



Lewes District Council

To all Members of the Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the **Scrutiny Committee** will be held in the **Ditchling Room, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes** on **Thursday, 19 April 2018** at **10:00** which you are requested to attend.

Please note the venue for this meeting which is wheelchair accessible and has an induction loop to help people who are hearing impaired.

This meeting may be filmed, recorded or broadcast by any person or organisation. Anyone wishing to film or record must notify the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Members of the public attending the meeting are deemed to have consented to be filmed or recorded, as liability for this is not within the Council's control.

11/04/2018

Catherine Knight
Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services

Agenda

- 1 Minutes**
To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2018 (copy previously circulated).
- 2 Apologies for Absence/Declaration of Substitute Members**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
Disclosure by councillors of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the councillor regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 4 Written Questions from Councillors**
To deal with written questions from councillors pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 12.3 (page D8 of the Constitution).
- 5 Urgent Items**
Items not on the agenda which the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances as defined in Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government

Act 1972. A Supplementary Report will be circulated at the meeting to update the main Reports with any late information.

- 6 Lewes to Uckfield Railway Line (page 3)**
To note the report of the Scrutiny Officer.
To receive a presentation from RailFuture.
- 7 Scrutiny Work Programme 2018/19 (page 19)**
To note the report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services.
- 8 Forward Plan of Decisions - 1 April 2018 - 31 July 2018 (page 27)**
To receive the Forward Plan of the Council.
- 9 Date of Next Meeting**
To note that the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to be held on 28 June 2018 in the Ditchling Room, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes commencing at 2:00pm.

For further information about items appearing on this Agenda, please contact Jazmin Victory at Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1AB. Telephone 01273 471600

Distribution:

Councillors: P Gardiner (Chair), S Adeniji, B Bovington, J Carter, N Enever, V Ient, R O'Keeffe, S Osborne, J Peterson, R Robertson and C Sugarman

Agenda Item No: 6
Report Title: Lewes to Uckfield railway line
Report To: Scrutiny Committee **Date:** 19 April 2018
Ward(s) Affected: All wards
Report By: Scrutiny Officer, Democratic Services
Contact Officer(s)-
 Name(s): Jazmin Victory
 Post Title(s): Scrutiny Officer
 E-mail(s): jazmin.victory@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
 Tel No(s): 01273 085811

Purpose of Report:

1. For the Scrutiny Committee to receive a presentation concerning the reinstatement of the Lewes to Uckfield railway line, pursuant to the Scrutiny Committee resolution on 18 January 2018 that East Sussex County Council and Railfuture be invited to give a presentation to this meeting.

Officers Recommendations:

2. To note the presentation of Railfuture and participate in an open Q&A session to inform the continuing debate in relation to the reinstatement of the Lewes to Uckfield railway line, and invite discussion regarding their existing strategy and proposal.

Reasons for Recommendation:

3. To comply with the Scrutiny Committee's right to invite people outside of the Council to address it, discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions as stated in the Council's Constitution with regard to the Attendance by Others (Part 4, rule 15).

Information

4. At its meeting on 17 October 2017, full Council had a debate in relation to the reinstatement of the Lewes to Uckfield railway line. The Council agreed the following motion as its recommendation:

“Lewes District Council resolves to positively continue its long standing support for the much needed re-opening of the Lewes to Uckfield railway line and the Council asks the Scrutiny Committee to consider and propose what actions the Council and potential partner organisations might take to further this outcome.

This is something which hundreds of Lewes District residents have called for over many years, and it would be a strategic addition to the rail network for the Lewes District. This vital transportation link, especially if electrified, would help Lewes District Council meet their sustainable transport aspirations. Other examples of successful projects along these lines include the Borders Railway line”.

5. Following the recommendation above, the following three points were considered by the Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2017 as areas which the Committee would benefit from receiving further information:
 - a) How the government may wish to proceed;
 - b) What the existing proposals were; and
 - c) How a project to improve the transport infrastructure in this part of East Sussex would be supported by key local & government sponsored bodies in the South East region.

It was resolved by the Scrutiny Committee that, before any scrutiny review was deemed necessary, representatives of East Sussex County Council and Railfuture would be invited to give a presentation covering this information and participate in a Q&A session open to all members of the Council at the next Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19 April 2018.

6. East Sussex County Council had rejected an invitation to the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19 April 2018 with the following response:

“...Thank you for your email and sorry for the delay in responding.

Further to the request from Lewes District Council’s Scrutiny Committee to attend their meeting on 19 April to discuss the Lewes – Uckfield railway line, unfortunately no-one is available to attend the meeting.

