

To all Members of the County Council

An ordinary meeting of the County Council will be held at **10.30 am** on **Friday, 13 October 2023** at **County Hall, Chichester PO19 1RQ**.

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 - 26)

The Council is asked to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the County Council held on 17 July 2023.

4. **Appointments**

To consider any proposed changes 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 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.

6. **Governance Committee: Changes to the Constitution** (Pages 27 - 40)

The Council is asked to consider a number of minor changes to the Constitution including changing Standing Orders to limit other business at the annual budget meeting and changes to the terms of reference of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Regulation, Audit and Accounts Committee, in the light of a report by the Governance Committee.

7. **Corporate Parenting Report for the Children We Care For and Care Leavers: September 2023** (Pages 41 - 84)

The Council is asked to consider and note the report of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

8. **West Sussex County Council's Armed Forces Covenant 2022/23** (Pages 85 - 88)

The Council is asked to consider and note the Armed Forces Covenant Annual Report 2022/23.

9. **Report of Urgent Action** (Pages 89 - 90)

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

10. **Question Time** (Pages 91 - 96)

Questions to the Leader and Cabinet Members on matters in the Cabinet report, written questions and any other questions relevant to their portfolios. Members may also ask questions of the Leader on anything current and relevant to the County Council. The report covers portfolio-related business since the meeting of the Council on 17 July 2023. A supplementary report may be published.

(2 hours is allocated for Question Time)

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

11. **Notices of Motion**

(a) **Motion on impact of the London Ultra-Low Emission Zone on West Sussex**

To debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr Burrett, notice of which was given on 26 September 2023.

'This Council values economic growth, and supporting our communities and small businesses in all their endeavours to grow.

This Council values the aspirations of the vulnerable in our communities to thrive, and places great store in its commitment to support them wherever it can.

This Council therefore deplores the action taken recently by the Mayor of London to extend the London Ultra-Low Emission Zone without regard to its adverse impact on the communities and small businesses of this county.

In particular it notes that:

- The London Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) was extended by the Mayor of London on 29 August 2023 to cover all London Boroughs.
- Many small businesses and traders rely on travel,

especially from communities in the north of the county, into parts of London now covered by ULEZ.

- Many West Sussex residents have a need to travel by car to outer London Boroughs for a variety of reasons, including work and specialist hospital appointments.
- Residents on lower incomes are more likely to own older vehicles and to be unable to afford to replace them.

This Council is concerned that:

- (1) No assessment has been produced by Transport for London of the volume of people living outside Greater London who are likely to be impacted by the ULEZ expansion.
- (2) People directly affected but living in West Sussex will not benefit from the mitigation package, and have no access to the diesel scrappage scheme for those on low incomes.
- (3) There will be a clear disproportionate impact on West Sussex small businesses, traders, and residents on low incomes who need to travel into Greater London, particularly at a time when cost-of-living pressures are already having an effect on them.
- (4) The ULEZ expansion could push congestion out of Greater London, making air quality worse in surrounding areas, including West Sussex.

In view of the above concerns, this Council resolves to ask the Cabinet to support the position taken by Surrey County Council and other affected local authorities in maintaining opposition to the ULEZ expansion, and asks the Leader to write to the Mayor of London, in the strongest terms, to ask him to reconsider his decision to expand the ULEZ zone in the light of the serious detrimental effects the expansion is now having on residents and businesses across the South East, including those in West Sussex, and especially those on low incomes.'

(b) **Motion on Support for Care Leavers**

To debate the following motion, submitted by Cllr Linehan, notice of which was given on 26 September 2023.

'The Independent Review of Children's Social Care headed by Josh McCallister published in May 2022 had a final report and recommendations that included:

"Government should make care experience a protected characteristic" and "New legislation should be passed which

broadens corporate parenting responsibilities across a wider set of public bodies and organisations.”

The Care Leavers service in West Sussex supports our young people to grow and develop into young adults successfully as they move towards independence and operates under a clear legislative framework provided by the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 and the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

As corporate parents to the children and young people in our care, and care leavers, we in West Sussex take those responsibilities extremely seriously, as any good parents should.

But as West Sussex county councillors, we should go further and support the aspirations of Care Leavers, making sure that no Care Leaver is discriminated against, and that they have every opportunity to live fulfilling and successful lives without barriers.

This Council therefore recognises:

- That care leavers and those children who have been cared for are a group who are likely to face discrimination.
- That councils have a duty to put the needs of disadvantaged people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration with them and all our local partnerships.
- That any future decision with respect to services and policies by the County Council assessed through Equality Impact Assessments should also consider the likely impact on people with care experience.
- To formally call upon all other bodies and partners, locally and pan-Sussex to treat care experience in the same way as they do a protected characteristic until such time as it may be introduced by legislation.
- For the Council to continue to proactively seek out and listen to the voices of Care Leavers when developing new policies based on their views.

This Council therefore calls upon the Leader and Cabinet to ensure the Council treats care experience as if it were a protected characteristic, to provide greater authority to employers, businesses, public services, and policy makers to put in place policies and programmes which promote better outcomes for care experienced young people.’

County Council concludes

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

Director of Law and Assurance
4 October 2023

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