Item 12 .1

Correspondence from local resident

For: STC Councillors,

In May 2027 it is essential that democratically contested elections be held for the 15 available seats on the Steyning Town Council (STC). Our wider democracy has never been under greater threat by the proposed abolition of our devolved District and County Councils and therefore it is essential that at least 15 residents of Steyning stand for election in 2027.

In 2019 and 2023 I requested that the then Steyning Parish Councils allocated a sum of money within their forthcoming budgets to fund the printing and distribution of a leaflet to every Steyning household effectively stating *'Your Council Needs You'*. They duly did so and that was widely welcomed.

Many local parish councils failed to achieve a sufficient number of candidates to fill their allocated seats in 2019 and 2023 and therefore their councillors were elected without being subject to a democratic vote. I am therefore taking this opportunity to request that the current Steyning Town Council once again provides sufficient funds within their budget to achieve the same ends in 2027.

I would also request that this email be included under Correspondence Items in the Agenda and Minutes of the STC meeting to be held on Monday, 16th November 2026,

Kind Regards,