



Lewes District Council

October 2024

FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS

Period covered by this Plan:

1 October to 31 January 2025

Date of publication:

7 October 2024

Membership of Cabinet:

Councillor Zoe Nicholson: Leader of the Council, Chair of Cabinet and Cabinet member for finance, assets and community wealth building

Councillor Christine Robinson: Deputy leader of the Council, and Cabinet member for community wellbeing

Councillor Chris Collier: Cabinet member for innovation, delivery and people

Councillor Johnny Denis: Cabinet member for arts, culture and tourism & leisure

Councillor Wendy Maples: Cabinet member for neighbourhood wellbeing

Councillor Laurence O'Connor: Cabinet member for planning and infrastructure

Councillor Emily O'Brien: Cabinet member for climate, nature and food systems

Councillor Mark Slater: Cabinet member for tenants and those in housing need

Please see the explanatory note appended to this Plan for further information and details of how to make representations and otherwise contact the Council on matters listed in the Plan. Documents referred to will be available at least 5 clear working days before the date for decision.

Forthcoming decisions:

Title, description and lead cabinet member:	Ward(s):	Decision type:	Decision maker:	Expected date of decision:	Expected exemption class: (Exempt information reason as defined by Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended))	Consultation arrangements proposed or undertaken (where known):	Documents to be submitted:	Lead Chief Officer/ Contact Officer:
<p>Community Grants Programme</p> <p>To seek approval from Cabinet of Community Grant recommendations.</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Johnny Denis)</p>	All Wards	Key	Cabinet	7 Nov 2024	Open	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee	Report	<p>Director of Regeneration and Planning (Ian Fitzpatrick)</p> <p>Seanne Sweeney, Community Services Lead seanne.sweeney@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>
<p>Climate and Nature Strategy Annual Update Report</p> <p>Update report to the Climate and Nature Strategy 2024 including council and district carbon footprints</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Emily O'Brien)</p>	All Wards	Key	Cabinet	7 Nov 2024	Open	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee	Report	<p>Director of Regeneration and Planning (Ian Fitzpatrick)</p> <p>Kate Richardson, Sustainability Lead kate.richardson@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

Forthcoming decisions

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<p>Interim medium term financial strategy</p> <p>To consider and approve the council's medium term financial strategy.</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Zoe Nicholson)</p>	All Wards	Key	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Open	Consultation be undertaken as part of a wider consultation on the council's budget later in the year.	Report	<p>Chief Finance Officer (Homira Javadi)</p> <p>Steven Houchin, Deputy Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01323 415378 steven.houchin@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

Forthcoming decisions

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<p>Local council tax reduction scheme</p> <p>To approve the local council tax reduction scheme and agree any amendments as necessary. It is a legal requirement that the council approve the scheme annually.</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Zoe Nicholson)</p>	All Wards	Budget and policy framework	Cabinet Full Council	5 Dec 2024 24 Feb 2025	Open	With such persons and groups as the council considered likely to have an interest in the operation of the scheme.	Report	<p>Chief Executive (Robert Cottrill)</p> <p>Nick Ducatel, Assistant Director, Revenues and Benefits Tel: (01323) 415914 nick.ducatel@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

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<p>Council tax base and non-domestic rate income for 2025/26</p> <p>The Council is required to set its council tax base and the expected business rate income for the forthcoming year. These calculations are used as the basis for the amount of income the Council will precept from the collection fund.</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Zoe Nicholson)</p>	All Wards	Key	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Open	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee (if requested)	Report	<p>Chief Finance Officer (Homira Javadi)</p> <p>Steven Houchin, Deputy Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01323 415378 steven.houchin@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

Forthcoming decisions

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<p>Portfolio progress and performance report quarter 2 - 2024-2025</p> <p>To update Members on the Council's performance against corporate plan priority actions, performance indicators and targets over the quarter 2 2024/25 period.</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Chris Collier)</p>	All Wards	Key	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Open	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee	Report	<p>Chief Finance Officer (Homira Javadi)</p> <p>Luke Dreeling, Performance Lead luke.dreeling@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

