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# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2017/2018



WEST SUSSEX  
A QUALITY OF LIFE

# WEST SUSSEX ANNUAL REPORT

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## 2017/2018

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### FOREWORD

**In May 2017 a new administration for West Sussex County Council was set up, following the County Council elections. When starting a new administration, setting out clear ambitions for what we want to achieve and putting in place the right infrastructure to deliver these ambitions is absolutely key.**

We were elected on a commitment to drive forward change and to make sure that West Sussex continues to be a great place to live, work and visit. We want to make sure our county is cleaner and greener and continues to be thriving and vibrant, whilst at the same time respecting the uniqueness of this wonderful place.



**Louise Goldsmith**  
Leader of the  
County Council

We have now set out our West Sussex Plan 2017 – 2022. This plan sets out where we think and hope we can take our county. It looks in detail at how we, on your behalf, can support our children, our older people, our businesses and our place; on the issues that matter to you.

I said when I launched the West Sussex Plan that it must not sit on a shelf only to gather dust, that it has to be a live document that charts our success, monitors our progress and ultimately makes our lives better. True to that promise, I am publishing the West Sussex Annual Report 2017 – 2018. This shares our achievements as we seek to make sure that our children have the best start in life;

our county remains a prosperous place and a strong, safe and sustainable place; that residents can remain independent in later life and that we are a council that works for the community. We can only succeed by working with our partners, and you will see that is a key theme that runs through the West Sussex Plan.

This Annual Report showcases the impact that West Sussex County Council, working with all of our partners, is having and the real difference we continue to make to residents' lives.

Leading West Sussex County Council is not only a great privilege and honour – something I am very conscious of – but comes equally with responsibility: the need to ensure that we have delivered on our commitments and built and maintained strong partnerships. I look forward to continuing to champion our county and drive forward progress on your behalf to make West Sussex the best it can be.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



## APRIL 2017

- Plans are revealed for Findon Library revamp.
- West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service reminds residents that smoking kills in more ways than one with a stop smoking campaign, in a bid to improve health and keep people safe.
- 98.1% of children are offered a primary place in one of their preferred schools – a higher percentage than the national average.
- West Sussex County Council's new approach to keeping people independent in the community is launched, enabling people to return home more quickly after a hospital visit.
- A potentially priceless copy of the Declaration of Independence is discovered in West Sussex County Council's record office in Chichester.



## MAY

- West Sussex County Council elections take place. 340 candidates stood for 70 seats. The Conservative Party retained control of the council with 56 seats, the Liberal Democrats won nine seats and the Labour Party won five seats.
- More than three tonnes of extra recycling is collected every fortnight from communal housing in West Sussex, as a result of an award-winning trial project. Led by West Sussex County Council, the West Sussex Waste Partnership is recognised for delivering the 'Best Local Authority Recycling Initiative' at a prestigious awards ceremony.
- Around 5,800 recently bereaved West Sussex residents use a service in one year which helps alleviate some of the strain when a loved one dies. Used for more than two thirds of all registered deaths in the county, the free Tell Us Once service notifies multiple government and council agencies about a recorded death from a single point of contact.



## JUNE

- Leaders from across the South East launch an ambitious new partnership to transform the transport network for the public and businesses. Transport for the South East (TfSE) speaks with a single voice on the area's transport priorities. It will devise an integrated transport strategy to focus the attention of ministers on the area's needs and will directly influence when and where money is invested in the South East's transport network.
- West Sussex Highways invests £120,000 to upgrade Court Bridge, on the A283, which crosses the River Adur on the outskirts of Upper Beeding. Parts of the bridge were replaced and the road resurfaced.
- West Sussex County Council supports the response to the Grenfell disaster in the days after the fire by sending specialist officers to help local teams.



## JULY

- Four local young people secure jobs in the construction sector following a new work experience programme provided by Balfour Beatty Living Places, in partnership with West Sussex County Council. The six week course offers young people aged 16 - 25 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) real-life work experience designed to prepare them for employment or an apprenticeship in their chosen field.
- A West Sussex County Council-owned country park in Crawley is recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best in the world. Buchan Country Park - 170 acres of countryside right on Crawley's doorstep - received the prestigious Green Flag Award for the seventh year in a row. This international award marks the quality of a park or green space and is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.



## AUGUST

- Sugar is stamped out of school meals in West Sussex, with an announcement that 65% less sugar is contained in our children's school meals than three years ago.
- Work starts on building a safer, more direct route for cyclists and pedestrians travelling between Bognor and Littlehampton with a £2m scheme to build a combined footway and cycleway on the A259 between the two towns.
- West Sussex County Council announced awards totalling £67,343.40 under Operation Watershed for community groups to fight flooding, including £50,000 towards an 'island defence' flood alleviation scheme, £2,800 to help protect a 12th century church and £2,733 towards a school's drainage investigation works.
- The biggest seizure in West Sussex Trading Standards history was made after £1.3m worth of fake Apple products were recovered from a warehouse in London. Trading Standards officers were supported by Apple investigators and Metropolitan Police in searching the warehouse.



## SEPTEMBER

- West Sussex County Council is recognised for its work supporting the armed forces with a Silver Employer Recognition Scheme award. The accolade is awarded to organisations that are making a demonstrable effort to support, recruit and develop armed forces personnel.
- Survey work for the improvement of the A259 in Littlehampton commenced. This £14.9m scheme, funded by West Sussex County Council and Coast to Capital LEP, will see the A259 at Littlehampton widened to become a dual carriageway.
- West Sussex is one of six places chosen by Government to pilot bringing the UK's fastest and most reliable broadband to businesses, schools and hospitals. The result is an incredibly reliable connection that can offer speeds of 1 Gigabit (1,000 Mbps). £4.6m funding came from Government for this national pilot.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR CONTINUED



## OCTOBER

- Essential repair work on Mole Bridge, east of Gatwick Airport's North Terminal finishes on time – despite some unexpected challenges. The road surface was removed to expose the concrete deck on the busy bridge and then the waterproofing was replaced and the road resurfaced on time. The bridge, which was built in the 1950s, was kept open throughout, with various lanes of dual carriageway closed in phases.
- Four photographs showcasing West Sussex win this year's Experience West Sussex Competition. Views from Bramber Castle taken by Martin Hurst, kite-surfing at Goring Gap by Ian Green, Worthing Pier by Matt Lewis and bluebells at the Angmering Park Estate by Clive Jones, featured in the winning pictures. The competition is part of the Experience West Sussex campaign which aims to promote the county as a visitor destination.



## NOVEMBER

- West Sussex County Council reveals a refreshed five-year investment programme. A total of £800m will be invested in key priorities, including:
  - delivering more than 2,500 new school places for our children in September 2019;
  - funding seven major road schemes focused on improving safety and unlocking growth potential across the county;
  - developing more solar farms, with the latest energy storage technologies, including for our schools; and
  - the local economy, supporting Growth Deals across the county, aiming to create 10,000 new jobs and delivering nearly 600,000 square metres of commercial floor space between now and 2023.
- Crawley Fire Station hosts its latest FireBreak Pass Out parade. FireBreak is a programme run by West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service. It is aimed at secondary school students aged between 12 and 14, encouraging them to become positive role models, helping maintain a safe community.



## DECEMBER

- Walter the Salter is the latest gritter to be christened following 320 entries from 23 schools in the West Sussex County Council/Balfour Beatty Living Places Name the Gritter competition. The judges had a tough task choosing the winner but decided Chloe Knapp's suggestion was the best. West Sussex County Council's fleet of gritters cover a combined 994 miles on each gritting run while there is more than 10,500 tonnes of salt stored across West Sussex ready for winter.
- A Christmas tree made from 600 reused green plastic bottles lights up Bognor Regis throughout December. The tree sculpture was created by Tracey Graham, known as the 'Rubbish Artist', to help highlight plastic recycling in West Sussex. An estimated 166 million plastic bottles were recycled in West Sussex during the last year, out of a possible 262 million.
- The annual county carol service took place in Chichester Cathedral.



