

Tony Kershaw
Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy

033022 22526 (Direct)
clare.jones@westsussex.gov.uk
www.westsussex.gov.uk

County Hall
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1RQ
Switchboard
Tel no (01243) 777100

If calling, please ask for:
Clare Jones

17 November 2016

Governance Committee

A meeting of the Committee will be held at **2.15 p.m.** on **Monday, 28 November 2016** at **County Hall, Chichester**.

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A g e n d a

Part I

1. Declarations of Interest

Members and officers must declare any pecuniary or personal interest in any business on the agenda. They should also make declarations at any stage such an interest becomes apparent during the meeting. Consideration should be given to leaving the meeting if the nature of the interest warrants it. If in doubt, contact Democratic Services before the meeting.

2. [Minutes](#) of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 September 2016 are attached (blue paper).

3. Urgent Matters

Items not on the agenda which the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances.

4. Part II Matters

Members are asked to indicate at this stage if they wish the meeting to consider bringing into Part I any items on the Part II agenda.

5. [Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel](#)

Report by the Executive Director Corporate Resources and Services and the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

The Committee is asked to consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the review of the Members' Allowances Scheme for recommendation to the County Council.

6. **Proposals relating to Planning and Rights of Way Committees**

Report by the Executive Director Corporate Resources and Services and the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

At the last meeting of the Committee the suggestion that there should be a single chairman for both the Planning and Rights of Way Committees, as part of the Democratic Services savings proposals, was deferred pending the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Committee is now asked to consider whether to propose any change to the County Council on 16 December 2016, for implementation from May 2017.

7. **Schemes of Delegation and Governance of the Capital Programme**

Report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

The Committee is asked to consider a more flexible approach to the delegation of functions to senior officers together with proposals for greater transparency of officer decisions to align with the new approach. Following the approval of the Council in December 2015 to the detailed governance arrangements for the capital programme, the report suggests clarification of the wording of the approved scheme to ensure that such cross-budget adjustments are included and that any changes may only be agreed where additional cost can be met within approved capital programme.

8. **County Council Question Times**

Report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

The Committee is asked to consider a proposal that the written questions, Cabinet Member question time and Leader's question time items at County Council should be amalgamated into a single, integrated question time item, with an overall time limit of a maximum of two hours, for recommendation to the County Council on 16 December 2016.

9. **Electoral Review Panel Recommendations on Parliamentary Boundary Review**

Report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

The Boundary Commission for England is consulting on amendments to Parliamentary boundaries across England and several changes are proposed for West Sussex. The Electoral Review Panel has considered the proposals, which ensure that all constituencies are within 5% of the published electoral quota and has concluded that the County Council should support the minimal change necessary. The Committee is asked to approve the response set out in the report.

10. **[Options for an employment break post retirement and approval of an NHS Pension 'Access to Retirement' Policy](#)**

Report by the Director of Workforce, Organisation Development and Delivery Support attached.

The Committee is asked to consider proposals for a definition of a break in service when an employee seeks to retire and then be re-employed by the County Council and for an Access to Pension on Retirement Policy for those employees in the NHS pension scheme.

11. **[Proposal to Dissolve the Care Commissioning Planning Group](#)**

Report by the Executive Director Care, Wellbeing and Education and the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

The Committee is asked to recommend to the County Council that the Care Commissioning Planning Group should be dissolved and deleted from the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution.

12. **[Update to the Scheme of Delegation – Flood and Water Management](#)**

Under the provisions of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the County Council became the Lead Local Flood Authority for West Sussex and, as such, is responsible for the issuing of consents to any alterations to ordinary watercourses under the provisions of the Land Drainage Act 1991., The district and borough councils who previously carried out this function are continuing to deal with the issue of consents under agency arrangements as they have the necessary resources and local knowledge. Any alterations which are not consented to and any failures in maintenance are subject to enforcement under the Act. The County Council's Legal Services is responsible for the issue of statutory notices for the necessary enforcement work and entry onto land where required.

The Committee is therefore asked to approve the delegation of the following power to the Executive Director Residents' Services, in consultation with the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy, to support this work:

"All powers of enforcement with respect to the statutory duties and powers under the Land Drainage Act 1991."

No background papers.

Contact: Gail Rowley, 033022 22696

13. **[Consultation on Video-conference Participation at Joint Committees](#)**

Report by the Director of Law, Assurance and Strategy attached.

The Committee is asked to approve the County Council's response to the Government's proposals on allowing video-conference participation at joint committees and combined authorities be supported, including a suggestion that Police and Crime Panels should be included in the provision.

14. **Appointment to Member Development Group**

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Committee is asked to appoint Mr Burrett to the Member Development Group in place of Mr Lanzer.

No background papers.

Contact: Clare Jones, 033022 22526

15. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 2.15 p.m. on Monday, 23 January 2017.

Part II

The Committee is asked to consider in respect of the following items whether the public, including the press, should be excluded from the meeting on the grounds of exemption under Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as indicated against the item and because, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The minutes dealt with under this part of the agenda **are enclosed for members of the Committee only (yellow paper)**. However, a [summary](#) of the matters dealt with under the Part II minutes referred to in agenda item 16 is attached for all recipients of the agenda.

16. **Minutes** (Part II) of the meeting held on 12 September 2016 attached **for members of the Committee only**.

To all members of the Governance Committee