

# Notice of Cabinet

Date: Wednesday, 12 January 2022 at 10.00 am

Venue: Committee Suite, Civic Centre, Poole BH15 2RU



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## Membership:

### Chairman:

Cllr D Mellor

### Vice Chairman:

Cllr P Broadhead

Cllr M Anderson

Cllr B Dove

Cllr B Dunlop

Cllr M Greene

Cllr N Greene

Cllr M Iyengar

Cllr K Rampton

Cllr M White

### Lead Members

Cllr H Allen

Cllr S Baron

Cllr N Brooks

Cllr L Fear

Cllr J Kelly

Cllr T Johnson

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All Members of the Cabinet are summoned to attend this meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting at the following link:

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=4840>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Sarah Culwick (01202 817615) on 01202 096660 or email [democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk)

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email [press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk)

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at [democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk](https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk)

GRAHAM FARRANT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

21 December 2021

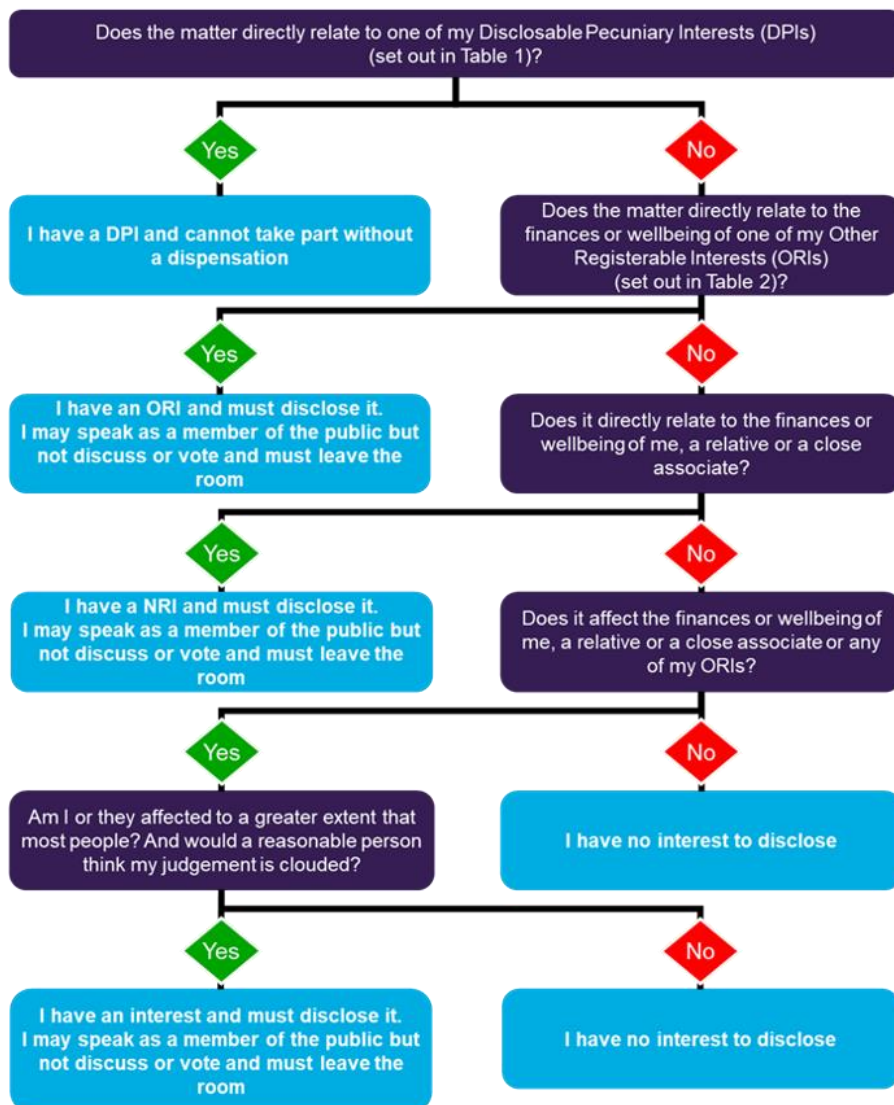


## Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

### Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

#### Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

#### Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer  
([susan.zeiss@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:susan.zeiss@bcpcouncil.gov.uk))

### Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

### Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

### Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

### Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

### Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

### Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

### Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

# AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

**1. Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence from Councillors.

**2. Declarations of Interests**

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

**3. Confirmation of Minutes**

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 15 December 2021.

7 - 18

**4. Public Issues**

To receive any public questions, statements or petitions submitted in accordance with the Constitution. Further information on the requirements for submitting these is available to view at the following link:-

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=151&Info=1&bcr=1>

The deadline for the submission of public questions is 4 clear working days before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a statement is midday the working day before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a petition is 10 working days before the meeting.

**5. Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Board**

To consider recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Board on items not otherwise included on the Cabinet Agenda.

**6. Council Tax - Tax base 2022/23**

This report calculates and presents the proposed council tax base for council tax setting purposes in line with current legislation and guidance.

19 - 24

**7. 2021/22 Quarter 2 Performance Report**

BCP Council's Corporate Strategy was adopted by Full Council in November 2019. It sets out the Council's priorities and the values which underpin the way the council will work as it develops and delivers services.

Refreshed vision and ambition statements set out in the Big Plan provide a wider context to underpin and drive the Corporate Strategy.

Council corporate priorities remain the same and continue to be supported by delivery plans which set out high-level actions.

25 - 46

This report provides an overview of performance against the priorities for Quarter 2 of financial year 2021/22.

It has been informed by the performance measures included in the delivery plans of the Corporate Strategy, agreed at the February 2021 Cabinet meeting.

Performance is presented across interactive dashboards for each of the priorities which also include a narrative summary of other achievements for the first six months of this financial year.

Whilst the performance measures are not a finite set of measures most have been in place for the last 18 months and therefore are starting to develop a good history of trend data.

Generally, performance is good across the priorities with only four areas that require intervention. The detail of these are available as exception reports attached as appendix 2.

## **8. Future of the Stour Valley and Poole Revenues and Benefits Partnership**

47 - 54

BCP Council currently works in partnership with Dorset Council to deliver Revenues and Benefit Services for four of the legacy Councils through the Stour Valley and Poole Partnership (SVPP).

The Joint Committee for the SVPP has considered the future options for Revenues and Benefits service delivery and have recommended to each Council that they consider expanding the SVPP to provide a Pan-Dorset Partnership.

For BCP Council, as the host partner Council, for SVPP expanding the Partnership would formally bring together the Revenues and Benefits services and deliver significant efficiencies whilst supporting the Council's transformation objectives

Dorset Council's preferred direction is to end the SVPP and return its services to an in-house provision which would place a financial burden on BCP Council of stranded costs that cannot be mitigated.

As there is not a consensus between partners an approach needs to be established for the future of BCP Council's Revenue and Benefits services.

## **9. Housing and Property Compliance Update (Housing Revenue Account)**

55 - 74

This report provides information on how the council meets its responsibilities in ensuring that all council housing within the Housing Revenue Account is managed in a way that meets compliance with current health and safety legislation, best practice and regulatory standards to ensure the health and safety of residents. It sets out issues concerning compliance across the Bournemouth and Poole neighbourhoods and demonstrates how these are being managed.

During quarter three, 2021/22 concerns were identified within the Bournemouth neighbourhood regarding overdue fire risk assessment actions and electrical safety tests and potential non-compliance with the Regulator of Social Housing's (Regulator) Home Standard. A robust action plan is in place and issues continue to be addressed at pace with additional



resources. To ensure full transparency the council has made a self-referral to the Regulator to make them aware of the situation.

Over the coming years there will be increased responsibilities placed on social landlords to manage the health and safety of residents. These will be primarily included in the Building Safety Bill which is progressing through Parliament. Future changes will also be made to the regulatory regime overseen by the Regulator through the “Charter for Social Housing Residents; a social housing white paper”.

In preparation for these changes, we are ensuring that we are taking steps to improve our existing monitoring and recording of compliance work.

## 10. Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21

75 - 154

As agreed in the ‘Response to Climate and Ecological Emergency’ report to Council in December 2019, an annual report on climate action is required to monitor and communicate progress towards achieving the declared goals. This report will go to Full Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.

BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 16 July 2019. This report sets out the work the Council has carried out in the second year towards achieving our targets to:

- Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030 - **The amount of carbon emissions from Council operations has reduced by over 10%**, from 41,567 tCO<sub>2</sub>e to 37,109 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050 – **the amount of area-wide carbon emissions has decreased by 71,748 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (3.7%)** between figures released in 2019 and 2020 (energy use data for the years 2017 and 2018 respectively).

2020/21 has been a transitional and unusual year for Climate Action, sitting as it does between the declaration of national and local Climate and Ecological Emergencies and the COP26 summit, and while we are still in the shadow of the Covid-19 pandemic that continues to dominate news. Covid-19 continues to be a major factor in progressing Climate Action, and it is not yet clear if the effects on carbon reduction will be maintained and trends continued. At the start of the reporting period, Council funding for Climate Action had been withdrawn as part of the response to financial pressures caused by Covid-19. Following a change in political control of the Council, the funding was reinstated, but this interruption significantly disrupted the ability to spend the money effectively. Important additional funding has been secured to grow the Climate Action team and to drive forward the delivery of the Action Plan with a new Climate Action staffing structure created. This will ensure that the service provided by the Team meets and exceed stakeholder expectations, and that the portfolio of activities in the Action Plan is optimised to meet our 2030 and 2050 targets as cost effectively and as quickly as is sensible.

In addition, this report also recommends that Cabinet approve exploration of the Council becoming members of the UK100 - a network of highly ambitious local government leaders looking to transition to clean energy, taking the public and business with them.

|   |  |               |
|---|--|---------------|
| 11.   | <b>Levelling Up</b>  | 155 - 202     |
| <p>In May 2021 the Government announced it will publish a landmark Levelling Up White Paper, “articulating how bold new policy interventions will improve opportunity and boost livelihoods across the country as we recover from the pandemic. The White Paper - which will be led by the Prime Minister - will focus on challenges including improving living standards, growing the private sector and increasing and spreading opportunity”.</p> <p>In readiness for this White Paper, this Cabinet report showcases several excellent recent studies that help to explain why Levelling Up is important for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, and how it can support our current and future work. These studies also help us to have some early sight on what our Levelling Up needs and aspirations may be.</p> <p>This Cabinet report also provides a brief update on the development of the Skills Commission (a key early action to support Levelling Up) and sets out a series of proposed next steps for approval to ensure there is an agreed, evidenced based council-wide approach that is complimentary to and supports the delivery of existing council policies and strategies.</p> |  |               |
| 12.   | <b>Coastal Business Improvement District (BID)</b>                                       | 203 - 218     |
| <p>Bournemouth Coastal Business Improvement District (BID) is preparing to undertake a ballot for its third term from 2 March 2022 – 30 March 2022. The result of the ballot will be announced on 31 March 2022.</p> <p>If successful, the 5-year BID Term will run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the Council to support Coastal Town Centre BID for the third term.</p>   |  |               |
| 13.   | <b>Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID)</b>                       | 219 - 234     |
| <p>Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) is preparing to undertake a renewal ballot for its third term from 2 March 2022 – 30 March 2022. The result of the ballot will be announced on 31 March 2022.</p> <p>If successful, the 5-year BID Term will run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the Council to support Bournemouth Town Centre BID for the third term.</p>   |  |               |
| 14.   | <b>Urgent Decisions taken by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Constitution</b> | Verbal Report |
| <p>The Chief Executive to report on any decisions taken under urgency provisions in accordance with the Constitution.</p>   |  |               |
| 15.   | <b>Cabinet Forward Plan</b>  | To Follow     |
| <p>To consider the latest version of the Cabinet Forward Plan for approval.</p>   |  |               |

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.

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

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 December 2021 at 10.00 am

Present:-

Cllr D Mellor – Chairman

Cllr P Broadhead – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr M Anderson, Cllr B Dove, Cllr B Dunlop, Cllr M Greene,  
Cllr N Greene, Cllr M Iyengar, Cllr K Rampton and Cllr M White

Present virtually: Lead Members: Cllr N Brooks and Cllr L Fear

Also in attendance virtually: Cllr S Bartlett and Cllr M Howell

93. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

94. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 24 November were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

95. Public Issues

The Leader advised that there had been no questions or petitions received on this occasion but that nine statements had been received from members of the public in relation to Agenda Item 17 (Call-in of Decision – Tatnam Road ETRO – Advice to Cabinet).

**Statement from Brian Gracey**

As a resident of Tatnam Road my belief is that this Road should be reopened. It already is, effectively to motorcycles and motor scooters.

Continuing closure will have an equally negative effect, particularly when the similarly ill-thought-out changes to Wimborne Road take place in the near future.

I would make one further observation. HGV traffic could usefully be banned from Tatnam Road; it really is not wide enough and was regularly used as an escape route for vehicles missing signs noting the weight limit over the nearby railway bridge.

**Statement from Linda Naylor**

I am a grandparent of a child at Oakdale Junior school where I am also Chair of Governors.

As a cyclist I am delighted with the blocking of Tatnam Road and Birds Hill. Both make my cycle to SML church and to school meetings much safer which encourages me not to use my car.

My granddaughter now cycles home from school because the Tatnam road closure allows her to cycle to Old Town area without crossing any roads. If reopened she will no longer be safe cycling home. I used to pick her up at Tatnam Road and Poole High and Oakdale parents can now safely collect there.

#### **Statement from Teresa Trafford**

As a resident of Tatnam Road I wish to put the case forward to continue with the closure.

- 1) This is a residential road not a cut through to save a few minutes journey time.
- 2) The closure has been welcomed by walkers, runners, and cyclists.
- 3) There has been no significant increase in traffic on neighbouring roads.
- 4) The road is no longer a rat run, putting children at risk.
- 5) The closure is in line with government policy on reducing traffic and encouraging people to exercise.

#### **Statement from the Keyhole Bridge User Safety Group**

Your LCWIP identifies Tatnam Road as part of the primary cycling network, creating a corridor stretching from Stanley Green Road to Whitecliff, via Garland Road, Birds Hill Road, Poole Park and Keyhole Bridge. Reopening Tatnam Road will increase traffic in Garland Road and Tatnam Road, making the route unsuitable for cycling without significant alternative, and potentially costly, mitigation. We therefore support Councillor Greene's decision to retain the Tatnam Road ETRO. We appreciate that the referral to Cabinet is on procedural grounds but note that Councillor Greene's decision to retain the Tatnam Road ETRO is procedurally entirely consistent with previous decisions.

#### **Statement from Corinne and Oliver Martin**

We are in full support of Cllr Greene's decision to keep the end point closure on Tatnam Road.

How will the council ensure the safety of school children, pedestrians and cyclists on Tatnam Road, should the decision be made to remove the closure?

Would the council be installing severe traffic calming measures such as on Recreation Road prior to removal?

The 20mph limit made no changes to speeding prior to the road closure and cannot be seen as a solution to the problem of speeding and reckless driving on this residential road.



**Statement from David Ricketts**

Tatnam road was closed in relation to Conservative government, travel guidelines. However, it's Poole Conservatives who are attempting to reverse this positive decision.

On the day of the Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, I read on BCP's website the initiative for making school runs much safer. Therefore, completely at odds with Poole Conservatives actions.

This is obviously a political issue rather than about safety for resident and pedestrians.

Poole People Party, were voted in because they care about local ward issues, as proven by their support of the road closure. The same wards are disillusioned by Poole Conservatives and their irresponsible actions.

**Statement from Clive & Bernadett Matlock**

We believe clear bias was shown in the room at the 6 December meeting, the outcome was premeditated and a pointless exercise of "going through the motions" to justify that predetermined outcome.

Our concern is the 15 December Cabinet meeting will be just as undemocratic.

Councillor Greene's logical decision was in support of **Safety Concerns, BCP's "Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan" and "The new you can walk, cycle or scoot to school"**

Cabinet members must show vision for the long-term safety and environmental benefits of the road closure, and not just seeking populist votes for outlying areas.

**Statement from Paul Blunden**

"I support upholding the original closure of Tatnam Road and disregarding the call-in, which was unconstitutional. It lacked any evidence the original decision was driven by a bias towards minority opinions. No causal correlation was proven.

The committee failed to appreciate that the decision was not based solely on opinions but drew on other factual sources of information. It's no surprise that local residents are closest to those same facts, in particular road safety issues. Thus, resident views corroborated rather than biased the report. Re-opening the road will reduce road safety and consequently make councillors personally liable for accidents."

**Statement from Caroline Blunden**

I support keeping Tatnam Road closed permanently.

Local ward councillors who are closest to the local traffic situation fairly laid out all the facts and could see the untrue objections. I feared the closure would increase my own commute but in practice this turned out to be untrue, therefore the safety benefits outweigh any perceived inconvenience. The call-in sets a dangerous precedent where every decision is subject to individual public opinion rather than councillors fulfilling their duty to act for

all constituents, not just a loud minority, who have been fuelled by misinformation and overstated the impact of the closure.

96. Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Board

Cabinet was advised that an additional item had been submitted for today's Cabinet meeting (Agenda Item 17) which dealt with a call-in of a Portfolio Holder decision discussed at the recent meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Board.

Cabinet was further advised that the report offered advice from the Overview and Scrutiny Board in relation to the call-in for the Cabinet to consider.

97. Quarter Two Budget Monitoring 2021/22

The Leader of the Council 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 advised that the report included 2021/22 budget monitoring information as at the end of September 2021, and that the projected outturn for the revenue account can be balanced by allocating a further £4.2 million from the Covid pressures grant tranche 5.

In relation to this Cabinet was informed that the projection for the 2021/22 revenue account is an overspend of £10.2 million within services and the transformation programme, and that the application of largely one-off central resources can balance this position, including the release into the revenue account of further Covid pressures grant tranche 5, leaving £4.0 million available to support Covid pressures next year.

In addition, Cabinet was advised that the updated 2021/22 projections for reserve movements, the capital programme and housing revenue account (HRA) were also included.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet advising that the Board at their recent meeting had expressed concern with regards to staff retention and that this would be taken forwards by the Board.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet agree the £0.84 million allocation from the contain outbreak management fund (COMF) for additional adult social care expenditure as set out in paragraph 70 and appendix A3 of the report.**

**RECOMMENDED that Council: -**

- (a) delegates the final decisions in spending the COMF allocations for winter planning to the director of public health in consultation with the chief executive, and leader of the council as urgent decisions may be required as considered in paragraph 72 of the report;**

- (b) approves the use of £4.2 million of the Covid pressures grant to support the net unavoidable pressures within services as set out in paragraph 67 of the report; and**
- (c) approves the capital virement to accept new grant funding as set out in paragraph 94 of the report.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Leader of the Council

98. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update

The Leader of the Council 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 advised that the report detailed the progress made in the development of a robust balanced budget for 2022/23, and that the report also set out:

- The latest Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) position.
- An update on the key assumptions being applied to the 2022/23 budget and MTFP process.
- An update of the key financial risks faced by the Council.
- Details of the Government's Spending Review (SR21).

In addition, Cabinet was advised that the report proposed not to change the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) for 2022/23 and therefore the council will continue to operate the same scheme that it has operated since April 2019.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet: -**

- (a) agree the current budget position for 2022/23 and the further improved MTFP position;**
- (b) approve the continuation of the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) into 2022/23; and**
- (c) acknowledge the update on the key financial risks.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Leader of the Council

99. Biodiversity Net Gain

The Portfolio Holder for Development, Growth and Regeneration 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 advised that biodiversity net gain is an approach to development and / or land management that aims to leave biodiversity in a measurably better state than before, and that biodiversity net gain in the development process is now a statutory requirement following Environment Act coming into force in November 2021.

Cabinet was informed that the Act proposes to require all development to deliver a mandatory 10% biodiversity net gain to be maintained for at least 30 years.

In addition, Cabinet was advised that further resources and work were required for BCP Council to be ready for the implementation of biodiversity net gain on a much wider scale than at present, and that this paper advises on the actions envisaged to do this including the need to appoint 2 additional ecology officers to support the planning process once the mandatory net gain requirements are brought into force.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet advising that the Board had been generally overall supportive of the report at their recent meeting.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet: -**

- (a) support the principle of biodiversity net gain and endorse the planning service using available tools to deliver the forthcoming statutory requirements where possible at the present time;**
- (b) note the formation of the officer Task Force between Planning and Environment and ask for a report of their work and recommendations within 6 months of the December 2021 Cabinet;**
- (c) support the £93,000 of ongoing revenue funding requested from 2022/23 onwards, to sufficiently resource the services outlined in this report; and**
- (d) notes that the £93,000 per annum from 2022/23 onwards will formally be recommended to Council as part of the 2022/23 budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan Update report in February 2022.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Development, Growth and Regeneration

100. Make Ashley Road Safe Petition

The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services 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 reminded that at the Council meeting on 14 September 2021, a petition was presented entitled “Make Ashley Road Safe Petition”, and that the petition stated that “Drug use, drug dealing, theft, fighting, intimidation, abuse and public indecency on Ashley Road has been causing residents, shoppers and shop workers misery over the last few of years.”

In relation to this Cabinet was advised that the petition called for “BCP Council and Dorset Police to take action and end the serious anti-social behaviour issues and illegal activity that residents witness every day on Ashley Road, Poole.”



Further to this Cabinet was informed that the report sets out the Community Safety Partnerships approach to tackling place based anti-social behaviour and the specific work that has been done in Ashley Road to date.

Councillor Earl addressed the Cabinet reminding members of the lively debate at Full Council in relation to this petition and stressing the importance of measures being put into place. In addition, Councillor Earl advised that discussion had taken place with residents who had fed back on the approach being taken, and that in relation to this that residents who had been spoken to had expressed opposition to the removal of benches and the closing of alleyways, in relation to this Councillor Earl stressed that residents should be properly consulted prior to any decisions to do such if it is considered at any point. In addition, Councillor Earl emphasised the importance of addiction support workers and of engaging with people in their housing setting rather than on the street.

The Leader of the Council read out a statement submitted by the Police and Crime Commissioner emphasising the importance of measures to address anti-social behaviour.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet notes the contents of the report and the further actions being undertaken to address crime and anti-social behaviour in the area.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Community Safety and Regulatory Services

101. School Admissions Arrangements 2023/24 for community and maintained schools

The Portfolio Holder for Council Priorities and Delivery 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 advised that the report authorises consultation on the admissions arrangements for community and maintained schools for the school year 2023/2024, and that the only significant change is a proposal to consult on the reduction of the published admission number at Burton Primary School from 60 to 45 from the school year 2023/24 at the request of the governing body.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet: -**

- (a) approves the draft admissions arrangements for maintained school set out in Appendices 1 and 2 of this report and the draft consultation on the reduction of the published admission number (PAN) at Burton Primary School set out in Appendix 3 of this report.**
- (b) agrees that the Director Children's Services commence consultation on the proposal in Appendix 3.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Council Priorities and Delivery

102. Home to School Transport Policy

The Portfolio Holder for Council Priorities and Delivery 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.

Cabinet was informed that BCP Council is legally required to have a single home to school transport policy, and that a BCP Council Policy had been drafted to replace the three existing policies.

In relation to this Cabinet was advised that the draft policy has been developed to ensure consistency across the conurbation, and that it will provide a single point of reference for families and officers regarding eligibility and how it is assessed.

Cabinet was advised that permission to publicly consult in January-February 2022 is being sought from cabinet, and that the consultation will be held in accordance with the requirements of the Department for Education's statutory guidance, with key stakeholders being targeted during the consultation period.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet: -**

**(a) agrees for officers to go out to public consultation on the draft Home to School Transport policy; and**

**(b) delegates authority to the Director of Education, Children's Services to commission a public consultation of the draft policy.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Council Priorities and Delivery

103. Capital expenditure to enable bulge classes at the Avonbourne Schools

The Portfolio Holder for Council Priorities and Delivery presented an amended version of the report which had been published on the 9 December in accordance with the Constitution, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'G' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

In presenting the report the Portfolio Holder advised that the amended version provided clarity with regards to the financial implications and the recommendations within the report.

Cabinet was advised that the report proposed that Cabinet approve up to £500,000 capital expenditure to enable the Avonbourne Schools to undertake remodelling so that they can take up to two bulge classes.

In relation to this Cabinet was informed that pupil place planning projections suggest there may be insufficient places available in the local area in the admissions years 2022 and 2023, and that providing for bulge classes would ensure that the council meets its statutory responsibility to provide sufficient school places for all school age children living within the area.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet: -**

- (a) approves removal of the £.977m from the 2021/22 capex budget initially provisioned to erect a new building to provide 300 temporary places to accommodate bulge classes at Avonbourne Schools; and**
- (b) approves expenditure of up to £500k to facilitate the provision of bulge classes at the Avonbourne Schools for 150 temporary places.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Council Priorities and Delivery

104. Concessionary Fares Bus Operator Reimbursement

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

Cabinet was advised that the report sought approval to continue to maintain statutory concessionary travel reimbursement payments to local bus service operators at pre-COVID levels in line with government expectations.

In relation to this Cabinet was informed of the government's implementation of a concessionary travel recovery strategy at the start of the next financial year (2022/23) which will facilitate Travel Concession Authorities (TCAs) to return to making payments to meet the actual patronage levels.

**RECOMMENDED that: -**

- (a) the current 2021/22 scheme year Cabinet recommends to Council support for the continued concessionary travel reimbursement of bus operators at the adjusted pre-COVID levels with an expected saving of £350k; and**

**RESOLVED that:-**

- (b) Cabinet acknowledges the government's published Covid-19 Recovery Guidance for the start of the next financial year (2022/23) and recommends to Council that concessionary travel reimbursement payments and associated budget allocation to bus operators are adjusted in accordance with the guidance.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Sustainability and Transport

105. Housing scheme at Herbert Avenue, POOLE.

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

Cabinet was advised that the Herbert Avenue scheme is also known as site 10 (of 24) that is in the Council New build Housing and Acquisition Strategy (CNHAS) Programme approved by Cabinet on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021,

and that at that time officers were undertaking a new construction tender process for Herbert Ave and therefore it could not be incorporated within the CNHAS paper.

Further to this Cabinet was informed that the decision by the preferred bidder from the original 2019 procurement process, not to execute the agreement offered to them by withdrawing in January 2021 - has determined the need to engage the marketplace again, and that the results from this new 2021 procurement activity generates the necessity for a revised Cabinet approval in respect of an increase in said construction costs - from that which was approved previously.

