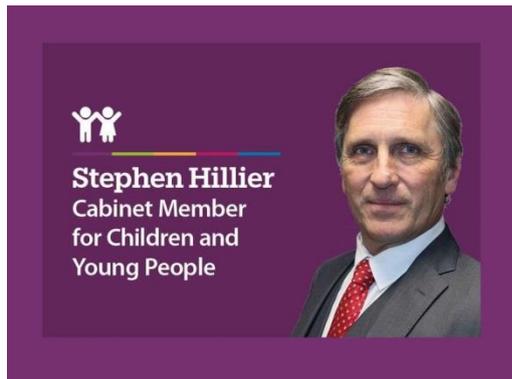


Cabinet Report: Delivering the West Sussex Plan 2017-22**BEST START IN LIFE****Families and children have a healthy family, home and work life****1 Change4Life 2018 Nutrition Campaign (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)**

A national Change4Life Nutrition Campaign has been launched. Based on current evidence, children in England are eating nearly three times the recommended amount of sugar, with half the sugar they consume coming from snacks and sugary drinks. The campaign focuses on helping parents to reduce their children's sugar intake by choosing healthier snacks. The simple tip is to 'Look for 100 calorie snacks, two a day max.' A new free app helps to show just how much sugar, salt and saturated fat is inside everyday snacks, foods and drinks. As a Public Health England (PHE) pilot sugar reduction local authority, the County Council's Public Health Directorate is implementing the campaign county-wide, and features as a PHE 'local activation' case study on their national website. Working in collaboration with key partners, activities include engaging local families by hosting a 'Healthier Snacking Challenge' in all 36 of the county's libraries, offering staff healthier snacks at reduced prices throughout January and February in staff restaurants in Chichester and Horsham and the development of a 'Be Sugar Smart for your Teeth' dental toolkit.

**Access to education that meets the needs of our community****2 Update on delivery of the Free School Programme in West Sussex (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)**

In April 2017 the County Council was notified that the Secretary of State for Education had given approval for seven new Academy [Free Schools*](#) to be

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opened in West Sussex. The responsibility for funding and delivering these schools rests with the Department for Education (DfE) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), whose representatives have been keeping County Council officers informed about the programme. The Free Schools will provide much-needed additional pupil places within the county. Early indications from the DfE and ESFA suggest that it is unlikely the new schools will open before September 2020. As the County Council remains responsible for ensuring sufficient school places are provided, this two-and-a-half-year wait for delivery of the new schools means that the County Council will need to monitor closely the rise in pupil numbers and will need to take any necessary steps to secure enough places in the interim. The Cabinet Member will assess the developing situation and will liaise with the Regional Schools Commissioner if delivery of the new Free Schools is likely to be delayed beyond September 2020.

3 Implementing the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

Good progress is being made in implementing the West Sussex Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy 2016-19. It aims to ensure that children and young people with SEND will be able to attend the school that best meets their needs, and which is as close to their home as possible. It also aims to optimise value for money from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. Between March 2016 and December 2017 there has been a 23% increase in the number of children and young people assessed as needing an Education Health and Care Plan. This puts pressure on funding from the High Needs Block and, with insufficient places in the County Council's Special Support Centres and Special Schools to meet demand, placements have to be made in more costly independent and non-maintained Special Schools, some of which are outside of the county boundary. To help address this shortfall of places the County Council is seeking to increase local provision, as laid out in the draft [Special Provision Capital Fund Plan](#), which is currently subject to consultation. The Education and Skills service has been working with 60 mainstream schools to put inclusive values into action through the '[Index for Inclusion](#)' and the development of an agreed definition of inclusion, to which all schools and stakeholders can relate.



Children and young people are able to thrive

4 Celebrating Exceptional People in Care (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)

The actions and achievements of children in care and care leavers were recognised recently at the annual Exceptional People in Care Awards. More than 400 people attended the awards held at Butlins in Bognor Regis. It was supported by a number of local businesses and services including Butlins, The Body Shop, Bookers, Lush, Q Hairdressing and the West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service. The Children in Care Council and Care Leavers' Forum took the lead in organising the event, providing them with an opportunity to hone their skills in planning and delivering an event of this scale. There was a wide range of awards, including recognising those children who had succeeded academically, to

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those in care who had been brave or had overcome a challenge. A total of 218 young people were nominated for the seven awards on offer, a clear demonstration that being a child in care or care leaver in West Sussex does not have to be a barrier to achievement.