## JANUARY 2018

- A grand vision to create a 'continental-style' boulevard while improving access for all to Worthing town centre is unveiled. The proposals, which also include pedestrianising some areas, focus on key routes and connections from the railway station to the seafront, such as the station approach, Portland Road and South Street. The plans form part of a 'Growth Deal' agreed by West Sussex County Council and Worthing Borough Council.
- Local residents are encouraged to go dry for January. More than 700 local people took the Don'tBottleItUp alcohol test to assess whether their drinking was risky, and were given advice on the West Sussex Wellbeing website for a wide range of self-help and support options. Approximately 500 local people signed up to an alcohol-free month.



## FEBRUARY

- West Sussex County Council becomes one of the first in the country to invest in a drone. The drone will be used by West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service. It has thermal imaging so can be used at night. There is also wide scope for use of the drone across wider council activities including surveying buildings.
- Unique documents held by West Sussex Record Office are sent on loan to the National Trust's Petworth House for a major new exhibition on poet and artist William Blake. The exhibition also includes a rare book of poetry from the County Library Service.
- Residents across Sussex can now buy competitively-priced gas and electricity through Your Energy Sussex, the council energy partnership led by West Sussex County Council. The aim is to encourage more people to switch and save money on their energy bills.



## MARCH

- Extra funding is awarded to help even more West Sussex school children learn how to cycle safely on our roads. The County Council provides Bikeability training free-of-charge to schools and the importance of this has been recognised with an extra £15,500 in Department for Transport (DfT) funding. Nearly 10,000 West Sussex children took part in Bikeability in 2017/2018.
- West Sussex apprentices celebrate their achievements at Chichester Cathedral during National Apprenticeship Week on Tuesday 6 March. Around 80 graduates attended the graduation ceremony with local businesses, friends and family members. This year's apprenticeships ranged from Social Care and Digital Marketing to Engineering and Technical Theatre.
- West Sussex County Council confirms it's on course to deliver a balanced budget.



## BEST START IN LIFE



**3,400**

**The increase in pupils being taught at schools that are good or better.**

**1,939**

**The number of vulnerable families under the national intervention programme who have now achieved sustainability since 2012.**



**65%**

**The amount we reduced in sugar content in primary school meals.**



## APRIL–JUNE 2017

- ▶ **The new Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help service (IPEH) is successfully launched:** it brings together all the County Council's preventative services working to give all children the best start in life, and to ensure that vulnerable families stay safe and stable.
- ▶ **9,271 applications for primary school places for children starting school in September 2017 are received.** Of the applications, 98.1% of children are offered a place at one of their preferred schools, one of the highest figures in the country for children getting their preferred place.
- ▶ **Additional temporary classroom space is delivered to accommodate** a short term bulge in pupil numbers following the reorganisation of Worthing schools.
- ▶ **As part of West Sussex County Council's commitment to Safer Routes to School,** Nyewood School in Bognor Regis and Billingshurst Primary School were national badge winners for the 'Walk Once a Week' initiative run in partnership with Living Streets, where children are encouraged to walk to school once a week.

## JULY–SEPTEMBER

- ▶ **Outcomes for West Sussex children at Key Stage 2 for reading and writing combined improved** from 2016 with 10% more meeting the expected standard than last year. This is the second highest rise for any county in England.
- ▶ **More than 1,600 additional primary school and 150 secondary school places are provided** for the start of the new school year in West Sussex.
- ▶ **At GCSE level, pupil progress from KS2 to GCSE** remains well above the national average.

- ▶ **West Sussex County Council was a finalist for the national EDUcatering Innovation award for school meals.** Our work has reduced sugar consumption in primary schools by 65% in three years.



- ▶ **We, in partnership with developers, secure the opening of a new two form primary school,** creating places for 420 children in the new Forge Wood neighbourhood. The school was fully funded by developers.
- ▶ **Additional classrooms and accommodation were provided** to enable age transfer changes at Ashington, West Chiltington, Amberley, Storrington and St Mary's, Washington primary schools. This reorganisation is part of the drive to improve the quality of education provided to West Sussex's children.
- ▶ **The new Bohunt School, Worthing, was successfully delivered.** This secondary school will provide 900 new places for local children.
- ▶ **A new two storey building is added at Buckingham Park Primary School, in Shoreham.** The new accommodation provides six classrooms and two group rooms and enabled 210 more places to be created at the school for local children.
- ▶ **210 new primary school places are provided at Rustington Primary School,** allowing local children to attend the school.
- ▶ **A new two story building,** with seven classrooms, a specialist teaching space and eight group rooms was completed at St Nicholas and St Mary's Primary School in Shoreham.



## BEST START IN LIFE

► **A partnership approach to improving safety for school children and parents leads to a pedestrian crossing being installed in Chichester.** The county council's Safer Routes to School Team worked with Rumboldswyke Church of England Infants' School to find the best solution following calls for improvements. A new controlled crossing has been installed in Whyke Road to improve accessibility and safety for families and for the benefit of the whole community. It was paid for through external funding – money given by developers for community projects.

### OCTOBER–DECEMBER

► **The ground-breaking Pause Project is launched.** Pause works with women who have experienced, or are at risk of, repeat removals of children from their care. Through an intense programme of support, it aims to break this cycle and give women the opportunity to reflect, tackle destructive patterns of behaviour, and to develop new skills and responses that can help them create a more positive future. West Sussex is one of the first 18 councils in England to adopt the Pause approach.



► **Children in care are celebrated at the annual EPIC (Exceptional People in Care) awards** at Butlins, Bognor Regis. 408 people attended. Five of the award categories were:

- The Achieving Award - for achievement in education or extracurricular activities such as sports, performing arts or music.
- The Supporting Award - for making a positive contribution in areas such as helping others, volunteering and representing the voice of others.
- The Overcoming Award - for overcoming personal challenges including illness and disability.
- Inspirational Care Leaver - in recognition of someone who acts as an example of what can be achieved by a care leaver.
- The Chris Lindfield Award - for volunteering in the community.

Ruth Catchpole, winner of the Inspirational Care Leaver Award, was chosen for her constant bravery and determination in the face of many knockbacks and difficulties related to both her health and other factors.

Ruth, 20-years-old, said: "I feel very happy and honoured. It's a token of my effort and all of our effort.

"I suffer with a rare genetic connective tissue disorder and it's taken away my whole life but I've been working with the care leavers' team and we're getting me back on track and life is working out."

## JANUARY–MARCH 2018



► **A Government report confirms that West Sussex is the leading county in delivering services to vulnerable families under a national intervention programme for families who need support.** 1,939 families have now achieved sustainability since 2012.

► **Following a five-day Local Area Inspection in West Sussex by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission in March,** to review the services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), a wide range of effective support services was identified by the inspectorates.

A list of 'strong services' was mentioned in the report alongside an accurate recognition by West Sussex County Council and its partners of the improvements which are still needed.

The outcome of the report shows that West Sussex is in a minority of Local Areas inspected nationally in the last six months that are not required to prepare a Written Statement of Action which is endorsed and monitored by Ofsted on how improvement will be made.

The report recognised that in West Sussex there is 'a clear and well-focused SEND strategy' and highlighted that 'some practice in the local area is strong and should be celebrated, for example the impact of the parent and carers' forum (WSPCF)' and 'a strong short break offer'.

- **99.1% of pupils moving up to secondary school in September 2018** are offered a place at one of their three preferences.
- **The quality of education that our children receive from West Sussex schools continues to improve.** Over the last 12 months to March 2018, six more schools are rated at least good with 3,400 more pupils in good or better schools. This means that in March 2018 more than 83% of West Sussex's children are taught in schools that are either good or outstanding, up from 81.6% in April 2017.