Cabinet was advised that this paper therefore brings forward the recommendation for the award of a contract to the new preferred bidder for the delivery of critical works at Herbert Ave, and that these works will deliver the construction of 24 new temporary accommodation units for families, relieving to a significant degree, the existing Bed and Breakfast reliance.

In relation to this Cabinet was informed that the accommodation will be built using Passive House design principles which the planning approval requires, to ensure they provide high levels of thermal efficiency and minimise the need for expensive space heating systems.

In addition, Cabinet was informed that the report also provides the background to the market procurement constraints that have previously impacted on the delivery of this development project and presents the evaluation outcome of the recent competitive market procurement exercise for the selection of preferred bidder and award of contract for the construction of the temporary accommodation buildings.

**RECOMMENDED that Council: -**

- 1. Approve the proposed £3.486m temporary accommodation scheme budget required to deliver the development:**
  - a. supports the increase in previously approved budget of £ 2.508m (Cabinet Oct 2018) plus sum of £0.28m (ODR approval June 2020) By a further £0.698m. (As detailed under paragraph 54 of the report)**
  - b. approve the financial strategy for the scheme as set out in paragraphs 33 to 47 with specific approval for:**
    - i) £2.440m of prudential borrowing to be repaid over 50 years used to finance the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).**
    - ii) The capping of rental income to Affordable Rent levels and Local Housing Allowance.**
  - c. award the contract for the construction of the new temporary accommodation development to the preferred bidder.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Development, Growth and Regeneration



106. Urgent Decisions taken by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Constitution

Cabinet was advised that there were no urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Constitution to report in this occasion.

107. Cabinet Forward Plan

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

108. Call-in of Decision - Tatnam Road ETRO - Advice to Cabinet

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

Cabinet was advised of the outcome of the call-in request of the above item and the advice offered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 6 December 2021.

In relation to this Cabinet was informed that in accordance with the Constitution, the Cabinet must consider the advice, but shall not be bound to accept it in whole or in part, and that Cabinet shall have sole discretion to decide on any further action to be taken in relation to the decisions in question, including confirming, with or without amendment, the original decision or deferment pending further consideration, or making a different decision.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board addressed the Cabinet advising that there had been a lengthy discussion at the recent Board meeting prior to the recommendation coming from the Board.

The Deputy Head of Democratic Services read out a statement submitted by Councillor Hadley in respect of this item as he was unable to attend the meeting. Councillor Hadley expressed his support for making the road closure at the Sterte Bridge end of Tatnam Road permanent, citing that the measure had shown significant merit in :-

- removing through traffic past the junior schools
- aiding choices to undertake commuting and short journeys without the car,
- promoting personal and public health,
- and most especially to support sustainable journeys to three adjacent schools

In addition, Councillor Hadley enclosed statements from headteachers of two of the local schools also expressing their support of the closure.

Councillor Howell addressed the Cabinet as Ward Member expressing his support for the continued closure and highlighting that he was acting in the interests of the public.

Comprehensive discussion took place with Cabinet members highlighting the results of consultation carried out and of letters having been received which had significantly supported the reopening of the road.

Whilst the decision was a balanced one the Cabinet was of the view that the benefits of reopening the road outweighed the negatives, and that the decision should be made to reopen the road.

**RESOLVED that having been reconsidered the Tatnam Road be reopened to traffic and the ETRO no longer apply.**

Voting: Nem. Con. (1 abstention)

Portfolio Holder: Sustainability and Transport

The Portfolio Holder for Sustainability and Transport abstained from voting on this item.

The meeting ended at 11.55 am

CHAIRMAN

## CABINET



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Report subject             | <b>Council Tax - Tax base 2022/23</b>  |
| Meeting date               | 12 January 2021  |
| Status                     | Public Report  |
| Executive summary          | This report calculates and presents the proposed council tax base for council tax setting purposes in line with current legislation and guidance.  |
| Recommendations            | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:</b></p> <p><b>(a) Approves the report for the calculation of the council's tax base for the year 2022/23 and recommends the tax base to Full Council.</b></p> <p><b>(b) Pursuant to the report, and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, the amount calculated as the council tax base for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council for 2022/23 is 142,814.</b></p> |
| Reason for recommendations | The Council is required by the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, to calculate the council tax base for the financial year 2022/23.   |
| Portfolio Holder(s):       | Councillor Drew Mellor, Leader, Finance & Transformation   |
| Corporate Director         | Graham Farrant, Chief Executive  |
| Report Authors             | Matthew Filmer, Acting Assistant Chief Financial Officer<br>Kerrie Eggleton, Project Accountant  |
| Wards                      | All  |
| Classification             | For Recommendation   |

## Background

1. Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council is required to calculate its tax base in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base)

Regulations 1992, as amended, and provide this information to the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner, the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Authority as well as the relevant parish, town and neighbourhood councils and charter trustees in the BCP Council area.

2. This is the first year a combined BCP Council tax base has been presented having harmonised the council tax charges in 2021/22.

### **Calculation of council tax base**

3. Under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and accompanying regulations, detailed procedures exist for calculating the tax base which will be used for calculating the levels of council tax charged to residents. The tax base for BCP Council is expressed as the number of band D equivalent properties and will be used to calculate BCP Council's element of council tax as well as the council tax charged by other preceptors.
4. The detailed calculation of the BCP Council tax base is provided in Appendix A.
5. The calculations include estimated changes in the Valuation Office's Valuation List that will take place during 2022/23 by reference to the following:
  - a) Provision for successful appeals
  - b) Provision for exempt properties
  - c) Changes in the number of properties (demolitions and new additions)
  - d) Cost of local council tax support scheme (LCTS)
  - e) Estimated single person and other discounts
  - f) Estimated collection rate
6. The total estimated tax base for BCP Council has increased from 139,170.5 in 2021/22 to 142,814 in 2022/23. There was a significant decrease in the tax base for 2021/22 due to the impact of Covid 19 on the cost of delivering LCTS and a reduction in council tax collection rates.
7. Throughout 2021/22 the cost of LCTS has decreased and collection rates marginally improved, although both features remain adverse compared to pre pandemic levels.
8. The cost of the LCTS is estimated at £26.9 million (£29.1 million 2021/22) which is a decrease of £2.2 million compared to last year. The weighted average collection rate is estimated at 97.6% (97.2% 2021/22).
9. In addition to calculating the tax base for BCP Council, a separate tax base must be calculated for each part of the council's areas to which a special item of expenditure relates. Parish, town and neighbourhood councils and charter trustee precepts are all treated as special items for these purposes and their precepts are charged only over the tax base for the relevant area. This is provided in Appendix B to this report.
10. The council tax requirement for 2022/23, which will be approved by BCP Council in February 2022, will be divided by the calculated tax base to arrive at the charge for a band.

### **Options Appraisal**

11. The council can make differing assumptions regarding the estimated additions, deletions, exempt properties, discounts, cost of LCTS and the collection rate and



their impact on the tax base. However, these have been set at a level based on historical trend and with due regard to the current economic environment and ongoing effects of covid-19, in order to ensure as far as possible that a deficit does not occur on the collection fund.

#### **Summary of financial implications**

12. As set out in the body of this report.

#### **Summary of legal implications**

13. The calculation and approval of the tax base is a crucial step in the council being able to set a legal balanced budget for 2022/23.
14. The council must set its tax base in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, and inform other preceptors of their relevant tax base.

#### **Summary of human resources implications**

15. None

#### **Summary of sustainability impact**

16. None

#### **Summary of public health implications**

17. None

#### **Summary of equality implications**

18. None

#### **Summary of risk assessment**

19. None

#### **Background papers**

20. None

#### **Appendices**

Appendix A – BCP Council tax base 2022/23

Appendix B – Parish, town and neighbourhood council and charter trustee tax bases 2022/23

## Appendix A – BCP Council tax base 2022/23

| BAND   | Disab A     | Band A          | Band B          | Band C          | Band D          | Band E          | Band F          | Band G         | Band H         | Total            |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Total Properties</b>  | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>26,721.0</b> | <b>33,947.0</b> | <b>53,931.0</b> | <b>35,648.0</b> | <b>21,642.0</b> | <b>9,267.0</b>  | <b>5,669.0</b> | <b>1,253.0</b> | <b>188,078.0</b> |
| <b>Exempt Properties</b>   | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>1,756.0</b>  | <b>657.0</b>    | <b>1,418.0</b>  | <b>1,632.0</b>  | <b>335.0</b>    | <b>138.0</b>    | <b>57.0</b>    | <b>20.0</b>    | <b>6,013.0</b>   |
| <b>Demolished Dwellings</b>  | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>0.0</b>      | <b>0.0</b>      | <b>0.0</b>      | <b>0.0</b>      | <b>0.0</b>      | <b>1.0</b>      | <b>0.0</b>     | <b>0.0</b>     | <b>1.0</b>       |
| <b>No. of chargeable dwellings subject to disabled reduction</b>   | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>18.0</b>     | <b>56.0</b>     | <b>231.0</b>    | <b>176.0</b>    | <b>160.0</b>    | <b>96.0</b>     | <b>54.0</b>    | <b>50.0</b>    | <b>841.0</b>     |
| <b>No. of dwellings effectively subject to Council Tax for this band by virtue of disabled relief</b>          | <b>18.0</b> | <b>56.0</b>     | <b>231.0</b>    | <b>176.0</b>    | <b>160.0</b>    | <b>96.0</b>     | <b>54.0</b>     | <b>50.0</b>    | <b>0.0</b>     | <b>841.0</b>     |
| No. of dwellings entitled to a 25% discount  | 11.0        | 15,817.0        | 14,964.0        | 16,343.0        | 9,487.0         | 4,982.0         | 1,906.0         | 773.0          | 146.0          | 64,429.0         |
| No. of dwellings entitled to a 25% discount as all but one resident being disregarded for Council Tax purposes | 0.0         | 208.0           | 365.0           | 599.0           | 379.0           | 228.0           | 73.0            | 39.0           | 2.0            | 1,893.0          |
| No. of dwellings entitled to a 50% discount due to all residents being disregarded for Council Tax purposes    | 1.0         | 22.0            | 31.0            | 61.0            | 62.0            | 40.0            | 45.0            | 60.0           | 25.0           | 347.0            |
| No. of dwellings classed as 2nd home or empty with 50% discount  | 0.0         | 388.0           | 3.0             | 3.0             | 2.0             | 4.0             | 2.0             | 0.0            | 0.0            | 402.0            |
| No. of dwellings classed as empty and being charged the Empty Home Premium @ 100%                              | 0.0         | 132.0           | 110.0           | 93.0            | 52.0            | 26.0            | 26.0            | 19.0           | 4.0            | 462.0            |
| No. of dwellings classed as empty and being charged the Empty Home Premium @ 200%                              | 0.0         | 14.0            | 15.0            | 9.0             | 6.0             | 2.0             | 1.0             | 1.0            | 0.0            | 48.0             |
| No. of dwellings classed as empty and being charged the Empty Home Premium @ 300%                              | 0.0         | 10.0            | 6.0             | 5.0             | 4.0             | 3.0             | 6.0             | 0.0            | 0.0            | 34.0             |
| Total number of dwellings receiving a discount   | 12.0        | 16,435.0        | 15,363.0        | 17,006.0        | 9,930.0         | 5,254.0         | 2,026.0         | 872.0          | 173.0          | 67,071.0         |
| Total number of dwellings being charged a premium  | 0.0         | 156.0           | 131.0           | 107.0           | 62.0            | 31.0            | 33.0            | 20.0           | 4.0            | 544.0            |
| Reduction in taxbase as a result of the Family Annexe discount   | 0.0         | 29.9            | 0.8             | 0.0             | 1.5             | 0.0             | 0.0             | 0.0            | 0.0            | 32.2             |
| <b>Number of dwellings where there is a liability to pay 100% Council Tax</b>                                  | <b>6.0</b>  | <b>8,412.0</b>  | <b>17,971.0</b> | <b>35,345.0</b> | <b>24,008.0</b> | <b>15,958.0</b> | <b>7,027.0</b>  | <b>4,716.0</b> | <b>1,006.0</b> | <b>114,449.0</b> |
| Number of dwellings with reduction under the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme                                | 5.9         | 5,776.6         | 5,221.3         | 4,772.3         | 1,435.7         | 428.3           | 98.1            | 24.9           | 0.0            | 17,763.1         |
| <b>Total equivalent number of dwellings after discounts, premiums, exemptions and disabled relief</b>          | <b>8.9</b>  | <b>15,175.3</b> | <b>24,551.7</b> | <b>43,544.2</b> | <b>30,140.3</b> | <b>19,529.2</b> | <b>8,515.6</b>  | <b>5,371.1</b> | <b>1,137.5</b> | <b>147,973.8</b> |
| Estimated number of additions  | 0.0         | 74.0            | 148.0           | 148.0           | 222.0           | 111.0           | 22.2            | 14.8           | 0.0            | 740.0            |
| <b>Net Total</b>   | <b>8.9</b>  | <b>15,249.3</b> | <b>24,699.7</b> | <b>43,692.2</b> | <b>30,362.3</b> | <b>19,640.2</b> | <b>8,537.8</b>  | <b>5,385.9</b> | <b>1,137.5</b> | <b>148,713.8</b> |
| Ratio to Band D  | 5/9         | 6/9             | 7/9             | 8/9             | 9/9             | 11/9            | 13/9            | 15/9           | 18/9           |                  |
| <b>Number of Band D equivalents</b>  | <b>4.9</b>  | <b>10,166.2</b> | <b>19,210.9</b> | <b>38,837.5</b> | <b>30,362.3</b> | <b>24,004.7</b> | <b>12,332.4</b> | <b>8,976.5</b> | <b>2,275.0</b> | <b>146,170.4</b> |
| MOD Properties   |             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |                | 155.4            |
| Less 2.4% losses   |             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |                | 146,325.8        |
|  |             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |                | -3,511.8         |
| <b>Tax Base 2022/23</b>  |             |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |                | <b>142,814.0</b> |

**Appendix B – Parish, town and neighbourhood council and charter trustee tax bases 2022/23**

| <b>Parish / Town / Charter Trustee</b> | <b>Gross tax base</b> | <b>Tax Base after Collection Rate</b> |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Burton                                 | 1,630.8               | 1,591.6                               |
| Hurn                                   | 245.4                 | 239.5                                 |
| Christchurch Town Council              | 12,446.1              | 12,147.4                              |
| Highcliffe and Walkford                | 6,609.3               | 6,450.7                               |
| Unparished Christchurch                | 20.5                  | 20.0                                  |
| Throop and Holdenhurst Parish          | 304.7                 | 297.3                                 |
| Bournemouth Charter Trustee            | 65,513.2              | 63,940.9                              |
| Poole Charter Trustee                  | 59,555.8              | 58,126.6                              |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>146,325.8</b>      | <b>142,814.0</b>                      |

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## CABINET

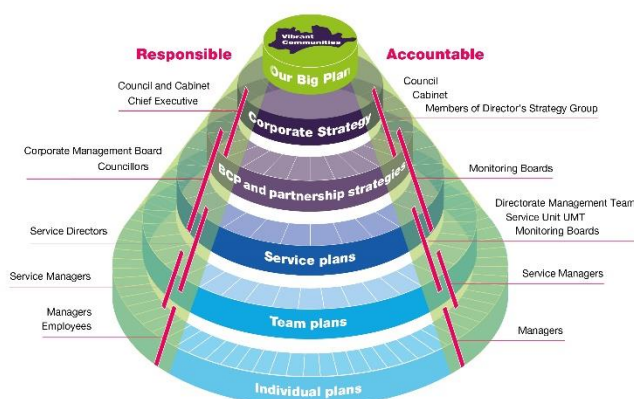


|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Report subject    | <b>2021/22 Quarter 2 Performance Report</b>  |
| Meeting date      | 12 January 2022  |
| Status            | Public Report  |
| Executive summary | <p>BCP Council's Corporate Strategy was adopted by Full Council in November 2019. It sets out the Council's priorities and the values which underpin the way the council will work as it develops and delivers services.</p> <p>Refreshed vision and ambition statements set out in the Big Plan provide a wider context to underpin and drive the Corporate Strategy.</p> <p>Council corporate priorities remain the same and continue to be supported by delivery plans which set out high-level actions.</p> <p>This report provides an overview of performance against the priorities for Quarter 2 of financial year 2021/22.</p> <p>It has been informed by the performance measures included in the delivery plans of the Corporate Strategy, agreed at the February 2021 Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>Performance is presented across interactive dashboards for each of the priorities which also include a narrative summary of other achievements for the first six months of this financial year.</p> <p>Whilst the performance measures are not a finite set of measures most have been in place for the last 18 months and therefore are starting to develop a good history of trend data.</p> <p>Generally, performance is good across the priorities with only four areas that require intervention. The detail of these are available as exception reports attached as appendix 2.</p> |
| Recommendations   | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:</b></p> <p>(a) <b>Consider the attached exception reports relating to areas of current adverse performance and support remedial action</b></p> <p>(b) <b>Advise of any amendments, deletions or additions to the performance indicator set that informs corporate performance</b></p>  |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Reason for recommendations | <p>The corporate strategy represents the objectives and outcomes that the Council's performance will be judged against and as such is a vital component of the Council's performance management framework.</p> <p>An understanding of performance against targets, goals and objectives will help the council understand and manage service delivery and identify emerging business risks.</p> <p>A good corporate strategy is driven by a strong vision and ambitious goals which are vital for promoting the opportunities an organisation presents for investment and engagement.</p> <p>The aspirational vision set out in the Big Plan gives a stronger context for the Council's corporate strategy and for achieving our wider ambitions. It will influence the allocation and distribution of resources ensuring that the organisation commits its limited resources in accordance with its stated priorities.</p> |
| Portfolio Holder(s):       | Councillor Drew Mellor, Leader of the Council  |
| Corporate Director         | Graham Farrant, Chief Executive  |
| Report Authors             | <p>Bridget West, Head of Policy &amp; Performance</p> <p>Graeme Smith, Policy and Performance Officer</p>  |
| Wards                      | Council-wide   |
| Classification             | For Decision   |

## Background

1. Council adopted the Corporate Strategy and corporate priorities in November 2019.
2. Cabinet adopted the draft new aspirational vision for the wider Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole city region, The Big Plan, and approved the revised delivery plans in February 2021.
3. The Big Plan and the Council's Corporate Strategy & delivery plans are the beginning of a golden thread that links service, team and personal performance to the things that matter most to the organisation. Together they are the key components that make up the council's approach to performance management.



4. The performance management framework has been updated to reflect the relationship between the Big Plan and the Corporate Strategy and explains the council's planning and performance reporting processes.
5. A programme of five major projects has been developed to deliver the big changes set across our whole area. The projects make up the 'Big Plan' that reflects the scale of the council's ambition for the area and which will enable the articulation of that vision with key regional and sub-regional partners, the local economy, inward investment opportunities and with government.
6. Council corporate priorities remain the same and continue to be supported by delivery plans.
7. The delivery plans are high-level plans that set out the current and future planned activity and how success will be monitored and measured. They show how the council will work to achieve council priorities and the high-level vision set out in the Big Plan.
8. They will continue to be reviewed as part of the Council's annual budget process. This will help ensure actions align with both Council Priorities and the Big Plan. These will be presented along with a refreshed Corporate Strategy to the February 2022 Cabinet.
9. The latest edition of the performance dashboards include quarter 1 and quarter 2 data, where the performance measures agreed in February 2021 lend themselves to quarterly reporting.

10. The performance measures are not a finite set of measures. They can, and should, be reviewed and enhanced to ensure they continue to reflect council priorities and emerging risks and issues.
11. The data gathered for quarter 2 is displayed in [interactive performance dashboards](#), which breakdown the performance measures by corporate strategy priority. By clicking through the dashboard you can view information at increasing levels of granularity, down to individual measure level.
12. The performance dashboards along with a brief headline performance summary based on progress with performance measures, is presented in Appendix 1.
13. These dashboards are hyperlinked to the live interaction tool where more detail behind each performance measure is displayed.
14. Exception reports have been prepared for all the performance that are RAG rated as red.
15. The exception reports presented in Appendix 2 explain the reasons for the level of performance, the associated risks and equality implications and the mitigating actions.
16. Through this report, Members are asked to consider what additional performance information they would like to see included in the performance dashboards.
17. Going forward, the ambition remains to fully automate the performance reporting processes and to replace written performance reports with the interactive dashboards.
18. The automation will help to reduce the time between the end of quarter and the actual reporting. It is expected that the emerging Data and Insight centre of excellence will lead on this.

#### **Summary of financial implications**

19. This performance report has not identified any financial implications.

#### **Summary of legal implications**

20. This performance report has not identified any legal implications.

#### **Summary of human resources implications**

21. This performance report has not identified any human resources implications.

#### **Summary of sustainability impact**

22. This performance report has not identified any sustainability implications.

#### **Summary of public health implications**

23. This performance report has not identified any public health implications.

#### **Summary of equality implications**

24. The report has not identified any significant equality implications. This dashboard has identified a number of equality measures and progress against these is generally good.



## **Summary of risk assessment**

25. Any risks identified and mitigating actions are shown in the commentary provided in the Exception Performance Reports at Appendix 2 and in the interactive performance dashboards.

## **Background papers**

[Council's Corporate Strategy](#)

[Councils Corporate Performance Management Framework](#)

[The Big Plan](#)

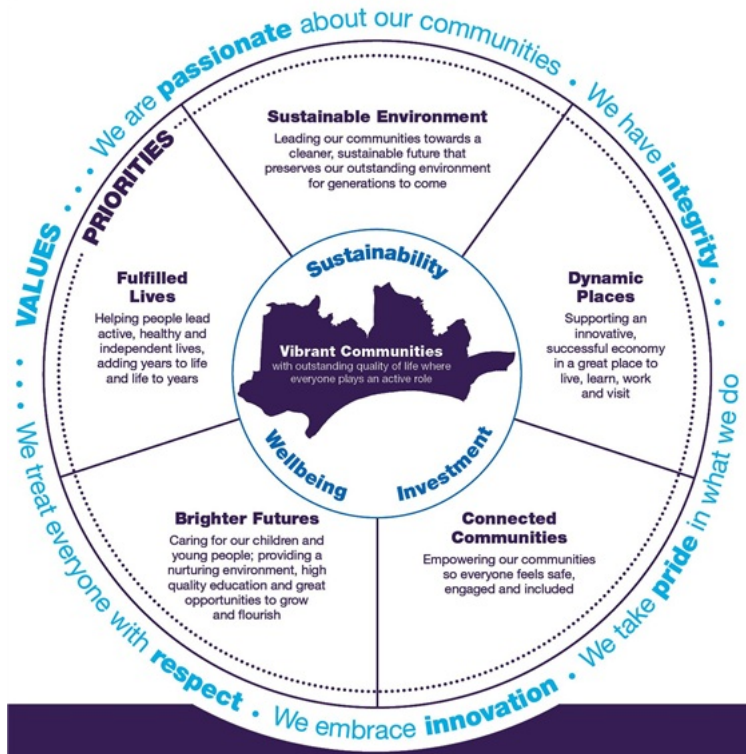
## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Performance Dashboard

Appendix 2: Exception Reports

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# BCP Council Performance Dashboards



Welcome to these interactive performance dashboards for BCP Council.

There is a performance dashboard for each priority in the Corporate Strategy which will be updated on a quarterly basis, in line with the Council's performance management framework.

They are informed by a range of performance measures being collected and reported across the council. Year one of BCP Council was used to collect baseline data, to set targets and intervention levels, which RAG rates performance as updates are provided. Trend data will build over time and highs, lows and seasonal trends will be easily tracked.

Performance measures should be reviewed to ensure they continue to reflect council priorities and emerging risks and issues.

Click on a council priority below to view current performance.

Sustainable Environment

Dynamic Places

Brighter Futures

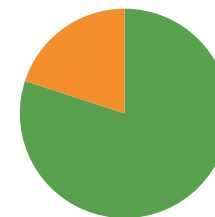
Fulfilled Lives

Connected Communities

Modern, Accessible and Accountable Council

## Sustainable Environment

| Measure   | FY 2021 |        | FY 2022 |        |
|---|---------|--------|---------|--------|
|   | Q3      | Q4     | Q1      | Q2     |
| Environment: Standard of street cleanliness achieved in line with Environmental Protection Act 1990 |         | 0.69   | 0.55    |        |
| Sustainability: Number of households receiving energy efficiency advice and guidance                | 380     | 547    | 83      | 196    |
| Waste: Household waste per head of population (kg)  | 336.12  | 437.27 | 114.7   | 112.73 |
| Waste: Percentage of household waste diverted from landfill   |         |        | 88.7    | 84.8   |
| Waste: Percentage of total household waste recycled, re-used or composted                           | 51.68   | 50.59  | 52.4    | 52.2   |
| Waste: Residual household waste per household (kg)  | 344.25  | 459.27 | 116     | 117.95 |



### RAG rating

- On Target
- Monitoring Required
- No RAG Set

### Summary of Performance

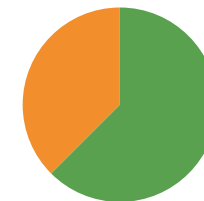
Performance in the sustainable environment priority has been good so far this year.

We have been able to meet our targets for household receiving energy efficiency advice and guidance. Resident engagement in this offer remains strong despite the pandemic.

In the waste area, there has been a drop in the percentage of household waste diverted from landfill but adjustments to the targets have meant that this measure is now on target. Indeed, the only measure that is not on target is the percentage of household waste recycled, re-used or composted, but this has only fallen slightly since Q1 and is not currently a major cause for concern.

## Dynamic Places

| Measure   | FY 2021 |         | FY 2022 |       |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-------|
|   | Q3      | Q4      | Q1      | Q2    |
| Economic Development: Business stock (number of businesses)                               | 15115   | 15115   | 15115   | 15240 |
| Economic Development: Footfall in the three town centres                                  | 5737275 | 4139958 | 5543678 |       |
| Economic Development: Number of businesses receiving support from the council per quarter | 965     | 1528    | 3706    | 1711  |
| New Homes: Completed homes on council owned land year to date                             | 0       | 49      | 5       | 5     |
| Planning: Major applications determined on time   | 62.5    | 81.8    | 74.3    | 79    |
| Planning: Minor applications determined on time   | 75.1    | 77.5    | 79.3    | 77    |
| Planning: Other applications determined on time   | 70.5    | 79.9    | 82.5    | 80    |
| Skills: Percentage of higher-level qualification (NVQ4 and above)                         | 39.4    | 39.4    | 39.1    | 39.7  |
| Smart Place: Number of enquiries relating to business investment through the programme    |         |         |         | 5     |



### RAG rating

- On Target
- Monitoring Required
- Action Required
- No RAG Set

### Summary of Performance

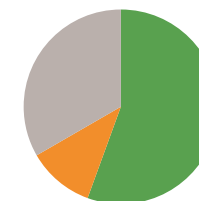
Performance against the Dynamic Places priority is trending in the correct direction.

