

Member Information Service

Committee Meetings

Please note that all meetings are virtual meetings and start times vary, as detailed below.

The revised Programme of Meetings approved at Council on 30 September 2020, sets out the schedule of Council meetings for the remainder of the municipal year. Meetings for March and April are listed below:

MARCH 2021

- 2 March – Audit Committee @ 5pm
- 3 March – Council (Budget) @ 6pm
- ~~8 March – Cabinet @ 4pm - **Please note this meeting has been cancelled.**~~
- 8 March – Standards Committee @ 6pm
- 10 March – Scrutiny Committee for Leader, Finance and Performance @ 5pm
- 11 March – Planning Committee @ 4pm
- 15 March – Cabinet Grants Panel @ 4pm
- 17 March – Scrutiny Committee for Housing, Planning and Economic Growth @ 5 pm
- 18 March – District Planning Committee @ 2pm
- 24 March – Scrutiny Committee for Community, Customer Services and Service Delivery @ 5pm
- 31 March – Council @ 6pm

APRIL 2021

- 8 April – Planning Committee @ 4pm
- 15 April – District Planning Committee @ 2pm

Public access to the meetings is via a live stream video through the Council's official [YouTube channel](#). A link to the live stream is also provided on the Council's Facebook page in advance of each meeting. Owing to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, regular updates on the status of meetings in the forthcoming period will be provided to Members and the website will be continually updated.

Democratic Services has updated your O365 calendar with the revised dates and times, including the links to join the Zoom meetings.

We have also sent you tentative outlook calendar placeholders for the Programme of Meetings 2021 – 2022. The Programme of Meetings is still subject to change and is due to be presented to Council on 31 March following the outcome of the Governance Review.

In the meantime, these placeholders will allow you to see when we are planning to hold these meetings.

Agendas – Items to be Considered

Audit Committee – 2 March 2021 @ 5pm

Internal Audit - Monitoring Report 15th February 2021.

Three Year Internal Audit Plan.

Annual Audit Letter.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24.

Capital Strategy 2021/22.

Council – 3 March 2021 @ 6pm

Recommendations from Cabinet held on 8 February 2021.

Corporate Plan and Budget For 2021/22.

Standards Committee – 8 March 2021 @ 6pm

Standards Committee Annual Report 2020.

Member Development Learning

All Member Development Learning Sessions are held virtually via Zoom.

Date & Time	Training Event	Indicator
9 March 2021 @ 10am	Mid Sussex Design Guide <i>(Essential for Planning Members however all Members are welcome)</i>	

Mid Sussex Design Guide

Design Guide Training for Members will take place on the morning of **Tuesday 9th March** starting at **10am** and ending by 1pm. MSDC consultant Hugo Nowell of Urban Initiatives Studio will be presenting the guide and this will be followed by questions and answers. Councillor MacNaughton has advised that this is mandatory training for all planning committee members.

To confirm your attendance at the session, please email committees@midsussex.gov.uk by **noon** on **Wednesday 3 March 2020**.

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:

- 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 have dropped from their peak shortly after Christmas and have steadied over the past week at about 75 cases per 100,000 and therefore after 7 weeks of lockdown Mid Sussex has a similar infection rate as it had in early October 2020. However, Covid rates have continued to fall in other Sussex authorities in the past week.

This rapid fall from very high Covid levels at the start of 2021 is reflected across England. A majority of authorities in Sussex and the South East now have Covid rates below 70 cases per 100,000 which means the South East average is below the England average of about 100 cases per 100,000 . Some authorities in Sussex now have the Covid levels below 50 cases per 100,000 but Crawley and Arun still have Covid levels above the England average and therefore overall West Sussex remains above the South East Covid average but below the England Covid average. More Sussex Authorities should have rates below 50 cases per 100,000 in the next 12 days which are similar to the levels seen in Sussex last August.

Both hospitalisations and Covid death rates continue to fall in Sussex from the very high levels seen in late January and are now similar to those seen last Autumn. The expanding local Covid vaccination programme will assist in bringing hospitalisations and Covid deaths down but there is a risk that new variants and the "Kent" variant of the Covid virus will push these figures in the opposite direction when restrictions start to be lifted from 8th March 2021 with schools reopening. This week most people

aged 65 to 69 will have received their first vaccination. The vaccination of more vulnerable people aged 16 to 64 will continue into March alongside the second vaccination for those people vaccinated at the beginning of the vaccination programme in December 2020/ January 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](#). Further advice and information on the current restrictions from West Sussex County Council can be found [here](#).

Question arising from Cabinet 8 February 2021

At this meeting Officers were asked whether there had been a positive financial impact from the acquisition of the Council's own Temporary Accommodation. Analysis of the last year's figures show that the total cost of temporary accommodation has been reduced by £55K for the 10 month position to date, extrapolated to be £67K by year end, reducing a forecast deficit of £163K to £97K. This arises from owning our own properties as an alternative to bed and breakfast and hotel accommodation.

Peter Stuart, FCPFA
Head of Corporate Resources
S.151 Officer

Complaints and Compliments

For January 2021 the following Compliments and Complaints were received by this Council

14 complaints:

- 6 for Waste and Outdoor Services
- 4 for Revenues
- 1 for Recovery
- 1 for Democratic Services
- 1 for Elections
- 1 for parking

53 Compliments:

- 18 for Waste and Outdoor Services
- 15 for Customer Services
- 11 for Planning (Dev Management)
- 6 for Revenues
- 2 for Parking
- 1 for Elections

Each Complaint and Compliment is shared with the relevant Business Unit Leader on receipt to embed best practise. Should you wish to see details of any of these compliments or complaints please contact Karen Spiers 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/>

22 February 2021 - [Funds released for next stages of new Ansty Community and Sports Centre](#)