

Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0EQ

Full Council	Members:	All Councillors

Members are invited to a **Meeting of the Full Council** to be held in the Conference Room, Riverside, on **Wednesday, 15 March 2023** at **6.30pm**

This meeting will be broadcast to the public via the East Suffolk YouTube Channel at https://youtu.be/ZYHWyY8xiDc.

The Chairman of the Council has agreed to accept an urgent item of business for this meeting, listed at item 14. The urgent matter relates to a report on the outcome of an investigation of a complaint, which was considered by the Audit and Governance Committee at its meeting on 13 March 2023.

The special circumstances for considering this item as a matter of urgency are that the Audit and Governance Committee, at its meeting on 13 March 2023, resolved that Full Council would receive a report at its meeting on 15 March 2023.

An Agenda is set out below.

Part One - Open to the Public

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence, if any.

2 Declarations of Interest

Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of interests, and the nature of that interest, that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the Meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.

3 Announcements

To receive any announcements from the Chairman, the Leader of the Council, members of the Cabinet, or the Chief Executive, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.1(e).

4 Questions from the Public

No questions have been submitted by the electorate as provided by Council Procedure Rule 8.

5 Questions from Members

The following question(s) from Members has/have been submitted in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 9:

a) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Ed Thompson to Councillor Letitia Smith,</u> Cabinet Member with responsibility for Communities, Leisure and Tourism

We have been made aware that between 1/4/2022 and 30/09/22 Citizens Advice East Suffolk (CAES) dealt with 237 Ipswich clients using core funding, but that Ipswich CAB looked after 841 East Suffolk Residents over an annual period (16.8% of their overall service). Considering that even tripling the six-month figure does not even the playing field, the strain put upon the Ipswich CAB is increased by East Suffolk Residents. Taking these figures into consideration, would the Cabinet Member for Communities review the possibility of providing funding to the Ipswich CAB for the services they provide to East Suffolk residents?

b) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Caroline Topping for Councillor James</u>
Mallinder, Cabinet Member with responsibility for The Environment

On November 24th 2021, I submitted a motion to Full Council about reducing unnecessary car journeys, which was seconded by Councillor Mallinder; this was approved. Would it be possible to get an update as to the Council's progress on the outcome of this motion, particularly in relation to car-sharing and using public transport for work purposes?

c) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Janet Craig for Councillor Norman Brooks,</u> Cabinet Member with responsibility for Transport

Great Yarmouth Borough Council has already provided at least 16 Electrical Vehicle charging points in its Town Centre car parks, as an incentive for tourists to stay longer locally.

How many EV charge points will be available in East Suffolk Council's car parks for visitors to our resort towns by this summer season?

d) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Tess Gandy to Councillor Steve Gallant,</u> <u>Leader of the Council</u>

Are you able to provide me with the number of times external Counsel have been instructed by ESC in relation to housing and other issues, and at what cost, in the last 12 months?

e) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Peter Byatt to Councillor Gallant, Leader</u> of the Council

A Labour Motion to Full Council in January 2022 proposed that our suppliers declare responsible tax conduct as part of our new high-standard procurement process, but this was referred to Audit and Governance for in-depth consideration.

The Chair acknowledged that this was an urgent matter, and in March added it to the Work Programme for discussion in September 2022. However, this did not happen and the topic remains outstanding.

Will this be an Agenda item in March 2023, 14 months after the motion, and when will this Council fully embrace Social Value, including consideration of the ethics of our suppliers, and where they pay their tax?

6 Petitions

No petitions have been received as provided by Council Procedure Rule 10.

7 Notices of Motion

The following Motion has been submitted in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 11:

a) <u>Motion submitted by Councillor David Beavan, to be seconded by Councillor</u> Tom Daly

Proportional Representation for the Electorate of East Suffolk

This Council Notes:

- That recent, peer-reviewed studies revealed that adopting proportional representation allows policy to respond strongly to changes in public opinion, whereas the current UK system can cause 'policy [to] move in the opposite direction to public opinion for a considerable length of time'[1].
- As of January 18th 2023, 21 councils have passed motions for proportional representation at different levels including City, District and Town[2].
- That 'the effectiveness of the party system... depends on the relationship between the Government and the Opposition parties [such as by] the creation of policy and legislation through constructive criticism'[3].
- There is innately a significant disparity in representation e.g., the Conservative Party had 71% of the councillors with 38% of the vote[4].

This Council resolves to:

- Based on academic and political precedent, call a meeting between the party leaders to discuss how ESC can promote proportional representation and ensure that all voters across the district are fairly heard.
- To advise the council incumbent after May 4th 2023 to elect a member of the opposition as chair of the scrutiny committee, and that the committee itself should reflect the vote shares of the election.
- [1] McGann, Anthony J., et al. "Dynamics of Public Opinion and Policy Response Under Proportional and Plurality Elections." Economics and Politics, vol. 35, no. 1, 2023, pp. 333–55, https://doi.org/10.1111/ecpo.12217.
- 2 Councils for PR Update Councils for PR
- 3 The party system UK Parliament
- 4 East Suffolk Council district elections Thursday 2 May 2019 » East Suffolk Council

8 Climate Action Framework

To receive a presentation from Councillor Mallinder, Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Environment and Paul Mackie, Lead Officer for Environment and Climate Change.

9 Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project ES/1504

1 - 570

Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Planning and Coastal Management.

10 Review of Code of Corporate Governance ES/1460

571 - 591

Report of the Leader of the Council

11 Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2022/23 ES/1503

592 - 614

Report of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee.

12 Cabinet Members Report and Outside Bodies Representatives Reports to Council ES/1508

615 - 636

Report of the Leader of the Council.

13 Exempt/Confidential Items

It is recommended that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Part Two - Exempt/Confidential

Pages

14 Urgent Item of Business - report on the outcome of an investigation of a complaint

- Information relating to any individual.
- Information that is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

Close

Chris Bally, Chief Executive

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