

Annual Council

22 May 2023

Quorum: 11

Published: Friday, 12 May 2023



To the Members of the Council

You are summoned to attend the annual meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UE on 22 May 2023 at 6.00 pm to transact the following business.

Note: At the commencement of the meeting the Chair will ask for a period of silence to enable councillors to focus their thoughts on the meeting or to pray silently.

Agenda

1 Election of the Chair of the Council

The names of Councillors who have been nominated for the office of Chair of the Council will be reported at the meeting.

Following the election of the Chair of the Council, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972, the person elected to be Chair of the Council shall make a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the prescribed form, before the Chief Executive.

2 Appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Council

The names of the Councillors who have been nominated for the office of Vice-Chair of the Council will be reported at the meeting.

Following the appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Council, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972, the person appointed to be Vice-Chair of the Council shall make a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the prescribed form, before the Chief Executive.

3 Minutes (Pages 5 - 16)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council dated 20 February 2023.

4 Apologies for absence

5 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.

6 Announcements

To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Council or the Chief Executive. A list of the Chair of the Council's engagements since the previous meeting is enclosed.

7 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.

8 Returning Officer's Report. (Pages 17 - 30)

To receive the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Returning Officer.

9 Election of the Leader of Council, in accordance with Council Procedure Rules

To receive nominations and vote thereon.

(Note: The Leader is to be appointed to a 4-year term of office in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.)

10 Appointments Report (To follow)

- a) To note the Leader of the Council's appointments to Cabinet, the individual areas of responsibility allocated to the Cabinet and the allocation of those areas of responsibility to the members of the Cabinet (to be reported verbally by the Leader at the meeting); and
- b) To consider and determine proposals set out in the report of the Head of Democratic Services.

11 Annual Pay Policy Statement 2023-24. (Pages 31 - 38)

Report of the Director of Tourism, Culture and Organisational Development.

12 Urgent decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet members

In accordance with the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee Procedure Rule 17, to receive details of any urgent decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet members since the previous meeting (if any).

13 Calendar of Meetings 2023/24 (Pages 39 - 40)

To ratify the calendar of meetings for 2023/24 as attached.

14 Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is on 24 July 2023 at 6 pm.



Robert Cottrill
Chief Executive

Information for the public

Accessibility: Please note that the venue for this meeting is wheelchair accessible and has an induction loop to help people who are hearing impaired. This agenda and accompanying reports are published on the Council's website in PDF format which means you can use the "read out loud" facility of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Filming/Recording: 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.

Public participation: Please contact Democratic Services (see end of the agenda) for the relevant deadline for registering to speak on a matter which is listed on the agenda, if applicable.

Information for Councillors

Disclosure of interests: Members should declare their interest in a matter at the beginning of the meeting.

In the case of a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI), if the interest is not registered (nor the subject of a pending notification) details of the nature of the interest must be reported to the meeting by the member and subsequently notified in writing to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

If a member has a DPI or other prejudicial interest he/she must leave the room when the matter is being considered (unless he/she has obtained a dispensation).

Democratic Services

For any further queries regarding this agenda or notification of apologies please contact Democratic Services.

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Full Council

Minutes of meeting held in Council Chamber, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UE on 20 February 2023 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Councillor Adrian Ross (Chair).
Councillors Graham Amy (Vice-Chair), Robert Banks, Nancy Bikson, Matthew Bird, Liz Boorman, Roy Burman, Christine Brett, Ciarron Clarkson, Roy Clay, Chris Collier, Sharon Davy, Johnny Denis, Lynda Duhigg, Stephen Gauntlett, Isabelle Linington, Jim Lord, Sylvia Lord, James MacCleary, Sean MacLeod, Imogen Makepeace, Milly Manley, Ron Maskell, Zoe Nicholson, Emily O'Brien, Laurence O'Connor, Ruth O'Keeffe, Nicola Papanicolaou, Julian Peterson, Christine Robinson, Geoff Rutland, Richard Turner, Steve Saunders and Linda Wallraven.

Officers in attendance:

Robert Cottrill (Chief Executive), Kate Slattery (Solicitor), Sarah Lawrence (Committee Team Manager), Simon Russell (Head of Democratic Services), Ian Fitzpatrick (Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning) and Homira Javadi (Director of Finance and Performance (Chief Finance Officer)).

48 Period of Silence

The Council paid tribute to former Councillor Jim Daly, who had died since the last meeting of the Council. Jim Daley had served as both a Lewes District Councillor for Lewes Bridge and as a Lewes Town Councillor.

The Council held a short period of silence in memory.

49 Minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2022.

RESOLVED – To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2022.

50 Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sam Adeniji, Julie Carr, Phil Davis, Tom Jones, Christophn von Kurthy, William Meyer, and Kiera Rigden.

51 Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

52 Announcements.

The Chair advised that a list of his engagements as Chair of the Council held since the last meeting were set out in the agenda. There were no other announcements.

53 Urgent items.

There were no urgent items.

54 Questions from members of the public.

There were no questions from members of the public.

55 Petitions.

There were no petitions

56 Urgent decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet members.

There had been no urgent decisions taken by the Leader of the Council under special urgency procedures since the last meeting.

57 Recommendations from Cabinet, Committees and Other Council Bodies.

57a Council Budget and Setting of the Council Tax 2023/24.

Councillor Nicholson moved and Councillor MacCleary seconded the recommendations set out in the agenda and agenda supplement, in relation to the Council Budget and setting of the Council Tax for 2023/24. This incorporated recommendations from Cabinet on 2 February 2023 regarding the General Fund Revenue Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme, Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators 2023/24, Capital Strategy and Investment Strategy and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Budget and Rent Setting 2023/24 and HRA Capital Programme 2023-26. The addendum included a minor amendment to the Fire Authority precept figure, and proposed additional fees related to the Port Health Authority.

