

This Council believes that:

Local communities must have a meaningful voice in decisions that directly affect their daily lives.

Proceeding with a scheme that lacks public support risks undermining trust in the consultation process.

There is a need to properly consider alternative solutions that reflect local knowledge and community priorities.

This Council resolves to:

Formally oppose the proposed traffic light scheme at the end of Mill Lane, Wingerworth.

Write to Derbyshire County Council, as the Highway Authority, urging them not to proceed with the traffic light scheme.

Request that Derbyshire County Council works with local residents and ward councillors to explore alternative, community-supported options to address traffic and safety concerns at this junction.

Councillor R Shipman moved the Motion. He expressed concern that the consultants responsible for the proposals did not fully understand the local area, particularly the role of the A61 as a diversion route when issues occur on the M1. He stated that the preferred traffic lights scheme lacked public support and argued that the Council should listen to residents. He stated that the Motion did not oppose all intervention at the junction but specifically rejected the traffic light proposal, which he considered a waste of money and unsupported by the community.

Councillor D Hancock seconded the Motion. He stated that the traffic light option had been presented as a fait accompli, and residents of Nottingham Drive feared

it would trap them in congestion. He criticised the lack of alternative options during consultation.

Cllr N Barker stated that the consultation responses had been analysed and acknowledged that although 65% of respondents had not supported the original signalised option, they had expressed support for some form of intervention. He highlighted ongoing issues at Nottingham Drive, including difficulties for right-turning traffic and the need for a safe pedestrian crossing and noted that revised proposals had attempted to address resident concerns.

Cllr H Liggett warned that the addition of further traffic signal junctions could significantly increase journey times. She believed that developer funding could support a roundabout solution and expressed strong opposition to installing additional traffic lights along the A61.

Cllr C Cupit stated she was sympathetic to the Motion but had concerns regarding how it was worded. She raised concerns that the consultation was narrowly framed and had not offered residents the ability to express wider preferences. She noted the potential risk of worsening congestion on the A61. She highlighted that the Motion no longer reflected the updated design proposals and that responsibility ultimately lay with Derbyshire County Council as the Highways Authority. She indicated she would likely abstain and suggested that the Motion might be better withdrawn and redrafted.

Cllr A Dale agreed that circumstances had moved on, but not necessarily favourably. He stated that a roundabout remained the best overall solution and suggested developer funding could be explored. He urged the Council to ensure a full consultation on future options.

Cllr N Baker also noted that although proposals had progressed, and ward members should be involved in developing the updated scheme. He stated that a well-designed roundabout slightly further along the road could work, but current land constraints made this difficult.

Cllr K Gillott noted that the choice appeared to be between accepting £1m for a deliverable scheme or attempting to secure funding for an alternative solution that could cost much more. He argued that ruling out the current option entirely would fail the community.

Cllr J Barry acknowledged that many residents preferred a roundabout but emphasised that the required land for such a scheme was privately owned. Even if funding was available, the scheme might require a compulsory purchase order (CPO), which would fall to Derbyshire County Council. It was confirmed that a CPO would be difficult to justify where a viable alternative design existed.

Cllr Shipman reiterated that the consultation was misleading and that residents had firmly rejected any form of traffic-light-based scheme.

The Motion was put to the vote and lost.

5-26 There was no urgent business.

North East Derbyshire District Council

Council

2 March 2026

Level of Council Tax 2026/27

Report of the Deputy Leader of the Council with responsibility for Finance

Classification: This report is public

Report By: **Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)**

Contact Officer: **Jayne Dethick**

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To formally approve the Council Tax liability for local residents in respect of 2026/27.

DECISION ROUTE AND REASON FOR DECISION BEING BROUGHT TO COUNCIL

The decision is a Council decision and only the Council can determine the matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council formally approves the Council Tax for the Financial Year 2026/27 as set out in this report.
2. That Council delegates authority to Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) to amend the tables at 2.4 and 2.5 in respect of the precept amounts for the Fire and Rescue service, should they change following the outcome of the Fire and Rescue Authority Meeting on 24 February 2026.

Approved by Cllr P Kerry – Deputy Leader with responsibility for Finance

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk:

Yes

No

Details:

North East Derbyshire District Council administers the Collection Fund for all of the precepting authorities operating within the area of North East Derbyshire. In order to pay the amounts requested by the various precepting authorities – including North

East Derbyshire District Council – it is necessary to set a Council Tax which raises sufficient funding to ensure that the Collection Fund can meet the financial demands placed upon it.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): **Yes** **No**

Details:

The Council is legally required to set a council tax for its area.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: **Yes** **No**

Details:

There are no human resource implications arising directly out of this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £125,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £310,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p>	<p>None</p>

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2 	No, not applicable.
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report 	No, not applicable
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details:

Links to Council Plan priorities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A great place that cares for the environment A great place to live well A great place to work A great place to access good public services
All

REPORT DETAILS

1 **Background** *(reasons for bringing the report)*

1.1 The purpose of the report is as follows: -

- The Localism Act 2011 requires the billing authority to calculate a Council Tax requirement for the year.
- The approved demand on the Collection Fund in respect of this Council is one of £7,558,732.
- In order to calculate the Council Tax requirement for the area at the relevant bands, the demands of the County Council, Police Authority, Fire Authority and parish councils will also need to be taken into account.
- The Council has now received all the relevant precept demands from the other local authorities that precept upon this Council as the billing authority for Council Tax.
- It should be noted that this report will be subject to a recorded vote.

2. **Details of Proposal or Information**

2.1 It should be noted that the Chief Financial Officer has calculated the following amounts as Council Tax Base for the year 2026/27:

- a) **33,873.43** being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.
- b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as detailed as follows:

Parish	Council Tax Base
Ashover	1,013.89
Barlow	375.05
Brackenfield	98.58
Brampton	526.63
Calow	798.89
Clay Cross	3,096.78
Dronfield	7,165.24
Eckington	3,462.43
Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick	1,145.84
Heath and Holmewood	864.57
Holmesfield	491.84
Holymoorside and Walton	970.75
Killamarsh	2,615.10
Morton	463.49
North Wingfield	2,212.17
Pilsley	1,148.45
Shirland and Higham	1,540.08
Stretton	278.78
Sutton-Cum-Duckmanton	534.10
Temple Normanton	149.02
Tupton	946.86
Unstone	551.89
Wessington	284.40
Wingerworth	3,138.60
Total	33,873.43

- 2.2 Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2026/27 (excluding Parish Precepts) is **£7,558,732**.
- 2.3 That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2026/27 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- a) **£52,658,829** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- b) **£40,783,939** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.

