

Member Information Service

Committee Meetings

Please note that meeting start times vary.

All meetings are IN-PERSON in the COUNCIL CHAMBER unless otherwise stated.

Meetings for January and February are listed below:

JANUARY 2024

- 18 January – District Planning Committee @ 2pm
- 23 January – Liquor Licensing Panel @ 10am – **Please note this is an additional meeting.**
- 24 January – Scrutiny Committee People and Communities @ 7pm – **Please note the revised date.**
- 29 January – Standards Committee @ 7pm

FEBRUARY 2024

- 5 February – Cabinet @ 1pm
- 8 February – Planning Committee @ 4pm
- 15 February – District Planning Committee @ 2pm
- 19 February – Cabinet Grants Panel @ 1pm
- 20 February – Licensing Committee @ 7pm
- 28 February – Charity Trustees Meeting @ 6.45pm **Please note this is an additional meeting.**
- 28 February – Council @ 7pm

Democratic Services has updated your O365 calendar with the dates and times. Regular updates on the status of meetings in the forthcoming period will be provided to Members and the Council's public facing website will be continually updated.

Agendas to be considered

District Planning Committee – 18 January 2024 @ 2pm

Recommended for Approval

DM/21/1842 - Land At Queen Victoria Hospital Holtye Road East Grinstead West Sussex RH19 3DZ - Erection of 30 dwellings along with access from Oakfield Way along with parking and landscaping. (Amended plans received 17/12/21 showing amendments to the scheme including design and layout changes and additional units) (Additional highways information received 21/3/22 and amended plans and sustainability statement received 21/4/22). Additional highways/access plans received 16/8/22, Apartment building changes 14/9 and amended landscape plans received

18/11/22). (BNG details submitted) <https://pa.midsussex.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=externalDocuments&keyVal=QT99A4KT0CP00>

Recommended for Refusal

DM/23/1160 - Contego Safety, Wearmaster House, Malthouse Lane, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, BN6 9LA - Adaptation of existing building and construction of warehouse building with office and associated facilities, car parking, cycle parking and landscaping. <https://pa.midsussex.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=externalDocuments&keyVal=RTTY3HKT04L00>

Liquor Licensing Panel – 23 January 2024 @ 10am

Application to Vary a Premises Licence – Licensing Act 2003.

Scrutiny Committee People and Communities – 24 January 2024 @ 7pm

Draft Corporate Plan and Budget 2024/25

Scrutiny Committee Work Programme - People and Communities

Member Development Learning

Member Development sessions are detailed below.

Date	Time	Learning
Tues 30 Jan	6.30pm	Treasury Management - This training is aimed at Audit Committee Members, but all Members are welcome to attend.
Tues 6 Feb	6.30pm	Data / FOI - This training is for all Members to attend.
February / March	5.30pm – 8pm	Carbon Literacy Training – This training is a set course of three sessions in February or three sessions in March. Attendance is by prior agreement with Democratic Services as a set number of spaces are available.
Thurs 7 March	6.30pm	Housing - This training is for all Members to attend.

Further planning training sessions are in the process of being arranged and dates for these will be communicated by email/calendar entries as well as future MIS bulletins.

Panel Member Recruitment

Mid Sussex District Council is currently seeking local residents to join the following two independent panels, and would be grateful if you could share the details with any interested residents. The closing date for applications is Thursday 29 February.

[Independent Person on Standards Committee](#) – To work alongside the Standards Committee and promote high standards in public life.

[Independent Remuneration Panel Member](#) – To advise the Council on the level and type of allowances to be paid to Councillors.

Changes to Overseas Electors Franchise

On 16 January the government announced that the UK Parliamentary franchise for Overseas Electors will be extended, removing the '15-year rule' for British citizens living overseas to participate in UK Parliamentary elections.

British citizens living abroad who have previously been registered or resident in the United Kingdom, irrespective of when, can apply to register to vote in the UK parliamentary elections. The registration period for overseas electors has been extended from one year to up to three.

Overseas electors' absent vote arrangements will – from now – also be tied to the registration renewal process, meaning that an overseas elector will be able to renew their registration, and their absent vote arrangement, at the same time. This makes it easier for an elector to maintain their registration for longer, with an absent vote arrangement in place ahead of elections.

[Further information can be on GOV.UK](#). If you have any questions, please contact:

EIPBusinessChange@levellingup.gov.uk

LGA Webinar - Election matters: Changes to EU and overseas voters rights

The LGA will be hosting a webinar on [Election matters: Changes to EU and overseas voters rights](#) which will take place on Monday 5 February 2024, 2.00pm – 3.00pm. To book a place, please visit their website.

Assistant Director, Planning & Sustainable Economy

We are sad to announce that Sally Blomfield will be retiring at the end of February. In Sally's words:

After 38 years in Local Government and with seven very happy years here at Mid Sussex, I have found the decision to retire a hard one to make. However, my husband is being posted with his work to Singapore and I have decided to go with him.

The combination of planning, regeneration and sustainable economic development has made my position as AD for Planning and Sustainable Economy here at Mid Sussex the most exciting role of my career. I have always been a passionate believer that my service is key to helping the Council deliver its Corporate Vision and Objectives. It ensures place shaping and the delivery of good growth; the development of employment land alongside homes ensuring opportunities to both work and live locally; and secures the delivery of much needed affordable housing and infrastructure. All of this of course has been underpinned by the key tenants of sustainability. The drive to deliver well designed places and new communities (whilst protecting the best of our environmental and historic assets) has been fundamental to all we do.

I am in the process of working with colleagues to cover my role whilst Judy and Kathryn work to secure my permanent replacement.

All that is left is to thank you for your support over the last year for all the work of the Team but especially the support and recognition of the Team in progressing the District Plan.

LGA Webinar - Personal safety for councillors

As part of their Civility in Public Life Programme, the Local Government Association (LGA) is holding a webinar on councillor personal safety and handling online abuse and intimidation. The programme has been devised for councillors who want to improve their awareness of personal safety.

[The webinar is from 2:00 – 3:40pm on 28 February](#). Built around the role of the elected member, the session will offer practical advice and guidance. It will reference surgeries, canvassing, home visits and managing unexpected doorstep visitors.

South Downs News

Please find the latest edition of the South Downs Newsletter [here](#).

News Releases

For further information or copies of the news releases listed below, please contact the Press Office on 01444 477 387 or use the following link: <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/about-us/press-releases-and-publications/>

17 January 2024 - [Nominations are now open for Mid Sussex Applauds 2024](#)

17 January 2024 - [The Triangle Leisure Centre Undergoes £765k Refurbishments.](#)