Progress has been made in determining planning applications with the percentage of applications being determined on time being broadly in line with the figures for the last 3 quarters. Whilst this is encouraging given the position that these measures had been we need more work to reach the target levels.

We remain on target with all other elements of the Dynamic Places performance measures. The numbers of business in the area has started to move upwards and this encouraging as we recover from the pandemic restrictions.

## Connected Communities

| Measure  | FY 2021 |       | FY 2022 |       |
|--|---------|-------|---------|-------|
|  | Q3      | Q4    | Q1      | Q2    |
| Engagement: Number of clients supported by Citizen's Advice BCP  | 6730    | 10946 | 3744    | 1526  |
| Engagement: Number of community and voluntary sector organisations supported by Community Action Network     | 244     | 305   | 47      | 70    |
| Engagement: Number of issues supported by Citizen's Advice BCP   | 6699    | 8580  | 7915    | 2611  |
| Engagement: Number of new community and voluntary sector organisations supported by Community Action Network | 25      | 33    | 13      | 9     |
| Libraries: Engagement in events and activities held  | 24054   | 7449  | 7453    | 12680 |
| Libraries: Number of events and activities held  | 93      | 64    | 134     | 574   |
| Museums: Number of visits  | 9106    | 0     |         | 65918 |
| Safety: Levels of anti-social behaviour  | 13830   | 17641 | 3892    | 7439  |
| Safety: Levels of serious violent crime  | 2533    | 3164  | 583     | 1277  |



### RAG rating

- On Target
- Monitoring Required
- Action Required
- No RAG Set

### Summary of Performance

Performance, as demonstrated by the measures, is good. Engagement with residents and community groups remains strong but has stepped down from the levels at the height of the pandemic.

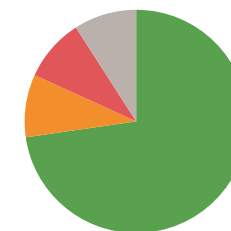
We are on target with all measures relating to engagement with residents, and whilst access to libraries and museums have been heavily impacted by Covid related lockdowns they were able to reopen in May and have continued to engage with residents virtually.

Strong improvements have been made in the area of resident safety with levels of anti-social behaviour on target. The levels of serious violent crime are below target but are lower than last year.

# Brighter Futures

35

| Measure  | FY 2021 |      | FY 2022 |       |
|--|---------|------|---------|-------|
|  | Q3      | Q4   | Q1      | Q2    |
| Early Help: Number of children and families accessing effective early help and preventative services   | 1121    | 838  | 937     | 974   |
| Education: Early Years: Percentage of children attending a setting rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted | 99.3    | 99.3 | 98.4    | 98.4  |
| Education: Permanent Exclusions as a % of all Secondary school children                                | 0.08    | 0.1  | 0.2     | 0.03  |
| Education: Permanent Exclusions as a percentage of all Primary school children                         | 0.01    | 0.01 | 0       | 0     |
| Education: Primary: Percentage of Children attending Good/Outstanding Schools                          | 94      | 94   | 94.6    | 94    |
| Education: Secondary: % of children attending Good/Outstanding schools                                 | 89      | 89   | 88.8    | 89    |
| Education: Special Schools: Percentage rated Good/Outstanding  | 100     | 100  | 100     | 100   |
| Number of children who are missing out on education  | 685     | 672  | 612     |       |
| Social Care: Increase number of local foster carers  |         |      | -0.04   | -0.02 |
| Social Care: Percentage of children in care with permanence and parallel plan in place                 |         |      | 92      | 96    |
| Social Care: Percentage of repeats referrals in 12 months  | 29.3    | 32.1 | 29      | 39    |
| Social Care: Timeliness of assessments   | 82.9    | 77.7 | 81      | 87    |



## RAG rating

- On Target
- Monitoring Required
- Action Required
- No Data
- No RAG Set

## Summary of Performance

Performance as shown by the measures is generally good.

The vast percentage of children attend good or outstanding educational settings.

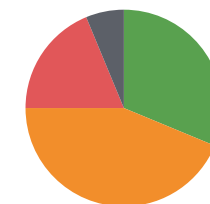
We have seen an increase in the percentage of repeat referrals and an exception report has been provided for this measure.

We are starting to monitor numbers of foster carers and children in care with permanence and parallel plans in place. Both measures need to be monitored to ensure that they remain close to target levels.

# Fulfilled Lives

36

| Measure   | FY 2021 |      | FY 2022 |      |
|---|---------|------|---------|------|
|   | Q3      | Q4   | Q1      | Q2   |
| Adult Care Services: Percentage rated good or outstanding by the Care Quality Commission                      |         | 87.4 | 90.6    | 92.4 |
| Adult Carers: Percentage receiving info/advice or another service after an assessment                         | 54.8    | 63   | 46.8    | 52.3 |
| Adults Learning Disabilities: % in receipt of support and services in employment                              | 4.7     | 4.6  | 4.5     | 4.6  |
| Adults Learning Disabilities: Percentage in settled accommodation   | 79.6    | 79.4 | 80.1    | 80.3 |
| Adults Mental Health: Percentage of adults in receipt of support and services in employment                   | 9       |      | 10.1    | 9.4  |
| Adults Safeguarding: Percentage reporting reduced risks as a result of an enquiry                             | 95.9    | 95   | 90      | 92   |
| Drug and Alcohol Treatment: % of people completing treatment successfully for primary alcohol issues          | 36.8    | 39.3 |         | 33.4 |
| Drug and alcohol treatment: Number of people with dependency accessing the service                            |         | 1441 | 1487    | 1588 |
| Housing: % of positive outcomes for eligible applicants achieved on time                                      | 73      | 76   | 73      | 71   |
| Housing: Number of homeless households in bed and breakfast   | 204     | 224  | 180     | 162  |
| Housing: Number of people rough sleeping at latest street count   | 15      | 16   | 33      | 54   |
| Housing: Percentage of positive outcomes for care leavers under 25 achieved on time                           | 75      | 78   | 82      | 73   |
| Housing: Percentage of positive outcomes for families with children achieved on time                          | 64      | 71   | 64      | 64   |
| Skills and Learning: Further Education Choices Learner Satisfaction Rates                                     | 94.5    | 94.5 | 94.5    |      |
| Skills and Learning: Learner Achievement Rates  | 97.2    | 94.3 | 90.9    | 83.3 |
| Skills and Learning: Percentage of all learners who live in a bottom 25% Indices of Multiple Deprivation ward | 45.4    | 46   | 30      | 47.6 |



## RAG rating

- On Target
- Monitoring Required
- Action Required
- No Data
- No RAG Set

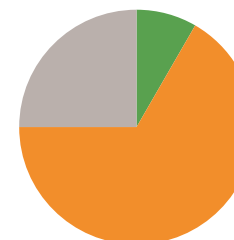
## Summary of Performance

Performance for Fulfilled Lives requires monitoring. Of note is the reduction in the number of homeless households in bed and breakfast. There are three areas of concern;

- 1) The drop in carers receiving information/advice after an assessment, partly due to the backlog of reviews following 2020/21. We expect the percentage to increase as the backlog is cleared.
- 2) Learner achievement rates have continued to fall.
- 3) The number of people rough sleeping at the latest street count has continued to rise since the end of the last financial year.



# Modern, Accessible and Accountable Council



## RAG rating

- On Target
- Monitoring Required
- Action Required
- No Data
- No RAG Set

## Summary of Performance

Progress is being made in most measures across Modern, Accessible and Accountable Council, continuing the positive trends from the previous quarter.

Engagement with our online platforms continues to be strong with interactions raised by online portals reaching their highest levels

Business rates and council tax collection is higher than expected given the impact of the pandemic.

There has been a slight uptick in the rate of sickness absence but remains within tolerances.

| Measure  | FY 2021 |       | FY 2022 |        |
|--|---------|-------|---------|--------|
|  | Q3      | Q4    | Q1      | Q2     |
| Communications: Email news average open rate   |         |       |         | 44.7   |
| Communications: Total number of social media engagements   |         |       |         | 147492 |
| Customer: Percentage of all interactions raised by online portals  |         | 62    | 65      | 84     |
| Equalities: Percentage of staff equality monitoring data collected for the disability characteristic       |         |       |         | 67     |
| Equalities: Percentage of staff equality monitoring data collected for the ethnicity characteristic        |         |       | 71.6    | 71.59  |
| Equalities: Percentage of staff equality monitoring data collected for the religious belief characteristic |         |       | 54.15   | 53.87  |
| Equalities: Percentage of staff equality monitoring data collected for the sexuality characteristic        |         |       | 54.5    | 54.2   |
| Finance: Percentage of business rates collected  |         | 90.7  | 25.81   | 47.21  |
| Finance: Percentage of council tax collected   |         | 95.1  | 27.76   | 53.67  |
| Finance: Percentage of successful grant applications   |         | 47    | 34      | 48     |
| HR: % of employees completing mandatory training   |         | 19.29 | 26      | 35     |
| HR: Employee sickness absence levels (days)  |         | 8.47  | 9.21    | 9.88   |

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## Exception Performance Report

### Indicator Description:

Social care: % of repeat referrals in 12 months

**2021/22 Q2 outturn:** 39%

**Quarterly Target:** 25%

**Good performance is:** Low

### Reason for level of performance:

Children and families were not receiving the right service at the right time, and the assessment quality was poor. There was a strong correlation between poor assessments and high re-referrals, linked to a lack of risk analysis, focus on outcomes and management oversight, and an under-performing and unstable workforce.

### Summary of financial implications:

None identified.

### Summary of legal implications:

A safe and effective front door service is essential for Children's Services to fulfil our statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the area who are in need, as set out in the Children Act 1989.

### Summary of human resources implications:

None identified.

### Summary of sustainability impact:

None identified.

### Summary of public health implications:

Safe, effective and timely decision making in front door services is essential to ensure the health and welfare of children and young people. This includes keeping them safe from harm, abuse and maltreatment.

### Summary of equality implications:

The impact of this performance was indiscriminate, in that it affected all children and young people in the same way, including those from protected groups. However, some groups of children are more likely than others to be referred to social care services. For example, disabled children have been found to be at greater risk of abuse and neglect, and recognition and assessment can be delayed for this group, as signs of neglect and abuse may be confused with the underlying disability or condition. Disabled parents, and parents with a learning disability, may require additional support to engage with children's services. The ways in which abuse and neglect manifest differs between age groups, but some forms of neglect may be less well recognised in older young people, or indeed those who are pre-verbal. There is a growing recognition of the role of fathers as protective factors, although there remains a focus on mothers. There is

|   |
|---|
| a strong correlation between abuse and neglect and deprivation. Unaccompanied asylum seeking children are without parental protection and may face language barriers. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>Actions taken or planned to improve performance:</b>   |
| All re-referrals within 3 months of closing to the Assessment and Children and Families First services (the majority of re-referral sources) were reviewed. These found areas for improvement in management oversight of assessments and inconsistent use of chronologies to aid analytical decision-making. This learning is being used by the newly appointed permanent Service Manager for MASH & Assessment to improve the quality of assessments. Funding for a fifth assessment team is sought, to provide enough capacity to limit caseloads and complete all assessments before returning to duty. This capacity is essential to provide the capacity to focus on improving the quality of assessments. |
| <b>Completed by:</b> Vikki Whild, Head of Children's Services Performance   |
| <b>Service Unit Head approval with date:</b> Lorraine Marshall, Service Director, 17/11/21  |

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<sup>1</sup> NICE Social Care Guideline Equality Impact Assessment

## Exception Performance Report

### Indicator Description:

Adult Carers: Percentage receiving info/advice or another service after an assessment

**2021/22 Q2 outturn:** 52.3%

**Quarterly Target:** 55%

**Good performance is:** High

### Reason for level of performance:

The number of carers counted for this measure is dependent on an assessment or review taking place within the year. We are aware that there is a backlog of reviews from 2020/21 and expect the percentage outturn to improve as we progress through the year.

### Summary of financial implications:

Demand for, and therefore spending on, respite services has been suppressed since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic and continues to be less than usual for the reasons expressed above. Similarly, the uptake of vouchers has been lower than usual, resulting in reduced spending in this area.

Demand for additional support to cared-for individuals has, in some cases, risen as an alternative to residential respite care. In many cases, however, carers and those they care for have chosen to reduce the risk of infection by isolating themselves as much as possible and simply managing the day to day as best as they can.

### Summary of legal implications:

Government recognised that the full requirements of the Care Act (2014) might be difficult for Local Authorities to discharge during the Covid-19 pandemic and introduced Easements to the Act. The provision of easement powers for Local Authorities took legal effect on 31st March 2020 through the Coronavirus Act (2020).

An easement was applied relating to adult social care day centres, this easement has now been lifted with restricted provision being put in place in a Covid safe way in order to accommodate those adults at high risk including where the carer relationship is at significant risk of breaking down.

### Summary of human resources implications:

Operational teams have been equipped with the technology and PPE necessary to work in a more flexible way with reduced use of office space and a greater reliance on working from home and videoconferencing in order to continue to work with carers.

### Summary of sustainability impact:

The move to widespread home and remote working and the use of videoconferencing when working with carers has led to very significant reductions in travelling to venues and consequently lower carbon emissions. There is significant learning about the use of technology in offering support and services to carers in a sustainable way and also mobile and flexible working, which will be taken forward from this period.

### Summary of public health implications:

|   |
|---|
| <p>Carer stress has been a key issue during the lockdown period and this has resulted in a higher level of safeguarding contacts being made.</p>  |
| <p><b>Summary of equality implications:</b></p> <p>The focus has been on ensuring that carers and those they care for continue to be able to access information, advice, assessments and services whilst working through a reporting period where the Covid 19 virus and subsequent lock down restrictions have been in place. The closure of day services for some of the period, limited use of the voucher scheme and limited use of respite has impacted on carers and those that they care for including older people and those with a physical disability, learning disability or mental illness. These impacts have been mitigated through the use of interim community-based support services and the use of technology including the use of videoconferencing to support clients and carers with the greatest needs.</p> |
| <p><b>Actions taken or planned to improve performance:</b></p> <p>We continue to see an expansion in membership of the carer's information service, which currently stands at 5731 carers, and an increasing number of contacts to the carers centre. Local measures identified that over 2400 carers had accessed services and information and advice up to September 2021, which is an increase of over 100 carers since August 2021. This evidences the continued need for support following the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic with services such as Day Centres still not being fully available.</p>  |
| <p><b>Completed by:</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Service Unit Head approval with date:</b></p>   |

## Exception Performance Report

### Indicator Description:

Housing: Number of people rough sleeping at latest street count

**2021-22 Q2 outturn: 54**

**Quarterly Target: 36**

**Good performance is:** Low

### Reason for level of performance:

Following a period of 18 months when rough sleeping numbers first significantly reduced and then remained low for many months, there was a steep rise between July 2021 and Sept 2021. There are various factors including seasonality (Sept is normally the highest period of the year), an increase in returners to the street due in part to a rise in unplanned departures from temporary accommodation, an increase in number (although the same proportion) of people with no local connection as well as a number of cases where accommodation offers are so far being refused. This includes a small number of long-term cases, although positively, these are down significantly overall.

On a wider perspective, *Everyone In* is no longer in place, and many areas nationally have also seen rough sleeping increases unfortunately. A multi-agency plan to address this promptly has been agreed by the Homelessness Reduction Board and agreed with local BCP Homelessness Partnership groups, which includes greater emphasis on homelessness prevention and support, as well as better coordinated multi-disciplinary crisis support planning with health & social care.

**UPDATE:** We conducted our November street count in the early hours of 18<sup>th</sup> November. This count was 29, a reduction of 25 on the previous count of 54; down 46%. The multi-agency plan referred to above, and the actions listed later in this report have evidently had prompt impact, as well as an expected reduction as the Autumn has progressed. In particular, and following proactive monitoring and interventions, there had been a marked decrease in unplanned departures from emergency accommodation and supported housing in October/early November thereby reducing returns to the street. In addition, new initiatives such as the Respite Rooms for survivors or those at risk of domestic abuse have been in place since early October.

### Summary of financial implications:

None

### Summary of legal implications:

None

### Summary of human resources implications:

There have been issues with recruitment for the Council and local Providers who work with people who are rough sleeping or provide solutions such as supported housing. This has caused staffing pressures and some potential delays with assessment and timely support for people when in accommodation. In addition, staffing pressures in some commissioned services add to the risk of placements breaking down.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic including staff absence due to illness and the need to isolate is compounding the recruitment pressures.

### Summary of sustainability impact:

|  |
|--|
| None   |
| <p><b>Summary of public health implications:</b></p> <p>People who are rough sleeping have disproportionate levels of health needs, often chronic. These are exacerbated the longer that people remain out and include physical health needs such as abscesses and sores as well as mental health issues, including severe anxiety and severe depression. In addition, there are often related substance dependencies with the further health implications these bring.</p> <p>A focus of the work we have been collectively undertaking as a Homelessness Partnership relates to more holistic support, with health care being a crucial part of this, especially with its links to early engagement and acceptance of help, exemplified by the work of the Health Bus. This is often the first step to wider engagement including coming indoors. The Multi-Disciplinary Team and related Health Hub will further pull together and enhance this work.</p>   |
| <p><b>Summary of equality implications:</b></p> <p>Many people who rough sleep and need emergency accommodation and welfare assistance have complex health needs and complex behaviours. Improving their own opportunities to secure longer term independence and improvements in health and wellbeing, whilst ensuring the wider community impact is lessened remains a priority. Person centred interventions are provided in partnership with a range of statutory &amp; non-statutory partners.</p> <p>In addition to this there are societal groups who are at disproportionate risk of homelessness, including rough sleeping. These include the LGBT+ community, ethnic minorities and young people, and this can include intersectionality whereby more than one of these apply. Additional multi-agency work is underway to address this, with a particular focus on upstream prevention.</p>   |
| <p><b>Actions taken or planned to improve performance:</b></p> <p>Following deep-dive reports and discussion with partners the following actions have been put into place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Reconnections Worker (St Mungo's) to increase focus on this area following recruitment. To include benchmarking and establishing best practise from other areas as well as considering relocations.</li> <li>• Ensure all cases where there is resistance to proposed plan or refusals or offers, as well as long term cases, are included with MARSSAG (Multi Agency Rough Sleeping Strategic Action Group). To include consideration of bespoke offers.</li> <li>• MARSSAG scope to be considered as part of new MDT, including wider membership and greater frequency</li> <li>• Review of protocols and eviction practice for Supported Housing with Housing Related Support Providers (Task &amp; Finish Group in place)</li> <li>• Ensure minimal voids and void periods in supported housing (SP Hub monitoring reports)</li> <li>• Review evictions and abandonments from Emergency Accommodation (EA) and examine and address any trends within an MDT context</li> <li>• Consider options for additional Cold Weather Provision and including those with NLC</li> <li>• Monitor consequences of Universal Credit reductions and wider structural national changes. E.g. Fuel poverty</li> <li>• Consider options for Cold Weather Funding, including availability of discretionary short-term options for non-locals that enable reconnection</li> <li>• Consider all options for RSI5 (Rough Sleeping Initiative 5 – DLUHC funding) including revisiting Housing Led service (high support building with own front door flats/bedsits, staffed 24/7 for high need and complex cases)</li> </ul> |



- Continue to challenge groups that are not involved in the BCP Homelessness Partnership and who are enabling and encouraging rough sleeping and non-locals with provision of food, tents etc. (Task & Finish group in place to address)
- Consider options for women & couples as lack of suitable accommodation if support needs are high.
- Consider possible changes to supported housing pathway to better reflect current need as well as strategic relevance.
- Establish & Agree Pathways for all entrenched, refusers EA evictees providing a clearer monthly monitoring report

**Completed by: Fraser Nicholson**

**Service Unit Head approval with date:**

## Exception Performance Report

### Indicator Description:

Skills and Learning: Learner Achievement Rates

**2021/22 Q2 outturn:** 83.3%

**Quarterly Target:** 87%

**Good performance is:** High

### Reason for level of performance:

Impact of successive Covid lockdowns and heightened public anxiety have negatively impacted on participation, retention and achievement rates.

### Summary of financial implications:

None identified.

### Summary of legal implications:

None identified.

### Summary of human resources implications:

None identified.

### Summary of sustainability impact:

None identified.

### Summary of public health implications:

None identified

### Summary of equality implications:

OFSTED are placing less emphasis on achievement rates as part of their assessment throughout the Covid period.

### Actions taken or planned to improve performance:

The service continues to support learners with enhanced well-being, digital access skills and high levels of tutor support to increase retention rates.

**Completed by:** Terri Clark

**Service Unit Head approval with date:** Lesley Spain - 1 December 2021

## CABINET



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Report subject    | <b>Future of the Stour Valley and Poole Revenues and Benefits Partnership</b>   |
| Meeting date      | 12 January 2022   |
| Status            | Public Report   |
| Executive summary | <p>BCP Council currently works in partnership with Dorset Council to deliver Revenues and Benefit Services for four of the legacy Councils through the Stour Valley and Poole Partnership (SVPP).</p> <p>The Joint Committee for the SVPP has considered the future options for Revenues and Benefits service delivery and have recommended to each Council that they consider expanding the SVPP to provide a Pan-Dorset Partnership.</p> <p>For BCP Council, as the host partner Council, for SVPP expanding the Partnership would formally bring together the Revenues and Benefits services and deliver significant efficiencies whilst supporting the Council's transformation objectives</p> <p>Dorset Council's preferred direction is to end the SVPP and return its services to an in-house provision which would place a financial burden on BCP Council of stranded costs that cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>As there is not a consensus between partners an approach needs to be established for the future of BCP Council's Revenue and Benefits services.</p> |
| Recommendations   | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a) Endorse, as BCP Council's preferred option, the recommendation of the SVPP Joint Committee to create a pan-Dorset partnership between BCP Council and Dorset Council for the delivery of Revenues and Benefits services.</b></li> <li><b>b) Accepting it is not BCP Councils desired direction of travel, acknowledge that Dorset Council agreed at their 7 December 2021 Cabinet to withdraw their services in respect of East Dorset and North Dorset residents from the SVPP.</b></li> <li><b>c) Only agree to an amicable dissolution of SVPP if agreement can be reached with Dorset Council around costs associated with the process.</b></li> <li><b>d) Delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer in</b></li> </ul>   |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
|                            | <p><b>consultation with the Leader, Finance &amp; Transformation Portfolio Holder to negotiate the settlement associated with an amicable dissolution of the SVPP.</b></p> <p><b>e) Acknowledge that if an amicable dissolution cannot be agreed that Dorset Council will be required to formally give notice and be responsible for costs in line with the collaboration agreement.</b></p> |
| Reason for recommendations | To reach a decision on the future delivery of Revenues and Benefit Services for the Council.   |
| Portfolio Holder(s):       | Councillor Drew Mellor, Leader, Finance & Transformation   |
| Corporate Director         | Adam Richens, Chief Finance Officer and S.151 Officer  |
| Report Authors             | Adam Richens, Chief Finance Officer and S.151 Officer<br>Paul Hudson, Partnership Manager. SVPP  |
| Wards                      | Council-wide   |
| Classification             | For Decision   |

## Background

1. The Stour Valley and Poole Partnership (SVPP) currently delivers the revenues and benefits functions for the legacy Christchurch and Poole areas of the Council and the legacy East and North areas of Dorset Council. The SVPP & BCP Revenues and Benefit Services have worked under one management structure since 2018.
2. The SVPP governance is through a Joint Committee supported by Partnership Scrutiny Panel both equally represented by Councillors from BCP Council and Dorset Council.
3. It is recognised that for BCP Council and Dorset Council the current delivery methods for Revenues and Benefit services are fragmented. In January 2021 officers of both Councils and the SVPP were requested to produce documentation to support the proposal discussed by Chief Executives that 'Work to be undertaken on the option of an amicable separation'.
4. The SVPP Joint Committee at their meeting of 8 February 2021, agreed that the Partnership would produce an options report for consideration by Section 151 officers on the costs of ending the Partnership and a proposal for a Pan-Dorset Partnership being delivered through SVPP.
5. On the 25 October 2021 the SVPP Joint Committee considered an options report on the future delivery of Revenues and Benefits Services in Dorset and recommended that a Pan-Dorset Partnership, detailed as Option 3A be put forward to the Council's Executive Committees for consideration, when making their decisions.

6. Dorset Council Cabinet on the 7 December 2021 agreed to make the necessary arrangements to leave the SVPP and bring services in-house to be delivered by an expanded Dorset Council Revenues and Benefits Team.

### **Options for the delivery of Revenues and Benefit Services**

7. There are three options for the future delivery of Revenues and Benefit Services for the Council.

#### **Option 1: No change from existing service provision**

8. This option represents the current service delivery model. All BCP Revenues and Benefit Services and the East and North (legacy council) areas of Dorset Council continue to be delivered by SVPP in partnership with BCP Revs & Bens Services (legacy Bournemouth area). All areas detailed as being under the management of the SVPP Partnership Manager.
9. The Partnership objectives it is felt can no longer be met and service provision has now reached the stage where the efficiencies of partnership working as SVPP alongside Dorset Council, in the current format, have been exhausted.
10. For BCP Council the 'transformation process' and 'smarter structures' has been placed on hold for Revenues and Benefit Services awaiting a decision on SVPP. This has meant BCP (Bournemouth) and SVPP structures have not been aligned. The Corporate Director for Transformation has advised that the option of 'no-change' cannot form part of future service delivery.
11. In summary, it is considered that this option is not deliverable in the long term, and the Partnership can no longer work to its objectives.

