

## Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The County Council must give at least 28 days' notice of all key decisions to be taken by councillors or officers. The Plan describes these proposals and the month in which the decisions are to be taken over a four-month period. Decisions are categorised according to [cabinet member](#) portfolios.

The most important decisions will be taken by the Cabinet sitting in public. The meetings are also available to watch online via our [webcasting website](#). The [schedule of monthly Cabinet meetings](#) is available on the website.

The Forward Plan is updated regularly and key decisions can be taken on any day in the month if they are not taken at Cabinet meetings. The [Plan](#) is available on the website. [Published decisions](#) are also available via the website.

A key decision is one which:

- Involves expenditure or savings of £500,000 or more (except treasury management); and/or
- Will have a significant effect on communities in two or more electoral divisions in terms of how services are provided.

The following information is provided for each entry in the Forward Plan:

<b>Decision</b>	A summary of the proposal.
<b>Decision By</b>	Who will take the decision - if the Cabinet, it will be taken at a Cabinet meeting in public.
<b>Date added</b>	The date the proposed decision was added to the Forward Plan.
<b>Month</b>	The decision will be taken on any working day in the month stated. If a Cabinet decision, it will be taken at the Cabinet meeting scheduled in that month.
<b>Consultation/ Representations</b>	How views and representations about the proposal will be considered or the proposal scrutinised, including dates of scrutiny committee meetings.
<b>Background Documents</b>	The documents containing more information about the proposal and how to obtain them (via links on the website version of the Forward Plan). Hard copies are available on request from the decision contact.
<b>Lead officer (report author)</b>	The contact details of the decision report author.
<b>Contact</b>	Who in Democratic Services you can contact about the entry.

### Finance, assets, performance and risk management

Each month the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property reviews the Council's budget position and may take adjustment decisions. A similar monthly review of Council property and assets is carried out and may lead to decisions about them. These are noted in the Forward Plan as 'rolling decisions'.

Each month the Cabinet will consider the Council's performance against its planned outcomes and in connection with a register of corporate risk. Areas of particular significance may be considered at the scheduled Cabinet meetings.

Significant proposals for the management of the Council's budget and spending plans will be dealt with at a scheduled Cabinet meeting and shown in the Plan as strategic budget options.

For questions contact Katherine De La Mora on 033 022 22535, email [katherine.delamora@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:katherine.delamora@westsussex.gov.uk).

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## Community Support, Fire and Rescue

<b>West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Procurement of Officer Pool Vehicles for Statutory Operational Management Duties</b>	
<p>The Fire &amp; Rescue Service currently has a pool of 40 vehicles, used by officers to perform statutory operational management duties. These vehicles are leased and are either due to expire or have already expired. National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) guidance on driving emergency vehicles is also changing and a further vehicle is required to enable Operational Training to ensure that all potential drivers are effectively trained in 'blue light' driving.</p> <p>The vehicles will be procured in phases, aligned with the lease expiry and date and are anticipated to cost £50,000 per vehicle, with a total capital spend of £2,050,000. This is subject to the market at the time of purchase. This cost includes work to fit blue lights, sirens and emergency communications' technology.</p> <p>Other options have been reviewed, including extending current leases, but this places additional burden on revenue with maintenance costs and risks potential failures on emergency vehicles, and is not cost effective.</p> <p>Funding will be drawn from the Fleet Capital Replacement budget line and the vehicles will be procured through the Crown Commercial Services framework.</p>	
<b>Decision by</b>	Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue (Cllr Duncan Crow)
<b>Date added</b>	29 January 2025
<b>Month</b>	February 2025
<b>Consultation/ Representations</b>	Representations concerning the proposed decision can be made via the officer contact.
<b>Background documents</b> (via website)	None
<b>Lead officer (report author)</b>	Sabrina Cohen-Hatton Tel: 033 022 24993
<b>Contact</b>	Erica Taunton Tel: 033 022 26050

**West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service - Award of Contract(s) six medium pumping appliances**

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service has a rolling programme of fleet replacement and is proposing to replace six of the oldest appliances, of which four are over twenty years old and two others sixteen years old.

These replacements will reap a number of benefits:

- Improved vehicle and firefighting technology;
- Introducing a clean-cab concept that reduces firefighters' exposure to contaminants;
- Meeting higher Euro 6 emission standards;
- Supporting the WSCC Net Carbon Neutral 2030 goals;
- Reducing the cost of maintenance of old vehicles; and
- Critically, reducing the risk of failure of emergency response vehicles.

Estimated cost is £2.4 million (£400,000 per appliance) This spend has already been budgeted for in the WSFRS Fleet Capital Replacement Programme.

Following the decision, taken by the Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, to agree the commencement of a procurement the Chief Fire Officer will be delegated authority and asked to award the contract(s).

<b>Decision by</b>	Chief Fire Officer (Sabrina Cohen-Hatton)
<b>Date added</b>	14 November 2024
<b>Month</b>	March 2025
<b>Consultation/ Representations</b>	Representations regarding this proposed decision can be made via the officer contact.
<b>Background documents</b> (via website)	None
<b>Lead officer (report author)</b>	Donal Byrne Tel: 033 022 22764
<b>Contact</b>	Erica Taunton Tel: 033 022 26050

**West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Annual Statement of Assurance 2024-2025**

The Fire Authority (FRA) is required to provide annual assurance on financial, governance and operational matters and show how they have had due regard to the expectations set out in their Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) and as part of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England.

This Statement reinforces the commitment to provide communities with clear information about how public funds are managed and assure the effectiveness of our financial, governance and operational fire service arrangements.

All partners involved have been asked to formally endorse the Annual Statement of Assurance 2024-25. The Cabinet will be asked to approve the West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Statement of Assurance for 2024-25.

<b>Decision by</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date added</b>	29 January 2025
<b>Month</b>	July 2025
<b>Consultation/ Representations</b>	The West Sussex Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Committee will review the proposed decision at the public meeting on 20 June 2025. Representations concerning the proposed decision can be made via the officer contact.
<b>Background documents</b> (via website)	None
<b>Lead officer (report author)</b>	Sabrina Cohen-Hatton Tel: 033 022 24993
<b>Contact</b>	Erica Taunton Tel :033 022 26050