

To all Members of the County Council

A virtual ordinary meeting of the County Council will be held at **10.30 am** on **Friday, 11 December 2020**.

Note: In accordance with regulations in response to the current public health emergency, this meeting will be held virtually with members in remote attendance. Public access is via webcasting.

The meeting will be available to watch live via the Internet at this address:

<http://www.westsussex.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Agenda

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Members' Interests**

Members are asked to disclose any pecuniary or personal interests in matters appearing on the agenda.

3. **Minutes** (Pages 7 - 36)

The Council is asked to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the County Council held on 6 November 2020.

4. **Appointments**

To consider any proposed changes by the Groups to appointments. Any proposals will be circulated and changes will take effect from the end of the meeting.

5. **Address by a Cabinet Member**

At the discretion of the Chairman, to receive any address by a Cabinet Member on a matter of urgency and/or significant interest to the County Council and which relates to the powers and responsibilities of the County Council or which affects the Council.

(a) **Address on Children First Improvement Plan** (Pages 37 - 40)

The Leader and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People will make statements on the Council's Children First Improvement Plan. A report by the Cabinet Member is also attached. Members may ask questions of the Leader and Cabinet Member in accordance with Standing Order 2.33.

(b) **Address on Fire & Rescue Service Improvement**

The Cabinet Member for Fire & Rescue and Communities will make a statement on the Fire & Rescue Service improvement. Members may ask questions of the Cabinet Member in accordance with Standing Order 2.33.

6. **West Sussex County Council Reset Plan** (Pages 41 - 54)

The Council is asked to consider and note the latest draft of the West Sussex County Council Reset Plan, in the light of a report by the Leader.

7. **Notices of Motion**

(a) **Motion on Hidden Disability** (Pages 55 - 56)

To consider and debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr Edwards, which was referred to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health at the meeting of the County Council on 6 November 2020.

'Many businesses, emergency services and local authorities have recognised the Hidden Disabilities Lanyard and West Sussex County Council should embrace this too. Anyone with a hidden disability which does not have physical signs, including learning disabilities, lung conditions and chronic illnesses can opt to wear a Hidden Disability Sunflower to show they may require additional help, understanding or extra time to carry out an action. This symbol allows us to give them the help and understanding they may need in their day-to-day lives. This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health to support the following commitments;

- (1) To officially recognise the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower.
- (2) To officially promote what it stands for and its importance in breaking stigma.
- (3) To help promote Hidden Disabilities Sunflower to local businesses and encourage them to formally look at recognising it.
- (4) To promote that the council offices are Hidden Disability friendly and promote the Sunflower on its buildings so people can identify the Council as Hidden Disability friendly.
- (5) To actively promote and encourage local district and borough councils, and town and parish councils to recognise the scheme.'

and the report of the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health.

(b) **Motion on Council Investments** (Pages 57 - 58)

To consider and debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr Millson, which was referred to the Cabinet Member for Finance at the meeting of the County Council on 6 November 2020.

'This Council welcomes the fact that the Pensions Committee's investment managers have signed up to the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment which has been set up by the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) to encourage asset owners and asset managers to:

- incorporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues into investment analysis and decision making;
- be active owners;
- seek disclosure of ESG issues; and
- promote the principles within the industry.

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet Member for Finance to follow the lead of the Pensions Committee and to ask the Council's investment advisers to ensure they follow the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment for all of the Council's investments. This will ensure that West Sussex County Council achieves a more ethical investment policy by incorporating matters like human rights and environmental issues, such as reducing reliance on fossil fuels (in line with the Council's Climate Change Strategy), into its investment decisions.'

and the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance.

Lunch (In the event that the morning business is finished before lunch the afternoon business will be brought forward as appropriate.)

(c) **Motion on Milk at School Break Time** (Pages 59 - 60)

To consider and debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr M Jones, which was referred to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills at the meeting of the County Council on 6 November 2020.

'This Council notes that the number of families relying on support from food banks in some parts of the county has increased by as much as 80% in the last 12 months and that there has been a county-wide increase in applications for free school meals over the last six months compared to last year.

This Council also believes the provision of school milk provides a nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch, helping them to concentrate and learn.

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to work with the Cabinet to provide funding to enable the reversal of the decision to cease providing morning break time school milk for the over 5s for 2020/21 with effect from September 2020. It calls on him to utilise the savings achieved over the past six months as a result of members not having to travel to meetings to meet the cost.'

and the report of the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills.

(d) **Motion on provision of Free School Meals in School Holidays** (Pages 61 - 62)

To consider and debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr M Jones, which was referred to the Cabinet at the meeting of the County Council on 6 November 2020.

'This Council expresses disappointment that the Government has voted against providing free meals for children entitled to free school meals in the October 2020 half term and during future school holidays. This Council also expresses disappointment that none of the West Sussex Members of Parliament who took part in the Parliamentary vote supported the proposal to provide meals during future school holidays, with seven of the eight actively voting against.

This Council recognises that the on-going pandemic is causing hardship and poverty for many families within West Sussex and calls on the Cabinet to follow the example of other councils around the country to step in and provide free meals for children entitled to free school meals during future school holidays during the current pandemic.'

and the report of the Cabinet.

8. **Governance Committee: Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel** (Pages 63 - 96)

The Council is asked to consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and recommendations for the scheme of allowances and expenses from May 2021, in the light of a report by the Governance Committee.

9. **Governance Committee: Minor Change to Scrutiny Arrangements** (Pages 97 - 98)

The Council is asked to consider a minor change to the

arrangements for scrutiny, in the light of a report by the Governance Committee.

10. **Standards Committee: Member Officer Relations Protocol**
(Pages 99 - 110)

The Council is asked to consider and approve proposed revisions to the Code of Conduct Section 2, Member Officer Relations Protocol, in the light of a report by the Standards Committee.

11. **Standards Committee Annual Report** (Pages 111 - 112)

The Council is asked to note a report from the Standards Committee on its activities for the period from May 2019 to April 2020.

12. **Report of Urgent Action** (Pages 113 - 114)

To note urgent action taken under regulation 11 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

13. **Question Time** (Pages 115 - 118)

Questions to members of the Cabinet Member on anything relevant to their portfolios and to the Leader on anything that is currently relevant to the County Council. The attached report covers relevant council business or developments in respect of portfolios arising since the meeting of the Council on 6 November 2020. A supplementary report may be published.

(2 hours is allocated for Question Time)

County Council concludes

Items not commenced by 4.15 p.m. will be deferred to the following meeting.

Director of Law and Assurance
2 December 2020