#### **Option 2: Ending the SVPP amicably by BCP & Dorset Council**

12. In accordance with the Collaboration Agreement of April 2014 (and Deed of Variation in 2019) any participating Council in the Partnership may give notice 'of a duration of not less than 12 months to expire on 31 March in any year. The proposed date for ending the Partnership is 31 March 2023.
13. Human Resources have advised that for this option, staff employed by SVPP (through BCP Council) would not be subject to TUPE as their roles are assessed as being primarily carrying out work for BCP Council.
14. It has been established that if the council as host is prepared to retain all SVPP staff to create a single BCP Revenues and Benefit Service, through vacancy control and the use of temporary contracts the impact upon staff can be fully mitigated other than at management level.
15. Dorset Council consider this option would enable them to deliver £0.7 million of annual savings by creating their own single and in-house Revenues and Benefit Service
16. It has been identified, as detailed in Appendix A, that ending the SVPP amicably will leave BCP Council with on-going stranded costs of £0.465 million.
17. This option is not considered appropriate for BCP council as it increases the cost base of the service which will need to be recovered from other services.

### Option 3: SVPP to expand to provide the 'Pan-Dorset' Partnership

18. Currently SVPP though the Partnership Manager is responsible for the BCP Council databases for Revenues and Benefits and the legacy 'East and North' area databases of Dorset Council. Through this 'partnership arrangement' almost 70% of all council tax properties in Dorset are administered.
19. This proposal is for the two existing 'Participating Councils' of SVPP to formally place their 'remaining services' within the Partnership. This being the legacy 'Bournemouth area' for BCP Council and the legacy 'Purbeck, West & Weymouth' areas for Dorset Council.
20. Option 3A in Appendix A proposes that SVPP would work directly with both Councils customer access teams to deliver transformation. The Partnership to act as the enabling service (back-office) dealing with complex enquiries and processing accounts where not automated through BCP Council or Dorset Council customer transformation. The customers would consider they were dealing directly with each Council through their customer access teams.
21. This option would facilitate each council's digital transformation programme and provide savings and service improvements for residents.
22. It is estimated that annual savings of £0.441 million in the first year of the new partnership could be achieved rising to £0.772 million annually by the third year.
23. The SVPP Joint Committee considered this option was the most effective future delivery model for both Councils based upon the potential savings as detailed in the business case.

### Summary of financial implications

24. Extending the Partnership as detailed as option 3A of the SVPP business case acknowledges investment in the customer services functions to support transformation and deliver the following savings from partnership working for the council to support the MTFP:

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 2023/24      | £441,000        |
| 2024/25      | £106,000        |
| 2025/26      | £225,000        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£772,000</b> |

25. The Business Case identifies savings of approximately £0.772 million for BCP Council and £0.690 million as identified by Dorset Council. Overall, this would deliver efficiencies of approximately £1.4 million for taxpayers across Dorset.
26. Dorset Council have been advised that should they wish to exit the SVPP by an amicable process that BCP Council, as the host authority of the partnership would require Dorset Council to mitigate the stranded costs of £0.465 million each year for three years and to fund the potential redundancy costs of £0.270 million. Together this would require Dorset Council on the ending of the Partnership to make a one-off payment to the Council of £1.665 million.

### Summary of legal implications

27. The SVPP governance is via the Collaboration Agreement signed in 2014 and adopted by the Partner Councils through a Deed of Variation in 2019.

28. The Collaboration Agreement details that formal notice must be of one financial year and the processes that should be followed.

### **Summary of human resources implications**

29. If the SVPP were to expand as detailed in the Business Case, then through agreement the potential TUPE of staff from Dorset Council to BCP Council to join SVPP in a new structure would be required.
30. Ending the SVPP by an amicable process would allow BCP Council to retain all staff, other than where redundancy required to form the Councils Revenues and Benefits Service.
31. Should Dorset Council give formal notice in accordance with the Collaboration Agreement then this would create the need for clarification of the TUPE process for SVPP staff only as by way of the agreement approximately 34% of staff are funded by Dorset Council contributions. Should TUPE not apply then the process would need to be considered on how the SVPP workforce would be reduced accordingly to the BCP Council contribution. This process would be complex and time consuming with working parties needing to be established including union representation.

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

32. There are no sustainability impacts from the recommendations in this report.

### **Summary of public health implications**

33. There are no public health implications from the recommendations in this report.

### **Summary of equality implications**

34. The EIA panel considered the screening document on 21 October. They recommended that further details on staffing be included and impact based upon gender and working patterns.
35. The EIA screening document acknowledges that for 'BCP Council ending the partnership will see no changes than currently operated for customers / users.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

36. The risk assessment process for the SVPP is reviewed by the Partnership Scrutiny Panel and Joint Committee.
37. Members of Scrutiny Panel have requested a full risk assessment be presented to their next meeting to assess all risks based upon the decision of each council.

### **Background papers**

Report to SVPP Joint Committee 25 October 2021 – The future delivery of Revenues and Benefits Services in Dorset

Please contact [paul.hudson@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:paul.hudson@bcpcouncil.gov.uk) for details.

### **Appendices**

Appendix A: Budget Data 2021/22 BCP Impact

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| Cost   | BCP<br>£s        | SVPP<br>£s       | BCP/SVPP<br>Total<br>£s | BCP ONLY<br>£s   | Change<br>£s      | NOTES - BCP COUNCIL  | 2021-22<br>Dorset<br>Contribution<br>£s | Cost retained<br>by Dorset<br>£s | NOTES - DORSET COUNCIL   |
|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Employees Related  | 2,168,200        | 3,691,000        | 5,859,200               | 4,895,000        | -964,200          | This represents combining of BCP & SVPP Staffing structures. Removes all 'vacant posts' and terminates WEF 31 March 2023 - 14 fixed term posts and 2 SMT posts. Figure takes account of 2021/22 MTFP saving. | 1,071,468                               | 48,000                           | No staff transfer or staffing costs from BCP (SVPP) to Dorset as at 31 March 2023. No payment from SVPP to Dorset for Inspection staff for East & North. |
| Customer Services Recharge   | 0                | 826,000          | 826,000                 | 692,649          | -133,351          | The disaggregation loses economies of scale for BCP. Reduction reflects service required for BCP from 1 April 2023.  | 279,868                                 | 0                                | No staff transfer or staffing costs from BCP to Dorset as at 31 March 2023.  |
| ICT  | 270,000          | 197,000          | 467,000                 | 467,000          | 0                 | Unable to mitigate for ending SVPP - Stranded costs  | 68,320                                  | 0                                | End of BCP ICT support to sites  |
| Printing and Postage   | 170,200          | 275,000          | 445,200                 | 349,830          | -95,370           | Fully mitigated by reduction on postage  | 95,370                                  | 95,370                           | Postage costs to be met  |
| Other Running Costs  | 234,500          | 133,000          | 367,500                 | 337,200          | -30,300           | Currently AllPay NDDC 12500 & Securicor EDDC 17800 / Dorset staff covered in staffing - Remaining BCP Stranded costs   | 46,124                                  | 30,300                           | Currently AllPay NDDC 12500 & Securicor EDDC 17800 / Dorset Inspection staff covered in staffing - Remaining BCP Stranded costs                          |
| Central Support Charges  |                  | 674,000          | 674,000                 | 554,000          | -120,000          | Costs detailed as Dorset 120000 - Remaining BCP Stranded costs   | 233,743                                 | 120,000                          | Payment from SVPP to Dorset  |
| Accommodation  |                  | 161,000          | 161,000                 | 151,000          | -10,000           | cost detailed as Dorset 10000 - Remaining BCP Stranded costs   | 55,835                                  | 10,000                           | Payment from SVPP to Dorset  |
| <b>Total costs</b>   | <b>2,842,900</b> | <b>5,957,000</b> | <b>8,799,900</b>        | <b>7,446,679</b> | <b>-1,353,221</b> | <b>R &amp; B Service Cost</b>  | <b>1,850,728</b>                        | <b>303,670</b>                   | <b>Potential R&amp;B Service costs transfer</b>  |
| Income from New Burdens  |                  |                  |                         |                  | 0                 |  | 0                                       | 0                                |  |
| Income (specialist services)   |                  | 1,006,000        | 1,006,000               | 954,200          | 51,800            | Loss of Income of 51,800 from Dorset for specialist functions. Remaining are budgetted BCP services  | -51,800                                 | 51,800                           | Payment for Sundry Debts / Norden F2F / BID  |
| <b>Service Cost 2021/2022</b>  | <b>2,842,900</b> | <b>4,951,000</b> | <b>7,793,900</b>        | <b>6,492,479</b> | <b>-1,301,421</b> |  | <b>1,798,928</b>                        | <b>355,470</b>                   | <b>Potential Dorset Costs retained.</b>  |
| <b>Dorset Contribution</b>   |                  |                  |                         |                  | <b>1,766,183</b>  |  | <b>1,766,183</b>                        | <b>1,766,183</b>                 |  |
| <b>BCP Shortfall on ending SVPP</b> (including removal of redundant posts at SVPP1 April 2023) |                  |                  |                         |                  | <b>464,762</b>    |  |   | <b>1,410,713</b>                 | <b>Dorset Surplus ending SVPP</b>  |
| <b>SVPP One-off redundancy costs for Management posts</b>                                      |                  |                  |                         |                  | <b>271,215</b>    | <b>Estimated Value for 2 SMT members - potentially funded by SVPP Reserves</b>   |   |                                  |  |

These details are to demonstrate impact to BCP Council of ending SVPP. They do not contain any details of service costs or staffing needs for Dorset Council to provide R&B functions as from 1 April 2023

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## CABINET



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Report subject    | <b>Housing and Property Compliance Update (Housing Revenue Account)</b>   |
| Meeting date      | 12 January 2022   |
| Status            | Public  |
| Executive summary | <p>This report provides information on how the council meets its responsibilities in ensuring that all council housing within the Housing Revenue Account is managed in a way that meets compliance with current health and safety legislation, best practice and regulatory standards to ensure the health and safety of residents. It sets out issues concerning compliance across the Bournemouth and Poole neighbourhoods and demonstrates how these are being managed.</p> <p>During quarter three, 2021/22 concerns were identified within the Bournemouth neighbourhood regarding overdue fire risk assessment actions and electrical safety tests and potential non-compliance with the Regulator of Social Housing's (Regulator) Home Standard. A robust action plan is in place and issues continue to be addressed at pace with additional resources. To ensure full transparency the council has made a self-referral to the Regulator to make them aware of the situation.</p> <p>Over the coming years there will be increased responsibilities placed on social landlords to manage the health and safety of residents. These will be primarily included in the Building Safety Bill which is progressing through Parliament. Future changes will also be made to the regulatory regime overseen by the Regulator through the "Charter for Social Housing Residents; a social housing white paper".</p> <p>In preparation for these changes, we are ensuring that we are taking steps to improve our existing monitoring and recording of compliance work.</p> |
| Recommendations   | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <p><b>(a). Cabinet notes the compliance information provided which details how the council is performing against statutory building compliance relating to its council housing.</b></p> <p><b>(b). A performance report will be made annually to Cabinet in future years.</b></p>   |

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Reason for recommendations | <p>The council, as a landlord, has many legal obligations it must satisfy to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its tenants and leaseholders. It must also adhere to the regulatory standards as set out by the Regulator, particularly the Home Standard.</p> <p>Councillors should also have oversight and assurance of compliance against the legal and regulatory requirements that are placed upon it through this annual report to Cabinet.</p> |
| Portfolio Holder(s):       | Councillor Karen Rampton – People and Homes   |
| Corporate Director         | Jess Gibbons – Chief Operations Officer   |
| Report Authors             | <p>Seamus Doran – Head of Neighbourhood Management (BCP Council)</p> <p>Beccy Brookwell – Head of Property Maintenance (BCP Council)</p> <p>Simon Percival – Asset Investment Manager (BCP Council)</p> <p>Keith Meredith – Interim Director of Technical Services (Poole Housing Partnership)</p> <p>Wayne Noyes – Head of Property (Poole Housing Partnership)</p> <p>Lorraine Mealings – Director of Housing (BCP Council)</p>                           |
| Wards                      | Council-wide  |
| Classification             | For Recommendation  |

## Background

1. This report demonstrates how compliance within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) housing stock for the Bournemouth and Poole neighbourhoods is managed. There is no HRA housing stock in the Christchurch neighbourhood of BCP Council because it was previously transferred across to Sovereign Housing Association several years ago.
2. The HRA is the ring-fenced account within BCP Council relating to the income and expenditure for its rented council homes.
3. The ring-fenced HRA includes two neighbourhoods. The Bournemouth neighbourhood housing stock is owned and managed directly in-house by BCP Council. The Poole neighbourhood is owned by the council but managed by Poole Housing Partnership (PHP), an Arm's Length Management Organisation (ALMO). PHP is wholly owned by the council and a "Commissioning and Performance Management" framework is in place between the council and PHP to monitor performance. The total rented stock as of 31 March 2021 for the Bournemouth neighbourhood was 5,058 homes and the Poole neighbourhood had 4,502 homes, giving BCP Council a total of 9,560 rented homes.
4. There are also 1,139 leasehold properties managed across both neighbourhoods as well as 33 shared ownership properties. The council is not responsible for gas safety

or electrical checks to these properties, but we are responsible for compliance issues relating to communal areas and services that may impact on these properties.

5. A Housing Management Model review has commenced across Bournemouth and Poole to look at aligning the two services. The preferred model is a single in-house service across BCP Council that combines the best of the two existing services, co-designed with residents. Consultation with stakeholders has recently ended to determine their views on the preferred model, objectives of the new service and around delivery. The results will help shape the new service.
6. The report excludes the following properties: the council's General Fund hostels, leased temporary accommodation, Seascope Homes and Property Limited stock and corporate non-residential properties across BCP Council. Statutory compliance in respect of these properties is monitored separately on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis, depending on the relevant legislation and is not the subject of this report.
7. The council, as a housing landlord, has many legal obligations it must satisfy to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its tenants. These obligations form part of an ongoing cyclical inspection and maintenance regime to ensure key elements in the home do not pose undue risk.
8. The minimum standards that must be met are set out in legislation, codes of guidance and good practice. There are also regulatory requirements as set out within the Regulator's Home Standard. As a registered provider of social housing the council is expected to adhere to the standard.
9. Section 1.2 of the Home Standard states:  
Repairs and maintenance Registered providers shall:
  - (a) provide a cost-effective repairs and maintenance service to homes and communal areas that responds to the needs of, and offers choices to, tenants, and has the objective of completing repairs and improvements right first time
  - (b) meet all applicable statutory requirements that provide for the health and safety of the occupants in their homes.
10. Failure to comply with this standard can result in a Regulatory Notice being issued against a landlord if the Regulator believes that the failure has resulted in actual or potential serious detriment to residents. When applying the serious detriment test they will balance the factors of the case including the number of tenants, the duration of the harm (or risk of harm) and the seriousness of the issue.
11. The Regulator also expects social landlords to self-refer if they have information that suggests that they have failed to comply, although referrals can also come from other sources.
12. There are procedures and policies for both the Bournemouth neighbourhood Property Maintenance Team and the PHP Property Team. These have been developed from the legislation governing health, safety and welfare of tenants.
13. The legislation that covers general topics around the requirement of a landlord, include The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA), The Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 and The Housing Act 2004. There is more specific guidance around fire safety, electrical safety, gas safety, water hygiene and lift safety.

14. The following areas of compliance are of the highest risk and therefore the ones that are high priority and are measured and monitored on an ongoing basis.
- Water Quality
  - Gas Safety
  - Asbestos
  - Electrical Safety
  - Fire Safety
  - Lift Safety
15. There are many more repairs that happen on a day-to-day basis, as and when they arise, that are undertaken to ensure the safety of our residents.

### **Regulatory and legal changes**

16. The government has introduced new legislation to improve building safety following recommendations from an independent review of building regulations and fire safety after the Grenfell Tower Fire in 2017.
17. The Building Safety Bill was introduced to Parliament on 30 June 2021, and it is expected that the bulk of its provisions will be in place by April to October 2023 as much of the detail will need to be set out in secondary legislation. The Bill is intended to:
- Create a new Building Safety Regulator within the Health and Safety Executive to implement and oversee a new regulatory regime for higher- risk buildings and drive improvements in building safety and performance for all buildings.
  - Establish the new regulatory regime for higher-risk buildings, i.e., those buildings that are over 18 metres tall or have seven or more storeys.
  - Ensure residents have a stronger voice in the system through a Residents Panel to help the new regulator fulfil its role.
  - Strengthen the obligations under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
  - Provide a stronger and clearer framework for oversight of construction products.
  - Assist and encourage the improvement of competence in the building industry and amongst building control professionals.
18. The new regulatory regime for higher-risk buildings will include new design and construction obligations:
- Dutyholders will have clear accountability and statutory responsibilities as buildings are designed, constructed and refurbished.
  - Gateways (stop/go decision points) will provide rigorous assessment of regulatory requirements to ensure building safety and regulatory compliance is considered at each stage of a building's design and construction.
  - The requirement for a golden thread of building information – created, stored and updated throughout the building's lifecycle.

- Mandatory reporting to the new Building Safety Regulator of prescribed fire and structural safety occurrences.
  - Building Safety Regulator oversight of building work as the building control body for high-rise residential and other in scope buildings. This will strengthen regulatory oversight and require dutyholders to implement appropriate measures to manage building regulations compliance.
19. The Bill will also create obligations for buildings in occupation and each higher-risk building will need to have an Accountable Person. This is the person or entity that owns the building and will usually be the landlord. They will need to appoint individuals to discharge their duties and obligations as set out below:
- Registering a higher risk building.
  - Applying for a Building Assessment certificate every 5 years.
  - Appointing a competent Building Safety Manager prior to occupation of a building. There will be time to do this for buildings that are already occupied.
  - Ongoing obligation to manage and prevent fire safety risks and maintain a safety case report for each higher risk building.
  - Providing residents with information and developing an engagement strategy.
20. The safety case report should identify major hazards associated with fire and structural risks and demonstrate the measures in place to manage and control these. It will need to be reviewed and updated to provide continued assurance and submitted to the Building Safety Regulator.
21. The primary role of the Building Safety Manager will be to manage the building in accordance with the safety case report; and to provide certain information to the Building Safety Regulator under mandatory reporting obligations. It is envisaged that a Building Safety Manager will oversee up to 10 buildings and the BSI, the UK's National Standards Body, has consulted on a draft framework for competence of the role.
22. The Bill has several other provisions which include:
- New Homes Ombudsman
  - Removal of the democratic filter for complaints to the Housing Ombudsman
  - Obligations on residents in high-risk buildings to comply with requirements to maintain safety as well as requirements not to act in a way that creates a significant risk.
  - Landlord right of entry for building safety purposes.
23. The Fire Safety Act 2021 has been passed and extends the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 to the following parts of multi-occupied residential buildings:
- The building's structure, external walls and any common parts. The external walls include doors or windows in those walls, and anything attached to the exterior of those walls, e.g., balconies and cladding
  - All doors between the domestic premises and common parts.

24. The Act places additional duties on the responsible person for the building to ensure that these areas are included in the fire risk assessment and that action is taken to remove or negate any risks.
25. The Charter for Social Housing Residents – Social Housing White Paper was published in November 2020. This will have a significant impact on the way in which services are delivered to residents and how social landlords engage with them especially on health and safety matters.
26. The Charter sets out what every social housing resident should be able to expect. This includes to be safe in their home and the government will work with industry and landlords to ensure that every home is safe and secure. There are several key themes regarding safety:
- Important that social housing regulation supports fire safety and that it also works effectively with the proposed building safety regime.
  - Legislation will ensure that the Regulator's consumer regulation objectives will include safety and improve co-operation between with the HSE and the proposed Building Safety Regulator.
  - Legislation will require social landlords to have a nominated person responsible for compliance with health and safety.
  - Residents need to feel safe in their homes for their mental and physical well-being. They need to be able to communicate with their landlord regarding health and safety matters and be confident that they will be listened to. Landlords need to communicate effectively with residents. This will be delivered through the Building Safety Bill.
  - The government has been engaging with social landlords to test approaches to engagement on building safety through the Social Sector (Building Safety) Engagement Best Practice Group.
  - Consultation on extending requirements for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and protection from harm caused by poor electrical safety.
27. The Charter also sets out the intention to remove the serious detriment test and introduce routine inspections for the largest landlords rather than waiting for information to be referred to them. This will result in more proactive regulation and raises expectations for landlords to self-refer where there are failures to comply with standards.
28. The government has also set out proposals for Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEP's) in high-rise residential dwellings following the Grenfell Tower inquiry.
29. PEEP's are evacuation plans prepared in advance between those responsible for fire safety and residents whose ability to evacuate a building may be compromised. These are intended to work without the intervention of the fire and rescue service but can be utilised by them in emergency evacuations.
30. The government proposal is that those responsible for fire safety prepare PEEP's for every resident who voluntarily self identifies as being unable to self-evacuate in the event of a fire. The proposals include keeping this information up-to-date and the use of standard national templates to ensure consistency. Legislation to implement PEEP's would be by the introduction of regulations through powers in the Fire Safety Order.



31. These regulatory and legal changes will be considered in the design of the aligned housing management service to ensure that the council is meeting all its statutory and regulatory obligations.
32. Both neighbourhoods are also taking steps to ensure that information, performance data and systems used to manage compliance are robust. This will provide assurance that residents are safe in their homes and that the council's obligations and duties are being met and highlight issues when they arise.
33. Some of the council's existing and proposed new homes will fall within the definition of higher-risk buildings. These include 6 existing tower blocks in Poole and the development of 4 high rise buildings in Westbourne, Bournemouth, due for completion late 2022, that will range from 6 to 9 storeys high. However, the definition of a higher risk building may change either before the Building Safety Bill is passed or after it has been implemented.
34. The new regulatory regime for higher-risk buildings is also likely to drive up standards of good practice in relation to other complex buildings that are not in scope. Landlords will need to take a risk-based approach to how they manage their buildings and may decide to apply the new regulatory requirements to buildings outside the scope of the Building Safety Bill.
35. Regular compliance meetings take place within each neighbourhood, focusing on a scorecard of well-established performance indicators. Quarterly meetings take place as part of the Commissioning and Performance Management Framework currently in place to manage the contract with PHP where key performance indicators relating to health and safety are compared and discussed. Additional quarterly meetings to discuss performance and any underlying issues across teams is in place. These will help ensure consistency between the two neighbourhoods.

### **Summary of Performance**

36. Compliance continues to be managed separately within each neighbourhood although the future delivery model of the wider housing management service is being considered. Reporting has been aligned as much as is possible. The compliance dashboard for quarter two 2021/22, (July – September 2021), is provided in appendix 1.
37. Both neighbourhoods use the same health and safety legislation and best practice to ensure the housing in their neighbourhood is compliant with current regulation and standards.
38. There were concerns with compliance within the Bournemouth neighbourhood identified during quarter three, 2021/22 regarding the completion of remedial actions following fire risk assessments and the timeliness of electrical safety tests undertaken in homes and communal areas. These are set out below. An action plan is now in place and well underway to remedy as soon as possible. Many actions are now complete with higher risk actions being dealt with first. New systems are being put in place to help effectively manage the future programmes and a formal fortnightly robust review is in place to ensure a timely delivery.
39. The compliance concerns mean that the council has potentially failed to comply with the requirements of the Regulator's Home Standard to meet all applicable statutory requirements that provide for the health and safety of the occupants in their homes.
40. To ensure full transparency the council has made a self-referral to the Regulator to make them aware of the situation. They have recently contacted the council to

request further information which has been provided and no further action has been required as yet over and above what is already in train.

41. An internal audit of the key compliance areas in Bournemouth had already been planned. This has been brought forward and is now underway. The audit will help to provide additional assurance in this important area of work and identify any areas for improvement to systems and practices across all six compliance areas.

### **Water Quality – (Legionella Management)**

42. This applies to stored water in the communal parts of buildings, for example where there are cold water storage tanks, and communal water supplies. While there is a legal duty under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH), for landlords to assess and control the risk of exposure to legionella bacteria, the law does not prescribe specific review periods. Health and safety law does not require landlords to produce or obtain, nor does the HSE recognise, a 'Legionnaires Testing Certificate'. The Approved Code of Practice: Legionnaires' disease: The control of Legionella bacteria in water systems (L8) outlines best practice guidance and this is followed by both neighbourhoods.
43. Risk assessments should be reviewed frequently as determined by the assessment to ensure that they are up to date. They should also be reviewed any time there is a significant change such as additions or modifications to water systems, changes to the use of the water system, where key personnel have changed, or legionella control measures are no longer working.
44. Regular safety inspections measure temperature and ensure tanks are clean or covered. In some circumstances water samples may be taken. This work is carried out by external contractors and the frequency and type of testing undertaken varies according to the nature of the water system. Tests are carried out monthly, 6-monthly or annually. Remedial actions are identified from risk assessments and testing and the necessary work orders raised to rectify these.
45. The remedial actions in the Poole neighbourhood were completed in November. The remedial actions in Bournemouth are low risk items.
46. Not all monthly checks in the Bournemouth neighbourhood have been carried out as the contractor has been unable to gain access to some flat blocks on nine occasions out of 111 monthly tests due to 36 blocks. However, each block has been checked at least twice in the last quarter. All water tests are carried out monthly in Poole.
47. Within the Bournemouth neighbourhood there are 92 flat blocks that require either a six-monthly or annual test. Of these there are 22 flat blocks where it has not been possible to carry out testing because of access issues and these are now outstanding. The contractor responsible for testing has requested additional work to provide safer access to tanks for their staff following updated risk assessments. Our In-House team arranged for site visits with a separate specialist contractor to provide anchor fixings to ensure safe access to the communal lofts where tanks are situated. This work will commence in early January and it will take about a week to be completed before tests can then be completed.

### **Gas safety**

48. Regulation 36 of The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 deals with landlords' duties to make sure gas appliances, fittings and flues provided for residents are safe. It details the duties of landlords to 'ensure that each appliance

and flue to which the duty extends; has been checked within a 12-month period, that proof of this is kept for two years and is available for the tenant(s) of the premises.

49. The Covid-19 pandemic created difficulties in gaining access to properties and ensuring that work could be completed safely but these have been resolved. The pandemic may continue to cause problems with access but there will also be other reasons why residents fail to provide access for gas safety tests. There are well established procedures in place across both neighbourhoods to deal with these and to ensure that gas safety tests are carried out.
50. Performance in both neighbourhoods is excellent with no outstanding tests at the end of the quarter.

