

## **County councillor report to Hadlow Parish Council Aug 2023**

### **Water Problem**

Since you last meeting there has been a public meeting in Wadhurst, organised by the PC. The meeting was attended by SEW CEO, Operations Director and Director of Comms. Whilst mainly Wadhurst residents there were a number of attendees from neighbouring parishes.

The line of questioning to SEW reflected the debate we had at June's PC. Lack of investment in treated water, poor comms, poor investment in infrastructure to move water across the area, poor management of vulnerable residents.

### **State of the County- RPPR**

This was debated at Full Council on 18<sup>th</sup> July

This report kickstarts the budget setting for 24/25. For the current year the budget was broadly neutral with the overspend reported last month in Children Services balanced by increased income from treasury management.

The deficit in Childrens Services is not unique to East Sussex.

There was a different political emphasis on the future plans which I won't go into detail here.

- The debate confirmed the current priorities.
- driving sustainable economic growth.
- keeping vulnerable people safe.
- helping people help themselves.
- and making best use of resources now and for the future.

### **Volunteering**

A new app has been developed to make it easier to match volunteers with volunteering opportunities. The new app is in development stage and will support the work of Wealden, Lewes and Eastbourne Voluntary Action (3VA) and also Rother VA and Hastings VA.

### **Send**

The number of SEND children continues to increase. Last month I reported on additional places at Denton and Meridian and this month I pleased to say I have authorised the statutory notice to move Grove Park school onto to one site as opposed to the three sites currently (inc shared site with Beacon) The single site will increase the number of placements and bring admin and facilities benefits.