

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.

West Sussex County Council – Ordinary Meeting

28 February 2022

At the Ordinary Meeting of the County Council held at 10.30 am on Monday, 28 February 2022, at County Hall, Chichester PO19 1RQ, the members present being:

Cllr Bradbury (Chairman)

Cllr Wickremaratchi (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr N Jupp
Cllr Albury	Cllr Kenyon
Cllr Ali	Cllr Kerry-Bedell
Cllr Atkins, RD	Cllr Lanzer
Cllr Baldwin	Cllr Lord
Cllr Baxter	Cllr Markwell
Cllr Bennett	Cllr Marshall
Cllr Boram	Cllr McGregor
Cllr Britton	Cllr Mercer
Cllr Burgess	Cllr Milne
Cllr Burrett	Cllr Mitchell
Cllr Charles	Cllr Montyn
Cllr Cherry	Cllr Oakley
Cllr Chowdhury	Cllr O'Kelly
Cllr A Cooper	Cllr Oppler
Cllr B Cooper	Cllr Oxlade
Cllr Cornell	Cllr Patel
Cllr Crow	Cllr Payne
Cllr J Dennis	Cllr Pendleton
Cllr Duncton	Cllr Pudaloff
Cllr Elkins	Cllr Quinn
Cllr Evans	Cllr Russell
Cllr Forbes	Cllr Sharp
Cllr Gibson	Cllr Smith
Cllr Greenway	Cllr Sparkes
Cllr Hillier	Cllr Turley
Cllr Hunt	Cllr Urquhart
Cllr Johnson	Cllr Waight
Cllr Joy	Cllr Wall
Cllr A Jupp	Cllr Walsh, KStJ, RD

59 Situation in Ukraine

- 59.1 The Chairman and the group leaders addressed the Council on the serious situation in Ukraine. The Council recorded its support for and sympathy with the Ukrainian people and supported the following actions:

That the Chairman writes to the Ambassador for Ukraine to express this Council's sympathy and support for the people of Ukraine at

this desperate time for them and to offer our hopes and prayers for their future return to peace and stability.

That the Chairman writes to the Prime Minister to express our support for the taking of a strong and united international stance in taking such measures as may be needed to persuade the Russian government to end its aggressive actions towards Ukraine and its people.

59.2 The Chairman informed members that the Council would soon be flying the Ukrainian flag at County Hall, Chichester.

60 Death of Mrs Margaret Ball

60.1 The Chairman reported the death of Mrs Margaret Ball, who had represented East Grinstead from 2005 to 2009.

60.2 Members held a minute's silence.

61 Social Worker of the Year Award

61.1 Vivian Okeze-Tirado attended the Council meeting to receive the congratulations of Council members on being recently named Overall Social Worker of the Year 2021 at a national awards ceremony.

62 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

62.1 The Chairman reported that Her Majesty the Queen had ascended to the throne 70 years ago, a momentous feat and an enormous commitment to public service. He said the Council looked forward to celebrating her Platinum Jubilee later in the year and that he would advise of County Council plans in due course.

63 Apologies for Absence

63.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Bence, Cllr Condie, Cllr N Dennis, Cllr Dunn, Cllr Hall, Cllr Linehan, Cllr McDonald, Cllr Nagel and Cllr Richardson.

63.2 Apologies for the morning session were received from Cllr Kenyon.

63.3 Cllr Smith gave her apologies and left at 2.30 p.m.

64 Members' Interests

64.1 Members declared interests as set out at Appendix 1.

65 Minutes

65.1 It was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the County Council held on 17 December 2021 (pages 3 to 24) be approved as a correct record.

66 Appointments

66.1 The Council approved appointments as set out below.

Committee	Change
Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee substitute	Cllr Burgess to fill Conservative vacancy

67 Pay Policy Statement 2022/23

67.1 The Council considered the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23, in the light of a report from the Governance Committee (pages 25 to 36).

67.2 Resolved –

That the proposed revisions to the Pay Policy Statement, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

68 Governance Committee: Minor Changes to the Constitution

68.1 The Council considered changes to the Rights of Way Delegation Code of Practice and a new Standing Order on reasonable adjustments, in the light of a report by the Governance Committee (pages 37 to 40).

68.2 Resolved –

- (1) That the proposed changes to the Delegation Code of Practice for Rights of Way (Public Path Orders), as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved; and
- (2) That Council be recommended to add a new Standing Order 1.07 to Part 4, Section 1 of the Constitution, as set out in paragraph 8 of the report.

69 Council Plan and Budget 2022/23

69.1 The Cabinet Member for Finance and Property moved the report on the Council Plan and budget for 2022/23, the Capital Strategy 2022-27 and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23 (budget pack pages 1 to 187).

69.2 An amendment was moved by Cllr Lord and seconded by Cllr O’Kelly as set out below.

Proposed changes to the Revenue Budget**Growth**

Ongoing changes to the revenue budget	2022/23 £m
Resource 2 additional officer posts (2 FTE) within the highways team - one to accelerate the active travel programme and one to develop proposals on improving bus services as highlighted in the Levelling Up White Paper	0.081
Increase the Occupational Therapist resource to deliver reablement at home to support independence (3 FTE)	0.135
Enhance support to carers through additional Carers Support Officers (2 FTE) to allow people who are acting as carers to continue caring for as long as possible and prevent carer breakdown	0.080
Increase the current climate change administration of 1 FTE by an additional officer resource to administer the climate emergency fund	0.040
Additional Mental Health Support Team for Schools	0.370
Specialist team focused on preventative and educational work on disordered eating working within schools and supporting families (6 early help workers plus team manager)	0.267
Additional resource to Highways for road safety maintenance	0.500
Total	1.473

Reduction options

Ongoing changes to the revenue budget	2022/23 £m
Increased discretionary fees and charges by 2.5% over RPI	0.500
Commission a review by the Independent Remuneration Panel to endorse the 25% reduction to the Special Responsibility Allowances for members (excluding Foster Panel)	0.086
Removal of Advisers to Cabinet Members	0.026
Communications (20% reduction to budget)	0.291
Policy Team (20% reduction to budget)	0.060
HR & Organisational Change (3% reduction to budget)	0.210
Executive PAs (16% reduction to budget)	0.100
Customer experience (5% reduction to budget)	0.080
Intelligence & Performance (9% reduction to budget)	0.120
Total	1.473

Proposed changes to the Capital Programme

Growth

Ongoing changes to the Capital Programme	2022/23 £m
Fund a Climate Emergency fund to encourage innovative community projects that will reduce carbon levels locally and improve our environment	1.000
Additional funding for Public Rights of Way capital improvements, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure	1.000
Total	2.000

Funding

Ongoing changes to the Capital Programme	2022/23 £m
Capital Improvement budget already included within Capital Programme. The 2022/23 budget is £0.475 and £1.525 will be re-profiled (brought forward) from 2023/24	1.525 0.475
Total	2.000

69.3 The amendment was put to a recorded vote under Standing Order 3.36.

(a) For the amendment – 20

Cllr Baxter, Cllr Cherry, Cllr Chowdhury, Cllr B Cooper, Cllr Cornell, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Joy, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mercer, Cllr Milne, Cllr O’Kelly, Cllr Oppler, Cllr Oxlade, Cllr Pudaloff, Cllr Quinn, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Turley and Cllr Walsh.

