

West Sussex County Council – Annual Meeting

27 March 2015

At the Annual Meeting of the County Council held at 10.30 a.m. on Friday, 27 March 2015, at the Civic Hall, Crawley Borough Council, Crawley, the members present being:

Mrs P A C Arculus (Chairman)

Mr W E Acraman	Mr R A Lanzer
Mr D H Barling	Mr G V McAra
Mr L H Barnard	Mr P G Metcalfe
Mr A J Barrett-Miles	Mrs M E Millson
Mr P J J Bradbury	Mrs S R Mullins
Mr M J Brown	Mr R J Oakley
Mr R D Burrett	Mr S J Oakley
Mr P C Catchpole	Mr J J O'Brien
Mr M A Cloake	Mr C G Oxlade
Mr D G Crow	Mr L W Parsons
Dr N P S Dennis	Mr A Patel
Mrs J E Duncton	Mr A P Petch
Mrs E M Evans	Mr N F Peters
Mr P C Evans	Mr B J Quinn
Mrs C M Field	Mr J G Rae
Mr M J Glennon	Mrs A M Rapnik
Ms M L Goldsmith	Mr J L Rogers
Mr P A D Griffiths	Mr R Rogers
Mrs P A Hall	Mr D P Sheldon
Mr P D High	Mr B A Smith
Mr S R Hillier	Mrs B A Smith
Mr J C Hunt	Mr R J Smytherman
Ms S James	Mr A C Sutcliffe
Mrs A F Jones, MBE	Mr G M Tyler
Mr G L Jones	Mrs D L Urquhart
Mr M G Jones	Mr S G Waight
Mrs A J Jupp	Dr J M M Walsh, KStJ, RD
Ms D M K Kennard	Mr B R A D Watson, OBE
Mrs L Kitchen	Mr D R Whittington
Mr P K Lamb	Mr L S Wickremaratchi

Chairman

- 1 Mr Peters, the Vice-Chairman of the Council, took the chair for the election of Chairman of the County Council.

Election of Chairman

- 2 The Vice-Chairman stated that he had one nomination for the office of Chairman of the Council, that of Mrs Pat Arculus. Mrs Arculus was elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

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- 3 Mrs Arculus made the prescribed declaration of acceptance of office and took the chair.

Election of Vice-Chairman

- 4 The Chairman stated that she had one nomination for the office of Vice-Chairman of the Council, that of Mr Lionel Barnard. Mr Barnard was elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 5 Mr Barnard made the prescribed declaration of acceptance of office.

Death of Mr Harold Hall

- 6 The Chairman reported the death of a former Leader of the County Council, Mr Harold Hall, who had represented the Fontwell electoral division from 1991 to 2005.
- 7 The Council stood for a minute's silence.

Apologies and attendance

- 8 Apologies were received from Mrs Bennett, Mrs Brunsdon, Mr Buckland, Mr Circus, Mrs Mockridge, Mr Montyn, Mr Oppler, Mrs Phillips and Mr Turner. Mr Lamb arrived at 10.45 a.m. Mr Clark was absent. Mrs Smith and Mr Wickremaratchi gave their apologies for the afternoon session.

Interests

- 9 Members declared interests as set out at Appendix 1.

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- 10 It was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the County Council held on 13 February 2015 (pages 3 to 34) be approved as a correct record, subject to the correction of Mr Sheldon's interest on page 22 to read 'Chief Executive' not 'Chairman'.

Review of Proportionality

- 11 The County Council was reminded of its statutory duty to review the proportionality on its committees annually and following Mr Rae's recent change in group affiliation. A paper on the application of the proportionality rules and how they were applied was set out at pages 35 and 35a together with a table showing the number of seats on committees.

- 12 Resolved –

That the review of proportionality on committees be agreed.

Notification of Appointment of Cabinet Members and Deputies to Cabinet Members

- 13** The County Council was reminded that the Leader was required each year to give notice to the Council of her appointments to the Cabinet and allocation of Cabinet portfolios, together with the appointment of Deputies to Cabinet Members.
- 14** The Council noted that Ms Goldsmith had given notice to the County Council of her appointments for the ensuing year, as circulated on page 35b.

Appointments

- 16** Schedules setting out the nominations for the re-appointment of the chairmen, vice-chairmen and members of Select Committees and non-Executive committees and substitutes were circulated.
- 17** The schedules were agreed as set out at Appendix 2 attached.

Written Questions

- 18** Questions and answers pursuant to Standing Order 15(2), as set out at Appendix 3, were circulated. Members asked questions on the answers as set out at Appendix 3.

Cabinet Member Question Time

- 19** Members asked questions on the Cabinet Members' reports (pages 38 to 43) and a supplementary report on pages 43A and B as set out at Appendix 4.

Leader's Question Time

- 20** Members questioned the Leader on matters currently relevant to the County Council, as set out at Appendix 4.

Governance Committee: Review of Format of Council Meetings

- 21** The Council received a report from the Governance Committee on changes to the format of Council meetings (pages 44 to 51).

- 22** Resolved -

That the recommended changes to County Council meetings set out in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 and in the Appendix of the report be approved for implementation from the meeting of the County Council on 22 May 2015.

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Governance Committee: Pay Policy Statement 2015/16

23 The Council received a report from the Governance Committee on the Pay Policy Statement 2015/16 (pages 52 to 62).

24 Resolved -

That the proposed revisions to the Pay Policy Statement, as set out at the Appendix to the report, be approved.

Governance Committee: Pension Advisory Board – Terms of Reference

25 The Council received a report from the Governance Committee on minor changes to the terms of reference of the Pension Advisory Board to take account of recent regulations and guidance (pages 63 and 64).

26 Resolved -

That the changes to the terms of reference for the Pension Advisory Board, as set out at the Appendix to the report, be approved.

Notices of Motion

Notice of Motion by Mr G L Jones

27 At the County Council meeting on 12 December 2014 the following motion had been moved by Mr G L Jones and seconded by Mr Glennon, and referred to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations for consideration. The item had been deferred due to lack of time at the meeting of the County Council on 13 February 2015. A report by the Cabinet Member was included with the agenda (page 65).

'In 2012 the County Council signed the Armed Forces Community Covenant, in which we committed to support the Armed Forces Community working and residing in West Sussex.

It is of paramount importance that we honour our pledges in the Community Covenant and continually strive to ensure that those commitments are translated into actions to improve the lives of all those who are either in active service or have served our country.

We recognise that veterans can find making the transition to civilian life extremely challenging, particularly in finding and securing lasting employment and believe that the County Council has a leading role to play in helping ex-servicemen and women to fulfil their potential outside of the Services.

