



Reference: FOI0675

Request:

1. Can you please provide an up-to-date record of attendance for all Councillors of North Tyneside Council.
2. Could this information be collated in a way that shows any councillors who have consistently failed to attend full council meetings clearly and also please provide what action can be taken to challenge councillors who have not attended consecutive meetings?
3. I would also like to know how many full council meetings a local councillor can fail to attend either consecutively or within a 12-month period before they are deemed to no longer be a councillor.

I cannot seem to find this information online in any format.

If possible could North Tyneside Council please update records online, ensuring they are correct.

4. In addition to the above request could you also please provide a full breakdown of committee and other statutory meetings attendance per Councillor so I can ascertain which local councillors are regularly failing to attend those as well.

Response:

We do not provide a record of attendance by Members at the Authority's meetings in the format you have requested. I am aware that a number of other local authorities have acquired an electronic committee management system that can provide the information in the format you have requested. We do not currently have such a system; however attendance by Members at each of the Authority's meetings and apologies for non-attendance can be found in the minutes of the meeting concerned. The minutes of the Authority's meetings are published on the Authority's website. The following link will take you to the Authority's meetings information for the various types of committees: <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/184/decision-making> .

We are unable to take action against a Councillor who has failed to attend consecutive meetings other than as provided by Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, which requires a Council Member to attend at least one meeting of the Authority within a six month consecutive period in order to avoid being disqualified as a Councillor. This requirement can be waived and the time limit extended if any failure to attend is due to a reason approved by the Authority, in advance of the six month period expiring.

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