(b) Against the amendment – 40

Cllr Albury, Cllr Ali, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Baldwin, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Boram, Cllr Bradbury, Cllr Britton, Cllr Burgess, Cllr Burrett, Cllr Charles, Cllr A Cooper, Cllr Crow, Cllr J Dennis, Cllr Duncton, Cllr Elkins, Cllr Evans, Cllr Forbes, Cllr Greenway, Cllr Hillier, Cllr Hunt, Cllr A Jupp, Cllr N Jupp, Cllr Kenyon, Cllr Lanzer, Cllr Markwell, Cllr Marshall, Cllr McGregor, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Montyn, Cllr Oakley, Cllr Patel, Cllr Payne, Cllr Pendleton, Cllr Russell, Cllr Sparkes, Cllr Urquhart, Cllr Waight, Cllr Wall and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

(c) Abstentions – 0

69.4 The amendment was lost.

69.5 Labour amendment 1 was moved by Cllr Baxter and seconded by Cllr Oxlade as set out below.

Revenue Budget

Growth	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m
BAME Community Outreach Officer - Fund a 0.5 FTE officer post in the fostering service for specific communications support to engage hard-to-reach Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities	0.023	
Sustainable Transport Officer - Fund an additional officer post in the highways team to focus on and accelerate sustainable travel and transport to support decarbonisation of transport throughout the county	0.045	
Road Safety Officer - Fund an additional officer post in the highways team dedicated to improving road safety across the county	0.045	
Service Users and Carers Support Officer FTE - Fund an additional officer to provide dedicated support and improve communications with carers	0.045	
Total Growth	0.158	

Reduction	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m
Commission a review by the Independent Remuneration Panel to endorse the proposed change to remove the Special Responsibility Allowance for the 6 Adviser to Cabinet Member posts	0.023	
Commission a review by the Independent Remuneration Panel to endorse the proposed change to apply a 22% reduction to the remaining Special Responsibility Allowances for members	0.079	

Reduction	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m
Remove the budget for member catering	0.011	
Total Reduction	0.158	

69.6 The amendment 1 was put to a recorded vote under Standing Order 3.36.

(a) For the amendment – 20

Cllr Baxter, Cllr Cherry, Cllr Chowdhury, Cllr B Cooper, Cllr Cornell, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Joy, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mercer, Cllr Milne, Cllr O’Kelly, Cllr Oppler, Cllr Oxlade, Cllr Pudaloff, Cllr Quinn, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Turley and Cllr Walsh.

(b) Against the amendment – 40

Cllr Albury, Cllr Ali, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Baldwin, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Boram, Cllr Bradbury, Cllr Britton, Cllr Burgess, Cllr Burrett, Cllr Charles, Cllr A Cooper, Cllr Crow, Cllr J Dennis, Cllr Duncton, Cllr Elkins, Cllr Evans, Cllr Forbes, Cllr Greenway, Cllr Hillier, Cllr Hunt, Cllr A Jupp, Cllr N Jupp, Cllr Kenyon, Cllr Lanzer, Cllr Markwell, Cllr Marshall, Cllr McGregor, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Montyn, Cllr Oakley, Cllr Patel, Cllr Payne, Cllr Pendleton, Cllr Russell, Cllr Sparkes, Cllr Urquhart, Cllr Waight, Cllr Wall and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

(c) Abstentions – 0

69.7 The amendment was lost.

69.8 Labour amendment 2 was moved by Cllr Baxter and seconded by Cllr Oxlade as set out below.

Capital programme - Funded by re-profiling the SEND development programme in 2023/24

Growth	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m
Accelerate the programme of special support centres within mainstream schools in order to reduce the number of out-of-county placements, transport costs and pressure on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	0.600	-0.600
Re-profiled budget for the SEND development programme		
Total Impact SEND Development Programme	0.600	-0.600

DSG Reductions	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m
Accelerating the programme of special support centres within mainstream schools will deliver a reduction to the future years revenue budget which would reduce the deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant. The additional borrowing costs will be funded through savings on SEND transport costs.		0.360
Total Budget reductions	0.00	0.360

69.9 The amendment 2 was put to a recorded vote under Standing Order 3.36.

(a) For the amendment – 20

Cllr Baxter, Cllr Cherry, Cllr Chowdhury, Cllr B Cooper, Cllr Cornell, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Joy, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mercer, Cllr Milne, Cllr O’Kelly, Cllr Oppler, Cllr Oxlade, Cllr Pudaloff, Cllr Quinn, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Turley and Cllr Walsh.

(b) Against the amendment – 40

Cllr Albury, Cllr Ali, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Baldwin, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Boram, Cllr Bradbury, Cllr Britton, Cllr Burgess, Cllr Burrett, Cllr Charles, Cllr A Cooper, Cllr Crow, Cllr J Dennis, Cllr Duncton, Cllr Elkins, Cllr Evans, Cllr Forbes, Cllr Greenway, Cllr Hillier, Cllr Hunt, Cllr A Jupp, Cllr N Jupp, Cllr Kenyon, Cllr Lanzer, Cllr Markwell, Cllr Marshall, Cllr McGregor, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Montyn, Cllr Oakley, Cllr Patel, Cllr Payne, Cllr Pendleton, Cllr Russell, Cllr Sparkes, Cllr Urquhart, Cllr Waight, Cllr Wall and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

(c) Abstentions – 0

69.10 The amendment was lost.

69.11 The recommendations were put to a recorded vote under Standing Order 3.36.

(a) For the recommendations – 40

Cllr Albury, Cllr Ali, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Baldwin, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Boram, Cllr Bradbury, Cllr Britton, Cllr Burgess, Cllr Burrett, Cllr Charles, Cllr A Cooper, Cllr Crow, Cllr J Dennis, Cllr Duncton, Cllr Elkins, Cllr Evans, Cllr Forbes, Cllr Greenway, Cllr Hillier, Cllr Hunt, Cllr A Jupp, Cllr N Jupp, Cllr Kenyon, Cllr Lanzer, Cllr Markwell, Cllr Marshall, Cllr McGregor, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Montyn,

Cllr Oakley, Cllr Patel, Cllr Payne, Cllr Pendleton, Cllr Russell, Cllr Sparkes, Cllr Urquhart, Cllr Waight, Cllr Wall and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

(b) Against the recommendations – 19

Cllr Baxter, Cllr Cherry, Cllr Chowdhury, Cllr B Cooper, Cllr Cornell, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Joy, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mercer, Cllr Milne, Cllr O’Kelly, Cllr Oppler, Cllr Oxlade, Cllr Pudaloff, Cllr Quinn, Cllr Sharp, Cllr Turley and Cllr Walsh.