## A PROSPEROUS PLACE

# MORE THAN £31M



**Invested by West Sussex County Council, Crawley Borough Council and Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership to deliver 7,000 new jobs.**



**West Sussex County Council was awarded**

# £4.6M

**from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport's 'Local Full Fibre Network' programme as a national pilot area.**

## APRIL-JUNE 2017

- **Improvements to the public realm in Montague Place, Worthing**, have meant a new bandstand with open space for public events, and made it easier to get around with new steps, lit paving and signage.
- **Leaders from across the South East have launched an ambitious new partnership** to transform the transport network for the travelling public and businesses and to ensure the area remains a driver of the UK economy.

Transport for the South East (TfSE) will speak with a single voice on the area's transport priorities. It will devise an integrated transport strategy to focus the attention of ministers on the area's needs and will directly influence when and where money is invested in the South East's transport network.

The new partnership brings together the area's 16 transport authorities and five local enterprise partnerships to work directly with the Department for Transport. It will also involve road and rail-builders Highways England and Network Rail, transport operators, transport users and other key interest groups. A sub-national transport body,



TfSE is currently operating in shadow form but intends to secure full Government backing and statutory powers within two years. Transport for the South East recently received £1m funding from the Department for Transport to develop an innovative transport plan for our region.

## JULY-SEPTEMBER

- **Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership committed more than £14 million to the Crawley Growth Programme**, which includes an investment package of infrastructure improvements and regeneration designed to support significant increases in new homes, business investment and employment growth. With further match funding provided by West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council the total investment in the scheme will be more than £31m. This programme developed from the Crawley Growth Deal.

- **The contractor to design and build major improvements to the A259 north of Littlehampton is named.** The scheme will see sections of the A259 become dual carriageway between the new Fitzalan Link Road and the A280 roundabout.

The changes will ease congestion, shorten journey times and make it easier to reach new housing and workplaces.

- **West Sussex is one of six places chosen by Government to pilot bringing the UK's fastest and most reliable broadband to businesses, schools and hospitals.** The West Sussex project will get around £4.6m to test innovative ways of connecting offices and public sector buildings with the next generation of broadband - full fibre networks that run fibre connections straight to the doors of customers' homes or businesses.

The result is an incredibly reliable connection that can offer speeds of 1 Gigabit (1,000 Mbps)



## A PROSPEROUS PLACE



### OCTOBER-DECEMBER

- ▶ **Queens Square, Crawley, re-opened following a £3.2m regeneration scheme.** The project delivered public realm improvements including replacement paving, street furniture and signage, creation of an attractive open space available for planting, a seating area or public art feature. The project also provides space that can be used for performances or by the community. The project directly provides over 5000m<sup>2</sup> of commercial/retail space and contributes to the creation of a further 7000m<sup>2</sup>. It also created more than 60 new jobs in the delivery stage and is anticipated to create 200 new jobs in the future.
- ▶ **More than £2m is generated for the local economy in 2017** following a highly successful Experience West Sussex campaign to promote the county and its businesses to visitors.
- ▶ **West Sussex County Council is awarded £500,000 from the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership to invest in the Bognor Regis Creative Digital Hub.** The Hub will create high value jobs in the creative digital sector by providing a shared workspace for businesses. The aim is for a place where start-ups and freelancers can work side by side, share facilities and network and have access to training and support.
- ▶ **After 320 entries from 23 schools in the West Sussex County Council/Balfour Beatty Living Places Name the Gritter competition the winner was announced.** The judges had a tough task choosing the winner but decided Chloe Knapp's suggestion, 'Walter the Salter', was the best. West Sussex County Council's fleet of gritters is capable of covering a combined 994 miles on each gritting run while there is over 10,500 tonnes of salt stored across West Sussex ready for winter.
- ▶ **A five-year Capital Investment Programme was agreed which will see a total of £800m invested in key priorities** including new school places, major road schemes, boosting the local economy, and sustainable energy projects. Some of the key investments over the next five years include:
  - delivering more than 2,500 new school places for our children planned by 2020;
  - funding major road schemes focused on improving safety and unlocking growth potential across the county;
  - developing more solar farms, with the latest energy storage technologies, including for our schools; and
  - the local economy, supporting Growth Deals across the county, aiming to create 10,000 new jobs and delivering nearly 600,000 square metres of commercial floor space between now and 2022/23.
- ▶ **In partnership with our districts and borough councils** West Sussex County Council was successful in bidding for nearly £23m of funding from Government, to build the infrastructure required to deliver more than 1,400 homes.

## JANUARY-MARCH 2018

► **Together with Chichester District Council, West Sussex County Council signs the Chichester Growth Deal.** The deal establishes shared priorities for investment to deliver housing and grow the Chichester economy. It is the fourth deal that West Sussex County Council has signed with our Districts and Boroughs, with more to come in 2018 – 2019.

► **A West Sussex dairy farm becomes one of the County's first to invest in a latest generation robotic milking parlour,** with funding awarded by the LEADER programme.

Open to applications from farmers, small rural businesses and communities, LEADER grants can help fund capital investments for projects that will grow the rural economy.

Buddington Farm at Easebourne, near Midhurst, has bought two robotic milking machines with the aim of improving herd welfare and farm efficiency.

Farm owner James Renwick said: "The equipment will allow us to secure our cows' long-term welfare by increasing the number of daily milkings."

The new cow-friendly regime is also expected to increase milk yield by 15%.

► **A new major cycling event, with 15,000 riders of all levels of ability, is coming to West Sussex later this year.** Vélo South – a new 100 mile closed road cycle ride is taking place on Sunday 23 September. It will take riders on a truly unforgettable journey through the stunning West Sussex countryside, starting and finishing on the iconic Goodwood Motor Racing Circuit and featuring the magnificent rolling hills of the South Downs.

► **A networking event for a range of businesses is held to discuss ideas on how to encourage new and repeat visitors into West Sussex,** and for them to stay longer. With so much available from vineyards, historic homes, gardens, great food, West Sussex can certainly be described as a box of delights.

Businesses who attended included: Gatwick Airport, Tinwood Estate Wines, Chichester Festival Theatre, the South Downs National Park Authority and many more. Attendees also had the opportunity to hear from former Olympian Jon Ridgeon about Velo South.



Box of delights, networking event



## A STRONG, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PLACE

99%  
RECYCLING RATE

A new contract will divert street sweeping waste from landfill. It will be better for the environment and save around £2.9 million.

£3.1M



Spent in fire equipment to support our Fire and Rescue Service.

2,400

homes will be powered by the energy produced by the Westhampnett Solar Farm.





## APRIL–JUNE 2017

- ▶ **In Worthing our Trading Standards** executed a warrant at a house which we had linked to a premises in Poole, Dorset that was allegedly selling illicit tobacco. 445 packets of foreign labelled cigarettes and 74 pouches of foreign labelled tobacco were found. The tobacco was in a wardrobe and in a compartment under a sofa. Two days later the shop in Poole was visited by Poole Trading Standards Officers and a substantial seizure of illicit tobacco was made.
- ▶ **The West Sussex Waste Partnership's scheme for improving recycling for flats** and other multi-occupied properties, wins two National Awards for innovation beating national competition at the Awards for Excellence in Recycling and Waste Management.

Led by us, and in partnership with district and borough councils the innovative project reached 1,136 households in trial areas to target, improve and overcome barriers to recycling.

The West Sussex Waste Partnership was recognised for delivering the 'Best Local Authority Recycling Initiative' at the prestigious awards ceremony.

This project then went on to win 'Best Communications Campaign' at the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC) Awards.

Following the success of the trials, this scheme is being extended to almost 8,000 properties across the county.

## JULY–SEPTEMBER

- ▶ **A Crawley based Gatwick meet and greet company** appears in court and the company director was charged with four offences in connection with the business including falsely claiming that vehicles would be stored in a "company owned car park" whereas in reality vehicles were found parked in an

insecure field and in a residential road, and failing to exercise professional diligence as evidenced by the fact that a vehicle was damaged whilst in the care of the company.

As part of the investigation Trading Standards test purchased the services of the company by booking parking with them. The test purchase vehicle was parked in the street outside the director's house! He pleaded guilty, was sentenced to four months custody, suspended for eighteen months, concurrent for all offences. He was also disqualified from being a director for five years and ordered to pay £5,000.57 costs and a £115 victim surcharge.





