CSPA
CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONERS' ALLIANCE

Newcastle Upon Tyne & District Group

Notes of meeting 19/05/2026, starting at 11:00am at
St John the Baptist Church Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

1. Members present were –

Peter Sleightholme (Group Secretary)
Andy Aitchison (Executive Council member, Northeast Region)
David Slater — Syd Phelan
Sean Fahey — Mary Appleby
Michael Clarke — Sheila Walker

2. Alan Butland (Group Treasurer) was unable to attend due to illness

3. *It was with great sadness to later discover that Alan died on 26 May 2026. A message extending our condolences was sent to Alan's widow, Stephanie, on behalf of the Newcastle Group and the CSPA's Executive Council. Rest in peace, dear Alan.*

4. The purpose of the meeting was to –

4.1. Consider motions, nominations, or constitutional changes from the Group for submission at the national AGM in October 2026.
4.2. Approve the Group's 2025 annual accounts.
4.3. Consider findings of the EC's review of the Alliance's current legal status and whether to change it.
4.4. Any other business.

5. No motions, nominations or constitutional changes were proposed.

6. On account of the Treasurer's absence, the 2025 accounts were not available for approval.

7. After Andy Aitchison outlined the pros and cons identified by the review of the Alliance's current legal status, members unanimously agreed they supported switching its existing status of an unincorporated association to a limited company by guarantee.

8. Andy Aitchison reminded the meeting of the new election voting process for certain EC positions to be trialled in 2026 and 2027. The new process was covered in a previous Pensioner magazine. Voting will be open to all members, by post or on-line prior to the October national AGM. Previously, voting was limited to the Group representatives or members not attached to a Group who attended the AGM.

9. The 2026 national AGM will be held on 7 and 8 October. The Newcastle Group will be represented by Peter Sleightholme.

10. Under any other business, Michael Clark gave an update of the 2024 Virgin Media Pension Legal Ruling mentioned at the Group's 2025 AGM (paragraph 11). Essentially, pension providers have been granted approval to retrospectively rectify all non-compliance issues which the Ruling highlighted.

11. The meeting closed at 12:30pm.

12. Our next meeting, which will be our AGM, will take place on Tuesday 8th September 2026, starting at 11:00am at the same venue above.

13. Main agenda items will be –

13.1. approval and adoption of the Group's 2025 accounts,
13.2. appointment of Treasurer,
13.3. consideration of motions, nominations, or constitutional changes submitted for the forthcoming national AGM by the EC and other local Groups, and
13.4. Any other business

Prepared by Peter Sleightholme (secretary) **8 June 2026**

Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance ◆ Peter Sleightholme, Secretary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne & District Group
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