(c) Abstentions – 1

Cllr Gibson

69.12 The recommendations were carried.

69.13 Resolved –

- (1) Our Council Plan and KPIs for 2022/23 (as set out in paragraph 1.7 and Appendix 8 to the report).
- (2) Net revenue expenditure in 2022/23 of £648.342m (as set out in paragraph 4.1 and Appendix 1 to the report).
- (3) An increase in council tax in 2022/23 of 2.99% comprising 1.0% for Adults’ Social Care and 1.99% to support other General Fund services.
- (4) The following amounts be approved for the financial year 2022/23 in accordance with Section 42A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
 - (a) That the council tax requirement for 2022/23 is £532.646m.
 - (b) The council tax base for the year 2022/23 is the aggregate amount calculated of Band D equivalents by the billing authorities to which the County Council issues precepts totalling 342,375.00.
 - (c) The amount of council tax being the council tax requirement at 4(a) above divided by the council tax base at 4(b) above, shall be £1,555.74 to the nearest penny for Band D.
 - (d) The amount of council tax payable for dwellings listed in a particular valuation band, calculated in accordance with the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, shall be as follows:

Band	Amount	Band	Amount
A	£1,037.16	E	£1,901.46
B	£1,210.02	F	£2,247.18
C	£1,382.88	G	£2,592.90
D	£1,555.74	H	£3,111.48

- (e) That the district and borough councils be requested to make payments totalling £532.646m to West Sussex County Council of sums due under precepts calculated in proportion to their council tax Band D equivalents as set out in section 7 of the report.
- (5) The delegation to the Director of Finance and Support Services of authority to make changes to the report on net revenue expenditure or to the precepts required:
- as a result of a change in the council tax base notified by the district and borough councils;
 - arising from updated information from the district and borough councils to the council tax collection funds and business rates forecast and collection funds; or
 - arising from any funding announcements from central government.
- All such changes of funding (positive or negative) to be applied through the appropriate reserve.
- (6) These ancillary financial management provisions:
- (a) The Capital Strategy for the period 2022/23 to 2026/27, as set out in Annex 2(a) to the report.
- (b) The Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy as set out within the Capital Strategy, Annex 2(a) to the report, section 8.
- (c) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23, as set out in Annex 2(b) to the report.
- (d) The Prudential Indicators, as set out in Annex 2(c) to the report.
- (7) The importance of effective lobbying with local, regional and national partners to ensure the Government understands the needs of West Sussex residents, businesses and communities.
- (8) An allocation of up to £3.0m be made available to provide funding to support the continuation of the council tax hardship schemes across the West Sussex districts and boroughs for 2022/23.

70 Question Time

70.1 Due to lack of time Question Time fell away.

Chairman

The Council rose at 4.38 pm

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Interests

Members declared interests as set out below. All the interests listed below were personal but not pecuniary or prejudicial unless indicated.

Item	Member	Nature of Interest
7 – Governance Committee: Minor Amendments to the Constitution	Cllr Sharp	Member of Chichester District Cycle Forum
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Burgess	Member of Crawley Borough Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Burrett	Member of Crawley Borough Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Elkins	Member of Arun District Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Gibson	Member of Mid Sussex District Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Lanzer	Member of Crawley Borough Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Oakley	Member of Chichester District Council and Tangmere Parish Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Oppler	Member of Arun District Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Smith	Member of Worthing Borough Council. Parent of a child with an Education and Healthcare Plan and in receipt of school transport and support from the education psychology service.
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Sparkes	Member of Worthing Borough Council
8 – Council Plan and Budget	Cllr Waight	Member of Worthing Borough Council
9 – Question Time and Written Question 3	Cllr Atkins	Member of Worthing BC and Governor of Durrington Infant and Junior Federated Schools

Item	Member	Nature of Interest
9 – Question Time	Cllr Burrett	Member of Crawley Borough Council and Chair of Crawley Borough Council Planning Committee
9 – Question Time	Cllr Elkins	Member of Arun District Council
9 – Question Time and Written Question 4	Cllr Gibson	Member of Institute of Physics
9 – Question Time	Cllr Hillier	Cabinet Member at Mid Sussex District Council
9 – Question Time	Cllr Oakley	Member of Chichester District Council and Tangmere Parish Council
9 – Question Time	Cllr Oppler	Member of Arun District Council and foster carer via an agency
9 – Question Time	Cllr Sharp	Member of Chichester District Council

Review of Proportionality

- 1** It is the duty of the County Council to review annually the entitlement of political groups to seats on committees in line with the proportionality rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The review also needs to take account of the recent formation of the Green and Independent Alliance Group. The rules allow adjustments to be made to make whole numbers of seats and, once the County Council has determined how adjustments should be made, appointments are made to committees on that basis.
- 2** The proportionality rules are as set out below:
 - (1) No political group can have all the places on a committee (the exception is the Cabinet).
 - (2) A group having an overall majority on the County Council is entitled to a majority of seats on each committee.
 - (3) The gross number of seats is allocated in accordance with each group's entitlement.
 - (4) The number of seats on each committee is allocated in accordance with each group's entitlement.
- 3** The application of these rules produces different figures so the figures have to be reconciled by applying the rules in descending order of importance. The critical rule is rule (2) if, as in the case of the County Council, there is an overall majority, and numbers of seats are then reconciled with rules (3) and (4). Under the rules, if there are members of the Council who do not belong to a political group (independent members) then, once the division of seats between the political groups has been made, any remaining seats are allocated to the independent members by the County Council.
- 4** A table showing the number of seats on committees using the above formula following the creation of the Green and Independent Alliance Group is set out overleaf.

Allocation of seats

Committees	Places	Con	Lib Dem	Lab	Green and Ind All
Performance and Finance	15	10	2	2	1
Children and Young People's Services	12(16†)	8	2	2	0
Communities, Highways and Environment	12	8	2	2	0
Fire & Rescue Service	7	5	1	1	0
Health and Adult Social Care	12(19†)	8	2	2	0
Planning and Rights of Way	13	9	1	1	2
Regulation, Audit and Accounts	7	5	1	1	0
Governance	9	6	2	1	0
Standards	9	6	2	0	1
Allocation of seats	96	65	15	12	4

† Include four/seven voting co-opted members respectively

Tony Kershaw

Director of Law and Assurance

Contact Officer: Charles Gauntlett 033 022 22524

Background papers

None

Notification of Appointment of Cabinet Members and Advisers to Cabinet Members

- 1 The Leader has confirmed the appointment of Cabinet Members and their portfolios, together with the appointment of Advisers to Cabinet Members, as set out below, for the ensuing year.