5 Young Carers Learning Resource Pack (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)

The West Sussex Young Carers Service has developed a new learning resource pack to raise awareness about young carers amongst staff in schools. The learning resource, which was launched ahead of [Young Carers Awareness Day](#) on 25 January, is now available in all of the county's secondary schools. The pack includes information for staff, lesson plans, and a short film created with young carers that highlights some of the issues they face during the school day. Research into the attainment of young carers indicates that they do less well at school than their peers. In addition many young people do not realise they are young carers, as looking after a member of their family can seem completely normal to them. By helping school staff to identify young carers early, appropriate assistance and support can be put in place to try and ensure their attainment is not adversely affected and remains in line with their peers.

6 Design in the Public Sector Programme (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)

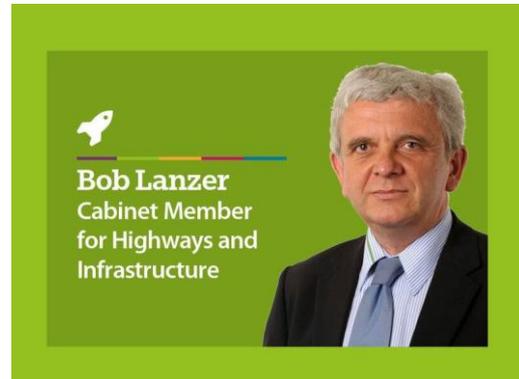
The Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help (IPEH) service has been successful in securing a place on the Design in the Public Sector Programme. This initiative, created through a partnership between the Local Government Association and the Design Council, focuses on applying design process principles (a method of solving complex issues) to tackle public health challenges, with an emphasis on prevention. Of particular merit is the use of a multi-agency approach involving staff from the IPEH, foster carers, health and education professionals who will be tackling the issue of preventing teenage pregnancy amongst care leavers. As a result of their life history, some care leavers can be less well equipped when it comes to parenting their children. Whilst some respond well to parenting support, a small proportion will have their children removed through the Courts which is a traumatic experience. Through gaining a better understanding of the experiences of young people in care, the team aims to develop methods to improve their confidence which will hopefully have a positive impact on their behaviour and reduce the number of care leavers who become pregnant at an early age. The project design skills learned at the Design Council will benefit the County Council and its partners through the sharing of knowledge about the practical tools and solutions gained from the programme.

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A PROSPEROUS PLACE



A place where businesses thrive

7 Manor Royal BID renewal (Leader/Economy)

The Manor Royal Business Improvement District (BID) is due for renewal in 2018. The BID was created in June 2013 and has enabled the County Council to work with local authority partners and businesses to deliver a number of improvements in the Manor Royal Area including broadband and highways projects. In addition, the BID has ensured that a clear business voice has influenced the development of key programmes including the £60m Crawley Growth Programme which includes improvements for Manor Royal and Crawley Town Centre. The County Council recognises the value of the BID which ensure that the County Council's continued investment aligns with the needs of local businesses and provides the maximum economic benefit to the area. If successful, BID2 will run from 2018-23, enabling the County Council to continue to work in partnership to deliver economic improvements to the area.



Infrastructure that supports a successful economy

8 Housing Infrastructure Fund (Leader/Economy)

On 1 February the Government announced the first successful bids from the Marginal Viability strand of the [Housing Infrastructure Fund*](#) (HIF) programme, which included £22.9m for projects in West Sussex. The HIF was launched in July 2017 to fund new infrastructure to help remove barriers to housing development. The successful projects include £6.5m for Mid Sussex District Council towards the upgrading of waste water works to unlock the progression of the northern arc development in Burgess Hill, a further £10m for Adur and Worthing Councils to support development of the Free Wharf at Shoreham Harbour and £6.4m for Crawley Borough Council to support the delivery of development at Telford Place and Forge Wood. This investment into the county is welcomed to drive forward economic growth, and support the priorities and

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ambitions being progressed through the Growth Deals. The County Council has submitted a HIF bid under the Forward Fund strand of HIF, and a response to this is expected shortly.

9 A259 Land Acquisition decision (Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure)

A compulsory purchase order has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport relating to land required to deliver the A259 Littlehampton Corridor Improvements project. The project is supported by the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership which is providing £7.5 m of grant funding. The project will widen 2 km of the A259 north of Littlehampton from single to dual carriageway and also comprises 2 km of new, off road pedestrian and cycle facilities. The improvements will be located between the new A284 Lyminster By Pass and the Body Shop Roundabout as well as between Angmering Station Road and the A280 Roundabout. The dual carriageway will alleviate existing congestion and the predicted increase in traffic associated with the Arun Local Plan. Specifically the improvements support the building of up to 2,000 homes and 8.95 ha of new employment space. The new roads are expected to be open to the public in 2020.

