

**BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL**  
**CABINET**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 May 2021 at 10.00 am

Present:-

Cllr D Mellor – Chairman

Cllr P Broadhead – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr M Anderson, Cllr M Greene, Cllr N Greene, Cllr M Haines,  
Cllr M Iyengar, Cllr R Lawton, Cllr K Rampton, Cllr M White,  
Cllr H Allen, Cllr S Baron, Cllr N Brooks, Cllr B Dove, Cllr B Dunlop  
and Cllr J Kelly

Also in attendance: Cllr S Bartlett (Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

1. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Nigel Brooks declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 6 (Potential Transfer of Play Sites and Highcliffe Recreation Ground) and remained present.

Councillor Hazel Allen declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 9 (Establishing a Multi Disciplinary Team and a Homeless Health Centre) and remained present.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 14 April 2021 were confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the addition of Councillor Bartlett being marked as in attendance.

3. Public Issues

The Leader advised that there had been no questions, statements or petitions received from members of the public on this occasion.

4. Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Board

Cabinet was advised that there were no additional recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Board on items not otherwise included on the Cabinet Agenda on this occasion.

5. Proposed Regeneration Vehicle Options Appraisal

The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Economy and Strategic Planning presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was informed that in order to achieve the Council's regeneration ambitions across the conurbation at pace the report recommended the

creation of wholly owned Urban Regeneration Company (URC). In relation to this Cabinet was advised that the URC will bring together the resources, leadership and focus required to deliver the ambitions set out in the Big Plan which was considered by Cabinet and Council in February.

Further to this Cabinet was informed that the current internal capacity is not sufficient to deliver the scale of ambitions set out in the Big Plan and additional support and expertise is required, which after options appraisal, is considered to be best met by creating a URC.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet and advised that the Board were overall supportive of the paper.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) Cabinet supports the establishment of an Urban Regeneration Company (URC) and delegates authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader, to formally set up the URC subject to his approval of the further information set out in this report; and**
- (b) BCP Council enter into a Service Level Agreement with the new company for an initial period of three years which will provide for the opportunity for review after two years in order to afford the company the opportunity of a period of stability within which to holistically plan and put forward proposals for regeneration projects to the council with the precise wording of the agreement to be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Regeneration, Economy and Strategic Planning

6. Potential Transfer of Play sites and Highcliffe Recreation Ground

The Portfolio Holder for Environment, Cleansing and Waste presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was informed that Christchurch Borough Council (CBC) had proposed that the new town and parish councils assume responsibility for play facilities, subject to agreement and formal approval by BCP Council. In relation to this Cabinet was advised that Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council (HWPC) wish to take on this responsibility for Bluebell Close, Mudeford Wood and Highcliffe Recreation Ground Play Areas as well as the remainder of Highcliffe Recreation Ground.

BCP Council formally advertised the proposed disposal of these open spaces and no objections were received.

Further to this Cabinet was informed that a request had been received from the Chairman of the Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council that this item be deferred as there were still ongoing discussions with regards to the transfer. In relation to this the Portfolio Holder advised that the best way forward would be to still consider the matter today but to amend recommendation

(b) to allow for further discussion with delegation being given to officers and the Portfolio Holder to resolve outstanding matters.

In addition, the Leader stressed the importance of this matter in fulfilling an agreement made by the legacy Christchurch Borough Council, and Cabinet spoke in support of the proposal and in maintaining these community assets.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) After consideration of the representations and objections from Public Consultation, the results of the Disposal of Public Open Space Procedure are noted;**
- (b) The proposal to transfer the freehold ownership of assets to Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council (HWPC) is agreed with delegation to the Corporate Property Officer, Interim Director of Environment and the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Cleansing and Waste to resolve outstanding terms, conditions and legal arrangements;**
- (c) The proposal to enter into a contract for Play and Grounds Maintenance for 5 years with HWPC and the legal and financial responsibilities resting with BCP Council for two years are agreed;**
- (d) Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 general disposal consent (England) 2003, it is agreed to transfer these assets at below the 'market' value; and**
- (e) The transfer of the obligations arising from the Fields in Trust designation for Highcliffe Recreation Ground to Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council is agreed.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Environment, Cleansing and Waste

Councillor Nigel Brooks declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and remained present.