Portfolio	Cabinet Member	Adviser to Cabinet Member
Leader	Paul Marshall	Jacky Pendleton (Armed Forces Champion)
Adults Services	Amanda Jupp	-
Children and Young People (Lead Member for Children)	Jacquie Russell	-
Learning and Skills	Nigel Jupp	-
Community Support, Fire and Rescue	Duncan Crow	Gary Markwell (Community Support)
Environment and Climate Change (Deputy Leader)	Deborah Urquhart	Sarah Payne (Natural Capital in West Sussex)
Finance and Property	Jeremy Hunt	-
Highways and Transport	Joy Dennis	Sean McDonald (Active Travel) Tom Richardson (Road Safety)
Public Health and Wellbeing	Bob Lanzer	-
Support Services and Economic Development	Steve Waight	Katie Nagel (Gatwick Airport)

Notification of Cabinet Portfolios – April 2022

Collective Responsibilities

The collective responsibilities of the Cabinet are as follows:

- Co-ordinating priorities and policies across the County Council
- Assurance and performance management of the delivery of the Council Plan and budget (revenue and capital), including assurance that corporate risks are effectively managed
- Development and review of the Council Plan and the budget, policies and programmes to achieve it
- Ensuring value for money and co-ordinated external bidding
- Climate Change Strategy
- The West Sussex Economy Plan
- Co-ordinating communications and lobbying

- Customer service and providing a focus for community leadership
- Ensuring co-ordinated and effective partnership working
- Representing and promoting the reputation of the County Council
- Ensuring sound democratic systems, effective scrutiny and local member engagement
- Fire and Rescue Authority functions except where delegated to the relevant Cabinet Member or Chief Fire Officer.

The Cabinet shall meet to debate matters of corporate importance, significant cross-portfolio matters and other matters of significance for the County Council's responsibilities for the people of West Sussex as it may determine and shall take decisions on areas of collective responsibility or in relation to decisions within individual portfolios as indicated in the Forward Plan of key decisions.

All decisions about finance, property and support services are taken in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member or as part of collective decision making.

A number of the specific responsibilities for particular cabinet members, as set out below, will be discharged in consultation with the Leader or another cabinet member as specified.

Leader of the Council

The following functions are allocated to the Leader of the Council:

- to chair meetings of the Cabinet and oversee the preparation of business for its consideration.
- to indicate to the Chief Executive and executive directors the priorities and programmes of the Cabinet and majority party, and their likely reaction to new policies or projects.
- to be the principal political spokesman for the County Council at internal and external meetings.
- to decide matters on behalf of another cabinet member if he or she is unwell, out of the county, has an interest in a matter under consideration, or is otherwise unable to act, or in the Leader's absence, to nominate the Deputy Leader or another cabinet member to do so.
- to have responsibility for the following portfolio areas:
 - Strategic Political Direction
 - Policy and Strategy
 - Communications and lobbying activity
 - Partnerships including locally, SE7 and CCN
 - Economy (supported by Cabinet Members on some specifics)

Deputy Leader of the Council

To undertake the functions of the Leader of the Council in the absence of the Leader where the business cannot await the return of the Leader due to urgency or to the compelling interests of the Council or when specifically requested by the Leader to do so, within the scope and limitation set out below.

Acts as the Leader in key partnership roles in relation to the Economy Portfolio

Scope:

- To chair meetings of the Cabinet.
- To act for the Leader at meetings of the Council or any of its committees, sub-committees or other member meetings which the Leader is expected or required to attend.
- To act for the Leader at any external meetings or meetings with partners or other scheduled events to which the Leader is requested or invited to attend.
- To make, when urgently required, appointments to the Council's Executive or decisions related to such appointments and the allocation of cabinet portfolios.
- To take executive decisions relating to the Leader's portfolio or on matters reserved to the Leader or which would otherwise fall to the Leader.

Limitation:

- Not to take any decision on the Council's business, or to attend any meeting on behalf of the Leader, and not to receive information on any matter, which has been identified by the Leader as the responsibility of another member or members of the Executive.

Adults Services

- Adults' Social Care services
- Safeguarding
- Health integration
- NHS Partnerships (working with Cabinet colleagues)
- Voluntary and Community Sector
- Domestic Abuse

Children and Young People (and statutory Lead Member for Children)

- Children's Social Care and Safeguarding
- Youth Services
- Youth Justice
- Early Help Services
- Children's Health – Public Health
- Education, Schools and Adult Skills (discharged through the Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills)

Learning and Skills

- Adult Skills and Learning, Further and Higher Education, apprentices
- Post 16 Skills partnership
- Schools including schools place planning, Schools Forum and schools Capital Programme
- Special Educational Needs

Community Support, Fire and Rescue**Support to Communities:**

- Libraries and Archives
- Registration Services

- Coroner and Mortuary
- Community Safety and Police Liaison
- Trading Standards
- Refugees, Gypsy, Roma and Travellers
- Community Engagement and Support
- Linked with Parish and Town Councils
- Voluntary Sectors

Fire and Rescue:

- Fire & Rescue Service
- Emergencies and Resilience

Environment and Climate Change (Deputy Leader)

- Climate Change/Carbon Net Zero
- Waste and Recycling Strategy
- Energy
- South Downs National Park and AONBs
- Coast and Countryside and Rural Economy
- Minerals and Strategic Planning
- Flood prevention
- Rights of Way

Finance and Property

- Finance including Revenue and Capital Programme
- Pensions
- Treasury and Investment Management
- Property, Assets and Facilities Services
- Procurement

All decisions involving finance and property to be taken in consultation with this Cabinet Member

Highways and Transport

- Highways
- Transport Planning
- Strategic Transport (including engagement with Transport for the South East)
- Transport and Infrastructure including support for Public Realm and Town Centre Regeneration
- Railway and Public Transport Liaison
- All aspects of Cycling

Public Health and Wellbeing

- Public Health (in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Adult Services and Children and Young People for relevant business)
- Wellbeing in the community
- Health partnerships

Support Services and Economic Development

- Business Planning and effective business infrastructure and corporate resources
- Human Resources
- Legal Services
- Democratic and Member Services
- IT and Information
- Digital/Broadband
- Communications Services
- Economy and representations (working with Leader)

Tony Kershaw

Director of Law and Assurance

Contact: Clare Jones 033 022 22526

Background Papers

None

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West Sussex Transport Plan

Summary

The West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) has been reviewed because the strategic context for the Plan has evolved and progress has been made on the delivery of priorities since the current Plan was adopted in 2011. The review is identified as an area of focus in Our Council Plan.