Councillor Peterson moved and Councillor Linington seconded the following amendment as set out in an addendum tabled at the meeting:

To amend Recommendation 1 to read: "To approve the General Fund budget for 2022/23 (Revised) and 2023/24 (Revised), subject to a **0% increase** in the Council Tax for Lewes District Council (per annum) resulting in a Band D charge for general expenses of £202.08 for 2023/24."

The cost of not increasing the Council Tax in 2023/24 (circa £85k), would be offset by not proceeding with the increase to the waste budget in 2023/24 (circa £174k) which would be to fund the use of HVO fuel rather than diesel in the waste vehicle fleet.

Councillor Nicholson then spoke to the budget proposals and advised that these proposals arose from four years' worth of focus from the alliance groups. Councillor Nicholson advised that it was based on the shared values of fairness and resilience, and the goals of making the Council more responsive to people's needs, taking action on the climate crisis, a commitment to building more Council homes, using the Council's resources wisely, and addressing those matters where there were areas for improvement. The budget included a proposal for a 1% Council tax rise.

Councillor Peterson presented his proposed amendment for a 0% Council Tax rise, which he advised was made in the context of the current cost of living crisis, and its impact on residents. He advised that the most straight forward way to pay for this was by postponing the investment in renewable fuel for the waste vehicles, but if this was not supported, there were other areas in the budget which could be reduced to fund this proposal.

The Council debated the budget and amendment together.

Prior to the Council was moving the vote, Councillor Nicholson was given the opportunity to sum up.

The Chair highlighted that it was required by legislation that all votes on the budget were recorded votes.

The amendment was put to a vote first and was lost, with the following votes recorded:

For: Councillors Bikson, Boorman, Burman, Davy, Duhigg, Linington, J Lord, S Lord, Maskell, Papanicolaou, Peterson, Rutland, Saunders, Turner and Wallraven (15)

Against: Councillors Amy, Banks, Bird, Brett, Clarkson, Clay, Collier, Denis, Gauntlett, MacCleary, Macleod, Makepeace, Manley, Nicholson, O'Brien, O'Connor, O'Keeffe, Robinson and Ross (19).

Abstentions: None

The original proposals on the budget were then put to a vote and were carried, with the following votes recorded:

For: Councillors Amy, Banks, Bird, Brett, Clarkson, Clay, Collier, Denis, Gauntlett, MacCleary, Macleod, Makepeace, Manley, Nicholson, O'Brien, O'Connor, O'Keeffe, Robinson and Ross (19).

Against: Councillors Bikson, Boorman, Burman, Davy, Duhigg, Linington, J Lord, S Lord, Maskell, Papanicolaou, Peterson, Rutland, Turner and Wallraven (14)

Abstentions: Councillor Saunders (1).

RESOLVED –

1. To approve the recommendations as detailed in the reports from the Chief Finance Officer to Cabinet on 2 February 2023 as summarised below:

- (i) To approve the General Fund budget for 2022/23 (Revised) and 2023/24 (Original). An increase in the Council Tax for Lewes District Council of 1% (per annum) resulting in a Band D charge for general expenses of £204.10 for 2023/24.
- (ii) To approve the revised General Fund capital programme 2023/24.
- (iii) To note the Section 151 Officer's sign off as outlined in the Cabinet Report and at Report Appendix 1.
- (iv) To approve the Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy for 2023/24.
- (v) To approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2023/24.
- (vi) To approve the Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2023/24 to 2025/26.
- (vii) To approve the Capital Strategy.
- (viii) To endorse the continuation of the Flexible use of Capital Receipts.
- (ix) The Council introduce from 1 April 2024 a new discretionary council tax premium on second homes of up to 100% and apply a premium of up to 100% on homes which have been empty for longer than 1 year following the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill becoming law.
- (x) To approve the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) income and expenditure proposals, including revised HRA budget for 2022/23 and the budget for 2023/24, rents and service charges and the HRA Capital Programme, including:
 - That social and affordable rents (including Shared Ownership) be increased by 7% in line with Government policy;
 - That private sector leased property rents are increased by 7% (mirroring the approach to social and affordable rents);
 - That garage rents are increased by 7%.
- (xi) To approve the proposed fees and charges for the Port Health Authorities as set out below:

Number of certificates	High Risk 3 rd (RoW) country	Low Risk EEA/EFTA countries / Bilateral Agreements
1-5	£45.70	£22.80
6-10	£68.50	£40.00
11-20	£80.00	£51.30
21+	£91.30	£62.80

2. That delegated authority is given to the Chief Finance Officer to amend the budget for any presentational changes ensuring the Council Tax Requirement remains unchanged.
3. That it be noted, that since the Cabinet meeting on 2 February the Business Rates return to the Government (NNDR1) has been finalised with no changes to the previous net budget assumptions.
4. That the expenses incurred by the Council set out below be approved as Special Expenses chargeable to the residents of each of the Town/Parish areas indicated and that any other expenses (excluding local precepts) incurred by the Council be approved as general expenditure for the purposes of Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Town/Parish Area	Special Expenses 2023/24 £
Lewes	353,377
Newhaven	139,035
Telscombe	59,480
Seaford	60,396
Peacehaven	42,360
Chailey	1,149
Ringmer	4,548
Total Special Expenses	660,346