### **Asbestos**

51. Communal areas within flat blocks are inspected on a regular basis. There is no directive within the regulations as to how frequently communal areas should be re-inspected, but they should be assessed periodically. Asbestos can be present as asbestos insulation board (AIB) or as asbestos containing material (ACM), e.g., floor tiles and aertex ceilings. All communal areas within both neighbourhoods have been surveyed.
52. The condition of any asbestos in communal areas is managed through regular annual visual inspections. There were no outstanding re-inspections at the end of the quarter or issues of concern.
53. Asbestos also exists within domestic properties and surveys have been carried out to determine where it is located. This information is used to ensure that correct procedures are undertaken when work to the property is being carried out. Asbestos is removed before major refurbishment such as kitchen replacement.

### **Electrical Safety**

54. Currently there is no regulation, standard or act that defines a frequency for electrical installation inspection and testing in homes managed by social landlords. The Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 requires landlords to ensure that electrical installations are in working and safe condition both at the start of any tenancy and throughout that tenancy.
55. The Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020 require private landlords to carry out electrical installation inspections every five years. This does not apply to social housing but the Code of Practice for the Management of Electrotechnical Care in Social Housing recommends the frequency for testing and inspection to be every five years which is the inspection interval used in both neighbourhoods. Inspections can be carried out sooner if deemed necessary by risk assessment. At the end of the inspection an Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) is produced.
56. Within Bournemouth testing and servicing is carried out in-house as well as by contractors while in Poole it is solely contractors who carry out the work.
57. Failure to carry out these inspections can result in fires in homes and injury to residents.
58. The electrical safety programme was particularly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic as the work requires access to the whole of a property for a considerable period of time. It was agreed across both neighbourhoods that because of the intrusive nature

of the work that it would be suspended but it has recommenced once lockdown restrictions eased.

59. There is a backlog in completing electrical safety inspections in both neighbourhoods, but additional resources are being used to deal with this and works orders are in progress.
60. Within the Bournemouth neighbourhood concerns were raised about the programme during work that had commenced to improve the monitoring and reporting of performance and the robustness of the data collected. It was found that there were inconsistencies in the codes used for works orders to raise inspections, cases where access was denied were not recorded correctly in the past and some data was missing.
61. At the end of September 2021, 85.83% of domestic and communal properties in Bournemouth had a current satisfactory electrical safety inspection. The total number outstanding was 780 including 249 relating to communal areas of flat blocks. The electrical safety programme had been suspended from the 18 March 2020 to the 1 July 2020 due to the pandemic which had contributed to much of the backlog but there were concerns that some of these tests were several years old.
62. The Inhouse team were immediately instructed and several external contractors were also appointed to help deal with the backlog. Works orders have been raised and appointments continue to be booked in with tenants. Further interrogation of the data and some sample checking has also been carried out. A summary of the situation as at the 17 December 2021 is set out in the table below.

|   | <b>Domestic</b> | <b>Communal</b> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Total number of inspections last undertaken over 10 years ago</b>          | 37              | 0               |
| <b>Total number of inspections last undertaken between 5 and 10 years ago</b> | 342             | 2               |
| <b>Total outstanding</b>  | <b>379</b>      | <b>2</b>        |
| <b>The number of properties where there is no record of an inspection</b>     | 18              | 64              |

63. Of the 342 domestic properties that have inspections of between five and 10 years old, 331 of these became outstanding during 2020 and 2021. During this time the programme had been suspended because of the pandemic.
64. All inspections that became overdue before 2020 have had appointments made or have been referred to the Neighbourhood Management team to secure access to the property if appointments could not be made.

65. Works orders have been raised for all domestic properties where there is no record of an inspection. These will be completed as soon as possible. Many of these properties have had issues in securing access in the past.
66. There is some further data validation being carried out to 104 of those domestic properties where electrical safety inspections are outstanding but where a previous works order to complete the inspection was recorded as abortive following failed attempts to access the property. This validation will establish if safety tests are indeed outstanding and if so, confirm the length of time outstanding.
67. Visual inspections are being carried out to those communal areas where there are no internal electricity supplies. This will confirm the presence of an external electrical supply and if an inspection is therefore outstanding. Where there is a supply, a visual inspection will be carried out and the full inspection arranged for a later date. These inspections have removed several communal areas from the programme where no external communal electricity supply has been found.
68. Works orders have been raised for those communal areas that require an inspection. A programme of work is also being reviewed for those more complex communal areas such as Independent Senior Living accommodation. This programme will be completed by the end of December so that the number of inspections required can be confirmed and programmed in. In the meantime, the mitigation actions set out below will apply and domestic properties within Independent Senior Living will continue to have their individual inspections carried out.
69. Some further checks of the data relating to completed properties will also be carried out to ensure accuracy of historical inspections to validate systems and processes.
70. There are several actions in place to mitigate the risk to tenants because of outstanding inspections.
- Additional resources have been employed through private contractors to complete inspections.
  - Housing Officers are identifying vulnerable tenants to help prioritise these cases.
  - Where residents have not responded to requests to make appointments Housing Officers carry out home visits.
  - Cases are referred to Neighbourhood Management where access has been denied.
  - Properties are fitted with modern consumer units.
  - Arrangements are being made to send letters to those tenants with outstanding tests to remind them of electrical safety in the home and to contact the Council if they have any concerns.
71. There are other actions in place to mitigate to risk caused by outstanding inspections to communal areas.
- Emergency lighting is tested quarterly by approved contractors.
  - Fire alarms are tested weekly by approved contractors.
  - Door entry systems are tested quarterly.
  - Other fire safety measures are tested annually.
  - All communal areas are inspected three times a year.
  - Consumer units are behind locked doors and wiring behind trunking.

72. The Asset Management team are meeting each week to map progress on dealing with the backlog of tests and improving the performance data.
73. In Poole, 99.25% of domestic and communal properties had a current satisfactory electrical safety inspection. The total number outstanding at the end of September was 34 which has now been reduced to 20.

## **Fire Safety**

74. Three pieces of legislation govern the actions of landlords in relation to fire safety; the Housing Act 2004, the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Act 2005 (RRO). While legislation specifies the frequency for carrying out fire risk assessments' (FRA's) as 'regularly'.
75. An effective fire safety programme incorporating a frequent FRA programme looking at a range of measures, including facades, compartmentalisation, doors and closers and clear communal areas is in place across both neighbourhoods. These are reviewed regularly within each neighbourhood.
76. The Fire Risk Assessment reports rate priorities as high, medium or low. A programme of work, based on these priorities, continues to be undertaken using the action priorities contained therein.
77. Where we have concerns regarding a resident's use of a property, referrals can be made to the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service under the fire safety referral scheme. Concerns would range from; hoarding, repeated false alarm activations, actual minor fire, portable fires, dirty ovens / cooking appliances and chaotic lifestyles often due to addiction. Mitigating actions can be put in place to reduce the risk and we will work with other teams within the council and other agencies to see if support can be provided to improve the situation. Where necessary legal action will be taken against the resident.
78. Smoke alarm tests are carried out at same time as the gas safety test in both neighbourhoods. Smoke and fire alarms within sheltered housing in both neighbourhoods are linked to the out of hours service through the emergency alarm systems. This provides information on activations and can help raise awareness of issues with individual tenants. Information can also be used to help the decision-making process regarding repairs.
79. Both neighbourhoods have opportunities to raise awareness of fire safety with residents through newsletters, websites, general correspondence and residents' groups.
80. Previous compliance reports set out fire safety issues that had been identified in the tower blocks at Sterte Court, Poole. Work to remove and replace the cladding with wholly non-combustible materials was approved by Full Council in 2020 and work commenced earlier this year. The combustible cladding has now been removed and the work to complete the installation of the new wholly non-combustible cladding will be complete in April 2022. Progress has been monitored jointly by BCP Council and PHP and there are now no additional risks as all remedial fire prevention work has been completed.
81. The risk levels in relation to Sterte Court are now back to relevant levels as expected for the building along with the added benefits of the measures below. The fire alarm has been removed from all communal areas and the building has reverted back to a

stay put policy due to the risk level being reduced. The alarm system remains in individual flats and will operate within the flat if there is a fire. The system can also be used for the purpose of evacuation if the fire service deems it necessary. The evacuation alarm will allow proposed national recommendations to be implemented ahead of release by the government. A sprinkler system has also been installed in the buildings and is fully operational.

82. In 2020, the government announced that it would provide £1 billion through the Building Safety Fund, to support the remediation of unsafe cladding systems on residential buildings 18 metres and over in both the private and social housing sectors. An application to the fund has been submitted by the council in respect of Sterte Court. While there is no indication yet if this will be successful, the bid has been allowed to proceed to the next stage.
83. Project Admiral to refurbish tower blocks in Poole at Drake Court, Grenville Court, Nelson Court and Rodney Court continues. The programme of includes the installation of a cladding system to improve insulation levels and extend the life of the buildings. This will be wholly non-combustible and extend the life of the buildings. The work will also include the installation of sprinkler systems.
84. Previous compliance reports referred to a red-rated high priority action at Craven Court, Knyverton Road, Bournemouth concerning the escape route from two flats. The building was identified for redevelopment and planning permission has been granted. The residents to these flats have now moved to alternative accommodation and the risks mitigated. Two legacy issues remain at Bethany House, Bournemouth from 2015 where a fire escape stair leading from the top floor of the rear wing exits through land the council does not own and as a result does not lead to a place of safety if used without the emergency services being present. As the building operates a stay put policy this has been mitigated in liaison with the fire brigade who would only use the stairs if the stay put policy was no longer operationally safe and evacuation was necessary.
85. In quarter three 2021/22, as a result of more detailed validation, the data identified an additional 19 red-rated high priority actions outstanding in the Bournemouth neighbourhood. These were identified in fire risk assessments carried out between 2016 and 2020 and work should have been completed to remove these risks. Most of the actions 16, related to buildings with an overall medium or low risk level but are no less a priority to resolve.
86. There were also 189 medium priority actions outstanding.
87. All these actions have now been reviewed and the necessary work completed or planned. The table below provides a summary of the position as at the 10 December 2021. High risk actions have been reduced from to 10 and medium risk actions to 98.

|  | <b>High-risk remedial action</b> | <b>Medium risk remedial action</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Year identified in fire risk assessment</b> |                                  |                                    |
| 2015   | 2                                |                                    |
| 2016   | 1                                |                                    |
| 2017   | 2                                |                                    |
| 2018   |                                  | 14                                 |

|              |           |           |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 2019         |           |           |
| 2020         | 5         | 12        |
| 2021         |           | 72        |
|              |           |           |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>98</b> |

88. There were 506 red-rated low risk actions which has now reduced to 501. 152 of these relate to the availability of electrical safety certificates and 225 to issues with letterboxes which will be dealt with through a fire door replacement programme. These low-risk actions do not make a building non-compliant.
89. Risks to residents are being mitigated through the following actions.
- Priority is being given to reduce high risk actions.
  - Emergency lighting is tested quarterly by approved contractors.
  - Fire alarms are tested weekly by approved contractors.
  - Other fire safety measures, e.g., smoke vents are tested annually.
  - Communal internal areas are inspected 3 times per year to ensure that the areas are in good condition, free from obstruction and to check on fire safety. These visits have been increased to weekly for those buildings with outstanding high-risk actions.
90. The fire service has carried out fire safety audits to several blocks of flats in the Bournemouth neighbourhood and found that there was reasonable standard of fire safety at the time of their visit. This provides further assurance regarding fire safety.
91. Within the Poole neighbourhood there are three outstanding high priority legacy actions relating to the replacement of fire doors. These are due to be completed by the end of December.

### **Lift Safety**

92. The Councils duties for managing lifts are contained within the LOLER (Lifting Operations Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 and PUWER (Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998). Both neighbourhoods have a shared contract with an external contractor to carry out any inspections or work.
93. Non-domestic (communal) lifts are subject to two thorough inspections each year alongside monthly servicing schedules. This work is carried out by contractors. Lifts are also subject to one annual inspection from our insurer. Domestic stairlifts are subject to two thorough inspections per year and one annual inspection by our insurer. Any unsatisfactory or worn items are reported alongside a quote for repair and undertaken.
94. The outstanding non-domestic lifts in Bournemouth have now been serviced but there continue to be problems accessing those domestic properties that are outstanding.

### **Summary**

95. As a major landlord with a significant number of homes, there have been concerns regarding building safety within both neighbourhoods over the last two to three years, including those brought about by backlogs generated through lockdown.



96. There will always be challenges but it is one of the most important areas of work for landlords to meet these and improve on reporting and performance. One of the main areas that landlords should be looking at is the quality of the data that they hold to ensure that it provides assurance of compliance with the Home Standard and that residents are safe. It will be especially important following the changes set out in the Building Safety Bill and the Housing White Paper which will increase the responsibilities and expectations on landlords to maintain safety in its homes and buildings.
97. The Housing Management Model review will continue. Residents will continue to be involved through a Joint Residents Group to help design the new service. Design will also be influenced by the changes that will result from the Building Safety Bill and the Housing White Paper.
98. A review of systems and processes with input from internal audit colleagues already underway will provide further assurance around compliance in the Bournemouth neighbourhood when concluded.

### **Links to the BCP Corporate Health and Safety team**

99. The Corporate Health and Safety team's link to the Bournemouth neighbourhood Housing Team is to provide health and safety advice and assistance to all staff who work on the Housing stock. This includes:
  - working with relevant managers to review policies and procedures and appropriate implementation. All legacy council policies and procedures will need to be reviewed and updated to reflect any changes that have occurred since the formation of BCP Council. This will include policies and procedures for asbestos, legionella, gas and electricity.
  - updating the relevant teams on any new or significant changes to Health and Safety legislation and codes of practice that are relevant to the management of the council homes.
  - assisting management in monitoring health and safety standards in council homes.
  - assisting in the identification of Health and Safety training needs for relevant managers and staff.
  - investigating any serious accidents or ill health occurrences and work with management to prevent a reoccurrence.
100. The Corporate Health and Safety team includes qualified Health and Safety professionals who undertake continuing professional development to ensure they keep up to date with legislation and best practice.
101. The Housing Team will continue to work with Corporate Health and Safety to further develop policies and procedures and share this with PHP.

### **Summary of Financial Implications**

102. There is a cost associated with the delivery of inspection, remedial works and improvement programmes associated with these policies, however the duties are mandatory, and the cyclical programmes associated with such have been factored into the respective HRA Neighbourhood Business Plans.

103. This report does not contain a request for a decision on spend as this is already within agreed budgets that are set out in the annual Housing Revenue Account Budget Report.

#### **Summary of legal implications**

104. Policies and procedures assist the Council in discharging its statutory duties associated with landlord compliance. It is important that there is full compliance with good practice standards, regulatory standards and the relevant legislation.
105. Failure to comply with these duties could result in formal prosecution being brought against the council as a landlord e.g., potential of a corporate manslaughter case for the most serious of breaches. Failure can also result in a breach of the Regulator's Home Standard and a regulatory notice if there was actual or potential serious detriment to council tenants.

#### **Summary of human resources implications**

106. There are no immediate implications on staffing levels. However, compliance is seen as an increasingly important area of work through work that is undertaken to monitor and report on performance. The Building Safety Bill will require the council to appoint a Building Safety Manager to manage safety in its higher-risk buildings. It is expected that this post will cover up to 10 buildings and the number of posts required will be influenced by the number of buildings classified as higher risk.
107. The implementation of PEEP's will also require greater resources to work with residents to complete, implement and then keep up to date.

#### **Summary of sustainability impact**

108. Adherence to appropriate and consistent standards for compliance protects both the interest of our tenants and the council as a landlord. The correct functioning of gas and electrical systems reduce the impact of the systems on the environment through efficient operation. Having good knowledge of the condition of our systems allows planning for their replacement when appropriate times with more efficient upgrades that benefit the environment and our tenants.

#### **Summary of public health implications**

109. Complying with policies, procedures and statutory duties ensures the wellbeing of our tenants and provides safe and well-maintained homes. Our compliance work protects tenants from hazards that might otherwise exist.

#### **Summary of equality implications**

110. None. There are no changes to the way in which services are provided because of this report.

#### **Summary of risk assessment**

111. Failure to comply with duties to maintain the health and safety of residents could result in formal prosecution being brought against the Council as a landlord e.g., potential of a corporate manslaughter case for the most serious of breaches.
112. If there is breach of the Home Standard then the Regulator might serve a regulatory notice on the council which would have a detrimental impact on its reputation. The

Regulator expects councillors to ensure that they have proper oversight of all health and safety issues to ensure compliance with the Home Standard.

### **Background papers**

Published works:

[The Charter for Social Housing Residents – Social Housing White Paper](#)

[The Building Safety Bill](#)

[The Regulator of Social Housing – Home Standard](#)

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Health and safety reporting dashboard quarter 2, 2020/21

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| Health & Safety Performance Reporting - Q2 2021-22  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        | 30/09/2021 |  |
|---|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--|--------|--------|------|--------|------------|--|
|   |         | PHP      |         | BCP     |         |  |        |        | PHP  |        | BCP        |  |
|   | Target  | Actual   | Prev    | Actual  | Prev    |  | Target | Actual | Prev | Actual | Prev       |  |
| <b>Fire Safety</b>  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of communal areas with in date Fire Risk Assessments (FRA).                                      | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 100.00% | 95.37%  |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of FRA reviews overdue at end of quarter.  | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 12      |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of communal areas where the FRA was not renewed prior to expiry since last reporting date.           | 0       | 0        | 0       | 3       | 56      |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of remedial actions outstanding for completion:  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Priority - High   | 0       | 0        | 5       | 19      | 4       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Priority - Medium   | 0       | 0        | 10      | 189     | 32      |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Priority - Low  | 0       | 0        | 0       | 506     | 179     |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Legacy  | 0       | 3        | 3       | 3       | 3       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| <b>Legionella Management</b>  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of properties with communal water facilities that have been risk assessed.                       | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of properties with a current risk assessment.  | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of remedial actions outstanding for completion.  | 0       | 2        | 3       | 5       | 5       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of on-site checks completed in the quarter.  | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 81.76%  | 87.42%  |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| <b>Periodic Electrical Testing</b>  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of properties with current satisfactory electrical inspection.                                   | 100.00% | 99.25%   | 98.92%  | 85.83%  | 84.02%  |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of properties where electrical inspection expired prior to renewal since last reporting date.        | 0       | 34       | 49      | 159     | 271     |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| <b>Lift Safety - Non-Domestic</b>   |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of non-domestic lifts overdue a 6-monthly examination. (LOLER)                                       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of dangerous or potentially dangerous defects outstanding.   | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of non-domestic lifts with an up-to-date service.  | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 100.00% | 81.13%  |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of properties where a service was not completed prior to the due date since the last reporting date. | 0       | 0        | 0       | 5       | 10      |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| <b>Lift Safety - Domestic</b>   |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of domestic lifts overdue a thorough examination at end of quarter.                                  | 0       | 0        | 0       | 6       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of dangerous or potentially dangerous defects outstanding at end of quarter.                         | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| <b>Asbestos Management</b>  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Percentage of communal areas surveyed for asbestos.   | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of ACM re-inspections not completed prior to due date since last reporting date.                     | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of remedial actions outstanding.   | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| <b>Gas Servicing</b>  |         |          |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Landlord Gas Safety Record (LGSR) compliance at end of quarter.   | 100.00% | 100.00%  | 100.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of overdue properties at end of quarter.   | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of overdue properties subject to legal proceedings at end of quarter.                                | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Number of properties where LGSR expired before renewal since last reporting date.                           | 0       | 0        | 0       | 4       | 6       |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Report Date:  |         | 30/09/21 |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |
| Previous Report Date:   |         | 30/06/21 |         |         |         |  |        |        |      |        |            |  |

## SUPPORTING COMMENTS

| PHP  | BCP   | PHP   | BCP  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Fire Safety - Remedial actions overdue</b>  |   | <b>Legionella Management - No. of remedial actions outstanding</b>  |  |
| 3 x Legacy Actions - 66a-D Dale Close one door left to change but having access issues, 140-154 Egmont Road flat 142 left to replace, 115-118 Sterte Court Flat 118 door has now been surveyed | 2 Legacy actions at at Bethany and 1 at Craven Court have been mitigated with the Fire Brigade.<br><br>506 Low- 152 of Low related to storage of EICR certificates and 225 relate to letterbox replacement programme.                           | Lagland Court - Access issues into flat 38 and 19, have involved housing and passed over leaseholder information to help with this. Outstanding remedial works at Woodlark House - discussed with Ecosafe that these need rectifying by end of October.   | The outstanding inspections are because the contractor cannot get safe access to lofts.  |
| <b>Lift Safety - Non-domestic</b>  |   | <b>Periodic Electrical Testing</b>  |  |
|  | 5 showed outstanding last quarter on the portal on the 1st July.<br>1 was a broken lift at Bethany House and 4 were services not done in previous month at 1 Forsyth Gardens, 401 Holdenhurst Road, 83 Southbourne Road and Talbot Woods Court. | There have been a number of no access properties that have caused us an issue in terms no response from the residents from repeated telephone calls, letters and cold calls. We have managed to push these through with engaging additional contractors and involving PHP surveyors to increase frequency of our contact. | Latest EICR reports to provide these figures from Northgate. The large number expired before renewal date includes any where there is any doubt on whether they were done on time or not, therefore this is the worse case scenario. Doubts arise as in the past the EICR test was added onto other work rather than always having its own SOR code. |
| <b>Gas Servicing</b>   |   | <b>Lift Safety - Domestic</b>   |  |
|  | None outstanding at the end of the quarter.   |   | The 6 lifts that have not been completed were not attended due to the client being unavailable. 5 are rebooked for October dates. The other we were waiting for a valid contact number.  |
|  |   | <b>Asbestos Management</b>  |  |
|  |   |   | All flatblock inspections up to date. Asbestos usually checked during the third and final cycle which is about to begin.   |

## CABINET



|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Report subject    | <b>Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21</b>  |
| Meeting date      | 12 January 2022  |
| Status            | Public Report  |
| Executive summary | <p>As agreed in the 'Response to Climate and Ecological Emergency' report to Council in December 2019, an annual report on climate action is required to monitor and communicate progress towards achieving the declared goals. This report will go to Full Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.</p> <p>BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 16 July 2019. This report sets out the work the Council has carried out in the second year towards achieving our targets to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030 - <b>The amount of carbon emissions from Council operations has reduced by over 10%</b>, from 41,567 tCO<sub>2e</sub> to 37,109 tCO<sub>2e</sub>.</li> <li>• Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050 – <b>the amount of area-wide carbon emissions has decreased by 71,748 tonnes CO<sub>2e</sub> (3.7%)</b> between figures released in 2019 and 2020 (energy use data for the years 2017 and 2018 respectively).</li> </ul> <p>2020/21 has been a transitional and unusual year for Climate Action, sitting as it does between the declaration of national and local Climate and Ecological Emergencies and the COP26 summit, and while we are still in the shadow of the Covid-19 pandemic that continues to dominate news. Covid-19 continues to be a major factor in progressing Climate Action, and it is not yet clear if the effects on carbon reduction will be maintained and trends continued. At the start of the reporting period, Council funding for Climate Action had been withdrawn as part of the response to financial pressures caused by Covid-19. Following a change in political control of the Council, the funding was reinstated, but this interruption significantly disrupted the ability to spend the money effectively. Important additional funding has been secured to grow the Climate Action team and to drive forward the delivery of the Action Plan with a new Climate Action staffing structure</p> |

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
|                                   | <p>created. This will ensure that the service provided by the Team meets and exceed stakeholder expectations, and that the portfolio of activities in the Action Plan is optimised to meet our 2030 and 2050 targets as cost effectively and as quickly as is sensible.</p> <p>In addition, this report also recommends that Cabinet approve exploration of the Council becoming members of the UK100 - a network of highly ambitious local government leaders looking to transition to clean energy, taking the public and business with them.</p> |
| <b>Recommendations</b>            | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a) Cabinet recommends to Council that it notes this report as an update on activities taken to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency during 2020/21</b></li> <li><b>b) Cabinet endorses and recommends that Council supports the adoption and ongoing development and delivery of the BCP Climate Action Plan</b></li> <li><b>c) Cabinet explores joining the UK100 Group of Local Authorities leading the way on Climate Change</b></li> </ul>              |
| <b>Reason for recommendations</b> | <p>To allow the Council to meet its commitments under the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration and help global efforts to keep climate warming below 1.5°C to avoid further environmental damage, population displacement, biodiversity loss and risk to life. BCP Council plays a pivotal role in achieving the declared carbon neutral targets through direct action and leadership and commits to prioritising resources and investment in ongoing climate action</p>  |



|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Mike Greene, Transport & Sustainability   |
| Corporate Director   | Kate Ryan, Chief Operating Officer   |
| Report Authors       | Roxanne King, Strategic Lead – Climate, Resource & Sustainability<br>Neil Short, Sustainability Manager – Energy & Green Economy<br>Becky Beaumont, Sustainability Officer |
| Wards                | Council-wide   |
| Classification       | For Update   |

## Background

1. On 16 July 2019, BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency. The headline commitments of this were to make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030, and to work with partners to set a target date for when the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole region can be made carbon neutral, ahead of the UK target of 2050. An annual report is required to update on progress towards achieving these targets.
2. 16 July 2021 marked the second anniversary of BCP Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency declaration. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic were still being felt as services gradually resumed activities and looked towards the COP26 global climate change summit in November 2021.
3. The backdrop to this report is one of increased urgency and a rapid call to action for all countries and communities throughout the world. The IPCC report published in August 2021 – described by the UN as a 'Code Red for humanity' - evidences critical and unprecedented changes in global weather and climate systems because of human activity.
4. Scientists found that human action is the main driver behind many changes to our climate including:
  - Increase in marine heatwaves
  - Glacial retreat
  - Reduction of Arctic Sea ice
  - Decline in spring snow cover in the Northern Hemisphere
  - Increase in global sea level rise
  - Increase in wildfires
  - Increased frequency of heatwaves
  - More intense rainfall
  - Ocean acidification

5. The primary message of the IPCC report is that known negative impacts of climate change can be expected much sooner and with a much higher severity than previously thought.
6. Scenarios studied by the IPCC suggest that 1.5°C of warming will be reached or crossed by the end of the 2030s and, if we continue on our current high emissions path, that threshold could be reached even sooner.
7. The report notes we still have time to act but highlights that it is crucial this must be a decade of action if we are to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Action needs to be ambitious and transformational if this is to be achieved. Reaching Net zero emissions by the middle of the century, if coupled with significant emissions reductions in carbon dioxide and methane during this decade would limit global warming close to 1.5°C.
8. The IPCC and CCC note that it is still too soon to rule out a 4°C rise in global temperatures by the end of the century.
9. Even if we do take ambitious action now, the IPCC report notes we are already guaranteed to see an increase in extreme and destructive weather. This highlights the necessity to build resilience into our communities, whilst simultaneously taking preventative action to reduce further negative impacts for the future.
10. Key impacts that the BCP area needs to prepare for are:
  - Increased flooding
  - Increased extreme weather – hotter and wetter summers, stormier winters
11. More detailed information regarding the effects of climate change for the environment and communities can be found in the previous BCP Climate Action Annual Report.
12. Our Climate Action Plan and work are consistent with both national and global leadership on the issue, which has been recognised through attainment of Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) A-List City status in 2020 and 2021. CDP is a leading international authority for environmental transparency and action against climate change and only 11 authorities in the UK and 95 across the world were awarded A-List status. This validates the measures taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and improve the area's resilience to extreme weather and climate change (adaptation). To further raise our performance as a Climate Action Leader, we will consider membership of the UK100 group of local authorities.

