

Gedling Borough Council 2025/26

Composition of Cabinet

Leader of the Council

Councillor John Clarke

Leader Duties:

- Overall strategy and delivery of agreed Council priorities and objectives.
- Oversight of all Cabinet responsibilities.
- Building and developing relationships with partners at a local, regional, national and international level to pursue matters of interest to the Council and the community.
- Representing the interests of the Council and the wider community on the Local Enterprise Partnership, East Midlands Councils, and other key strategic local, regional and national bodies.
- Oversight of the Council's Partnership and Collaboration Agreements with key partners.
- Building and maintaining positive relationships with and between elected Members and employees.
- Promoting and encouraging effective corporate governance and the highest standards of probity.
- Responding to the 'Cost of Living' crisis.

Portfolio Holder Responsibilities:

- Emergency planning.
- Democratic services, governance.
- Member training and development.
- Budget strategy and financial management.
- Local taxation, sundry debts and housing benefits.
- Asset management, including the Council's investment property, sales and purchase of land.
- Information and Communications Technology, including digitalisation.
- Transformation of Council services.
- Human resources, staff development and welfare.
- Customer experience and insight.
- Communications and Social Media relations.
- Commercialisation, marketing and promotion.

Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder - Sustainable Growth and Economy

Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth

Deputising for the Leader in all matters.

Portfolio Holder Responsibilities:

- Planning policy, development management, building control and land charges.
- Strategic development framework, including transport and community infrastructure, walkways and cycle-paths.
- Strategic housing and addressing empty homes.
- Homelessness.
- Refugees and resettlement.
- Business growth, economic development, and inward investment.
- Workforce development, employment and skills opportunities.
- Town and local centre economy.
- Government grant initiatives e.g. Shared Prosperity Fund, Plan for Neighbourhoods.
- Regeneration schemes e.g. Ambition Arnold.

Portfolio Holder – Environmental Services (Operations)

Councillor Marje Paling

- Transport.
- Waste management and recycling.
- Street cleansing.

Portfolio Holder – Public Protection

Councillor David Ellis

- Community protection, crime reduction and safeguarding.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Modern slavery and hate crime.
- Air and water quality.
- General licensing.
- Environmental enforcement.
- Food hygiene.
- Health and safety regulation.
- Private sector housing.
- Selective licensing.
- Food, health & safety, housing enforcement.

Portfolio Holder – Climate Change and Natural Habitat

Councillor Viv McCrossen

- Maintenance and development of parks and open spaces.
- Provision of play parks, pitches and other play facilities.
- Tree planting, woodland, and wildflower meadow areas (carbon sequestration).
- Flood response.
- Maintenance of cemeteries.
- Allotments.
- Carbon management and climate change.

Portfolio Holder – Lifestyles, Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Henry Wheeler

- Leisure Centres.
- Sports Development and physical activity.
- Arts and culture, including Bonington theatre/cinema.
- Health promotion and development.
- Social prescribing partnerships.
- Loneliness and isolation.
- Mental health, including dementia support.

Portfolio Holder – Communities and Place

Councillor Lynda Pearson

- Heritage.
- Community events.
- Play.
- Engagement with the voluntary sector.
- Parish Council liaison.
- Senior's Council and other engagement forums.
- Rural affairs.
- Domestic violence.
- Violence against Women and Girls.

Portfolio Holder - Life Chances and Vulnerability

Councillor Kathryn Fox

- Equalities, diversity and inclusion.
- Member champion for women and the disabled.
- Social mobility, including linkages to its markers of health, education, housing, income, race and gender.
- Engagement and consultation with young people, including addressing child poverty.
- Youth Council and Youth Mayor.
- Youth unemployment and apprenticeships, including working with schools.

All Portfolio holders have the authority to:

1. Make all executive decisions, within their area of responsibility, on matters which are not reserved to Cabinet and within the limitations of the Financial Regulations.
2. Monitor service performance, within their area of responsibility and take action to improve performance where necessary, in conjunction with the relevant Director.
3. Respond to consultation documents received by the Council within their area of responsibility.
4. Approve policies and procedures within their area of responsibility.
5. Authorise the commencement of any proceedings in connection with any offences within their area of responsibility.
6. Determine fees and charges within their area of responsibility.
7. Make recommendations to the Cabinet, within their area of responsibility, on matters reserved to Cabinet.

When taking decisions, professional advice from officers, including the statutory officers, should be considered.

The Cabinet will be supported by the following Policy Advisors:

Policy Advisor for Vulnerable Communities – Councillor Sandra Barnes – supporting the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Place and the Portfolio Holder for Life Chances and Vulnerability.

Policy Advisor for Environmental Services (Operations) – Councillor Paul Wilkinson – supporting the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services (Operations).

Policy Advisors will not hold delegated responsibility but will support their respective Cabinet member on development and progression of specific Gedling Plan actions as appropriate. The precise focus for the work of each Policy Advisor will be agreed by the Leader, Deputy Leader and relevant Cabinet member in discussion with the Policy Advisor.