

Public Document Pack

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19 March 2021

Dear Member,

County Council - Friday, 19 March 2021

Please find enclosed proposed amendments to the items set out below which will be debated at the meeting of the County Council to be held on Friday, 19 March 2021.

Agenda No	Item
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13(a) Motion on Pension Investments	(Pages 3 - 4)
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Amendment by Cllr Lanzer attached.

13(b) Motion on Emergency Services	(Pages 5 - 6)
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Amendment by Cllr M Jones attached.

13(e) Motion on Romance Fraud	(Pages 7 - 8)
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Amendment by Cllr Crow attached.

Yours sincerely

Tony Kershaw
Director of Law and Assurance

To all members of the County Council

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County Council – 19 March 2021

**Item 13(a) - Notice of Motion on Pension Investments from
Cllr Michael Jones**

Amendment from Cllr Lanzer

In line with the principles previously supported by this Council in taking strong local action to address the climate emergency and recognising the strength of public opinion, as evidenced by the large demonstration at the full County Council meeting in February 2020, this Council calls on the West Sussex Pensions Committee to ***focus on sustainable investment for growth through the application of its environmental, social and governance principles*** ~~take all necessary steps to divest all of its investments from fossil fuel companies as soon as practicable.~~

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County Council - 19 March 2021

Item 13 (b) Notice of Motion from Cllr Crow on Emergency Services

Amendment by Cllr M Jones

This Council supports the campaign to build the UK's first 'Emergency Services Cenotaph', dedicated to all who have served and volunteered in the NHS and all the emergency services, including Fire and Rescue - whom we are very proud to have as part of West Sussex County Council.

Additionally, this Council records its support for the UK's annual national 'Emergency Services Day' which is held on 9th September and which is supported by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and that this Council places on record its sincere appreciation for the two million people who work and volunteer in the NHS and emergency services, especially throughout the Covid-19 pandemic when the demands placed upon our emergency services have significantly increased, ***whilst recording its dissatisfaction at the recently announced plans for public sector pay including that for NHS staff.***

In recognition of Emergency Services Day, this Council asks the Chairman to agree to fly the official flag of the 'Emergency Services Day' at County Hall on 9th September each year.

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County Council - 19 March 2021

Item 13(e) - Notice of Motion from Cllr M Jones on Romance Fraud

Amendment from Cllr Crow

This Council recognises that romance fraud has been a growing problem since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, with many people experiencing loneliness potentially being targeted.

Romance fraud is the engineering of a supposed friendship or relationship for fraudulent, financial gain. Criminals invest significant amounts of time into socially engineering their victims – knowing that as they gain the victim's trust, their chances of extracting considerable funds from them simultaneously increase.

This Council notes that Sussex Police indicated in October 2020 that nearly £3m had been lost by victims of romance fraud in 128 incidents, with a total of 195 reports of romance fraud being received from January to September 2020. It is concerned to note that this was a 56% rise on the previous year from the same period and that there are estimates that this could be only a fraction of the true extent of the crime, with many victims either too embarrassed to report it, or simply unaware that they have been deceived. Moreover, in 2020 the Times newspaper described Sussex as "the nation's dating fraud capital".

This Council welcomes the work undertaken so far by the Council's Community Safety Team **and the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner** to promote awareness and educate on the risks of romance fraud to residents of West Sussex, but calls on the Cabinet Member for Fire & Rescue and Communities to continue to commit to supporting the Get Safe Online initiative as well as putting ~~stronger~~ stronger energy, capacity and resource into efforts to support the Sussex Police campaign to provide a seamless solution, through continuing to reach potentially vulnerable residents via virtual means while restrictions on movement remain in place during 2021.

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