I would suggest it might be more appropriate to invite Network Rail, who are responsible for rail infrastructure, to be invited to the meeting to give their perspective...”

Members to note that, as there was a delay in East Sussex County Council responding to their invitation; it was deemed too short notice to invite Network Rail to attend the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19 April 2018.

7. On 29 November 2017 the Department for Transport published *Connecting People: a strategic vision for rail* (see background papers). The following extract is from section 2 ‘An Expanded Network’:

“2.10 The rail projects underway and in development will restore lost connections and make new ones. The best projects will reflect the way our towns, cities and lives have changed in the last half century, and will recognise that new capacity will be needed in new places...”

Following this, the Cabinet Member for Planning wrote a letter to the Secretary of State for Transport seeking further clarification regarding whether this strategy

anticipated a project to restore the lost connection between Lewes and Uckfield. This letter was sent on 22 February 2018 and can be seen at Appendix A. No response has yet been received.

8. Mr Roger Blake, *National Board Vice-Chair, London & South East regional branch* and Mr Chris Page *National Board Chair*, will present considerations to the Panel on behalf of Railfuture, and participate in an open Q&A session to inform the continuing debate in relation to the reinstatement of the Lewes to Uckfield railway line.

Financial Appraisal

9. An annual budget of £1,000 is available to support the work of the Scrutiny Committee and its Scrutiny Panels. Any costs associated with the review proposed are expected to be minor, given that the research work can be carried out by Council staff.

Legal Implications

10. In considering the recommendations of this report, the Committee should adhere to the Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in part 4 of the Council's Constitution.

Risk Management Implications

11. There is no requirement for an analysis of risk.

Equality Screening

12. An equalities analysis exercise is not considered necessary at this stage. If the Committee decides to proceed with the review, an equality analysis would be undertaken as part of the review and would be reported along with the review findings.

Background Papers

[East Sussex County Council's Full Council agenda and minutes.](#)

[Department for Transport – Connecting People: A strategic vision for rail](#)

Appendices

Appendix A – Letter to Chris Grayling MP, *Secretary of State for Transport*

Appendix B – Presentation by Roger Blake, *National Board Vice-Chair, London & South East regional branch*



Lewes District Council

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Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP
Secretary of State for Transport
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

22 February 2018

Dear Mr Grayling

Lewes District Council welcomes the Government's commitment to meet the demand for more capacity on the rail network by restoring lost connections and identifying a new generation of schemes that unlock new housing or economic growth and offer value for money, as set out in 'Connecting people: a strategic vision for rail' presented to Parliament in November 2017.

As you will be aware, the re-instatement of the Lewes to Uckfield railway has long been supported by the District Council, together with Wealden District Council, East Sussex County Council, the local MPs for Lewes and Wealden, and a number of towns and parishes along the route.

The re-instatement of the Lewes to Uckfield railway has the potential to contribute to sustainable economic growth by improving accessibility to jobs, education and training, by reducing car journeys - and hence congestion and carbon emissions - and by providing an alternative route to the Brighton Main Line during engineering works.

We therefore welcome the Government's commitment to help partners and promoters find the support and expertise they need consider new ways of designing, funding and financing rail capacity and new lines. In this respect, we would be grateful for additional information on how the re-instatement of former railway lines not yet identified in 'Connecting People' will be considered.

Yours sincerely

Aidan Thatcher
Head of Planning

A Lewes-Uckfield rail link

If it's an answer, what is its question?

Which is the greater challenge?

Lewes District Council Scrutiny Committee

- A presentation/discussion with Railfuture on Thursday 19 April 2018.
- Arising from Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2018, with Minute 29 and two Meeting Documents for reference:-
- 4-page Briefing Note - Lewes to Uckfield Railway Line
- 3-page report 'The future of the Lewes to Uckfield railway line'

Railfuture Ltd

- A not-for-profit Company Limited by Guarantee
- A long-established, national, voluntary, and independent organisation campaigning for a bigger better railway in Britain for passengers and freight which more people choose to use and to recommend
- National Board of Directors and policy groups, 14 regional branches, and in London & South East branch several county-based Divisions
- Supported by Vice-Presidents, many seasoned rail 'elder statesmen'
- See our Review of 2017: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/display1709>

Imagine ...

- There never was a railway between Lewes and Uckfield. Would we build one now? What would the irresistible justification look like?
- If a case for linking Lewes and places south with Uckfield and places north - by rail - is sufficiently compelling, why hasn't it happened?
- Beware the definition of insanity!
- Railfuture's approach to the Lewes-Uckfield question documented in *"Access and Connections: East Sussex – Opportunities to align railway investment to the economic growth requirements of East Sussex"* in July 2013. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/display603>

“It’s the economy, stupid!”