- c) **£11,874,890** being the amount by which the aggregate at 1.3(a) exceeds the aggregate at 2.3(b), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Note: - this sum is the total of the District's requirements of **£7,558,732** plus the total parish precepts of **£4,316,158**).
- d) **£350.57** being the amount at 2.3(c), all divided by item 2.1(a) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- e) **£4,316,158** being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per 2.3(g)).
- f) **£223.15** being the amount at 2.3(d) less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.3(e) by the amount at 2.1(a), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.
- g) Part of the Council's Area

The following being the amounts calculated by adding the amount at 2.3(f) to the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned in 2.3(d) divided in each case by the amount at 2.1(b). Calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

Parish	Council Tax Band D £
Ashover	322.01
Barlow	333.01
Brackenfield	304.80
Brampton	278.90
Calow	307.02
Clay Cross	320.69
Dronfield	376.27
Eckington	342.60
Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick	367.06
Heath and Holmewood	442.58
Holmesfield	330.91
Holymoorside and Walton	311.01
Killamarsh	387.22
Morton	384.97

North Wingfield	347.95
Pilsley	372.84
Shirland and Higham	291.74
Stretton	361.83
Sutton-Cum-Duckmanton	494.63
Temple Normanton	335.86
Tupton	341.01
Unstone	394.31
Wessington	320.90
Wingerworth	310.01

- h) being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.3(f) and 2.3(g) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Part of the Council's Area	Valuation Bands							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Ashover	214.68	250.45	286.24	322.01	393.57	465.13	536.69	644.02
Barlow	222.01	259.01	296.01	333.01	407.01	481.02	555.02	666.02
Brackenfield	203.20	237.07	270.94	304.80	372.53	440.27	508.00	609.60
Brampton	185.94	216.92	247.92	278.90	340.88	402.86	464.84	557.80
Calow	204.68	238.79	272.91	307.02	375.25	443.48	511.70	614.04
Clay Cross	213.80	249.42	285.06	320.69	391.96	463.22	534.49	641.38
Dronfield	250.85	292.65	334.47	376.27	459.89	543.50	627.12	752.54
Eckington	228.40	266.47	304.54	342.60	418.73	494.87	571.00	685.20
Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick	244.71	285.49	326.28	367.06	448.63	530.20	611.77	734.12
Heath and Holmewood	295.06	344.23	393.41	442.58	540.93	639.28	737.64	885.16
Holmesfield	220.61	257.37	294.15	330.91	404.45	477.98	551.52	661.82
Holymoorside and Walton	207.34	241.90	276.46	311.01	380.12	449.24	518.35	622.02
Killamarsh	258.15	301.17	344.20	387.22	473.27	559.32	645.37	774.44
Morton	256.65	299.42	342.20	384.97	470.52	556.07	641.62	769.94
North Wingfield	231.97	270.63	309.29	347.95	425.27	502.60	579.92	695.90
Pilsley	248.56	289.99	331.42	372.84	455.69	538.55	621.40	745.68
Shirland and Higham	194.50	226.91	259.33	291.74	356.57	421.40	486.24	583.48
Stretton	241.22	281.42	321.63	361.83	442.24	522.65	603.05	723.66
Sutton-Cum-Duckmanton	329.76	384.71	439.68	494.63	604.55	714.47	824.39	989.26
Temple Normanton	223.91	261.22	298.55	335.86	410.50	485.13	559.77	671.72
Tupton	227.34	265.23	303.12	341.01	416.79	492.57	568.35	682.02
Unstone	262.88	306.68	350.50	394.31	481.94	569.56	657.19	788.62
Wessington	213.94	249.59	285.25	320.90	392.21	463.52	534.84	641.80
Wingerworth	206.68	241.12	275.57	310.01	378.90	447.79	516.69	620.02

2.4 That it be noted that for the year 2026/27 Derbyshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, and the Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority * have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in the following table:

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Derbyshire County Council	1,139.33	1,329.21	1,519.10	1,708.99	2,088.77	2,468.54	2,848.32	3,417.98
Police & Crime Commissioner	205.73	240.02	274.31	308.60	377.18	445.76	514.33	617.20
Fire & Rescue Service*	65.61	76.54	87.48	98.41	120.28	142.15	164.02	196.82

*The Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority figures are provisional figures at the time of writing, to be confirmed at Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 24 February 2026.

2.5 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.3(h) and 2.4, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2026/27 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in the following table:

Part of the Councils area	Valuation Bands							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Ashover	1,625.35	1,896.22	2,167.13	2,438.01	2,979.80	3,521.58	4,063.36	4,876.02
Barlow	1,632.68	1,904.78	2,176.90	2,449.01	2,993.24	3,537.47	4,081.69	4,898.02
Brackenfield	1,613.87	1,882.84	2,151.83	2,420.80	2,958.76	3,496.72	4,034.67	4,841.60
Brampton	1,596.61	1,862.69	2,128.81	2,394.90	2,927.11	3,459.31	3,991.51	4,789.80
Calow	1,615.35	1,884.56	2,153.80	2,423.02	2,961.48	3,499.93	4,038.37	4,846.04
Clay Cross	1,624.47	1,895.19	2,165.95	2,436.69	2,978.19	3,519.67	4,061.16	4,873.38
Dronfield	1,661.52	1,938.42	2,215.36	2,492.27	3,046.12	3,599.95	4,153.79	4,984.54
Eckington	1,639.07	1,912.24	2,185.43	2,458.60	3,004.96	3,551.32	4,097.67	4,917.20
Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick	1,655.38	1,931.26	2,207.17	2,483.06	3,034.86	3,586.65	4,138.44	4,966.12
Heath and Holmewood	1,705.73	1,990.00	2,274.30	2,558.58	3,127.16	3,695.73	4,264.31	5,117.16
Holmesfield	1,631.28	1,903.14	2,175.04	2,446.91	2,990.68	3,534.43	4,078.19	4,893.82
Holymoorside and Walton	1,618.01	1,887.67	2,157.35	2,427.01	2,966.35	3,505.69	4,045.02	4,854.02
Killamarsh	1,668.82	1,946.94	2,225.09	2,503.22	3,059.50	3,615.77	4,172.04	5,006.44
Morton	1,667.32	1,945.19	2,223.09	2,500.97	3,056.75	3,612.52	4,168.29	5,001.94
North Wingfield	1,642.64	1,916.40	2,190.18	2,463.95	3,011.50	3,559.05	4,106.59	4,927.90
Pilsley	1,659.23	1,935.76	2,212.31	2,488.84	3,041.92	3,595.00	4,148.07	4,977.68
Shirland and Higham	1,605.17	1,872.68	2,140.22	2,407.74	2,942.80	3,477.85	4,012.91	4,815.48
Stretton	1,651.89	1,927.19	2,202.52	2,477.83	3,028.47	3,579.10	4,129.72	4,955.66
Sutton-Cum-Duckmanton	1,740.43	2,030.48	2,320.57	2,610.63	3,190.78	3,770.92	4,351.06	5,221.26
Temple Normanton	1,634.58	1,906.99	2,179.44	2,451.86	2,996.73	3,541.58	4,086.44	4,903.72
Tupton	1,638.01	1,911.00	2,184.01	2,457.01	3,003.02	3,549.02	4,095.02	4,914.02
Unstone	1,673.55	1,952.45	2,231.39	2,510.31	3,068.17	3,626.01	4,183.86	5,020.62
Wessington	1,624.61	1,895.36	2,166.14	2,436.90	2,978.44	3,519.97	4,061.51	4,873.80
Wingerworth	1,617.35	1,886.89	2,156.46	2,426.01	2,965.13	3,504.24	4,043.36	4,852.02

