Telford & Wrekin Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest to create a better borough

Borough of Telford and Wrekin

Full Council

Thursday 26 November 2026

6.00 pm

Council Chamber, Third Floor, Southwater One, Telford, TF3 4JG

Democratic Services:	**Paige Starkey**	**01952 380110**
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Committee Members: **Councillors E Aston, S Bentley, K T Blundell, M Boylan, A J Burford, S P Burrell, E M Callear, B Carter, L D Carter, C Chikandamina, G H Cook, E Davies, P Davis, F Doran, N A Dugmore, A J Eade, A R H England, N A M England, S Handley, Z Hannington, C Healy, T L B Janke, A S Jhawar, J Jones, J Kaur, G C W Latham-Reynolds, L Lewis, G Luter, A D McClements, R Mehta, K Middleton, H Morgan, T J Nelson, R A Overton, N Page, L Parker, I Preece, S J Reynolds, S A W Reynolds, H Rhodes, R Sahota, P J Scott, S Syrda, G Thomas, P Thomas, J Thompson, K L Tomlinson, W L Tomlinson, K Tonks, R Tyrrell, J Urey, O Vickers, P Watling and D R W White**

Agenda Page

1.0 Prayers and Reflections

2.0 Apologies for Absence

3.0 Declarations of Interest

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting **9 - 20**

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Council on 16 July 2026.

5.0 Leader's Report & Announcements

The Leader of the Council may give an oral report on matters of significance to the Borough, comment upon the Cabinet decisions or make any announcements.

6.0 Mayor's Announcements **21 - 24**

To note the Mayoral Engagements undertaken since the previous Council meeting.

7.0 Public Questions

To receive any questions from the public which have been submitted under Council Procedure Rules 7.11 and 7.12. The session will last no more than 15 minutes with a maximum of 2 minutes allowed for each question and answer. Questions can be asked of the Leader and Cabinet Members.

8.0 Councillor Questions On Notice

To answer questions received under Council Procedure Rule 6.2.

NB In accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 6.2.9 there will be a maximum of 30 minutes allowed for questions and answers. Any question not answered within the 30 minute time limit will receive a written reply within 5 working days.

9.0 Cabinet Decisions Made Since the Last Meeting of the Council **25 - 32**

To receive the report on the Cabinet decisions made since publication of the last Council meeting agenda. Cabinet Members may speak on these decisions and Members may ask questions about key decisions of the relevant Cabinet Member for the purposes of clarification only. Members are asked to note the additional delegations to officers granted at those meetings.

10.0 Recommendations from Cabinet

Cabinet - 15 October 2026

10a 2026/27 Financial Monitoring Report **33 - 40**

To receive the 2026/27 Financial Monitoring Report.

Cabinet - 12 November 2026

10b Adoption of Telford & Wrekin Local Plan **41 - 802**

To approve the adoption of the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan.

10c Delivering New Council Homes **803 - 816**

To consider and approve the recommendations to deliver the Council's first new council homes for 27 years, helping meet local housing need and providing secure, affordable homes for local people.

11.0 Recommendations from Boards and Committees

Audit Committee - 15 July 2026

11a Treasury Management 2025/26 Outturn Report & 2026/27 Update Report **817 - 838**

To receive the Treasury Management 2025/26 Outturn Report and 2026/27 Update Report.

Boundary Review Committee - 9 November 2026

11b Interim Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations **839 - 872**

To receive a report following the interim review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations.

12.0 Motions on Notice

12a Councillor Bill Tomlinson will propose the following Motion:

"This Council acknowledges the growing global "rights of nature" movement and the case for future legislative change, and agrees to develop a Charter for the River Severn and its tributaries within our borough, in line with similar charters being developed for other sections of the river in Powys, Shropshire and Worcestershire.

The Charter sets out the following principles, described as the "rights of the river", as an expression of the Council's environmental ambitions for the River Severn and its tributaries. Under the law as it currently stands, the Charter does not confer legal personality or legally enforceable rights upon the river, and it does not alter the Council's statutory functions or decision-making responsibilities.

The Charter sets out the following principles:

1. The Right to Flow and Perform Natural Functions. To maintain its natural course and seasonal rhythms free from obstructions and extractions that can damage the normal functioning of the river system.

2. The Right to Biodiversity. To have good biological health through the existence of balanced, diverse and viable populations of native species and habitats specific to the Severn and its tributaries.

3. The Right to Be Free from Pollution. To exist in a state of ecological health and not be subject to detrimental levels of known and emerging pollutants that adversely affect the life of the river.

4. The Right to be Supported by a Healthy Catchment. To flow through environments which support the river as a balanced, sustainable and resilient aquatic ecosystem.

5. The Right to Regenerate. To recover to full ecological function through natural processes and for this to be supported by intervention, where necessary, to halt the decline in biodiversity and abundance and to increase both over time.

6. The Right to Representation. For the interests and ecological health of the river to be appropriately represented and considered, where relevant and lawful, in matters that directly affect its health now and in the future.

The Council agrees to work with neighbouring authorities, key partners and stakeholders to develop the Charter into meaningful action, overseen by the Environment Scrutiny Committee."

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor Carolyn Healy.

12b Councillor Kelly Middleton will propose the following Motion:

"This Council notes:

That despite falling inflation, the cost of everyday essentials remains high, leaving many residents struggling to afford food, energy, housing, and transport this affects not only those out of work but also working families, pensioners, disabled residents, unpaid carers, and those just above benefit eligibility thresholds.

