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31 March 2022

Dear Member,

County Council - Friday, 1 April 2022

Please find enclosed proposed amendments to the motions set out below which will be debated at the meeting of the County Council to be held on Friday, 1 April 2022.

Agenda No	Item
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12(a)	Motion on Growth Deals (Pages 3 - 4)
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Amendment by Cllr Sharp attached.

12(b)	Motion on Pension Divestments (Pages 5 - 6)
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Amendment by Cllr Lanzer attached.

Yours sincerely

Tony Kershaw
Director of Law and Assurance

To all members of the County Council

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County Council – 1 April 2022

Item 12(a) – Notice of Motion on Growth Deals from Cllr Boram

Amendment by Cllr Sharp

This Council acknowledges the success of the Growth Deals since they were first introduced in 2015. The partnerships formed with the district and borough councils, along with other external partners, have delivered a number of projects across the county that have benefitted not only the economic vitality but also the public realm offering across many local areas. It is also worthy of note that the current Growth Programme has attracted £141m of external funding, including levelling up and Local Enterprise Partnership funding.

However, we now believe that in addition to the refresh of the individual deals that is underway, the Cabinet Member for Support Services and Economic Development should also consider a refresh of the fundamental components of the Growth Deal programme to take account of the following:

- (1) The impact of the COVID pandemic on economic growth in the county, particularly those areas that have been hardest hit;
- (2) New ways of working and the shift in work patterns that may result from a return to a new normality; ~~and~~
- (3) The new government policies including the Levelling Up Agenda including funding and the targeting of resources; **and**
- (4) ***The Government's Environment Act, Decarbonisation priorities and Climate Change Committee advice in the wake of COP26.***

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County Council – 1 April 2022

Item 12(b) – Notice of Motion on Pension Investments from Cllr Baxter

Amendment by Cllr Lanzer

The March 2021 full Council called on the West Sussex Pensions Committee to focus on sustainable investment. However, global events during 2021 and instability caused by the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine have highlighted the urgent need for stronger and more specific action. The UK hosted the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), where the UK government sought to show global climate leadership.

- ~~Divesting pension funds from fossil fuels is a clear and meaningful action that can be taken at a local government level.~~
- ~~Renewable power is generating higher investment returns than fossil fuels.~~
- ~~Members on the Pensions Committee act as trustees of the fund on behalf of its fund scheme members. Trustees must consider the long term interests of members who will potentially be affected more by climate change~~
- ~~Investments in or linked to coal, oil and gas companies must be replaced with sustainable, renewable fuel investments as part of this council's carbon reducing and climate strategy~~

This Council notes the divestment from fossil fuel companies that the Fund, through the Committee's investment decisions, has already achieved.

This Council calls on the Pensions Committee, as trustees for the fund, ***to continue with its investment strategy whereby it considers environmental, social and governance principles, and*** to take the ***such steps it considers*** necessary steps to divest all of its investments from fossil fuel companies ***in line with its strategy*** by a date to be determined by that Committee.

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