

Full Council

5 October 2026

Quorum: 11

Published: Friday, 25 September 2026



To the Members of the Council

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Room 209/210 on the Second Floor, The Marine Workshops, Railway Quay, Newhaven, East Sussex, BN9 0ER. on 5 October 2026 at 6.00 pm to transact the following business.

Agenda

1 Minutes of the meeting (Pages 5 - 12)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 20 July 2026.

2 Apologies for absence

3 Declarations of interest

Disclosure by councillors of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the councillor regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

4 Announcements (Pages 13 - 14)

To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Council, Leader of the Council, Members of the Cabinet or the Chief Executive. A list of the Chair of the Council's engagements since the previous meeting is enclosed.

5 Urgent items

Items not on the agenda which the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances as defined in Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

6 Questions from members of the public

To deal with questions which members of the public may wish to put to members of the Cabinet in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11 (if any).

7 Petitions

To receive petitions from councillors or members of the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13 (if any).

8 Urgent decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet members

In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17, to receive details of any urgent decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet members since the previous meeting.

9 Notices of motion.

To consider notices of motion.

(a) Motion - Local Government Responsibilities for Climate Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience and the Public Emergency Broadcast (Pages 15 - 18)

Motion submitted by Councillor Becky Francomb.

(b) Motion - Welcome Spaces Directory and Map (Pages 19 - 20)

Motion submitted by Councillor James Harrison.

10 Written questions from Councillors

To deal with written questions which councillors may wish to put to the Chair of the Council, a Lead Councillor on the Cabinet or the Chair of any committee or sub-committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12 (if any).

11 Questions to the Leader of the Council

To deal with questions (if any) which councillors may wish to put to the Leader of the Council. It will be at the Leader's discretion to re-direct questions to relevant Members of the Cabinet. A councillor wishing to raise a question must notify the Chair of the Council of the text of the question prior to the commencement of the meeting. (NB This item is limited to a maximum of 5 questions, with no more than 1 question being asked per councillor. If a question requires a detailed or technical response, the Leader may decide that a written response is more appropriate).

12 Ward issues

To deal with ward issues which councillors wish to raise (if any).

13 Reporting back on meetings of outside bodies (Pages 21 - 24)

To receive any reports from the Council's representatives who serve on outside bodies in respect of meetings they have attended.

14 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 16 November 2026.

Robert Cottrill
Chief Executive

Information for the public

Accessibility:

Please note that the venue for this meeting is wheelchair accessible and has an induction loop to help people who are hearing impaired. If you would like to use the hearing loop please advise Democratic Services (see below for contact details) either in advance of the meeting or when you arrive so that they can set you up with the relevant equipment to link into the system.

This agenda and accompanying reports are published on the Council's website in PDF format which means you can use the "read out loud" facility of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

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Filming/Recording: Anyone wishing to film or record must notify the Chair prior to the start of the meeting and seek their permission. It is important to ensure that it does not interfere with the webcast of the meeting.

Public participation: Please contact Democratic Services (see end of the agenda) for the relevant deadline for registering to speak on a matter which is listed on the agenda, if applicable.

Information for Councillors

Disclosure of interests: Members should declare their interest in a matter at the beginning of the meeting.

In the case of a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI), if the interest is not registered (nor the subject of a pending notification) details of the nature of the interest must be reported to the meeting by the member and subsequently notified in writing to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

If a member has a DPI or other prejudicial interest he/she must leave the room when the matter is being considered (unless he/she has obtained a dispensation).

Councillor right of address: A member of the Council may ask the Chair, the Leader, a Cabinet member, the Chair of any committee or sub-committee, or a member of the Council to any external body or joint authority a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties of which affects the district.

A member must give notice of the written question to Democratic Services in writing or by electronic mail no later than close of business on the fourth working day before the meeting at which the question is to be asked.

Democratic Services

For any further queries regarding this agenda or notification of apologies please contact Democratic Services.

Email: committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Telephone: 01323 410000

Council website: <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/>

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Full Council

Minutes of meeting held remotely on 20 July 2026 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Councillor Charlotte Keenan (Chair).

