

If you would like to know more about any items in this newsletter please contact the officer shown (✉ address is the name shown with a stop between followed by @westsussex.gov.uk) or access the links via the [County Council's website](#). Significant decisions to be taken in the next four months are included in a [Forward Plan](#) of key decisions. If you would like to receive free [e-mail alerts](#) for the Forward Plan, please register via the [County Council's website](#).

Decisions Published in the Past Week

The following proposed decisions have been published during the past week and will come into effect at the end of the call-in period unless the call-in procedure is activated

Call-in Deadline	Decision-Maker	No.	Proposal	Officer Contact
08/08/17	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	ES3(17/18)	Appointment to Outside Bodies	Wendy Saunders 033022 22553
08/08/17	Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources	FR4(17/18)	Refinancing of the Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Contract	Rosemary Pugh 033022 22548
08/08/17	Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Highways	IH7(17/18)	Local Transport Investment Programme Prioritisation Process	Laura Johnston 033022 22536
09/08/17	Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities	SSC3(17/18)	Appointments to Outside Bodies	Suzanne T Thompson 033022 22551
10/08/17	Cabinet Member for Environment	ENV2(17/18)	Variations to the Recycling and Wastes Handling Contract with Viridor (West Sussex) Ltd	Laura Johnston 033022 22536

Urgent Action

Members are asked to note the following urgent action taken by the Director of Law and Assurance, in consultation with the Chairman of the County Council, the relevant Cabinet Member and Select Committee Chairman or the Chairman of a non-Executive or County Local Committee

Electoral Division	No.	Decision	Officer Contact
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Central and South Mid Sussex County Local Committee

All in Central and South Mid Sussex **CSMS3(17/18)** [Community Initiative Funding](#)

Contact: David Penrose (033022 24612) ✉

The Director of Law and Assurance, in consultation with the Chairman of the Central and South Mid Sussex County Local Committee, has used his delegated powers under Standing Order 61(2) to approve the following Community Initiative Fund application:

48/CSMS – Haywards Heath Town Team, £1,500, to purchase components for a project to be instigated within three schools in Haywards Heath

The urgency of the matter was due to the applicant seeking funding outside of the Committee's regular timetable, as the requested equipment is required for a community event scheduled prior to the Committee's next meeting date.

Decisions Confirmed

The following decisions have been confirmed in the last week

Decision-Maker	No.	Decision	Officer Contact
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	CYP2(17/18)	Appointment to Outside Bodies	Wendy Saunders 033022 22553
Cabinet Member for Health	H1(17/18)	Appointments to Outside Bodies	Suzanne T Thompson 033022 22551
Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Highways	IH4(17/18) IH5(17/18) IH6(17/18)	Adoption of Lead Local Flood Authority Policy for the Management of Surface Water Operation Watershed Active Communities Fund Applications – June 2017 Approval of contract for Construction of National Cycle Network Route 2 (Part)	Laura Johnston 033022 22536
Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities	SSC1(17/18)	Approval to commence a procurement to replace both Accessible and Standard Minibuses within the Council's Fleet	Suzanne T Thompson 033022 22551

Cabinet Members, Senior Advisers and Advisers to Cabinet Members

Following Mr Catchpole's decision, last week, to step down as the Cabinet Member for Health and Deputy Leader, the Leader has given notice of the appointments set out below with effect from today.

Appointment of Cabinet Member

Mrs Jupp has been appointed as the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health with the portfolio set out below:

- Adult Social Care
- Adult Safeguarding
- Health and Wellbeing
- Public Health (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People for relevant business)

The Leader will be responsible for Health Partnership Liaison (in liaison with the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health).

Senior Advisers and Advisers to Cabinet Members

In line with the appointment and portfolios set out above:

- Mr Parikh, the Adviser for Health Integration, will become the Adviser for Health Partnership Liaison and Public Health and will advise both the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health; and
 - Mr Patel, the Senior Adviser for Adult Social Care and Safeguarding, will transfer to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health.
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Executive Task and Finish Group

Executive Task and Finish Group: Review of Household Waste Recycling Site Opening Hours

The Cabinet Member for Environment has appointed a Task and Finish Group (TFG) to consider the impact of changes to the opening hours of Household Waste Recycling Sites introduced in October 2016 and to make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Environment for winter 2017/18 opening hours and spring/summer 2018 opening hours. The terms of reference are [attached](#). The TFG aims to complete its work by the end of August.

The membership of the TFG, is Mr Whittington (Chairman), Lt Col Barton, Mr Buckland, Mrs Dennis, Mr Jupp and Mr Quinn.

