



Subject:	Change of Date of Council Meeting in January and Schedule of Meetings 2026
Date:	21st November, 2025
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

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No

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Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

☐

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

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No

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1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a change to the normal date for the monthly Council meeting in January.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is recommended to agree to move the Council meeting in January from Monday, 5th January to Thursday, 8th January, 2026.

3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The Council's Standing Order 1 states that:</p> <p><i>"Monthly meetings of the Council will be held on the first working day of each month except in August. Monthly Meetings shall not, however, take place on a Bank or Public Holiday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday, but shall be held on the next following weekday instead."</i></p>
3.2	In previous years, Members have commented that the date scheduled for the monthly meeting of the Council around the New Year period means that some cannot attend due to holiday commitments. The same can be said for officers, some of whom are also on holiday around that time.
3.3	In 2026, the January meeting of the Council is scheduled to be held on Monday, 5th, the first working day following the New Year public holidays. There would not be any difficulty in moving this meeting to Thursday, 8th January at 6.00 p.m., as no other meetings are scheduled for that date.
3.4	It is, therefore, proposed that the January meeting of the Council take place on Thursday, 8th at 6.00 p.m.
3.5	<p>If the Committee is minded to agree to this date, then the schedule of meetings of the Council for 2026 will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, 8th January at 6.00 p.m. • Monday, 2nd February at 6.00 p.m. • Monday, 2nd March at 6.00 p.m. • Wednesday, 1st April at 6.00 p.m. • Tuesday, 5th May at 6.00 p.m.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, 1st June at 6.00 p.m. – Annual Meeting • Wednesday, 1st July at 10.45 a.m. – Special: Somme Commemoration • Wednesday, 1st July at 6.00 p.m. • No monthly meeting in August • Tuesday, 1st September at 6.00 p.m. • Thursday, 1st October at 6.00 p.m. • Monday, 2nd November at 6.00 p.m. • Tuesday, 1st December at 6.00 p.m.
3.6	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.