Councillors Nikki Fabry (Vice-Chair), Ian Alexander, Graham Amy, Lucy Agace, Janet Baah, Christine Brett, Christina Bristow, Ciarron Clarkson, Paul Davies, Ezra Cohen, Johnny Denis, Becky Francomb, Cathy Gallagher, Stephen Gauntlett, James Harrison, Freddie Hoareau, Olivia Honeyman, Paul Keene, Nick Kortalla-Bird, Imogen Makepeace, Wendy Maples, James Meek, Paul Mellor, Sue Morris, Zoe Nicholson, Emily O'Brien, Laurence O'Connor, Jo Pettitt, Joa Saunders, Isobel Sharkey, Mark Slater, Daniel Stewart-Roberts and Corina Watts.

Officers in attendance:

Robert Cottrill (Chief Executive), Simon Russell (Assistant Director - People and Governance), Elaine Roberts (Democratic Services Officer) and Ian Fitzpatrick (Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning).

16 Minutes of the meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2026 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

17 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Boniface, Carr, Clay, Clews, Collier, Robinson and Spiteri. In addition, it was noted that Councillor Watts had advised that she would be arriving late.

18 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

19 Announcements

The Chair referred Members to the list of engagements undertaken by the Chair and Deputy Chair since the previous meeting.

The Leader of the Council updated Members on the Government's decision relating to Local Government Reorganisation and the proposed transfer of Peacehaven, Telscombe and East Saltdean to be part of Brighton and Hove Unitary Council. The Leader expressed disappointment with the decision, noted concerns raised by residents, and advised that further information would be sought from Government regarding consultation evidence. The possibility of

legal challenge would also be explored following receipt of legal advice.

20 Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

21 Questions from members of the public

A question had been submitted by Mr Peter Thurman regarding the governance, monitoring and enforcement of planning conditions, using the South Chailey development as an example. Councillor O'Connor responded in the meeting and confirmed that Mr Thurman would receive a written response.

22 Petitions

There were no petitions to be reported.

23 Urgent decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet members

There were no urgent decisions to report.

24 Matters referred from Cabinet and other Council bodies

24a Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee

Councillor Gauntlett moved and Councillor Gallagher seconded the recommendations from the Audit and Governance Committee of 29 June 2026, in relation to the Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee.

Councillor Gauntlett introduced the Annual Report and advised that it had been prepared in response to CIPFA guidance intended to strengthen accountability between Audit and Governance Committees and Full Council. The report concluded that the Committee was operating effectively and in accordance with relevant guidance. Two areas for further development were identified as Member training and development, and the establishment of a formal forward work programme. In addition, the report highlighted the need to monitor the impact of Local Government Reorganisation on Council assets and governance arrangements, and to explore the role of independent members.

The report received support from Members, who welcomed the transparency and assurance provided through the Committee's work. The recommendations were put to a vote and supported unanimously.

RESOLVED – That Council note and approve the Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee and its assurance regarding the effectiveness of the Committee's work.

24b Treasury Management Annual Report 2025/26

Councillor Nicholson moved and Councillor Gallagher seconded the recommendations on the Annual Treasury Management Annual Report 2025/26 from the meeting of Cabinet held on 16 July 2026.

Councillor Nicholson advised that the Annual Report outlined treasury management activity during the last year and had been scrutinised by the Audit and Governance Committee. Tribute was paid to the finance team for progress made in addressing historic audit backlogs and maintaining sound treasury management arrangements.

The recommendations were put to a vote and supported unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- (1) To approve the 2025/26 Prudential and Treasury Indicators included in the report (attached as Report Appendix 1).
- (2) To approve the 2025/26 Prudential and Treasury Indicators included in the report.

25 Notices of motion.**25a Motion - Support for the UK Nature's Rights Bill**

Councillor Cohen moved and Councillor Sharkey seconded the motion supporting the UK Nature's Rights Bill as follows:

Preamble:

1. We are part of Nature — part of the interdependent web of life. When Nature thrives, we thrive. When Nature is harmed, people, communities and local economies are harmed too.
2. Nature breakdown is already affecting local communities through flooding, drought, extreme heat, polluted rivers and seas, biodiversity loss, food and water insecurity, public health impacts and rising costs to local services.
3. The UK Government's Nature Security Assessment recognises that biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse are risks to the UK's food security, water security, public health, supply chains, economic stability, resilience and national security.
4. Healthy ecosystems — including clean rivers and seas, healthy soils, wetlands, woodlands, downlands, pollinators and wildlife — are essential to our lives, our wellbeing, our local and national resilience and our ability to thrive.
5. In 2023, this Council passed the Rights of the River Ouse motion, and in 2025 gave its support to the Rights of the River Ouse Charter.
6. The current UK legal system largely treats Nature, and its constituent species and ecosystems, as fungible objects, resources and property to be owned, managed, used, traded away or destroyed in return for short term economic gains, even though people, communities and the

economy all depend on healthy natural systems.