5. That consequent upon a General Fund budget of £8,383,397 and other matters, the basic amount (Band D) of Council Tax for the District Council's functions will be £221.55 calculated as follows:

Gross Expenditure	£	£
District Gross Expenditure		53,941,503
Special Expenses		660,346
Parish Precepts		4,863,707
Total		59,465,555
Less Income:		
Service Income	(38,998,754)	
Business Rate Income	(4,899,754)	
Other Government Grants	(1,642,734)	
Collection Fund Surplus (Council Tax)	(448,000)	
Contributions To/ (From) Reserves	(229,209)	
Total		(46,218,451)
Total Council Tax Requirement (Including Parish Precepts)		13,247,104
Total Council Tax Requirement		8,383,397
Band D Council Tax (Including Parish Precept)		£350.09
Band D Council Tax (including Special Expenses)		£221.55
Band D Council Tax (no special items)		£204.10

The statutory resolutions relating to this matter are given at paragraphs 6 and 7 below.

6. That it be noted that at its meeting on 2 February 2023 Cabinet approved the following calculations for the year 2023/24, being made in accordance with regulations made under Sections 31(B)(4) and 34(4) of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended:
 - a) 37,839.4 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of the Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, as its Council Tax Base for the year) Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992).
 - b) The amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as amended, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate can be found in Report Appendix 2– Table A.
7. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended:

A	£59,465,555	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31 A (2) of the Act.
B	£46,218,451	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31 A (3) of the Act.
C	£13,247,104	being the amount by which the aggregate at 5 (A) above exceeds the aggregate at 5 (B) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31 A (4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
D	£350.09	being the amount at 5 (C) above, all divided by the taxbase of 35,294.8, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year (including local precepts).
E	£5,524,053	being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 43 (1) of the Act.
F	£204.10	being the amount at 6(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 6 (e) above by the amount at 4 (a) above (item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the dwellings of those parts of its area to which no special items relate.
G	Table C in Report Appendix 2 being the amounts given by adding the amount at 7(c) above, the amounts of the special items or items relating to dwelling in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at Table A (Appendix 2) for each area, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.	
H	Table D in Report Appendix 2 being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 7(g) (Appendix 2 – Table C) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.	

8. To note that East Sussex County Council, East Sussex Fire Authority and Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner have issued precepts to the

Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in Table E in Report Appendix 2.

9. That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 6 and 7 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts as set out in Table F in Report Appendix 2 the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings as shown in Table F (Report Appendix 2).
10. To determine that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.
11. As the billing authority, the Council has **not** been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount (and increase) of Council Tax for 2023/24 is excessive (as set out in Table G – Appendix to the Minutes) and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.

57b Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24.

Councillor Nicholson moved and Councillor O'Keeffe seconded the recommendation referred from the meeting of Cabinet held on 8 December 2022, in support of the adoption of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2023/24.

The proposals were discussed and received support from across the Council for the coming year.

RESOLVED (unanimously) –

- (1) To adopt the 2022/23 Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme as the 2023/24 scheme.
- (2) Subject to Full Council adoption of the Scheme, Cabinet has granted the Director of Service Delivery delegated authority:
 - (a) to implement the Scheme, such delegated authority to include any measures necessary for or incidental to its management and administration; and
 - (b) if necessary, and in accordance with paragraph 2.3, to amend the Scheme in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Assets and Finance.
- (3) To continue the Exceptional Hardship Scheme in 2023/24, subject to funds being available.

(Councillor Peterson left the meeting at the end of the discussion on this item).

57c Approval of Licensing Fees 2023/24.

Councillor Macleod (Chair of the Licensing Committee) moved and Councillor Robinson (Deputy Chair) seconded the recommendation referred from the meeting of Licensing Committee held on 12 January 2023, to approve the licensing fees from 1 April 2023. Councillor Macleod highlighted the changes being proposed in the fees and why they were necessary.

In response to a question raised, it was confirmed that there were no sex establishments licenced in the area.

RESOLVED (unanimously) - To approve the Licensing fees proposed within Report Appendix 1 to apply from 1 April 2023.

58 Appointment of the Monitoring Officer.

Councillor MacCleary moved and Councillor Linington seconded the recommendations set out in the report of the Chief Executive, recommending the appointment of Simon Russell as the new monitoring officer. In speaking in support of the recommendations, Councillor MacCleary also thanked the outgoing Monitoring Officer, Oliver Dixon, for his excellent work in this role and for his invaluable support and advice to Councillors, and wished him well.

The recommendations were put to a vote and carried.

RESOLVED (unanimously) –

1. That Council approve the appointment of Simon Russell as Monitoring Officer with effect from 1 April 2023; and
2. That the Council record its thanks to the outgoing Monitoring Officer, Oliver Dixon, for his hard work and dedication.

(Note: Simon Russell, Head of Democratic Services, left the room during the discussion of this item).

59 Notices of motion.**59a Motion - Rights of the River.**

Councillor Bird moved and Councillor Macleod seconded the motion as set out in the agenda papers proposing the rights of the River Ouse. Councillor Bird set out the reasons for the motion and advised that the approach was supported by the Sussex Wildlife Trust and Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust and Ouse Valley Climate Action.

The motion was debated by the Council. There was support from many Councillors for this approach, as a way to protect and restore the River Ouse. However, some Councillors considered that immediate practical action was required, and others were concerned as to how such rights would be enforced.

It was suggested that the Council could commit to endorsing the declaration when produced, but Officers clarified that the Council could not agree to do so at this point, as that would be binding a future Council's decision.

In summing up, Councillor Bird advised that the way in which the rights would be implemented would be developed through the work with stakeholders.

