Issue date: April 2026

Newcastle City Council

The Newcastle Charter

The Constitution for Newcastle upon Tyne City Council

Contents

Part 1 Legal Background and Organisation and Governance Structure

Part 1.1 Legal Background

Part 1.2 Wider Context

Part 1.3 Political Structure

Part 1.4 Officer Structure

Part 1.5 Summary of Constitution

Part 2 Articles of the Constitution

Art 1 The Constitution

Art 2 Members of the Council

Art 3 Citizens and the Council

Art 4 The Full Council

Art 5 The Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, Sheriff and Recorder

Art 6 Scrutiny Committees

Art 7 The Cabinet

Art 8 Non-Executive Committees and Licensing Committee

Art 9 The Standards Committee

Art 10 Area Committees – Ward Committees

Art 11 Advisory Committees

Art 12 Joint Arrangements

Art 13 Officers

Art 14 Decision Making

Art 15 Finance, Contracts and Legal Matters

Art 16 Review and Revision of the Constitution

Art 17 Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution

Sch 1 Description of Executive Arrangements

Part 3 Responsibility for Functions

Part 3.1 Responsibility for Functions – Summary

Part 3.2 Non-Executive Functions - Council Only

Part 3.3 Allocation of Local Choice Functions

Part 3.4 Executive Functions
Appendix to Part 3.4

Part 3.5 Non-Executive Functions

Part 3.5A Licensing Functions

Part 3.6 Scrutiny Committees

Part 3.7 Ward Committees

Part 3.8 Advisory Committees, including Audit Committee

Part 3.9 Joint Consultative Committees

Part 3.10 Appeal and other Panels

Part 3.11 Informal Groups

Part 3.12 Joint Arrangements

Part 3.12A Education Bodies

Part 3.13 Officers including Protocol on the Exercise of Officer Delegations

Part 3.14 Public Health Functions and the Health Service

Tables

Table 3.1 Local Choice Functions

Table 3.2 Allocation of Non-Executive Functions*

Part 4 Rules of Procedure

Part 4 Rules of Procedure

Part 4A Council Procedure Rules (Standing Orders)

Part 4B Access to Information Procedure Rules

Part 4C Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules

Part 4D Cabinet Procedure Rules

Part 4E Scrutiny Committees Procedure Rules

Part 4F Financial Regulations
Commissioning and Procurement Procedure Rules

Part 4G Officer Employment Procedure Rules

Part 5 Codes and Protocols (Ethical Governance Framework)

Principles

Part 5.1A Nolan's Seven Principles of Public Life

Statutory Codes and Legislation

Part 5.2A Code of Conduct - Members

Part 5.2B Code of Conduct – Non-Voting Co-optees

Part 5.2C Code of Conduct – Employees

Part 5.2D Legislation Relating to Declaration of Interests

Policies

Part 5.3A Policy for Confidential Reporting of Concerns ("Whistleblowing")

Part 5.3B Policy Statement on Fraud and Corruption

Part 5.3C Anti Money Laundering Policy

Protocols

Part 5.4A Protocol – Member / Officer Relations

Part 5.4B Protocol – Use of Council Equipment

Part 5.4C Protocol – Planning Committee Matters and Guidance Note
Members' Discussions with Developers

Part 5.4D Protocol – Regulatory and Appeals Committee

Part 5.4E Protocol - Licensing Committee

Part 5.4F Protocol – Lord Mayor's and Sheriff's Gifts and Hospitality

Part 5.4G Protocol - Dealing with Complaints against Councillors

Part 5.4H Protocol - Property Issues

Part 5.4I Protocol - Monitoring Officer

Part 5.4J Communication Protocol

Part 5.4K Protocol – Offers of New Employment to Members

Part 6 Members' Allowances Scheme

Part 6 Members' Allowances Scheme

Part 6A Members' Allowances Handbook

Part 7 Miscellaneous Guidance

Part 7 Miscellaneous Guidance - Introduction

Part 7A Guidance on Political Balance Requirements

Part 7B Guidance - Right to Time Off Work for Council Duties

Part 7C Guidance for Members and Officers appointed to Outside Bodies and Organisations

Part 7D Guidance – Decision-Making

Part 8 Members and Appointments

Part 8 Members and Appointments

Schedule A

Schedule B

Schedule C