7. Fly-tipping and Fly-posting Enforcement Pilot

The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was informed that fly-tipping and fly-posting cause significant environmental issues and adversely impact the street scene in the BCP Council area. Both have increased in past years, replicating the national picture.

Further to this Cabinet was advised that investigations of incidents in legacy authorities were limited due to resource constraints, with penalties for offenders of fly-tipping and fly-posting few in number.

In addition Cabinet was informed that Regulatory Services are seeking to adopt a consistent and robust approach to tackling offenders, whilst

minimising additional resource requirements, and that the Council has powers under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to deal with incidents of fly-tipping and littering, householders also have a duty of care to ensure their waste is collected by a reputable company with the relevant waste transfer permissions, and businesses have a duty to ensure sufficient measures are in place to manage their commercial waste.

Cabinet was further informed that fly-posting, the displaying of promotional materials or adverts without permission on public furniture, is enforced through the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003.

The Portfolio Holder advised that a private company with 10 years of experience in the Environmental Crime Industry and working with numerous Local Authorities have outlined their ability to investigate and enforce the above on behalf of BCP Council.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet advising that at their recent meeting the Board resolved to make the following recommendation to Cabinet in respect of this item.

*The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommend that Cabinet reconsider this decision, and not proceed with the contract at this time in order to take time to look at what other options are available.*

In relation to this the Portfolio Holder thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Board for their recommendation and in relation to this advised that there is an option to terminate the contract with 30 days' notice and stressed that this was a pilot which would be reviewed which therefore presented little risk to the Council.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) Cabinet approves the commencement of a 12-month pilot scheme to deploy a suitable qualified contractor to undertake investigations and prosecutions of fly-tipping and fly-posting incidents;**
- (b) Cabinet agrees to receive a further report following 6 months of this pilot, which will include recommendations for the future of this service; and**
- (c) Cabinet approves the levels of fines for relevant offences as per paragraph 10.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Community Safety

8. Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy and Delivery Plan 2020-2023

The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'D' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was advised that the report outlines the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Community Safety Partnership Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy and accompanying delivery plan, and that in relation to this, this is the first Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy and

Delivery Plan for BCP, which brings together the foundations of the work within legacy partnerships and identifies how partners will work together to meet the ambition that “no resident living within or visiting Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole should live in fear of, or experience domestic abuse.”

In relation to this Cabinet was informed that the BCP Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy as set out at Appendix 1 outlines a headline summary of the strategy and the commitments made by the BCP CSP of;

- Preventing violence and abuse through a commitment to working to develop a “whole family, whole picture” approach across all our services
- A commitment to commissioning improved services for victims, perpetrators and children impacted by domestic abuse to ensure we have services in place
- that are effective in assessing and responding to multiple needs
- A commitment to working collaboratively to reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse
- Responding to perpetrators by supporting criminal justice agencies in pursuing them through the criminal justice system and a commitment to challenging and changing the behaviour of perpetrators through the availability of domestic abuse perpetrator programmes

In addition Cabinet was advised that the Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy Delivery Plan as set out in appendix 2 has been developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including service users, and that this plan describes how partners will work together to deliver against the commitments and priorities of the Strategy.

Further to this Cabinet was informed that the Domestic Abuse Bill 2020 will be introducing a new statutory duty on tier one local authorities, ensuring that all victims, including children, have access to safety and support within safe accommodation when they need it, and that the Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy and Delivery Plan addresses the requirements of the new duties as well as the local needs identified through the development of the strategy and plan.

In closing Cabinet were advised that the report outlines the proposed allocations for additional Government funding recently announced as part of the imminent implementation of the Domestic Abuse Bill and in support of the delivery plan.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet advising that at their recent meeting the Board resolved to make the following recommendation to Cabinet in respect of this item.