The motion was put to a vote and carried.

RESOLVED that (By 27 votes for, 2 against, 4 abstentions):

1. This Council acknowledges the growing global movement of 'rights of nature' as a framework for rethinking its relationship with the environment.
2. This Council believes that there is a case to be made for considering our interactions with our local waterways in the context of 'Rights of Rivers' and through which the health and wellbeing of the River Ouse can be addressed.
3. This Council will explore with local communities and relevant stakeholders the implementation of Rights of Rivers along the River Ouse. This will involve working towards the production of a 'Declaration on the Rights of the River Ouse' by relevant stakeholders for possible endorsement by the Council within 2 years.

60 Calendar of Meetings 2023-24.

Councillor MacCleary moved and Councillor Nicholson seconded that the proposed calendar of meetings for 2023-24. It was noted that the dates would be subject to formal ratification at annual council in line with legislation.

RESOLVED – That the Calendar of Meetings 2023-24 be approved.

61 Written questions from Councillors.

There were no written questions from Councillors.

62 Questions to the Leader of the Council.

There were no questions asked to the Leader.

63 Ward issues.

No ward issues were raised.

64 Reporting back on meetings of outside bodies.

The following reports had been received on outside bodies set out in the agenda and were noted:

- Health Overview Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Brett

- Armed Forces Champion – Councillor Davy
- Police and Crime Panel and Wave Active Ltd Board - Councillor Denis
- Wave Active Ltd (Board and Health and Safety Cttee) – Councillor O’Connor
- East Sussex Wellbeing Board, LGA People and Places Board, SE Councils Executive, SE Councils Winter All Members Meeting – Councillor O’Brien.
- Greater Brighton Economic Board – Councillor Nicholson
- Team East Sussex, Aspiration Homes, Newhaven Town Deal Board – Councillors MacCleary and Nicholson.
- Lewes CAB – Councillor Makepeace

Resolved – To note the outside body updates.

65 Date of Next Meeting.

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to take place at 6 pm on Monday 22 May 2023, which would be the Annual Council meeting.

As this was the last Council meeting prior to the District Elections, the Chair thanked Councillors for their support during the year, for their diligent work for the Council and their communities, and he wished all Councillors well.

The meeting ended at 8.28 pm

Councillor Adrian Ross (Chair)

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Agenda Item 8

Report to:	Annual Council
Date:	22 May 2023
Title:	District Council Elections held on 4 May 2023
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive and Returning Officer
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of report:	To inform the Council of the results of the elections held on 4 May 2023 and related information.
Officer recommendation(s):	(1) To note the report
Reasons for recommendations:	To advise the Council of recent election results
Contact Officer(s):	Name: Ian Fitzpatrick Post title: Deputy Chief Executive E-mail: Ian.Fitzpatrick@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 01323 415935
	Name: Tracey Pannett Post title: Head of Elections and Local Land Charges E-mail: Tracey.Pannett@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 01323 415074

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report deals with the Lewes District Council elections held on Thursday 4 May 2023. Details of the results and of the candidates elected are given together with other related information.
- 1.2 These elections were for all 41 of the council seats in the district's 21 wards.
- 1.3 A total of 143 candidates stood for election to the district council representing 5 political parties (Conservative, Green, Labour, Liberal Democrats, Reform UK), together with a number of independent candidates

2 Results

- 2.1 A copy of the full election results for the 21 Lewes District wards is attached at **Appendix 1.**

2.2

The candidates elected to the district council are as follows:

Ward:	Full name of Councillor:
Chailey Barcombe and Hamsey	Joa SAUNDERS , Mark SLATER
Ditchling and Westmeston	Paul Anthony David MELLOR
East Saltdean and Telscombe Cliffs	Ian Keith ALEXANDER , Laurence Julian O'CONNOR , Christine Sandra ROBINSON
KINGSTON	Stella SPITERI
Lewes Bridge	Zoe NICHOLSON , Janet BAAH
Lewes Castle	Wendy MAPLES , Nick KORTALLA-BIRD
Lewes Priory	Imogen MAKEPEACE , Graham CLEWS , Paul KEENE
Newhaven North	Julie Lyn CARR , Sean Andrew MACLEOD
Newhaven South	Graham Roger AMY , James Neville MACCLEARY , Christoph David VON KURTHY
Newick	Charlotte KENNAN
Ouse Valley and Ringmer	Lucy AGACE , Johnny DENIS , Emily O'BRIEN
Peacehaven East	Paul Thomas DAVIES , Cathy GALLAGHER
Peacehaven North	Ciarron Joss CLARKSON , Isobel Louise SHARKEY
Peacehaven West	Chris COLLIER , Nikki FABRY
Plumpton, Streat, East Chiltington and St John (without)	Daniel James Banfield STEWART-ROBERTS
Seaford Central	Stephen GAUNTLETT , Freddie HOAREAU
Seaford East	Ezra COHEN , Becky FRANCOMB
Seaford North	Roy CLAY , James MEEK
Seaford South	Christine Anne BRETT , Olivia HONEYMAN
Seaford West	Lesley BONIFACE , Christina Kathleen BRISTOW

Wivelsfield	William COUPLAND
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3 Electoral turnout figures

3.1 The overall electorate 77,351 and the overall voting total was 31,610 giving an overall turnout of 40.9%. Turnout by ward is shown in the appendix to this report. The overall total of rejected votes was 200.