This Council therefore asks the Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations to commit to signing up to the 'Veteran's Guaranteed Interview Scheme', created by the independent charity 'Soldier On!' and to fulfil the Scheme's two criteria:

- To interview all veterans who meet the minimum criteria for a job vacancy and to consider them on their abilities;
- To review this commitment annually and assess what has been achieved.

We also ask the Cabinet Member to commit to, wherever practicable, encouraging our suppliers and contractors to sign up to the scheme and also to promote the principles of the scheme to all employers within the county.'

- 28** An amendment was moved by Mr Glennon and seconded by Ms James as set out below:

'In 2012 the County Council signed the Armed Forces Community Covenant, in which we committed to support the Armed Forces Community working and residing in West Sussex.

It is of paramount importance that we honour our pledges in the Community Covenant and continually strive to ensure that those commitments are translated into actions to improve the lives of all those who are either in active service or have served our Country.

We recognise that veterans can find making the transition to civilian life extremely challenging, particularly in finding and securing lasting employment and believe that the County Council has a leading role to play in helping ex-servicemen and women to fulfil their potential outside of the Services.

This Council therefore asks the Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations to commit to signing up to the '**Veteran's Interview Programme', the ministerial initiative originally launched by Jim Murphy MP** ~~'Veteran's Guaranteed Interview Scheme', created by the independent charity 'Soldier On!'~~ and to fulfil the Scheme's two criteria **adopt the following criteria:**

- **The Armed Forces was your last long-term employer**
- **A maximum of three years (36 months) has elapsed since you left the armed forces**
- **You meet the essential criteria for the job.**
- ~~To interview all veterans who meet the minimum criteria for a job vacancy and to consider them on their abilities;~~
- ~~To review this commitment annually and assess what has been achieved.~~

We also ask the Cabinet Member to commit to, wherever practicable, encouraging our suppliers and contractors to sign up to the scheme and also to promote the principles of the scheme to all employers within the county.'

- 29** The amendment was carried.

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30 The amended motion, as set out below, was agreed.

'In 2012 the County Council signed the Armed Forces Community Covenant, in which we committed to support the Armed Forces Community working and residing in West Sussex.

It is of paramount importance that we honour our pledges in the Community Covenant and continually strive to ensure that those commitments are translated into actions to improve the lives of all those who are either in active service or have served our Country.

We recognise that veterans can find making the transition to civilian life extremely challenging, particularly in finding and securing lasting employment and believe that the County Council has a leading role to play in helping ex-servicemen and women to fulfil their potential outside of the Services.

This Council therefore asks the Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations to commit to signing up to the 'Veteran's Interview Programme', the ministerial initiative originally launched by Jim Murphy MP and to adopt the following criteria:

- The Armed Forces was your last long-term employer
- A maximum of three years (36 months) has elapsed since you left the armed forces
- You meet the essential criteria for the job.

We also ask the Cabinet Member to commit to, wherever practicable, encouraging our suppliers and contractors to sign up to the scheme and also to promote the principles of the scheme to all employers within the county.'

31 The Leader placed on record the Council's thanks to all members of the military for the work they had done in keeping the country safe.

Notice of Motion by Mrs Mullins

32 At the County Council meeting on 12 December 2014 the following motion had been moved by Mrs Mullins and seconded by Mrs Smith, and referred to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport for consideration. The item had been deferred due to lack of time at the meeting of the County Council on 13 February 2015. A report by the Cabinet Member was included with the agenda (page 66).

'This Council notes that none of the towns, villages, or housing estates in the county were ever designed to accommodate the presently required parking provision and no one could have predicted how parking problems would blight our communities today.

This Council believes that, although different parking issues affect

communities in different ways, parking is a county-wide problem which will soon reach crisis point. Not only do parking issues cause frustration and tension between neighbours, they also lead to costly damage to the infrastructure, increased congestion and safety issues due to blocked access routes for emergency and service vehicles.

This Council resolves to tackle this issue by asking the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to set up a Parking Strategy Working Group involving district, borough, town and parish councils to proactively consider parking improvement schemes in all towns and villages to deal with this issue, ensuring that any profit from parking schemes and measures are re-invested into parking alleviation schemes throughout the county.

The Working Group should explore possibilities such as park and ride schemes; facilitating a reasonable cost one-stop service for residential driveway installation and focussing in particular on the issues around railway stations. Phase two of the strategic working group should look at longer term solutions to this problem such as (a) reviewing current planning requirements county-wide to ensure future developments for both commercial and residential properties include adequate provision for parking; and (b) the extent to which safe cycle tracks and lanes to link our towns and villages would have a positive impact on travel across the county and thereby reduce parking issues.'

- 33** An amendment was moved by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and seconded by Mrs Duncton as set out below:

'This Council notes that none of the towns, villages, or housing estates in the county were ever designed to accommodate the presently required parking provision and no one could have predicted how parking problems would blight our communities today.

This Council believes that, although different parking issues affect communities in different ways, parking is a county-wide problem which will soon reach crisis point. Not only do parking issues cause frustration and tension between neighbours, they also lead to costly damage to the infrastructure, increased congestion and safety issues due to blocked access routes for emergency and service vehicles.

This Council resolves to tackle this issue by asking the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to **undertake a programme of parking audits across each locality in West Sussex, tested by way of a pilot.** ~~set up a Parking Strategy Working Group involving district, borough, town and parish councils to proactively consider parking improvement schemes in all towns and villages to deal with this issue, ensuring that any profit from parking schemes and measures are re-invested into parking alleviation schemes throughout the county.~~ **Parking audits** should explore possibilities such as park and ride schemes facilitating a reasonable cost one-stop service for residential driveway installation **and** focusing in particular on the issues around railway stations. ~~Phase two of the strategic~~

~~working group should look at longer term solutions to this problem such as~~
In addition, audits will look at longer-term solutions such as reviewing current planning requirements ~~countywide~~ and ~~impacts to~~ ensuring that future developments for both commercial and residential properties include adequate provision for parking. ***The audits will also consider*** the extent to which safe cycle tracks ***and other more sustainable modes of travel that*** link our towns and villages would have a positive impact on travel across the county and thereby reduce parking issues.

The pilot would include a joint Working Group and ensure that broader parking and alternative travel options are considered. Lessons learnt from the pilot will allow the Cabinet Member to consider how, in the context of the developing place/locality plans, parking audits might best be implemented across the county. The order in which locations are expected to be selected will take account of knowledge of existing parking problems linked to economic priorities and planned investment. This will be considered by the Cabinet Member.'

34 The amendment was carried.

35 The amended motion, as set out below, was agreed.

This Council notes that none of the towns, villages, or housing estates in the county were ever designed to accommodate the presently required parking provision and no one could have predicted how parking problems would blight our communities today.