We believe that:

1. Protecting and restoring Nature should be practical priorities for local and national government and are essential to building climate resilience in the face of escalating threats of extreme weather, to supporting public health, to promoting national security and to securing long term public prosperity. They are essential to promoting community wellbeing and thriving economies.
2. The current UK legal system and governance structures provide piecemeal and inadequate environmental protections which have failed to halt or reverse widespread degradation of nature, leaving the UK as one of the most nature depleted countries in the world. They address symptoms in isolation rather than tackling the root causes which drive the erosion and destruction of nature systemically, in how nature is conceived and treated in governance, policy and law as mere object, resource and property.
3. The UK Nature's Rights Bill would address the root problem systemically by recognising Nature as a legal subject with rights, establishing a duty of care towards Nature, and creating an Integrated Rights Framework in which Nature's rights are recognised as foundational to human rights and public wellbeing, and to property rights and economic activity.
4. The Bill is not symbolic. It includes practical mechanisms for the implementation and enforcement of Nature's Rights through governance bodies, and the review of existing legislation, policy and regulation to ensure their alignment with Nature's Rights.
5. The Bill would provide the legislative framework needed to support the Rights of Rivers approach already endorsed by this Council and enforce it in law.
6. Parliament should give serious and constructive consideration to the UK Nature's Rights Bill as a necessary response to the climate, nature, food security, national security and resilience challenges already affecting communities.

Motion - This Council resolves to:

1. Request that the Leader of the Council writes to:
 - a) Our local MPs expressing this Council's support for the foundational principles of the UK Nature's Rights Bill and its Integrated Rights Framework, and asking them to support its progress through Parliament, including when it reaches the House of Commons.
 - b) East Sussex County and the Sussex and Brighton Strategic Authority to ask them to (i) support the Rights of Nature locally, learning from the experience of Lewes District Council through its support for the Rights of the River Ouse; and (ii) support the passage of the UK Nature's Right's Bill through Parliament,
2. Request that a workshop be arranged in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Nature, Climate and Food Systems, for Members and Officers to reflect on Lewes District Council's

progress in supporting a Rights of Nature approach and consider further steps which may be taken.

3. Request that the Leader of the Council promotes local public awareness of and support for the Bill, for example by inviting relevant experts involved in the drafting or sponsorship of the Bill to discuss it during a recording of Leader's Live on the Council's social media channels."

In presenting the motion, Councillor Cohen highlighted the Council's previous work on the Rights of Rivers Charter and argued that existing approaches to environmental protection were insufficient to address biodiversity decline and ecosystem degradation. The motion sought Council support for national legislative reform recognising legal rights for nature, in particular the 'Nature's Rights Bill'.

Members spoke in support of the motion, referencing:

- The Council's leadership on nature recovery.
- The importance of embedding nature within legal and governance frameworks.
- The Council's commitment to nature conservation through its Climate and Nature Action Plan, including a 30 by 30 target for at least 30% of the district to be well managed for nature and protected by 2030
- Opportunities to influence emerging local government structures and wider policy development.
- The work of national parks, local councils and environmental organisations.

During debate an amendment was proposed by Councillor Makepeace to add a new recommendation 4: 'That the Council notes the intention of Lewes Town Council to support a Charter of the 'Rights of Trees'. Councillor Cohen and Councillor Sharkey agreed to incorporate the amendment into the motion.

Councillor Sharkey then moved and Councillor Cohen seconded a further amendment to this recommendation to read: 'This Council notes the complementary work of other Councils around the country, including locally where Lewes Town Council is intending to bring a motion recognising the 'Rights of Trees''. It was agreed by the proposer and seconder that this could be incorporated into the original motion.