10 Department for Transport consultation on the Major Road Network (Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure)

The Department for Transport is consulting on a proposal to create a Major Road Network (MRN) that will include some of the most important local authority 'A' class roads. The MRN will include routes that complement the Strategic Road Network which is managed by Highways England. The aim of defining the MRN is to facilitate the identification and delivery of improvements that will reduce congestion and support economic growth. Improvements to routes that are included in the MRN will be eligible for funding from the National Roads Fund, subject to confirming value for money and deliverability through transport business cases. In West Sussex, the proposed MRN includes parts of the A22, A24, A29, A259, A264, A272, A280, A283 and A286 which will continue to be managed by the County Council, as local highway authority. The consultation closes on 19 March.



A great place to live, visit and work

11 Bus Impact Analysis (Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport)

The Cabinet Member has set up an Executive Task and Finish Group (TFG) to consider the County Council's approach to and investment in bus services in the light of the new Bus Services Act 2017. The Act provides opportunities for the County Council and partners, including the bus operators and community transport providers, to deliver better bus journeys and value for the taxpayer and passengers. The Act provides delivery options for the partners including Advanced Quality Partnerships and Enhanced Partnerships encompassing improvements to the bus network, its associated infrastructure and simple cross-ticketing arrangements for passengers. This will support the Council County working with its partners to tackle key challenges such as air quality enhancing

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bus travel as a choice for our residents and visitors. The TFG will consider the views of key stakeholders, including the bus operators, the criteria for intervening in the bus market i.e. financial support for bus routes, and the impact on residents of any changes to the County Council's intervention in the bus market. The views of residents and interested parties following a 12-week public consultation and impact analysis, conducted in late January to April, will be used to assist the TFG with this work.

12 Visitor Economy (Leader/Economy)

The County Council is progressing a countywide partnership approach to the West Sussex visitor economy. Work is well advanced with partners from across the county, on a new countywide plan and objectives which will be confirmed shortly, subject to funding. This builds upon the County Council's successful 'Experience West Sussex' visitor marketing campaign which promotes the county as a visitor destination. A new marketing partner, Sussex-based Cobb Digital, has been appointed to help drive forward the Experience West Sussex campaign and build on its current success. A full evaluation of the 2017 campaign has been completed. The Economic Impact Assessment received more than 700 responses and indicated the campaign generated in excess of £2m for the local economy and businesses. There are now more than 35,000 followers across social media, and 230 businesses featured, with many reporting increased interest as a result of exposure from the campaign. The County Council is also considering wider engagement with businesses and is arranging an event to explore how it can collaborate to help further stimulate the visitor economy in West Sussex.



A STRONG, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PLACE



A safe place

13 Supporting the County Council's Response and Recovery Plan (Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities)

The County Council has a statutory duty to ensure that its Corporate Response

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and Recovery Plan (CRRP) is tested and validated under exercise conditions to ensure it is able to respond and recover from a significant disruptive event, whilst maintaining its critical services. The Cabinet Member has been involved in planning for 'Exercise Vadar' which will take place at the Corporate Emergency Centre in early March. The exercise will run over a period of three days and will test and evaluate the plan at all levels of command and co-ordination. It may include incidents such as a building collapse, a power failure or supporting the vulnerable. It will address the reasonably foreseeable worst case scenario and operate in real time gathering momentum over three days. All those with specific roles within the CRRP plan structure will be invited to participate including internal members of staff along with some external partner agencies.

14 New aerial ladder platform for West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service (Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities)

West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service has taken delivery of a new aerial ladder platform (ALP) that will be operational at Horsham fire station from early March. There are currently two ALPs in service, at Worthing and Horsham and these are positioned to maximise the coverage of this important capability across the county. The ALPs are most often used as a means of working at height, for rescues, as working platforms, as high winch points, observation points and as water towers. They can also be used to work below ground level in certain circumstances. Designed in conjunction with operational firefighters, the new vehicle mirrors the operating controls of its equivalent in Worthing allowing crews to interchange between vehicles as required. The vehicle was procured through a national procurement framework which ensures maximum value for money and has been delivered within the £750,000 capital budget allocation.