This Council believes that, although different parking issues affect communities in different ways, parking is a county-wide problem which will soon reach crisis point. Not only do parking issues cause frustration and tension between neighbours, they also lead to costly damage to the infrastructure, increased congestion and safety issues due to blocked access routes for emergency and service vehicles.

This Council resolves to tackle this issue by asking the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to undertake a programme of parking audits across each locality in West Sussex, tested by way of a pilot. Parking audits should explore possibilities such as park and ride schemes and focusing in particular on the issues around railway stations. In addition, audits will look at longer-term solutions such as reviewing current planning requirements and to ensure that future developments for both commercial and residential properties include adequate provision for parking. The audits will also consider the extent to which safe cycle tracks and other more sustainable modes of travel that link our towns and villages would have a positive impact on travel across the county and thereby reduce parking issues.

The pilot would include a joint Working Group and ensure that broader parking and alternative travel options are considered. Lessons learnt from the pilot will allow the Cabinet Member to consider how, in the context of the developing place/locality plans, parking audits might best be

implemented across the county. The order in which locations are expected to be selected will take account of knowledge of existing parking problems linked to economic priorities and planned investment. This will be considered by the Cabinet Member.'

- 36** The following motion was moved by Mrs Millson and seconded by Ms Kennard:

'This Council aims to be recognised by the residents and business community of West Sussex as a Council that actively supports and promotes the concept of Fairtrade, ensuring that producers from developing countries get a fair price for their goods and labour.'

Noting that there are already a number of Fairtrade councils within West Sussex, West Sussex County Council resolves to ask the Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations to:

- (1) Promote awareness of Fairtrade issues by making publicity and educational information available to local people, regarding the worldwide impact of unfair trade, and the opportunities that Fairtrade provides to promote sustainable development;
- (2) Investigate the Council's purchasing policies regarding items that Fairtrade produces and encourage the purchase of Fairtrade items whenever possible, in particular to make Fairtrade tea and coffee available wherever refreshments are provided; and
- (3) Work with the West Sussex Fairtrade Steering Committee to promote Fairtrade issues and practices amongst local businesses and commercial and other organisations.'

- 37** The motion was referred to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations for consideration.

- 38** The following motion was moved by Mr Oxlade and seconded by Mr M G Jones:

'This Council believes:

1. 16 and 17 year olds are knowledgeable and passionate about the world in which they live and are as capable of engaging in the democratic system as any other citizen;
2. Lowering the voting age to 16, combined with strong citizenship education, empowers young people to better engage in society and influence decisions that will define their future; and
3. People who can consent to medical treatment, work full-time, pay taxes, get married or enter a civil partnership and join the armed forces should also have the right to vote;

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The Council therefore calls on the Governance Committee to:

- (1) Support the recent proposals to extend the franchise in all elections to 16 and 17 year olds;
- (2) Ask local MPs and the Government to extend the franchise in all elections to 16 and 17 year olds; and
- (3) Continue working with West Sussex Schools and Colleges to enhance citizenship education for all young people in West Sussex.'

39 The motion was referred to the Governance Committee for consideration.

Chairman

The Council rose at 3.28 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 1 - Interests

Members declared interests as set out below. All the interests listed below were personal but not pecuniary or prejudicial unless indicated.

Item	Member	Nature of Interest
All items	Mr Bradbury	Member of Mid Sussex District Council, Director of Warden Park Academy Trust and Member of Brantridge School (part of the Radius Trust). Chairman of Building Heroes Education Foundation
	Ms Kennard	Member of Sussex Partnership Foundation NHS Trust and Adur District Council
Item 9(a) Written Question 6	Mr S J Oakley	Member of Chichester District Council
Item 9(b) CMQT	Mr Hillier	Member and Chairman of Bentswood Community Partnership
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 4 (Care Act 2014)	Mr Catchpole	Spouse employed by West Sussex Carers Support
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 7 (Start of Life Partnership Board)	Mr Evans	Member of Ferring Parish Council and Chichester City Council
	Mrs Jones	Member of Mid Sussex Centre Partnership Group
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 8 (West Sussex Think Family)	Mr Evans	Member of Ferring Parish Council and Chichester City Council
	Mrs Jones	Member of Mid Sussex Centre Partnership Group
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 9 (SEND Hub Network Seminar)	Mr Evans	Member of Ferring Parish Council and Chichester City Council
	Mr Griffiths	Governor of Chailey Heritage School

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Item	Member	Nature of Interest
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 11 (West Sussex Transit Site)	Mr S J Oakley	Member of Chichester District Council
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraphs 14 (new school places)	Mr Evans	Governor of Ferring Primary School
	Mrs Jones	Member of Mid Sussex District Council
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 15 (Celebrating Healthy Schools West Sussex)	Mr Evans	Governor of Ferring Primary School
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 16 (Universal Infant Free School Meals)	Mr Evans	Governor of Ferring Primary School
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 18 (business rate pool)	Mrs Jones	Member of Mid Sussex District Council
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 20 (A27)	Mr S J Oakley	Member of Chichester District Council
Item 9(b) CMQT paragraph 21 (Inter Authority Fire and Rescue Group)	Mr Parsons	Son-in-law works for West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
Item 11 Governance Committee: Pay Policy Statement 2015/16	Mr Burrett	Member of the Local Government Pension Scheme and as a member of the Local Government Pensions Committee, appointed by the LGA Conservative Group
Item 12 Governance Committee: Pension Advisory Board – Terms of Reference	Mr Burrett	Member of the Local Government Pension Scheme and as a member of the Local Government Pensions Committee, appointed by the LGA Conservative Group
	Mr Lanzer	Member of the Local Government Pension Scheme
	Mr J L Rogers	Member of West Sussex Pension Fund

Item	Member	Nature of Interest
Item 13(a) – Notice of Motion on veteran guaranteed interview scheme	Mr Barling	Member of the Royal British Legion
	Ms Goldsmith	Relative in the Forces
	Mr G L Jones	Member of Royal British Legion, Royal Signals Association, Parachute Regiment Association and Special Air Service Association
	Ms Kennard	Member of Royal British Legion
	Mr Lamb	Member of Royal British Legion
	Mr Metcalfe	Member of Royal British Legion
	Mr Oxlade	Member of Crawley Borough Council and Chairman of its Covenant Committee
	Mr Quinn	Member of the Royal British Legion
	Mrs Smith	Associate member of the Royal Naval Association
	Mr Sutcliffe	Member of Royal Naval Association, Royal Airforces Association and Royal British Legion
	Dr Walsh	Member of the Royal Naval Association
Item 13(b) – Notice of Motion on parking strategy	Mrs Duncton	Member of Chichester District Council