Following debate, the motion was put to a vote was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED –

1. To request that the Leader of the Council writes to:
 - a) Our local MPs expressing this Council's support for the foundational principles of the UK Nature's Rights Bill and its Integrated Rights Framework, and asking them to support its progress through Parliament, including when it reaches the House of Commons.
 - b) East Sussex County and the Sussex and Brighton Strategic Authority to ask them to (i) support the Rights of Nature locally,

learning from the experience of Lewes District Council through its support for the Rights of the River Ouse; and (ii) support the passage of the UK Nature's Right's Bill through Parliament.

2. To request that a workshop be arranged in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Nature, Climate and Food Systems, for Members and Officers to reflect on Lewes District Council's progress in supporting a Rights of Nature approach and consider further steps which may be taken.
3. To request that the Leader of the Council promotes local public awareness of and support for the Bill, for example by inviting relevant experts involved in the drafting or sponsorship of the Bill to discuss it during a recording of Leader's Live on the Council's social media channels.
4. That this Council notes the complementary work of other Councils around the country, including locally where Lewes Town Council is intending to bring a motion recognising the 'Rights of Trees'

26 Written questions from Councillors

There were no written questions.

27 Questions to the Leader of the Council

The Chair advised that two questions had been notified prior to the start of the meeting:

a) Councillor Makepeace asked the following question to the Leader:

'Cabinet is recommending the sale of Plot A of the North Street Quarter within the next 12 months, when Human Nature's option to repurchase Plot B expires. Could the Leader explain the specific contractual or commercial conditions that would trigger the sale, together with the safeguards and oversight arrangements that will ensure the development is delivered as approved?'

Response:

Councillor Nicholson confirmed that this had been covered at the Cabinet meeting. The Leader explained that the Cabinet's decision on 16 July was to two pieces of land owned by the Council to be able to be sold to a developer to enable the comprehensive redevelopment of a brownfield site and significant provision of housing and infrastructure in Lewes. However, any sale of the land for this purpose, would be subject to compliance with statutory obligations regarding obtaining best consideration and the arrangement would include pre-emption rights to protect the public interest, with the land able to be bought back if the development failed to proceed. It was confirmed that the Council was the current landowner, but the South Downs National Park was the planning authority, which would be negotiating the application and appropriate conditions with the developer.

- b) Councillor Honeyman asked the following question to the Leader:
'The Cabinet meeting at its meeting on the 16 July 2026 was asked to note that 21 assets currently under the control of Lewis District Council remain on the devolution consideration transfer list to town or parish councils from an original list in excess of 100. Whilst it is agreed and understood that each asset had to be considered carefully, a great deal of time and effort has been required from town and parish officers. Can the leader give reassurance on the list for consideration for transfer to towns and parishes are in the process of being confirmed and how they will be progressed with minimum future disruption to town and parish officers?'

Response:

Councillor Nicholson advised that work had reduced the original list of 114 expressions of interest to 21 assets under consideration. She acknowledged the work undertaken by town and parish councils and confirmed that the remaining transfers would be progressed as efficiently as possible, while ensuring appropriate due diligence and governance arrangements were completed, so that the future use and stewardship of the assets remained consistent with the Council's agreed strategic objectives.

28 Ward issues

No ward issues were raised.

29 Reporting back on meetings of outside bodies

The Council received the written reports set out in the agenda papers as follows, which were noted:

- Re-imagining Newhaven Board – Councillors Nicholson and Robinson
- Newhaven Fishing CIC Board – Councillor Nicholson
- Greater Brighton Economic Board – Councillor Nicholson
- Aspiration Homes LLP – Councillor Nicholson
- Wave Active – Councillor O'Connor
- South Downs National Park – Councillor Stewart-Roberts.
- Armed Forces Champion - Councillor Stewart-Roberts.
- Lewes Citizens Advice Bureau – Councillor Makepeace#
- Water Champion Role – Councillor O'Brien
- LGA Coastal Special Interest Group - Councillor O'Brien
- Lewes Food Partnership – Councillor O'Brien
- Upper Ouse Flood Protection and Water Retention Works Working Group: – Councillor O'Brien
- Sussex Police and Crime Panel – Councillor Keene

Councillor Denis provided an additional verbal update on the Annual General

Meeting of South East Councils held on 15 July 2026 and advised of plans for a merger between South East Councils and South East Employers in 2027 and the creation of Local Government South East (LGSE). He confirmed that this would act as a significant regional lobbying organisation, bringing together South East Councils, South East Migration Partnership, South East Employers and the secretariat of the All Party Parliamentary Group for the South East. Councillor Denis also advised of his appointment as the first Green Vice-Chair of South East Councils.

