



Dear Councillor,

I hereby invite you to attend an ordinary Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee to be held in the Council Chamber, The Custom House, at 7pm on Wednesday 8th October 2025 for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Fidler

Town Clerk & RFO

RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL **AGENDA**

Meeting: Finance and General Purposes Committee
Venue: The Council Chamber, The Custom House, Harbour Parade
Membership: Cllrs Green (Chair), Albon, Austin, Crittenden, Driver, Hetherington, Hudson, Makinson and Young
Date: Wednesday 8th October 2025
Time: 7pm

1. **APOLOGIES**
To receive and approve any apologies for absence from Members of the Committee.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded to declare any dispensations granted.
3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**
To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 9th July 2025 (minutes 173/25 to 185/25) as a true record. Only questions of record may be considered.
4. **ACCOUNTS & BUDGETS**
 - (i) To receive and note the Receipts & Payments to 30th September 2025 and General Reserves Report to 30th September 2025.
 - (ii) To receive a written report for Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and considered the virements contained therein for recommendation to Council.

(iii) To receive a verbal update on preparation of the 2026 – 2027 budget from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO.

5. **CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP**

To receive and note the Climate Change Task Group Minutes from 30th July 2025.

6. **GRANT PROCEDURE – CLARITY ON PAID SERVICES**

To receive a written report for Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and consider the proposed amendments aimed at improving transparency regarding paid services within grant-funded events.

7. **POLICY & PROCEDURE – CIVIC & COMMUNITY AWARD POLICY**

To receive, consider and approve a draft “Civic & Community Award Policy”.

8. **ANNUAL TREE INSPECTION REPORT**

To receive and note the annual tree inspection report by Invicta Arboriculture. Quotes are now being sought from a tree surgeon to undertake the recommendations contained therein or actioned by the Technicians (where appropriate).

9. **KENT PENSION FUND: FUNDING STRATEGY STATEMENT CONSULTATION**

To consider how to respond to the Kent Pension Fund’s questionnaire in which the following changes are proposed to the Scheme:

- The pooling together of town and parish councils for the LGPS from the 1 April 2026.
- Academies and further education (FE) employers would be treated as having an equal level of risk to the Fund as the local authorities (LA) and therefore we have aligned the recovery period for all these employers to 8 years.
- Provision of an updated prudence adjustment for employers terminating under a full cessation scenario.
- An updated structure with subheadings with more focus on employer understanding and a broader focus incorporating other funding-related policies.
- The inclusion of an Engagement Plan and other considerations from the [Guidance for Preparing and maintaining a Funding Strategy Statement](#) (2025).

10. **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7pm