

Statutory Forward Plan

Key Decisions

1 January 2026 - 31 July 2026

Description of Matter / Decision Required Key Decision?	Responsible Officer	Portfolio Leader	Identity of Decision Taker (eg Cabinet or Council or Joint Arrangement)	Decision Due Date	Principal Consultees	Method of Consultation	How Interested Parties may submit representations to decision-takers and end date for representations	Reports and background papers submitted to decision-taker for consideration	Notes / Comments
Billingham Town Centre Update To consider governance and delegated authority arrangements arising from previous Cabinet decisions relating to Billingham Town Centre and to determine the appropriate decision-making framework for any future actions associated with the project. Key Para No	Director of Regeneration & Inclusive Growth	Cabinet Member for Resources and Transport	Cabinet	16 Jul 2026	Cabinet	Meeting.	tracey.carter@stokton.gov.uk		

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Procurement Plan / Higher Value Contracts The report seeks approval from Cabinet for the procurement of higher value contracts where commitments are made in 2026/27. The report includes contracts not approved in the March 2026 Annual Procurement Plan because they were not known or did not have sufficient detail at that point in time. Key Para No	Director of Corporate Services	Cabinet Member for Resources and Transport	Cabinet	16 Jul 2026		Meetings and email	martin.skipsey@stockton.gov.uk Martin.skipsey@stockton.gov.uk		EPIA not required

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Environment, Leisure & Green Infrastructure (POF Ph2) Cabinet is recommended to approve the proposals, which adopt a proactive and balanced approach to achieving the best possible outcomes. The proposals are designed to ensure the effective and responsible use of Council resources, while maintaining a clear focus on delivering sustainable services. They support the delivery of Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) savings, alongside a structured review of the most critical functions currently delivered	Chief Executive	Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure and Culture	Cabinet	18 Jun 2026	Cabinet	Meetings	Craig.Willows@stoc ckton.gov.uk craig.willows@stoc kton.gov.uk		An EPIA has been completed

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Adult Social Care Fees and Charges The purpose of this report is to seek authority to consult on a proposal to introduce fair and transparent administration fees across several adult social care functions. These include Appointee, Court appointed Deputyship, Deferred Payment Agreements (DPA's), interest on DPA's and Deceased estates. The proposals are intended for public consultation. Key Para No	Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing	Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care	Cabinet	14 May 2026	Integrated Care Board Service Users Wider public engagement	Letter out to inform people subject to Stockton Borough Council appointee Survey 2 Face to Face meetings Notice on Stockton Borough Council web site.	adam.carabine@stockton.gov.uk Carol.Malham@stockton.gov.uk		EPIA required

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Houses in Multiple Occupation Supplementary Planning Document and Article 4 Direction The report will provide an update in relation to the commencement of a new Local Plan, Houses in Multiple Occupation SPD (which is being submitted with a recommendation for adoption) and the Article 4 direction (which has been subject to consultation). Houses in Multiple Occupation SPD The SPD has been produced, following the decision of Council in January 2026, to ensure proposals for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) contribute positively to making places better for people, improving standards of accommodation, and reducing detrimental impacts on neighbours. It assists in the interpretation of policies within the Stockton-on-Tees Local Plan and sets out guidance and good practice for planning applicants to	Director of Regeneration & Inclusive Growth	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing	Cabinet	14 May 2026		Statutory consultation / notification undertaken in accordance with relevant legislation.	simon.grundy@stockton.gov.uk planningpolicy@stockton.gov.uk		An Equality & Poverty Impact Assessment (EPIA) has been undertaken

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Stockton-on-Tees Local Plan Council endorsed a recommendation for a full update of the Stockton on Tees Local Plan in January 2024. Fundamental changes to the planning making system have occurred through the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 ("The Act") and subsequently The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026. Combined 'The Act' and 'Regulations'	Director of Regeneration & Inclusive Growth	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing	Council	20 May 2026	The Local Plan process will be subject to statutory consultation at various stages of its preparation in accordance with the associated regulations.	Statutory notices and consultation to be undertaken in accordance with regulations.	simon.grundy@stockton.gov.uk planningpolicy@stockton.gov.uk		Yes EPIA this will be fully considered and undertaken during the development of the Local Plan and associated evidence base, should the relevant authorisation be given to commence the Local Plan.

