

# Member Information Service

## Committee Meetings

The Programme of Meetings for 2021-22 was considered and approved at the Annual Council meeting.

**Please note that meeting start times vary. All meetings are in-person unless otherwise stated.**

Meetings for February and March are listed below:

### FEBRUARY 2022

- 10 February – Planning Committee @ 4pm
- 14 February – Cabinet @ 4pm
- ~~17 February – District Planning Committee @ 2pm~~ – **Postponed until 24 February**
- 21 February – Cabinet Grants Panel @ 4pm
- 24 February – District Planning Committee @ 2pm – **Rescheduled from 17 February**

### MARCH 2022

- 1 March – Audit Committee @ 5pm
- 2 March – Council @ 7pm
- 7 March – Standards Committee @ 6pm
- 7 March – Cabinet Grants Panel @ 10:30am – **Please note this is an additional meeting.**
- 9 March – Scrutiny Committee for Leader, Finance and Performance @ 6pm (virtual)
- 10 March – Planning Committee @ 4pm
- 16 March – Scrutiny Committee for Housing, Planning and Economic Growth @ 6pm (virtual)
- 17 March – District Planning Committee @ 2pm
- 21 March – Cabinet @ 4pm
- 23 March – Scrutiny Committee for Community, Customer Service and Service Delivery @ 6pm (virtual)
- 30 March – Council @ 7pm

Democratic Services has 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 Council's public facing website will be continually updated.

## Agendas – Items to be Considered

### Planning Committee – 10 February @ 4pm

#### Recommend for Approval

**DM/21/3785 | 6 Burma Close, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3JE** - Mature Oak Tree, remove lowest limb over pond back to trunk and reduce previously reduced growth only, back to previous cut points. Hornbeam, reduce lower crown only by up to 2m. Yew Tree, reduce growth overhanging pond by up to 2m and Hazel, coppice to base - <https://pa.midsussex.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=externalDocuments&keyVal=R1W58XKT0FX00>

**Recommended for Refusal**

**DM/21/3763 | Cross Construction Development Site, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex** - The proposal is to erect 9 apartments within a single three storey building, along with access, parking and landscaping. (Revised plans showing corrected red line boundary received 15.12.2021) -

<https://pa.midsussex.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=externalDocuments&keyVal=R10OUWKT07Z00>

**Cabinet – 14 February @ 4pm**



Draft Corporate Plan and Budget 2022/23.

Budget Management 2021/22 - Progress Report April to December 2021.



Clair Hall Site Update.

**Member Development Learning**

All Member Development Learning Sessions are held in the Council Chamber unless otherwise stated.

Date & Time	Training Event	Indicator
<p><b>This session has been postponed and a new date will be arranged in due course.</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Training:</b> Decision making &amp; Other material considerations <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i></p>	
<p><b>This session has been postponed and a new date will be arranged in due course.</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Training:</b> Highways Matters &amp; S106 <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i></p>	



<p><b>This session has been postponed and a new date will be arranged in due course.</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Training:</b> Design &amp; Heritage Assets <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i></p>	
<p><b>22 February 2022</b> <b>@</b> <b>3pm</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Training:</b> Planning Enforcement <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i></p>	

### Planning Training – Topics

The Planning Training will cover the following topics over the course of four training sessions:

- Highways
- Heritage Assets
- Design case study
- Decision making
- Other material considerations
- S106
- Planning Enforcement

Please confirm your attendance to the above training sessions by emailing [committees@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:committees@midsussex.gov.uk) or by calling 01444 477062.

### 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:

- Safeguarding Adults
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- 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 email [committees@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:committees@midsussex.gov.uk) or 01444 477062.



### COVID-19 News

Covid levels in Mid Sussex are steady at about 1150 cases per 100,000 in the last week with the very infectious Omicron variant now accounting for almost all Covid cases. The rise in cases is across all age groups. Covid case levels remain high which means caution is needed in indoor settings which should be well ventilated. Hospitalisations of people testing positive for Covid locally and nationally are slowly falling across the whole of the UK and are about 30% less than where they were at the start of January 2022. Positivity rates among those tested have now fallen to about 15% in Sussex which indicates a general lowering of community Covid infections from last month. Deaths nationally, within 28 days of a positive Covid test, still average over 200 per day and is about double the number there were per week in the second half of 2021. Most adults in hospital are not fully vaccinated.

The average Covid rate across West Sussex is steady at about 1200 cases per 100,000 and the SE rate is down slightly to about 1150 cases per 100,000. The average Covid figure in England is down to about 900 cases per 100,000 with the more infectious Omicron variant now accounting for almost all Covid cases across the country. Areas with higher Covid levels are now mainly south of Birmingham and outside London and Essex.

Lateral flow tests are available free to collect locally or request online by post so everyone can check their Covid status and isolate if they get a positive test. If going to crowded indoor settings you are advised to do a lateral flow test.

Plan B restrictions were lifted from 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022 but with mask wearing still advised in shops, theatres, indoor halls, churches and museums and public transport which includes taxis and private hire vehicles.

If returning from abroad fully vaccinated you are required to pay for a Lateral Flow test within 2 days of your return and if positive isolate until you get a negative lateral flow result for two successive days. The requirement for a lateral flow test when returning from abroad ends on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for those fully vaccinated.