Nominations for Committees – March 2015 (excluding non-Council members)

Children and Young People's Services Select Committee (12)	Environmental and Community Services Select Committee (12)	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (12)	Performance and Finance Select Committee (15)
Mrs Bennett Mr Burrett Mr Cloake Mrs Duncton Mr High Mrs Jupp Mrs Mullins Mr R J Oakley Mr Oppler Mr Parsons Mr Smith Mr Wickremaratchi	Mr Barrett-Miles Mrs Brunson Mr Circus Dr Dennis Mr G L Jones Mr M G Jones Mr S J Oakley Mrs Phillips Mr Rae Mr J L Rogers Mr Tyler Mr Whittington	(Ch) Mr Bradbury Mrs Evans Mr Griffiths Mr Hillier Mrs A F Jones Ms Kennard Mrs Rapnik Mr Sheldon Mrs Smith Mr Sutcliffe Mr Turner Dr Walsh (V-Ch)	Mr Burrett Mrs Evans Mr Glennon Ms James Mrs Kitchen Mr Lamb Mr McAra Mr Metcalfe Mrs Millson Mr R Rogers Mr Turner Mr Tyler Mrs Urquhart Mr Waight Mr Watson (V-Ch) (Ch)

Proposed changes shown
in bold, italic text



Nominations for Committees – March 2015 (cont)
(excluding non-Council members)

Planning Committee (13)	Rights of Way Committee (9)	Regulation, Audit and Accounts Committee (7)	Governance Committee (9)	Standards Committee (9)	Treasury Management Panel (5)
(Ch) Mr Barrett-Miles Mrs Brunson Mr Crow Mrs Hall Mrs Kitchen Mr McAra Mrs Mockridge Mr S J Oakley Mr Parsons Mr Quinn Mr J L Rogers Mr R Rogers Mr Wickremaratchi Substitutes: Mr Acraman Mr Clark Mrs Duncton Mr High Mrs Millson Mr Patel Mr Sheldon 1 Labour vacancy	Mr Acraman Mr Bradbury Mr Burrett Mr Clark Mrs Duncton Mr Metcalfe Mr Quinn Mr R Rogers Mr Whittington (Ch) Substitutes: Dr Dennis Mrs Hall Mr R J Oakley Mr Patel Mr Peters Mr Tyler Mrs Urquhart 1 Lab vacancy	Mr Bradbury Ms James Mr M G Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Millson Mr Patel (Ch) (V-Ch) Mr Waight	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	Mr Acraman Mrs Arculus Mr Barnard Mr Burrett Mr Petch Mr Peters Mr R Rogers Mr Smith Mrs Urquhart	(Ch) Mr Brown Mr Burrett Mr Metcalfe Mr R Rogers Mr Watson
Adult Safeguarding Panel (3) Mrs Jupp Mr Sutcliffe Mr Wickremaratchi	Mrs Duncton Mr Griffiths Ms Kennard (Ch) Mrs Jupp Mrs Millson Mr Oxlade Mr Smytherman	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	Mr Acraman Mrs Arculus Mr Barnard Mr Burrett Mr Petch Mr Peters Mr R Rogers Mr Smith Mrs Urquhart	(Ch) Mr Brown Mr Burrett Mr Metcalfe Mr R Rogers Mr Watson
Corporate Parenting Panel (7) Mrs Duncton Mr Griffiths Ms Kennard (Ch) Mrs Jupp Mrs Millson Mr Oxlade Mr Smytherman	(Ch) Mrs Jupp Mr Sutcliffe Mr Wickremaratchi	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	Mr Acraman Mrs Arculus Mr Barnard Mr Burrett Mr Petch Mr Peters Mr R Rogers Mr Smith Mrs Urquhart	(Ch) Mr Brown Mr Burrett Mr Metcalfe Mr R Rogers Mr Watson
Adoption Panels (2) Mr Oppler Mrs Jupp	Mrs Duncton Mr Griffiths Ms Kennard (Ch) Mrs Jupp Mrs Millson Mr Oxlade Mr Smytherman	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	Mr Acraman Mrs Arculus Mr Barnard Mr Burrett Mr Petch Mr Peters Mr R Rogers Mr Smith Mrs Urquhart	(Ch) Mr Brown Mr Burrett Mr Metcalfe Mr R Rogers Mr Watson
Fostering Panels (3x1) North Foster Panel (1) Mrs Brunson South East Foster Panel (1) Mr Peters South West Foster Panel (1) Ms Kennard	Mrs Duncton Mr Griffiths Ms Kennard (Ch) Mrs Jupp Mrs Millson Mr Oxlade Mr Smytherman	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	Mr Acraman Mrs Arculus Mr Barnard Mr Burrett Mr Petch Mr Peters Mr R Rogers Mr Smith Mrs Urquhart	(Ch) Mr Brown Mr Burrett Mr Metcalfe Mr R Rogers Mr Watson
PropCo Panel (5) Mr Barling Mr Brown Ms Goldsmith Mrs Millson Mr Peters	Mrs Duncton Mr Griffiths Ms Kennard (Ch) Mrs Jupp Mrs Millson Mr Oxlade Mr Smytherman	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	(Ch) Mrs Arculus (V-Ch) Mr Barnard Mr Brown Mr Burrett Ms Goldsmith Mr G L Jones Mr Lanzer Mrs Mullins Dr Walsh	Mr Acraman Mrs Arculus Mr Barnard Mr Burrett Mr Petch Mr Peters Mr R Rogers Mr Smith Mrs Urquhart	(Ch) Mr Brown Mr Burrett Mr Metcalfe Mr R Rogers Mr Watson

27 March 2015

1. Written question from **Mr M G Jones** for reply by the **Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health**

Question

The Cabinet Member will, I am sure, be familiar with UNISON'S Ethical Care Charter which is essentially a set of commitments that councils are invited to make which fix minimum standards that will protect the dignity and quality of life for those vulnerable people they are responsible for and the workers who care for them. The over-riding objective behind the Charter being to establish a minimum baseline for the safety, quality and dignity of care by ensuring employment conditions which do not routinely short change clients and ensure the recruitment and retention of a more stable workforce through more sustainable pay, conditions and training levels.

Given that one of the priority outcomes of the Future West Sussex Plan is for adults to be safe and secure and that success in this area is to be measured by the quality of care in homes and that received at home, I would be grateful if the Cabinet Member could confirm that this authority will be signing up to all aspects of the Charter. If not, can the Cabinet Member confirm which aspects of the Charter this authority will be signing up to, or which he is prepared to confirm can be met?