## A STRONG, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PLACE



► **Firefighters and good citizens** are recognised at a special awards ceremony at Arundel Castle. West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service combined its Long Service and Good Conduct Medal Ceremony with its Chief Fire Officer Commendation Awards, which mark courage, dedication and selflessness from people across the county. Long Service and Good Conduct Medals are awarded nationally, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, to wholtime and retained firefighters who have completed two decades of outstanding service to their community. They were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, Mrs Susan Pyper, at a special ceremony held in the historic Barons Hall in front of an invited audience of proud family and friends. Recipients were:

- **Matt Bullingham**, who is based at Littlehampton and lives in Partridge Green.
- **Mark Burton**, who is based at Crawley and lives in Lancing.
- **Chris Mooney**, who is based at Worthing and lives in Bognor.
- **Matt Myerscough**, who is based at Haywards Heath.
- **Pip Pullen**, who lives and works in Chichester.
- **James Smith**, who lives and works in Bognor.

- **Giles Sparkes**, from the Training, Development and Assurance team at Worthing, who lives in Storrington.
- **Ed Swain**, who is based at Worthing and lives in Billingshurst.
- **Mark Upperton**, who lives and works in Worthing.
- **Matt Wainwright**, who lives and works in Shoreham.
- **Chris Witten**, who is based in Littlehampton and lives in Angmering.

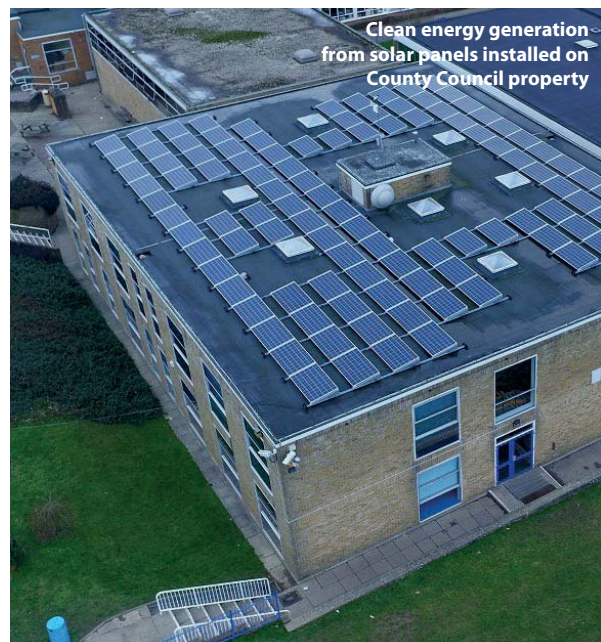
- **Chief Fire Officer Commendation Awards** were presented to individuals and teams who were nominated for going above and beyond the call of duty. Four West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service employees received Commendations for Dedication Above and Beyond the Call of Duty for their lifesaving actions away from work and/or in isolation.
- **Richard Coomber**, who works for the Training, Development and Assurance team at Worthing, is a long-term Brighton and Hove Albion supporter and was on a park-and-ride bus leaving The Amex Stadium after a night game when a nearby passenger suffered a cardiac

arrest. Rich was one of a number of fans who helped with vital early treatment that saved the man's life. The gentleman made a good recovery and later returned to the club to thank those who helped to save him.

- **Jon Mays**, a Station Manager based in Chichester, who lives in East Preston, had finished a shift in the control room at an event in Goodwood when a member of the public suffered a cardiac arrest. Jon, and an off-duty doctor, carried out CPR until paramedics arrived.
  - **Rod Gates**, who works for our training team in Horsham, had finished exercising at Shoreham Community Fire Station, where he is also a retained firefighter, when he saw a member of the public face down on the pavement across the road. The casualty was unconscious and bleeding badly from face and head injuries and, when he turned the patient over, Rod realised they were not breathing. He got a member of the public to call an ambulance and started CPR. He then got another passer-by to run to the fire station for help. When the casualty was handed over to an ambulance crew, approximately 25 minutes later, the person was conscious and talking and had a suspected dislocated knee, as well as head/face injuries.
  - **Phil Castleton**, a retained firefighter based at Worthing, received two nominations for lifesaving actions while not on duty. In the first incident, Phil stepped in when he saw a distressed member of the public on the wrong side of railings over a railway bridge. He tried to calm the person by talking to them for several minutes before grabbing the opportunity to pull them to safety. In a second incident he spotted a fire and gained entry to the flat before fire crews arrived. He helped the occupier from a smoke-filled room and showed real bravery in his actions.
- ▶ **Work starts on our closed landfill site at Westhampnett** near Chichester to build West Sussex County Council's second solar farm.

From August 2018, the 29,000 solar panels and large batteries will produce and store enough clean energy to power approximately 2,400 homes. The energy produced will also power County Council buildings and generate income over the next 25 years.

- ▶ **Low-energy lighting upgrades** at five West Sussex libraries cut an estimated £6,000 off the County Council's energy bill and reduce annual carbon emissions by 21 tonnes.
- ▶ **A successful competitive procurement** will divert street sweeping waste from landfill - securing environmental benefits with recycling rates at 99% (exceeding the Council's target of at least an 80% recycling rate for street sweepings material). Not only is the new approach better for the environment, but it is better value for money too, with financial benefits of around £2.9m over the life of the contract for West Sussex County Council.
- ▶ **West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service** joins with the police to play a part in the Pride march.





## A STRONG, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PLACE

- ▶ **A capital grant is given to the Worthing Churches**, to help the group support local homeless people. This has led to 58 people having accommodation who would otherwise have been homeless and also allowed the charity to provide advice and guidance to between 20 to 30 people per day at the St Clare’s Community Hub.
- ▶ **Schools sign up for cheap, clean energy** through the West Sussex Solar Power for Schools programme. Solar panels now supply 20 schools with renewable electricity to help them reduce their energy bills and their impact on the environment. A further 40 schools have signed up to the programme.

### OCTOBER–DECEMBER

- ▶ **Community Tool Libraries** are a partnership between West Sussex County Council, Town and Parish Councils and community groups. Piloted in Chichester District, the libraries provide a range of tools with training and insurance support that enable volunteers to undertake environmental maintenance and improvement works in their communities.

### JANUARY–MARCH 2018

- ▶ **West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service** delivers more than 1,000 bottles of water to residents who have lost their water supply due to the freezing weather.
- ▶ **In order to protect some of our most vulnerable residents**, we roll out a programme of installing specialist linked smoke detectors, to ensure that a fast response can be provided should fire break out.



Newly qualified community firefighters at a pass out ceremony  
Image: Eddie Howland

- ▶ **West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service officially welcomes** 12 new firefighters at the successful completion of their intensive 14-week residential training course.

The newly qualified community firefighters performed fire and rescue drills at a pass out ceremony attended by their family, friends and dignitaries, including the Chief Fire Officer and leading members of West Sussex County Council.

Each recruit, who beat off competition from more than 700 applicants for the roles, was presented with a certificate to mark the successful completion of their training course.

- ▶ **West Sussex County Council invests £670,000** in an aerial platform ladder for our Fire and Rescue Service. The vehicle means the Fire and Rescue Service can more easily rescue people from blocks of flats or direct large quantities of water from a great height to control fires more quickly.
- ▶ **West Sussex County Council, in partnership with East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council, launches our own energy supplier** to encourage residents to switch and save money on the bills. Your Energy Sussex, which is run on a 'not-for-profit' basis, offers competitively-priced gas and electricity and supports residents who are struggling to pay their bills through a fuel poverty fund.



- ▶ **Councillors and employees sign the “pass on plastic” challenge** to reduce consumption of single use plastic packaging and other items - reinforcing the part individual behaviour plays in the Council’s commitment to reduce landfill.
- ▶ **For the first time in West Sussex County Council’s history**, fuel derived from processing household waste is exported for energy recovery. The first wave will divert more than 50,000 tonnes of waste from landfill over the next year.
- ▶ **Following the Grenfell Tower fire West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service responded to ensure the safety of the buildings** that the county council is directly responsible for, none of which are high rise.