- Rail as a means of transport as a type of communication – always about the growth and prosperity of communities and individuals
- Growth-enabling investment – a question of scale
- Responding to local needs, embracing sub-regional needs
- City of Brighton & Hove ranked 20th GB conurbation by population, 15th by productivity
- Authority Monitoring Report 2016/17 notes Objectively-Assessed Housing Need 2010-30 at 30,000 new homes, only 13,000 within City
- The other 17,000 new homes – a problem, or an opportunity?

Imagine ...

- “*Connecting Communities – Expanding Access to the Rail Network*” by ATOC in 2009 suggested a population of 15,000 (6,000 homes) as a guidance threshold for new/reopened rail lines/stations
- That’s very roughly about the size of a Lewes or an Uckfield today
- It’s also very roughly about one-third of the unmet housing need of your sub-regional economic centre which it cannot accommodate
- Will Districts including Lewes around that centre reluctantly accept, or actively embrace, their share of its growth?
- Railfuture suggests that the latter choice could be the game-changer for the prospects of a Lewes-Uckfield rail link

There are alternatives ...

- The London and South Coast Rail Corridor Study was published a year ago and included '*A new approach to Lewes-Uckfield*'. It set us all an exam question: "What level of housing and employment growth along the Tunbridge Wells-Uckfield-Lewes-Brighton corridor would be needed in order to create viable demand levels and a viable funding package?" See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/article1737>
- Just over a year ago the private sector London and Southern Counties Railways Consortium met the Transport Secretary. While Railfuture welcomes the interest of private investors their feasibility study is still awaited. See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/article1732>

Imagine ...

- A government now looking for schemes which deliver growth and with opportunities for third-party involvement
- Railfuture, Campaign for Better Transport and Dept for Transport: *“Expanding the Railways – how to develop and deliver a proposal”*: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/article1745-Expanding-the-Railways>
- Then came DfT’s *“Connecting people: a strategic vision for rail”*
- Now Railfuture with CfBT lobby for a Network Development Fund: <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/article1781-Rail-reopening-fund>
- And DfT launches call for financially-credible market-led proposals <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rail-market-led-proposals> alongside a new ‘pipeline’ approach to rail enhancements requiring government funding <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rail-network-enhancements-pipeline>

Aligning means and ends

- Alternative mechanisms to deliver a Lewes-Uckfield rail link. How to.
- To what end, if not to enable delivery of growth to meet identified need for new homes in the sub-region? Why to.....
- Recall that in mid-2016 MHCLG invited bids for 'garden villages' of up to 10,000 new homes, announced in early-2017
- Railfuture campaigning for new station for Welborne Garden Village of 6,000 new homes <http://www.welbornegardenvillage.co.uk/>
- Rail projects of any significance delivered with strong partnership of stakeholders. Lewes in alliance with other Councils, two LEPs, TfSE?

Re-imagine...

- Lewes-Uckfield as part of growth corridor, and rail line between them as an economic/housing growth enabler, not just transport scheme.
- Lewes/Eastbourne Councils ready to embrace a new paradigm, welcoming a sub-regional scale of new housing growth?
- Where to locate a scale of development sufficient to justify a rail link?
- Bottom line is almost certainly **No new growth = No new railway.**
- Thank you for listening. Railfuture remains ready to collaborate.
- <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Uckfield+Lewes> @Uckfield_Lewes

Agenda Item No: 7

Report Title: Scrutiny Committee Timetable 2018/19

Report To: Scrutiny Committee **Date:** 19 April 2018

Cabinet Member: n/a

Ward(s) Affected: All wards

Report By: Catherine Knight, Assistant Director for Legal and Democratic Services

Contact Officer(s)-
 Name(s): Jazmin Victory
 Post Title(s): Scrutiny Officer
 E-mail(s): Jazmin.Victory@lewes.gov.uk
 Tel No(s): 01273 661374

Purpose of Report:

1. For the Scrutiny Committee to note the timetable of Scrutiny meetings for 2018/19.

Officers Recommendations:

2. That the Scrutiny Committee note its draft 2018/19 programme as set out at Appendix A.

Reasons for Recommendation

3. To meet the requirement of the Council's Constitution with regard to the preparation, execution and adjustment of the work programme.
-

Information

4. At the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 22 February 2018, members requested the Scrutiny Committee meeting dates for 2018/2019. A copy of the dates can be seen at Appendix A.
5. Members are requested to note that from 28 June 2018, Scrutiny Committee meetings will begin at 2:00pm.
6. In preparation for the Annual Work Programme which will be presented to Scrutiny on **28 June 2018**, I would like to present you all with the opportunity to submit Scrutiny Review requests to be considered by the Chair. Using the documents attached at Appendix B & C, please send any Scrutiny Review requests by **1 June 2018**.

