

18 January 2012

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 be put on the mailing list for daily decisions or for the Forward Plan, please contact Robin Davison on 01243 752724 or ✉ robin.davison.

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
20/01/12	South Mid Sussex County Local Committee	SMS13(11/12) SMS14(11/12) SMS15(11/12) SMS16(11/12)	Junction Road, Burgess Hill - Traffic Regulation Order Infrastructure Plan Priorities Community Initiative Funding Appointment of Authority School Governors	Laura Johnston 01243 752725
24/01/12	Leader	LDR9(11/12)	Total Performance Monitor to end of November 2011	Robin Davison 01243 752724

Committee News - Committee Meetings

Electoral Division	Item	Subject	Committee Officer
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[Strategic Environmental Services](#)
Select Committee (20 January)

✉
Katherine De La Mora
(01243 752705)

All 4 **Cabinet Member Response**

The Committee will be invited to note the response by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to the recommendations made at its meeting on 30 November 2011 in relation to the changes to the County Council's Financial Support for the Non Commercial Bus Network - Phase Two.

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All 5 **The County Council Draft Budget 2012/13 and Performance Targets 2012-15**

The Committee will be asked to consider the draft budget for next year and the performance targets delivering against the Council's Performance Framework for the next three years in the context of that draft budget. The draft budget is scheduled to be considered formally by the Cabinet on 31 January 2012. The proposals have been prepared by officers in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members and set out proposed spending plans for 2012/13 take into account Cabinet priorities, the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement and the second year's contribution to the agreed savings target of £79m. The Committee will be asked to consider the performance targets, relevant to its terms of reference, following its initial consideration of the proposed objectives in November. This is in the context of an existing three-year budget, approved by County Council in February 2011, and business plans for 2011-14. The Committee will invited to consider the draft budget and performance targets and make any recommendations it may wish to the Policy and Resources Select Committee meeting on 27 January 2012. The final decision on the budget will be taken by the County Council on 17 February 2012.

All 6 **Requests for Call-in**

A call-in request was submitted to the Committee's Business Planning Group (BPG) with regard to the proposed Executive Decision concerning 'Highways Scheme Rescission - A24 Horsham - Capel' (HT03(11/12)) that was published on 12 December 2011. The BPG and call-in requestor were subsequently provided with additional information in regards to the scheme which highlighted financial risk implications for the County Council if rescission of the scheme was not completed by 28 December 2011. The BPG rejected the call-in request, but in doing so, raised concern about the lack of member consultation on the proposal and the lack of detail in the decision report about the urgency and risks associated with the decision. The BPG agreed that the Committee should consider the issues arising from the decision-making process in this case and whether improved processes of consultation and openness should be suggested for future proposals of similar importance. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services will report any further requests for call-in received since the publication of the agenda papers.

All 7 **Forward Plan of Key Decisions - January to April 2012**

The Committee will be invited to consider whether it wishes to enquire into any of the forthcoming decisions within its portfolios.

All 8 **Members' Items**

Members to mention any items which they believe to be of relevance to the business of the Select Committee, and suitable for scrutiny, e.g. raised with them by constituents, arising from central government initiatives, etc.

All 9 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 14 March 2012 at 10.30 a.m. at County Hall, Chichester. Any member wishing to place an item on the agenda for that meeting must notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by 29 February 2012.

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Governance Committee (23 January)



Clare Jones
(01243 752704)

All 4 Pay Policy Statement

The Localism Act requires the County Council to produce a Pay Policy Statement which has to be approved by the full Council. The Committee will be asked to consider the requirements of the pay policy and the requirement to publish salary information for employees as required by the Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency. The Committee will be asked to endorse the Pay Policy Statement for recommendation for adoption and approval by full the Council at its meeting on 17 February 2012.

