

Your Cabinet 2023/24

Structure from October 2023

Cabinet Portfolios are in place to deliver for Newcastle's citizens and communities. Each portfolio joins up political leadership for effective and inclusive service delivery, and every Cabinet member is committed to working closely with you to meet city challenges and improve residents' wellbeing.



1. What is Cabinet and how does it work?

Newcastle City Council is led by Councillors. This means that the overall strategic priorities of the council are determined by elected politicians who are accountable to city residents.

Full Council

Meetings of all 78 elected Councillors (Full Council) take the biggest decisions such as setting the overall policy framework and agreeing the Council's budget. Councillors who belong to the political party which has the most seats form the ruling group. Full Council then elects the leader of that ruling group to be Leader of Council. The Leader then appoints a Cabinet.

Political Balance of the Council

The Council is currently made up of 48 Labour, 23 Liberal Democrat, 3 Independent and 4 Newcastle Independents councillors. The Leader and Cabinet are therefore all Labour (or Labour and Co-Operative) councillors.

Leader and Cabinet

Cabinet takes the most significant decisions within the Council, through Cabinet meetings or the individual decision-making process. The Leader and Cabinet Members also ensure that the Council is working towards the priorities set by Cabinet.

Officers

The staff of the Council are employed to carry out the day-to-day work of the Council and implement the policies of Cabinet and the budget set by Full Council.

The role of Cabinet

Cabinet members are elected representatives given specific responsibilities for the work of the Council. Cabinet Members provide overall direction and set the policy framework for services to work within. They are ultimately responsible for the decisions the Council makes.

Cabinet Members make collective decisions at monthly formal Cabinet meetings. They also have delegated powers to make specific decisions for areas of activity in their individual portfolios. This helps to speed up decision-making.

Many members of the Cabinet also work elsewhere. This brings alternative perspectives and experience that supports their activity as Cabinet Member.

For more information see <https://newcastle.gov.uk/local-government/your-elected-representatives/leader-and-cabinet>

2. Cabinet Responsibilities

Cabinet Member	Council Function Lead
<p>Leader Cllr Nick Kemp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall leadership of the Council • Devolution including Combined Authority Cabinet • Promotion of the city, locally, nationally, and internationally • External relationships • Strategic policy coordination • Communications • International Strategy • Oversight of major regeneration projects <p>Political lead for: Inclusive Economic Strategy</p>
<p>Deputy Leader and Healthy, Caring City Cllr Karen Kilgour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political governance including Legal Services and The Newcastle Charter • Council Plan • Adult Social Care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adults with long term social care needs - In house and commissioned care services - Learning disabilities - Autism and mental health - Prevention. - Specialist services - Business continuity and risk - Social care finance. - Safeguarding - Dementia Friendly City - Support to unpaid carers to improve their health, wellbeing & quality of life • Health and Social Care integration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborative Newcastle - Adult Social Care financial viability - Joint funding with Health (Better Care Fund) - Intermediate Care - Integrated Care System (ICS) • Housing with specialised support • Political leadership in relation to legislation and guidance • Public Health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of the statutory public health outcomes framework - Preventative health - Embedded public health across Council activity - Promotion of healthy neighbourhoods <p>Political lead for: Anti-Poverty Strategy</p>
<p>Resources and Cabinet Secretary Cllr Paul Frew</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial strategy, including budget setting, budget monitoring, financial policy and performance • Revenue collection, business rates, council tax, council tax support and benefits • The Council's pension fund • Council-wide performance management

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce matters including human resources and trade union relations • Digital transformation, including customer services • Oversight of the Council's move to being a Real Living Wage Employer • Risk Management • Organisational accountability: Council, Cabinet and Committee forward planning • Democratic and Members' Services • Elections and electoral registration • Information governance and cyber security • Capital Programme • Property portfolio • Political oversight of transformation programme <p>Political lead for: Social value through commissioning and procurement</p>
<p>Dynamic City and Lead Member for Equalities and Diversity Cllr Irim Ali</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight of city housing strategy • Capital investment programme in YHN/Council stock • Housing Revenue Account • Planning • Local Plan • Tackling homelessness and rough sleeping, advice and support for people facing homelessness • Private sector housing • Working with housing associations • Improved advice and support for people living in the private rented sector • Registered Social Landlords and house of multiple occupation (HMO) licencing • Licencing and regulatory issues (not including taxis). Trading standards. Public protection and enforcement <p>Political Lead for: Equalities and diversity</p>
<p>Growing City Cllr Lesley Storey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate parenting - Child protection and protecting children from exploitation - Special education needs and disabilities (SEND) services - Tackling child poverty - Integrated support for children and families including early years services, nurseries, family centres and Connexions - Youth offending - Commissioning and delivery of youth and play services - Education and schools, including achievement and attainment, sufficiency of places, promotion of inclusion and school improvement (including inspections, behaviour, attendance and enrichment) <p>Political lead for: Working towards UNICEF Child Friendly City status</p>
<p>Connected, Clean City Cllr Marion Williams</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic transport planning and infrastructure, local transport schemes and lobbying for improvement of public transport • School Streets • Parking, traffic management and enforcement • Road and footway maintenance through capital investment programme • Biodiversity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting and maintenance programme • Waste, garden waste and street cleaning services • Tackling environmental crime including fly tipping, littering, graffiti and dog fouling • Street lighting • Tackling air pollution, Clean Air Zone (CAZ) <p>Political lead for: Council response to climate emergency/Net Zero</p>
<p>Resilient City Cllr Paula Maines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime, community safety and anti-social behaviour • Safe Newcastle Partnership • Tackling modern slavery and human trafficking • Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Compact and VCS liaison • The Newcastle Fund • Neighbourhood renewal • Community assets and asset transfers • Parish Councils • Ward governance and budget • Communities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refugees and asylum seekers - City of Sanctuary - Veterans and the Armed Forces Family/Armed Forces Covenant • Urban Green/parks, green spaces, allotments • Play areas and leisure facilities • Leisure Centre management • Libraries and customer services • Registrars, cemeteries, and crematorium services • Taxi licensing <p>Political lead for: Co-operative Council</p>
<p>Thriving City Cllr Alex Hay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic development • Adult education, skills and apprenticeships • Social Finance • Digital inclusion • City centre regeneration. • Business Improvement District • Culture, Heritage and Sport • Culture Compact <p>Political lead for: Welfare reform including welfare rights</p>