

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 – Paul Marshall

- A new learning resource that aims to support schools in providing [young carers](#) with the recognition and support they need has been provided to every primary school in West Sussex. To accompany the [launch](#) of the learning pack, theatre performances that demonstrate the issues faced by young carers were shown at both the Hawth Theatre in Crawley and the Festival Theatre in Chichester.

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills – Richard Burrett

- Views are being [sought](#) on a draft Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and Inclusion Strategy that sets out the County Council's vision 'for all children and young people (0 to 25 years) in West Sussex to have every opportunity to prosper in their learning and become active and valued members of their local community, fully prepared for adulthood'. The Strategy is due to be published in November.
- A new [guide](#) to help parents, teachers and other professionals supporting children and young people with autism to manage anxiety has been provided to every school in West Sussex. The guide has been developed in a collaboration between the County Council's Autism and Social Communication Team and [City, University of London](#) and incorporates the latest research and practice for improving emotional wellbeing of autistic children and young people.
- Following the recent [allocation](#) of Primary School places for children starting school in September 2019, 99% of parents were offered a place for their child at one of their three preferred schools with 91.1% offered their first preference school. This positive result was achieved against a growth in pupil numbers with 9,029 applications handled by the Admissions Team compared with 8,852 in 2018.



A PROSPEROUS PLACE

Leader & Cabinet Member for Economy – Louise Goldsmith

- Following the Leaders [decision*](#) in March 2019, the funding agreement with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) on the Burgess Hill Place and Connectivity Programme has been completed. The [project](#) secures £10.9m of Local Growth Funding from the LEP and will deliver a transport system that will improve connectivity, congestion, journey quality and reliability and enable the delivery of growth in the town.
- Five County Council fleet vehicles have been wrapped with [Experience West Sussex](#) branding. This follows the success of the County Council electric vehicles being branded with Your Energy Sussex messages. The branding will encourage people to visit the Experience West Sussex website and enjoy days out and new experiences within the county.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure – Roger Elkins

- On 3 May Transport for the South East launched a [consultation](#) on a draft proposal for statutory status that will close on 31 July. As set out in the Forward Plan, the Cabinet Member will be asked to approve the County Council's response to the consultation in July.
- The County Council built an additional 3.6 miles (5.8km) of cycle path in 2018/19 which exceeded the annual 3.5 mile (5.6km) target. This does not include the Pagham Harbour to Medmerry cycle link (1.9 miles/3km) which was completed in April and is [open](#) in plenty of time for National Bike Week (which starts on 8 June).



A STRONG, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PLACE

Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities – Debbie Kennard

- The County Council's Library Service will launch its [Summer Reading Challenge](#) on 13 July, themed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. This is the 20th year of the Summer Reading Challenge and thousands of families are expected to visit libraries to take part.
- The County Council's Community Safety and Wellbeing Team is targetting drug litter in a campaign to raise awareness and ask residents to [report dangerous drug litter](#). This will be featured in the June edition of [West Sussex Connections](#).
- In celebration of the birth of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex's first child the County Council has issued the royal baby with a Gruffalo 'My first library card'. Every child in West Sussex is entitled to a library card from the [West Sussex Library Service](#) and these are offered by the Registrar at

[birth registration appointments](#). Over 7,000 new babies joined the library in this way last year.

Cabinet Member for Environment – Deborah Urquhart

- The [Plastics Action Plan](#) has been published. The aim is to eliminate single use plastics across the County Council's corporate estate and to raise awareness of the issue of single use plastic waste and its impact on the environment.
- The County Council's Energy Team is installing the final solar photovoltaic systems under its [Solar Power for Schools Programme](#). The renewable electricity generated across more than 80 schools will reduce the combined energy bill by £158,000 in the first year. The combined generation capacity from the individual systems is equivalent to Tangmere solar farm.

Cabinet Member for Adults and Health – Amanda Jupp

- As part of [Carers Week, 10 June to 16 June](#) the County Council will be connecting Carers to information available in their communities to help support their own wellbeing. Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges that unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK.
- A range of evidence-based alcohol early intervention services have been implemented countywide to meet the needs of adults who are drinking at levels that may be putting them at risk of harm. This includes a new community pharmacy identification and brief advice service, an online [Alcohol Test](#) people can take, along with Skype-based expert support and guidance with a specialist [DrinkCoach](#) for those requiring it.
- The [NHS Health Check Programme](#) has exceeded its local target for 2018/2019 by delivering over 14,800 health checks to West Sussex residents. The Public Health team has worked with providers offering them support and advice, engaged with Local Community Networks to raise the programme's profile in general practice, and has increased marketing through West Sussex Connections. NHS Health Checks can be accessed in over [100 locations countywide](#).



A COUNCIL THAT WORKS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations – Bob Lanzer

- The County Council's transformation programme Whole Council Design has several strands of IT activity that will help West Sussex residents in their interaction with the council. The 'digital' theme across the programme includes an emphasis on digital solutions such as those that enable online payments and booking, online forms and automated workflows.

(Links marked with an * are to documents in pdf format)

- Improving internal digital capabilities is another important element of the Whole Council Design programme. As part of this, work is currently underway to upgrade the IT used by both members and staff to enable smarter and more efficient working and to help streamline our democratic processes. Members will start their conversion to the new IT equipment in early June.

Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources - Jeremy Hunt

- The Cabinet Member has received a positive report on the April payment of pension benefit. This followed the [transfer of the pension administration function*](#) to Hampshire County Council comprising the membership records for over 70,000 members across the Local Government and Fire Pension Schemes. All key performance indicators have been met since the transfer.

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Background Papers

None