

# Member Information Service

## Decisions made by Cabinet Members

The following decision has been made by the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Net Zero and will take effect immediately as an urgent matter.

### Coast 2 Capital Local Economic Partnership – Acceptance of Grant Offer

The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Net Zero authorised the receipt of a grant of £75,000 from the Coast 2 Capital Local Economic Partnership to create a business case for Community Low Carbon Energy Hubs.

**A copy of the report is attached to this email.**

## 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 March and April are listed below:

### **MARCH 2022**

30 March – Council @ 7pm (Trinity Methodist Church)

### **APRIL 2022**

11 April – Cabinet Grants Panel @ 4pm

14 April – Planning Committee @ 4pm

21 April – District Planning Committee @ 2pm

27 April – Special Council @ 7pm (Venue TBC) – **Please note that this is an additional meeting for Council to approve the Sustainable Economy Strategy.**

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

### Council – 30 March 2022 @ 7pm

Recommendations from Cabinet held on 21 March 2022.
Standards Committee Annual Report 2021.
Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2022/23 to 2023/24.
Programme of Meetings 2022/2023.

## Member Development Learning

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

Date & Time	Training Event	Indicator
28 April 2022 @ 3pm	<b>Planning Training:</b> Decision making & Other material considerations <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i>	
10 May 2022 @ 3pm	<b>Planning Training:</b> Highways Matters & S106 <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i>	
30 May 2022 @ 3pm	<b>Planning Training:</b> Design & Heritage Assets <i>(Essential for Planning Members)</i>	
21 June 2022 @ 3pm	<b>Planning Training:</b> Planning Enforcement <i>(Essential for Planning Members but all Members welcome)</i>	



## **Planning Training**

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

## **Safeguarding Adults & Safeguarding and Child Protection**

Cllr De Mierre, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Customer Services, reminds Members that there are two safeguarding training modules via the Learning Pool:

MSDC Safeguarding Adults  
MSDC Child Protection and Safeguarding

<http://thewire/training-development/learning-pool/>.

Any Member who has not completed either of these courses is strongly advised to do so.

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 have dropped to about 1200 cases per 100,000 in the last week with the very infectious Omicron 2 variant now accounting for most Covid cases. Covid case levels are 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 up across the whole of the UK but are still about 15% less than where they were at the start of January 2022. Positivity rates among those tested remain high at 25% in Sussex which indicates high community Covid infections. Deaths nationally, within 28 days of a positive Covid test, are up and now average about 145 per day.

The average Covid rate across West Sussex has fallen slightly to about 1050 cases per 100,000. Case numbers in the SE have steadied at about 1050 cases per 100,000. The average Covid figure in England is up to about 900 cases per 100,000 with the more infectious Omicron 2 variant now accounting for most Covid cases across the country. Most areas of England now have Covid case levels above 500 cases per 100,000 with levels highest in the South West where Covid levels are above 1000 cases per 100,000.

Case levels in Wales are rising but still mainly below 500 cases per 100,000. In Northern Ireland case levels are steady and average about 800 cases per 100,000.

Case levels in Scotland have steadied with average Covid rates now about 1450 cases per 100,000 but with hospitalisations higher than in other parts of the UK.

Lateral flow tests are recommended to check your Covid status and isolate if you get a positive result. If going to crowded indoor settings you are advised to do a lateral flow test.

All Covid restrictions were lifted on 24th February 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 and self-isolation if you test positive for Covid or have cold symptoms.

About 85% 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. Covid vaccinations are being planned for the 5 to 11 age group.

Booster vaccinations are being offered to everyone over 12 years of age 3 months after the second vaccination on the booking system. Walk in clinics have been opened where an appointment is not necessary. About 72% 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.

Second booster vaccinations have started for vulnerable people and those over 75 who had their first booster vaccination over 6 months ago.

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 2021 to help prevent Covid cases putting pressure on the NHS.

### **Supporting Ukrainian Refugees in Mid Sussex**

A page has been added to the MSDC website in support of Ukrainian refugees. The page, which links from a banner on the MSDC homepage, provides links to the Homes for Ukraine scheme with details on how people can register to sponsor and provide accommodation for Ukrainian refugees fleeing their country and to other ways people can help via the Gov.uk website.

A link to the site is here: <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/about-us/supporting-ukrainian-refugees/>

### **Platinum Jubilee Competition - Help design a royal woodland seat**

Children and young people across Mid Sussex are invited to join in the Jubilee celebrations by getting creative!

As part of our commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Mid Sussex District Council has taken part in the Queen's Green Canopy initiative and has planted 250 new trees in a woodland copse.

We are asking young people up to the age of 16 to design a 'woodland seat' which we aim to locate in the area. Volunteers at Burgess Hill Shed will use the winning design to provide inspiration for their creation as a reminder of this special year.

Designs should consider the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and try to reflect the themes of the celebration in their design.

Please email designs to [jubilee2022@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:jubilee2022@midsussex.gov.uk) or send to MSDC offices quoting 'Woodland seat competition'. Entries must be received by Tuesday 7th of June.

### **Charity Commission Newsletter – March 2022**

Please find attached to this email the Charity Commission's March Newsletter.

## **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/>

29 March 2022 - [Council to deliver new Mid Sussex Centre for Outdoor Sports](#)