### **Carbon Neutral BCP Council 2030 update 2020/21**

13. The report at Appendix 1 details the most complete and up to date data available and highlights some key projects which took place within BCP Council in 2020/21 to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency.
14. The BCP Council Emissions Inventory for 2020/21 is built upon the LGA/Local Partnerships Carbon Accounting Tool that utilises Government published conversion factors. This includes full Scope 1 and 2 emission sources but a more wide-ranging number of Scope 3 activities than last year. To give Council the most complete appraisal of the potential size of the Council's Scope 3, officers have worked to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Standard to present initial

calculations of Scope 3 emissions. This has demonstrated that Scope 3 emissions represent the largest proportion of BCP Council emissions with further sources yet to be determined.

15. The total measurable greenhouse gas emissions from BCP Council activities for 2020/21 was 37,109 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. This represents a reduction of over 10%, despite additional Scope 1 data becoming available for 2020/21 for Fugitive Emissions (greenhouse gas emissions that have escaped from air conditioning systems) and higher fleet fuel amount due to increased accuracy in reporting. Gas and electricity use have both dropped, due in part to Covid-19 restrictions on working practices, it must be assumed, but also due to the Council's Transformation programme that intended to rationalise assets and introduce new ways of working. Figures show that procurement of emissions free electricity reduced emissions from bought electricity to 315 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

| <b>BCP Council CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions Inventory 2020/21</b> |                                       |  |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Scope</b>   | <b>Emissions Type</b>                 | <b>Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) with full Scope 2 based on kwh of electricity used</b> | <b>Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) with reduced Scope 2 from green electricity procurement</b> |
| <b>Scope 1</b>   | Heating                               | 4,403  | 4,403   |
|  | Fugitive Emissions                    | 138  | 138   |
|  | Authority's Fleet                     | 3,412  | 3,412   |
| <b>Scope 2</b>   | Electricity                           | 4,129  | 315   |
| <b>Scope 3</b>   | Water supply                          | 3  | 3   |
|  | Paper procured                        | 107  | 107   |
|  | Energy lost transporting electricity  | 355  | 355   |
|  | Waste (incl. sewerage)                | 35   | 35  |
|  | Business Travel                       | 168  | 168   |
|  | Staff Commuting                       | 885  | 885   |
|  | Sold products (end of life treatment) | 1  | 1   |
|  | Leased out buildings (incl. housing)  | 27,287   | 27,287  |
|  | All procured products and services    | Not known  | Not known   |
|  | Investments                           | Not known  | Not known   |
| <b>Total Known Emissions for 2020/21</b>                       |                                       | <b>40,923</b>  | <b>37,109</b>   |
| <b>2019/20 totals</b>  |                                       | <b>43,643</b>  | <b>41,567</b>   |
| <b>% Change</b>  |                                       | <b>-6.2</b>  | <b>-10.7</b>  |

## Carbon Neutral BCP Council Area 2050 update 2020/21

16. The Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration committed BCP Council to work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050. The report at Appendix 1 details the most complete and up to date data available and highlights some key projects which took place between July 2020 and July 2021 to address the emergency.
17. Area-wide data has been compiled by the Government-funded SCATTER project for the first time since 2019 (then using 2017 data). The comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory covers emissions within the local authority boundary, calculated in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) which includes gases CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O and CH<sub>4</sub>, reported in CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent. Note the inventory data shown below relates to the 2018 reporting period, as this is the most recent data available.
18. Since this exercise was last conducted, using 2017 data, the total emissions have decreased from 1,943,331 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e – a decrease of 71,748 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (3.7%).

| <b>BCP Council Area Emissions Inventory 2020/21</b> |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Emission Scope                                      | Scope 1<br><br>2018 data,<br>published 2020<br>(SCATTER) | Scope 2<br><br>2018 data,<br>published 2020<br>(SCATTER) | Scope 3<br><br>2018 data,<br>published 2020<br>(SCATTER) | <b>Area<br/>total<br/><br/>1,871,583</b> |
| Primary Sources                                     | Gas use, road<br>transport fuel                          | Electricity use  | Purchased<br>products, waste,<br>water, aviation         |  |
| Total (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e)                    | 1,089,825  | 424,155  | 357,603  |  |

## Climate Action – Next Steps

19. The Climate Action Plan detailed in Appendix 1 has been developed from the Draft Climate Action Plan presented to Council in December 2019, and actions have been prioritised according to the January 2021 public consultation, APSE recommendations and Ashden/Friends of the Earth impact guidance. Officers and Members will monitor, adapt and deliver the plan on an ongoing basis as technologies and resources develop, to achieve the 2030 target and contribute to/facilitate the 2050 target.
20. As the Team is now growing in line with the approved structure, an opportunity has been identified to draft a Service Design and Execution Plan for the Team and the Climate Actions. This will ensure that the service provided by the Team meets and exceed stakeholder expectations, and that the portfolio of activities in the Action Plan is optimised to meet our 2030 and 2050 targets as cost effectively and as quickly as is sensible. The new Service Design will be completed and sent

for approval to the Corporate Leadership Team by the end of March. Alongside the new Service Design, the Climate Action Plan will be prioritised and sequenced to ensure close integration and strategic alignment with the Target Operating Model and Transformation programme to leverage opportunities for collaborative working. This will enable good governance and management control to track and monitor progress against our targets and emission reduction trajectories, to identify any gaps in our roadmap and to ensure that the actions identified are the optimum to achieve our targets. A revised portfolio of activities will be developed and approved by the Corporate Leadership Team by the end of June 2022 to ensure that it is deliverable alongside the transformation changes underway and that it is consistent with available financing.

21. The Climate Action Plan is presented in the following five sections, each of which is overseen by a Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Group and BCP Council's Climate Action Steering Group:

- Energy & Buildings
- Planning & Land Use
- Travel & Transport
- Nature & Waste
- Council Operations

22. Council activities within the Climate Action Plan are accompanied by suggested actions that residents, businesses and visitors could take to improve outcomes.

23. Progress made during 2020/21 has resulted in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole being listed in the highly acclaimed A-List of Cities by the Carbon Disclosure Project, a leading international authority for environmental transparency and action against climate change. BCP Council is just one of 11 authorities in the UK and 95 across the world to make the A-List of Cities, which puts the Council in an excellent position to continue improving. To this end, the Council will also explore membership of the UK100. This is a network of highly ambitious local government leaders, which seeks to devise and implement plans for the transition to clean energy that are ambitious, cost effective and take the public and business with them. It supports decision-makers in UK towns, cities and counties in their transition to Net Zero. It is the only network for UK local leaders focused solely on climate, clean energy and clean air policy. The UK100 pledges BCP Council could sign up to are for the area to be powered by: '100% clean energy by 2050', and the most ambitious local authorities can join the [Net Zero Local Leadership Club](#) and pledge to do 'everything within their power to get their communities to Net Zero as soon as possible', specifically:

- Have set ambitious Net Zero targets for greenhouse emissions of 2030 for council operations and 2045 for areawide emissions
- Report their carbon emissions annually, for scope 1 and scope 2, for council emissions and areawide emissions
- Commit to limiting the use of offsets, and if used, to be as local as possible.

### **Summary of financial implications**

24. In addition to the environmental and social impacts of climate change, there is a risk to BCP Council of significant financial consequences if it fails to meet its declared climate targets. Council has pledged to become carbon neutral by 2030 as an organisation and lead the area to become net zero carbon ahead of the 2050 national target. Based on forecasts from the London School of Economics the Council is likely to have to incur costs of over £3m per annum to purchase the necessary offsetting carbon credits to meet the carbon neutral pledge in 2030. Clearly this cost will act as an incentive to the council to prioritise the activity and investment necessary to meet this priority.
25. Long-term financial impacts can be reduced by investing in carbon reduction activities now. Many schemes will take time to implement due to planning, funding and resource implications (such as large-scale renewable energy generation or modal shift to sustainable transport), so it's imperative to prioritise and deliver climate action at the earliest opportunity. Reducing our energy bills, fuel costs and waste production will generate immediate financial savings which can be used to support further climate action within the organisation and help us reach our climate and ecological targets.
26. Significant investment is required to deliver the Climate Action Plan. This will be bid for from Central Government and other external funding sources as appropriate.

### **Summary of legal implications**

27. There are potentially many legal implications in delivery of projects within the Climate Action Plan that will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Early engagement with the Council's Legal Team will be sought to reduce risk.
28. BCP Council is obliged to sufficiently take account of the Climate and Ecological Emergency in the development of the new Local Plan, or risk legal challenge.

### **Summary of human resources implications**

29. 2020/21 has seen significant expansion and uplift of the Council's Climate and Sustainability Team. Delivery requires sustained recruitment and the engagement of all Council services. This support has been pledged by the Climate Action Steering Group and will require the ongoing investment of time and consideration from staff.
30. The human resource implications of individual projects will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

31. Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) ID: 326. DIA Report found at Appendix 2.

## Decision Impact Assessment

[Review registration](#)

[Climate Change & Energy](#)

[Communities & Culture](#)

[Waste & Resource Use](#)

[Economy](#)

[Health & Wellbeing](#)

[Learning & Skills](#)

[Natural Environment](#)

[Sustainable Procurement](#)

[Transport & Accessibility](#)

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### Key

○ Not yet assessed

● Major negative impacts identified

● Minor negative impacts identified / unknown impacts

● Only positive impacts identified

● No positive or negative impacts identified

[Submit Proposal](#)

At any point the assessment you can request a report of what has been completed so far, for example to share with colleagues.


Note that it may take up to two working days for the report to be emailed to you.

[Request Report](#) [Ask for help](#)

DIA Proposal ID: 326

Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21

Welcome Roxanne King



## Summary of public health implications

32. Climate change will result in heatwaves, extreme weather events, floods, disease and increased cancer risk. The measures to reduce it, as set out in this report, will limit the dangers and those activities can also have direct positive health effects (e.g. increased fitness from cycling and better air quality from reducing car journeys).

## Summary of equality implications

33. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has been carried out and scrutinised by an Equalities Panel in October 2021.
34. There are no negative impacts identified on the protected characteristics groups of the Equalities Act 2010 from the recommendations in this report. However, an Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken, as necessary, for individual projects in the Climate Action Plan before commencement to ensure this.

## Summary of risk assessment

35. We are uncertain of the full extent that the effects of climate change will have on the BCP area but know it will be more severe if we do not act now. Failing to achieve the Climate and Ecological Emergency declaration commitments will contribute to a further degraded and hostile global environment – with local weather consequences, increasing vulnerability of our energy supply and activism from environmental organisations, highly likely.
36. Non-achievement of targets will result in reputational damage from negative publicity (locally, nationally and internationally).
37. Acting positively and rapidly, many of the actions in the Climate Action Plan will contribute to broad social, economic and environmental benefits, reducing the likelihood of actual and perceived risks.
38. Risk assessments will be carried out for individual Climate Action projects as required, on a case-by-case basis.

## **Background papers**

Published works:

Ashden/Friends of the Earth impact guidance - [https://ashden.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/CAC-Chapters-all\\_new-brand.pdf](https://ashden.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/CAC-Chapters-all_new-brand.pdf)

SCATTER - <https://scattercities.com/>

## **Appendices**

1. BCP Council Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21
2. Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) Report ID: 326





# BCP COUNCIL CLIMATE ACTION ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21



## Environment

### Climate, Resource & Sustainability

Report on BCP Council actions from July 2020 to June 2021  
to address the Climate & Ecological Emergency

**Authors:** Dr Matt Montgomery, Roxanne King, Neil Short, Becky Beaumont

**Version:** V0.2

**Date:** December 2021

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## Executive Summary

1. BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 16 July 2019 and followed this by considering and approving for consultation a draft Action Plan at its meeting on 16 December 2019.

2. This report sets out the work the Council has carried out in the second year towards achieving our targets. The second year since the Emergency was declared covers July 2020 to June 2021, however data included is provided in financial years (April 2020 to March 2021) and some comparisons (notably area-wide emissions) have been made available in 2020 but relate to earlier years. This report gives updates on our progress to:

- Make BCP Council and its operations carbon neutral by 2030 - The amount of carbon emissions from Council operations reduced by over 10%, from 41,567 tCO<sub>2</sub>e to 37,109 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- Work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050 – the amount of area-wide carbon emissions has decreased by 71,748 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (3.7%) between figures released in 2019 and 2020 (energy use data for the years 2017 and 2018 respectively).

3. 2020/21 has been a transitional and unusual year for Climate Action, sitting as it does between the declaration of national and local Climate and Ecological Emergencies and the COP26 summit in November 2021, whilst still in the shadow of the Covid-19 pandemic that continues to dominate news. Covid-19 continues to be a major factor in progressing Climate Action, and it is not yet clear if the effects on carbon reduction will be maintained and trends continued. At the start of the reporting period, Council funding for Climate Action had been withdrawn as part of the response to financial pressures caused by Covid-19. Following a change in political control of the Council, the funding was reinstated, but this interruption significantly disrupted the ability to spend the money effectively. Important additional funding has been secured to grow the Climate Action team and to drive forward the delivery of the Action Plan with a new Climate Action staffing structure created. This will ensure that the service provided by the Team meets and exceeds stakeholder expectations, and that the portfolio of activities in the Action Plan is optimised to meet our 2030 and 2050 targets as cost effectively and as quickly as is sensible.

4. The BCP Council Emissions Inventory for 2020/21 contained in this report is built upon the LGA/Local Partnerships Carbon Accounting Tool that utilises Government published conversion factors. This includes full Scope 1 and 2 emission sources but a more wide-ranging number of Scope 3 activities than last year. To give Council the most complete appraisal of the potential size of the Council's Scope 3, officers have worked to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Standard to present initial calculations of Scope 3 emissions.

5. All this puts the Council in a good position to continue reducing carbon, but while the numbers show we are on the right trajectory, it is not possible to say that this year's good news gives sufficient confidence that things are going well enough to hit our targets. The challenge for the Council is now to regain momentum following the pandemic response and develop a clear sense of requirements for resourcing and moving forward climate action, with a view of what will add most value given the current resources.

## Introduction

6. 16 July 2021 marked the second anniversary of BCP Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency declaration. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic were still being felt as services gradually resumed activities and looked towards the COP26 global climate change summit in November 2021.

7. The backdrop to this report is one of increased urgency and a rapid call to action for all countries and communities throughout the world. The IPCC report<sup>i</sup> published in August 2021 – described by the UN as a 'Code Red for humanity' - evidences critical and unprecedented changes in global weather and climate systems because of human activity.

8. Scientists found that human action is the main driver behind many changes to our climate including:

- Increase in marine heatwaves
- Glacial retreat
- Reduction of Arctic Sea ice
- Decline in spring snow cover in the Northern Hemisphere
- Increase in global sea level rise
- Increase in wildfires
- Increased frequency of heatwaves
- More intense rainfall
- Ocean acidification

9. The primary message of the IPCC report is that known negative impacts of climate change can be expected much sooner and with a much higher severity than previously thought.

10. Scenarios studied by the IPCC suggest that 1.5°C of warming will be reached or crossed by the end of the 2030s and, if we continue on our current high emissions path, that threshold could be reached even sooner.

11. The report notes we still have time to act but highlights that it is crucial this must be a decade of action if we are to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Action needs to be ambitious and transformational if this is to be achieved. Reaching Net zero emissions by the middle of the century, if coupled with significant emissions reductions in carbon dioxide and methane during this decade would limit global warming close to 1.5°C<sup>i,ii</sup>.

12. The IPCC and CCC note that it is still too soon to rule out a 4°C rise in global temperatures by the end of the century.

13. Even if we do take ambitious action now, the IPCC report notes we are already guaranteed to see an increase in extreme and destructive weather. This highlights

the necessity to build resilience into our communities, whilst simultaneously taking preventative action to reduce further negative impacts for the future.

14. Key impacts that the BCP area needs to prepare for are:

- Increased flooding
- Increased extreme weather – hotter and wetter summers and stormier winters

15. More detailed information regarding the effects of climate change for the environment and communities can be found in the previous BCP Climate Action Annual Report.

16. Our Climate Action plan and work are consistent with both national and global leadership on the issue, which has been recognised through attainment of Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) A-List City status in 2020 and 2021. CDP is a leading international authority for environmental transparency and action against climate change and only 11 authorities in the UK and 95 across the world were awarded A-List status. This validates the measures taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and improve the area's resilience to extreme weather and climate change (adaptation). To further raise our performance as a Climate Action Leader, we will consider membership of the UK100 group of local authorities. The UK100 pledges BCP Council could sign up to are for the area to be powered by: '100% clean energy by 2050', and the most ambitious local authorities can join the Net Zero Local Leadership Club and pledge to do 'everything within their power to get their communities to Net Zero as soon as possible', specifically:

- Have set ambitious Net Zero targets for greenhouse emissions of 2030 for council operations and 2045 for areawide emissions
- Report their carbon emissions annually, for scope 1 and scope 2, for council emissions and areawide emissions
- Commit to limiting the use of offsets, and if used, to be as local as possible.

## Carbon Neutral BCP Council 2030 update 2020/21

17. The Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration committed BCP Council to becoming carbon neutral (or net-zero carbon) by 2030, including all Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (as described below). This report details the most complete and up to date data available and highlights some key projects which took place from July 2020 to July 2021 to address the emergency.

### Emissions Inventory

18. An emissions inventory contains the amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted by various sources managed by an organisation or contained within a geographical area over a specified period. Emissions are expressed as tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (meaning that other greenhouse gases produced alongside carbon dioxide are included and quantified according to their global warming potential). The BCP Council Climate and Ecological Emergency targets aim to address emissions from sources termed Scopes 1, 2 and 3.

19. Council Scope 1 emissions are from the direct burning of fuel (to heat buildings and operate vehicles), Scope 2 emissions are classed as indirect, from the generation of the electricity we buy, and Scope 3 emissions are caused outside our boundary but by our activities (including use of drinking water, waste disposal and items we procure).

### Accounting Tools and Standards

20. The BCP Council Emissions Inventory for 2020/21 is built upon the LGA/Local Partnerships Carbon Accounting Tool that utilises Government published conversion factors. This includes full Scope 1 and 2 emission sources but a more wide-ranging number of Scope 3 activities than last year. To give Council the most complete appraisal of the potential size of the Council's Scope 3, officers have worked to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Standard to present initial calculations of Scope 3 emissions. This has demonstrated that Scope 3 emissions represent the largest proportion of BCP Council emissions with further sources yet to be determined.



| <b>BCP Council CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions Inventory 2020/21</b> |                                       |  |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Scope</b>   | <b>Emissions Type</b>                 | <b>Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) with full Scope 2 based on kwh of electricity used</b> | <b>Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) with reduced Scope 2 from green electricity procurement</b> |
| <b>Scope 1</b>   | Heating                               | 4,403  | 4,403   |
|  | Fugitive Emissions                    | 138  | 138   |
|  | Authority's Fleet                     | 3,412  | 3,412   |
| <b>Scope 2</b>   | Electricity                           | 4,129  | 315   |
| <b>Scope 3</b>   | Water supply                          | 3  | 3   |
|  | Paper procured                        | 107  | 107   |
|  | Energy lost transporting electricity  | 355  | 355   |
|  | Waste (incl. sewerage)                | 35   | 35  |
|  | Business Travel                       | 168  | 168   |
|  | Staff Commuting                       | 885  | 885   |
|  | Sold products (end of life treatment) | 1  | 1   |
|  | Leased out buildings (incl. housing)  | 27,287   | 27,287  |
|  | All procured products and services    | Not known  | Not known   |
|  | Investments                           | Not known  | Not known   |
| <b>Total Known Emissions for 2020/21</b>                       |                                       | <b>40,923</b>  | <b>37,109</b>   |
| <b>2019/20 totals</b>  |                                       | <b>43,643</b>  | <b>41,567</b>   |
| <b>% Change</b>  |                                       | <b>-6.2</b>  | <b>-10.7</b>  |

21. Two columns of emissions are shown with differing Scope 2 data. The first of these includes the emissions figure associated with the amount of kWh electricity used by the Council. The second includes a reduced figure resulting from the procurement of 'green' electricity, generated from renewable resources in the UK (details below). This dual reporting of data is in accordance with HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines (March 2019).

22. As reported in the last Annual Report, the total measurable GHG emissions from BCP Council activities for the baseline year of 2019/20 (taking into account procurement of green electricity) was **41,567 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e**. It was explained that while this figure included as many areas of BCP activities as possible, the total GHG emissions would be more than this. Inclusions, exclusions and assumptions relating to each Scope 3 category are explained in the Technical Appendix. 2019/20 GHG emissions for Scope 1 and 2 fuel and electricity use data is set out below.

| Scope   | Source 2019/20                     | Amount     | Unit   | tCO <sub>2</sub> e |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------------------|
| scope 1 | Stationary Gas (Buildings)         | 24,856,991 | kwh    | 4,569              |
|         | Fleet fuel                         | 1,300,000  | litres | 3,372              |
| scope 2 | Stationary Electricity (Buildings) | 12,490,079 | kwh    | 3,192*             |
|         | Streetlights                       | 9,119,764  | kwh    | 2,329*             |

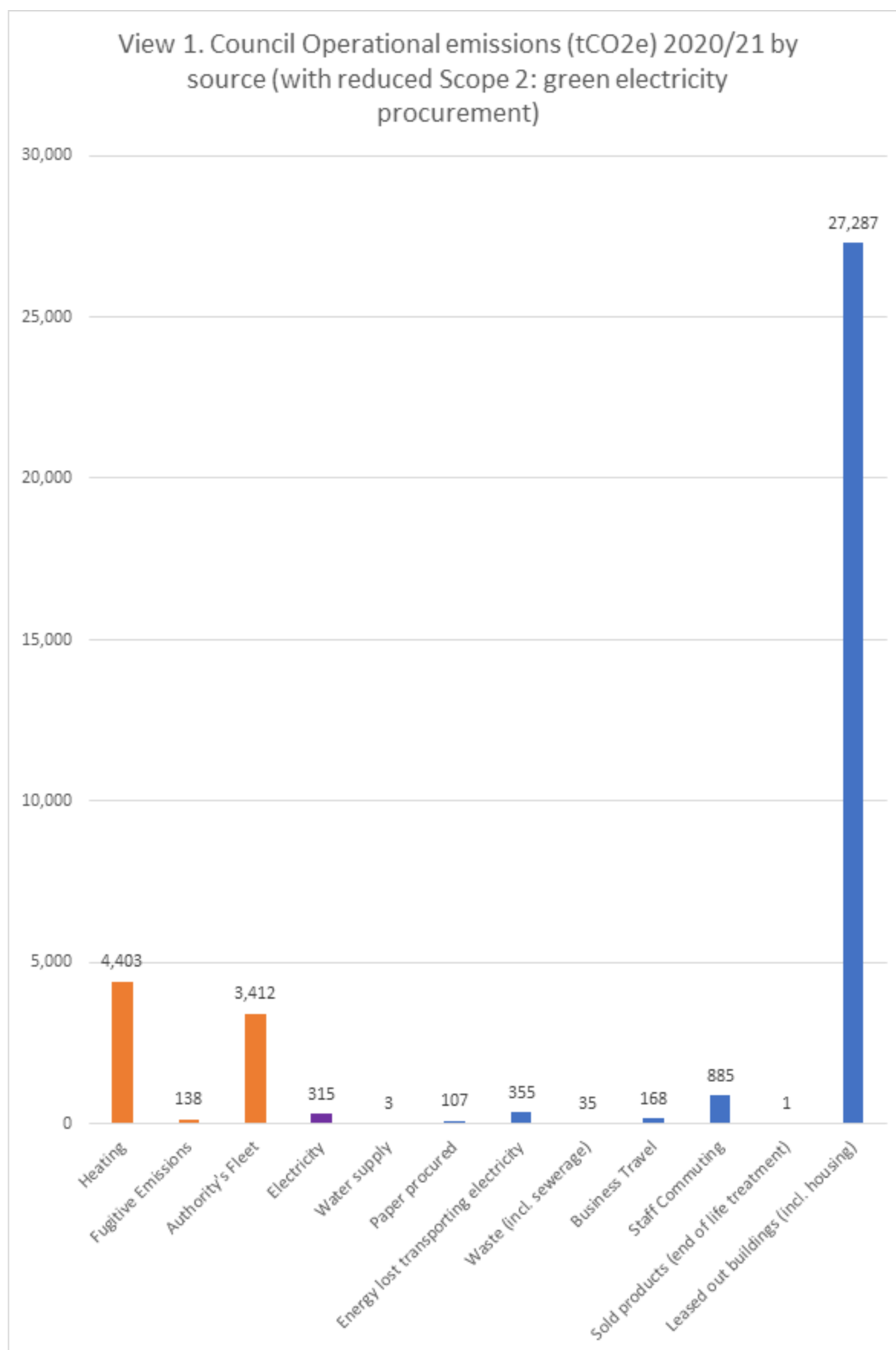
\*Green electricity procurement further reduces Scope 2 emissions to 3,447 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

23. The total measurable GHG emissions from BCP Council activities for 2020/21 was **37,109 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e** (view 1). This represents a reduction of over 10%, despite additional Scope 1 data becoming available for 2020/21 for Fugitive Emissions (greenhouse gas emissions that have escaped from air conditioning systems) and higher fleet fuel amount due to increased accuracy in reporting. If it is assumed that an identical amount of Fugitive Emissions escaped in 2019/20, then the overall reduction improvement in 2020/21 would be 11%. Gas and electricity use have both dropped, due in part to Covid-19 restrictions on working practices, it must be assumed, but also due to the Council's Transformation programme that intended to rationalise assets and introduce new ways of working. Figures below show actual energy usage, but procurement of emissions free electricity reduced emissions from bought electricity to 315 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

| Scope            | Source 2020/21                     | Amount     | Unit   | tCO <sub>2</sub> e |
|------------------|------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------------------|
| scope 1          | Stationary Gas (Buildings)         | 23,947,866 | kwh    | 4,403              |
|                  | Fleet fuel                         | 1,340,000  | litres | 3,412              |
| New scope 1 data | Fugitive emissions                 | 56         | kg     | 138**              |
| scope 2          | Stationary Electricity (Buildings) | 8,992,168  | kwh    | 2,096*             |
|                  | Streetlights                       | 8,721,784  | kwh    | 2,033*             |

\*Green electricity procurement further reduces Scope 2 emissions to 315 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

\*\*Without the addition of fugitive emissions, overall reduction from 19/20 is 11%



### BCP Council Scope 3 Emissions

24. BCP Council Scope 3 emissions for 2020/21 have been calculated at **28,838 tCO<sub>2</sub>e**. Scope 3 emissions are defined as 'other indirect emissions', meaning all indirect emissions apart from purchased electricity (Scope 2). Scope 3 emissions are a consequence of the activities of an organisation but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation. Despite not owning or directly controlling the sources of these emissions an organisation can still influence the levels of these emissions through its policies and choices. The scale of Scope 3 data will change over time as more data is gathered, and the accuracy of the data improved.