*Includes the Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority figures which are provisional at the time of writing, to be confirmed at Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 24 February 2026.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 This report sets out for approval the precepts of the relevant public authorities operating in the area of North East Derbyshire District Council in order for Council to agree the Council Tax liability for local residents in respect of 2026/27.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 The Council is legally obliged to approve the council tax for the financial year 2026/27.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	
None	

North East Derbyshire District Council

Council

2 March 2026

NEDDC Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/2027

Report of the Chief Executive Officer and Head of Paid Service

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Chief Executive Officer & Head of Paid Service

Contact Officer: Chief Executive Officer & Head of Paid Service

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

For the following policy to be brought to Council for consideration

- Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27

DECISION ROUTE AND REASON FOR DECISION BEING BROUGHT TO COUNCIL

- The decision requested is part of the Budget and Policy Framework and thus must be made by Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council support the Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Cllr Nigel Barker, Leader of the Council and
Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details: As covered within the report and attachment

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details: As covered within the report and attachment

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details: As covered within the report and attachment

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	None directly
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details:
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2	No, not applicable
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report	No, not applicable
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details:

Links to Council Plan priorities:

- **A great place that cares for the environment**
- **A great place to live well**
- **A great place to work**
- **A great place to access good public services**

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 The pay policy statement sets out the Council's policy on pay for senior managers and employees and is in accordance with the requirements of Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 and Supplementary Guidance 2013.
- 1.2 Under the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 additional organisational information is required to be published annually on the website. This consists of third tier organisation charts, senior salaries information, including functional responsibilities, budget amounts and numbers of staff responsible for, together with details of trade union facility time.

2. Details of Proposal

- 2.1 The Pay Policy Statement is brought to Council on an annual basis.
- 2.2 Any amendments to the policy statement, other than minor updates to reflect the 2026/27 pay agreement will require the approval of Council.
- 2.3 The Annual Pay Policy Statement for 2026/27 reflects the current position based on decisions previously taken at Council.
- 2.4 The Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27 for consideration is attached at Appendix One.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 Agreement to the Annual Pay Policy Statement fulfils both legal and best practice guidance for employers. It also reflects decisions previously approved at Council.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 The alternative option is not to have the Annual Pay Policy Statement which has been rejected on the grounds of risk to the Council of failing to fulfil legal obligations and best practice.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	NEDDC Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/2027
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	

Appendix One: North East Derbyshire District Council

Pay Policy Statement **2026-2027**

Introduction

The Council is committed to the principle of equal pay. It recognises that women and men in the workforce should receive equal pay for work of equal value and this principle is enshrined in both UK and European law. The Council aims to ensure its pay system is free of bias. Fairness and equality across gender, age, race, disability, religion and sexuality are part of the values of this organisation.

The Council believes its values send a positive message on diversity and equality to managers, employees, potential employees, partners, and customers and enhances productivity, efficiency and morale. This approach embeds the Council's "One Team" culture in place across the organisation.

The overall pay policy of the Council is driven by organisational consistency, equity, and transparency. The Council believes in paying a fair rate of pay to its employees, and in meeting its strategic objectives it endeavours to create a working environment that will attract high calibre job applicants, encourage the retention of existing employees, and fosters the Council's Talent Pipeline framework.

The local government environment is in an ongoing state of change and to this end North East Derbyshire District Council undergoes regular reviews of services to ensure that high levels of service delivery can be maintained without unnecessary cost to the taxpayer.

The implementation of policies on employee development and performance review such as the People Strategy and Talent Pipeline Strategy, as well as dealing with capability where performance falls short of the desired standard, ensure that the workforce remains well trained and well-motivated without the need to apply any form of performance related pay. Mechanisms such as internal and external celebration and recognition of achievement are used to acknowledge contributions to the successful running of the organisation. Acknowledgement comes in a variety of forms.

Overview – whole workforce

To secure equal pay within the organisation, the following action has been taken to date:

- 1 In 1997 the National Joint Council (NJC) introduced a new National Agreement for Local Government Services (The Green Book). This



agreement replaced the terms and conditions of service in the old Purple Book (former officers) and White Book (former manual workers). The new agreement was generally called The Single Status Agreement since its intention was to introduce equal pay and eliminate the old blue/white collar divides.

- 2 As part of this process an Equal Pay Audit was carried out to ensure that any areas of inequality could be identified and resolved.
- 3 At the heart of the National Agreement is the principle of fairness and equality for all employees - equalising pay differences across the local government sector that had existed for decades. The Agreement recommended the use of a job evaluation scheme, and it was jointly agreed locally to use the computerised version of the NJC Job Evaluation Scheme. This was applied to all jobs covered by the NJC Agreement for Local Government Services ('Green Book') at 1st April 2007.
- 4 The following are the factors included in the Job Evaluation process:
 - Knowledge
 - Mental Skills
 - Interpersonal Skills
 - Physical Skills
 - Initiative and Independence
 - Physical Demands
 - Mental Demands
 - Emotional Demands
 - Responsibility for People
 - Responsibility for Supervision
 - Responsibility for Financial Resources
 - Responsibility for Physical Resources
 - Working Conditions
- 5 The factors listed above are intended to allow application of the scheme across the whole range of posts within Local Government, with recognition given not only to mental effort required to carry out a job but also to physical skills and demands for more manual posts and emotional demands and responsibility for people in respect of jobs with caring as a focus.
- 6 The full Single Status package was submitted to Council for approval and adoption. This included both the Job Evaluation Scheme and a range of former national terms and conditions of service which were simplified and rationalised to reflect the current economic situation.
- 7 Decisions about smaller-scale changes to terms and conditions of service for employees of the Council are agreed through the Council's delegated decision process.



- 8 The implementation of the NJC Scheme is closely monitored to ensure that it is applied fairly and consistently across the Council and to minimise the possibility of an Equal Pay challenge.
- 9 Equal Pay and Gender Pay audits are undertaken on an annual basis to ensure the Council has accurate, fair, and consistent pay.

Lowest Paid Employees

Following the implementation of Single Status and the JNC Job Evaluation Scheme, local grades were applied to the national spinal column points. Each grade comprises four points, and the top point of each grade is also the bottom point of the next grade. This has evolved in line with each National Pay Award Agreement to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

Grades 1 and 2 were payable to those employees who scored lowest under the thirteen factors used under the JE Scheme. However, from 1 October 2013 this Council has adopted the Living Wage for the small number of employees paid on these grades. The Living Wage, which is updated on 1 November annually and is currently set nationally at £13.45 per hour and is considered to be the pay needed to provide an adequate standard of living. To avoid compromising the integrity of the Job Evaluation process, all salary points below the living wage rate were deleted and replaced by a new single salary point at the appropriate level.

