

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Governance Committee held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Lewes on 11 November 2025.

PRESENT: Councillors Keith Glazier, OBE (Chair), Nick Bennett, Bob Bowdler, Chris Collier, Johnny Denis and David Tutt.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Beaver, Cross, Daniel, di Cara, Hollidge, Maples, Redstone, and Robinson.

31. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 OCTOBER 2025

31.1 RESOLVED – that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 21 October 2025 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

32. REPORTS

32. 1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

33. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER FOR MAYORAL COMBINED COUNTY AUTHORITY (MCCA) ELECTION

33.1 The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive regarding the appointment of a returning officer for the MCCA election due to be held in May 2026.

33.2 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to agree to appoint the Chief Executive of Brighton and Hove City Council as the Returning Officer for the Mayoral election for the Sussex and Brighton Combined County Authority.

34. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME

34.1 The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive regarding the review of the Scheme of Member Allowances.

34.2 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend the County Council to:

1) agree to postpone the full review of the Member Scheme of Allowances scheduled for 2026, with a view to the process commencing in 2027 ahead of the implementation for the Vesting Day in 2028. However, should Government not proceed with Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), to agree that a review be carried out and reported to Council in the autumn of 2026; and

2) note that the review of the annual adjustment mechanism will take place.

35. MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT

35.1 The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive regarding an update on the training and development activities offered to Members.

35.2 The Committee RESOLVED to note the programme of training and development activities offered to Members.

36. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - SPEAKING TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

36.1 The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive regarding proposed amendments to Part 4 (Rules and Procedure) of the Council's Constitution to update the speaking to the Planning Committee procedure rules.

36.2 The Committee RESOLVED to:

1) recommend that the County Council agree to amend the Constitution as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;

2) agree that the reason for a member standing in for the local member should be recorded in the official minutes of the meeting; and

3) agree that a monitoring report setting out the use of the provision be brought back to the Committee in six months' time for review.