All 5 Options for Future Forms of Governance

The Localism Act 2011 introduces provisions which will enable each local authority to determine that a different form of governance may apply with effect from the next full Council election. In the case of the County Council, which has adopted a Leader and Cabinet system, it means that it may opt either for an elected Mayor (which it has previously elected not to do) or to revert to the committee system. It may also consider calling a local referendum on the issue. The Committee will be asked to determine whether a fuller report on the options, timing, governance implications and transitional arrangements should be commissioned and presented to a future Committee meeting. The alternative would be for the matter to be raised for discussion only if a substantial expression of interest emerges from members.

All 6 The Future of Standards Committee and the Code of Conduct

The Localism Act 2011 abolishes much of the Standards regime, but requires councils to have a code of conduct and a register of members' interests. It also places a duty on councils to promote and maintain high standards of public life and to have a mechanism in place to enforce the code of conduct. The Standards Committee surveyed all members in June 2011. There was general support for retaining the current Code of Conduct and a Standards Committee to oversee it as close to the current model as the Act permitted. The Committee will therefore be asked to consider a number of proposals for recommendation to the County Council.

All 7 Review of Scrutiny (Phase 2)

Phase 1 of the Scrutiny Review changed some ways of working, reduced the number of meetings and introduced a new approach to cross-cutting scrutiny and policy development. It was always planned that a further more fundamental phase of review should be undertaken to reflect the changing nature of the County Council's involvement in the provision of services, and ensure that the resource for scrutiny (officer and member) was used to best effect (the Democratic Services redesign reduced the budget for scrutiny by 40% with effect from 1 April 2011). A small cross-party member group has carried out the next phase of the scrutiny review and all members of the Council had the opportunity to inform and influence the development of the proposals. The Scrutiny Review Group has concluded that there is a need to change the current arrangements if members wish scrutiny to have a positive impact within the resources available and the Committee will be asked to consider a number of proposals for recommendation to the County Council.

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All 8 **Minor updates to the Constitution**

The Committee will be asked to consider four sets of minor changes to the Constitution. These relate to delegations to officers in relation to Children's Services and following the centralisation of the property function, the definition of 'chief officers' and delegations to officers in relation to attendance of members at external courses.

All 9 **Shadow West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board: Terms of Reference**

The Committee will be asked to endorse the terms of reference for the shadow West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board for recommendation to the County Council for inclusion in the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution.

All 10 **Member Development**

The Committee will be asked to consider the key messages from the Member Development Focus Group (MDFG) overview of the member development programme during the previous year and a summary of the approach now taken with its role in the programme - including the proposed changes to allocation of member development days linked to the Scrutiny Review. Some revisions are also suggested to MDFG's terms of reference going forward and some options are offered around member involvement in the planning for the new Council.

All 11 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 2.15 p.m. on Monday, 23 April 2012.

[Adults' Services Select Committee](#) (25 January)



Rob Castle
(01243 752707)

All 4 **Maintaining Personal Dignity and Respect - Quality and Performance**

The Committee will be asked to consider the two business cases that have been developed which, subject to agreement, will develop the joint health and social care approach to quality and performance in care homes and care homes with nursing, focusing on two areas: Contract Management and Clinical Support and Development. The committee will be asked to consider the information and to endorse the approach to ensuring quality and performance in care homes and care homes with nursing.

All 5 **The County Council Draft Budget 2012/13 and Performance Targets 2012-15**

The Committee will be asked to consider the draft budget for next year and the performance targets delivering against the Council's Performance Framework for the next three years in the context of that draft budget. The draft budget is scheduled to be considered formally by the Cabinet on 31 January 2012. The proposals have been prepared by officers in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members and set out proposed spending plans for 2012/13, taking into account Cabinet priorities, the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement and the second year's contribution to the agreed savings target of £79m. The Committee will also be asked to consider the performance targets, relevant to its terms of reference, following its initial consideration of the proposed objectives in November.

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This is in the context of an existing three-year budget, approved by the County Council in February 2011, and business plans for 2011-14. The Committee will invited to consider the draft budget and performance targets and make any recommendations it may wish to the Policy and Resources Select Committee meeting on 27 January 2012. The final decision on the budget will be taken by the County Council on 17 February 2012.