Since 2015/16 onwards, the Council has operated an Apprentice Scheme. New Apprentices joining the Council are paid on the National Living Wage based on their age. Apprentices and existing employees on an apprenticeship course undertaking the full duties and responsibilities of a post evaluated under the Council's job evaluation scheme are paid based on the grade for the role.

Background – Chief Executive and Chief Officers' Salaries

In 2008 an independent review was carried out of salaries payable to senior managers, in an acknowledgement that the JNC Scheme was not an appropriate way of determining salaries for Senior Management.

There are many factors which affect the market for senior staff, including the following:

- A tightening pool of suitably qualified and experienced staff;
- An increasing reluctance to travel over large distances;
- The trend towards slimmer senior management structures comprising posts with more generic responsibilities
- The salary premium being offered by failing Councils to attract suitable candidates.



In view of the above, and further to national advice, the following factors were taken into account in establishing the local salary structure:

- Any special market conditions;
- Any substantial local factors not common to authorities of similar type and size;
- Comparable information on salaries in other similar authorities;
- Top management structures and the size of the senior management team compared to other authorities of similar type and size.

In addition, it should be noted that there has been found to be a correlation between population and salary levels, with a distinct salary bias towards districts with urban characteristics as opposed to rural characteristics, as well as a marked salary premium for Councils in the South of the country.

In 2011, the Council had been in a strategic alliance with Bolsover District Council. From 2011 until 2021, the Council had a significant number of senior management posts that worked jointly with postholders working across both Councils. In 2021, each Council commenced development of its' own senior management team to reflect the current strategic objectives at each Council and ensure resources were effectively utilised to achieve each Council's aims.

In 2023, an external benchmarking exercise was undertaken to ensure the Council's senior management salaries are reflective of the level of duties and responsibilities undertaken, taking account of trends in the public sector and the recruitment challenge overall within the public sector environment.

Two years on, East Midlands Councils (EMC) were re-commissioned to carry out the two-year benchmarking review. The Senior Pay Remuneration Review Group have recently met to consider the findings. Overall, the report and review indicate that NEDDC remains broadly competitive with neighbouring authorities when it comes to Senior Pay levels - therefore, no changes are recommended at this time. The cross-party working group will meet again in two years, January 2028, to repeat the review process unless external factors indicate a sooner review period is necessary.

Bearing in mind all of the above points, salary levels for the senior managers were set at a level which reflected the extremely marketable experience built up by the senior managers who had been a fundamental element of the successful achievements at North East Derbyshire District Council. This was to avoid the very real danger that key senior staff would be lost and it might not be possible to attract replacement candidates of the highest calibre necessary to maintain and accelerate the recent and ongoing momentum for service and organisational improvements. Following the Covid pandemic, the recruitment market has become significantly more competitive with the increase in hybrid/remote working options and greater focus on employee wellbeing/work life balance.



The Chief Executive and Chief Officers have significant responsibility for corporate management and operational issues - detailed information about decision making delegated to senior managers can be found in the Constitution on the Council's website.

The decisions in respect of the review of salaries following the independent review were taken by Council, although smaller scale decisions about terms and conditions of service for the Chief Executive and the Chief Officers are taken by the Employment and Appeals Committee



Grading Structure – Senior Management

The salaries indicated for senior management include nationally negotiated pay awards since April 2009 onwards.

No additional payments are made e.g. bonuses, allowances (other than those mentioned below) performance related pay or other benefits in kind.

Chief Executive

Incremental Points	Chief Executive
1	£125,878
2	£130,109
3	£134,340

Directors

Incremental Points	Directors
1	£99,433
2	£103,664
3	£107,895

Assistant Directors

Incremental Points	Assistant Directors
1	£68,757
2	£72,988
3	£78,277

The intention is these posts are characterised by their relatively high level of responsibilities, and would deputise, as appropriate, in the absence of the Director. This is an important element in the Council's succession planning and leadership development, as well as providing valuable strategic input.

Statutory Officers

There are three statutory officer roles: Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer, and Chief Finance Officer, commonly referred to as Section 151 Officer.



Chief Executive: It is the role of the Chief Executive, also known as the Head of Paid Service, to ensure that all the authority's functions are properly co-ordinated as well as organising staff and appointing appropriate management.

Local Government and Housing Act 1989 - [Local Government and Housing Act](#)

Section 151 Officer: Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and appoint a S151 Officer, also known as a Chief Financial Officer (CFO), to have responsibility for those arrangements.

The CFO must lead on a local authority's financial functions and ensure they are fit for purpose. CFOs must be professionally qualified and suitably experienced.

In accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1988 the CFO must be a member of one of the following bodies in order to qualify as a responsible officer: (a) the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, (b) the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, (c) the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, (d) the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, (e) the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, (f) the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, and (g) any other body of accountants established in the United Kingdom and for the time being approved by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this section. Local Government Act 1972 - [Local Government Act 1972](#) Local Government Finance Act 1988 - [Local Government Finance Act 1988](#)

Monitoring Officer: It is the role of the Monitoring Officer to report on matters they believe to be illegal or amount to maladministration, to be responsible for matters relating to the conduct of councillors and officers and, to be responsible for the operation of the Council's Constitution. They are usually, the Head of Legal Services.

Local Government and Housing Act 1989 - [Local Government and Housing Act 1989](#)

Remuneration

The Head of Paid Service role is undertaken by the Chief Executive and is an integral part of the post and is rewarded as part of the substantive role. In the absence of the Chief Executive, the deputising role will fall to a Director. The deputising role for the Head of Paid Service is reflected in the substantive salary paid to the Director.

Where the Section 151 or Monitoring Officer role is discharged at Director level it is rewarded as part of the substantive role and therefore no additional payment is payable.



Where the Section 151 or Monitoring Officer role is discharged below Director level. it is rewarded as an additional responsibility through an additional payment. Statutory Officers operating at Assistant Director level receive an additional payment of £5,384.33 p.a.

The deputising role for the Section 151 or Monitoring Officer role is reflected in the substantive salary paid and therefore no additional payment is payable.

Relationship between salaries following 1 April 2025 Pay Award

There is a pay differential of £56,064.00 between the lowest paid Assistant, Director and the Chief Executive.

The median salary of the whole workforce is £28,598 and the ratio of the Council's top earner to that of its median earner is 4.70:1

The mean salary is £31,642 per annum, and the ratio of the Council's top earner to the mean salary is 4.24:1

Terms and Conditions of Service

Chief Executive, Directors and Assistant Directors are employed under the terms and conditions of service of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Executives and Chief Officers of Local Authorities. There are currently no additional local agreements relating to the employment of the chief executive and chief officers that represent a charge on the public purse, with the exception of election duties (see following paragraph).