All of the 56 residential high rise buildings in West Sussex have received full fire safety audits. No Aluminium Composite Cladding was found on any of the buildings. The most common fault found in high rise premises was the lack of suitable fire doors as front doors to flats leading to the common parts. The landlords are resolving this.

35 non-residential buildings have also been inspected. This includes hospitals in the county. The schools that West Sussex County Council is responsible for have also been subject to risk assessment and follow up actions.



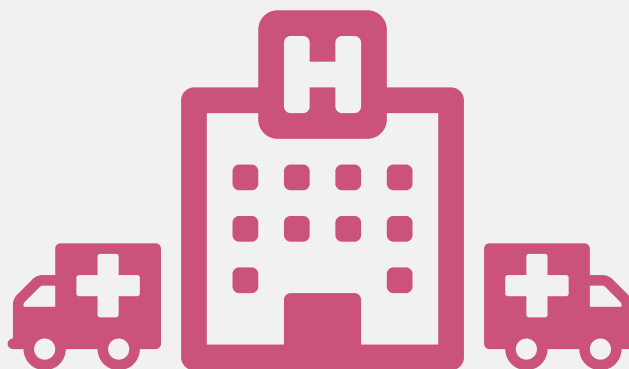
## INDEPENDENCE FOR LATER LIFE

151



**The number of people we've helped transfer out of hospital and into their homes.**

38%



**The reduction in delays discharging residents from hospital between March 2017 and March 2018.**

## APRIL–JUNE 2017

- ▶ **An Arts Council England grant is awarded** to West Sussex County Council to develop a Digital Library Plus scheme. This innovative project helps libraries to develop an iPad lending service to help older, isolated people get online.

Library staff and volunteers have been able to visit residents in their own home and offer support to download eBooks, try online shopping or get in touch with family members using Skype.

- ▶ **Around 5,800 recently bereaved West Sussex residents use a service last year which helps alleviate some of the strain when a loved one dies.** Used for more than two thirds of all registered deaths in the county, the free Tell Us Once service notifies multiple government and council agencies about a recorded death from a single point of contact.

## OCTOBER–DECEMBER

- ▶ **West Sussex County Council won the National Association Care Catering Meals on Wheels service of the year award 2017.**
- ▶ **A new approach to helping people live independently in the community is launched.** This service will work to promote the independence of older people and support them to return home after a stay in hospital, with the aim of reducing pressure on the NHS.

## JANUARY–MARCH 2018

- ▶ **Working in partnership with the NHS** during the winter period, social care staff supported 151 people to be discharged from hospital early via a new and innovative Discharge to Assess with Re-ablement Scheme, freeing up hospital beds for those who really need them.

- ▶ **Significant improvements are made to performance on delayed transfer of care,** which measures how successful the health and social care system is at allowing people to be discharged from hospital. In March 2018 delays were reduced by 38% compared to March 2017 (604 days against March 2017 969 days).
- ▶ **Evidence on the need to professionalise the care home workforce,** and support individuals in making the right choice about their care, submitted to the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee. This formed part of West Sussex County Council's on going influencing work ahead of the Government's publication of a Green Paper on Social Care in the Summer of 2018.





A COUNCIL THAT WORKS  
FOR THE COMMUNITY

340



**The number of candidates who stood for election to become West Sussex County Councillors in May 2017.**

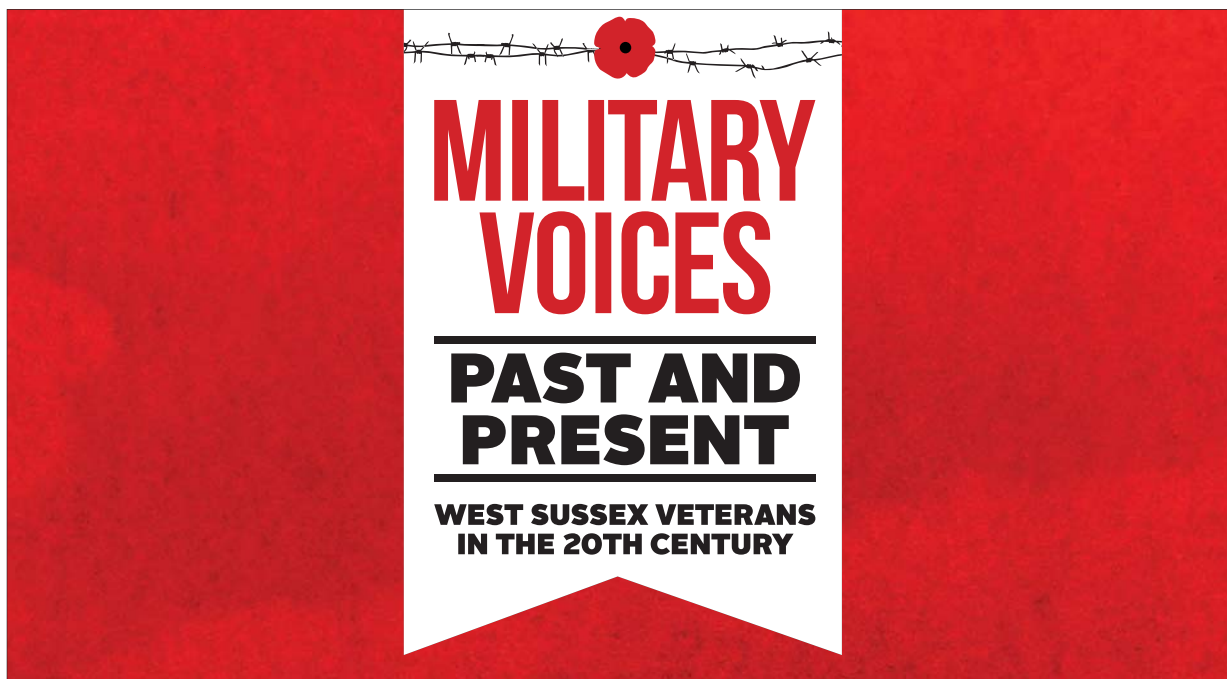
£529M



**We balanced our £500 million budget, despite the Government cutting our funding, and rising demand for services.**



## APRIL–JUNE 2017



- ▶ **A new County Council is formed.** 340 candidates stood for election. The Council make-up is now 56 Conservatives, nine Liberal Democrats and five Labour.
- ▶ **A potentially rare copy of the Declaration of Independence is discovered in West Sussex County Council's record office in Chichester.** The handwritten manuscript, only thought to be the second such parchment in existence, had been stored for more than 60 years in a strong-room among miles of documents in the Record Office, until its significance was revealed by Harvard University researchers.
- ▶ **Military Voices Past and Present, a collection of memories from local veterans who served in the First and Second World Wars and more recent conflicts is collated and**

published in a 550-page book and also released as digital audio recordings.

The project began with 32 First World War veteran interviews made in the 1980s by Worthing history teacher Peter Baker. He deposited the interviews at West Sussex Record Office in 2014 to make sure they were preserved as a vital part of social history. Inspired by his work, staff and volunteers from West Sussex County Council Library Service embarked on a project to build on this collection. Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Armed Forces Covenant Fund, they interviewed a further 63 local veterans from the period 1939 to the 1990s.

These interviews describe training, fellow servicemen, front line action, how service affected them as individuals and included are female veterans such as nurses and a Bletchley Park code-breaker.

## JULY–SEPTEMBER



► **In Findon Library, flexible book shelving is introduced to help make best use of the space** when the library is not open. This means that the Children and Family Centre can deliver its full programme from the library. Visits have increased by 85% since operating the new co-located service.

► **A disabled access angling and wildlife watching facility is introduced at Burton Mill Pond, Petworth**, including construction of an accessible broad walk and platform and a wheelyboat to enable wheelchair users to fish on the pond.

