

APPROVED MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE ON WEDNESDAY 25 May 2022 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Newcastle upon Tyne (Councillor Karen Robinson)

Councillors: I Ali, P Allen, S Anthony, R Ashby, A Avaei, T Cairns, T Champion, A Chisholm, M Cookson, S Copley, N Cott, L Cummings, I Donaldson, M Donnelly, V Dunn, L Ellis, C Ferguson, P Frew, H Gallagher, C Gray, D Greenhough, P Hall, A Hay, B Hindmarsh, L Hobson, L Hunter, G Kane, G Keating, N Kemp, K Kilgour, J Kingsland, S Lambert, H Laverick, P Lovatt, M Lawson, M Mafemba, G Middleton, B Phillipson, S Postlethwaite, T Pretswell, H Rahman, A Samad, J Sathian, S Sheraton, J Smith, J Stokel-Walker, G Stone, L Storey, W Taylor, I Tokell, K Webster, M Williams, T Woodwark, S Wood and L Wright

1 **APPOINTMENT OF LORD MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/23**

The Lord Mayor, Habib Rahman, confirmed that one nomination had been received for the office of Lord Mayor for 2022/23. Councillor Taylor moved, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, that Councillor Karen Robinson be appointed Lord Mayor of the City for the ensuing municipal year.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Karen Robinson be appointed Lord Mayor of the City for the next municipal year. Councillor Robinson signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office of Lord Mayor and took an Oath of Allegiance to the Crown.

The new Lord Mayor wished the outgoing Lord Mayor well, thanked Council for her nomination and for giving her the honour of serving the city. She thanked her family for their support and the Lower family for their encouragement and informed Council that her husband, Billy Signy, would be her Consort.

The Lord Mayor had chosen to support Albert Kennedy Trust (AKT), Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC), Northern Roots, Health Musicians and Twisting Ducks. She went on to say that she would like to champion the areas of food and the arts this year as both were important and her four Lord Mayor's Champions would be Charlie Hardwick, Camilla Fox, Tom Caulker and Adam Collerton.

2 **APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF AND DEPUTY LORD MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/23**

The new Lord Mayor confirmed that only one nomination had been received for the office of Sheriff and Deputy Lord Mayor for the municipal year 2022/23. Councillor Kemp moved, seconded by Councillor Sheraton, that Councillor Veronica Dunn, be elected Sheriff and Deputy Lord Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Veronica Dunn be appointed Sheriff and Deputy Lord Mayor of the City for the next municipal year.

The new Sheriff and Deputy Lord Mayor thanked Council for bestowing on her the honour of the role and said that her husband John would undertake the role of Sheriff's Consort.

3 **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING LORD MAYOR**

A vote of thanks to the retiring Lord Mayor was proposed by Councillor Kemp and seconded by Councillor Cott.

The Lord Mayor informed Council that medals had been presented to the retiring Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and she invited Councillor Rahman to reply to the vote of thanks.

In replying to the vote of thanks Councillor Rahman first congratulated the new Lord Mayor on her election. He went on to thank the Council for the honour and privilege for serving in the role and also thanked all of the staff who supported the office of the Lord Mayor.

Councillor Rahman also offered congratulations to the new Sheriff and Deputy Lord Mayor on her appointment.

He said it had been an honour and a proud time in his life to serve as the first citizen. His motivation for taking the office was his amazing mom, Mrs Ashrafia Khanom, and she was very proud. He would continue to fight for justice, fairness and equality for people of the protected characteristics.

Councillor Rahman thanked all of his companions for their support and his wife, Ruby Sultana, for being his Lady Mayoress.

The new Lord Mayor advised that Council would now proceed with the items of business as set out on the agenda.

4 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Barnes, Bell, Byrne, Durrant, Fairlie, Higgins, Huddart, Ion, McCarty, Morrissey, Penny-Evans, S Rahman, Postlethwaite, Shatwell, H Stephenson, JP Stephenson, D Wood and M Wood.

5 **INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS**

The Lord Mayor congratulated attendees on their election on 5 May 2022. 27 Councillors had been elected in total, including six new Councillors and two returning Councillors. The Lord Mayor formally welcomed the new councillors and introduced them as follows:

- Arthur's Hill - Councillor Abdul Samad
- Benwell & Scotswood - Councillor Susan Anthony

- Blakelaw and North Fenham – Juna Sathian
- Denton & Westerhope - Councillor Daniel Greenhough
- Elswick - Councillor Miriam Mafemba
- Lemington – Councillor Barry Phillipson
- Ouseburn - Councillor Mike Cookson
- South Jesmond - Councillor Laura Cummings

6 **APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF COUNCIL**

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Gray and Councillor Kilgour, respectively, to move and second Councillor Kemp's appointment as Leader of Council.

RESOLVED – That Council agreed the appointment of Councillor Kemp's as Leader of Council.

7 **TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF LEADERS OF THE OPPOSITION AND DEPUTY LEADERS OF OPPOSITION GROUPS**

RESOLVED – That Councillor Nick Cott as Leader and Councillor Colin Ferguson as Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats Group and Councillor Jason Smith as Leader and Councillor Tracey Mitchell as Deputy Leader of the Newcastle Independents Group for 2022/23.

8 **APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS, DELEGATED SUB COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND PANELS 2022/23**

The appointments, circulated on the supplemental agenda, in Schedule A were moved by Councillor Gray and seconded by Councillor Woodwark.

RESOLVED - That the Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, Delegated Sub-Committees, Boards and Panels including Chairs and Vice-Chairs set out in Schedule A be appointed for 2022/23.

9 **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NORTH OF TYNE COMBINED AUTHORITY, JOINT AUTHORITIES, JOINT COMMITTEES FOR 2022/23**

The appointments, circulated on the supplemental agenda, in Schedule B were moved by Councillor Gray and seconded by Councillor Woodwark.

RESOLVED - That the Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, Delegated Sub-Committees, Boards and Panels including Chairs and Vice-Chairs set out in Schedule A be appointed for 2022/23.

10 **APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES 2022/23**

The appointments, circulated on the supplemental agenda, in Schedule C were moved by Councillor Gray and seconded by Councillor Woodwark.

RESOLVED - That the Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, Delegated Sub-Committees, Boards and Panels including Chairs and Vice-Chairs set out in Schedule A be appointed for 2022/23.

11 **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011**

Submitted: Report of Service Manager Democratic Services and Assistant Director Legal Services recommending that Council approve the reappointment of Independent Members of Audit Committee, Standards Committee and the Independent Remuneration Panel and Independent Persons under the Localism Act 2011 (previously circulated and copy attached to the official minutes).

The report was moved and seconded by Councillors Gray and Woodwark respectively.

RESOLVED – City Council agreed to reappoint Independent Members onto the following committees, with the term of office ending at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2023:

- Audit Committee – Hamish Moore, Wendy Lawson and Stuart Green. There remains one vacancy on this committee.
- Standards Committee – Mark Scrimshaw and Wendy Lawson.
- Independent Remuneration Panel – Eric Richards, Gordon Robinson, Victor Ottaway, Sue Browell and Paul Boyd.
and
- The reappointment of the Council’s current Independent Persons (Dawn Catherine Dunn and George John Clark) until the Annual Meeting in 2023.