



Summons to and
Agenda for a
Meeting on
**Thursday, 15th
December, 2022**
at **10.00 am**



DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
SESSIONS HOUSE
MAIDSTONE

Wednesday, 7 December 2022

To: All Members of the County Council

A meeting of the County Council will be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ on Thursday, 15th December, 2022 at **10.00 am** to deal with the following business. **The meeting is scheduled to end by 4.30pm.**

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant Interests in items on the agenda
3. Minutes **(Pages 1 - 18)**
4. Corporate Parenting Panel - Minutes for noting **(Pages 19 - 24)**
Minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2022
5. Chairman's Announcements
6. Questions
7. Report by Leader of the Council (Oral)
8. Reconnect Update **(Pages 25 - 54)**
9. Governance & Audit - Chairman's Annual Report **(Pages 55 - 60)**
10. Kent & Medway Interim Care Strategy **(Pages 61 - 124)**
11. SEND Transformation and Ofsted Revisit **(Pages 125 - 142)**
12. Motions for Time Limited Debate

Motion 1

Motion for Time Limited Debate – Impact Assessments

Proposer: Paul Stepto
Seconder: Mike Baldock

Background information

Local Government is facing a “financial crisis” and we are being forced to make increasingly difficult decisions. It is important that KCC considers the impact of these decisions on the residents of Kent. When conducting impact assessments, the Council should recognise the impact of factors not currently covered by the nine protected characteristics.

Socio-economic disadvantage can significantly impact a person’s ability to fulfil their potential, to live healthily and benefit from job and other opportunities. Socio-economically disadvantaged Kent residents experience greater levels of material deprivation, which restricts their ability to access basic goods and services.

KCC should also consider how its decisions affect residents in areas of rural deprivation. Residents of rural areas can face isolation because of inadequate transport links, limited access to services such as shops, leisure and health facilities, and fewer opportunities to socialise.

In line with the council’s current policies, we must also ensure that decision making aligns with our commitments to meet climate change targets and thus protect communities from deteriorating air quality and increasing risk from flooding, drought, and fire.

MOTION:

County Council resolves that the Executive is asked to;

- Undertake appropriate assessments which take account of rural deprivation, environment and climate change and also socio-economic factors as part of the formal Executive decision process, in addition to the established Equality Impact Assessment process; and
- ensure the relevant assessments are explicitly referenced in and accessible alongside Executive Decision documentation.

Motion 2

Motion for Time Limited Debate – Special educational needs and disability (SEND) provision in Kent

Proposer: Trudy Dean, MBE

Seconder: Antony Hook

Background – Provided by the Liberal Democrat Group

Significant numbers of children who are either in the care of the council, or children with special educational needs are being placed in residential care or special schools outside Kent and must travel long distances within the county to access schools with specialist resource provision or specialist schools. This means that children are either living a long way from family and friends or must travel long distances to get to and from school which is detrimental to children and their families.

Access to the appropriate educational setting will promote the life chances of the individual and reduce the burden on the county's health and social care system. At present, the Liberal Democrat Group believes that obstacles to suitable transport support and an apparent lack of KCC provided residential and SEND places for children in Kent combine to exacerbate the challenges faced by many families and further limit opportunities for children access an appropriate education setting.

Key figures:

1. The council has budgeted £393m for 2022-23 for Adult Social Care & Health Operations under the Adult Social Care & Health Directorate
2. The council has budgeted £92m for 2022-23 for SEND provision under the Children, Young People & Education Directorate.
3. The council has budgeted £9.5m for 2022-23 on supporting 7,500 working age adults with autism and other disabilities.

Motion:

The County Council resolves;

- a. To recommend to the Executive that relevant policies and strategies be amended to reflect that early intervention and support for children with SEND is likely to save KCC long term care and support costs and that this be prioritised accordingly as part of service and budget planning.
- b. To call on the Executive to prioritise necessary investment in SEND provision to meet the increasing demand of the ever-growing numbers of children in Kent with SEND.
- c. To recommend to the Executive that the parental travel allowance and travel training for young people with SEND should be better promoted to increase take up.
- d. To welcome and endorse the Scrutiny Committee decision to set up a SEND focused Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Motion 3

Submitted by the Labour Group

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Watts', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Benjamin Watts
General Counsel
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7 December 2022