Election Duties

The fee for Returning Officer duties is dependent upon the type of election, and is prescribed by Central Government by means of a Fees and Charges Order.

Honoraria and ex gratia payments

The Council does not make ex gratia payments.

An honorarium is payable in circumstances where an employee temporarily takes on duties and responsibilities which are at a higher level than those carried out within their substantive post. The amount of the honorarium is calculated by carrying out an evaluation, under the JNC Job Evaluation Scheme, which takes account of the additional duties. Where an employee carries out the full duties and responsibilities of a higher graded post for a temporary period, then they are paid the appropriate rate for the higher graded post, as identified under the Job Evaluation Scheme.

The same principles apply to all employees, including those on Chief Executive and Chief Officer rates of pay.

Other financial benefits

The Council's Chief Executive, Directors and Assistant Directors are not in receipt of any financial benefits that are not also available to other employees.

For example, subsistence allowances are payable to all employees who are away from their base for lengthy periods as follows:

- Employees can claim for actual expenditure, supported by receipts, up to a maximum of the following amounts:
- Breakfast: £5.61 (payable if employee left home on official business before 7.00am)
- Lunch: £7.73 (payable if employee is away from the office between 11.30am and 2.30pm)
- Tea: £3.04 (payable if the employee is absent from home and office after 6.30pm on official business)
- Evening meal: £9.37 (payable if the employee is absent from home and office after 8.30pm)
- Overnight: £3.63 per night (payable if away from home on business overnight)
- Weekly: £14.55 (payable if away on business for a week or more)

Other expenses such as taxi, bus or train fares, parking fees etc can be reimbursed, provided they are approved, and valid receipts are attached to the expenses claim form.

Essential User Allowance

This is payable to employees who meet specified criteria. Although nationally there are three levels of payment which are linked to the size of the vehicle's engine, this Council pays at the lowest rate only as follows:

Essential Users

Lump sum per annum	£846
per mile first 8,500	36.9p
per mile after 8,500	13.7p

Whilst senior management do not always meet the minimum 1500 miles, senior officers currently receive this Allowance because of the requirement to always have a vehicle available to allow them to respond to urgent incidents.

Professional fees



These are paid for any employee for whom it is an essential requirement that they hold a professional qualification and are members of a professional body. The Council has a policy of not allowing employees to accept gifts or other inducements, and if such gestures are made then the gift is recorded and donated to the Chair's current charity.

A mobile telephone

These are provided to employees who are frequently away from their office, or not office-based and all senior managers are included. In addition to providing the mobile phone, the cost of the monthly rental is paid as well as business related calls.

Incremental Progression

The policy of the Council in respect of incremental progression is the same whatever the level of the post. Appointment is generally to the lowest point on the scale, unless the individual already works in local government and is currently paid at a higher point, in which case they will be appointed to the incremental point above that which is closest to the employee's existing salary (up to a maximum at the top of the grade). Where relevant, incremental increases take place on 1 April each year, except when a new appointment is made between 1 October and 31 March, in which case the first increment is payable six months after appointment.

Pensions

Employees of the Council pay a contribution to the Pension Scheme relative to their annual full-time equivalent pensionable pay (including pensionable allowances). The contribution rates for 2025/26 have altered slightly as per below;

England and Wales – employee contribution rates for 2025/26



Actual Pensionable Pay (based on latest pay x 12)	Contribution rate main section for that employment	50/50 Contribution rate for that employment
Up to £17,800	5.5%	2.75%
£17,801 to £28,000	5.8%	2.90%
£28,001 to £45,600	6.5%	3.25%
£45,601 to £57,700	6.8%	3.40%
£57,701 to £81,000	8.5%	4.25%
£81,001 to £114,800	9.9%	4.95%
£114,801 to £135,300	10.5%	5.25%
£135,301 to £203,000	11.4%	5.70%
£203,001 or more	12.5%	6.25%

The Employer's contribution at NEDDC is currently 20.6% of pensionable pay.

There are a number of discretions available under the Local Government Pension Scheme, and as a matter of policy, NEDDC does not usually exercise any discretion that would represent a cost to the Council

Flexible Retirement

Under the terms of the Local Government Pension scheme, an employee aged 55 or over can elect to reduce their hours or their grade and request early release of pension benefits. This is a provision available to all employees.

The Council has a degree of discretion, as the needs of the service take precedence at all times over the scheme, and the Council's Policy on Flexible Retirement makes clear that it will only agree to such requests where there is no cost to the Council in doing so, i.e. either the employee has already passed their earliest retirement date or where the cost of early release is met by the employee via a reduced pension.

Re-employment of employees in receipt of a pension

Under the terms of the Local Government Pension scheme, an employee who has retired from local government service and is in receipt of a pension may reapply for local government employment. However where this happens the pension is subject to abatement, i.e. if the pension added to the new salary is higher than the original salary then the amount of pension will be reduced accordingly. There are currently no re-employed pensioners in senior management positions.

Payment on termination of employment

Where a post is deleted following a review of service (redundancy), or where an employee is retired 'in the interests of the efficient exercise of the Authority's functions', a compensatory payment is made.



In the case of redundancy, a sum is payable based on the national redundancy table with a multiplier of 1.5. The Council exercises its discretion in these cases to base the payment on actual weeks' pay, and the maximum payable in these circumstances is 45 weeks' pay for service of 20 years or over.

Under the Local Government Pension Scheme, pension benefits are payable with immediate effect to any employee whose employment is terminated on grounds of redundancy or efficient exercise and who is aged 55 or over.

Holiday Entitlement

The annual leave entitlement for senior managers is 36 days per year plus 3 days per annum to cover the Christmas closedown period. The Chief Executive and all Chief Officers are entitled to 8 bank holidays plus any additional bank holidays agreed at national level. The annual leave year commences on the first of the month in which an employee birthday falls.

North East Derbyshire District Council

Council

2 March 2026

PROPORTIONALITY OF THE COUNCIL

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Sarah Sternberg – Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer: Sarah Sternberg – Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To report changes to the proportionality of the Council.

DECISION ROUTE AND REASON FOR DECISION BEING BROUGHT TO COUNCIL

The decision is a Council decision and only the Council can determine the matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the changes to the political make-up of the Council be noted and the proportional allocation of committee places be agreed.
2. That the appointments to Committees, as updated at the meeting, be agreed.

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

The Council is required to allocate seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance requirements of section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The criteria are listed in paragraph 1.2 in the order in which they must be applied.

If Members wish to agree an alternative to the figures applying under the proportionality rules, this would have to be by an unanimous vote for the alternative at the meeting considering the alternative arrangements. This unanimous vote is required by the legislation and is not optional. An alternative proposal would have to be presented to Members to ensure all Members are aware of the proposed different allocations before voting.

It has become necessary to review the allocations in the light of recent changes to political group memberships.

The Legal Rules governing the proportionality rules and the allocation of seats

There have been a number of reports on the proportionality rules and the allocation of seats to Committees at recent Council Meetings. There seemed to be some confusion as to what these rules are. They are set out and explained below.

