

# Public Document Pack

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05 April 2019

Dear Member,

## **County Council - Friday, 5 April 2019**

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, 5 April 2019.

| <b>Agenda No</b> | <b>Item</b> |
|------------------|-------------|
|------------------|-------------|

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>10(a)</b> | <b>Motion on Climate Change</b> (Pages 3 - 6) |
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Amendments by Mr Barling and Ms Lord attached.

|              |  |
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| <b>10(b)</b> | <b>Motion on Government Cuts to the Public Health Budget</b> (Pages 7 - 8) |
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Amendment by the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health attached.

Yours sincerely

Tony Kershaw  
Director of Law and Assurance

**To all members of the County Council**

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## County Council

5 April 2019

### Item 10(a) - Notice of Motion from Mr Jones on Climate Change

#### Amendment by Mr Barling

This Council notes that humans have caused climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity **and diverse ecosystems**. In order to reduce the chance of runaway Global Warming and limit the effects of Climate Breakdown, it is imperative that all countries should reduce our carbon equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>eq) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible. Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this.

***This Council has a strong reputation for responding positively to the challenge of climate change. Sustainability is being embedded into the day-to-day business of the Council, such as procurement, the capital programme and introducing electric vehicles into the fleet. An annual sustainability report is produced. The West Sussex Plan also has a strong focus on sustainability and includes targets for renewable energy, carbon reduction, air quality, sustainable transport, encouraging ultra-low emissions vehicles and waste reduction and recycling.***

This Council believes that all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of West Sussex and the UK that cities commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible.

Councils like West Sussex are uniquely placed to lead the world in reducing carbon emissions – for example because of their capacity for local energy generation, such as running our own solar farms and promoting solar energy take up among local organisations and residents, supporting the greater use of electric powered vehicles both in the private and public sector and for personal use, and investing further in public transport.

West Sussex is already suffering from flooding problems, and a significant proportion of its population and a large number of its settlements are based in coastal areas which would potentially be devastated by a rise in sea levels caused by continual global warming. The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be a number one priority. ~~and~~ **B**bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings, ~~and~~ market opportunities **and** ~~(as well as improved well-being for people worldwide).~~

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to:

- (1) ***Note the call of the Campaign against Climate Change to d***Declare a 'Climate Emergency', ***show leadership to combat this climate urgency in West Sussex and commit to stepping up the work of the Council to combat climate change and raise awareness of the issues and ways in which residents and businesses can contribute to mitigate climate change;***
- (2) Pledge to attempt to make West Sussex ***County Council*** carbon neutral by 2030, ~~taking into account both production and consumption emissions;~~
- (3) Call on the Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible;
- (4) ***Continue to w***Work with ***the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and*** other councils to determine and implement best practice methods to limit Global Warming to less than 1.5°C;
- (5) Continue to work with partners across the county and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies, and plans ***and by encouraging behaviour change, including separation of food waste for collection and processing for energy generation;***
- (6) ***Support the officers working group which is investigating ways of taking into account climate change impacts in all of the Council's policies and operations*** ~~Set up a Task and Finish Group to look into the matter in greater detail; and~~
- ~~(7) Consider whether it would be advisable to take into account climate change impacts, when considering planning applications, or taking part in consultations, commenting on reports, plans and reviews put to the Council; and~~
- (78) ***Revise the Council's reporting framework to highlight annually to full Council the actions taken by the Council to mitigate climate change and its wider environmental impact*** ~~Report to full Council within six months with the actions the Cabinet and Council will take to address this emergency.~~

## County Council

5 April 2019

### Item 10(a) - Notice of Motion from Mr Jones on Climate Change

#### Amendment by Ms Lord

This Council notes that humans have caused climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity. In order to reduce the chance of runaway Global Warming and limit the effects of Climate Breakdown, it is imperative that all countries should reduce our carbon equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>eq) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible. Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this.

This Council believes that all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of West Sussex and the UK that cities commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible.