Answer

The County Council takes account of a wide range of legislation and policy documents when setting standards for care, including the Social Care Commitment 2013, the Social Value Act 2014, the revised Care Quality Commission fundamental standards, and the Care Act 2014. The Ethical Care Charter is one of a wide range of sources in considering these key areas. The Health and Wellbeing Board has also outlined workforce as one of its three key strategic priorities, and therefore there is a strong focus throughout the work of the Council in promoting and encouraging a sustainable workforce.

The specific aspects of the Ethical Care Charter, the County Council's position on these, and how the new commissioning arrangements for the purchasing of care and support at home which are currently being tendered compare to the requirements are described below.

Stage 1:

The County Council has moved towards a position of commissioning on the basis of meeting individuals outcomes. Customers who purchase services privately or through a Direct Payment are provided with advice and information in respect of purchasing services. Where the Council purchase on behalf of customers the new commissioning arrangements require the service provider to agree with the service user how they will work with them to meet their outcomes. In addition, the new service specification requires that providers must ensure that the time allocated for

visits is sufficient to meet the needs and outcomes of the service user and must take account of the realistic time required to travel between service user's homes to avoid care workers rushing or reducing the time spent with service users.

These new arrangements also require service providers to adhere to all relevant legislation including payment of national minimum wage, having taking into account travel and mandatory training time and cost, any other expenses necessarily incurred in providing the care and any other statutory requirements, including but not limited to sick pay and pension entitlement.

Stage 2:

One of the core service performance and reporting measures for the new arrangements is around the service user experience, which will include their experiences regarding the consistency of the care worker/ care team. There are also clear requirements for staff to monitor service user's health and wellbeing and providers are required to follow the current Pan Sussex Multi-Agency Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Adults at Risk.

Appropriate training and development opportunities for staff which meet the requirements of the Care Quality Commission, are accessible for all staff and enable staff to have appropriate knowledge and skills to fulfil their roles are also required, and these must take account of the isolated nature of the work.

Stage 3:

In April 2014, a County Council report outlined a notice of motion in relation to the Living Wage. This confirmed that "whilst the Cabinet Members recognise the benefits that the Living Wage can bring to an organisation they are unable to support the motion that the County Council signs up to the Living Wage Campaign and its principles". The reasons cited included; the large percentage of staffing costs for the County Council, the reductions in cost bases required over recent and future years, it being inappropriate to impose living wage on contractors, decisions on pay for low paid roles in educational establishments are now taken by head teachers and governing bodies, and the unknown financial situation in the next four years. The position on this has not changed in that the medium term financial plan reflects a difficult financial outlook for the County Council, and therefore the Council is unable to commit to the aspects included in stage 3 of the Ethical Care Charter.

In summary, the County Council sees the aims and principles of the ethical care charter in the same way as it looks to incorporate best practice from a number of wide sources. Although, the County Council is not in the position to sign up to the Charter, many of the aims and principles are reflected in the development of the new commissioning arrangements for purchasing care and support at home, in the wider work around sustainability and workforce development, and in the provision of social care.

Supplementary Question

Does the Cabinet Member accept that ensuring care workers receive the living

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wage is the only way to deal with the recruitment issue?

Supplementary Answer

I do not agree about the living wage as explained in the answer but I do agree in terms of getting a fair comparison between care workers and those who work in other industries. Work currently underway by the Health and Wellbeing Board will take into account the wider range of things that needed to be considered, not just pay, but also status and awareness of career development in the care sector.

2. Written question from **Mr Oxlade** for reply by the **Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

Question

I understand that in a response to a recent Freedom of Information request made by the Labour Party relating to the number of pupils in infant classes (aged 5-7) with more than 30 pupils, the response provided by West Sussex confirmed that in January 2010 there were 383 and in January 2014 there were 1,747, which represents a vast increase.

I would be most grateful if the Cabinet Member would:

- (a) Provide me with a breakdown by District and Borough of the number of infant classes with more than 30 pupils per class;
- (b) Indicate how many classes are affected per school; and
- (c) Confirm what percentage of the total number of infant classes per District and Borough this represents and how this percentage compares to that in 2010.

Answer

All data relates to Maintained schools in Infant year groups (up to and including year 2)

(a) and (b)

2010:

DfE Number	School Name	District/Borough	Number of affected pupils	Number of classes
9382014	Kingsham Primary	Chichester	34	1
9382077	Elm Grove First	Worthing	31	1
9382136	Southwater Infant School	Horsham	31	1
9382150	Pound Hill Infant	Crawley	31	1
9382153	Three Bridges Infant	Crawley	34	1
9383033	St Andrew's C.E. Primary, Steyning	Horsham	32	1

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DfE Number	School Name	District/Borough	Number of affected pupils	Number of classes
9383040	Yapton C E Primary	Arun	31	1
9383335	St Margaret's C E Primary, Ifield	Crawley	62	2
9383340	St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary	Crawley	66	2
9383345	English Martyrs Catholic Primary	Worthing	31	1
Grand Total			383	12
	Total number of infant* classes:			753
	Percentage of infant* classes with over 30 pupils			1.59%

Source: Department for Education (DfE) SFR09/2010 and School Census - January 2010 (for school breakdown only):

* DfE calculated as: Numbers relating to Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 (in years Reception 1 and 2), schools with 1 teacher, and with over 30 pupils.

2014:

DfE Number	School Name	District/Borough	Number of affected pupils	Number of classes
9382000	Aldingbourne Primary	Arun	31	1
9382011	Camelsdale Primary	Chichester	62	2
9382035	Trafalgar Community Infant	Horsham	31	1
9382071	Westbourne Primary	Chichester	31	1
9382072	West Chiltington Community First	Horsham	31	1
9382075	Whytemead First	Worthing	62	2
9382076	Durrington First	Worthing	62	2
9382080	Field Place First	Worthing	31	1
9382082	Vale First and Middle	Worthing	62	2
9382105	Southbourne Infant	Chichester	31	1
9382133	Heron Way Primary	Horsham	125	4
9382138	Barnham Primary	Arun	32	1
9382150	Pound Hill Infant	Crawley	31	1
9382153	Three Bridges Primary School	Crawley	158	5
9382172	Glebe Primary	Adur	31	1
9382173	Swiss Gardens Primary	Adur	31	1
9382176	Milton Mount Primary	Crawley	31	1
9382183	East Preston Infants	Arun	62	2
9382199	Rose Green Infant	Arun	31	1
9382202	London Meed Community Primary	Mid Sussex	64	2
9382230	Waterfield Primary	Crawley	31	1
9382231	Thomas A'Becket First	Worthing	93	3
9382235	Sheddingdean Community Primary	Mid Sussex	31	1
9382240	Maidenbower Infant	Crawley	31	1