## OCTOBER–DECEMBER

► **National Customer Service Week highlights the great work for residents done by front line staff**, from those working in the contact centre, to those who work in libraries, to those serving the public at facilities including the Household Waste Recycling Sites, where survey data confirmed very high levels of satisfaction with service across the network.

## JANUARY–MARCH 2018

► **Despite significant demand pressures**, due to robust budget management, West Sussex County Council delivers a balanced budget at the end of the financial year.

► **The Council places its first order for ultra-low emission vehicles** to reduce the impact of business travel – and for improved video conferencing facilities to reduce the need to travel.

► **The anniversary of the first women to be granted the vote** sparks discussions by West Sussex County Council members about how to increase the number of female councillors. A motion was raised at the full council meeting to explore the barriers for women councillors and to make recommendations to increase numbers. To mark the occasion, councillors wore suffrage rosettes during the meeting. 23 of 70 councillors are women on West Sussex County Council.

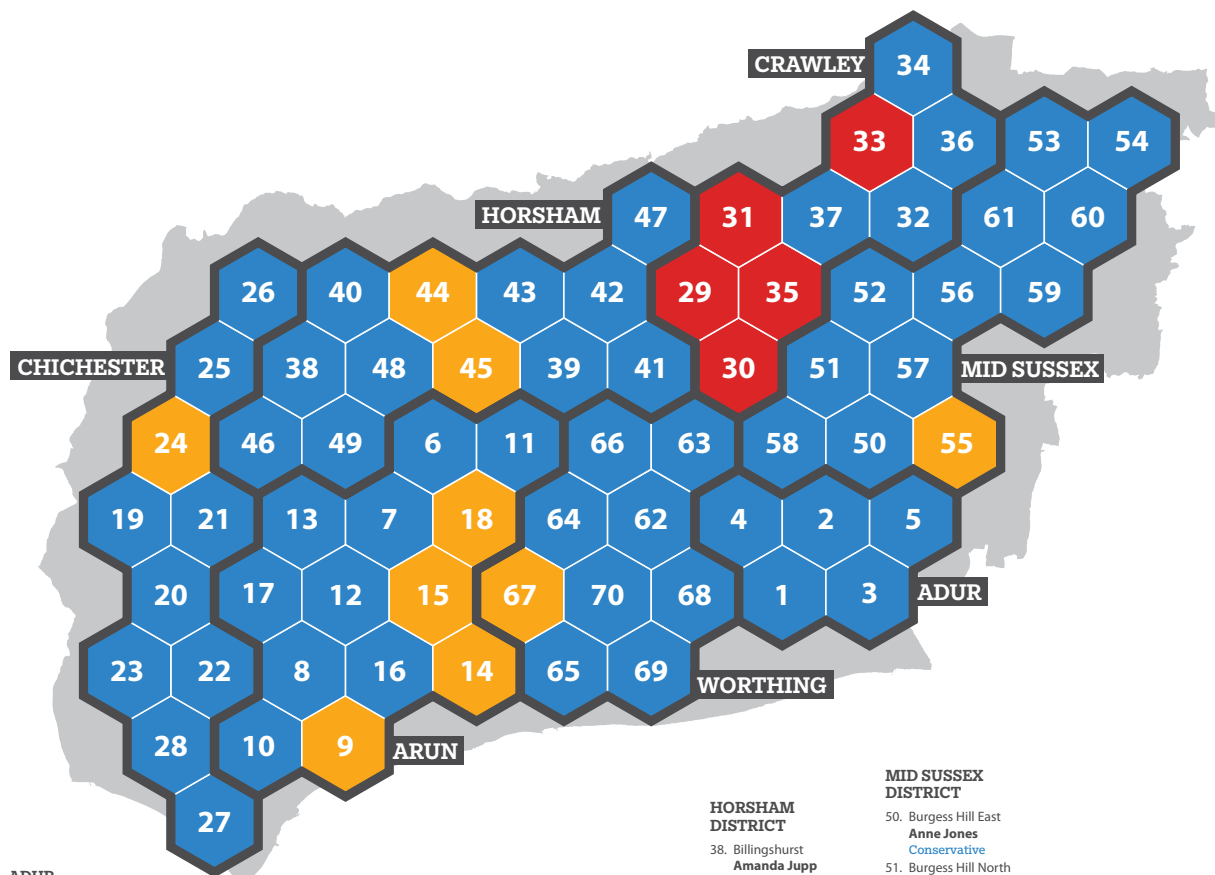


► **West Sussex is awarded Fairtrade County status** following a two year campaign, for its commitment to Fairtrade trading principles. We collaborate with the local Fairtrade Steering Group to promote Fairtrade amongst local businesses, commercial and other organisations, including shops and cafes.

► **In 2017 nearly 2,500 miles of road** were maintained with over 140,000m<sup>2</sup> of carriageway resurfacing and over 485,000m<sup>2</sup> of surface dressing works.



# COUNCIL STRUCTURE



**ADUR DISTRICT**

- 1. Lancing  
**Ann Bridges**  
Conservative
- 2. Shoreham North  
**Debbie Kennard**  
Conservative
- 3. Shoreham South  
**Kevin Boram**  
Conservative
- 4. Sompting & North Lancing  
**George Barton**  
Conservative
- 5. Southwick  
**David Simmons**  
Conservative

**ARUN DISTRICT**

- 6. Angmering & Findon  
**Deborah Urquhart**  
Conservative
- 7. Arundel & Courtwick  
**Gary Markwell**  
Conservative
- 8. Bersted  
**David Edwards**  
Conservative
- 9. Bognor Regis East  
**Francis Oppler**  
Liberal Democrat

**CHICHESTER DISTRICT**

- 19. Bourne  
**Viral Parikh**  
Conservative
- 20. Chichester East  
**Simon Oakley**  
Conservative
- 21. Chichester North  
**Jeremy Hunt**  
Conservative
- 22. Chichester South  
**Jamie Fitzjohn**  
Conservative
- 23. Chichester West  
**Louise Goldsmith**  
Conservative
- 24. Midhurst  
**Kate O'Kelly**  
Liberal Democrat
- 25. Petworth  
**Janet Duncton**  
Conservative
- 26. Rother Valley  
**David Bradford**  
Conservative
- 27. Selsey  
**Carol Purnell**  
Conservative
- 28. The Witterings  
**Pieter Montyn**  
Conservative

**CRAWLEY BOROUGH**

- 29. Bewbush & Ifield West  
**Chris Oxlade**  
Labour
- 30. Broadfield  
**Brian Quinn**  
Labour
- 31. Langley Green & Ifield East  
**Brenda Smith**  
Labour
- 32. Maidenbower & Worth  
**Bob Lanzer**  
Conservative
- 33. Northgate & West Green  
**Sue Mullins**  
Labour
- 34. Pound Hill  
**Richard Burrett**  
Conservative
- 35. Southgate  
& Gosspis Green  
**Michael Jones**  
Labour
- 36. Three Bridges  
**Charles Petts**  
Conservative
- 37. Tilgate & Furnace Green  
**Duncan Crow**  
Conservative

**HORSHAM DISTRICT**

- 38. Billingshurst  
**Amanda Jupp**  
Conservative
- 39. Bramber Castle  
**David Barling**  
Conservative
- 40. Broadbridge  
**Christian Mitchell**  
Conservative
- 41. Henfield  
**Lionel Barnard**  
Conservative
- 42. Holbrook  
**Peter Catchpole**  
Conservative
- 43. Horsham East  
**Andrew Baldwin**  
Conservative
- 44. Horsham Hurst  
**Nigel Dennis**  
Liberal Democrat
- 45. Horsham Riverside  
**Morwen Millson**  
Liberal Democrat
- 46. Pulborough  
**Pat Arculus**  
Conservative
- 47. St Leonards Forest  
**Liz Kitchen**  
Conservative
- 48. Southwater & Nuthurst  
**Nigel Jupp**  
Conservative
- 49. Storrington  
**Paul Marshall**  
Conservative

