
Cabinet Report: Delivering the West Sussex Plan 2017-22

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.



Best Start in Life

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Jacquie Russell

- The [report](#) (PDF, 273KB) of the **Ofsted inspection of Orchard House Children’s Home** has been published, judging the provision as ‘Outstanding’. The inspectors found that Orchard House is a highly effective home that consistently exceeds the standard of good and that children’s voices and opinions are valued and promoted. The care offered at Orchard House contributes to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people, who live or access services at the home.
- In recognition of its work developing carer friendly primary school communities the [Young Carers Service](#) has been chosen as a **finalist for the [Children and Young People Now Awards](#)**. The awards celebrate excellence, innovation and impact. The Service was nominated following the creation of a learning resource designed to help young schoolchildren and staff better understand the challenges young carers face.

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills – Nigel Jupp

- The County Council has published a new [SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2019-24](#). The strategy, which has been co-produced with key stakeholders including parents, carers and children aims to ensure that young people in West Sussex, irrespective of their learning needs or abilities, can gain the skills and confidence to live well in their communities.



A Prosperous Place

Leader – Paul Marshall

- The Leader, along with the Acting Chief Executive, attended the November [County Councils Networks’ annual conference](#). The conference provided an opportunity to build relationships with colleagues and to explore the key challenges faced by county councils across the country, including the 2020 Spending Review and the challenges in relation to adults’ and children’s social care and place-based growth.

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- Following appointment in October, the Leader has been **meeting key partners** including: district and borough council leaders; the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership; colleagues from the health sector; the Chairman of the South Downs National Park; and chief executives and leaders from neighbouring authorities. These meetings provide opportunities to discuss mutual challenges and shared priorities and to explore options for future service delivery for residents.
 - **Youth Take Over Day** (22 November) gave members of the [West Sussex Youth Cabinet](#) valuable insight and experience of the work of the County Council. In turn the County Council benefits from a fresh perspective on the way the Council works. Members of the Youth Cabinet have joined Cabinet Members for visits to the highways depot at Drayton which included the opportunity to quiz highway staff on the challenges and variety of their roles. Visits have also been made to the County Council's Contact Centre, the Ford Materials Recycling Facility for tours, demonstrations and discussions on the work they do. Young people also joined members for a visit to a Special School.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure – Roger Elkins

- The Cabinet Member has approved the County Council's [consultation response](#) for submission to Highways England indicating that the County Council's **preference for the A27 Arundel Bypass scheme** is Option 4/5AV1 (the Magenta option).



A Strong, Safe and Sustainable Place

Cabinet Member for Fire & Rescue and Communities – Duncan Crow

- The Cabinet Member officially opened the [new library at Burgess Hill](#) on 3 December. Residents were welcomed to the new building which, in addition to a public computer area, also has a study space for customers using their own devices, allowing them to make use of free Wi-Fi.
- Gatwick Airport Ltd has pledged its backing for West Sussex Fire & Rescue's award-winning [Safe Drive Stay Alive roadshow](#) by committing £10,000 to the 2020/21 roadshow. The show, which includes first-hand accounts from highway incident victims, their family members and 999 responders, has been delivered to more than 112,000 West Sussex students and young drivers, raising road safety awareness in this key age group.

Cabinet Member for Environment – Deborah Urquhart

- A campaign to show West Sussex residents which **items can and cannot be recycled** at home features a local West Sussex student. The [Mia Recycles campaign](#) comprises a series of short videos which have been viewed nearly 100,000 times to-date. The videos can be watched from the [@WSRecycles Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

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- The Cabinet Member has attended the first **Gatwick Area Eco Summit** organised by the [E.Y.E. Project](#). Eco Summits, education-based days for school children, have previously been held in Chichester, Littlehampton and Worthing and Adur and promote to children at a young age, the all-important message of environmental awareness.
 - The County Council supported [Localis](#)/the Green Alliance to undertake research into how clean local growth can be supported and how it can relate to local industrial strategies. The resulting 'Clean Local Growth' report was launched at an event held on 23 October and attended by representatives of local and central government, industry and other interested parties. The event was opened by a panel of speakers, which included the Cabinet Member for Environment, and included workshops on climate change, pollution, energy and transport. Information was also shared on engaging and informing local policymakers about policy options that can secure environmental benefits for residents as well as economic benefits for local businesses.



Independence for Later Life

Cabinet Member for Adults and Health – Amanda Jupp

- The County Council has been awarded a [Rough Sleepers Grant](#) of £345,529 from the Department of Health and Social Care following a successful application to Public Health England. The grant will support work to give rough sleepers vital access to health services with the aim of reducing the need for hospital admissions.
- **A Collaborative Working Agreement** has been launched by the West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board, the West Sussex Safeguarding Children's Partnership, West Sussex Safeguarding Adults' Board and the Safer West Sussex Partnership. The four boards will work cooperatively to safeguard children, young people and adults and improve the health, wellbeing and safety of all residents of West Sussex.
- A County Council Social Worker has been shortlisted for the [Social Worker of the Year Award 2019](#). The Cabinet Member will be attending the award event that shines a light on exceptional social workers who are making a significant difference to the lives of adults in their care. Richard Betts (CEO Local Government) said that, 'All the finalists demonstrate dedication, professionalism and passion – they truly are a credit to the social work profession.'



A Council that works for the Community

Cabinet Member for Economy and Corporate Resources – Bob Lanzer

- Construction of a new, creative digital hub has started in Bognor Regis. '**The Track**', will offer a shared and collaborative employment workspace, events space, meeting rooms and ultra-fast fibre connection for creative and digital businesses in the area. The Track will take about five months to construct and will support the growth of creative and digital businesses.

Cabinet Member for Finance - Jeremy Hunt

- The West Sussex County Council Pension Fund has commenced its triennial valuation which seeks to ensure the **long-term solvency of the Pension Fund** to be able to pay all its members benefits. The Actuary has calculated that the Fund is 112% funded which helps meet the Pension Panel's objective of keeping employer contribution rates stable and minimising the long-term cash contributions which employers need to pay to the Fund.

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Background papers

None