The WSTP 2022-36 (the 'Plan') sets out a new vision for the transport network in West Sussex in 2036. This is supported by a set of objectives, strategies and priorities that will influence strategic partners and guide future investment and service planning decisions. The Plan contains thematic strategies for active travel, shared transport, railways, roads and access to Gatwick Airport, and short, medium and long-term priorities for most themes. It also contains area transport strategies and priorities for each of the eight local plan areas in West Sussex.

The Draft Plan was published for consultation between 16 July and 8 October 2021. Following the consultation, the feedback has been analysed and appropriate changes made to the Plan. The changes, which are summarised in paragraphs 13 to 15, include: clarifying the approach to decarbonisation; committing to set a carbon reduction target in 2022; and aligning the objectives of the Plan to the new duties identified in the Environment Act 2021.

Background and context

- 1** The Government expects Local Transport Plans to become the focus of transport funding discussions between central and local government. Local Transport Plans are expected to set out holistic place-based strategies for improving transport networks, proposed projects for investment, and explain how key objectives will be achieved. The WSTP will support the delivery of the priorities in Our Council Plan 2021-25.
- 2** The County Council has a statutory duty to prepare a Local Transport Plan. In West Sussex, the Local Transport Plan is known as the 'West Sussex Transport Plan' (WSTP – the 'Plan').
- 3** The West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) 2011-26 (the current Plan) is being reviewed because the strategic context for the Plan has evolved and progress has been made on the delivery of priorities since it was adopted. There is now a need for a revised strategic approach to investment and intervention in the transport network that enables the County Council to respond to new policies and funding streams. Notably, this includes the Government's recently-published Transport Decarbonisation Plan, which will guide decisions in the coming years to reduce emissions from the transport sector.

Proposal details

- 4** Looking over the next 15 years, a number of key issues were identified that the new Plan needed to address:
 - Spatially-variable economic performance, which can be influenced by transport network performance;

- The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major negative impact on economic performance and on some business sectors;
 - Plans for development of over 70,000 new homes, commercial development and associated infrastructure at sites around the county;
 - The population of West Sussex is expected to grow by 6% and the number of people aged 70 and over is projected to rise by 20% by 2031;
 - The COVID-19 pandemic has reduced confidence in using public transport;
 - Some parts of West Sussex are very well-connected but others, particularly rural areas where there are fewer public transport options, are less so;
 - Travel choices can contribute to lower physical activity levels, which can lead to health conditions such as obesity and poor mental health;
 - The impacts of transport-related air, noise and light pollution on public health;
 - The long-term trend of reducing road traffic accidents has not continued;
 - The Government has committed to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and the transport sector is now the largest contributor;
 - West Sussex is a desirable place with attractive, protected areas so careful planning is needed to protect and where possible enhance the environment;
 - West Sussex has diverse range of habitats and biodiversity has been declining nationally; and
 - The county has a history of flooding which is likely to increase due to the effects of climate change.
- 5** In response to these pressures, challenges and opportunities, the WSTP 2022-36 (**see Appendix A enclosed with the agenda**) sets out a new vision for the transport network in West Sussex in 2036. This is supported by a set of objectives, strategies and priorities that will influence strategic partners and guide future investment and service planning decisions.
- 6** The Vision is for a transport network that helps to level up the coastal economy and allow residents to live healthy lifestyles in a high-quality environment. Also, we will be on a pathway to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 through increased use of electric vehicles, reduced use of fossil fuels, and local living. Active travel modes and public or shared transport will be attractive options in built up areas and between towns, and rural communities will have access to the services they need. Transport impacts, such as air pollution, noise and rat-running, will be minimised to protect a quality of life that reflects the characteristics of the county.
- 7** To deliver the Vision, the key objectives of the Plan are as follows:
- Support sustainable economic prosperity across the county by levelling-up underperforming areas and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - Support development and regeneration plans by enabling local living and infrastructure investments at the right time and place;
 - Accommodate the needs of an ageing population;

-
- Avoid and minimise air, noise and light pollution arising from the transport network;
 - Ensure the transport network allows residents and visitors to live healthy lifestyles with good access to green and blue spaces;
 - Ensure rural communities can live locally by accessing services or nearby towns;
 - Enable the transport network to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050;
 - Avoid and minimise the impacts of the transport network on the natural environment;
 - Improve the transport network whilst enhancing biodiversity;
 - To monitor and adapt infrastructure to the effects of climate change;
 - Reduce the need to travel by car by enabling local living;
 - Improve the efficiency of the County Strategic Road Network and give priority to active travel and shared transport on non-strategic roads whilst improving road safety and resilience;
 - Minimise the impacts on the transport network of surface access to Gatwick Airport by passengers and employees;
 - Ensure the rail network is an attractive option for travel between West Sussex towns and to surrounding cities;
 - Improve bus network efficiency and integration by reducing the effects of congestion into and within West Sussex towns;
 - Ensure the bus network is integrated and customer focussed to provide an attractive option for journeys to nearby towns; and
 - Extend and improve the network of active travel facilities.
- 8** The Plan contains thematic strategies for active travel, shared transport, railways, roads and access to Gatwick Airport, and short, medium and long-term priorities for all themes (except access to Gatwick Airport). It also contains area transport strategies and priorities for each of the eight local plan areas in West Sussex.
- 9** The Plan includes an Action Plan for the 2022-27 period, which will be reviewed annually. A fundamental review of the strategies and priorities will be conducted at five-yearly intervals.

Other options considered (and reasons for not proposing)

- 10** The other option considered was to continue operating using the current Plan. However, progress has been made on the delivering the current Plan and it does not set out how the County Council will work towards the Government's legally-binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2050 or recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, as identified in paragraph 3, the Government expects Local Transport Plans to become the focus of transport funding discussions and the County Council is unlikely to secure funding for an out-of-date plan that does not deliver the Government's agenda for transport.