All 6 **Future Direction of Adult and Community Learning**

The Committee will be asked to consider the business case for options for the future direction of Adult and community Learning. The Committee will be asked to scrutinise the proposed decision to develop a business case which considers the implications of setting up a staff-run social enterprise, and to consider and comment on the extent to which the County Council retains influence over any social enterprise subsequently established.

All 7 **Updated Information relating to the Impact of the Changes to the Eligibility Threshold for Adult Social Care and Resource Allocation System**

The Committee will be asked to consider updated versions of the appendices to the report on the Impact of the Changes to the Eligibility Threshold for Adult Social Care and Resource Allocation System first scrutinised at the Committee's meeting on 22 September 2011. The Committee will be asked to consider progress since the date of the last meeting, and identify any areas of concern.

All 8 **Update on Healthwatch Progress**

The Committee will receive and be asked to note a verbal update from Mr Robert Dunn.

All 9 **Requests for Call-in**

There have been no requests for call-in to the Select Committee within its constitutional remit since the date of the last meeting. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services will report any requests received since the publication of the agenda papers.

All 10 **Forward Plan of Key Decisions - February to May 2012**

The Committee will be asked to consider whether it wishes to enquire into any of the forthcoming decisions within its portfolio.

All 11 **Members' Items**

Members to mention any items which they believe to be of relevance to the business of the Select Committee, and suitable for scrutiny, and raised with them by constituents arising from central government initiatives etc.

All 12 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, 8 March at 10.30 a.m. Any member wishing to place an item on the agenda for this must notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by 22 February 2012.

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Community Services Select Committee (26 January)

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Rob Castle
 (01243 752707)

All 4 Safeguarding and Domestic Violence

The Committee will be asked to consider information on the scale of the problems due to domestic and sexual violence, describes how risk is managed, and the benefits of bringing domestic and sexual violence together with safeguarding. Members will also consider the development of the future vision for domestic and sexual violence services in West Sussex and a case study will be presented to the Committee as background for debate. The Committee will be asked to consider the information, to endorse the approach and to advise on specific outcomes and expectations it seeks from domestic and sexual violence services.

All 5 The County Council Draft Budget and Performance Targets 2012-15

The Committee will be asked to consider the draft budget for next year and the performance targets delivering against the Council's Performance Framework for the next three years in the context of that draft budget. The draft budget is scheduled to be considered formally by the Cabinet on 31 January. The proposals have been prepared by officers in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members and set out proposed spending plans for 2012/13, taking into account Cabinet priorities, the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement and the second year's contribution to the agreed savings target of £79m. The Committee will also be asked to consider the performance targets, relevant to its terms of reference, following its initial consideration of the proposed objectives in November. This is in the context of an existing three-year budget, approved by County Council in February 2011, and business plans for 2011-14. The Committee will be invited to consider the draft budget and performance targets and make any recommendations it may wish to the Policy and Resources Select Committee meeting on 27 January 2012. The final decision on the budget will be taken by the County Council on 17 February 2012.

All 6 West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service - Possible closer Collaboration or Merger with East Sussex Fire Authority

The Committee will receive a verbal update from the Executive Director Finance and Performance and the County Fire Officer on the situation regarding possible closer collaboration or merger with East Sussex Fire Authority, following conversations with the Department for Communities and Local Government. The Committee will be asked to note the update and to consider how to take forward scrutiny of the proposed decision.

All 7 Update on Mortuaries and Ceremonies

The Committee will receive verbal updates from the Waste Management & Regulatory Services Manager on projects to consider the future provision of mortuary services, and the provision of ceremonies, in West Sussex. The Committee will be asked to note the updates.

All 8 Cabinet Member Response

The Committee will be asked to consider and note a response by the Deputy Leader and portfolio holder for

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Communities, Environment and Enterprise to the Committee's recommendation on the Revised Approach to Library Savings (whereby it urged the Cabinet Member to explore all other avenues before withdrawing the service to residential care homes and sheltered housing schemes).