Financial Appraisal

7. There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. The Scrutiny Committee has a limited budget for use when undertaking scrutiny reviews if required.

Legal Implications

8. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Risk Management Implications

9. There is no requirement for an analysis of risk.

Equality Screening

10. An equalities impact assessment is not considered necessary for this routine report. Individual projects and service areas are subject to separate equality analysis as part of the Council's wider equality programme.

Background Papers

None

Appendices

Appendix A – DRAFT Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

Appendix B – Scrutiny Review Scoring System

Appendix C - Request by Councillor for a Scrutiny Review - Guidance Notes

DRAFT Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

28 June 2018	Performance Monitoring 2017/18 – Quarter 4 Consider Work Programme 2018/19 Forward Plan
13 September 2018	Performance Monitoring 2017/18 – Quarter 1 Chair of the Council's Annual Business Report Forward Plan
29 November 2018	Performance Monitoring 2017/18 – Quarter 2 Forward Plan
7 February 2019	Council Budget proposals 2019/20 Equalities Annual Report Council Plan Forward Plan
21 March 2019	Performance Monitoring 2017/18 – Quarter 3 Forward Plan

**members to note the new meeting start time of 2:00pm*

To be scheduled:

- Affordable Workspace Panel Report to Scrutiny
- Transport Panel Report to Scrutiny
- Call in

Scrutiny Review Scoring System

Impact

Score	Indicator
0	No potential benefits likely to result. Reject.
1	Minor potential benefits affecting only one ward/customer/client group
2	Minor potential benefits affecting two or more wards/customers/client groups
3	Moderate potential benefits affecting multiple wards/customers/client groups or substantial potential benefits affecting one or more ward/customer/client group
4	Substantial potential benefits community wide or for a significant proportion or section of the community

Importance

Score	Indicator
0	No evidence that the topic is related to the Council's aims and priorities, as set out in the Council Plan. Reject.
1	Some evidence that the topic is linked to the Council's aims and priorities, as set out in the Council Plan, but only indirectly.
2	Good evidence that the topic is linked to the Council's aims but not to current Council priorities, as set out in the Council Plan.
3	Good evidence linking the topic to the Council's aims and priorities, as set out in the Council Plan.
4	The topic links directly to the Council's aims and priorities, as set out in the Council Plan.

Request by Councillor for a Scrutiny Review - Guidance Notes

Members can request the Scrutiny Committee to hold a review into an important subject or matter of concern in the District. It need not relate purely to services provided by the Council and could cover any matter effecting local residents or businesses, as well as external organisations such as the Environment Agency.

And The Council focuses its scrutiny activities on the things that matter most and on outcomes that can make a real difference for local people. It simply has not got the resources to look at everything that might be suggested and therefore has to prioritise. The Council's suggested criteria for selecting reviews are as follows (this information is also contained within the Scrutiny Guide, which all members will have received a copy):

- Members identify key issue for the public
- Poor performing services
- High level of user dissatisfaction
- High level of resource in the area
- Government/council high priority area
- New government guidance or legislation
- Media attention

For each review undertaken there should be:

- Key reasons for undertaking the review
- What the review is expected to achieve
- Agreed measures for identifying a successful review
- A Scoping Report specifying the timetable and methodology (what evidence will be gathered, what consultation will take place)
- Consultation as to the composition of the panel which maybe undertaking the review

Please bear in mind when suggesting a topic for review that the following information will be needed and that where possible you provide as much information for the Scope and Terms of reference. This will assist the Chair when considering which three items will be selected for inclusion into the Annual Work Programme.

Scrutiny does not get involved in minor matters or individual concerns which are not of wider community significance. These need to be pursued through the appropriate Service Unit, Ward Councillors or Executive Member responsible. Nor does scrutiny deal with individual complaints which are dealt with through the Council's complaints procedure. Other topics not appropriate for scrutiny include: matters already being addressed, matters prejudicial to the Council's interests, individual disciplinary or grievance matters and matters unlikely to result in improvements for local people.

Subject	
Brief Scope (outline for review)	
Suggested Consultation	

Reasons for Review and Supporting Information (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)	
Reasons for Review:	
1. Why should topic be reviewed?	
2. How does it link to Council's corporate objectives?	
3. What benefits could result in conducting this review?	
Supporting Evidence:	
1. What evidence is there to support the reasons and need for a scrutiny review?	
2. What are the facts?	
Desired Outcome:	
1. What would you wish to see happen as a result of any review?	
2. Why do you think the desired outcome is achievable as a result of a review?	