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DfE Number	School Name	District/Borough	Number of affected pupils	Number of classes
9382244	Desmond Anderson	Crawley	31	1
9382252	Summerlea Community Primary	Arun	31	1
9383003	South Bersted C.E. Primary	Arun	31	1
9383023	Midhurst C.E. Primary	Chichester	34	1
9383033	St Andrew's C.E. Primary, Steyning	Horsham	31	1
9383313	St John the Baptist C.E. Primary	Arun	32	1
9383331	St John's Catholic Primary	Horsham	62	2
9383335	St Margaret's C.E. Primary, Ifield	Crawley	31	1
9383340	St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary	Crawley	31	1
9383343	St Nicolas & St Mary CE (Aided) Primary	Adur	31	1
9383364	Northgate Primary	Crawley	124	4
9383369	Globe Primary, The	Adur	64	2
Grand Total			1749	56
	Total number of infant* classes:			794
	Percentage of infant* classes with over 30 pupils			7.05%

Source: Department for Education (DfE) SFR15/2014 and School Census - January 2014 (for school breakdown only):

DfE calculated as: Numbers relating to Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 (in years Reception, Mixed age 1 and 2), schools with 1 or more teacher, and with over 30 pupils.

The small difference of affected pupils to those reported in the DfE figures relate to late changes made by DfE after Census database closed.

Notes:

1. Infant class size legislation makes allowance for the entry of an additional child in very limited circumstances where it would be prejudicial to his or her interests not to admit them ('excepted pupils'). Please note: New regulations for admissions and 'excepted pupils' came into force on 1 February 2012.
2. All classes have been included under this legislation for 2014. In 2010 the previous legislation would have been in place, there would have been five classes (out of 12) that were "unlawful", probably not declaring a reason or category of why there were extra pupils.
3. There is no Academy data available as the DfE do not allow this section of data to be made available to Local Authorities. As schools convert to Academy status these are then no longer included.

- (c) Breakdown of over-size classes by District/Borough

District/Borough	% of over class sizes (of total infant classes) 2010	% of over class sizes (of total infant classes) 2014
Adur	0.00%	0.63%
Arun	0.13%	1.01%
Chichester	0.13%	0.63%
Crawley	0.80%	2.02%
Horsham	0.27%	1.13%
Mid Sussex	0.00%	0.38%
Worthing	0.27%	1.26%
Total	1.59%	7.05%

Supplementary Question

In relation to the increase in the number of primary and junior school classes with class sizes over 30 in West Sussex, and in Crawley in particular, does the Cabinet Member agree that parents and pupils deserve better?

Supplementary Answer

It is difficult to compare figures for 2010 with 2014 as regulations in 2012 increased to eight the number of exceptions to the 30 per class rule with which the County Council has to abide. The Council therefore has little option, particularly when an appeal is upheld, to increase a class size slightly in some instances.

Additional Questions

Additional questions were asked by Ms James, Mr Lamb, Mrs Mullins and Mrs Smith.

- 3. Written question from Mr Wickremaratchi for reply by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

Question

Since the last Children and Young People's Services Select Committee meeting I am extremely concerned about children being educated at home. I realise we have around 540 children been educated at home in West Sussex. Could you please let me know:

- (a) Do we as an authority check what is taught at home – i.e. Curriculum?
- (b) How often do we check to see if children are indeed taught at home?
- (c) The possibility of children been taught radicalisation at home.

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- (d) I am extremely concerned that children could be taught radicalisation at home and as an authority we have not got the jurisdiction to investigate/check. Please could you advise as to what the West Sussex County Council has put in place to stop this happening?

Answer

- (a) The Elective Home Education (EHE) Team offers advice and support to parents who choose to electively home educate their children. The responsibility to provide a suitable education, in accordance with the child's age, aptitude and ability and any special educational needs they may have, rests with the parent. However, when a parent elects to home educate their child, there is no requirement to follow any curriculum, and neither do they need to prepare or enter examinations. Elective Home Education Advisors will review the provision and perhaps make recommendations for improvement or signpost to various resources, to support the families in their delivery. There is no obligation on the part of the parent to meet with the Advisor, rather, they are able to send a report to the local authority outlining their provision and their plans for the following year.
- (b) Local authorities have no statutory duties in relation to monitoring the quality of home education on a routine basis. However, under Section 437(1) of the Education Act 1996, local authorities shall intervene if it appears that parents are not providing a suitable education.

The County Council's Elective Home Education Advisors offer an annual visit to EHE families. However, when cases are more complex and if families require supplementary support, then there may be additional visits or contact with families if resources allow.

- (c) Parents are fully responsible for the delivery of the education at home, unless they delegate this responsibility to other providers. What is taught may not be fully disclosed to the local authority. The information families choose to provide as evidence of 'suitable education' would be a matter for the parents.

A 'suitable' education is not defined in the Education Act 1996 but has been broadly described in case law as an education that 'primarily equips a child for life within the community of which he is a member, rather than the way of life in the country as a whole, as long as it does not foreclose the child's options in later years to adopt some other form of life if he wishes to do so'.

The Department for Education Guidance 2007 states:

"It should be noted that parents of all educational, social, racial, religious and ethnic backgrounds successfully educate children outside the school setting and these factors should not in themselves raise a concern about the suitability of the education being provided."

- (d) The Elective Home Education Team work hard to build relationships with the families with whom they work. Although there is no implicit right to see the

child, Advisors always seek to ascertain the views of the child and engage them in the visit discussion. All professionals working with children and young people have wider responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of children. EHE Advisors have received various safeguarding and child protection training and more recently have accessed Prevent Training.

Advisors would raise any concerns in relation to the welfare of a child to the Senior Manager for Pupil Compliance, as is procedure. In addition, the Advisors have regular one to one supervision, where they are able to explore and discuss any matters of concern. The EHE Team work across agencies and access available information from Social Care for example. Should a child have been withdrawn from school for home education, then the Advisor will discuss the withdrawal with the school and any matters arising will be considered accordingly.

Supplementary Question

I am still concerned that there is a loop hole whereby children taught at home may not be properly supervised and radicalisation could take place. Will the Cabinet Member investigate further and to write to the Secretary of State for Education?

Supplementary Answer

I understand the concerns. However, the Council does not have a statutory right to see children taught at home if a parent refuses. I will be writing to the Department for Education on the matter to see if anything can be done.

Additional Questions

Additional questions were asked by Mr Cloake, Mrs Jones, Mrs Millson and Dr Walsh.