15 Safer Internet Day 2018 (Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities)

Organisations and communities in West Sussex came together to celebrate and support Safer Internet Day on 6 February. The theme of this year's Safer Internet Day was 'Create, Connect and Share Respect: a better internet starts with you'. This was in line with the County Council's aim to encourage people to make the most of the positive opportunities offered online, whilst giving them the resilience, skills, knowledge and support they need to navigate any online risks. West Sussex Community Safety and Wellbeing, First Base Technologies and Barclays Digital Eagles together ran online sessions for residents covering key topics such as having strong passwords, how to spot phishing emails and keeping devices secure. The County Council also worked with Get Safe Online and the O₂ Gurus to run sessions for staff and parents and carers about how to stay safe online, where to go for help and support and to access resources. The Library Service supported the event by offering Get Safe Online leaflets from each of their branches and running online safety drop in sessions at four of their main hubs. Additional information has been shared via campaign pages and social media to help raise awareness. Further information is available on the following campaign pages <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/safer-internet-day-2018/> and <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/staying-safe-online/>.

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Sustainable environment

16 Affordable Warmth Scheme (Cabinet Member for Environment)

The County Council re-launched its Affordable Warmth scheme in January to help residents on low incomes make their homes warmer, healthier and more energy efficient. The scheme, promoted by the County Council and its district and borough partners in West Sussex, provides financial support for residents who receive benefits, including Pension Guarantee Credit and Income Support. The finance pays for loft and cavity wall insulation, heating improvements including oil, Liquid Petroleum Gas and gas boiler upgrades and new, energy-efficient storage heaters. The scheme is funded through the Government's Energy Companies Obligation (ECO). In most cases residents who qualify will need to make a contribution towards the cost of the work due to reduced levels of ECO funding nationally. The West Sussex Affordable Warmth scheme will be delivered under a contract with Your Energy Sussex Energy Solutions, who will source the ECO funding manage the contact with residents referred through the scheme and oversee all energy works through a network of local, accredited sub-contractors.



INDEPENDENCE FOR LATER LIFE



Older people feel safe and secure

17 NHS 'Let's Get You Home' (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

The County Council is working with the NHS in West Sussex on the 'The Let's Get You Home' initiative, to ensure patients spend no longer than they need to in hospital. Staff have early conversations with patients to discuss their choices about how and when they will be able to leave hospital, as well as carrying out patient's long-term care need assessments in their own homes. The aim is to support people to return home as soon as prudently and safely possible, once treatment in hospital is complete as there is evidence to show that patients recover better out of hospital. The quicker the throughput of patients from hospital to home, the more beds become available for those patients who need

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them. This initiative complements the work the County Council is currently doing, for example the commissioning of additional care home beds and domiciliary care hours. This is enabling the reduction in delayed transfers of care that are attributable to the County Council.

18 Virtual Reality work to support dementia (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

The County Council is looking at new technologies to support people to stay in their own home for longer as they become older or have long-term health conditions. One such initiative looks at the development of a virtual reality experience which may provide benefits to people with long-term conditions such as dementia. A variety of memory provoking environments are created for users through a virtual reality headset which appear to provide positive effects on general mental wellbeing and to reduce stress levels. The Cabinet Member has been involved in initial scoping work on this new technology and will work with officers to explore trialling the headsets and developing the research on the benefits that these virtual reality experiences may have.



People are healthy and well

19 'Dry January' 2018 (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

The 'Dry January' campaign supports change to drinking behaviour by encouraging people to have a month free from drinking alcohol in order to reset their drinking habits. Local residents and County Council staff were encouraged to participate and the County Council's Public Health Directorate commissioned Spirit FM to promote 'Dry January' to listeners. Residents and staff were also encouraged to take the [Don'tBottleItUp](#) alcohol test to assess whether their drinking was risky, and were directed to the West Sussex Wellbeing website for a wide range of self-help and support options. Approximately 500 local people signed up to an alcohol-free month via Spirit FM, which promoted the challenge and the benefits of a 'Dry January' using adverts, on-air discussion, interviews with the Public Health lead for alcohol and promotion on its website. For many participants, successfully completing a 'Dry January' has been a life-changing experience and early feedback suggests that participants have lost weight, slept better and saved money, as well as resetting their drinking habits with many planning to consume less alcohol in the future.

20 Seasonal Influenza (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

The flu vaccine is the best protection the public has against an unpredictable virus that can cause unpleasant symptoms in most people and severe illness and death among at-risk groups. Nationally the seasonal flu messaging sits within the 'Stay Well This Winter' campaign and the County Council does all it can to work with partners to promote this important campaign. Final figures and validated data for flu vaccination rates for West Sussex residents will not be available until mid-February. However, provisional (un-validated) data to the end of November 2018 showed West Sussex vaccination rates looked encouraging across all groups. The County Council's staff vaccination campaign saw a marked improvement in uptake this year with a total of 4,038 Boots vouchers issued. This is an increase of 1,000 County Council

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staff and nearly 500 school staff compared to 2016/17 uptake. There was also a focus on encouraging uptake in frontline staff with the Public Health Directorate running workshops for managers and the Directors of Family Operations and Adults' Operations writing to staff explaining the importance of encouraging staff uptake of the vaccination.