All 9 **Requests for Call-in**

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All 10 **Forward Plan of Key Decisions - February to May 2012**

The Committee will be asked to consider whether it wishes to enquire into any of the forthcoming decisions within its portfolio.

All 11 **Members' Items**

Members to mention any items which they believe to be of relevance to the business of the Select Committee, and suitable for scrutiny, e.g. raised with them by constituents, arising from central government initiatives etc.

All 12 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 21 March 2012. Any member individually wishing to place an item on the agenda for that meeting must notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by Tuesday, 6 March 2012.

Weekly News

Electoral Division	No.	Subject	Officer Contact
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All	1	<u>Forward Plan - February to May 2012</u>	 Robin Davison (01243 752724)
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The Forward Plan contains details of all key decisions to be taken by the County Council, the Cabinet, Cabinet Members, County Local Committees and officers in the following four months. Key decisions are those which involve expenditure or savings of £500,000 or more or which will have a significant effect on communities in two or more electoral divisions. The latest version of the Plan covering the period February to May 2012 is now available and has been sent to all members.

Communications

County Council Press Releases up to 13 January

[09/01/12 - Talk with Us at North Chichester County Local Committee \(PR4729\)](#)

[09/01/12 - West Sussex County Council school admissions consultation \(PR4730\)](#)

[10/01/12 - Make 2012 your year of learning \(PR4731\)](#)

[11/01/12 - Make a difference to your and a child's life as a foster carer \(PR4732\)](#)

[11/01/12 - Still time to take part in bus user survey \(PR4733\)](#)

[11/01/12 - New self-service machines for Bognor Regis Library \(PR4734\)](#)

[11/01/12 - Chance to Talk with Us at East Crawley County Local Committee \(PR4735\)](#)

[12/01/12 - Consultation launched on primary school places in Bersted \(PR4736\)](#)

Radio Interview

Ros Parker on Splash FM, re new adult education publication

For further information on or copies of the press releases listed please contact James Haigh in the Communications Unit on (01243) 382090) or ✉ james.haigh

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The attached [report](#) (pdf file) contains all the planning applications received by the Local Development Division from the seven borough and district councils over the past week where comments on highways, ecology, landscaping, archeology and/or architecture 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 Andrew Howick on (01243) 777251.

Public Rights of Way - Notification of Application for Changes to the Path Network Received

The following applications to change the path network have been received and are awaiting attention. Following investigation of an application, at the point when public consultation begins, it will again be reported in the MIS. At that time full details of the proposal will be available and members may comment within a period of not less than 21 days. If substantive objections are raised by members or consultees the application/consultation will be referred to the Rights of Way Committee for determination.

Parish/ path number	Proposal	Site Location	Case Officer	Local Member
Lower Beeding: footpath 1732	Application to divert fp 1732 to improve privacy/security at Highfields.	At Highfields, Mill Lane	Judith Grimwood 01243 777619	Mr Watson

Parish/ path number	Proposal	Site Location	Case Officer	Local Member
West Thorney: footpath 202	To divert shoreline path slightly inland onto existing track.	Thorney Island	Judith Grimwood 01243 777619	Mr T M E Dunn

Public Rights of Way - Notification of Application for changes to the Path Network sent out for Public Consultation

The following proposal has been investigated and sent out for public consultation. Members may obtain further information by contacting the case officer. Comments on the proposal must be made by 29 February 2012. If substantive objections are raised by members or consultees the application will be referred to the Rights of Way Committee for determination.

Parish/ path number	Proposal	Site Location	Case Officer	Local Member
Upper Beeding: footpath 2768	Path, which diagonally bisects the entrance area in front of house to be diverted around boundary.	At Horton Hall Small Dole	Judith Grimwood 01243 777619	Mr Deedman

For further information about the Members' Information Service please contact Clare Jones on 01243 752704 or ✉ clare.jones