30 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Full Council was scheduled to be held at 6 pm on Monday 5 October 2026.

The meeting ended at 7.00 pm

Councillor Charlotte Keenan (Chair)



Lewes District Council

Civic and Member Services Officer: 01273 085030

CHAIR: Cllr Charlotte Keenan

VICE-CHAIR: Cllr Nikki Fabry

Chair's Engagements 20 July – 5 October 2026

Date	Time	Event
9 August	11.30am	Chair: To attend Newhaven Town Council's Commemoration Service of the Dieppe Raid at Denton Island Bowls Club and Memorial Green, Newhaven and to lay a wreath
10 August	11am	Chair: To attend a Theme of Office visit to Lewes Community Kitchen, Lewes
18-19 August	various	Vice-Chair: To attend the 84 Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid commemorations in Dieppe, France
28 August	10am	Chair to attend official Opening of Meridian Mayhem soft play, Peacehaven
11 September	5pm – 7.30pm	Chair: To attend the opening of Stories Seen Through a Glass Plate: Working Lewes – Edward Reeves Archive, at Westgate Chapel, High St, Lewes
11 September	6pm	Vice-Chair: To attend Private view of Artwave exhibition - Pattern and Pigment at Lewes Town Hall
16 September	7pm	Vice-Chair: To attend The Mayor of Seaford, Cllr Lindsay Stirton's Mayor's Civic Service at St Leonard's Church, Seaford
17 September	6.30pm	Vice-Chair: To attend the Mayor of Brighton and Hove's Fundraising evening at Hove and Kingsway Bowling Club

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Motion: Local Government Responsibilities for Climate Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience and Public Emergency Briefing

Submitted by Councillor Becky Francomb

Pre-ambble

The Summer of 2026 with its record number of red extreme heat warnings, wildfires and an estimated 2,800 excess deaths was the hottest on record for the UK. Six out of 7 of the hottest recorded summers have all come in the last 8 years. Severe and enduring drought took its toll on nature, agriculture and consumers. Southern England received just 1.9 mm of rain in July— 3% of its long-term average. However, the previous winter was the wettest on record for many parts of the UK.¹

Current global trajectories risk 3–4°C of warming². The climate crisis is accelerating far quicker and more severely than scientists predicted.

The UK Government national security assessment on ‘Global biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security’ 2026 states that vital ecosystems could face collapse within five years, threatening the UK’s national security and prosperity. Whilst the 2026 Climate Change Committee report states “The UK’s preparations for climate change are inadequate”.

The National Emergency Briefing (NEB)³ initiative is calling for the UK government to stage a primetime televised national emergency briefing on climate and nature across all the main UK television channels. The aim is to “reset public understanding, communicating the scale and immediacy of the threats as well as the enormous benefits of bold action, and helping build support for a collective national response”. The national emergency briefing would be delivered by trusted independent experts, selected for their recognised authority and credibility.

At the time of writing 158 MPs have signed either the Parliamentary Call or the Early Day Motion in support of the initiative. The total number of NEB screenings which have taken place or are planned across the country is 4101 (at the time of writing). Across the Lewes District Council area there have been dozens of screenings, including several promoted via LDC social media. Many councillors from this council have been at the multiple community showings.

The Sussex and Brighton Strategic Authority was established in April 2026 and will become a Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA) for Sussex and Brighton with additional powers with the election of the Mayor which is currently scheduled for May 2028. According to the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026, MSAs will play a vital role in preparing for the future, by safeguarding biodiversity as well as advancing the green transition. However currently there is no statutory requirement for MSAs to develop strategic Climate Action Plans which would embed

¹ [Which neighbourhoods are most vulnerable to heatwaves? | Policy and insight](#)

² [National Emergency Briefing - Early Day Motions - UK Parliament](#)

³ [National Emergency Briefing Principles Website](#)

actions to mitigate climate breakdown alongside actions to adapt and create safer, fairer and more resilient communities.

In addition, East Sussex County Council holds a large evidence base setting out the substantial risks including flooding, overheating and coastal erosion via a climate change vulnerability assessment⁴ and the health impacts via a Climate Change Health Impact Assessment⁵. However, the County Council has not yet produced a comprehensive adaptation strategy, or a timetable for doing so, in response to these different risks, as committed to in the 2025-2030 Climate Emergency Plan⁶.

It is considered that:

- The scientific evidence is clear that climate change and nature loss present a rising threat to the UK's food security, health, infrastructure, economy, and national security. These risks are already affecting communities across the country and will only grow in the years ahead.
- As the evidence base has matured, the time has come to communicate these risks clearly and directly to the public. At the same time, public debate is increasingly shaped by disinformation, making clear and authoritative communication more important than ever.
- As elected politicians we have a responsibility to ensure that residents in our area, and the public in the wider country, are well-informed about risks facing them from the climate and ecological emergency.
- Clear, evidence-based communication from the UK government is needed. A televised emergency briefing would explain the scale of the climate and nature threats facing the UK, why these threats matter to people's lives and livelihoods, and equip citizens to engage with decisions that will shape the country's future.
- A national emergency briefing will generate media attention and discussion, and it will demonstrate the gravity of the situation just as the daily broadcasts during the COVID pandemic played a key role in helping people to understand what was happening and how they could play a part in a communal response.
- Action on climate and nature must be embedded at the very heart of our local and regional government. Local Authorities deliver hundreds of essential services to protect public health, manage roads, prepare for floods, and provide open spaces. Local authorities therefore have a critical role in building the resilience of communities, infrastructure and local economies to rising climate risks.
- Nationally we are not sufficiently prepared for the impacts of climate change, and therefore central Government must prioritise its work with Local

⁴[East Sussex Council Webpage – Climate Change Adaptation](#) -

⁵ [East Sussex Climate Change Health Impact Assessment](#) (considered by a meeting of the [East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board on 21 July 2026](#))

⁶[East Sussex County Council - Climate Emergency Plan 2025-2030](#).

Government to close this gap. All parts of local government must have a joined-up approach if we are to tackle the gargantuan challenges presented by the climate and ecological emergency. A joined-up MSA strategy would need to include public health, flood prevention, community resilience, transport infrastructure, housing, health, food & water security. Mitigation alone cannot happen fast enough to keep our communities safe; adaptation and resilience planning must also be prioritised.

Motion:

This Council resolves:

1. To formally declare the Council's support for the work and message of the National Emergency Briefing and to continue to inform residents, including via Lewes District Council's social media channels, local press and media, of the Council's support of the NEB initiative and opportunities to view local screenings.
2. To ask the Leader of the Council to request that East Sussex County Council:
 - Organise a showing of the People's Emergency Briefing and discussion on it for all County Councillors at the earliest opportunity;
 - Confirm to Lewes District Council the timetable for the production of an adaptation strategy in line with its adopted 2025-2030 Climate Action Plan'.
3. To ask the Leader of the Council write to local MPs to informing them that this motion has been passed and urge them to sign up to support the Parliamentary Call for a live, televised emergency briefing.
4. To ask the Leader of the Council to call on the UK Government to initiate a national emergency briefing process which will:
 - a. Support local authority-led community conversations on risks, priorities and responses including local resilience plans.
 - b. Provide clear routes of engagement for citizens, businesses, public institutions and civil society to establish a shared baseline of understanding, to reinforce a sense of collective agency, and to signal the need for coordinated action across government, business and society.
5. To ask the Leader of the Council write to the Chair of the Sussex and Brighton Strategic Authority requesting that it convene a meeting with partners to discuss the need for a strategic Climate Action Plan for Sussex, and copy this letter to other partnership authorities (namely East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council, Brighton and Hove City Council, Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Sussex Integrated Care Board, District and Borough Councils across Sussex, South Downs National Park Authority, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Authority) requesting their support for ambition in developing a strategic Climate Action Plan.

Motion – Welcome Spaces Directory and Map

Submitted by Councillor James Harrison

Pre-amble

The UK recorded its hottest summer on record in 2026. The average mean temperature for the months of June, July and August was 16.5C, the warmest on record, going back to 1884.

Heatwaves, and other extreme weather events, are becoming more frequent, longer lasting and more intense as a result of climate change, and that this presents an increasing danger to the health of residents, particularly those who are vulnerable.

