

## CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2023-25

<b>Council</b>	23 February 2023
<b>Report Author</b>	Senior Democratic Services Officer
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Councillor Ashbee, Leader of Council
<b>Status</b>	For Decision
<b>Classification:</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>Ward:</b>	Thanet Wide

### **Executive Summary:**

Before the end or at the beginning of each municipal year the Council should agree a calendar of meetings for at least the following year in order to help plan the council's business more efficiently. This report presents proposals for a calendar of meetings to cover the period beginning May 2023 to May 2025.

### **Recommendation(s):**

That Council agrees the proposed calendar of meetings for May 2023 to May 2025 as set out at Annex 1 to the report.

### **Corporate Implications**

#### **Financial and Value for Money**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

#### **Legal**

There are no financial legal implications arising directly from this report. However it should be noted that only Full Council can finalise the decision on adopting an annual schedule of council meetings.

In making any decision, the Council must give due regard to section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

#### **Risk Management**

There are no specific risks arising directly from this report.

#### **Corporate**

In order to enable the efficient administration of council business and delivery of council services, there needs to be planned activities that cover the period of a municipal/financial year. Planned schedule of meetings advises both officers and Members on when to carry out given council activities and to that end enhances the decision making process.

## **Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty**

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

This report relates to the following aim of the equality duty: -

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- To advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- To foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

There are no equity and equalities issues arising directly from this report but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these.

## **Corporate Priorities**

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Growth
- Environment
- Communities

## **1.0 Introduction and Background**

1.1 Previously the council has approved a multi year calendar of meetings. This has proven to be the best way of planning ahead for a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council and it enables both officers and Members to have a predictable programme of meetings which they would need for organising and conducting council business.

1.2 This approach enables Council service areas to plan their work ahead of time. It is therefore proposed in the report that Members agree the calendar of meetings at this February meeting.

1.3 It is worth noting however that Council has the ability to make changes to the programme of meetings as and when necessary, via report to Council.

## **2.0 The Current Situation**

2.1 The current calendar of meetings runs up to the end of May 2023.

2.2 It is being proposed for the first time that moving forward, the General Purposes Committee meetings be scheduled rather than leave the committee to meet on an ad-hoc basis. This is in order to allow planned work activities to be carried out by this committee, which is now going to meet four times a year (i.e quarterly; in January, April, June and October).

2.2 Council is asked to approve the amended calendar of meetings for 2023 and 2025 as set out in Annex 1.

## **3.0 Options**

3.1 That Council agrees the calendar of meetings for May 2023 to May 2025.

3.2 That Members suggest any appropriate amendments to the proposed calendar of meetings for 2023 to 2025.

Contact Officer: Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Reporting to: Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager

### **Annex List**

Annex 1: Calendar of council meetings for May 2023 - May 2025

### **Background Papers**

None

### **Corporate Consultation**

**Finance:** *(Chris Blundell, Acting Deputy Chief Executive & S151 Officer)*

**Legal:** *(Sameera Khan, Interim Head of Legal & Monitoring Officer)*