If you are identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for the Omicron variant you are required to do a lateral flow tests daily for 5 days if you have had at least 2 vaccinations for Covid. Those that are not double vaccinated still have to isolate for 10 days and get a PCR test.

About 84% of the population 12 and over in England and in Mid Sussex are now double vaccinated and about 89% of the population 12 and over have received a first vaccination. There are a significant number of people still being encouraged to come forward for their first vaccination.

All people 16 and over are still eligible for a Covid vaccination jab and encouraged to come forward with the second vaccinations being done after 8 weeks. Vaccinations can now be booked online for anyone 16 or over.

There is a separate online booking system for those aged between 12 and 15 to get their first or second vaccinations outside a school setting at some vaccination locations. Second vaccinations are advised after 3 months from the first vaccination. Otherwise Covid vaccinations for all those aged between 12 and 15 are being done again in some secondary schools.

Booster vaccinations are being offered to everyone over 12 years of age 3 months after the second vaccination on the booking system with slots now available. Walk in clinics have been opened where an appointment is not necessary. About 70% of the population 12 and over have



now received their booster vaccination in Mid Sussex and England more generally. Having the booster vaccination is thought to provide greater protection against all the Covid variants and to reduce the chance of spreading the virus or being hospitalised.

Please see the latest information on Covid vaccination progress and other health matters in West Sussex [here](#).

Please see the latest public data for Covid rates in West Sussex [here](#).

Please note the guidance to remain cautious after 19<sup>th</sup> July to help prevent Covid cases putting pressure on the NHS.

### **ShopAppy.com is coming to Mid Sussex**

As part of a range of activity that Mid Sussex District Council is delivering across the District using funding from the Government's Welcome Back Fund, MSDC has partnered with ShopAppy.com to provide local businesses with access to the platform free of charge for the first 12 months.

The Government's Welcome Back Fund (WBF) provides Mid Sussex District Council with an allocation of funding against which it can claim for activity to further support the safe reopening of high streets and visitor economies. The WBF extends the previously received Reopening High Streets Safely Fund (RHSSF).

The ShopAppy platform combines both a local 'shopping guide' element with e-commerce functionality. The objective behind the platform is firmly rooted in a desire to support independent retailers and drive footfall to high streets.

Businesses are encouraged to take advantage of this support and sign up to ShopAppy.com.

Once a good representation of businesses have registered with ShopAppy promotion to local residents will begin to encourage people to visit the site and support our local independent businesses.

What is ShopAppy?



ShopAppy.com is a 'Shop and Support Local Business' website, making it easier than ever for people to browse, book and buy from their local businesses at their convenience.

ShopAppy believe that it shouldn't be easier to shop with a warehouse in the middle of nowhere, than it is to shop with the businesses on your doorstep. ShopAppy's mission isn't to create more online shoppers but to create a community of *local* shoppers that can opt to shop in the way *they* choose.

*Businesses who would like to find out more and sign up to the free 12-month ShopAppy Mid Sussex promotion can contact Jane Stewart at [shoplocal@shopappy.com](mailto:shoplocal@shopappy.com) or call her on 07770 655 302.*

### **Electoral Review of MSDC – LGBCE's Final Recommendations**

The Local Government Boundary Commission (England) [LGBCE] has published its [Final Recommendations](#) following its Electoral Review of Mid Sussex District Council. Their findings are similar to their draft recommendations published in the autumn of last year, which were notified to Members via MIS in early September.



Subject to parliamentary approval in the Spring, the LGBCE concludes that MSDC should be comprised of 48 councillors, six fewer than there are now. There will be 27 district wards, one more than there are now. The boundaries of 23 wards should change; three (Cophorne & Worth, Hassocks and Burgess Hill St Andrews) will stay the same.

The full report of the LGBCE together with a [revised ward boundary map](#) and a summary report are published at the Commission's [website](#). These boundary changes are due to take effect at the LG elections in May 2023. In due course, we will prepare new individual district ward maps and we will prepare the 2023 Electoral Register accordingly for its due date, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

As a result of the LGBCE's final recommendations on new warding patterns, they are making changes to the parish electoral arrangements for the following parish and town councils:

- [Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council](#)
- [Burgess Hill Town Council](#)
- [East Grinstead Town Council](#)
- [Haywards Heath Town Council](#)
- [Lindfield Rural Parish Council](#)

Our draft proposals for consequential, administrative Community Governance Reviews are within the published [papers of our Scrutiny Committee for Customer Services & Service Delivery \(2 February\)](#) though the committee may resolve to defer consideration of those listed above to its subsequent meeting of 23 March 2022. This is to give parish and town councils, and other stakeholders additional time to consider the draft Terms of Reference.

We are grateful to all those who contributed to the Electoral Review during the two periods of public consultation.

## 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/>

09 February 2022 - [Hurstpierpoint couple jailed for benefit fraud](#)

07 February 2022 - [Mid Sussex District Council looks to set-up a steering group on Clair Hall site plans](#)

07 February 2022 - [By-election called for Burgess Hill Dunstall Ward](#)