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Depot Provision Update Depot provision update and key acquisition and disposal decision. Key Para No	Director of Regeneration & Inclusive Growth	Cabinet Member for Resources and Transport	Cabinet	23 Apr 2026	Cabinet	Meetings	tracey.carter@stockton.gov.uk Kieran.Meighan@stockton.gov.uk	Private Meeting Notice -28 Day Notice - acquisition of a depot April 26	EPIA required

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Post-16 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Transport – Approval on statutory consultation Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council currently provides discretionary post-16 SEND transport to approximately 185 learners, including 29 learners aged 19+. This provision is not a statutory requirement. Demand and associated costs for community transport services continue to rise, with overall expenditure projected to exceed £11 million by 2028/29. Post-16 transport costs are increasing year-on-year and represent a significant and growing area of discretionary spend. The Council is therefore considering potential changes to its Post-16 SEND Transport Policy to ensure that provision remains sustainable, fair and aligned with statutory duties. A range of options are being considered.	Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	Cabinet Member for Resources and Transport	Cabinet	23 Apr 2026	Stockton Parent Carer Forum (SPCF) met with SBC officers on 16 February 2026 for early engagement. This meeting underlined the need for clear timelines, accessible consultation materials, and opportunities to share lived experiences. SPCF also emphasised the need for safe and public transport, alongside clarity on available transport support (e.g. free bus passes), and recognised the separate proposed expansion of Independent Travel Training seeks to promote independence and better long-term outcomes for young people.	A statutory consultation will be undertaken for a minimum of 28 working days during term time. Consultation will include an online survey, targeted engagement with stakeholders, listening events, and collaboration with representative groups including the Stockton Parent Carer Forum. Consultation materials will be designed to be clear and accessible.	Representations may be submitted via the Council's online consultation platform and by email to the responsible service. Details of how to respond, including the closing date for representations, will be set out in the consultation materials.	Forward Plan Proforma 2026 - Post-16 Transport	YES – An Equality Impact and Poverty Impact Assessment has been completed and will remain a live document, to be updated in light of consultation responses and to inform any subsequent decision-making.

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Supported & Temporary Accommodation - Adults & Families, Children & Young People The report seeks approval from Cabinet for the procurement of Supported and Temporary accommodation provision for Adults & families and Children & Young People). Key Para No	Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing	Cabinet	18 Jun 2026	Cabinet	Meetings.	jane.edmends@stockton.gov.uk Adults/families = jane.edmends@stockton.gov.uk Children/young people = jane.smith@stockton.gov.uk		EPIA to be completed

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Levelling Up Fund - Yarm Public Realm Update on outcome of consultation undertaken in regard to public realm proposals on Yarm High Street. Consideration of and decision on next steps Key Para No	Director of Regeneration & Inclusive Growth	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing	Cabinet	12 Mar 2026	None specific beyond consultation already undertaken.		iain.robinson@stockton.gov.uk Via email towncentresinvestmentteam@stockton.gov.uk		Community Impact and Equality and Poverty Impact Assessment to be completed

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Annual Procurement Plan/ Higher Value Contracts The report seeks approval from Cabinet for the procurement of higher value contracts. The report includes all known contract awards scheduled for 2026/27. Key Para No	Director of Corporate Services	Cllr Paul Rowling	Cabinet	12 Mar 2026	Cabinet	Meetings and email	julie.marsden@stockton.gov.uk Martin.skipsey@stockton.gov.uk		EPIA not required.

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A Children's Integrated Front Door The Children's Hub is the first point of contact for anyone who has a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child or young person who lives in Stockton-on-Tees. The Children's Hub is delivered in partnership with, and managed by, Hartlepool Borough Council. The Families First nationally mandated reforms for children's services and the strategic direction of both Hartlepool Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council means the current approach is not consistent with the future direction of children's services for both Authorities. In June 2025 Cabinet endorsed the disaggregation of Stockton's Children's Safeguarding Front Door from Hartlepool. This paper serves as an update and a request for the delegated safeguarding functions to be returned to	Director of Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	Cabinet	9 Feb 2026	The Children and Young People's Partnership Hartlepool Borough Council Cleveland Police Integrated Care Board (ICB) Tees Esk Wear Valley Trust Harrogate District Foundation Trust Education Partners Commissioned Domestic Abuse Services	Meetings with partners involved in the current Children's Hub arrangements Partnership meetings supported by the Department of Education The Families First Partnership Board	aishah.waithe@stockton.gov.uk		An EPIA has been completed and quality assured for the process, details of which are included in the Cabinet report.