- 4.** Written question from **Mr Acraman** for reply by the **Cabinet Member for Finance**

Question

Could I ask for a comprehensive summary of all the various grant streams in the gift of the county including the LEADER grant scheme?

There have been a number of occasions recently when County Local Committees (CLCs) have had to turn down application for worthy causes for a number of reasons – not local in usage; it covers a number of CLCs (including all); it involved revenue; it is for larger sums of money etc. etc. The applicants have been told it is a worthy claim but needs to go to another grant scheme. But we never seem to be quite sure which one nor how the applicant should proceed. The end result seems to be a degree of dissatisfaction on both sides. Therefore what I am asking for is a single reference document that will assist CLCs and their officers in

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directing where these applicants need to go, which should include the following information:

- Scheme name
- Annual budget allocated to the scheme
- Ultimately responsible cabinet member
- Responsible senior officer
- Administrative contact officer
- If there are application forms to be completed who are they obtainable from?
- Is local member approval required?
- Should the application come from the local member or direct from the applicant?
- What are the criteria that the application needs to satisfy? (The goal that the scheme is in place to address)
- Is a grant intended for capital or revenue expenditure or for either?
- Is there a maximum grant application figure in place? (how much?)
- What are the conditions of the grant such as match funding requirement or time limits on spending?

Whilst there is nothing here that members have not been informed of in the past, for it to be pulled together into a single paper will be useful as well as being a reminder to members of what is possible and available.

Answer

The Members Information Network (the MINE) contains a comprehensive section on available grants and funding opportunities which is kept regularly updated and is accessible on the County Council's network. Users outside of the County Council can see opportunities to secure funding via the West Sussex County Council webpages:

http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/your_council/council_services/grants_and_funding.aspx

A convincing case would have to be made to justify further work to collate and re-analyse information which is already accessibly presented, given scarce resources.

It is important to recognise that some grants are entirely in the gift of the County Council (e.g. Big Society Fund), some are operated by the County Council on behalf of others (e.g. the County Council is the Accountable body for the EU LEADER grant for which the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs are responsible to the EU) and some are run independently of the County Council. These distinctions do make it difficult to provide the information, across all grants, in a single reference document as requested by Mr Acraman.

Supplementary Question

I have not received an answer to my request which was for a summary of grants which can be given to members of the public at County Local Committees. Will the Cabinet Member arrange for such a document to be provided?

Supplementary Answer

In response to Mr Acraman's request and comments from other members, I will ask officers to review the answer and come back with further information to ensure that the process and protocols for grant funding are clear. This will be made available to all County Local Committee chairmen and a further written response will be sent to Mr Acraman.

Additional Questions

Additional questions were asked by Mr Crow, Mr Griffiths, Mr Parsons and Dr Walsh.

5. Written question from **Mrs Millson** for reply by the **Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

Question

The Cabinet Member will be aware of recent reports of a charity which was fined £70 for stopping in a loading bay to drop off passengers with dementia, despite the vehicle displaying a blue badge and regardless of an appeal. The fine was issued by a civil parking enforcement officer working for a District Council on behalf of this authority.

I understand that, whilst the blue badge scheme guidance published by the Department for Transport confirms that blue badge holders must not park in places where a ban on loading or unloading is in force, it does refer to the possibility of exceptionally allowing blue badge holders to park where there are loading restrictions.

I am sure the Cabinet Member will agree with me that incidences such as this do little to enhance the reputation of local authorities and he will, I am sure, be keen to avoid further such instances in the future.

Will the Cabinet Member:

- (a) Confirm that he has personally reviewed the circumstances of this case and explored the possibility of excepting minibus transport for blue badge holders from loading restrictions, for a maximum period (perhaps 15 minutes), so that passengers can alight and enter their destination safely and similarly depart?
- (b) Undertake to arrange for an officer to meet the charity concerned to discuss alternative options as to where passengers can safely be dropped off at their regular destinations in Bognor and Chichester to facilitate the residents being safely delivered without the charity being fined again in the future?

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Answer

- (a) The Cabinet Member is aware of the circumstances where a Community Transport vehicle was recently issued a Penalty Charge Notice. The vehicle was parked in a Goods Vehicle Only loading bay and was displaying an Organisational blue badge. The Cabinet Member acknowledges the valuable work undertaken by community transport operators and as a result of this incident has explored the possibility of exempting blue badge holders from loading bays. Regrettably this is not a viable option.

Loading bays are very important in traffic management terms because they allow the highway authority to share out valuable road space in a way that facilitates vital loading and unloading without hindrance. Often loading bays are found in busy town centres and without dedicated loading facilities it is very likely that heavy goods vehicles would either not be able to access key areas when they need to, or that they would be forced to drive around the respective town, until space becomes available. This would lead to avoidable congestion and, in extreme cases where loading was no longer possible, perhaps drive businesses out of our town centres. Organisational blue badge holders do have a number of options where they are able to park, whereas heavy goods vehicles have relatively few.

- (b) The Cabinet Member does agree with Mrs Millson that incidences such as this do little to enhance the reputation of local authorities and is naturally keen to avoid further such instances in the future. The Cabinet Member will arrange for officers to write out to all organisational blue badge holders to reinforce the considerable benefits offered by the blue badge concession and to remind operators of the many options available to allow passengers to alight or board the vehicles as well as outlining options available for parking the vehicles. The guidance will also remind organisations where they must not park. Officers can meet with the charity concerned if necessary but it is hoped the guidance will avoid the need for a separate meeting.

Supplementary Question

Is the Cabinet Member prepared to ask officers to contact the affected charity and offer the opportunity to meet once they have received the guidance referred to in the answer?

Supplementary Answer

I will put an item on the next meeting of the Accessible Transport Forum which I chair to consider the issue.

- 6.** Written question from **Mr Quinn** for reply by the **Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

Question

In response to a written question in December about traffic signs in certain areas

of the County being in a poor state, the Cabinet Member advised that West Sussex County Highways undertake regular inspections of all Highway assets with the frequency of such inspections being determined by the class of road. The response went on to explain that all works considered necessary are programmed on a priority basis and within available resources. Members were further advised that the County Council had commenced a major programme of vegetation and litter clearing and sign cleaning on the A24 Findon-Southwater area and A264-M23 junction.

I am particularly concerned about the A27 from Fontwell to Chichester and the A23 from the border of East Sussex entering West Sussex, especially from the Hickstead area continuing to the A264/M23. In light of numerous e-mails and verbal complaints from residents there is still a high volume of litter and numerous road signs posing a safety hazard because they are obscured by vegetation. I would be very grateful if the Cabinet Member could:

- (a) Confirm what percentage of reports/complaints to Love West Sussex website since April 2014 have related to the need to clear litter and vegetation from the Highways and the average time taken to complete this work; and
- (a) Consider increasing publicity in order to encourage residents to use the Love West Sussex website to report road signs obscured by vegetation.