25. As reported last year, Scope 3 includes:

- Goods and services bought by the council (water and paper only)
- Energy lost transporting electricity (Transmission and Distribution)
- Waste generated by council operations only – recycling, refuse and wastewater (does not include household or street/public spaces litter bin collections)
- Business travel (staff using modes of transport not owned by the council)
- Staff commuting
- End-of-life treatment of products sold in council run catering venues
- Leased out buildings (including council housing, properties used by business tenants and gas bottle usage at Council leased out beach huts)
- Investments

26. By including all known Scope 3 data BCP Council is being as transparent as possible in reporting our carbon emissions. Despite being the hardest scope to measure and therefore open to more inaccuracies and assumptions, analysis of this scope still provides us with valuable insight into all our activities as an organisation.

### Scope 3 Emissions trends

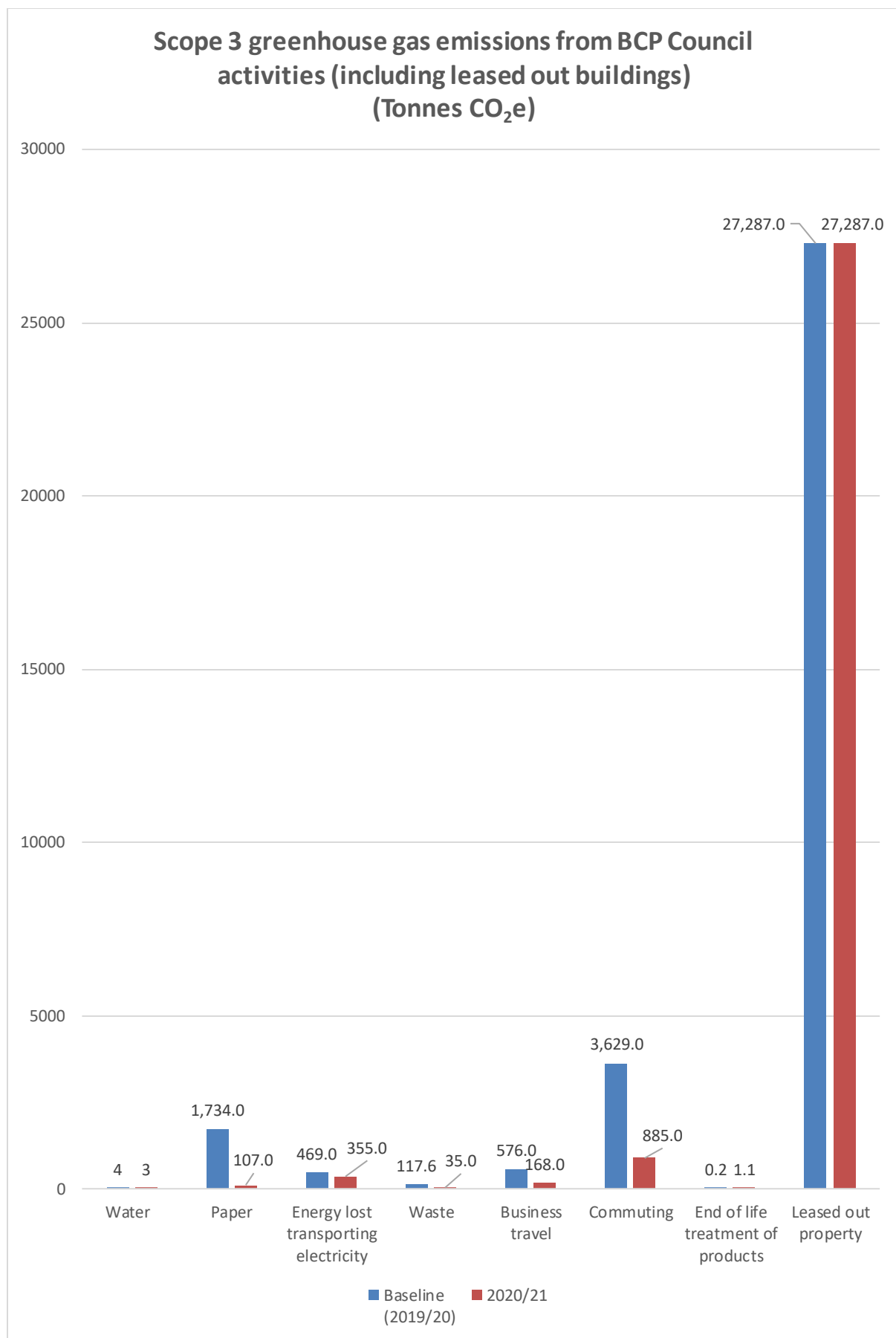
27. The table below compares emissions for the baseline year (2019/20) to those recorded for 2020/21 and shows the percentage increase or decrease in emissions from each source. Total emissions have decreased by almost 15% from the previous year. Some reductions will be due to organisational change and new ways of working, but figures should also be viewed in the light of Covid-19 restrictions, since these would have had considerable influence on the large reductions to some sources, such as paper, waste, travel and commuting. The sole increasing source should also be viewed with caution, since this accounts for a small share of emissions and is due to reduced data availability. This is expanded upon in the following sections.

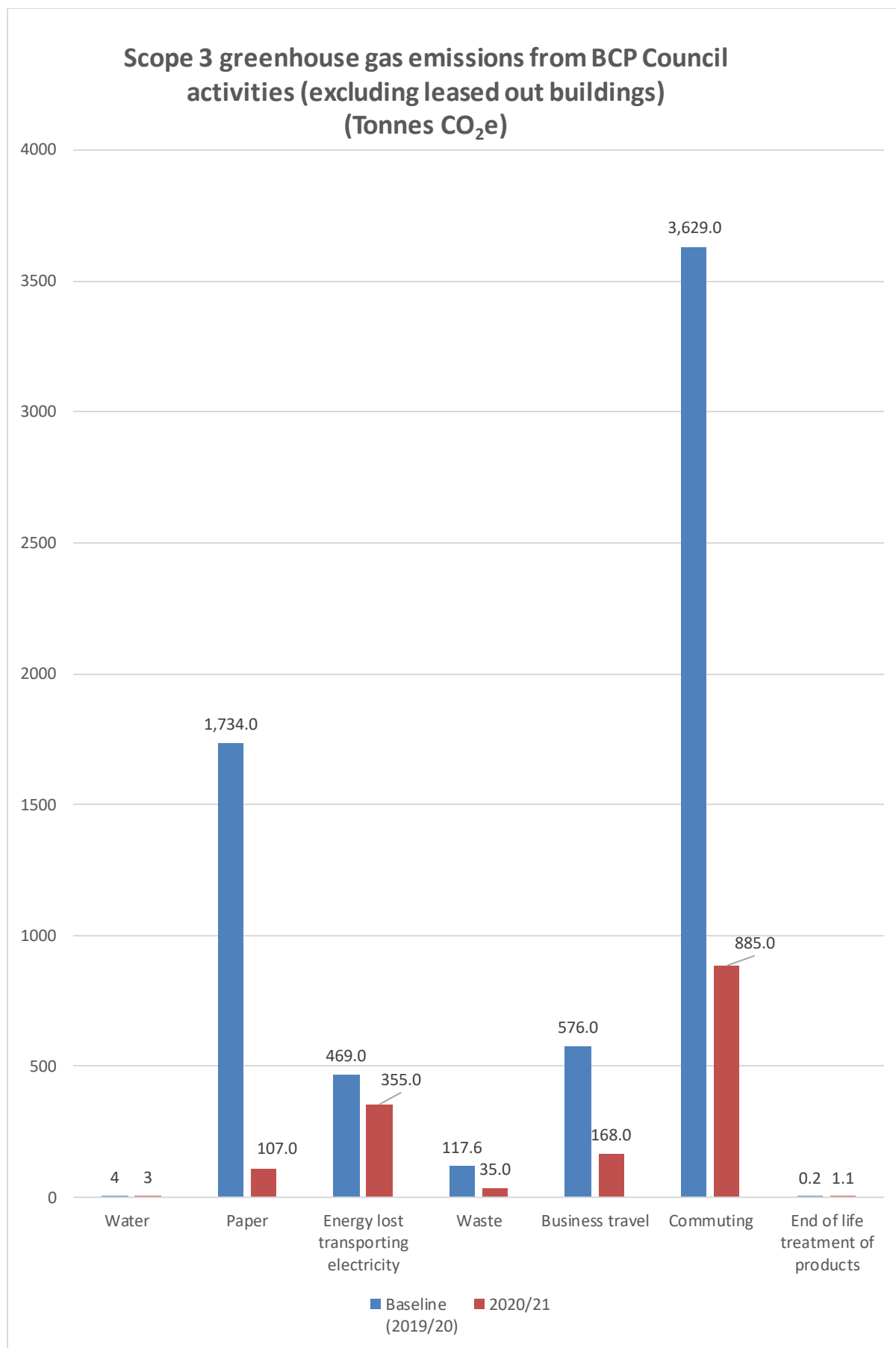
|                                      | 2019/20<br>(revised) | 2020/21         | Percentage<br>change |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Water                                | 4.0                  | 3.0             | -25                  |
| Paper                                | 1,734.0              | 107.0           | -93.8                |
| Energy lost transporting electricity | 469.0                | 355.0           | -24.3                |
| Waste                                | 117.6                | 35.0            | -70.2                |
| Business travel                      | 576.0                | 168.0           | -70.8                |
| Commuting                            | 3,629.0              | 885.0           | -75.6                |
| End of life treatment of products    | 0.2                  | 1.1             | 435.0                |
| Leased out property                  | 27,287.0             | 27,287.0        | 0.0                  |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>33,812.8</b>      | <b>28,838.1</b> | <b>-14.7</b>         |

Key

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
|  | Emissions decreased         |
|  | Emissions remained the same |
|  | Emissions increased         |

28. The table above shows the revised baseline figures. Some of the figures calculated and used in the 2019/20 Annual Report have since been updated to reflect either new data being available or an improved methodology (details for any changes can be found in the appendix). The above information is also displayed graphically in the following two charts. Due to the large percentage of emissions arising from Leased out buildings it is hard to appreciate the change from one year to another for other areas. The second chart omits Leased out buildings and so the other areas can be observed more clearly.





### Scope 3 update / comparison with baseline data

29. Good and Services: Water supply and paper: Further work is required to verify water consumption following changes to the management system. Water usage is shown to have decreased by 25% this year, however, data is incomplete. It can be surmised that due to Covid restrictions and increased hand washing, water usage per employee will have increased but fewer employees will have been in workplaces, possibly resulting in the decrease shown. Overall paper usage decreased by over 93%. This is due to the decreased numbers of staff working at the office and so a reduction in printing requirements. Paper towel usage increased during this time due to there being a focus on hand drying with paper towels rather than hand dryers to ensure buildings were as Covid safe as possible. As paper towels make up a small proportion of wastepaper by weight this did not have a significant impact on the overall reduction in emissions from paper purchased.

30. Energy lost transporting electricity: The emissions associated with getting the electricity used from the power source to BCP council decreased by 24.1%. This is primarily the result of a reduced energy consumption in council owned buildings due to the Covid pandemic.

31. Waste: Emissions have decreased compared to the baseline data due to an estimated 75% reduction in waste production due to Covid restrictions.

32. Business travel: Emissions from business travel decreased by approximately 71% from the baseline year. The most likely reason for this is reduced home visits, site visits, in person meetings with external organisations and fewer training/courses due to Covid restrictions.

33. Staff commuting: Emissions from commuting decreased by approximately 75% from the previous year; the vast majority, if not all, of this decrease is attributed to increased homeworking during the lockdowns and further homeworking required due to office refurbishment.

34. End of life treatment of sold products: This year the estimated weight of food packaging waste from BCP outlets were almost 50% less than baseline year yet emissions have increased by 435%. Only 3 outlets out of a potential 34 responded this year whereas 24 responded during the baseline year. This has led to potential inaccuracies when estimating waste from all 34 outlets. In particular, Seafront Services (22 outlets) were unable to provide data this year whereas they did for the baseline year. The different nature and number of the outlets responding each year have skewed the extrapolation.

35. Leased out buildings: The estimate for emissions has remained the same. This is because the number of buildings has not changed and nor has the emission factor. One less gas bottle was purchased this year than last, but this is not enough to make an impact on a whole number figure for emissions.



## Council Target (2030) Progress Update

36. The following sections of the report highlights key activities undertaken to reduce the Council's organisational carbon footprint and respond to the Climate and Ecological Emergency. These projects were delivered between July 2020 and July 2021.

### Power

37. The Council made the decision to procure electricity from UK renewable sources to send the message that it was actively supporting green energy production and to enable a reduction in Scope 2 reported emissions. This was the swiftest way to make a change within existing contracts. During 2020/21 green electricity for all BCP Council buildings and streetlights in Bournemouth and Poole was procured. The supply to Christchurch streetlights is not procured as green electricity, as it remains under a pre-reorganisation Dorset Council PFI agreement until 2032, but the emissions have been included in the BCP Council inventory to present as complete a picture as possible. The Npower Energy product procured by BCP Council is a Renewable Energy Guarantees Origin (REGO) - backed product that meets stringent carbon reporting requirements – as set by the World Resource Institute in the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance 2015. It has been independently verified that the supply is backed by a sufficient amount of REGOs from UK generation only, and so is reportable as zero carbon emissions.

### Buildings

38. Following the last Annual Report, the Council worked with the Association for Public Sector Excellence (APSE) to design a carbon reduction trajectory for its path towards becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030. This could be achieved by being more energy efficient in buildings, generating power and upgrading the vehicle fleet to Ultra Low Emission Vehicles. It is estimated that there will be 6,660 tCO<sub>2e</sub> from hard to reduce sources that will be unavoidable by 2030 that will need to be offset. Recommendations have been incorporated into Next Steps plans. £2.4 million of Government funding was awarded to the Council to improve the energy-efficiency of its buildings by installing LED lighting, insulation, heating controls, heat pumps and solar PV panels. In addition, Kings Park Athletics Centre underwent a full refurbishment, and as part of this, the council replaced the old floodlights with modern LED lighting that uses less energy, meaning the improvements will contribute to the council's commitment to make its operations carbon neutral by 2030.

## Planning and Land Use

39. The BCP Local Plan Regulation 18 Call for Sites and initial Issues Consultation took place in late 2019, inviting stakeholder comment over a 6-week period. This was the start of the first formal stage of the Local Plan process to create a single new Local Plan that will replace the individual plans for the former local authority areas of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. The initial consultation generated a significant number of representations in response to both the call for sites and the issues we identified, which were aligned to the corporate priorities, including how we could deliver a sustainable environment. From the feedback received, there was strong support for the Local Plan to tackle climate change. Around 35% of comments were around the need to deliver a sustainable environment when planning for growth. Comments received and a summary of those comments can be viewed on the website at: <https://www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/Planning-and-building-control/Planning-policy/BCP-Local-Plan/Consultations.aspx> It is anticipated the next stage of plan preparation, namely the BCP Local Plan Issues and Options consultation will take place in January 2022, with the local plan being adopted in 2023/4. The Local Plan Issues and Options document was agreed, subject to changes, for public consultation at Cabinet on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The Issues and Options document sets out policy approaches which are aimed at tackling climate change. In addition, it advocates a strategic approach to future growth by making best use of brownfield sites in the urban area for new development, contributing to the sustainability of the area.

40. A new Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in January 2021 reducing car parking requirements for all new residential and commercial developments in various parts of BCP. It is hoped this will affect modal shift to sustainable travel and reduce car dependency, producing a virtuous circle. The Environment Act became statute in November 2021 and amends the Environment Act 1995 and the Clean Air Act 1993. The Act requires that all new development deliver a 10% net gain in biodiversity which would need to be managed for at least 30 years. Funding of measures through the use of CIL contributions, grant funding opportunities and income generation are being considered. 30. The BCP Local Plan Regulation 18 Call for Sites and initial Issues Consultation took place in late 2019, inviting stakeholder comment over a 6-week period. This was the start of the first formal stage of the Local Plan process to create a single new Local Plan that will replace the individual plans for the former local authority areas of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. The initial consultation generated a significant number of representations in response to both the call for sites and the issues we identified, which were aligned to the corporate priorities, including how we could deliver a sustainable environment. From the feedback received, there was strong support for the Local Plan to tackle climate change. Around 35% of comments were around the need to deliver a sustainable environment when planning for growth. Comments received and a summary of those comments can be viewed on the website at: <https://www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/Planning-and-building-control/Planning->

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## Travel

41. The Council's first Sustainable Fleet Management Strategy heralds a significant increase in the number of Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles across its fleet. As part of the council's climate emergency declaration and pledge to make operations carbon neutral by 2030, this strategy will see an investment in alternative fuel technology and infrastructure to support a significant increase in the number of Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEVs) purchased and operated across the conurbation alongside a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the non ULEVs. The Fleet Asset Replacement Programme totalling £26.9 million will see the replacement of core vehicles, plant and equipment as they come to the end of their economic life. To enable the future adoption of more electric vehicles across the council's fleet, the programme will be put in place to ambitiously build on the existing 13 EV fleet currently operated, with a further 104 electric vehicles purchased within an overall total of 369 fleet replacements required in this period.

42. BCP Council's waste collection vehicles are trialling a new fuel - Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). this is an advanced renewable and sustainable fuel that offers a 90% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, helping with the council's climate emergency declaration and pledge to make operations carbon neutral by 2030. The fuel is created by collecting cooking oil waste and putting it through a hydrotreatment process before reusing it in diesel vehicles, rather than disposing of it in landfill or as

hazardous waste, promoting sustainable resource management as part of the council's operations. It can also be used as a drop-in alternative to regular diesel with no modifications or changes necessary to the existing fleet, saving money as well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The trial which will last one year, will deliver a carbon dioxide saving of around 40 metric tonnes per vehicle, (equivalent to 11 hot air balloons of carbon dioxide) and will open up the potential for the fuel to be used within the remainder of the fleet, increasing the environmental benefit and savings across the council.

## Nature

43. The Greenspace team continue work on the Future Parks project, one of a cohort of 8 places across the UK testing new ideas to make parks and greenspaces more sustainable, working in partnership with the National Lottery heritage Fund and the National Trust. Consultants CBA have been developing a summary Green Infrastructure Strategy and a full technical document and evidence base. This is being prepared for members to review at the end of 2021 prior to public consultation and adoption through cabinet in Spring 2022. Working in partnership with the Parks Foundation, the Urban Tree Challenge Fund made possible the planting of nearly 5,000 native trees in several locations across the area, with the help of local volunteers. Well over 10,000 trees have been planted across BCP in the last year, ranging from new hedgerows and copses to urban planting of large semi-mature trees. A Natural Capital Account has been produced by Vivid Economics to better understand the value of parks and open space for carbon sequestration, putting an estimated total value of our greenspaces at £231pa in benefits. Parks activators have been engaging the community and improving spaces at our three pilot parks Winton recreation ground, Watermans Park and Alexandra Park. In similar work the Parks Foundation have also been successful with a funding bid for a Nature Recovery project in 8 parks across BCP, improving biodiversity and homes for nature. The Throop Nature Park project has received planning permission for the creation of a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace that will provide access to the river Stour, new fields to explore, a range of wildlife improvements and spaces for dogs to exercise, relieving pressure on our protected heathlands. The new nature park will be constructed in 2022, with plenty of opportunities for volunteers to help with tree planting and other wildlife improvements.

## Adaptation

44. The Council's Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) team is engaged in modelling and mapping of surface water flood risks across the BCP Council Area to inform sustainable land use planning and flood risk management decisions. The BCP FCERM Team are working with WSP to develop a BCP GIS tool that takes flood and coastal erosion risk mapping, and a range of other receptor spatial data (e.g., environmental designations / property data etc) to then assess

potential flood damages to allow us to make a very quick assessment of where flood relief schemes may be possible / viable.

45. Other projects include: leading on the Poole & Christchurch Bays Shoreline Management Plan 2 - this is overarching policy for coastal flood and erosion risk management underpinned by ongoing review of coastal processes monitoring data. Another ongoing scheme being developed (subject to funding) is to restore habitat in Holes Bay to provide flood protection and carbon sequestration also, using dredge material from nearby marinas.

## Waste

46. The Council has sought to reduce the distance our waste travels. Our new residual waste contract (for Bournemouth & Christchurch) will result in a proportion of the residual stream being treated at Canford, Poole to produce a Compost Like Output for land reclamation, while the remainder is taken to a new Energy from Waste facility commissioned in Bridgwater, Somerset. This will dramatically reduce our waste movements around the country or for export. Our green, wood, food waste and street sweepings will continue to be treated and recycled locally under a new contract for these waste streams. The three large companies that manage over 94% of BCP Council waste have all made zero or negative carbon emission declarations (Viridor, New Earth and ECO). BCP Council's commercial waste team now collect recyclables from 72 Council buildings and 79 schools. Food waste is also collected from the BCP Council Civic Centre.

47. Procurement of the ICT recycling function for the responsible disposal of electronic equipment has been undertaken with focus on the Council's 'Corporate Social Responsibility'. The key aim was to ensure a rigorous and robust ICT asset disposal process whilst maximising financial return, security compliance and with a key focus on ensuring our operating in line with Climate Action objectives. This is now in place with Gigacycle. This organisation work in accordance with the WEEE Directive and Environmental legislation in the UK.

## Doing things differently

48. Adult Social Care has launched their own 'ASC and Commissioning Climate Action Group' to champion climate activities throughout the service. The group continues to meet on a regular basis and raises issues which are circulated to the wider ASC staff group through a regular staff newsletter. The ambition in the coming year is to expand membership further so that all ASC and Commissioning teams are represented at the group meetings. Covid-19 restrictions have continued throughout the period under review, which has resulted in far fewer staff visits to clients and a corresponding reduction in the number of care journeys compared to a 'traditional' year. The group has a new chair who will be taking the opportunity to refresh the group and expand membership. Additional issues and initiatives to be discussed/considered include:

- Encouraging more gardening and gardening activities
- Courses to help people to change electric plug fuses (to discourage devices from being discarded)
- Promote recycling
- Work with relevant organisations to manage and reduce the impact that fireworks have on air quality and animal welfare
- Reduction in use of weedkillers and pesticides
- Encourage reduction in consumption of meat and dairy products

49. The Decision Impact Assessment tool enabling all projects, decisions, and policies to be assessed against climate change and other sustainability criteria is being developed further. This will ensure that impacts and opportunities to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency are considered whenever a proposal is being developed and a decision is being made.

50. In January-March 2021, over 1,700 people had their say in our 2050 Climate Action Plan public consultation.

### Implementation

51. The production of this Climate and Ecological Emergency Annual Report to monitor and communicate progress was committed to in the draft Action Plan. Another action was to prioritise those measures that would have the most impact on our 2030 target, which is being undertaken by newly formed Members Working Groups.

52. Information Technology (IT) remains a key facilitator to enable staff to work in lower carbon ways. Last year the Council adopted Microsoft Teams to improve collaborative working and in December 2020 migrated telephony to Microsoft Teams. Two of the main drivers for this were to:

- a) Remove the need for employees to use a desk-based telephone handset. This enables more flexible working, there is no need for staff to come into a particular office or building to be contacted by phone.
- b) Move the Council to a new single BCP telephone number range. Changing the way customers contact the Council has paved the way for services to be able to truly transform to a single service.

53. Teams implementation has resulted in 4,600 redundant telephone handsets being sent for reuse / recycling, 1,939 mobile phones (Android & iOS) now being used for making Teams calls, and 14,963 online meetings held in just 30 days – reducing staff travel.

54. In addition, the move to cloud-based technology has led to decommissioning of on-premise hardware within our data centre. We have retired 30 hardware devices including servers and PBX switches associated with our former telephony solutions. Many of these devices were 10 to 15 years old and were not energy efficient. We

have also removed 4600 handsets. All our handsets and other IT devices are sent to a responsible disposal partner who ensures that they are either reused, or else every single component is deconstructed and recycled, resulting in zero landfill. The Teams app can be used on any mobile device. This means that the Council no longer needs to provide mobile phones to staff. We are currently in the process of deploying Microsoft Surface Pro and Laptop devices across BCP. A desktop hardware replacement strategy is in place to replace laptop type devices every four years. BCP Council is currently undertaking a large transformational project and as part of this, all devices have a requirement to be portable and agile. Devices have been standardised to two devices to be supplied to the majority of staff at the Council; with requirements outside of this being dealt with directly. As is reflected in the links attached to this report, Microsoft are focused on both ethical and environmental considerations with these devices. The environment – climate change and waste; the human factor - responsible sourcing etc.