Councils like West Sussex are uniquely placed to lead the world in reducing carbon emissions – for example because of their capacity for local energy generation, such as running our own solar farms and promoting solar energy take up among local organisations and residents, supporting the greater use of electric powered vehicles both in the private and public sector and for personal use, and investing further in public transport.

West Sussex is already suffering from flooding problems, and a significant proportion of its population and a large number of its settlements are based in coastal areas which would potentially be devastated by a rise in sea levels caused by continual global warming. The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be a number one priority, and bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings and market opportunities (as well as improved well-being for people worldwide).

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to:

- (1) Declare a 'Climate Emergency';
- (2) Pledge to ~~attempt to~~ make West Sussex **County Council** carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
- (3) Call on the Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible;

- (4) Work with other councils to determine and implement best practice methods to limit Global Warming to less than 1.5°C;
- (5) Continue to work with partners across the county and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans;
- (6) Set up a Task and Finish Group to look into the matter in greater detail;
- (7) Consider the creation of a Voluntary Organisation Forum and a Citizens Assembly to examine and assess policy options and to facilitate and enable actions within our communities and by residents to contribute towards these goals; and**
- ~~(87) Consider whether it would be advisable to take into account~~ **Incorporate** climate change impacts **assessments into all decision and officer reports, plans and reviews put to the Council, including,** ~~when considering planning applications, or taking part in consultations, commenting on reports, plans and reviews put to the Council;~~
- (9) Incorporate responsibility for delivering against these goals into the portfolios of each Cabinet Member and Executive Director; and**
- (108) Report to full Council within six months with the actions the Cabinet and Council will take to address this emergency and provide a progress report at six-monthly intervals thereafter.**

## County Council

5 April 2019

### Item 10(b) - Notice of Motion from Dr Walsh on Government Cuts to the Public Health Budget

#### Amendment by the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health

The Council notes the vital role played by Public Health, including our hugely successful vaccination and immunisation programmes, support for those wanting to stop smoking, and otherwise helping West Sussex residents to lead healthier lives by avoiding diseases and unplanned pregnancies. ~~and notes with grave concern~~ **The announcement of a further £85 million cut to the Public Health Budget in 2019/20, as one of 12 ministerial statements published by the Government on the last day of the 2018 parliamentary term before Christmas, was in line with national cuts to local government public health functions over the last five consecutive years. This is particularly challenging in West Sussex due to its vast geography, scale and range of deprivation across the county** ~~only weeks after the Secretary of State for Health described 'prevention' as his priority.~~

The Council further notes the comments of the Health Foundation, who described these cuts as a false economy and who have calculated that an additional £3 billion a year is required to reverse the impact of the Government's cuts to the Public Health Grant to date and have called for this increased budget to be allocated according to need; and the warnings from the King's Fund that such cuts could put pressure on councils to cut non-statutory sexual health prevention services, which could lead to more sexually transmitted infections and unplanned pregnancies.

This Council believes that our Public Health team perform vital work to help keep the residents of West Sussex healthy ~~and to~~ **which** avoids more costly admissions to hospitals and other interventions by ~~the our~~ NHS, and that this should be properly funded by central government.

***This was endorsed by the Chief Executive of Public Health England, Duncan Selbie, following his visit to West Sussex on 21 January 2019, when he said: "It is frankly inspiring to hear of the positioning of the public's health and community engagement at the heart of everything you do – the Council, Boroughs and NHS together, with public health expertise embedded across the whole of the Council".***

The Council resolves to:

- (1) Thank our Director of Public Health and her team for the great work they do across West Sussex despite **the** continued financial challenges;
- (2) **Express disappointment at** ~~Condemn~~ the timing just before the Christmas ~~break to 'sneak out' announcements such as this;~~

- (3) Call on the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health to consider carefully how best to implement ***any necessary changes*** ~~the required cuts~~ to services which will result from continued government cuts to the budget; and
- (4) Ask the Leader and Cabinet Member to write to the Secretary of State for Health, calling on the Government to deliver increased investment in Public Health and to support a sustainable health and social care system by taking a 'prevention first' approach, and fair and equitable funding for West Sussex.