Consultation, engagement and advice

- 11** The Draft Plan was published for consultation for 12 weeks between 16 July 2021 and 8 October 2021. All published material was published on the corporate consultation portal and hard copies were made available in public libraries. The consultation feedback **is summarised in Appendix B**; the majority of respondents were in full or partial support of the key issues, vision and objectives and thematic and area transport strategies. Many comments were also submitted requesting greater ambition on decarbonisation, active travel and shared transport, with less focus on roads. There were also concerns about the impacts of new development and mixed views on support for electric vehicles.
- 12** A shorter targeted consultation survey in a small number of schools indicated that the most important objectives to the young people responding were: reducing pollution from the transport system (1st), protecting transport infrastructure from the impacts of climate change (2nd), improving active travel infrastructure (3rd), and improving main road routes (4th).
- 13** The changes that have been made to the Plan following the consultation include amendments to the objectives to: clarify the approach to decarbonisation; include avoidance of environmental impacts as a priority before minimising and mitigating; incorporate integration between modes where appropriate; include provision of local services alongside providing access to towns; include a commitment to deliver biodiversity net gain. The changes also include a commitment to set a carbon emission reduction target in 2022 and amendments to the objectives so that they are consistent with the new duties identified in the Environment Act 2021.
- 14** Various amendments have been made to the thematic strategies to: provide flexibility to identify active travel priorities with local planning authorities and state the importance of good design; incorporate the strategic interventions and approaches identified in the Bus Service Improvement Plan. The road network strategy has been amended to: plan to reduce the impacts of car use; align with the Road Safety Framework; include strategic approaches to various initiatives in line with the vision and objectives. Various minor amendments have been made to the area transport strategies to ensure they are consistent, particularly on issues that cross boundaries, and reflect the latest local plans.
- 15** An Executive Task and Finish Group (TFG) was established by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to oversee development of the Plan. The TFG has considered the consultation feedback and changes that have been incorporated into the Plan. The TFG also made a number of suggestions on how to improve the objectives and ensure the Plan meets the needs of all users, including people with disabilities; the suggestions have also been considered and, in many cases, resulted in amendments to the Plan.
- 16** The Plan was considered by the Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 24 February 2022. The Committee requested that the following concerns and comments are taken into account:
 - Raises concerns around the cycling network, which has sections of cycling route which do not connect, and as such does not constitute a coherent network.

- Acknowledges the vision of the Plan, and the importance of applying for grants and working with stakeholders to ensuring successful delivery of the Plan.
- Suggests that that the impact of bus guideways on other road users should be taken into account.
- Questions whether the Plan takes sufficient account of settlements which will become towns or villages once planned development has taken place, and resilience in the face of climate change and flooding.
- Suggests that road-based vehicular transport is likely to remain the primary mode of transport throughout the term of the Plan, and questions whether the Plan will achieve the right balance between the different modes of transport.

17 In response, the following changes have been made to the Plan:

- Inclusion of 'network function' as one the criteria to take into account in selecting and prioritising cycle routes.
- Amendments to the Executive Summary to state that road network improvements are expected to improve road safety and resilience to climate change.
- To refer to the issue of settlements increasing in size due to planned development.
- To clarify that the balance of investment will be dependent on third party decisions about where and which modes of transport to invest in.
- Amendments to the monitoring framework to ensure that it aligns with corporate performance indicators, for example the target to deliver 7.5km of new cycle track per annum.

Finance

18 There are no financial consequences associated with publishing the Plan.

19 The Plan will influence future investment decisions. However, the financial implications of these decisions will be addressed in future budget decisions and/or further key decisions.

20 The effect of the proposal:

(a) **How the proposal represents good value**

Updating the County Council's strategic approach to the transport network will ensure investment decisions deliver an up-to-date vision and objectives, potentially avoiding investment in initiatives that are not good value for money.

(b) **Future savings/efficiencies being delivered**

Updating the County Council's strategic approach to the transport network will enable the service to consider whether any current or planned activities are no longer required, which could potentially achieve savings/efficiencies.

(c) Human Resources, IT and Assets Impact

Approving the Plan has no impact on human resources, IT or assets. Any impacts associated with the strategies and priorities identified in the Final Plan will be addressed in future budget decisions and/or further key decisions.

Risk implications and mitigations

Risk	Mitigating Action (in place or planned)
<p>The Department for Transport has indicated its intention to publish updated guidance on preparing Local Transport Plans in the near future. As this has not informed the preparation of the WSTP, there is a risk that the WSTP will not conform to latest guidance once this is published.</p>	<p>The WSTP has been prepared in line with current guidance (published in 2009). Liaison is taking place with the Department for Transport to mitigate this risk. As the WSTP has been informed by a policy review, evidence, analysis and a Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Habitats Regulations Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment, the impact of this risk is considered to be low.</p>

Policy alignment and compliance

- 21** Reviewing the WSTP is identified as an area of focus in the Our Council Plan 2021-25 to deliver a sustainable and prosperous economy. The WSTP will also support the delivery of other priorities in Our Council Plan.
- 22** The Plan has been influenced by, and complies with, all relevant transport, economic, social and environmental policies at the national, regional and local level. This includes delivery of aspects of the Economy Reset Plan and Climate Change Strategy through strategic approaches to improving the transport network that reflect the key issues, challenges and opportunities identified in these separate plans.
- 23** The Plan also aligns with the key principles identified by Transport for the South East in their Transport Strategy.
- 24** A Sustainability Appraisal incorporating the requirements of a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Health Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment has been conducted as part of the process of developing the Plan. The recommendations have been incorporated into the Plan to ensure the Plan meets the identified sustainability objectives and relevant statutory duties.
- 25** There are no Crime and Disorder, Public Health or Social Value implications.

Recommended

That the West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-36 be adopted.

Joy Dennis
 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

Contact Officer: Darryl Hemmings, Transport Planning and Policy Manager, 033 022 26437

Appendices

- Appendix A – West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-36 Final Draft for Adoption
- Appendix B – Draft West Sussex Transport Plan Consultation Summary

Background papers

None

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Draft West Sussex Transport Plan Consultation Summary

This report details the feedback received as a result of consultation undertaken on the Draft West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) 2022-2036, which was published for consultation for 12-weeks from 16 July to 8 October 2021.

There were 633 separate responses received to the main consultation, 558 of which completed the online consultation survey while there were 75 additional email only responses. In addition, over 1500 responses were also received from school pupils in response to a shorter targeted consultation survey.

In responding to the draft key issues, vision and objectives, around or just over a third of main survey respondents expressed 'full support', while around half of respondents expressed 'partial support', and around a tenth of respondents expressed 'no support at all'. Across these three elements, the vision received the highest level of 'full support' (38%), but also the highest proportion of respondents that were 'not at all' supportive (12%).

In responding to the thematic strategies and priorities, the Rail Strategy received the highest levels of 'full support' (41%), followed by the Active Travel Strategy (38%) and the Shared Transport Strategy (35%). The Access to Gatwick Airport Strategy (28%) and Road Network Strategy (21%) received the lowest levels of 'full support'.

Across the eight area transport strategies, the level of 'full support' was relatively similar at between 19% and 24% of respondents. The Arun (23%) and Chichester (23%) area transport strategies received the highest levels of responses stating that they were 'not at all' supportive, compared to a range of 12%-17% across the other area transport strategies.