**MID SUSSEX DISTRICT**

- 50. Burgess Hill East  
**Anne Jones**  
Conservative
- 51. Burgess Hill North  
**Andrew Barrett-Miles**  
Conservative
- 52. Cuckfield & Lucastes  
**Pete Bradbury**  
Conservative
- 53. East Grinstead Meridian  
**Liz Bennett**  
Conservative
- 54. East Grinstead South & Ashurst Wood  
**Jacque Russell**  
Conservative
- 55. Hassocks & Burgess Hill South  
**Kirsty Lord**  
Liberal Democrat
- 56. Haywards Heath East  
**Stephen Hillier**  
Conservative
- 57. Haywards Heath Town  
**Sujan Wickremaratchi**  
Conservative
- 58. Hurstpierpoint & Bolney  
**Joy Dennis**  
Conservative
- 59. Imberdown  
**Heidi Brunsdon**  
Conservative
- 60. Lindfield & High Weald  
**Andrew Lea**  
Conservative
- 61. Worth Forest  
**Bill Acraman**  
Conservative

**WORTHING BOROUGH**

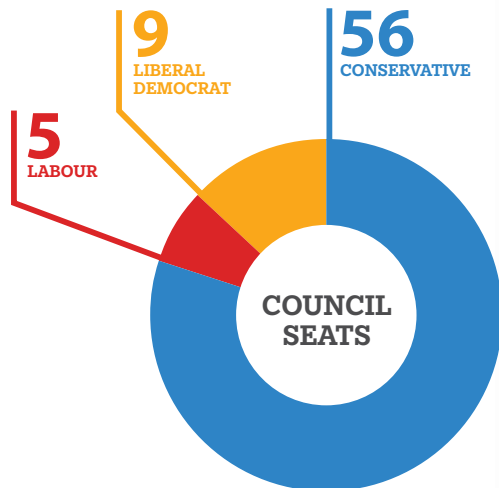
- 62. Broadwater  
**Bryan Turner**  
Conservative
- 63. Cissbury  
**Elizabeth Sparkes**  
Conservative
- 64. Durrington & Salvington  
**Noel Atkins**  
Conservative
- 65. Goring  
**Steve Waight**  
Conservative
- 66. Northbrook  
**Sean McDonald**  
Conservative
- 67. Tarring  
**Bob Smytherman**  
Liberal Democrat
- 68. Worthing East  
**Roger Oakley**  
Conservative
- 69. Worthing Pier  
**Michael Cloake**  
Conservative
- 70. Worthing West  
**Paul High**  
Conservative

# THE CABINET

**The County Council is made up of 70 councillors (sometimes called members) who are each elected every four years to represent one electoral division.**

Functions are allocated across the full Council itself, the Cabinet and a range of committees. Many functions are delegated from the Cabinet and committees to officers.

The West Sussex Cabinet (the 'Executive') has 8 members selected from the Conservative majority. The Cabinet proposes the key policy decisions of the Council, which are subject to agreement by the full County Council. Each member is allocated a portfolio of work for which they take personal responsibility. Most decisions will be made by Cabinet Members individually.



**Louise Goldsmith**  
Leader of the County Council and Cabinet Member for the Economy



**Richard Burrett**  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Skills



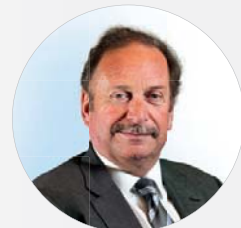
**Stephen Hillier**  
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People



**Amanda Jupp**  
Cabinet Member for Adults and Health



**Deborah Urquhart**  
Cabinet Member for Environment



**Jeremy Hunt**  
Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources



**Bob Lanzer**  
Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure



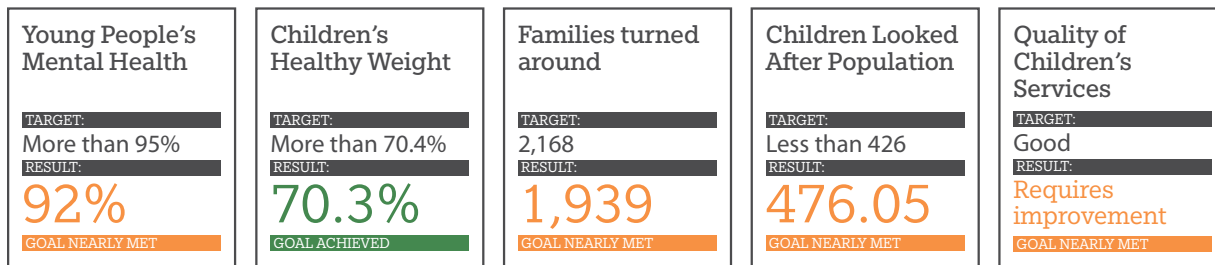
**Debbie Kennard**  
Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities

## PERFORMANCE 2017-18

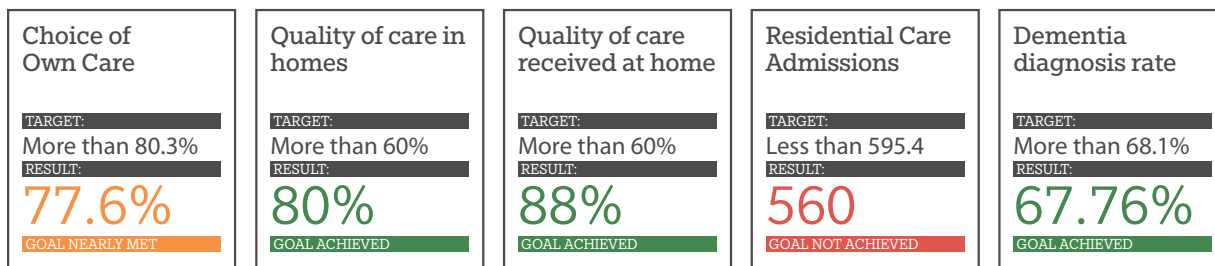
### Championing the local economy



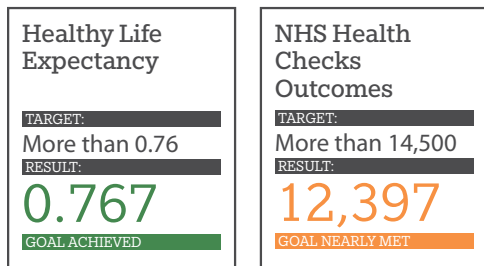
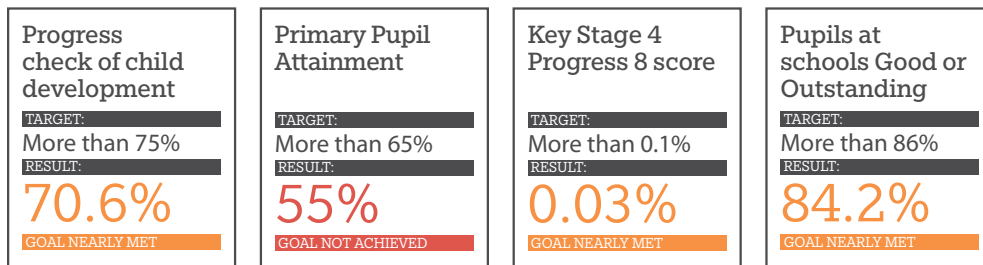
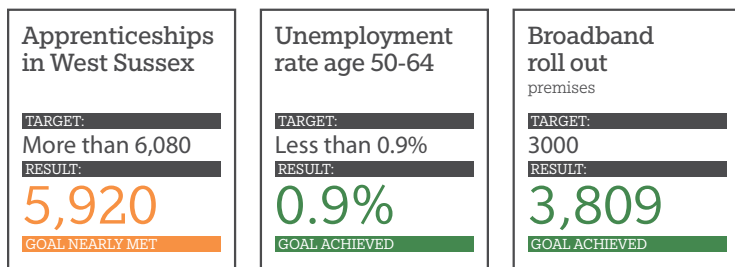
### Giving children the best start in life