4 Absent voting

4.1 Within the overall totals, 15,036 postal votes were issued. A total of 10,387 postal votes were returned giving a postal vote turnout of 69.08%

4.2 Numbers of postal vote returns by ward were as follows:

Ward	No Postal Votes Accepted
Chailey, Barcombe and Hamsey	456
Ditchling and Westmeston	396
East Saltdean and Telscombe Cliffs	767
Kingston	228
Lewes Bridge	468
Lewes Castle	335
Lewes Priory	785
Newick	227
Newhaven North	394
Newhaven South	538
Ouse Valley and Ringmer	685
Peacehaven East	486
Peacehaven North	476
Peacehaven West	525
Plumpton, Streat, East Chiltington and St John (w/o)	226
Seaford Central	543
Seaford East	661
Seaford North	536
Seaford South	576
Seaford West	755
Wivelsfield	324

4.3 A total of 162 proxy votes were granted and 5 Emergency Proxy applications.

5 Polling Stations and counting arrangements

5.1 58 polling stations were opened between the hours of 7.00 am and 10.00pm on the 4 May 2023

- 5.2 Following the national change in legislation, for the first time voters were required to show an approved form of photo ID before being given their ballot paper.
Across the 58 polling stations 55 electors could not initially be issued their ballot paper due to not having valid ID, of those 32 voters then returned later with valid ID and cast their vote.
- 5.3 The district count commenced at 9am on Friday 5 May in both the Corn Exchange and the Assembly rooms at the Lewes Town Hall and was concluded at 4:30 pm

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 I would like to record my thanks to everyone who contributed to the election. As election day itself went smoothly, it could be easy to underestimate the amount of work that went into making it a success and noting the many months of planning, helping people to register, promoting the introduction of voter identification assisting people to apply for a voter authority certificate when they had no other form of ID, and dealing with thousands of postal votes leading up to the day. I am grateful to everyone who worked long hours with such enthusiasm and professionalism.

7 Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Full Election Results

RESULTS OF ELECTIONS HELD THURSDAY 4 MAY 2023

Chailey, Barcombe and Hamsey Ward

Electorate: 4103

Turnout 46.4%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Sharon Barbara Davy , The Conservative Party Candidate	686
Marion Joyce Hughes , Liberal Democrat	247
Isabelle Margaret Linington , The Conservative Party Candidate	640
Joanne Saunders , (Known as Joa Saunders), Green Party	990 (E)
Mark Slater , Green Party	914 (E)
Peter Edward Spain , Liberal Democrat	212

Ditchling and Westmeston Ward

Electorate:1908

Turnout 55.6%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Edward Elford , Green Party	365
Alan Tom Jones , The Conservative Party Candidate	356
Paul Anthony David Mellor , Liberal Democrat	377 (E)

East Saltdean and Telscombe Cliffs Ward

Electorate:5592

Turnout 34.5%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Simon Marriott Ackroyd , Liberal Democrat	328
Ian Keith Alexander , Labour Party	1087 (E)
Nicola Blackwell , (Known as Nicky Blackwell), Green Party	151
Paul Alexander Clark , The Conservative Party Candidate	538
Elizabeth Wallace Lee , (Known as Liz Lee), Liberal Democrat	180
Donna Simone Martinez-Claras , Liberal Democrat	132

Laurence Julian O'Connor , Labour Party	1089 (E)
Christine Sandra Robinson , Labour Party	1132 (E)
Nicholas Tigg , (Known as Nick Tigg), Green Party	112
Diana Wilkins , Green Party	106

Kingston Ward

Electorate:1568

Turnout 58.3%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
David Hoare , Green Party	326
Rosemarie Jeffery , The Conservative Party Candidate	150
Stella Spiteri , Liberal Democrat	431 (E)

Lewes Bridge Ward

Electorate:3797

Turnout 50.2%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Janet Baah , Liberal Democrat	812 (E)
Colin Graham French , The Conservative Party Candidate	168
Jeremy William Halley , Liberal Democrat	491
Matthew Dennis Kent , (Known as Matt Kent), Labour Party	246
Zoe Nicholson , Green Party	916 (E)
Catharine Margaret Robinson , The Conservative Party Candidate	144
Adrian Ross , Green Party	794
Amy Electra Batty Wilkins , Labour Party	147

Lewes Castle Ward

Electorate: 3010

Turnout 49.7%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Diane Kay Burman , The Conservative Party Candidate	122
Emily Jane Clarke , Labour Party	572

Karen Elizabeth French , The Conservative Party Candidate	99
Nicolas Kortalla-Bird , Green Party	600 (E)
Wendy Maples , Green Party	696 (E)
Anthony Richard Parker , (Known as Tony Parker), Liberal Democrat	229
Stephen Alfred Wischhusen , (Known as Stephen Alfred Catlin), Labour Party	356
Catherine Elizabeth Wood , (Known as Kate Wood), Liberal Democrat	236

Lewes Priory Ward

Electorate:5871

Turnout 56.1%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Catherine Boorman , The Conservative Party Candidate	318
Graham Clews , Green Party	1457 (E)
Linda Daphne Drabble , Labour Party	550
Peter Hambly , Labour Party	515
Patrick John Henshaw , (Known as Paddy Henshaw), Liberal Democrat	927
Paul Keene , Green Party	1420 (E)
Edwina Jane Francesca Livesey , Liberal Democrat	870
Imogen Makepeace , Green Party	1727 (E)
Elizabeth Jane Slater , The Conservative Party Candidate	283
Danny Sweeney , Labour Party	423
Kevin James West , Liberal Democrat	981

Newhaven North Ward

Electorate:3791

Turnout 31.5%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Dirk Campbell , Green Party	64
Julie Lyn Carr , Liberal Democrat	628 (E)