A large volume of comments were received on a wide range of issues. The recurring issues raised has been summarised as:

- Many comments highlighting concerns that the Draft Plan did not appear to place enough ambition or commitment to active travel interventions, in particular to generate more cycling but also that the Plan overlooks walking and future mobility solutions such as e-bikes and e-scooters.
- Many comments stating that the Plan should reference and implement active travel infrastructure in line with the Department for Transport's cycling and walking vision "Gear Change" and the accompanying cycle design guidance; Local Traffic Note 1/20.
- Many comments supportive of improvements in public transport including the reliability, frequency and coverage of services (both geographically and at off-peak times), better public transport hubs, timetable and ticketing integration between bus and rail services, bus priority measures, and reduced cost fares, with a number of comments of the view that the public transport plans should be more ambitious.
- Many comments of the view that the Draft Plan is too focused on road-based interventions, and funding should be redirected to support sustainable transport interventions.
- A number of comments questioning the practicalities of widespread active transport and public transport use, due to the cost of provision in a large rural county, the impacts of road space reallocation on traffic congestion with mixed

views on economic impacts on high streets, and also the convenience and practicalities for users including journey times and luggage.

- A number of comments supportive of road capacity improvements and wanting these to go further, in particular expressing frustration at the lack of progress in bringing forward A27 improvements and the impacts of congestion on the West Sussex economy. However, these comments were outweighed by those opposed to building further road capacity.
- Many comments concerned about the Draft Plan objective to improve the efficiency of the County Strategic Road Network because of impacts in inducing additional road traffic and concerns about impacts on the local environment and net zero climate change targets. Many comments were also received opposing A27 improvements, including at Arundel.
- A number of contrasting comments of the view that they thought the Draft Plan was demonising car use, highlighting that the car was the only realistic option for many, particularly those in rural areas.
- Many comments concerned about the impacts of traffic volumes and 'rat running' in particular on communities along rural roads in West Sussex, including from lorries, and also many comments concerned about traffic speeds and road safety issues on communities and vulnerable road users.
- Many comments that the Plan should focus on road maintenance issues, and that this was important for drivers and also other road users including cyclists.
- Many comments supportive of greater investment in Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, but other contrasting comments concerned about an over-reliance on EVs and whether this will reduce carbon emissions enough to meet net zero targets.
- Many comments concerned about the scale of new development that is planned due to impacts on the transport network, with many comments wanting to see much greater emphasis on sustainable transport infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of this development.
- Many comments supportive of the key issues and vision, but there was scepticism about the likelihood of measures being brought forward successfully to address these issues. Other comments were of the view that the vision did not go far enough and thought the objectives and action plan lacked specific actions on steps to bring interventions forward, including measurable milestones and targets to measure success.
- Many comments concerned that the wording of draft Objective 7 may mean that the transport system does not achieve net zero carbon by 2050.
- Many comments concerned that transport decarbonisation was not being taken seriously enough in the Draft Plan, including requests for more information on the balance between objectives in the Draft Plan and how these would help to achieve net zero carbon.
- Various other comments concerned about air and noise pollution and other transport impacts on the local environment and seeking prioritisation of objectives.
- A number of comments supportive of the concept of local living, but others concerned about what exactly this means and the practicalities, including for rural areas.

- A number of comments about transport accessibility challenges and the design and provision of infrastructure and services for different people including, people with disabilities, young people travelling to school or college, older people, the unemployed and people or families on low incomes.

A shorter targeted consultation survey was also conducted in a small number of schools and focused on the draft vision and objectives. The most important objectives were; reducing pollution from the transport system (1st), protecting transport infrastructure from the impacts of climate change (2nd), improving active travel infrastructure (3rd), and improving main road routes (4th).

The least important objectives were; managing impacts of transport to Gatwick (17th), accommodating the needs of an aging population (16th), and reducing the need to travel by car (15th).

The key themes in the written comments were:

- Young people thought bus services needed the most investment, followed by train services.
- Bus and cycling were most frequently highlighted as the best alternatives to car use.
- There were frequently mentioned comments about the need to build/upgrade cycling and walking routes.
- Pollution from transport was most frequently highlighted as the most important transport issue, followed by the quality of bus and train services, with specific concerns about fare prices, reliability and cleanliness.
- Other comments were concerned about congestion and road safety, supportive of electric vehicles, and specifically concerned about climate change.

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Cabinet Report: Delivering Our Council Plan 2021-25

This report sets out the key strategic decisions, policy and programme initiatives, consultations, government announcements and key events within each Cabinet portfolio area to deliver our strategic priorities.

Leader – Paul Marshall

- As part of the [Crawley Growth Programme](#), more than £3m partnership funding from the County Council's agreed Capital Programme is being directly invested in a **highways improvement scheme for the Manor Royal Business District**. A construction contract for Phase 2 of this scheme [has recently been awarded](#) to Landbuild Limited. The Phase 2 works, which are expected to start in the next few months, include:
 - Construction of an eastbound bus and cycle lane along Manor Royal
 - Improvement to crossing facilities along County Oak Way
 - Improvement of crossing facilities and regulation of traffic speed along Metcalf Way

Further information is available on the Manor Royal webpage www.manorroyal.org/cgp.

- The County Council's [Recover and Rise programme](#), delivered in partnership with district and borough councils, continues to support businesses on the adoption of digital technologies. A series of webinars were delivered between September and January which enabled over 300 small businesses to learn how to transform their business through digital adoption and to access intensive [Digital Champion support](#) via the Coast to Capital Growth Hub. The delivered webinars are now available on the County Council's [YouTube channel](#).

Adults Services - Amanda Jupp

- Since the beginning of the pandemic the restrictions and pressures placed on people's daily lives have led to a rise in domestic abuse. The [West Sussex County Council's WORTH Domestic Abuse Service](#) has responded by providing qualified Independent Domestic Violence Advisors to deliver emotional and practical support to victims and survivors of domestic abuse. The service has supported over 1,500 high-risk victims with advocacy, safety planning, support through the criminal justice system and help and advice with housing. Anyone affected by domestic abuse can also call the freephone, 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247.
- [West Sussex County Council's Connect to Support](#), working in partnership with [Carers Support West Sussex](#), are offering family and friend carers from ethnic minority communities the opportunity to receive up to six free and confidential counselling sessions over the phone. Their diverse team of counsellors are culturally sensitive and will understand and respect people's ethnicities. A full list of languages covered, and further information about how to refer people to the service, is available on the [website](#) or on 0300 028 8888.
- In line with [Our Council Plan](#) (PDF, 60.9MB) the **Adult Social Care Budget 2022/23**, agreed at full Council on 28 February, will invest to protect market sustainability of care and support, to make sure people can get help when they

need it. This includes £7.5m to support changes in population and the increasing complexity of care required. There is also a total of £16.7m to reflect the increase in costs, for both the County Council and its providers, due to increases in the National Living Wage, the new National Insurance rate and general costs of inflation.

- [The West Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board \(WSSAB\)](#) aims to ensure wherever possible that arrangements are in place to prevent abuse and neglect from happening. The Board has recently launched a [safeguarding resource pack](#) (PDF, 888KB) to support learning and understanding of safeguarding. This is for use by community groups and organisations to support formal safeguarding training but is also a useful resource for anyone who would like more information about adult safeguarding.

