

**Report to:** Policy and Performance Advisory Committee

**Date:** 02 November 2023

**Title:** Policy and Performance Advisory Committee – Policy Input and Development.

**Exemption:** None

**Report of:** Simon Russell, Head of Democratic Services

**Ward(s):** All

**Purpose of the report:** This report outlines the responsibilities of the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when choosing to consult on reports from the Forward Plan that are due for consideration by the Cabinet and provides details of the recommendations to the Cabinet for each report.

**Recommendations to the Committee:** The recommendations are detailed at 1.3 of this report

**Reasons for recommendations to the Committee:** To provide a critical friend challenge to the Cabinet decision and policy making process.

**Contact Officer(s):** Name: Nick Peeters  
Post title: Committee Officer  
E-mail: [nick.peeters@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](mailto:nick.peeters@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)  
Telephone number: 01323 415272

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 In its role as a provider of public scrutiny and as critical friend, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee has a duty to provide a challenge to the executive decision and policy makers.
- 1.2 The Policy and Performance Advisory Committee is able to provide this challenge through the inclusion of the Cabinet’s Forward Plan of Decisions as a standing item on each of the Committee’s agendas, allowing the Committee to request the inclusion of reports due for consideration by the Cabinet on its agenda and by asking that the relevant officers, heads of service or directors, attend the Committee meetings and discuss the content of the reports.
- 1.3 Following consideration of each item, where the Members will be able to ask questions of the relevant officers, heads of service, directors and other stakeholders, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee will provide one of the following three recommendations to the Cabinet:
- 1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; or

- 2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration by the Cabinet of any amendments agreed by Committee; or
- 3) To not support the recommendations in the report and give reasons.

1.4 The Cabinet will be provided with the recommendations from the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when it considers the main report.

3 The following Cabinet reports and recommendations are included in the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee agenda for the meeting on the 10 July 2023:

**Cabinet report:** **Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy - Annual update**

**Purpose of the report:** **To provide an update on the Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy and action plan, and set out proposals for climate change activities in 2024/25, including refreshing the Strategy and action plan.**

**Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:**

- (1) approve the Climate Change and Sustainability Annual Update (as attached in Appendix 1) for publication on the council's website.**
- (2) note progress to date on the Strategy and action plan, as set out in Appendix 1.**
- (3) delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Regeneration to deliver the Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy refresh, in consultation with the portfolio holder.**

**Reasons for the recommendations:** **To progress the aims of the council's Climate Emergency Declaration (2019) to make the authority net zero carbon by 2030 and to assist the same aim to be achieved within the wider district.**

**Lead Officer** **Jo Wunsch, Sustainability Advisor**

**Cabinet report:** **Housing Benefit War Pension and Armed Forces Compensation Policy**

**Purpose of the report:** **To gain Cabinet's recommendation to Full Council for the disregarding, in the assessment of Housing Benefit, War Pension and Armed Forces Compensation income above the statutory disregard.**

**Officer recommendations:** **Cabinet recommend to Full Council the disregarding in full of War Pensions income and the Armed Forces Compensation income in the assessment of Housing Benefit.**

<b>Reasons for the recommendations:</b>	<b>As set out in the report.</b>
<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Bill McCafferty, Lead for Income Maximisation and Welfare</b>
<b>Cabinet report:</b>	<b>Lewes Local Plan, Preferred Options and Policies Directions</b>
<b>Purpose of the report:</b>	<p><b>To seek agreement for a period of public consultation on the Regulation 18 Local Plan ‘Towards a Spatial Strategy and Policies Approaches’, and publication of supporting documents.</b></p> <p><b>The Local Plan covers the area of the district for which the Council is the local planning authority. The area of the district covered by the South Downs National Park is not included in this Local Plan.</b></p> <p><b>The Local Development Scheme (December 2022) sets out the stages of public consultation in preparing the Local Plan and the Statement of Community Involvement sets out when and how we will consult on planning matters.</b></p>
<b>Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:</b>	<p><b>(1) To approve and recommend to Full Council, the Local Plan Regulation 18: Towards a spatial strategy and policies directions document, as set out in Appendix 1, together with the supporting documents for public consultation in accordance with the regulations and the Local Development Scheme.</b></p> <p><b>(2) To agree delegated authority to the Director of Regeneration and Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure to make any minor changes to the appearance, format and text of the Local Plan and supporting documents in the interests of clarity and accuracy prior to their publication for consultation.</b></p>

**Reasons for recommendations:**

The preparation of the Local Plan must be undertaken in accordance with the relevant regulations. This includes consultation at Regulation 18 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The proposed consultation is at Regulation 18.

The consultation document sets out policy directions for policies to be developed further at the subsequent draft Local Plan stage. It also sets out the identified development needs of the plan area, and the Council's proposed approach to meeting these needs within its plan area.

As part of this consultation, assessment material of land submitted in response to the 'Call for Sites' will be included. This assessment has drawn on the technical evidence produced to support this stage of the consultation as well as information that has been submitted by parties with an interest.

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**2 Financial / Legal / Risk Management / Equality Analysis/ Environmental Sustainability Implications/ Background Papers**

2.1 All implications are addressed in the Cabinet reports

**3 Appendices: None**