*The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommends that additions are made to the draft domestic abuse strategy and delivery plan to include detailed actions for improving the services ability to engage with residents who have struggled to engage previously, including male victims of domestic abuse and those in same sex relationships, victims who are BAME and/or don't*

*speak English as a first language and those who have multiple needs such as mental health and/or substance misuse.*

The Portfolio Holder thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Board for their recommendation and advised that it would be passed onto the Community Safety Partnership for their consideration.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) Cabinet supports the BCP Community Safety Partnership Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy and Delivery Plan; and**
- (b) Cabinet approves the allocation of MHCLG grant funding as set out in paragraph 32 of the report.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Community Safety

9. Establishing a Multi Disciplinary Team and a Homeless Health Centre

The Portfolio Holder for Homes presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'E' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was reminded that the Council's new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2021-25 had been approved by Cabinet in April 2021, and that Health provision is a key element of the strategy, with some good practice already in place locally and a good base to build upon.

Cabinet was informed that the proposals set out in the report will help address inherent inequalities and ensure good access to services for those who are marginalised and hard to reach, and that further to this the paper outlines recommendations to continue the development of the shared care or multi-disciplinary approach in two ways and build on the great joint work already underway.

In relation to this Cabinet was advised that the Health Hub would provide one front door where homeless individuals can attend in order to access health and housing support and advice, and that the building would provide office and clinic space, showers, laundry facilities, access to computers and locker space so that people can attend and receive the support and/or treatment needed.

Further to this Cabinet was advised that the acquisition of the Health Hub will be guided by the valuation by the Council's Estates team and budget will be secured to purchase the property, refurbish the property and provide for ongoing maintenance and management.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet advising that at their recent meeting whilst there was no formal recommendation the Board had been hugely supportive of the report.

The Portfolio Holder expressed thanks to Officers and Members and in particular to the Lead Member for Homelessness for all their hard work.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet: -**

- (a) Approves the further development of a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) to better address the health needs of individuals who are homeless;**
- (b) Approves the implementation of an ongoing 'Health Hub' provision at St Stephens Church Hall;**
- (c) Approves the acquisition of St Stephens Church Hall and delegates authority to the Corporate Property Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer to agree the specific terms of the sale (see Confidential Appendices 1 and 2); and**
- (d) Approves the associated capital and revenue budget provision relating to the acquisition and management of St Stephens Church Hall (see Confidential Appendices 1 and 2).**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Homes

Councillor Hazel Allen declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and remained present.

10. Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and Inclusion Strategy

The Portfolio Holder for Covid Resilience, Public Health and Education presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'F' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

The Portfolio Holder informed Cabinet that Children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) have high aspirations for their future, and that in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole we want to support all children and young people to enjoy their childhood and develop the skills, confidence and resilience to achieve their goal of a positive and successful adult life.

In relation to this Cabinet was advised that the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion Strategy has been created in partnership with stakeholders, and that It set out the councils ambition for children and young people with SEND, supporting delivery of the council's Big Plan.

In addition, Cabinet was informed that the ambitions in the strategy will be realised through the delivery plan, overseen by the SEND Improvement Board.

The Portfolio Holder addressed Cabinet with regards to governance, advising that the body responsible for delivering this strategy was the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Improvement Board, and that this board was chaired independently by a Local Government Association Improvement specialist who provides robust and impartial challenge. In addition, Cabinet was informed that the Board meets six weekly and assesses improvement against the five prioritise which are set out through

its own learning and improvement plan. Further to this Cabinet was advised that the Board comprises representatives from Parent Carers Together, The Dorset CCG, Headteachers, the voluntary and community sectors, health providers, officers of BCP as well as elected members, both Councillor Nicola Greene as Cabinet Member and Councillor Sandra Moore as a non-executive member reporting directly back to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. In relation to this Cabinet was informed that that The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Board takes a keen interest in this area of work and are taking a report to their next meeting looking at this strategy from which it is envisaged further scrutiny will follow. The Portfolio Further advised that at last Mondays Health and Adult Services Overview and Scrutiny Board Members attention had been drawn to the priority of preparation for adulthood which links directly to work under their remit, and that there is a further reporting line under the Health and Wellbeing Board, who's strategy focuses on improving incomes for children and young people, and young adults with special educational needs.

Cabinet spoke in support of the report praising the work of officers and members involved.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet notes how the strategy was developed in partnership and agree the strategy.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Covid Resilience, Public Health and Education

11. Cabinet Forward Plan

The Leader advised that the latest Cabinet Forward Plan had been published on the Council's website.

The meeting ended at 11.16 am

CHAIRMAN