Answers to Written Questions

Officer replies to questions submitted under Standing Order 15(3) as part of the preparation for the County Council meeting on 21 July 2017

1. Written question from **Mr Quinn** for reply by the **Director of Family Operations**

Question

I understand that decisions have been taken regarding the way in which Regulation 44 visits to Children's homes in West Sussex will be carried out in future. I would be grateful if the Cabinet Member would confirm:

- (a) How the visits will be carried out in future and by whom;
- (b) Whether there are any cost implications in relation to the new arrangements;
- (c) Given that members will no longer be involved in these visits in future, how members can be satisfied that the principles for residential child care laid down in the Children's Homes Regulations and Quality Standards 2015 are being complied with in respect of all West Sussex children's homes.

Answer

Until January 2017 Regulation 44 visits to the County Council's children's homes were undertaken by one person employed by the County Council but who was independent of the management of the homes. Following a period of extended sickness absence, it highlighted a weakness in cover arrangements should similar circumstances arise. On this basis:

- (a) The visits are now conducted by a fully independent provider who has been contracted to complete Regulation 44 visits in all County Council homes monthly. This contract fully satisfies the requirements of the Children's Homes Regulations 2015, and ensures independent rigour. The company providing this service is Aidhour.
- (b) The cost implications for this revised service are £33,600 per annum, which represents a relatively small increase in costs compared to the previous arrangements. The contract includes 12 monthly visits to seven residential homes in West Sussex, meeting all regulatory requirements and inclusive of: all travel, visits to homes, internal Quality Assurance process, report writing and timely submission, monthly meeting (by Skype) with the County Council manager, quarterly summary report, quarterly meeting with management team (may be by Skype), and an annual report for the Corporate Parenting Panel.
- (c) Previously a small number of members had been involved by accompanying the former Regulation 44 visitor; whilst the arrangement had strengths in that members were able to scrutinise local children's homes provision, it also had a significant drawback in that the arrangement did not offer the necessary independence from the Council. A revised model is in the process of being agreed by Service Leads and will be available to members later in 2017. Members will receive reassurance through the Corporate Parenting Panel about the compliance with Regulations.

2. Written question from Ms Lord for reply by the Director of Education and Skills

Question

Given that:

- Woodlands Meed School in Burgess Hill has two children moving from the school to the college site in September, and six over the next three years, who require use of a hygiene room, and
- there is currently only one hygiene room on the site which is not enough for this number of children and is not sufficiently large for the needs of these children to be met, hence
- it is very likely that these children will need to be educated out of county if the hygiene room is not provided, at a cost to WSCC of at least £24,000 per child per year, and
- one of the Council's priorities is to reduce expenditure on out of county placements,

can the Cabinet Member confirm that West Sussex County Council will fund a temporary Portakabin hygiene room at the college site from September 2017, at a cost of approximately £15,500 per year (plus an initial fee of approximately £21,500 for craning in and connecting services) rather than expect the school to fund it out of its revenue budget or the £1.5m reserved for more permanent facilities?

Answer

The County Council has no current plans to fund a temporary hygiene room at Woodlands Meed College as this is a request that has only recently been received by the Council and is not programmed in on the forward Capital Plan.

The County Council has been aware of the wish by the governing body to secure extra provision and in January 2017 a member Task and Finish Group was established to review the provision at the College.

In August 2016, at the request of the school and governors, the County Council agreed to replace three double temporary/modular classrooms and build a new hygiene room at the Newick House site at a cost of approximately £1.5m. It was the intention that these facilities should be ready for use by pupils in September 2017.

At a meeting of the Governors sub-committee in January 2017, and again at the Task and Finish Group meeting in February, governors expressed their preference to halt this work, carry forward the funding and ring fence the money until additional funding could be agreed to result in a more extensive programme of works. Under the circumstances, the Council agreed to carry the money forward to 2017/18 accordingly. On 13 July, the County Council received details of a project to provide additional facilities in September that does not appear to have followed the County Council's process for School Managed Projects or Schools Standing Orders. It is also unclear if the school have considered planning and other permissions required. This will be discussed with Governors.

Communications

County Council Press Releases up to 28 July

24/07/17 - [Have your say on A27 Worthing and Lancing improvements](#)

Highways England is consulting on a proposal to improve the A27 junctions at Worthing and Lancing and wants to hear residents' views

28/07/17 - [Cabinet Member steps down](#)

West Sussex County Councillor Peter Catchpole has taken the decision to step down from his position in the Cabinet

For further information on or copies of the press releases listed please contact the Communications and Engagement Team on (033022 28090) or ✉ pressoffice@westsussex.gov.uk

Planning Applications registered in the week ending 28/07/17

No applications registered.

Strategic Planning Business Unit - Planning Applications

The attached [report](#) (pdf file) contains all the planning applications received by the County Highways Team from the seven borough and district councils over the past week where comments on highways, ecology, landscaping and archaeology have been requested. An Excel spreadsheet of this report is also available on request via the following

email address: SU.Local.Development@westsussex.gov.uk. If you have any further questions or would like to enquire about an application that does not appear on the list or one on which you would like to be updated, please contact Dominic Smith on 033022 25711.

For further information about the Members' Information Service
please contact Clare Jones on 033022 22526 or ✉ clare.jones