

Cabinet Members' Reports: Current and recent Business - Supplementary

# Stronger Communities

## John O'Brien Highways and Transport



### **26 Southern – ongoing disruptions to rail services in West Sussex**

On 28 September the Cabinet Member met representatives of Southern to strenuously express concerns about disruption to rail services affecting commuters in West Sussex. Matters discussed included the issues of reliability of rail services; concerns about the poor quality information provided to passengers during disruptions; problems associated with the temporary reduced weekday timetable such as reduced journey opportunities and overcrowded services; and plans for additional compensation for passengers. The severe impact of the industrial relations dispute with the RMT Union was also discussed and it was stressed that the County Council would like to see this dispute resolved quickly. Southern set out an intention to return to a full timetable in the next few weeks, and to press ahead with plans to evolve the conductor role to improve customer service. The Cabinet Member was also advised that additional resources are being invested to improve services and was provided with details of compensation schemes available for passengers, including the Government's recently announced plan to enable passengers to claim compensation when services are more than 15 minutes late.

### **27 West Sussex Cycle Forum Cycle Summit**

On 30 September the Cabinet Member attended the West Sussex Cycle Forum Cycle Summit. The aims of the Summit were to give key decision makers and designers the opportunity to learn about and discuss the latest thinking and developments in respect of cycling. Presentations detailed matters such as the latest evidence on the economic benefits of cycling, overcoming barriers and examples of where the growth in cycling has been successfully promoted. The Government's new approach to cycling and Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans was highlighted. This included how authorities can plan for cycling, covering aspects such as where routes in towns should go and the relationship between cycling and new developments, as well as giving examples of the best new designs. Presenters demonstrated tools, applications and methods used to assess and plan where cycle infrastructure might best be provided. The event, alongside the new West Sussex Walking and Cycling Strategy, will prove beneficial in helping the county develop its approach to cycling in coming years.

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**Christine Field**  
**Community Wellbeing**



## **28 Sustainability and Transformation Plan**

The Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) is an NHS England-led programme that is seeking to make the local health and social care economy more sustainable in the light of the significant financial challenges facing the sector. It is estimated that within this financial year there is around £120m of pressure within the Sussex and East Surrey health and social care system that needs to be managed. On 21 October a plan to rebalance the system will be submitted to NHS England. This will set out how the system will mitigate the financial risks but also how the system needs to adapt to keep pace with demographic challenges. Two 'locality' plans are also being developed, the first one focuses on the area covered by the Coastal West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and a second footprint covers the Brighton and Surrey & Sussex Hospital Trusts. The second footprint is not co-terminus with the County Council boundary and covers four upper tier local authorities and five CCGs. The County Council has a duty to plan and deliver services based on West Sussex boundaries.

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### **Background Papers**

None