Susan Marian Chowen , The Conservative Party Candidate	245
Sean Andrew Macleod , Liberal Democrat	589(E)
Tai Ray-Jones , Green Party	96
Steven Peter Saunders , (Known as Steve Saunders), Independent	348
Andrew Richard Winter , Independent	171

Newhaven South Ward

Electorate:5283

Turnout 27.5%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Abdul Shukur Ahmed , The Conservative Party Candidate	239
Graham Roger Amy , Liberal Democrat	766 (E)
Holly Atkins , Green Party	216
William John Giles , (Known as Bill Giles), The Conservative Party Candidate	338
Nicholas Martin Jones , (Known as Nick Jones), Independent	189
James Neville MacCleary , Liberal Democrat	672 (E)
Heather Pinky McLean-Knight , (Known as Pinky McLean-Knight), Independent	387
Martin Meadows , Green Party	140
Martin O'Brien , Green Party	118
Christoph David Von Kurthy , Liberal Democrat	611 (E)
Linda Wallraven , The Conservative Party Candidate	263

Newick Ward

Electorate: 1969

Turnout 50.8%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Nathaniel James Delo , (Known as Nate Delo), The Conservative Party Candidate	337
Charlotte Keenan , Green Party	533 (E)

Samantha Claire Robbins , Liberal Democrat	73
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Ouse Valley and Ringmer Ward

Electorate:5282

Turnout 43.3%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Lucy Agace , Green Party	1042 (E)
Catherine Bryan , (Known as Cathy Bryan), Liberal Democrat	383
Matthew Raymond Crisp , The Conservative Party Candidate	659
Johnny Denis , Green Party	1263 (E)
Lindsey Macleod , Liberal Democrat	367
Emily O'Brien , Green Party	1213 (E)
Katie Alexandra Sanderson , Conservative Party candidate	595
Richard John Turner , The Conservative Party Candidate	697
Victoria Jane Vincent , Liberal Democrat	420

Peacehaven East Ward

Electorate:4057

Turnout 27%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Paul Thomas Davies , Labour Party	620 (E)
Nigel David Enever , Conservative Party Candidate	399
Catherine Mary Gallagher , (Known as Cathy Gallagher), Labour Party	537 (E)
Emily Cecilia Kramers , Liberal Democrat	73
Tara Mary Moore , The Conservative Party Candidate	324
Lesley Orr , Green Party	65
Helena Elizabeth Pickup , Liberal Democrat	61
Anthony Shuster , Green Party	43

Peacehaven North Ward**Electorate:4114****Turnout 27%**

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Rikki Begley , Green Party	56
Joyce Dixon Bell , Liberal Democrat	65
Ciarron Joss Clarkson , Labour Party	555 (E)
Elizabeth Mansfield , (Known as Liz Mansfield), Green Party	60
Keira O'Neill , The Conservative Party Candidate	409
Isobel Louise Sharkey , Labour Party	553 (E)
Andrew Xavier Smith , (Known as Andy Smith), The Conservative Party Candidate	389
David Jan Stechler , Liberal Democrat	49

Peacehaven West Ward**Electorate:3731****Turnout 29.6%**

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Christopher David Collier , (Known as Chris Collier), Labour Party	689 (E)
Nicola Jayne Fabry , (Known as Nikki Fabry), Labour Party	557 (E)
Keiran Lee Sefton , Conservative Party Candidate	390
Emily Slater , Green Party	71
Debra Vice-Holt , Green Party	44
Elizabeth Jane Webb , (Known as Liz Webb), Liberal Democrat	100
Fawzia Catherine Whittuck , Liberal Democrat	46

Plumpton, Streat, East Chiltington and St John (w/o) Ward
Electorate: 1724 Turnout 52.7%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Laurence Herbert Tamerlane Large , (Known as Tam Large), The Conservative Party Candidate	208
John Oughton , Green Party	93
Daniel James Banfield Stewart-Roberts , Liberal Democrat	601 (E)

Seaford Central Ward

Electorate:3992

Turnout 34.8%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Roy Francomb , Green Party	185
Stephen John Gauntlett , Liberal Democrat	632 (E)
Frederick Hoareau , (Known as Freddie Hoareau), Liberal Democrat	523 (E)
Alice McCarthy Sommerville , Green Party	188
Christopher Purser , Labour Party	276
Geoffrey Martyn Rutland , (Known as Geoff Rutland), The Conservative Party Candidate	411
Elaine Susan Sammarco , Labour Party	297

Seaford East Ward

Electorate:3973

Turnout 48.8%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Samuel Addey Adeniji , (Known as Sam Adeniji), The Conservative Party Candidate	695
Ezra Cohen , Green Party	764 (E)
Lorraine Janet Crawley , Independent	68
Rebecca Francomb , (Known as Becky Francomb), Green Party	774 (E)
Alan Norman Latham , Reform UK	129

Julian Christopher Peterson , The Conservative Party Candidate	583
Lindsay James Stirton , Liberal Democrat	225
Elizabeth Margaret Wearmouth , (Known as Maggie Wearmouth), Liberal Democrat	215

Seaford North Ward

Electorate:3979

Turnout 37%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Roy Clay , Green Party	566 (E)
Morag Everden , Liberal Democrat	409
James Haigh Lord , The Conservative Party Candidate	414
Sylvia Vanson Lord , The Conservative Party Candidate	409
Sally Gwendolen Markwell , Liberal Democrat	404
James Meek , Green Party	584 (E)