They are in Sections 15 to 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. They are applied when the Authority's Members are formally split into political groups for the purposes of the proportionality rules. This means that small groups and single members can get together as a political group for these rules whilst maintaining separate political party affiliation. The groupings are solely for this purpose – of allocating seats in proportion.

Section 15 sets out the rules

Section 15(3) states that it is the duty of the authority to determine the allocation to the different political groups.

Section 15(4) states that in exercising this duty, the authority has a duty, so far as is reasonably practicable, to give effect to the principles in Section 15(5).

Please note that this is so far as reasonably practicable. Members come in whole numbers, but percentages do not. There is never the likelihood that the percentages will come out as a whole number of members.

Section 15(5) sets out the principles as follows:

- (a) That not all seats can go to one political group.
- (b) That the majority party has the majority of the seats allocated.

These 2 rules are paramount in allocating the seats to Committees. These 2 rules must be complied with in priority to the next 2 rules.

- (c) That, subject to (a) and (b) the proportion of seats allocated to each party across the Committees bears the same proportion to the total number of seats on Committees as does the number of that party's Cllrs on the Authority does to the number of seats on the Authority.

This rule is subject to (a) and (b) and is therefore subservient to those rules. This rule cannot be dealt with in a way that means that (a) and (b) are not complied with.

This aggregates/adds up the numbers of seats to be allocated to all the Committees by the Authority. It is then necessary to allocate these seats in the same proportion as the party's seats on the Authority bears to the number of seats on the Council. This latter number for this Council is of course 53.

(d) That subject to (a) to (c) the allocated number of seats of each party on each Committee bears the same proportion to the number of all seats on the Committee as does the number of seats that party has on the Authority bears to the number of seats on the Authority.

This rule is subservient to all the rules above. It cannot be dealt with in such a way as to mean that rules (a) to (c) are not complied with.

This applies the same proportionality argument to the seats on each Committee.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION	
<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £125,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £310,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	No
<p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p>	None

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2 	Not applicable given the subject of the report.
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report 	No, not applicable
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details:

Links to Council Plan priorities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A great place that cares for the environment A great place to live well A great place to work A great place to access good public services
All – Good governance is a basic requirement for the successful functioning of the Council and achieving the Council Plan Objectives.

REPORT DETAILS

1 **Background** *(reasons for bringing the report)*

- 1.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 introduced statutory requirements that, where a relevant authority has a membership divided into different political groups, it must ensure that appointments reflect the overall proportion as that in which the Council as a whole is divided.
- 1.2 The legislation also requires that in appointing members on a politically proportional basis, the Authority should conform with the following principles, so far as reasonably practicable, in the following order:
- (a) That not all seats on the body are allocated to the same political group.
 - (b) That a political group with an overall majority of the seats on the Council gets a majority of seats allocated on all Committees and Advisory Groups subject to the proportionality rules.

- (c) Subject to (a) and (b) that the total number of seats each political group has on all Committees and Advisory Groups is in proportion to that group's share of the total Council elected membership.
- (d) Subject to (a) and (c) that each political group has the same proportion of seats as it holds on the Council as a whole.

1.3 In line with the provisions of the Constitution, the Council will comply with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 by:

- Deciding the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance rules;
- Receiving nominations of Councillors to serve on each Committee and Advisory Group and make the associated appointments.

1.4 The following bodies are not required to be political proportionate; Cabinet and Licensing Committee Sub-Committees.

1.4 Following the change of political group of one Councillor, the proportionality of the Council needs to be recalculated.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

2.1 The proportion of places on the Council by political group as it stood in December 2025 is set out in the table below.

Political Group	No. of Councillors	% on the Council	Number of Seats on Committees	% of seats on Committees
Labour Group	27	50.94%	50	56.82%
Conservative Group	16	30.19%	26	29.55%
North East Derbyshire Independent Group	6	11.32%	9	10.23%
Independents Group	3	5.66%	3	3.41%
Reform UK*	1	1.89%	0	0%

*With only one Councillor Reform UK are not considered a group but are included in the table for information.

2.2 Proportionality rules apply to groups; individual Councillors who are not part of a group are not automatically entitled to a share of seats under proportionality rules.

2.3 When there are Members who are ungrouped, the legislation requires that once the proportional allocation to political groups has been made in accordance with

the four principles, any remaining unallocated seats must be reserved and appointed to ungrouped Independent Members.

2.3 Councillor Foster recently informed the Monitoring Officer that he was no longer a member of the Conservative Group.

2.4 The current political proportionality of the Council is now:

Political Group	No. of Councillors	% on the Council	Entitlement to seats (rounded)
Labour Group	27	50.94%	44.83 (45)
Conservative Group	15	28.30%	24.91 (25)
North East Derbyshire Independent Group	6	11.32%	9.96 (10)
Independents Group	3	5.66%	4.98 (5)
Unaligned (not part of a Group)	2	3.77%	3.32 (3)

2.5 In order to comply with legislation, in the order it is set out, the following has been considered.

There are currently 88 seats available on Committees.

The rounded entitlement of seats is then distributed amongst the committees, considering first the majority group's majority on each committee, then that the allocation of seats is in line with overall proportionality, as far as reasonably practicable, and then subject to the first two considerations that the number of seats on each committee bears the same proportionality.

2.6 This results in the following committee allocation:

Committee	Labour	Conservative	NED Ind	Ind	Unaligned
Audit	3	2	0	0	0
Employment and Appeals	3	1	0	0	0
General Licensing	6	3	2	0	0
Licensing & Gambling	6	3	2	0	0
Planning	6	3	1	1	0
Standards	4	2	0	1	0
Joint ICT	2	1	0	0	0
Business Scrutiny*	5	2	1	1	0

Communities Scrutiny	5	2	2	0	0
Environment Scrutiny	5	3	0	1	0
Services Scrutiny	5	3	1	0	0
Total	50	25	9	4	0

**change has been reflected for Business Scrutiny Committee but it could be Business or Services Scrutiny Committee.*

This table reflects the following proposed changes:

One place on either Business Scrutiny Committee or Services Scrutiny Committee moving from the Conservative Group to the Independent Group.

- 2.7 This proposed change would mean the largest opposition group has a very similar percentage of seats to proportionality on the council, and the Independent Group is closer to its entitlement of seats, having previously had the biggest difference.
- 2.8 The proportion of places on the Council by political Group and the proposed change to committee places is set out below.

