

To all Members of the County Council

The Annual Meeting of the County Council will be held at **10.30 am** on **Friday, 1 April 2022** at **County Hall, Chichester PO19 1RQ**.

Note: There will be a limited public gallery available to anyone wishing to attend and view the meeting in person. Admission will be by ticket only, bookable in advance by emailing: democratic.services@westsussex.gov.uk.

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. **Election of Chairman**

To elect a Chairman of the County Council for the ensuing year (the Chairman to make a declaration of acceptance of office).

2. **Election of Vice-Chairman**

To elect a Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the ensuing year (the Vice-Chairman to make a declaration of acceptance of office).

3. **Apologies for Absence**

4. **Members' Interests**

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

5. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 18)

The Council is asked to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the County Council held on 28 February 2022.

6. **Review of Proportionality** (Pages 19 - 20)

The County Council has a statutory duty to review the proportionality on its committees each year and must do so following the recent formation of the Green and Independent Alliance Group. A table, together with a brief explanation of the proportionality rules and how they are applied, is attached.

7. **Notification of Appointment of Cabinet Members and**

Advisers to Cabinet Members (Pages 21 - 26)

The Leader is required each year to give notice to the Council of his appointments to the Cabinet and allocation of Cabinet portfolios between the Cabinet Members, together with the appointment of Advisers to Cabinet Members.

8. Appointments

Following the review of proportionality and in the light of the Leader's proposals at item 7, to appoint members of non-Executive committees, to appoint the chairmen, vice-chairmen, panels and substitutes of those committees in accordance Standing Order 2.10 and to appoint the members of Scrutiny Committees (the chairmen and vice-chairmen will be appointed at the next meeting of each Scrutiny Committee). The appointments will take effect from the end of the meeting.

9. Address by a Cabinet Member

At the discretion of the Chairman, to receive an 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.

10. West Sussex Transport Plan (Pages 27 - 38)

The Council is asked to consider and approve the adoption of the West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-36, in the light of a report by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport. A copy of Appendix A, the Draft West Sussex Transport Plan, is **enclosed with the agenda**.

11. Question Time (Pages 39 - 44)

Questions to the Leader and Cabinet Members on matters contained within the Cabinet report, written questions and any other questions relevant to their portfolios. Members may also ask questions of the Leader on anything that is currently relevant to the County Council. The report covers relevant Council business or developments in respect of portfolios arising since the meeting of the Council on 28 February 2022. A supplementary report may be published.

(2 hours is allocated for Question Time)

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

12. Notices of Motion

(a) Motion on Growth Deals

To debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr Boram,

notice of which was given on 14 March 2022.

'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.'

(b) **Motion on Pension Divestments**

To debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr Baxter, notice of which was given on 15 March 2022.

'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 calls on the Pensions Committee, as trustees for the fund, to take the necessary steps to divest all of its investments from fossil fuel companies by a date to be determined by that Committee.'

County Council concludes

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

Director of Law and Assurance
23 March 2022

Webcasting

Please note: this meeting is being filmed for live and subsequent broadcast via the County Council's website on the internet. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes by the Council.

Generally the public gallery is not filmed. However, by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.