Seaford South Ward

Electorate:3554

Turnout 46.6%

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E): Elected
Christine Anne Brett , Liberal Democrat	799 (E)
Mark Frederick Mallin, Brown , The Conservative Party Candidate	422
Rachel Fryer , Green Party	150
Lisa Olivia Honeyman , (Known as Olivia Honeyman), Liberal Democrat	760 (E)
Melvyn George Simmons , The Conservative Party Candidate	349
Miranda Suheimat , Green Party	218
Alun Gwyn Tlusty-Sheen , Labour and Co-operative Party	182

Seaford West Ward**Electorate:3830****Turnout 46%**

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Lesley-Anne Boniface , (Known as Lesley Boniface), Liberal Democrat	733 (E)
Elizabeth Boorman , (Known as Liz Boorman), The Conservative Party Candidate	663
Christina Kathleen Bristow , Liberal Democrat	851 (E)
Robert Burns , Green Party	219
Gemma McFarlane , Green Party	155
William James Payne , (Known as Bill Payne), The Conservative Party Candidate	606
Martin William Waite , Labour Party	139

Wivelsfield Ward**Electorate:2223****Turnout 42.6%**

Name of Candidate	Votes Recorded (E):
Nancy Ray Bikson , The Conservative Party Candidate	345
William Coupland , Green Party	497(E)
Julie Catherine Salmon , Liberal Democrat	102

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Report to:	Annual Council
Date:	22 May 2023
Title:	Annual Pay Policy Statement
Report of:	Report of the Director of Tourism, Culture and Organisational Development.
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of report:	To present a Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2023/24 for approval by the Council.
Officer recommendation(s):	That the Council approves and recommends the updated Pay Policy Statement for publication on the Council's website.
Reasons for recommendations:	Sections 38-39 of the Localism Act 2011 require local authorities to adopt and publish a Pay Policy Statement.
Contact Officer(s):	Name: Becky Cooke Post title: Report of the Director of Tourism, Culture and Organisational Development. E-mail: becky.cooke@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 07805 812060

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 places an obligation on relevant local authorities to be more accountable to the communities they serve.
- 1.2 Part 1, Chapter 8, of the Act requires the Council to prepare, approve and publish a Pay Policy Statement. The statement drafted for Lewes District Council is appended to this report (Appendix 1). The Council is required to keep the Statement up to date and it has now been reviewed to take account of the latest statistical data.

The revised version is presented to Council for consideration and approval. Once adopted, it will replace the current version on the Council's website.

2 Changes to the Pay Policy Statement

- 2.1 The 'pay multiple' is the ratio between the highest paid salary and the median average salary of the whole of the Council's workforce.

- 2.2 The lowest spinal column (scp) point we paid our permanent employees at 31 March 2022 is scp 3, which is £21,183 per annum. The median point at 31 March 2023 is £27,844.

The Council's pay multiple for 2022/23 was 5.3550 which remains within the Council's aim to maintain a multiple no greater than 6 to 1.

3 Financial appraisal

- 3.1 The Pay Policy Statement is based on existing policies, procedures and a requirement of the Localism Act. Generally, pay increases are agreed as part of National negotiations of the National Joint Council, and assumptions on this are included in the budget as part of the annual budget setting process, so any increase in pay award is reflected in the budget each year.
- 3.2 The 2023/24 Pay Policy Statement sets out the pay policy of the Council and there are no financial implications arising directly from this report or as a result of publishing the Pay Policy Statement.
- 3.3 The Council Medium Term Financial Strategy has made provision for a national pay award, however further information is awaited regarding the specific details of any national pay award offer for 2023/2024.

4 Legal implications

- 4.1 This report reflects the requirements of sections 38-39 of the Localism Act 2011 with regard to pay accountability. The key requirements are that pay policy statements be:

- prepared for each financial year
- approved by full council
- published on the Council's website

Under Section 40, the Council must, in performing its functions under sections 38-39, have regard to the guidance on openness and accountability in local pay issued by the Secretary of State.

011969-JOINT-KS 4th April 2023

5 Risk management implications

- 5.1 The primary risk should the updated Pay Policy Statement not be updated is the breach to our regulatory responsibilities and commitments to staff with the potential for reputational damage.

6 Equality analysis

- 6.1 A 'No Relevance' report has previously been submitted to the Equalities and Fairness Planning Group.

7 Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Pay Policy Statement 2023/24

8 Background papers

Statutory guidance [‘Openness and accountability in local pay: Guidance under section 40 of the Localism Act’](#)

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Lewes District Council



Working in partnership with Eastbourne Homes

Pay Policy Statement 2023/24

This Pay Policy Statement is provided in accordance with Section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011 and this will be updated annually from April each year.

This Pay Policy Statement sets out the councils policies relating to the pay of it's workforce for the financial year 2023/24, in particular:

- a) The remuneration of its Chief Officers;
- b) The remuneration of its 'lowest paid employees'
- c) The relationship between:
 - i) The remuneration of it's Chief Officers and;
 - ii) The remuneration of its employees who are not Chief Officers

New Appointments

Full Council shall agree salary packages in excess of £100,000 for new appointments. Salary packages shall include salary, bonuses, fees, benefits in kind or allowances that would be routinely payable to the appointee. The salary package shall be agreed before recruitment for the post begins.

Publication of Information

The authority will publish appropriate details of those relevant staff whose salary is at least £50,000.

Pay Multiples

The authority will publish information on pay multiples – the ratio between the highest paid employee and the median salary across the organisation.

The authority shall publish the actual pay multiple as at 31 March each year. The authority recognises that the actual pay multiple will vary slightly year on year for the reasons set out above, but will usually aim to maintain a multiple no greater than 6 to 1.