Political Group	% on the Council	Number of Seats on Committees	% of seats on Committees
Labour Group	50.94%	50	56.82%
Conservative Group	28.30%	25	28.41%
NED Independent Group	11.32%	9	10.23%
Independent Group	5.66%	4	4.55%
Unaligned	3.77%	0	0%

- 2.9 The Group Leaders affected have been informed of the proposed changes.
- 2.10 It should be noted that with the current numbers in each political group it is not possible for all opposition groups to have their full proportional representation because according to the legislation the majority group's majority should be prioritised. This does not mean the other requirements have been ignored, they have been met where reasonably practicable. Committee places have been allocated to get as close to each group's overall numbers as possible, whilst being fair as possible to all groups.
- 2.11 It is possible for Council as its Annual Meeting in May 2026 to consider whether it wishes to review the size of committees, which would require a change to the terms of reference for some committees.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The report recommends that the allocation of Committee seats detailed meets the requirements of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act as far as reasonably practicable.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 None. The Council is required to consider and allocate seats to political groups in accordance with the Political Balance requirements.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	

North East Derbyshire District Council

Council

2 March 2026

Request for a Community Governance Review in relation to the boundary line at Bloomery Way and surrounding properties between Pilsley Parish Council and Clay Cross Parish Council.

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Classification: This report is public

Report By: **Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer**

Contact Officer: **Sarah Sternberg** sarah.sternberg@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

A valid Petition has been received for a Community Governance Review by the District to determine whether a number of properties should be placed under Clay Cross Parish Council from Pilsley Parish Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Members acknowledge receipt of the valid Petition for a Community Governance Review.
2. That Members consider and approve the Terms of Reference and timetable for the Review in Appendix 2 to this report.
3. That the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to amend and republish the Terms of Reference for the Community Governance Review.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Cllr Joe Birkin, Cabinet Member for Council Services

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details: There will be a cost to carrying out the review. This cost is yet to be determined and cannot be recovered from the Parish Council.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details: As in the report.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details: A number of areas of the Council will be involved in putting together and servicing the CGR including:

Communications
Council Tax
Electoral Services
Finance
Governance

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District Wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	Yes – Clay Cross North and Pilsley and Morton.
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) details:	
Stage 1 screening undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed EIA stage 1 to be appended if not required to do a stage 2	No, not applicable.
Stage 2 full assessment undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed EIA stage 2 needs to be appended to the report	No, not applicable

Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details: Raised with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder.
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Links to Council Plan (NED) priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.
None

REPORT DETAILS

1 **Background** *(reasons for bringing the report)*

- 1.1 The Council has received a valid petition to carry out a Community Governance Review (CGR) under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LG&PIHA 2007). This is in relation to a request that the District carry out a CGR and determine whether or not a number of properties should be moved from one Parish to another.
- 1.2 Under the legislation the District must carry out the CGR. The review is to be carried out at the cost of the District Council. There is no provision for passing on the costs.
- 1.3 The Petition must set out at least one recommendation that the petitioners want the review to consider. In the case of this petition this is to move the properties from Pilsley Parish Council to Clay Cross Parish Council. The original boundary was drawn some years ago before the housing development was built. The petition states “The purpose of the said review being to transfer the land east of the railway line as defined on the attached map, including the properties on Bloomery Way, the property known as the Cottage, Pilsley and the new properties off Coney Green Road from the Parish of Pilsley to the Parish of Clay Cross.” It is intended to complete the CGR in time for the Parish Elections in May 2027.
- 1.4 The District is required to notify the County Council that a review is to be undertaken and of its Terms of Reference.
- 1.5 The District is required to draw up Terms of Reference and a timetable and to publish these once agreed – Section 81 LG&PIHA 2007. These are in Appendix 2 to this report. These are expected to set out clearly the matters on which a CGR is to focus.
- 1.6 There are several matters which can be considered including:
 - The creation, merger or abolition of a parish

- The name of a parish
- The establishment of a separate parish council for an existing parish
- Electoral arrangements for parishes including warding

The guidance states that “In many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours. In such circumstances, the Council should consider undertaking a community governance review, the terms of reference of which should include consideration of the boundaries of existing parishes”.

- 1.7 The number of properties involved in the CGR is 116 and the current number of electors is 183.
- 1.8 It can be decided by the CGR that there should be no change and that the properties remain within Pilsley Parish Council. It should be noted that whilst the District can undertake the Review and if determined, the properties can be transferred to Clay Cross Parish Council, this will have no impact on the District Ward, County Division and Parliamentary Constituency as changes to District Ward, County Division and Parliamentary Constituency boundaries can only be reviewed and implemented by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) and the Boundary Commission respectively. The District can make a request to the LGBCE to make a related alteration although initial indications is that the related alteration may not be looked at due to the impending interim arrangements arising from Local Government Reorganisation including a unitary boundary review.
- 1.9 The CGR is required under Section 93 LG&IPHA 2007 to ensure that community governance within the area under review will:
- Be reflective of the identities and interest of the community in that area and
 - Be effective and convenient.
- 1.10 The CGR is required in the guidance (at paragraph 53) to take into account of the following:
- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion and
 - The size population and boundaries of a local community or parish.
- 1.11 There is a requirement to consult Local Government electors for the area under review and any other person or body, including a local authority, who appears to have an interest in the review. This would include:
- Affected electors

- Clay Cross Parish Council
- Pilsley Parish Council
- Local District and County Councillors
- Derbyshire County Council
- Other community groups identified.

The recommendations produced would have to reflect the results of this consultation.

- 1.12 The CGR recommendations will be published and the District will have to ensure steps are taken to inform interested parties of those recommendations and of the reasons for them. It is also expected that the minutes of meetings will be published too.
- 1.13 The guidance also recommends that a public awareness strategy is produced to include:
- Target audience
 - Objectives to promote wide opportunities for informed discussion and response
 - The resources to be used such as the Communications section, budget, press releases, leaflets, posters, local meetings etc.
 - The timetable or plan of delivery
 - Methods of monitoring, control and evaluation

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 Officers to carry out the CGR as per timetable and report back to Council.
- 2.2 In carrying out the CGR the District must comply with section 93 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. This section is shown at Appendix 1 to this report. This includes the requirement to have regard to the matters quoted above at paragraph 1.9 above as well as taking into account any other arrangements that are in place for the purposes of community representation or community engagement in respect of the area under review, must take into account representations received, publish its recommendations as soon as practicable and complete the review in 12 months.
- 2.3 In carrying out the CGR the District must have regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) and in making recommendations and giving effect to recommendations as well. The latest guidance is from 2010. The guidance can be found at [Guidance on community governance reviews](#)

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The Council is required to carry out and complete a Community Governance Review. These arrangements will ensure the review is carried out in accordance with the approved timetable.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 The Council has a duty to carry out the Community Governance Review.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Section 93 of the Local Government and Involvement in Public Health Act 2007.
Appendix 2	Terms of Reference for the Community Governance Review.
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	

Appendix 1

Section 93 of Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

93 Duties when undertaking a review

- (1) The principal council must comply with the duties in this section when undertaking a community governance review.
- (2) But, subject to those duties, it is for the principal council to decide how to undertake the review.
- (3) The principal council must consult the following—
 - (a) the local government electors for the area under review;
 - (b) any other person or body (including a local authority) which appears to the principal council to have an interest in the review.
- (4) The principal council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance within the area under review—
 - (a) reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and
 - (b) is effective and convenient.
- (5) In deciding what recommendations to make, the principal council must take into account any other arrangements (apart from those relating to parishes and their institutions)—
 - (a) that have already been made, or
 - (b) that could be made,for the purposes of community representation or community engagement in respect of the area under review.
- (6) The principal council must take into account any representations received in connection with the review.
- (7) As soon as practicable after making any recommendations, the principal council must—
 - (a) publish the recommendations; and
 - (b) take such steps as it considers sufficient to secure that persons who may be interested in the review are informed of those recommendations.
- (8) The principal council must conclude the review within the period of 12 months starting with the day on which the council receives the community governance petition or community governance application.