This Council believes:

1. No family should have to choose between heating their home and putting food on the table.

2. Work should provide a route out of poverty, not leave families struggling to survive.

3. That 14 years of Conservative-led government, austerity, cuts to local government funding and poor economic decisions have contributed significantly to the financial pressures facing communities across the country, leaving councils with fewer resources to support residents when they need them most.

4. That the consequences of these decisions are still being felt by families in Telford and Wrekin, public services and local communities, with the poorest and most vulnerable often bearing the greatest burden.

This Council resolves:

a) To support the Cost-of-Living Strategy 2026–2029 and ensure its £9 million investment reaches those most in need.

b) To prioritise support for struggling working households, families with children, pensioners and residents facing financial hardship, including those falling just outside benefit eligibility thresholds.

c) To strengthen access to emergency financial assistance, debt advice, affordable food, housing support, and energy efficiency schemes.

d) To protect investment in children's holiday provision, Free School Meals auto-enrolment, community support and affordable transport.

e) To ensure that support is accessible in every ward, working alongside voluntary organisations, community groups and local partners."

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor Zona Hannington.

12c Councillor Andrew Eade will propose the following Motion:

"This Council welcomes the Labour Energy Secretary's decision to finally permit the extraction of natural gas from the Jackdaw Field in the North Sea. However, it also notes concern about her continued opposition to the development of the Rosebank oil field and the potential implications for our energy security, which have been clearly highlighted by the conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine. The Council also notes with surprise that the Chancellor has already accounted for tax receipts from Rosebank within his Autumn Statement.

In light of these considerations, this Council resolves to urge the Energy Secretary to:

1. Reconsider her opposition to the project.

2. Recognise energy security as an integral part of national security.

3. Provide clarity as to the assumptions made regarding anticipated tax receipts from the Rosebank development within the Government's fiscal forecasts.

4. In the interests of national security approve the development of Rosebank immediately."

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor Tim Nelson.

12d Councillor Paul Davis will propose the following Motion:

"This Council reaffirms its ongoing commitment to supporting the Armed Forces community across Telford & Wrekin.

The Council is proud of the investment made in the Telford & Wrekin Homes for Veterans scheme, which will secure 10 homes for local veterans and their families, and its continued support for the Christopher Turley Armed Forces Community Hub in Dawley, which has become an invaluable resource providing advice, guidance and wellbeing services to veterans and their families.

This Council welcomes the £670,000 VALOUR funding award secured earlier this year, which has enabled the Christopher Turley Armed Forces Community Hub to become the first VALOUR-recognised Veterans' Support Centre in the West Midlands. This recognition represents a significant achievement and will further strengthen access to vital support in areas including housing, health, welfare, employment and skills.

The Council also welcomes the appointment of a Centre Manager to lead the development and delivery of the VALOUR Centre's services. We congratulate them on their appointment and wish them every success in their new role, recognising the important contribution they will make in supporting the Armed Forces community and strengthening the Centre's work.

This Council recognises that the best outcomes for veterans and their families are achieved through partnership working, sustained investment in effective and proven services, and avoiding unnecessary duplication of existing provision.

The Council therefore commits to continuing to work collaboratively with the Armed Forces community, partner organisations and service providers to strengthen, develop and expand the successful support

already available across the Borough, ensuring that veterans and their families receive the recognition, support and opportunities they deserve."

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor Ollie Vickers.

12e Councillor Paul Watling will propose the following Motion:

"The Government has stated its intention to lay the foundations for a National Care Service and is considering the long-term reform of adult social care through the Independent Commission on Adult Social Care, chaired by Baroness Louise Casey.

Successive governments over recent decades have failed to enact lasting structural reform, whilst local authorities have borne the brunt of these systemic pressures, with adult social care accounting for a large share of controllable council budgets, while our officers work tirelessly to protect essential frontline services.

The Government has accelerated the work of the Independent Commission on Adult Social Care, chaired by Baroness Louise Casey, with its final report expected in 2028, alongside the "Big Conversation on Care" and work to build a durable consensus on the future of adult social care.

The Government is also progressing the Fair Pay Agreement for adult social care, including proposals for an Adult Social Care Negotiating Body through which employer and worker representatives will negotiate on pay, terms and conditions and wider employment matters.

This Council believes:

Adult social care is an essential pillar of a compassionate society and must be placed on an equal footing with the National Health Service to guarantee dignity, independence and peace of mind in later life.

Local government is indispensable to the delivery and success of any future National Care Service. Councils possess unmatched local knowledge, democratic accountability and established partnerships with the NHS, housing providers and the voluntary and community sector.

True reform cannot be designed solely in Whitehall. It must be built from the bottom up, empowering local authorities to shape preventative, person-centred care tailored to the distinct needs of their communities.

Long-term structural reform must be accompanied by immediate, sustainable funding for local government to stabilise the current care market, support unpaid carers and relieve acute pressures on local

health and care systems.

This Council resolves:

1. To welcome the Government's commitment to reforming adult social care and developing a National Care Service.

2. To welcome the work of Baroness Casey's Independent Commission on Adult Social Care and the progress being made towards a Fair Pay Agreement for the adult social care workforce.

3. To instruct the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to:

    - express this Council's support for ambitious and sustainable reform of adult social care;
    - urge the Government to place local government at the heart of designing and delivering a National Care Service, preserving local democratic oversight and integration with local public services; and
    - emphasise the importance of sustainable funding for local government to support the delivery of adult social care and the stability of the care market.

4. To support and, where appropriate and within existing resources, promote the "Big Conversation on Care" across the borough so that local residents, care workers, unpaid carers and service users have a strong voice in shaping the future of care."

    The Motion will be seconded by Councillor Corrine Chikandamina.