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Medium Term Financial Plan Update and Strategy The report to Council to set the Council's budget and Council tax for 2026/27 and approve the Medium Term Financial Plan. Key Para No	Director of Finance, Transformation & Performance	Cabinet Member for Resources and Transport	Council	18 Feb 2026	Members briefings and meetings will be held with Councillors.	Members briefings and meetings will be held with Councillors	clare.harper@stoc kton.gov.uk		

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Re-procurement of the Stockton drug and alcohol treatment and recovery service. Local authorities have a statutory responsibility to commission drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services as part of their public health duties. The current Stockton service has been delivered by Change, Grow, Live (CGL) since 2020 under a five-year contract originally ending on 31st March 2025. To enable appropriate planning and alignment with wider system developments, the contract has been extended to 31st March 2026. A re-procurement is therefore required to ensure continuity of this statutory service. Decisions are needed on the procurement route, the proposed provider, and the financial envelope for the new contract to enable timely and effective commissioning arrangements to be put in place.	Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing	Cabinet Member for Adults Social Care	Cabinet	15 Jan 2026			sarah.bowman-abouna@stockton.gov.uk sarah.bowman-abouna@stockton.gov.uk		A separate community impact assessment was not undertaken. However, the potential impact on communities has been considered through the completion of a health needs assessment, service reviews, and stakeholder engagement, including staff, people with lived experience, residents, and partner organisations. The findings from this work have informed the development of the financial options for re-procurement and the assessment of the minimum viable service model.

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Revising the Public Spaces Protection Orders in Stockton Town Centre and Norton Town Centre 2026-2029 Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) are designed to prevent individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour (ASB) in public spaces. PSPOs are very common across England & Wales, especially in town centre areas. Stockton-on-Tees has had one in place since 2023, covering the town centre areas of Stockton and Norton. PSPOs only last 3 years, and so the current Order is due to expire in April 2026. PSPOs are made by local authorities under powers conferred to them by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. As per the request from the Council's Community Safety Select Committee this year, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council has evaluated the current Order, its conditions and	Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing	Cabinet Member for Access, Communities and Community Safety	Cabinet	12 Mar 2026	Countless national & regional PSPO examples were reviewed in the initial first design phases of the revised drafts – and as part of the evaluation into the 2023 Order – 9 local authorities were directly contacted by the Council's Community Safety Dept. in 2025 (a further regional local authority was contacted in 2026), where in-depth discussions took place over the principles and enforcement of PSPOs, in an exercise in learning, development, and best practice sharing. SBC Community Safety has kept in contact with four of those other LAs throughout this process, as to continue sharing best practice and aid in SBC's development of the revised Order and accompanying implementation strategy/enforcement policy. Once the design of the drafts was completed following 10 discussions between SBC Community Safety		adam.bateman@stockton.gov.uk Adam.Bateman@Stockton.gov.uk		

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Article 4 Direction Small Houses of Multiple Occupation (Use class C4) To seek approval for implementing an Article 4 Direction to control the proliferation of small Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). The Planning system categorises HMOs as either use class C4 (small houses in multiple occupation) consisting of between three and six persons with basic shared facilities, or for HMO's over six residents fall into the Sui Generis (meaning a 'class of its own') classification. Although planning permission is required for a change into the Sui Generis classification, it is permitted development (i.e. no permission is required) to change from a dwelling (Use class C3) to a small HMO (use class C4). An Article 4 direction provides a mechanism where the use of permitted	Director of Regeneration & Inclusive Growth	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing	Council	15 Jan 2026	Councillors	Meeting with full Council.	chris.renahan@stockton.gov.uk		

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Housing Strategy 2026-2036 Updated and refreshed Housing Strategy to ensure it remains relevant to the local Housing environment, provides a clear market position statement, and evidence to support future funding initiatives / opportunities. Key Para No	Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing	Cabinet	11 Dec 2025	Cabinet	Meetings and emails	jane.edmends@stockton.gov.uk jane.edmends@stockton.gov.uk		EPIA will be completed.