

Meeting: **Council**
Date: **21 July 2021**
Time: **7.00 pm**
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All Members of the Council**

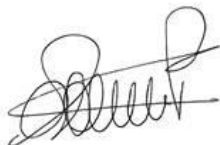
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a meeting of the Council on the date and at the time shown above.

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.

Due to current social distancing guidelines, only 6 seats are available for members of the public at meetings in the Council Chamber. These seats will be reserved for those speaking or participating at the meeting, and the remaining available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.

Members of the public are encouraged to view the meeting online if they are not to address the meeting. Meetings will be streamed live to the internet, and can be viewed at: <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. Further information on attending council meetings can be found at [Advice for public attendance](#).

Subject to relaxation of Covid restrictions more seats may be available for members of the public in the council chamber. If allowed under law available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.



Dr Susan Priest
Chief Executive

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

Contact Jemma West – Tel: 01303 853369
Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest (Pages 7 - 8)**

Members of the Council should declare any discloseable pecuniary interest or any other significant interests in any item/s on this agenda.

3. **Minutes (Pages 9 - 52)**

To receive the minutes of the meetings of the council held on 19 February, 16 September, 21 October and 25 November 2020, and 24 February 2021, 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**

The following questions have been received:

1. **From Ms S Batchelor to Councillor Godfrey, Cabinet Member for Housing, Transport and Special Projects**

There is not enough affordable and social housing available now. As future generations of local workers won't be able to afford to buy or even rent property in the district. What assurance can the councillor give that those individuals won't be forced to seek jobs and affordable homes many miles away from their home town, isolated from their families and friends?

2. **From Mrs M Lawes to Councillor Godfrey, Cabinet Member for Housing, Transport and Special Projects**

Due to the lack of house building over last 30/40 years by FHDC, the fact that London Councils, KCC renting properties through Clear Springs, Police, Probation service and other local authorities have had residents housed in East Folkestone and Harbour Ward, that young people with mental health are being housed in sheltered accommodation for 55's and over, this is disproportionate in such a small area of the district and has left no affordable accommodation for locals to rent. Does this council agree that their policy to deliver 300 homes over 10 years is woefully inadequate and should be adjusted to reflect local need?

7. Questions from Councillors

(Questions can be found on 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

The Labour Group has raised the following matter:

Council Notes

- That there were 1360 incidents of fly tipping in the district in 2019/20
- That a charge on bulky waste collection is a barrier to some households disposing of their unwanted items by official means.
- That a significant amount of council resource is used to remove items from the kerbside.
- Areas that contain a higher number of low-income households such as parts of Folkestone and Romney Marsh, require more of that resource than other parts of the district.

Council also notes that many other councils across the UK have a varied approach to bulky waste collection.

- Many councils offer free collection slots during the year to low income households
- Many councils offer discounted rates to low-income households.
- Many council's websites include signposting on their bulky waste collection page to organisations such as the British Heart Foundation, to inform residents of other means to dispose of unwanted items.

Council Resolves

- To request that cabinet consider a report that looks to address fly tipping across the district by means of amending the Bulky Waste Collection Scheme. This report should consider a number of options weighed against allocation of resources. These options should include
 - A minimum of 1 free collection per year for households in receipt of
 - Council tax support
 - Housing benefit
 - Income related job seekers allowance
 - Pension credit (guaranteed rate)
 - Income support
 - Universal credit (the housing element)
- A reduced rate for additional collections (capped per year) for those in receipt of the support schemes listed previous.
- Improved signposting on the council website to other organisations that may be able to help residents remove unwanted household items.
- Consider the appropriateness of the current pricing structure of the bulky waste collection as compared to other neighbouring authorities.

Debates on opposition business shall be limited to 30 minutes. If the time limit is reached or the debate concludes earlier, the leader of the group raising the item shall have a right of reply.

The Council shall:

- a) Note the issue raised and take no further action;
- b) Refer the issue to the cabinet or relevant overview and scrutiny committee, as the case may be for their observations before deciding whether to make a decision on the issue;
- c) Agree to examine the matter as part of a future scrutiny programme;
- d) Adopt the issue raised by opposition business provided that the decision so made is within the policy framework and budget.

10. **Motions on Notice**

There are no motions on notice.

11. **Pay policy statement 2021/22 (Pages 53 - 68)**

This report considers the recommendation from the Personnel Committee and presents an updated pay policy statement for 2021/22 for approval.

12. **Report to Council on a key decision made in accordance with the constitution's call-in and urgency rule (Pages 69 - 72)**

The constitution provides that, when an urgent key decision is made by the Cabinet, for which any delay in implementation, likely to be caused by the call-in process, would seriously prejudice the Council's or public interest, then the 'Call-in Rules of Procedure', Part 6.3, rules 1-6 do not apply. Key decisions, taken as a matter of urgency, must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

13. **Report from the Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances and Expenses (Pages 73 - 96)**

This report recommends the consideration of the proposals of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel and the comments of the Governance Working Group that the Members' Allowance Scheme for members of Folkestone and Hythe District Council be amended.

14. **Romney Marsh Coastal Destination including Beach Chalet Project (Pages 97 - 116)**

This report seeks Full Council approval for additional funding to deliver the Cabinet approved proposal of the Romney Marsh Coastal Destination including beach Chalet project. The project will deliver new beach huts, toilet facilities including a changing places toilet, a concession/café, upgraded car parking facilities and public realm improvements that will link with New Romney Town Councils "The Green" area to create a true visitor destination.