Forthcoming decisions

Title, description and lead cabinet member:	Ward(s):	Decision type:	Decision maker:	Expected date of decision:	Expected exemption class: (Exempt information reason as defined by Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended))	Consultation arrangements proposed or undertaken (where known):	Documents to be submitted:	Lead Chief Officer/ Contact Officer:
<p>Finance update - performance quarter 2 - 2024-2025</p> <p>To provide an update on the Council's financial performance, revenue budgets and capital programme to the end of quarter 2 2024/2025 and explain the impact on the current financial position.</p> <p>(Lead Cabinet member: Councillor Zoe Nicholson)</p>	All Wards	Key	Cabinet	5 Dec 2024	Open	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee	Report	<p>Chief Finance Officer (Homira Javadi)</p> <p>Steven Houchin, Deputy Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01323 415378 steven.houchin@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk</p>

Explanatory Note

The Council is required to publish information about all key decisions at least 28 days in advance of the decision being taken.

This plan is a list of the decisions likely to be taken over the coming four months. The list is not exhaustive as not all decisions are known that far in advance. The Plan is updated and re-published monthly.

The forward plan shows details of key decisions intended to be taken by the Cabinet and Chief Officers under their delegated powers.

The plan shows:-

- the subject of the decisions
- what wards are affected
- the decision type
- who will make the decision
- when those decisions will be made
- expected exemption class (open, part exempt or fully exempt.)
- what the consultation arrangements are
- what documents relating to those decisions will be available
- who you can contact about the decision and how to obtain copies of those documents referred to in the plan

What is a key decision?

"Key decisions" relate to a decision, which is likely:-

(1) to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or

(2) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the Council's area.

What is budget and policy framework?

When a decision is marked as “budget and policy framework”, it requires the approval of Full Council.

Confidential and exempt information

From time to time, the forward plan will indicate matters (or part thereof) which may need to be considered in private, during which time the press and public will be excluded. This is in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 5(2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

Any representations that such matters should not be considered in private should be sent to the contact officer.

Information given to the Council by a Government Department on terms which forbid its disclosure to the public, information which cannot be publicly disclosed by a Court Order and information, the disclosure of which is prohibited by an enactment are all legally defined as “Confidential Information” and must not be disclosed. All other local authority information which it is desired should not be disclosed has to be categorised under one or more of the following “Exempt Information” reasons (as given under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972) and subject to the public interest test.

Category	Condition No.
1. Information relating to any individual.	See conditions 9 and 10 below.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.	See conditions 9 and 10 below.

Category	Condition No.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).	See conditions 8, 9, 10 and 12 below.
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.	See conditions 9, 10, 11 and 12 below.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.	See conditions 9 and 10 below.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes— (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.	See conditions 9, 10 and 12 below.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.	See conditions 9 and 10 below.

Conditions
<p>8. Information is not exempt information if it is required to be registered under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act 2006); (b) the Friendly Societies Act 1974; (c) the Friendly Societies Act 1992; (d) the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1965 to 1978; (e) the Building Societies Act 1986; or (f) the Charities Act 1993. <p>“Financial or business affairs” includes contemplated as well as past or current activities.</p>

9. Information is not exempt information if it relates to proposed development for which the local planning authority may grant itself planning permission pursuant to regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992.

10. Information which:

(a) falls within any of paragraphs 1 to 7 above; and

(b) is not prevented from being exempt by virtue of paragraph 8 or 9 above,

is exempt information if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

11. "Labour relations matter" means:

(a) any of the matters specified in paragraphs (a) to (g) of section 218(1) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (matters which may be the subject of a trade dispute, within the meaning of that Act); or

(b) any dispute about a matter falling within paragraph (a) above;

and for the purposes of this definition the enactments mentioned in paragraph (a) above, with the necessary modifications, shall apply in relation to office-holders under the authority as they apply in relation to employees of the authority;

"Office-holder", in relation to the authority, means the holder of any paid office appointments to which are or may be made or confirmed by the authority or by any joint board on which the authority is represented or by any person who holds any such office or is an employee of the authority.

"Employee" means a person employed under a contract of service.

12. "The authority" is a reference to the council or a committee or sub-committee of the council or a joint committee of more than one council.

Further information

The plan is available to view on our [Council website: http://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/councillors-committees-and-meetings/cabinet-and-committees/](http://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/councillors-committees-and-meetings/cabinet-and-committees/)

If you have any questions about the Forward Plan please contact Simon Russell, Head of Democratic Services, on (01323) 415021, or e-mail simon.russell@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk.