

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

To the Members of the County Council

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the East Sussex County Council to be held at County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes on **Tuesday 29 March 2011 at 10.00 am** to transact the following business.

- 1. Minutes of meeting held on 8 February 2011 (page 3)**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Chairman's business**
- 4. Questions from members of the public (if any)**
- 5. Report of the Cabinet (page 19)**
- 6. Report of the Governance Committee (page 25)**
- 7. Questions from County Councillors**
 - (a) oral questions to Cabinet Members
 - (b) written questions of which notice has been given pursuant to Standing Order 44
- 8. Report of the Sussex Police Authority (page 29)**
- 9. Reports of the East Sussex Fire Authority**

Meeting held on 3 February 2011 (page 33)
Meeting held on 17 March 2011 (page 35)
- 10. Notice of Motion**

The Chairman has directed under Standing Order 36.9 that the following Notice of Motion by Councillor Birch shall stand referred to the County Council:

Defending the Local Government Pension Scheme

Council notes:

The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is a sustainable, good quality pension scheme that benefits from being funded and locally managed. It is valuable to employers and employees alike. Successive governments have failed to recognise the distinctiveness of the LGPS in setting policy, most notably in the proposal announced by the Chancellor in the last Comprehensive Spending Review to impose an extra 3.2% contribution tax on scheme members, increasing scheme average member contributions from 6.6% to 9.8%. This tax does not benefit the scheme or scheme members or employers. This proposal is in addition to pension reductions caused by being indexed against the Consumer Prices

AGENDA

Index instead of the Retail Price Index and is in advance of expected benefit reform recommendations from the Hutton Review.

The Council agrees:

an increase in member contributions as proposed will lead to mass opt outs from the LGPS and that would be undesirable and damaging. The views expressed by the Local Government Association (LGA) in its letter to the Chancellor dated 16 February 2011 on this subject are also the views of this Council.

The County Council resolves to:

write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury and the Secretary of State for Local Government within the next month stating this Council's support for the LGA letter referred to above and calling for government to rethink its proposed increases to LGPS member contributions. The Council will work with Trade Unions to ensure employees are made aware of the proposals for the LGPS and encouraging them to support the Council's representations to defend their pension scheme.

Note: There will be a period for collective prayers and quiet reflection in the Council Chamber from 9.30 am to 9.45 am. The prayers will be led by Reverend Stan Tomalin Rural Dean of Dallington. The Chairman would be delighted to be joined by any members of staff and Councillors who wish to attend.

County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
LEWES
East Sussex BN7 1SW

Philip Baker
Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic Services

21 March 2011