North East Derbyshire District Council

Terms of Reference: Community Governance Review (CGR) of Parish Boundaries affecting 116 properties Pilsley and Clay Cross Parish Councils.

1. Introduction

1.1 North East Derbyshire District Council has received a valid petition requesting a CGR of the boundary between Pilsley Parish Council and Clay Cross Parish Council as shown on the map attached to the Petition (attached to these Terms of Reference as Map B). This CGR affects approximately 116 residential properties. The Petition stated:

“The purpose of the said review being to transfer the land east of the railway line as defined on the attached map, including the properties on Bloomery Way, the property known as the Cottage, Pilsley and the new properties off Coney Green Road from the Parish of Pilsley to the Parish of Clay Cross. “

1.2 Map A showing the existing boundaries and Map B showing the Petition proposals are attached to these Terms of Reference.

2. Legal Framework

2.1 In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the Act), the Council is required to undertake a CGR to consider whether changes to parish boundaries and governance arrangements are justified as a valid Petition has been received. Section 83(2).

2.2 In undertaking the Review, the Council will be guided by:

- Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- The relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972
- Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in accordance with section 100(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in March 2010

and the following regulations which guide, in particular, consequential matters arising from the Review:

- Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008
- Local Government Finance (New Parishes) Regulations 2008

Section 81 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires the Council to publish its Terms of Reference in a Review.

2.3 This document is being published on the Council's website, and a copy is being sent to Derbyshire County Council. In addition, the two Parish Councils will be requested to display copies.

3 What is a Community Governance Review

3.1 A Community Governance Review is the process used to consider parish arrangements. It can be a review of the whole or part of the District Council area. In this case, it is to carry out a CGR relating to the electoral boundary between Pilsley Parish Council and Clay Cross Parish Council as requested in the Petition.

3.2 The Council believes Parish Councils play an important role in terms of community empowerment at the local level. The Council wants to ensure parish governance in our District continues to be robust, representative and enabled to meet the challenges that lie before it.

The Council wants to ensure that the boundaries and electoral arrangements of the Parish Councils are appropriate, equitable, meaningful and readily understood by the electorate.

Furthermore, it wants to ensure there is clarity and transparency to the areas Parish Councils represent and that the electoral arrangements of parish Councils – the warding arrangements and the allocations of councillors – are appropriate, equitable, meaningful and readily understood by their electorate.

4. Who undertakes the CGR

4.1 The Council is statutorily responsible for carrying out the review.

4.2 The conduct of the review will be overseen by the Council's Electoral Registration Officer and the Electoral Services Team.

4.3 Formal decisions on the recommendations arising from the review will be made by full Council in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

4.4 Officer contact details for the review are: Sarah Sternberg – Electoral Registration Officer sarah.sternberg@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk and Donna Jawad – Electoral Services Manager donna.jawad@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

5. Consultation

5.1 The Council has drawn up and now publishes this Terms of Reference document. This document lays out the aims of the review, the legislation that guides it and some of the policies the Council considers important in the review.

5.2 The Council will consult by the following but may also consult by other means as well:

- writing to Derbyshire County Council
- writing to both Parish Councils within and adjoining the CGR area
- writing to identified umbrella organisations
- publicising the review on the Council's website
- undertaking a form of public consultation.

5.3 In accordance with the Act, representations received in connection with the Review will be taken into account, and steps will be taken to notify consultees of the outcome of the Review. This will be done by publishing outcomes on the Council's website.

5.4 A separate email address will be set up for anyone wishing to submit representations.

6. Scope of the Review

6.1 The review will specifically consider:

- The petition request to transfer approximately 116 properties between the two Parish Council areas of Pilsley and Clay Cross Parish Councils (the Parish Councils).
- The existing parish boundary, its relevance, and its alignment with community identity.
- The impact of any change on:
 - Electoral arrangements;
 - Parish Council governance structures;
 - Community cohesion;
 - Service delivery and administrative efficiency.

6.2 The review will **not** consider:

- Changes to District Ward or County Division boundaries;
- Any reorganisation of principal council functions.

7. Review Objectives

The review will aim to:

- Assess whether the proposed boundary change better reflects local community identity.
- Consider the preferences of residents, stakeholders, and the Parish Councils.
- Evaluate demographic, geographic, and administrative impacts.
- Recommend whether the Council should implement:
 - The proposed change
 - No change.

8. Indicative Timetable for a Community Governance Review

Stage of Review	Timescale	Date
Terms of Reference and timetable to be presented to and be agreed by Council following receipt of valid petition		2 March 2026

Publish Terms of Reference and commencement of the Review	As soon as possible after Council meeting	W/c 9 March 2026
Stage 1 Consultation	8 weeks	1 May 2026
Consideration of submissions received	2 weeks	18 May 2026
Stage 2 Consultation with draft proposals and recommendations	4 weeks	15 June 2026
Prepare final proposals	3 weeks	6 July 2026
Internal consultation and sign off report	6 weeks	17 August 2026
Report to Council	Next Council Meeting	September/October 2026*
Publish decision following Council Meeting		October 2026
Make Community Governance Reorganisation Order and notify LGBCE and other statutory bodies		October 2026

Any changes affecting the parish boundaries will need to be incorporated into the revised Register of Electors which is published on 1 December each year.

*The meeting dates have not yet been set for the Council year 2026/2027. It is likely that the Council meeting will be held in late September/early October 2026.

9. Decision-Making

9.1 Final decisions will be made by **Full Council** following consideration of recommendations from Officers, ensuring transparency and fairness.

9.2 Decisions will take into account:

- Community identities and interests;
- Effective and convenient governance;
- Consultation feedback;
- Any electoral implications.

10. Publication of Outcomes

10.1 The Council will publish its decisions, reasons, and any Reorganisation of Community Governance Order on:

- The Council's website;
- Relevant Parish Council noticeboards and publications.

11. Implementation of Outcomes

11.1 If boundary changes are approved, the Council will:

- Prepare and publish a **Reorganisation Order**.

- Notify Ordnance Survey, Local Government Boundary Commission for England, Electoral Registration Officer, and other relevant bodies.
- Update parish electoral arrangements in time for the next scheduled elections on 6 May 2027.

Date of publication of these Terms of Reference 3 March 2026