Lewes District Council has worked with partners to create a Welcome Spaces directory, that encourages groups and organisations to register a Welcome/Warm space, and discussions have begun on compiling and maintaining a cool space register for 2027.

Other local authorities have created and made available "Cool Spaces" maps that are available to the public online, providing the names and locations of indoor venues and areas with tree canopy cover that offer respite during hot weather.

Motion

This Council resolves to:

1. Request officers to create and maintain an online and publicly accessible "Welcome Spaces" directory and map, which may include libraries, community hubs, parks, green spaces, public buildings, and other locations where residents can find respite during periods of extreme heat or cold, and/or access advice and information.
2. Request Officers and Members to actively promote the scheme and encourage local organisations to register their locations, including the NHS, East Sussex County Council, universities, town and parish councils, places of worship, community groups, and businesses.
3. Request that the Leader of the Council promotes local public awareness of and support for this initiative, for example during a recording of Leader's Live on the Council's social media channels.
4. Request that the scheme be reviewed on an annual basis, with a view to it being handed over to any future unitary authority under Local Government Reorganisation.

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Agenda Item 13

Outside Bodies – Reports from Councillors

The following updates have been received from Councillors in relation to the outside bodies to which they have been appointed by Full Council, since the last meeting.

	Outside Body	Councillor	Update
1	Wave Active	Laurence O'Connor	With the opening of new ventures, the expansion of existing ones and the continuing strong underlying financials Wave Active's progress is substantial. The Wellbeing Square in Newhaven opened 2 September 2026 after years of effort by Lewes District Council, NHS, Integrated Care Board Surrey and Sussex, Wave Active, UK Government Towns Funding and the Newhaven GP practices. For Wave this has transformed its Newhaven facilities. The hub combines healthcare, fitness, and community services. The swimming pool has been refurbished and accessible work out space called Lilians Room Lite is also to open up. In Peacehaven a multi-level indoor play and activity centre called Meridian Mayhem opened in August for children and young families. The Wave Active Digital Hub at Clinton Place Seaford is now open. Designed to raise awareness of local health, exercise, and leisure opportunities. It features large digital touchscreens and interactive screens where visitors can browse Wave Active leisure facilities, memberships, swim schedules, and group fitness classes. This is an exciting time for Wave Active as it moves forward.
2	South Downs National Park Authority	Daniel Stewart-Roberts	• 16 July, Attended Planning Committee meeting, County Hall, Lewes • 18 August, Attended Seven Sisters Country Park Operations Advisory Committee meeting, Seven Sisters • 3 September, Attended Planning Committee site visits • 10 September, Attended Planning Committee meeting, Midhurst

	Outside Body	Councillor	Update
3	Re-imagining Newhaven Board	Zoe Nicholson Christine Robinson	<u>Date of meeting:</u> 15 July 2026 <u>Business discussed:</u> • Fort Road Recreation Ground update • Newhaven Square project update • Landing Stage update • Re-imagining Newhaven programme updates. All Board minutes are available to view on the Council's website: Re-imagining Newhaven Board Minutes <u>Decisions made:</u> The Board were not required to make any decisions during this meeting.
3	Newhaven Fishing CIC Board	Zoe Nicholson	<u>Date of meeting:</u> There have been no meetings since 5 February 2026.
4	Greater Brighton Economic Board	Zoe Nicholson	<u>Date of meeting:</u> There have been no meetings since 24 June 2026
5	Aspiration Homes LLP	Zoe Nicholson	<u>Date of meeting:</u> 4 August. <u>Decisions and Outcomes:</u> • Previous meeting minutes approved, subject to amendment regarding references to both authorities. • Quarter 4 financial monitoring report noted. • Going concern assessment approved for submission to external auditors. • Audit plan and governance responses approved. • Business Plan Update & HBC management arrangement approved. • KPI review to be undertaken, particularly in relation to void property measures. • Further work requested on the Victoria Mansions Business Case before a final decision. • Additional Business Plan delivery risk added to the risk register.

	Outside Body	Councillor	Update
			• Compliance with financial and governance arrangements confirmed based on reports presented.
5	Sussex Police and Crime Panel	Paul Keene	The next meeting is being held on 9 October 2026. Further details are available on the website: Meetings – Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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