

Meeting: **Council**  
Date: **20 February 2019**  
Time: **7.00 pm**  
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All Members of the Council**

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to attend a meeting of the Council on the date and at the time and place shown above. The meeting will be open to the press and public.

Anyone who wishes to have information on any matter arising on the Agenda which is not fully covered in these papers is requested to give notice prior to the meeting to the Chairman or appropriate officer.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. Although unlikely, no guarantee can be made that Members of the public in attendance will not appear in the webcast footage. It is therefore recommended that anyone with an objection to being filmed does not enter the council chamber.



Head of Paid Service

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**

Members of the Council should declare any discloseable pecuniary

**Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?**

Contact Jemma West – Tel: 01303 853369  
Email: [committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) or download from our  
website  
[www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

interest or any other significant interests in any item/s on this agenda.

**3. Minutes (Pages 5 - 10)**

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the council held on 19 December 2018 and to authorise the Chairman of the Council to sign them as a correct record.

**4. Chairman's Communications**

**5. Petitions**

There are no petitions to be presented.

**6. Questions from the Public**

**1. From Mr Rylands to Councillor Berry, Cabinet Member for Transport and Commercial**

What are the numbers of FoI/EiR requests which have not been made applicant blind when sent onto the relevant departments and the number which have for the period April 1st 2017 through to present?

**7. Questions from Councillors**

(Questions can be found on [www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) from noon 2 days before the meeting, on Modern.gov, under the agenda for this meeting).

Up to 45 minutes is allowed for questions from councillors.

**8. Announcements of the Leader of the Council**

To receive a report from the Leader of the Council on the business of the cabinet and on matters that the leader considers should be drawn to the council's attention. The leader shall have 10 minutes to make his announcements.

The opposition group will have an opportunity to reply to the leader's remarks. The opposition group leader shall have 5 minutes to respond after which the Leader of the Council will have a right of reply. Any right of reply will be for a maximum duration of 5 minutes.

**9. Opposition Business**

There is no Opposition Business.

**10. Motions on Notice**

There are no motions on notice.

11. **Empty Homes Premium (Pages 11 - 24)**

From 1 April 2019, billing authorities will be given the ability to amend long term empty home Council Tax premiums. This report reviews these proposals and recommends that some changes are introduced from the new financial year 2019/20.

12. **Update to the General fund Medium Term Capital Programme and Budget Monitoring 2018/19 (Pages 25 - 56)**

This report updates the General Fund Medium Term Capital Programme for the five year period ending 31 March 2024. The report provides a projected outturn for the General Fund capital programme in 2018/19, based on expenditure to 30 November 2018. The General Fund Medium Term Capital Programme is required to be submitted to full Council for consideration and approval as part of the budget process. This report also sets out both the Prudential Indicators for capital expenditure and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2019/20 to be approved by full Council. Overview and Scrutiny Committee were due to consider this report on 19 February ahead of Cabinet approving it earlier today to be submitted to full Council.

13. **General Fund Budget & Council Tax Requirement 2019/20 (Pages 57 - 84)**

This report concludes the budget setting process for 2019/20. It sets out recommendations for setting the council tax after taking into account the district's council tax requirement (including town and parish council requirements and special expenses in respect of the Folkestone Parks and Pleasure Grounds Charity), the precepts of Kent County Council, the Kent Police & Crime Commissioner and the Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue Service.

14. **Housing Revenue Account Revenue and Capital Original budget 2019/20 (Pages 85 - 100)**

This report sets out the Housing Revenue Account Revenue and Capital Budget for 2019/20 and proposes a decrease in weekly rents and an increase in service charges for 2019/20.

15. **Capital Strategy 2019/20 (Pages 101 - 114)**

This report sets out the council's proposed strategy in relation to capital expenditure, financing and treasury management in 2019/20 to be approved by full Council.

16. **Investment Strategy 2019/20 (Pages 115 - 134)**

This report sets out the council's proposed strategy for its service and commercial investments in 2019/20 to be approved by full Council. Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered this report on 29 January

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2019 ahead of Cabinet approving it on 30 January 2019 to be submitted to full Council.

\*Explanations as to different levels of interest

(a) A member with a discloseable pecuniary interest (DPI) must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares a DPI in relation to any item must leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted).

(b) A member with an other significant interest (OSI) under the local code of conduct relating to items on this agenda must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to remove him/herself to the public gallery before the debate and not vote on that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the member may address the meeting in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

(c) Members may make voluntary announcements of other interests which are not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b). These are announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:

- membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
- where a member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person, or
- where an item would affect the well-being of a member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position.

Voluntary announcements do not prevent the member from participating or voting on the relevant item