

Member Information Service

Committee Meetings

The Programme of Meetings for 2021-22 was considered and approved at the Annual Council meeting. Please note that these are timings currently agreed by Council while Covid-19 restrictions are in place. Timings after Covid-19 restrictions are lifted will be the subject of discussions with Group Leaders.

Please note that meeting start times vary and may be held either via remote video link or in-person as detailed below.

Meetings for May and June are listed below:

MAY 2021

19 May – Scrutiny Committee Leader, Finance and Performance @ 5pm (remote video link)

JUNE 2021

7 June – Cabinet @ 4pm (remote video link)

7 June – Standards Committee @ 6pm (remote video link)

30 June – Council @ 6pm (In person)

Democratic Services have updated your O365 calendar with the new dates and times. Regular updates on the status of meetings in the forthcoming period will be provided to Members and the website will be continually updated.

Member Development Learning

Learning Pool

For online training that you can do conveniently in your own time, please visit the Learning Pool.



To complete your online learning pool training modules please visit:

<https://stc.learningpool.com/login/index.php>

The Modules available for Members to complete are:

- County Lines
- What is GDPR?
- Getting Started with Social Media.
- Business Continuity Management.
- Annotating and Editing Documents.



- Planning Application Decision Making for Members

If you have any problems with accessing the Learning Pool, please contact Member Services.

Information and News

COVID-19 News

Covid levels in Mid Sussex are now below 15 cases per 100,000 and therefore Mid Sussex has a similar infection rate as it had in September 2020. Covid rates have generally been steady across Sussex in the last week with no areas having a rate significantly higher than the England average of 23 cases per 100,000. The average Covid rate in West Sussex remains just below the South East average of about 17 cases per 100,000.

Covid levels in the last week across England fell slightly with very few areas of the north and the East Midlands still having Covid rates above 100 cases per 100,000. Extra efforts are being made to keep Covid levels down in areas that have had higher Covid rates for the past year with local interventions as restrictions are further lifted across England

The second stage of the roadmap started on Monday 12th April 2021 with non-essential shops, gyms/leisure centres, hairdressers and outdoor service in pubs and restaurants all re-opening. Lateral Flow Tests are being used to identify people who have Covid but have no symptoms to try to maintain the low Covid rates now found in much of England. These free tests are available from local collection areas that can be located online or by requesting a postal delivery.

The roadmap envisages more indoor activities being permitted from 17th May 2021 subject to the four data tests being met. It is important people remember Hands Face Space and Fresh Air as more people are out and about. The current data suggests this further third stage relaxation will be confirmed shortly.

Both hospitalisations and Covid death rates are now as low in Sussex as they were last Summer.

The continuing local Covid vaccination programme will assist in bringing hospitalisations and Covid deaths down further but there is a risk that the further lifting of restrictions allowing for more indoor social mixing and new variants of the Covid virus will push these figures in the opposite direction. The South African variant was identified twice in South London last month and surge testing took place on each occasion to seek to contain the outbreak.

All people aged 40 and over are now eligible for their first vaccination and will be invited to book an appointment or book the appointment themselves online. Anybody 40+ who has not come forward previously for their first vaccination can do so and get an appointment.

The vaccination of more medically vulnerable people aged 16 to 39 alongside the second vaccination for those people first vaccinated in February/March 2021 will also continue in May 2021.

Please see information on Covid-19 vaccination progress in West Sussex [here](#).

The latest public data for Covid rates in West Sussex can be found [here](#).



Introducing #MidSussexOnline – a new initiative to promote digital inclusion across Mid Sussex

Mid Sussex Voluntary Action (MSVA) are delighted to be working with partners across the Mid Sussex area to deliver #MidSussexOnline.

This exciting new initiative is a collaboration featuring Balfour Beatty, Mid Sussex District Council, Citizens Online and MSVA to improve access to technology, information and contribute toward the general wellbeing of residents of Mid Sussex.

MSVA will host a signposting service on their website for residents to find sources of practical support, training, and guidance to aid access to digital services and information.

Balfour Beatty are currently rolling out Local Full Fibre Network, on behalf of Mid Sussex District Council, across the Mid Sussex area – so there has never been a better time for residents and businesses to make the most of the online world.

Residents will be able to access information and advice to help bolster their skills and knowledge in learning to navigate the online environment. Residents will also be able to access training and support.

The project also seeks to improve access to computers and online resources for school children, and help support residents with finding work and training opportunities.

A Mid Sussex District Council spokesperson said : “#MidSussexOnline has come at an important time as communities have had to adapt to using digital technology through the pandemic. Digital has transformed the way we work and communicate but Covid19 has highlighted a digital divide – which we hope this project will address to ensure everyone has access to the information they need to make the most of digital technology to improve their lives.”

MSVA support charities and non-profits across Mid Sussex and promote volunteering across the area. They will be looking for volunteers to become Digital Champions across Mid Sussex to help spread the word - and do their bit to reach members of the community that may not have access to technology.

For more information about #MidSussexOnline to access information, or to become a digital champion – please visit <https://www.msva.org.uk/digital-inclusion>

Complaints and Compliments

Complaints in March 21 = 20

These were broken down as follows:

Waste = 11

Planning = 3

Planning & Economy = 2

Benefits = 1

Democratic Services = 1

Land Charges = 1

Revenues = 1



Compliments in March 21 = 36

These were broken down as follows:

Customer services = 10

Planning = 9

Waste and Outdoor = 7

Benefits = 2

Democratic Services = 2

Housing = 2

Building Control = 1

Corporate Estates & Facilities = 1

Digital = 1

Revenues = 1

Should you require any further detail please contact Karen Speirs, Customer Services Manager, in the first instance

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: <http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/my-council/council-magazine-and-press-releases/press-releases/>

None.