Children and Young People (Lead Member for Children) – Jacquie Russell

- The County Council is working with health and local authority partners in an ongoing campaign to ensure young people, parents and professionals across West Sussex know where to get help with their emotional wellbeing and mental health. The [Your Mind Matters website](#) contains advice, information and resources to support children and their families, encouraging them to recognise that looking after their mental health is just as important as focusing on physical health.

Learning and Skills – Nigel Jupp

- Over 97% of pupils will be attending one of their three top preference secondary schools this September following [secondary school offer day](#), on 1 March, with all 9,280 pupils who applied being offered a place at a West Sussex school. Leaving primary and starting secondary school can be both an exciting and nerve-wracking time for pupils and their parents or carers, so obtaining a place at a chosen school can help ease this transition.
- The County Council is [seeking views](#) on a **new Education and Skills Strategy**, asking those responding to the engagement survey to identify the top priorities for educational and learning provision over the next three years. The Strategy aims to provide leadership and foster a common vision in West Sussex, ensuring education provision meets children's needs, promotes outcomes and offers greater consistency and inclusivity.

Community Support, Fire and Rescue – Duncan Crow

- In recognition of fraudsters using cold calling phone-scam tactics to deceive vulnerable households out of thousands of pounds, [West Sussex Trading Standards, is offering to install call blocking devices](#) free of charge to help stop such nuisance calls. The call blocking devices are being paid for using money confiscated from rogue traders by the Courts under Proceeds of Crime Act. Residents or their relatives, carers or friends can apply for those who qualify for the devices, which are proven to block up to 98% of nuisance calls.
- The Cabinet Member has supported the [Wellbeing Month at West Sussex Libraries](#) during March, which explored all the ways that books, reading and local libraries can help people stay healthy and well. Libraries issued special [Reading Well](#) booklists on mental health for adults, young people and children,

long-term conditions and dementia. The County Council's Meals on Wheels provider, *Apetito*, visited several libraries to share information on the importance of good nutrition. Regular [local social events](#) are held in libraries and services are still available for [residents who are unable to visit their local library in person](#).

- The Cabinet Member has praised [West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service \(WSFRS\)](#) for helping to [keep residents safe from Storm Eunice](#) on 18 February. The Service responded to 999 calls from across the county throughout the day and into the weekend, following the rare Met Office red alert, with Joint Fire Control receiving 600 calls between 8 am and 5.30 pm on that day across West Sussex, East Sussex and Surrey. WSFRS attended around 70 emergencies with officers, fire engines and the Technical Rescue Unit mobilised to respond to a variety of incidents including dangerous structures and trees that had come down in the high winds.

Environment and Climate Change (and Deputy Leader) - Deborah Urquhart

- The County Council was invited by 'Lets Recycle' to present the **123 Collection Trial Project**, run in partnership with Arun District Council, at the National Food Waste Conference in March. '1-2-3' is a weekly food waste collection, a fortnightly recycling/garden waste collection and a three-weekly general rubbish collection in new 240ltr wheelie bins. Small electrical items are also collected fortnightly. Resident participation has been excellent resulting in a huge drop in food waste in the general collections and 146 tonnes of food waste collected. A positive change in residents' behaviour and opinion towards the collections was also highlighted.
- The Cabinet Member was invited to attend a roundtable meeting with The Rt Hon Lord Benyon, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Rural Affairs, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), to discuss the [Government's response to the Landscapes Review: National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty](#) (the 'Glover Review'). The Cabinet Member took the opportunity to request that the Government takes protected landscapes into account when determining the need for new homes to be delivered through the planning system, a point strongly supported by the five other local authorities present.

Finance and Property – Jeremy Hunt

- On 4 November 2021 the County Council and the West Sussex Pension Fund financial statements were awarded an unqualified **audit opinion by external auditors** Ernst and Young LLP. Both sets of financial statements 'gave a true and fair view of the financial position of expenditure and income and had been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom'. The Auditors Annual Report (which is new for 2020/21) has recently been published on the County Council's [Finance page](#) on the website.

Highways and Transport – Joy Dennis

- The County Council's **2022/23 highways programme** (over £32m of works) includes more than 650 individual schemes including road and pavement maintenance and improvement schemes, bridges, drainage, public rights of

way and road safety schemes. Details of the programme can be viewed as [a list](#) (PDF, 720KB) and an [interactive map](#). Members will be updated as the detailed programme is developed and about when specific projects will start.

- The County Council's **#WestSussBus engagement** starts in April. Parish and town councils will be asked to recommend groups and individuals who may want to take part. This long-term engagement exercise will focus on scoping ideas and views from passengers (and non-passengers), and gathering in-depth responses on the bus services, stops, and network in West Sussex. Look for #WestSussBus on social media.

Public Health and Wellbeing – Bob Lanzer

- Thousands of local people are healthier and more active thanks to the [Wellbeing service which celebrates more than 10 years of supporting people across West Sussex](#), since it was established county wide in 2011. The service is delivered through partnership between the County Council and the seven district and borough councils and is available to anyone who lives or works in West Sussex. Offering impartial, friendly advice and support on a one to one basis through groups and activities, it can help people to make positive choices to tackle risk factors such as excess weight, sedentary behaviour, smoking and drinking too much alcohol.
- [National No Smoking Day](#) took place on 9 March. Together with partners, including the organisations in the Smokefree West Sussex Partnership, district and borough councils, universities and colleges, pharmacies, and local NHS organisations across West Sussex, the County Council raised awareness of the health and financial benefits of quitting smoking for national No Smoking Day and is continuing to promote smoking cessation support following this. Residents can visit the [West Sussex Wellbeing website](#) to find out more information about local Stop Smoking Services available to anyone who lives or works in the county.
- The [latest updates on the vaccination programme in West Sussex](#) have been issued, led by the Sussex Health and Care Partnership. The Government has set out that across the UK, a second COVID-19 booster vaccination (to be given six months after previous booster) will be offered to adults aged 75 and over, residents in a care home for older adults, and people aged 12 and over with weakened immune systems. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation advises that an extra dose will help maintain protection from severe COVID in the most vulnerable individuals. More information will shortly be shared across the country, including details of how eligible groups can arrange a vaccination. People are being asked not to contact their GP practice or other NHS services at the current time to ask about this second booster as the service is not live yet – residents will be contacted as soon as the vaccination is available.

Support Services and Economic Development – Steve Waight

- Partnership working has led to two local applicants gaining **Kickstart job placements** with the Crawley [Eastern Gateway Scheme](#). Partners working on the [Crawley Growth Programme](#) and contractor, VolkerFitzpatrick, have provided the opportunities. The two roles are Trainee Site Engineer and Trainee Social Value Co-ordinator. Both placements will provide the applicants with

insight into a working construction environment and give opportunities to work within the wider team and learn new skills.

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Background papers

None

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