Answer

It should be noted that both the A27 Fontwell to Chichester and A23 from the border of East Sussex to the M23 is the responsibility of the Highways Agency. Litter picking arrangements are in place with the appropriate districts/boroughs to periodically litter pick these areas, this is usually on a bi-annual basis.

- (a) 266 (3.1%) reports have been received via Love West Sussex since 1 April 2014 regarding litter/fly tipping and 550 (6.4%) regarding overgrown vegetation.

All reports regarding litter/fly tipping were passed within 10 days to the appropriate district/borough council to action with an average time of two days. At present reporting systems do not enable the reporting of average time to complete work regarding overgrown vegetation although I can confirm all enquires were inspected within 10 days and if cases met our intervention levels they were actioned within 28 days. Intervention levels of obscured signs only relates to chevrons and stop/give way signs, all other signs are programmed for clearance as budget allows.

- (b) Whenever possible the County Council takes opportunities to promote reporting highways issues via Love West Sussex. The County Council signposts through its website, social media and work with partners. The Council is currently considering how it can improve Love West Sussex for Customers and as part of this consideration will be looking at communications to promote the use of this tool.

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The County Council regularly publishes seasonal communications in local papers and 'Connections' regarding cyclical activities such as winter maintenance & grass cutting season and the suggestion to actively promote vegetation issues will be considered.

Supplementary Question

Will the Cabinet Member ensure that highways keep the county clean so that visitors will love West Sussex?

Supplementary Answer

Litter picking is a district council function but there are also issues in arranging how it can be done safely. It often involves closing lanes, in some cases liaison with the Highways Agency, and such works often take place at night.

Additional Questions

Additional questions were asked by Mr Bradbury, Mr M G Jones, Mrs Millson and Mr S J Oakley.

In response to a question from Mrs Millson, the Cabinet Member said he would look at the use of signs in areas with a litter problem to remind motorists to dispose of their litter properly.

Agenda Item No. 9(b) - Cabinet Member Question Time

Members asked questions on the Cabinet Members' reports as set out below. In instances where a Cabinet Member undertook to take follow-up action, this is also noted below.

Leader

The Leader answered questions on paragraph 2, 'Beautiful Outdoors' marketing campaign, from Mr Glennon and Mrs Millson.

In response to a question from Mrs Millson in relation to the bids to the sustainable transport fund, particularly for the works around the west of Horsham, and whether the Leader was aware of the cycling provision within those bids and thought it was adequate, the Leader said she would provide an answer in due course.

In response to a further question from Mrs Millson about whether the Leader would consider shared use of public pavements along major roads in order to help access to cycle routes, the Leader said she ask the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to look at the suggestion.

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following paragraphs.

Paragraph 5, development of the adult social care market, from Mrs Jupp, Mr Sutcliffe and Dr Walsh.

In response to a question from Mr Sutcliffe as to how much of the £620,000 was earmarked specifically for workforce development, the Cabinet Member said he would provide Mr Sutcliffe with information about work by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Paragraph 23, Henfield Day Centre, from Mrs Kitchen.

Cabinet Member for Children – Start of Life

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following paragraphs.

Paragraph 6, Child Sexual Exploitation, from Mr Patel and Mr Parsons.

Paragraph 9, SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), from Mr Griffiths.

In response to an invitation from Mr Griffiths for the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to visit Chailey Heritage School, the Cabinet Member, on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, said that he would do so.

Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following paragraphs.

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Paragraph 10, Joint Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy 2015-17, from Mrs Evans.

Paragraph 11, West Sussex Transit Site, from Mr S J Oakley, Mr Tyler and Dr Walsh.

Cabinet Member for Corporate Relations

The Cabinet Member answered questions on paragraph 12, Customer Experience Programme, from Mr Burrett.

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following paragraphs.

Paragraph 14, new school places, from Mr Bradbury, Mr Quinn and Dr Walsh.

In response to a request from Mr Quinn about the plans for the site of the former Discovery New School and whether the Council would be able to influence its future use, the Cabinet Member said he would get an answer and respond to Mr Quinn.

In response to a comment from Dr Walsh that building had already commenced on some of the sites mentioned in the Arun District area, the Cabinet Member said he would double check the Council was aware of the developments.

Paragraph 16, Universal Infant Free School Meals, from Mr Glennon and Mr G L Jones.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following paragraphs.

Paragraph 19, future highway service provision, from Dr Dennis, Mrs Rapnik and Mr Wickremaratchi.

In response to a question from Mrs Rapnik as to which location he preferred for the new super hub depot and why, the Cabinet Member said the Council was still searching for a suitable site but he would let Mrs Rapnik and all members know when a site was identified.

Paragraph 20, A27, from Ms James, Mr S J Oakley, Mrs Urquhart and Dr Walsh.

In response to a question from Ms James about the time frame for the Chichester improvements, the Cabinet Member said that the public consultation was planned for summer 2015 and he would respond to Ms James in due course.

The Cabinet Member agreed to respond to Mr Oakley's question of what effect the change in status of the Highways Agency to an arms-length entity would have on the County Council's ability to hold it to democratic account.

In response to a request from Mrs Urquhart for the Cabinet Member to put all the relevant information including the feasibility study onto the intranet, the Cabinet Member agreed to speak to officers to see what could be done.

Cabinet Member for Residents' Services

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following paragraphs.

Paragraph 22, Peer Review of the Library Service, from Mr M G Jones and Mrs Smith.

In response to a request from Mr Jones that he look into the continuing IT problems experienced by library staff, the Cabinet Member said he would address the question to the Information Services Manager and respond to Mr Jones.

The Cabinet Member said he would pass on to library staff Mrs Smith's comments about the fantastic facilities provided at Crawley Library. Mrs Smith also raised the issue of IT services and the Cabinet Member said he would include Mrs Smith in his response to Mr Jones.

Paragraph 24, Better Connected Stakeholder Engagement Group, from Mr Peters.

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Agenda Item No. 9(c) - Leader's Question Time

The Leader answered questions from members on the following topics:

Reduction in annual carbon footprint, from Mrs Mullins.

In response to Mrs Mullins' question about the Council's progress in reducing its annual carbon footprint, the Leader said she would let members have details of progress including the current work with the Sussex Energy Partnership.

Investment in the A23, from Mr Bradbury.

Balancing housing supply, from Ms James.

Key achievements of the Council term so far, from Mr Crow.

Loss of parking spaces at County Hall North, from Mrs Millson.

Vegetation clearance by volunteers, from Mrs Evans.