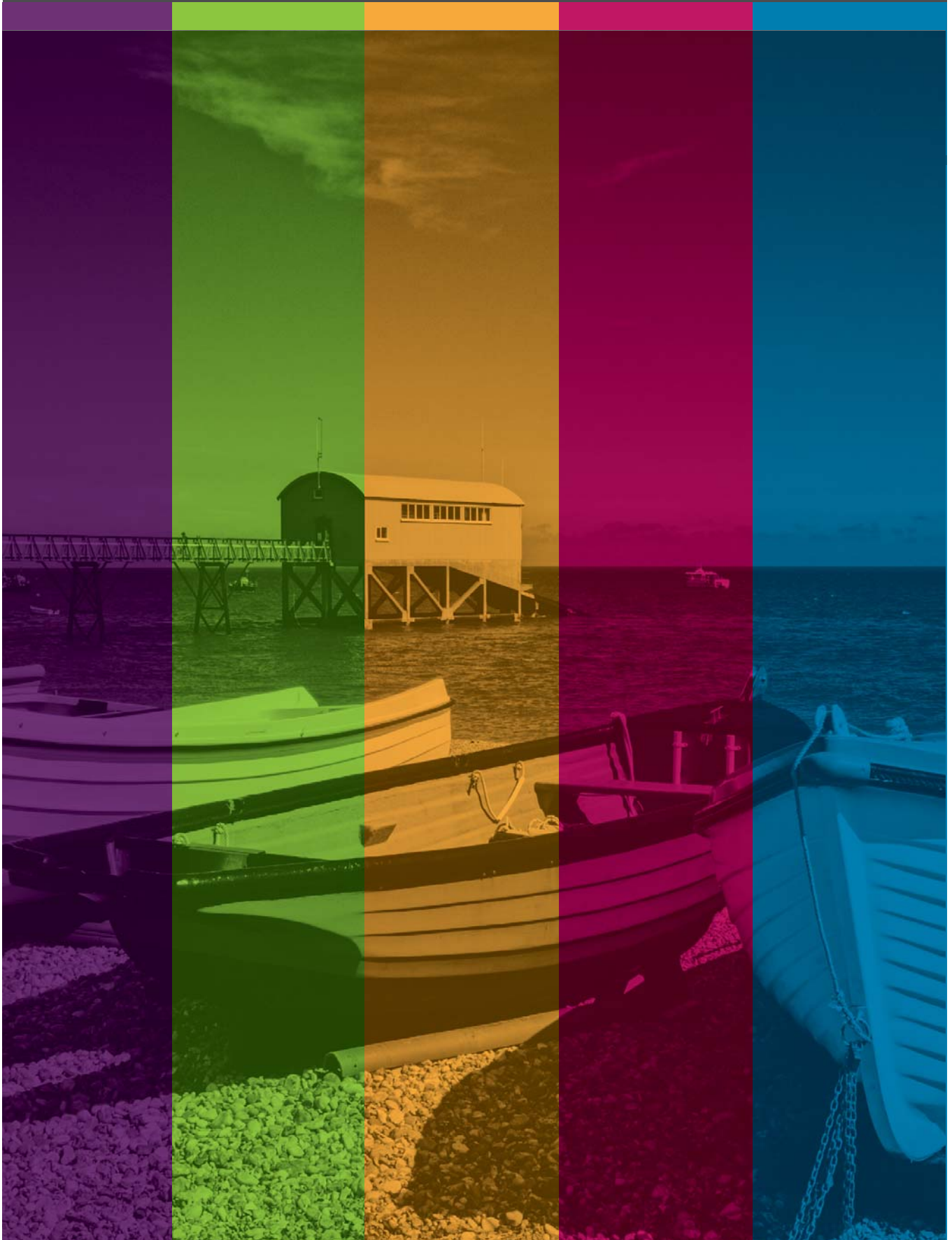


### Independence for later life



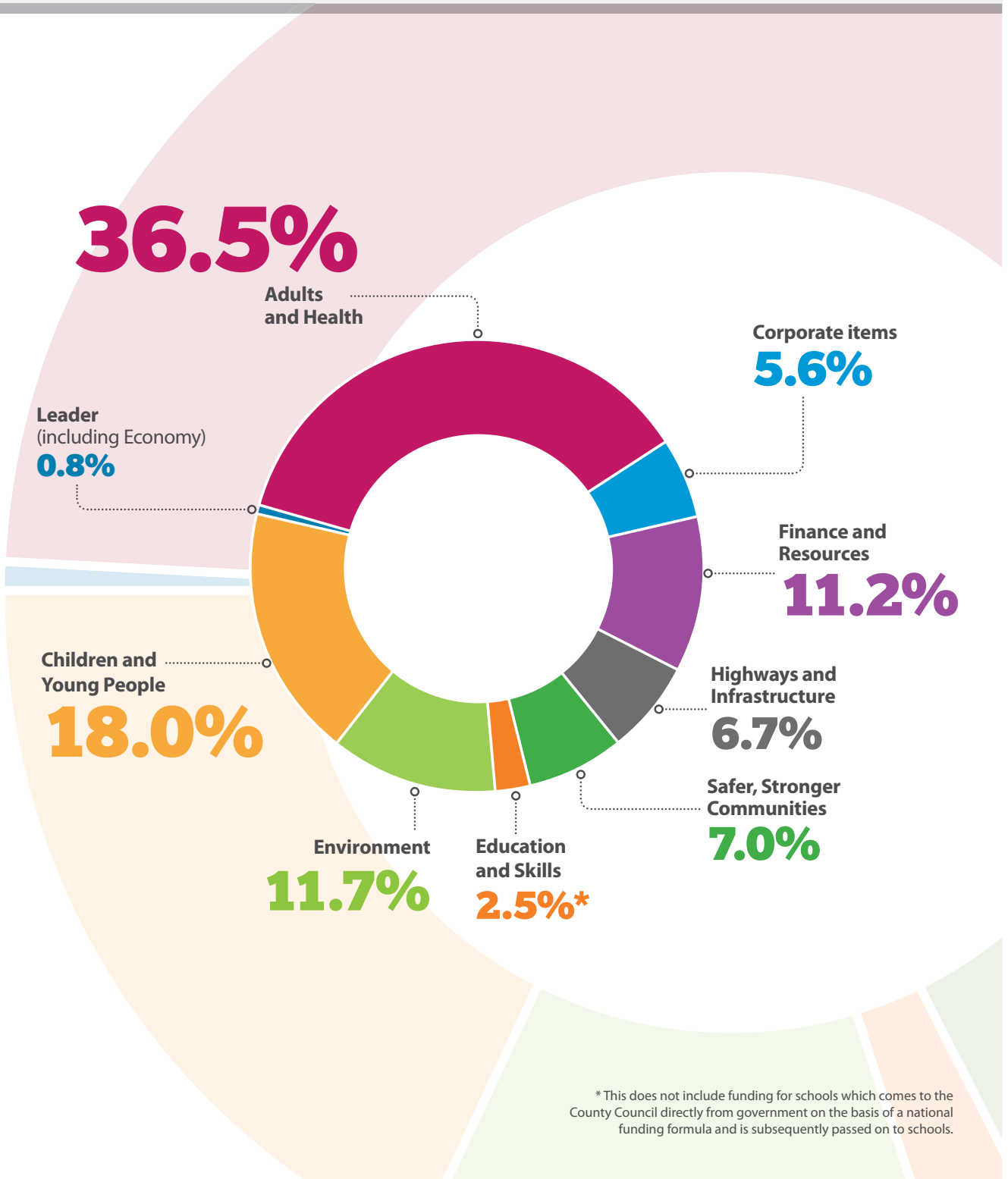
[www.westsussex.gov.uk/measures](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/measures)







# HOW WE SPEND YOUR MONEY



\*This does not include funding for schools which comes to the County Council directly from government on the basis of a national funding formula and is subsequently passed on to schools.