21 Meals on Wheels Service (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

The Cabinet Member recently joined the County Council's meals-on-wheels provider, *Apetito*, delivering lunches to West Sussex residents. The provider and County Council partnership was the winner of the National Association of Care Catering Meals on Wheels Service of the Year Award in October 2017. With every meal delivered, the driver makes a 'safe and well check'; a common-sense style check to make sure that all appears well with the customer and their immediate environment. All delivery drivers undergo training for these checks. Any potential issues are reported to the *Apetito* office and from there to the named next-of-kin or the person's carer. In some cases calls are also routed to the County Council's Prevention and Assessment team. If there is a serious problem or a need for an ambulance to be called the driver will stay with that person until help arrives. All the drivers have undertaken Dementia Friends training as well as Disclosure and Barring Service checks. In addition to this, telematics systems in the vans assess their driving to ensure their own safety and help identify any training needs. *Apetito* aim to keep each driver on the same rounds so that a rapport can be built up with residents which can help when talking about their safety and wellbeing at home. The service is an important part of the County Council's strategy for keeping people well and supporting their choice to stay in their own homes, for as long as possible.

22 West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board (Cabinet Member for Adults and Health)

Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. They were set up to act as a forum in which key leaders from the local health and care system could work together to build strong and effective partnerships which improve the commissioning and delivery of services across NHS and local government, leading in turn to improved health and wellbeing for local people. There have been a number of changes to the membership of the West Sussex HWB over the last month, with a new Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health and Education and Director of Public Health alongside changes in NHS leadership within West Sussex. Furthermore, the current Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy are due for a refresh in 2018. The Board is also undertaking a review of its role, purpose and scope and how it wishes to operate in future. The County Council will share more information about this with its partners and the public over the next few months.



A COUNCIL THAT WORKS FOR THE COMMUNITY



Customer focused

23 Engagement with government (Leader)

The Cabinet met West Sussex Members of Parliament to discuss how to work together to help achieve the vision of West Sussex as outlined in the County Council's [West Sussex Plan](#). This includes ensuring that children get the best start in life, with a particular focus on efforts to drive up school standards and outcomes for West Sussex children. MPs also heard about the County Council's work to ensure West Sussex remains a place where older people are safe and secure, highlighting the need for the forthcoming Social Care Green Paper to consider reform of the sector, including the professionalisation of the care work career path. The Leader will continue to engage with government Ministers on issues of importance, including social care reform and local government finance, to provide the very best outcomes for West Sussex residents.



Works in partnership

24 Consultation on the Fair funding review: a review of relative needs and resources (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources)

The Department for Communities and Local Government has published its consultation on the [Fair funding review: a review of relative needs and resources on 19 December](#). The focus of the paper is a comparison of the differing 'need' to spend between authorities. The current methodology for assessing local authorities' relative needs was introduced over ten years ago and an update is overdue. The consultation invites comments on the three key cost drivers for determining funding allocations; population (size and age profile), rurality (providing services over a wide area) and deprivation (deprived individuals are more likely to access services). The Cabinet Member will be making representations direct to the Government Minister on behalf of the County Council that its residents must have a better deal in future from the funding

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share allocated by the Government. The responses to the review will hopefully enable the Government to reconsider how the relative needs and resources of all local authorities should be assessed. The new funding share is scheduled for implementation in 2020/21. The County Council will be working with district and borough councils to develop a joint response from West Sussex.

25 Fairtrade (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources)

The County Council is continuing to support Fairtrade West Sussex and build on the achievements of the campaign which led to the award of Fairtrade County status. A Fairtrade section setting out the County Council's commitment to Fairtrade is planned for the County Council's website and a Fairtrade County logo is also planned which will celebrate and further promote the county's status. In order to widen the profile of Fairtrade county wide, this year's Fairtrade West Sussex AGM will be held at Edes House, Chichester on 1 March which is during Fairtrade Fortnight which runs from 26 February to 11 March. The theme for the fortnight is titled 'Come on in to Fairtrade' with the aim of supporting Fairtrade awareness and activity in the county. Some of the activity that the County Council has co-ordinated includes workshops in schools run by the County Council's main school meals contractor, Chartwells, on the principles and aims of Fairtrade, the promotion of Fairtrade by the County Council's Meals on Wheels provider, Apetito, and the library service is now stocking books about Fairtrade in its inventory.

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Background Papers

None