

Meeting: **Council**
Date: **21 June 2023**
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.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>.

Please note there will be 37 seats available for members of the public, which will be reserved for those speaking or participating at the meeting. The remaining available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.



Dr Susan Priest
Chief Executive

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest (Pages 5 - 6)**

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

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 7 - 12)**

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the council held on 29 March 2023 and to authorise the Chairman of the Council to sign them as a correct record.

4. **Chair's Communications**

5. **Petitions**

There are no petitions to be presented.

6. **Questions from the Public**

1. **From Ms M Lawes to Councillor J Martin, Leader of the Council**

Will the Leader of this council meet with harbour residents' association, local residents & businesses of the Stade, to discuss with all partners in how to resolve all matters of concern and how we can improve the gridlock, safety, look, ambiance and enjoyment for locals, businesses and visitors?

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.

Both opposition groups will have an opportunity to reply to the leader's remarks. The opposition group leaders shall each 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. **Portfolio Holder reports (Pages 13 - 20)**

10. **Opposition Business**

The Labour Group has raised the following matter:

Council Notes

That the council has previously given funds to community organisations and events through various budgets.

These funds are dispensed, often through the leader's decision.

Council Believes

That council funding should be open and accountable and that it should be dispensed through a cross party committee or working group.

Council Resolves

To refer to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To establish a District Council Grant Committee/working group to dispense community funds from 2024/25, ideally sourced from existing budgets.

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.

11. **Motions on Notice**

The following motions have been placed on the agenda in the order received; up to 60 minutes shall be allowed for debates on motions on notice:

1. **From Councillor Tim Prater, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Governance**

Committee Governance for Folkestone & Hythe District Council

This Council resolves:

1. That the Committee System model of governance is adopted by Folkestone and Hythe District Council with effect from the Annual Council meeting in May 2024.

2. That a Constitution Working Group is convened, comprising of the Leader of each constituted Group (or their nominee) plus one Independent. The Working Group is instructed to consider and make recommendations to Full Council on the composition and terms of reference of committees by January 2024.
3. That the Independent Remuneration Panel is instructed to review the Scheme of Members' Allowances in light of the revised model of governance and make recommendations to Full Council by January 2024.
4. That the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Constitution Working Group, redrafts the Council's constitution to fit a committee system of governance and presents the revised constitution to Full Council for adoption by March 2024.

This Council acknowledges that there will be a cost implication to this proposed change in Governance. A budget is to be made available of up to a maximum of £100k taken from general reserves in agreement with the S151 Officer and the Finance and Governance Portfolio Holder.

12. **Amendment of delegation arrangements by the Leader of the Council (Pages 21 - 22)**

Under the Council's constitution the Leader of the Council decides on the delegation of cabinet functions. The Leader may amend the delegations at any time by giving written notice to the Head of the Paid Service. Where such a notice is received the Head of the Paid Service must submit a report on the amendments to the next ordinary meeting of the Council. This report sets out the amendments made by the Leader.

13. **Committee Membership Changes (Pages 23 - 26)**

Under the Folkestone and Hythe District Council Constitution, Part 8.1 'Delegation to Officers', paragraph 3.18, the Head of Paid Service is authorised to make appointments to committees or sub-committees at the request of the relevant political group leader. This report sets out the appointments made, under these powers, on the instruction of the Green Group Leader.