

# Council



SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



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Thursday, 25 January 2024 at 2.00 pm  
Council Chamber - Council Offices, St. Peter's Hill,  
Grantham. NG31 6PZ

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**Members:** Councillor Gloria Johnson, Chairman of the Council  
Councillor Paul Fellows, Vice-Chairman of the Council

Councillor Matthew Bailey	Councillor Tim Harrison	Councillor Penny Robins
Councillor Emma Baker	Councillor Graham Jeal	Councillor Susan Sandall
Councillor Rhys Baker	Councillor Anna Kelly	Councillor Max Sawyer
Councillor Ashley Baxter	Councillor Jane Kingman	Councillor Ian Selby
Councillor David Bellamy	Councillor Gareth Knight	Councillor Rob Shorrock
Councillor Harrish Bisnauthsing	Councillor Philip Knowles	Councillor Vanessa Smith
Councillor Pam Bosworth	Councillor Zoe Lane	Councillor Peter Stephens
Councillor Pam Byrd	Councillor Robert Leadenham	Councillor Lee Steptoe
Councillor Richard Cleaver	Councillor Bridget Ley	Councillor Ian Stokes
Councillor Helen Crawford	Councillor Nikki Manterfield	Councillor Paul Stokes
Councillor Steven Cunnington	Councillor Paul Martin	Councillor Elvis Stooke
Councillor James Denniston	Councillor Penny Milnes	Councillor Rosemary Trollope-Bellew
Councillor Phil Dilks	Councillor Virginia Moran	Councillor Sarah Trotter
Councillor Richard Dixon-Warren	Councillor Charmaine Morgan	Councillor Murray Turner
Councillor Barry Dobson	Councillor Chris Noon	Councillor Mark Whittington
Councillor Patsy Ellis	Councillor Habibur Rahman	Councillor Jane Wood
Councillor Phil Gadd	Councillor Rhea Rayside	Councillor Paul Wood
Councillor Ben Green	Councillor Nick Robins	Councillor Sue Woolley

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Published and despatched by [democracy@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@southkesteven.gov.uk) on Wednesday, 17 January 2024.

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**Karen Bradford, Chief Executive**

[www.southkesteven.gov.uk](http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk)

# Agenda

This meeting can be watched as a live stream, or at a later date, [via the SKDC Public-I Channel](#)

***For those Councillors who wish to attend, prayers will be held at 1:55pm before the commencement of the meeting. Please be seated by 1:50pm.***

**1. Public Open Forum**

The public open forum will commence at **2.00 p.m.** and the following formal business of the Council will commence at **2.30 p.m.** or whenever the public open forum ends, if earlier.

**2. Apologies for absence**

**3. Disclosure of Interests**

Members are asked to disclose any interests in matters for consideration at the meeting.

**4. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2023**

(Pages 5 - 20)

**5. Communications (including Chairman's Announcements)**

**6. Election of Leader of the Council**

**7. Pay Policy Statement 2024/25**

(Pages 21 - 34)

To approve the Pay Policy Statement 2024/2025 following a recommendation from Employment Committee.

**8. Corporate Plan 2024-27**

(Pages 35 - 90)

To present the draft Corporate Plan for the period 2024 to 2027 to Council, and to recommend its approval and adoption from 1 April 2024.

**9. Appointments to Outside Bodies and Committees**

(Pages 91 - 94)

To provide Full Council with an opportunity to appoint to an Outside Body (Grantham Transport Strategy Group).

The report also provides the South Kesteven Coalition Group with an opportunity to appoint Members to vacancies on Committees and enables the Council to appoint a Chairman of the Finance and Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**10. Fees and Charges Proposals 2024/25**

(Pages 95 - 141)

To set out the proposed fees and charges to be introduced for the financial year 2024/25.

**11. Budget Framework Amendments 2023/2024**

(Pages 143 - 147)

This report seeks approval for in-year amendments to the Budget Framework for the financial year 2023/2024.

- 12. Localised Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/2025** (Pages 149 - 197)  
This report reviews the responses to the public consultation of the Council's Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25 and recommends Council approves a Scheme for 2024/25.
- 13. St Martin's Park Redevelopment Project, Stamford** (Pages 199 - 220)  
To provide an update regarding the St Martin's Park, Stamford redevelopment project, as well as outlining the preferred option recommended by the members of the Finance and Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2024 related to the next steps with the project.
- 14. Climate and Ecology Bill** (Pages 221 - 224)  
Following introduction at Full Council on 23 November 2023, Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the motion on 12 December 2023 to support the Climate and Ecology Bill.
- 15. Members' Open Questions**  
A 45-minute period in which members may ask questions of the Leader, Cabinet Members, the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and opposition group leaders excluding the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee, Licensing and Alcohol, Entertainment and Late Night Refreshment Licensing Committees and Governance and Audit Committee.
- 16. Notices of Motion**  
**Note:** The motion proposed by Councillor Zoe Lane at the 23 November 2023 meeting of Full Council is no longer required and has been withdrawn.
- a) Councillor Vanessa Smith**
- The UK's current voting system (known as First Past the Post, FPTP) originated when land-owning aristocrats dominated parliament and voting was restricted to property-owning men.*
- Currently in Europe, only the UK and authoritarian Belarus still use archaic single-round FPTP for general elections. Internationally, Proportional Representation (PR) is used to elect the parliaments of more than 80 countries. These countries tend to be more equal, freer and greener.*
- PR ensures all votes count, have equal value, and that seats won match votes cast. Under PR, MPs and Parliaments better reflect the age, gender and protected characteristics of both local communities and of the nation.*
- MPs better reflecting the communities they represent in turn leads to improved decision-making, wider participation and increased levels of ownership of decisions taken.*
- PR would also end minority rule. In 2019, 43.6% of the vote produced a government with 56.2% of the seats and 100% of the power. Fair, proportional votes also prevent 'wrong winner' elections such as occurred in 1951 and February 1974.*
- The current FPTP system leads to some of the electorate questioning the point of voting since they do not feel their views are*

*represented. This contributes to apathy and subsequent low turnout in elections. Engaging with the electorate is vital for a functioning democracy.*

*PR is the national policy of the Labour Party, Liberal Democrats, Green Party, SNP, Plaid Cymru, Reform UK and Women's Equality Party along with a host of Trade Unions and pro-democracy organisations. 31 District, Borough, City and County Councils have already passed motions asking for Proportional Representation to be used in General Elections.*

*PR is already used to elect the parliaments and assemblies of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. So why not Westminster?*

***South Kesteven District Council therefore resolves to write to H.M. Government calling for a change in our outdated electoral laws and to enable Proportional Representation to be used for UK general elections.***

**17. Close of meeting**