Local Election Duties

Fees for local election duties will be paid separately to the remuneration paid for an officer's employment. Those fees are set in accordance with a scale of fees and charges agreed and reviewed annually jointly by all authorities in East Sussex. For parliamentary elections (national and European) and national referenda, those fees are set nationally by parliament.

Pay Determination

The pay for the highest paid employee has previously been set through benchmarking exercises within the local government employment market, pay levels in the local area, relative cost of living in the local area, including housing costs, and through the application of nationally negotiated pay awards by the Joint National Council for Chief Executives. For 2023/24 this current remuneration level will continue and any nationally negotiated pay awards will be paid.

Members of the Corporate Management Team shall have their salary levels set based on compliance with equal pay, discrimination and other relevant employment legislation, whilst also ensuring that remuneration packages broadly align with market norms for relevant local government and public sectors. The appropriate banding shall be determined, depending on the current responsibilities and accountabilities, size of department, market pressures and any other relevant information. Total salary packages above £100,000 will be subject to agreement by full Council.

The basic pay of all other employees comprises a core grade derived from the national pay spine as set out in the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Services. This grade range consists of a number of salary points through which employees may progress until the top of the grade is reached.

The salary grade for each post shall be determined using the Council's agreed job evaluation scheme.

Low Pay

The lowest paid employees within the council are those permanent workers who are paid on the councils' lowest hourly rate.

The councils' consider this to be the most appropriate definition as this is the lowest pay point/pay level on its substantive pay structure and which normally applies to new entrants to the lowest graded jobs within the councils. The councils' has had regard to guidance issued by the Local Government Association and JNC for Local Authority Chief Executives in agreeing this definition.

For the purposes of this policy statement, remuneration includes the employee's basic annual salary and any other allowances or other similar payments, benefits in kind, any increases or enhancements to any pension entitlement and any termination or other severance payments.

Pension provision

All employees are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme in accordance with the statutory terms of that scheme.

The authority shall maintain a policy on discretionary payments for early termination of employment as required by the Local Government (Early

Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006 and all severance payments made shall follow the approach of that policy.

Termination or severance payments

Any proposal to offer a severance payment of £100,000 or more to a member of staff leaving the organisation will be referred to full council.

Re-engagement of Chief Officers

Re-engagement as employees

- (1) Subject to any relevant provisions in employment and equalities legislation, the Council's policy is not to re-employ [as a Chief Executive or Chief Officer/ in any capacity] any former Chief Executive or Chief Officer who left the Council for any reason other than compulsory redundancy, and was in receipt of a severance or termination payment, for a period of three years from the date of termination of employment. This policy may be varied in exceptional circumstances which are approved by a delegated panel/committee of Council Members acting on behalf of Full Council and advised by appropriate persons.
- (2) Where a Chief Executive/ Chief Officer's employment has been terminated compulsorily on grounds of redundancy, they will not be re-employed in the same or a similar post for a period of one year following the date of termination of employment. If they are re-employed in another post within four weeks after the effective date of redundancy, they will lose their right to a redundancy payment, including any enhancements under the provisions of the LGPS or the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006.
- (3) Any former Chief Executive or Chief Officer who is employed by Lewes District Council and who has previously received a severance, termination or redundancy payment from this or any other Council or related body will not have previous service counted when determining any further entitlements to notice periods, sickness payments, annual leave or other benefits/entitlements based on continuous service.

Re-engagement under a contract for services

The Council's policy is not to re-engage under a contract for services any former Chief Executive or Chief Officer who left the Council for any reason and was in receipt of a redundancy, severance or termination payment, for a period of three years from the cessation of employment. This policy may be varied in exceptional circumstances which are approved by a panel/committee convened by the Council to act in this matter and advised by persons including the Council's Monitoring Officer, except where the Monitoring Officer is a Chief Officer.

Employment of those in receipt of an LGPS pension

General:

In the unlikely event that the Council employs as a Chief Executive or Chief Officer a person who is in receipt of a pension under the LGPS, the rules on abatement of pensions adopted by the Council's Administering Authority for the LGPS, pursuant to Regulations 70 and 71 of the the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008 must be applied.

Flexible retirement:

The LGPS regulations permit the Council to offer flexible retirement to employees aged 55 or over, so that they can reduce their hours of work, and receive a pension in respect of accrued years in the scheme.

Calendar of Meetings

May 2023 - May 2024



MEETING:	Day	Time	May 2023	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 2024	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Annual Council	M	6pm	22												20
Council	M	6pm	22		24		25		20			19			20
Cabinet	Th	2.30pm		15	13		14		9	7		1	14		
Policy and Performance Advisory Committee	Th	2.30pm		8	3(M)		7		2, 30		25		7		
Planning Applications Committee	W	5pm		7	12	9	6	11	8	6	17	14	13	17	
Licensing Committee***	Th	10.30am		22						14					
Audit and Standards Committee	M	10am			3		4		13				4		
Joint Staff Advisory Committee**	M (L) / W (E)	2.30pm		19(M)			13(W)			4(M)			6(W)		
Bank Holidays			1, 29			28				25, 26	1		29	1	6, 27
Elections+			4 (LDC) (Parish, Town, District)												
Other					LGA Ann Conf 4 - 6										

Notes:

*The dates of other Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels which do not meet regularly will be announced as and when.

**Meetings of Joint Staff Advisory Committee will alternate venues and days between Lewes (L) and Eastbourne (E).

***Additional meetings of the Licensing Committee will be scheduled if required.

+ Scheduled Elections during 2023/24 - Lewes District Council (LDC) and Lewes Parish and Town Councils (Parish) - 4 May 2023. PCC – 2 May 2024.

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