Name: (please print)	
Signed:	

Date:

Please complete and return this form to the Scrutiny Officer, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes, BN7 1AB, or email the form to Jazmin.Victory@lewes.gov.uk Should you have any queries about completing the form please telephone 01273 085811.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received:

Date Acknowledged:

Decision Date:

Decision; Accept Reject Defer

Date Decision Notified:

By:

Lewes District Council's Forward Plan of Decisions – 1 April 2018 – 31 July 2018

Published – 23 March 2018

KD = Key Decision

NKD = Non-Key Decision

C = Decision to be taken by the Council

Proposed decision to be considered	Date of Cabinet meeting	Consultation: How, with whom and by what date	Representations: How, by whom and by what date	Background documents	Director/Contact Officer
<p>Community Infrastructure Levy Recommendations for Spending (KD)</p> <p>(Lead Councillor: Councillor Jones)</p>	23 April 2018	<p>Infrastructure Providers will be invited to submit bids over a 6 week window from 8 January 2018. The bids will be assessed by the CIL Management Board (w/c 5 March 2018) and Executive Board (w/c 12 March 2018) formed of officers and councillors.</p>	<p>All bids received from Infrastructure Providers will be assessed by officers from 19 February to 2 March 2018 and the CIL Boards (dates to be confirmed). The CIL Boards will make their recommendations on the preferred proposals.</p>	<p>Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) November 2017 Regulation 123 List November 2015 http://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/planning-policy/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/infrastructure-delivery-plan-and-regulation-123-list/</p>	<p>Estelle Maisonnial, Senior Planning Policy Officer (Infrastructure), 01273 085402, estelle.maisonnial@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>
<p>Affordable Housing Development Site Update (KD)</p> <p>(Lead Councillor: Councillor Maskell)</p>	23 April 2018	None	None	None	<p>Leighton Rowe HEDP Development Project Manager 01323 415367 Leighton.rowe@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

Proposed decision to be considered	Date of Cabinet meeting	Consultation: How, with whom and by what date	Representations: How, by whom and by what date	Background documents	Director/Contact Officer
Quarterly Corporate Performance – Q4 LDC (NKD) (Lead Councillor: Councillor Merry)	2 July 2018	None	None	Council Plan 2016-2020	Jo Harper Head of Business Planning and Performance 01273 484049 jo.harper@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Quarterly Financial Update: Revenue Budgets and Capital Programme (KD) (Lead Councillor: Councillor Giles)	2 July 2018	None	Direct to Contact Officer by email, writing or telephone.	None	Steve Jump Deputy Head of Finance 01273 085257 Steve.Jump@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Council Plan Refresh (C) (Lead Councillor: Councillor Merry)	2 July 2018	None	None	The Council Plan 2016 – 2020	Millie McDevitt Performance & Programme Lead 01323 415637 Millie.McDevitt@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Land at Pinwell Road (KD) (Lead Councillor: Councillor Giles)	2 July 2018	None	None	None	Bee Lewis Head of Property and Facilities 01323 415521 bee.lewis@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Proposed decision to be considered	Date of Cabinet meeting	Consultation: How, with whom and by what date	Representations: How, by whom and by what date	Background documents	Director/Contact Officer
Environmental issues - Underground bins, charging points and water fountains (KD) (Lead Councillor: Councillor TBC)	2 July 2018	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	Jane Goodall Strategy and Partnership Lead, Quality Environment Lewes District and Eastbourne Borough Councils T: 01323 415383 E: jane.goodall@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Equality monitoring policy (KD) (Lead Councillor: Councillor Merry)	2 July 2018	With members of Council's Equality and Fairness Stakeholder Forum and local groups representing those protected under the Equality Act by end May	None	Report; Appendix 1 – Core Text and Questions; Appendix 2 – Options for additional text	Pat Taylor Strategy and Partnerships Lead, Thriving Communities 01323 415909 Pat.taylor@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
New Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (C) (Lead Councillors: Councillors Maskell and Jones)	2 July 2018	The Draft SPD was published for consultation for an 8 week period between 30 November 2017 and 25 January 2018. The consultation followed the principles set out in the Statement of Community Involvement.	Representations were received from seven individuals and organisations via the Council's consultation webpages and via email between 30 November 2017 and 25 January 2018.	New Affordable Housing SPD, New Affordable Housing SPD Cabinet Report, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report, Lewes District Local Plan Part 1 – Joint Core Strategy, Statement of Consultation	Anthony Howell Policy and Engagement Coordinator Tel: 01273 085355 E: Anthony.Howell@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