## Carbon Neutral BCP Council Area 2050 update 2020/21

### BCP Council Area Emissions Inventory

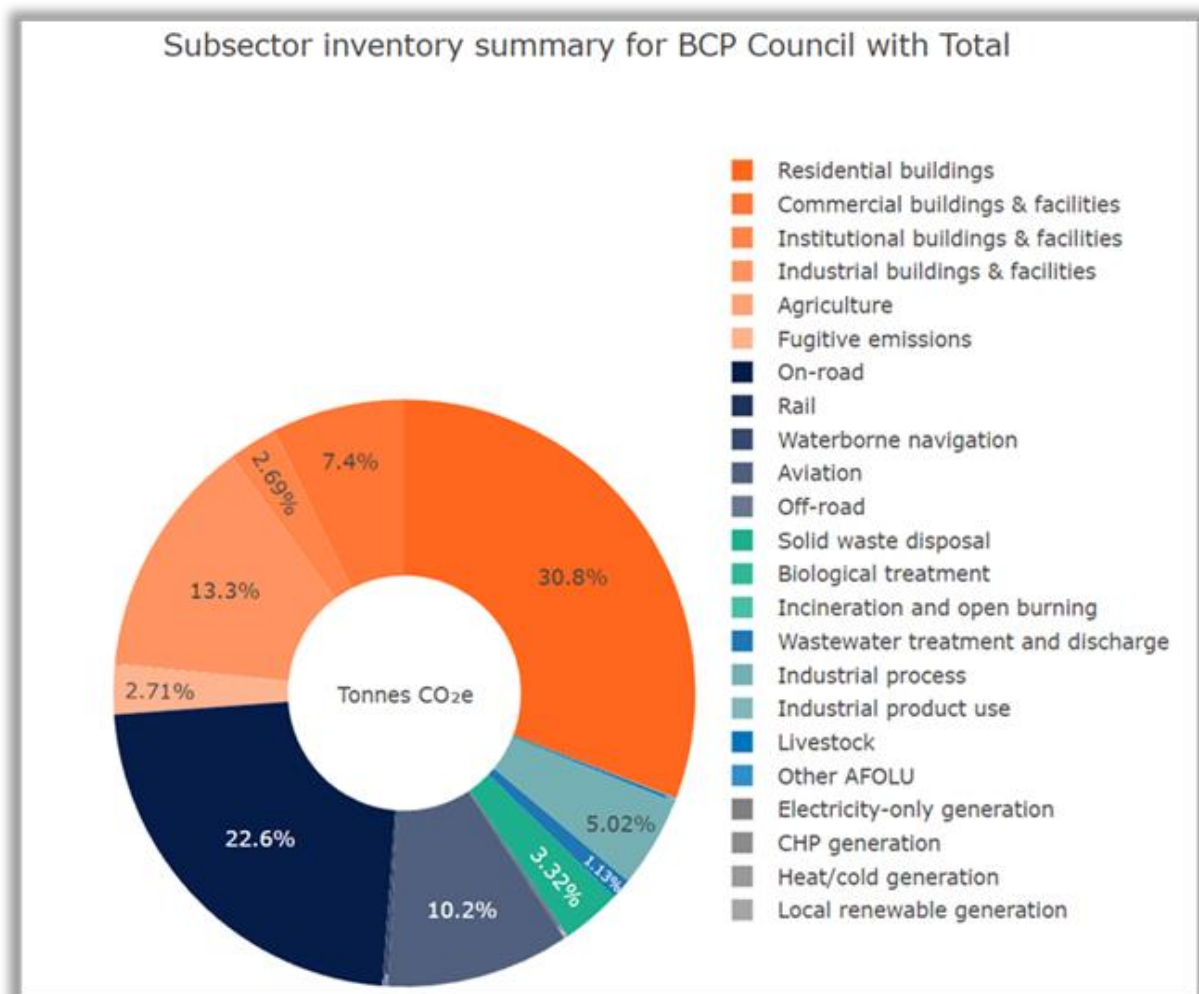
55. The Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration committed BCP Council to work with the wider community to make the region carbon neutral before the UK target of 2050. This report presents the most complete and up to date data available, independently calculated and released in 2021 (based on 2018 data) and also highlights some key local projects which took place between July 2020 and July 2021 to address area-wide emissions reduction towards the Emergency commitments.

56. Area-wide data has been compiled by the Government-funded SCATTER<sup>[i]</sup> project for the first time since 2019 (then using 2017 data). The comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory covers emissions within the local authority boundary, calculated in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) which includes gases CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O and CH<sub>4</sub>, reported in CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent. Note the inventory data shown below relates to the 2018 reporting period, as this is the most recent data available.

| <b>BCP Council Area Emissions Inventory 2020/21</b> |  |  |  |                                 |
|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Emission Scope                                      | Scope 1<br>2018 data,<br>published 2020<br>(SCATTER) | Scope 2<br>2018 data,<br>published 2020<br>(SCATTER) | Scope 3<br>2018 data,<br>published 2020<br>(SCATTER) | <b>Area total<br/>1,871,583</b> |
| Primary Sources                                     | Gas use, road<br>transport fuel                      | Electricity use                                      | Purchased<br>products, waste,<br>water, aviation     |                                 |
| Total (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e)                    | 1,089,825  | 424,155  | 357,603  |                                 |

57. Since this exercise was last conducted, using 2017 data, the total emissions have decreased from 1,943,331 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e – a decrease of 71,748 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (3.7%).





[i] SCATTER. <https://scattercities.com/>

### Area Target (2050) Progress Update

58. The following sections of the report detail actions which were taken under each of the themes identified within the Draft Climate Action Plan, as approved by Council for consultation in December 2019.

#### Power

59. To help residents save energy at home, 1,409 eligible households were referred into the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) and associated programmes, generating carbon savings and energy bill reductions. Since the declaration of the Climate and Ecological Emergency, direct local authority involvement in funded schemes delivering advice, free simple measures, grant-funded insulation, and heating improvements has resulted in an estimated £5.9m lifetime energy bill savings and over 9,000 tonnes of carbon emissions avoided. An estimated £1.5m of funding has been brought into the area to pay for these improvements. 46% of interventions were delivered to owner-occupiers, with 54% directed to private rented and social housing. To see what help is available to them, residents should phone LEAP on 01202 862717.

60. The Council also promotes low carbon grants and support to businesses when available, such as those from Low Carbon Dorset, which offers free technical support and grant funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the scheme helps businesses and community organisations in Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

### Buildings

61. Three new modern family homes have been developed by BCP Council's housing delivery team at a former garage site in Ibbertson Way, Strouden Park, Bournemouth. The Council's inhouse construction team built the new homes, that incorporate sustainable features to help reduce utility costs. These include increased thermal efficiency, solar panels, a sun pipe to enhance natural daylight and triple glazing to reduce energy use and help tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency. The Council started construction of more energy-efficient homes to the higher PassivHaus standard, to be completed next year.

### Travel

62. As part of the second phase of government's active travel fund, an additional £1.1 million was awarded to BCP Council to provide improvements to local walking and cycling infrastructure. The funding will be invested by the council to give people more opportunities to choose cycling and walking for their day-to-day journeys. This forms part of wider government plans to boost active travel in the country. By increasing the number of active journeys made locally, residents will be able to experience and enjoy the benefits to health, air quality and reduction in congestion that follow. Previous active travel funding allocated to BCP Council, saw £312,000 already delivering improvements. In addition, a new Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in January 2021 reducing car parking requirements for all new residential and commercial developments in various parts of BCP. In the most accessible parts of BCP including town and district centres, it sets a zero-car parking requirement for new dwellings. It is hoped this will affect modal shift to sustainable travel and reduce car dependency, producing a virtuous circle. The SPD also requires car parking spaces, where provided, to include (active) charging points for electric vehicles.

63. A fleet of brand-new electric powered scooters were made available for hire across Bournemouth and Poole following Ministerial approval for a trial in the area. The e-scooters are an innovative emission-free transport option for both residents and visitors to the area. They are being launched by BCP Council as part of its Transforming Travel programme to encourage people to switch to more sustainable means of transport. BCP Council is one of a number of Local Authorities across the country to be given permission by the Department for Transport (DfT) to run a controlled trial to assist in national research into e-scooters. The BCP Council

scheme will be operated in partnership with existing cycle hire scheme providers, Beryl Bikes, and the e-scooters will be provided and maintained by Beryl at no cost to the council. The scheme will be launched with an initial 25 e-scooters available for instant hire via the Beryl app. The e-scooters can be conveniently picked up and dropped off at any of the 250 marked parking bays in the Poole and Bournemouth area.

64. A new 'Park & Cycle' scheme has been launched at Kings Park, giving people another way of getting to the beach this summer. A fleet of Beryl bikes was installed at Kings Park car park ready for public hire and from Sunday 1 August to 5 September the first 20 minutes of bike hire journeys starting from Kings Park were free\* – long enough for most people to cycle to the beach. The 'Park & Cycle' scheme complemented BCP Council's 'Park & Ride' bus that operated regularly from Kings Park car park direct to Boscombe Pier as part of its summer readiness and seasonal response plan.

65. A new Bike It Plus Officer was appointed by BCP Council to help make the school run active and fun for families across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. The Sustrans Bike It Officer worked initially with 12 local schools to promote walking, cycling, and scooting. Alongside BCP Council's Sustainable Travel Team, they delivered a range of activities including Bikeability cycle training, road safety and Dr Bike maintenance sessions. Additional funding from the Bikeability Trust meant that our teams could provide over 2000 additional places for local children on our Bikeability courses. In addition, bike maintenance workshops have proved incredibly successful with over 260 bikes checked and tuned up to date.

## Nature

66. The natural environment can help reduce the causes and effects of climate change by absorbing and storing carbon dioxide (carbon sequestration). BCP Council planted over 10,000 trees across the conurbation to help combat the climate and ecological emergency. The council, in partnership with Bournemouth Parks Foundation, received funding through the Forestry Commission's Urban Tree Challenge Fund, to plant 4,790 trees in urban areas across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. These native trees provide benefits such as natural traffic noise and pollution buffers alongside wildlife refuges. Planting took place on sites including Stourvale Estate, Littledown Valley, Waterman's Park, Hatchard's Field, Sterte Esplanade and Bearwood Open Spaces. There will also be the creation of a hectare of woodland at Iford Meadows as part of the council's commitment to its Cleaner, Greener, Safer campaign which aims to improve the pride in our place after a year of significant challenges. A further 4,000 trees were planted in North Bournemouth including the reinstatement planting of lost hedgerows at Hicks Farm. 23 of BCP Council's outstanding parks and open spaces have been awarded a Green Flag Award, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, and £224,000 was received from central government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund to help support the ecological potential of eight parks in the BCP area. Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole beaches were awarded more blue flags in 2021 than any other UK authority by Keep Britain Tidy, and increased funding for the Cleaner, Greener, Safer Campaign will now support conurbation-wide initiatives which will consider water quality engagement and strategic greenspace investment.

67. In response to our declaration of a climate and ecological emergency, the Council continued to manage some green spaces across the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area in different ways, with more grass meadows created leaving some areas of open space uncut throughout the summer months. The benefits of this include: an increase in biodiversity to help pollinators such as bees and butterflies which have suffered widespread decline in recent years, and carbon sequestration (the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon). The cutting of some verges and other green spaces was reduced allowing plants within verges and green spaces the opportunity to flower, providing a valuable source of nectar to important pollinator species. Less common plants such as bee orchids and oxeye daisies had the chance to flower and reproduce adding interest and colour to general amenity areas.

### Adaptation

68. The Environment Agency have awarded £12.4 million Flood Defence Grant in Aid to BCP Council to build new flood defence infrastructure. The award will fund tidal flood defences along approximately 1.5km of waterfront at Back Water Channel. It will protect parts of Poole Town Centre, the Old Town, and new developments in the Twin Sails regeneration area from flood risk for the next 100 years. The value of potential damages calculated in the scheme area, in a 'do nothing' scenario over the next 100 years is £161 million. Working in conjunction with landowners, developers, the Environment Agency, Poole Harbour Commissioners and other relevant organisations, these plans will complete the provision of permanent flood defences in this area. Currently this remaining undefended water frontage relies on emergency temporary flood defences. The flood defences are adjacent to Poole Harbour which has a range of protected special designations to which careful environmental considerations will be given; including Environmental Impact and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening, which will take place as part of pre-work planning.

69. Eight beach areas from Southbourne to Poole were topped-up with sand from January 2021 as part of the Poole Bay Beach Management Scheme which is designed to make the coastline more climate resilient. In combination with the seawall to protect the cliff toe from erosion, beach management is required to maintain a beach profile capable of withstanding extreme storm events. This is provided by renourishing our beaches with material dredged from an offshore licenced area, which must closely match the native beach. This £7.5 million project saw around 350,000m<sup>3</sup> of sand being pumped ashore (using a pipeline) and distributed by bulldozers. Coastal management works to replace timber groynes from the Poole/ Bournemouth boundary to Middle Chine were carried out as part of the larger Poole Bay Beach Management Scheme works to make the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole coastline more climate resilient. A high and wide beach, along with the groynes present a frontline defence against coastal erosion. Without this vital work, beach material would be lost from our beaches much quicker by the natural processes which the groynes slow down. The newly installed groynes will provide a coastal protection role for up to 30 years.

## Waste

70. The landfill diversion rate for waste collected from BCP Council households has continued to improve to 86.69% (0.56% increase from previous year), despite Covid-19 restrictions limiting contamination checks. There has been 7.93% increase in garden waste registrations, resulting in a 23.7% increase in garden waste collected for composting. The Council's new reusable nappy incentive scheme received 224 applications for a £30 voucher, cashback or start up kit. As a result, 82.88 tonnes of disposable nappy waste will be avoided. Teaming up with 'Get Composting', the Council has provided discounted home compost bins to 534 residents.

## Doing things differently

71. the Council continues to explore options for developing a Community Climate Bond scheme to build public support and secure funding for carbon reduction projects to launch in 2022/23.

72. The Climate Action public consultation conducted in early 2021, invited residents to consider actions they supported in helping the area become carbon neutral. 1,700 responses have helped the Council refine their plans.

## Working together

73. Funding and supporting students at the Arts University Bournemouth to design innovative solutions to sustainability challenges has resulted in several ideas that are being developed further to help protect wildlife, reduce waste and lessen our impact on the environment.

## Next Steps – BCP Climate Action Plan

74. The Climate Action Plan below has been developed from the Draft Climate Action Plan presented to Council in December 2019, and actions have been prioritised according to the January 2021 public consultation, APSE recommendations and Ashden/Friends of the Earth impact guidance. Officers and Members will monitor, adapt and deliver the plan on an ongoing basis as technologies and resources develop, to achieve the 2030 target and contribute to/facilitate the 2050 target.

75. As the Team is now growing in line with the approved structure, an opportunity has been identified to draft a Service Design and Execution Plan for the Team and the Climate Actions. This will ensure that the service provided by the Team meets and exceed stakeholder expectations, and that the portfolio of activities in the Action Plan is optimised to meet our 2030 and 2050 targets as cost effectively and as quickly as is sensible. The new Service Design will be completed and sent for approval to the Corporate Leadership Team by the end of March. Alongside the new Service Design, the Climate Action Plan will be prioritised and sequenced to ensure close integration and strategic alignment with the Target Operating Model and Transformation programme to leverage opportunities for collaborative working. This will enable good governance and management control to track and monitor progress against our targets and emission reduction trajectories, to identify any gaps in our roadmap and to ensure that the actions identified are the optimum to achieve our targets. A revised portfolio of activities will be developed and approved by the Corporate Leadership Team by the end of June 2022 to ensure that it is deliverable alongside the transformation changes underway and that it is consistent with available financing.

76. The Climate Action Plan, a distillation of the 153-point draft Action Plan document presented to Council in 2019, then subject to public consultation, is presented in five sections, each of which is overseen by a Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Group and BCP Council's Climate Action Steering Group, consisting of Service Directors from across the organisation. These groups continue to review and revise the actions. The five sections are:

- Energy & Buildings
- Planning & Land Use
- Travel & Transport
- Nature & Waste
- Council Operations

77. Council activities within the Climate Action Plan are accompanied by suggested actions that residents, businesses and visitors could take to improve outcomes.

78. The Council will also explore membership of the UK100. This is a network of highly ambitious local government leaders, which seeks to devise and implement plans for the transition to clean energy that are ambitious, cost effective and take the public and business with them. It supports decision-makers in UK towns, cities and counties in their transition to Net Zero. It is the only network for UK local leaders focused solely on climate, clean energy and clean air policy. The most ambitious - the Net Zero Local Leadership Club - are doing everything within their power to get their communities to Net Zero as soon as possible, and by 2045 at the latest. They can also commit to the '100% clean energy by 2050' pledge.



## Energy & Buildings – BCP Climate Action Plan

| Action  | Start  | Finish  | RAG status  | Progress  | Community Action                                |
|---|--------|---------|-------------|---|---|
| Promote cost-effective energy improvements and low carbon grants to businesses  | Sep-21 | Nov-21  |             | Action included in new Economic Development Strategy  | Businesses seek help                            |
| Identify and purchase sites for large-scale renewable energy installations  | Jan-22 | Jun-22  | not started | Additional staff resources identified to increase capacity.   | Buy Community Climate Bonds                     |
| Launch a cost-effective insulation programme for homes  | Oct-21 | Mar-22  |             | New Council scheme to improve homes with a low energy rating will compliment nationally available schemes | Households in homes rated E-G should apply      |
| Influence the house building sector on sustainability and input to the Local Plan on future new build standards   | Dec-21 | Mar-23  |             | To be led by Sustainable Construction Sub-Group   | Use sustainable materials for home improvements |
| Enforce Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in private rented sector where appropriate  | 2020   | ongoing |             | Officers enforcing standards  | Landlords to comply with standards              |
| Calculate the emissions from council owned housing, initiatives that could be installed and the potential capital cost  | 2021   | ongoing |             | Assessments underway.   |   |
| Develop detailed feasibility studies to identify viable energy efficiency projects, localised power generation projects and carbon offsetting schemes and carry out detailed engineering design |        |         |             | To be discussed by Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Groups   |   |



|  |      |                                  |  |   |   |
|--|------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Understand which funding options are available and develop a strategy on how to fund specific projects                                 |      |                                  |  | To be discussed by Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Groups   |   |
| Liaise with the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) to understand the grid capacity and how this relates to future electricity demands |      |                                  |  | To be discussed by Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Groups   |   |
| Procure all Council electricity from zero-carbon renewable sources   | 2019 | B - 2019<br>P - 2020<br>C - 2032 |  | Council electricity is procured from zero-carbon renewable sources, with the exception of the electricity procured by Dorset Council to supply Christchurch street lighting under a pre-LGR contract. |   |
| Implement new accommodation strategy   |      |                                  |  |   |   |
| Use ECO-Flex to facilitate energy saving grants to fuel poor residents   |      |                                  |  |   |   |
| Tackle the illegal mis-selling of energy products and supplies   |      |                                  |  |   |   |
| Reduce the carbon impact of tourism in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole   | 2021 | ongoing                          |  | To be discussed by Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Groups   | Use sustainable transport and reduce waste when enjoying BCP facilities |

| Energy & Buildings – Actions already completed  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Continue the Local Energy Action Partnership scheme to help residents save energy at home |  |  |  |  |  |
| Establish a Corporate Property Group to review accommodation                              |  |  |  |  |  |
| Publish the bi-annual Home Energy Conservation Act Report to Government                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Extend the multi-agency Affordable Warmth Partnership across the BCP area                 |  |  |  |  |  |

## Planning & Land Use – BCP Climate Action Plan

| Action  | Start  | Finish  | RAG status | Progress  | Community Action                              |
|---|--------|---------|------------|---|---|
| Include policies in the new Local Plan for climate change mitigation and adaptation, including a policy to encourage zero carbon developments, subject to viability testing | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |            | The Local Plan will include policies for mitigating carbon emissions (through e.g. energy efficiency hierarchy, renewable energy and BREEAM) and adapting to climate change (e.g. through GI and managing flood risk policies).   |   |
| Seek to include policies in the new Local Plan for new homes to be built to higher than current Building Regs standards   | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |            | Cannot go higher than 19% CR over building regs, and will include within an option/question asking if people agree in the LP Issues and Options consultation  |   |
| Seek to include Flood Protection Policies in the new Local Plan and policies aimed at creating biodiversity net gain  | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |            | we will include a policy that seeks opportunities to enhance biodiversity through restoration, improvement or creation of habitats and/or ecological networks. We are waiting for implementation of the Environment Bill. It is likely to include a 10% net gain requirement. | Check the flood risk of your home             |
| Investigate the use of developer contributions (CIL, S106, 273) to fund climate change measures   | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |            | This would require additional resource.   |   |
| Identify suitable areas for large-scale renewable energy in the Local Plan  | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |            | Government policy supports this during Local Plan preparation as an option in the Local Plan Issues and Options consultation document.  | Install renewable energy measures at home     |
| Identify and procure land suitable for tree planting schemes and other mitigation measures  | Mar-22 | 2023/24 |            | New Tree Strategy to be created.  | Plant trees, shrubs and bushes in your garden |

|  |        |         |  |   |  |
|--|--------|---------|--|---|--|
| Promote development of green roofs and walls, street trees and urban greening                          | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |  | Could include in building sustainable homes and businesses policy as our GI policy covers more strategic projects (e.g., Stour Valley Park, enhancement of Poole Park, Castleman Trailway and coastal areas). | Plant wildlife-friendly gardens and window boxes |
| Protecting and enhancing existing green infrastructure through site development, onsite where possible | Jan-22 | 2023/24 |  | To be considered in the development of the new Local Plan   | Protect mature gardens                           |

## Travel & Transport – BCP Climate Action Plan

| Action  | Start  | Finish | RAG status  | Progress                                     | Community Action  |
|---|--------|--------|-------------|--|---|
| Explore how the taxi licencing criteria could be amended to encourage newly licensed vehicles to be electric or hydrogen fuelled                |        |        | Not started |  | Request an electric taxi when making a booking              |
| Investigate replacement of Council vehicles with zero emission EVs or hydrogen vehicles, or alternatives where practicable, such as cargo-bikes | Aug-21 | 2026   |             | Fleet Replacement Strategy approved Nov 2021 | Make use of business e-vehicles when available              |
| Develop a BCP Walking and Cycling Strategy 2020 -2035 and expand cycle network and storage facilities at major destinations                     |        |        |             | Strategy development underway                | Participate in walking and cycling consultations            |
| Assess provision of segregated cycle lanes, cycle priority at traffic lights and training programme for safe cycling                            |        |        |             |  | Attend cycle safety training and bike maintenance workshops |
| Promote and expand car club schemes across the BCP Council area   |        |        |             | Ongoing expansion of Co-Wheels car club      | Use Co-Wheels cars  |
| Assess the feasibility of the introduction of electric or hydrogen buses and charging/fuelling infrastructure                                   |        |        |             | Bus company bid supported                    | Use busses when possible                                    |

|  |  |  |             |   |  |
|--|--|--|-------------|---|--|
| Work with operators to deliver smart, integrated ticketing and innovative pricing structures to encourage use  |  |  |             |   | Purchase multi-journey tickets for busses and trains when possible |
| Continue Transforming Cities Fund sustainable travel initiatives   |  |  |             | Delivery ongoing  |  |
| Install electric vehicle charging points across the conurbation  |  |  |             |   | Use an electric vehicle and install a home charger if possible     |
| Develop a Freight and Movement of Goods Strategy, to look at light goods vehicle licencing minimum emissions standards with major distributors in logistics sector |  |  | Not started |   | Order fewer goods or combine orders to reduce multiple deliveries  |
| Carry out a review to examine parking/car club standards   |  |  |             | Parking standards review underway. New parking SPD for developments implemented 2021. | Avoid driving and parking when possible                            |
| Carry out Climate Change Assessments on transport projects   |  |  |             |   |  |
| Promote and expand the Business Travel Network   |  |  |             |   |  |

## Nature & Waste – BCP Climate Action Plan

| Prioritised Actions   | Start  | Finish  | RAG status  | Progress  | Community Action   |
|---|--------|---------|-------------|---|--|
| Investigate potential of a large-scale tree planting programme  | Jul-19 | ongoing |             | Tree & woodland strategy to be supplement to GI Strategy, Plant a tree for the Queen's Jubilee in 2022 scheme to be considered.   | Visit local parks, green spaces and nature reserves                              |
| Work closely with local wildlife groups to support biodiversification and the reintroduction of lost species  | Sep-21 | Jan-22  |             | Young people's Climate Research Group active at Stanpit marsh ongoing   | Young people to take part  |
| Investigate natural flood defence and coastal protection opportunities for intertidal habitat creation (e.g., saltmarsh), which can store more carbon than woodland |        |         |             | FCERM strategy to address Shoreline management  | Be aware of areas that could be vulnerable to flooding                           |
| Unify household waste, recycling, and food waste collections across the area to increase recycling and reduce residual waste  |        |         |             | Awaiting impact of National Waste Strategy due 2023 and funding to meet new obligation - modelling underway. Ensure we invest in the correct products/services to avail wastage/carbon impacts. | Segregate waste at home by using your recycling, food waste and green waste bins |
| Support community single-use plastic-free initiatives   |        |         |             | Plastic-free groups assisted as appropriate; returnable cup scheme launched in park cafes   | Avoid products in plastic packaging  |
| Support and promote community waste reduction and reuse initiatives such as sharing and donation of materials   |        |         |             | Community initiatives supported include: 'New to You', War on Waste, Give or Take, Repair Cafes, Win on Waste, Dorset Reclaim, Julia's House  | Use 2-minute beach clean stations/organised cleans available for public use      |
| Promote business minimisation of packaging  |        |         | not started | Awaiting impact of National Waste Strategy due 2023 Waste enforcement/engagement - Duty of Care   | Encourage your employer to reduce waste and recycle more                         |

|  |        |        |  |   |   |
|--|--------|--------|--|---|---|
| Engage Universities in Climate Action projects that support environmental improvements and waste reduction   | Jul-21 | Mar-22 |  | 4 projects funded   | Support local projects  |
| Engage with staff, residents, schools and visitors on waste reduction and recycling initiatives and campaigns  |        |        |  | Schools Environment Award, work with clubs and societies, waste roadshows planned if resources are identified   | Help your local school become greener                                 |
| Enhance commercial waste and recycling services offered to local businesses  |        |        |  | Commercial Waste Service has been brought back in house with a view to unifying services across BCP   | Businesses to recycle more  |
| Develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy and carbon offsetting plan aiming for the 2030 target  |        |        |  | Allocate land to allow natural woodland generation from trees, natural habitat and heathlands at scale to absorb carbon and become 'carbon sinks' Ongoing                       | Visit and protect local green space                                   |
| Work with Environmental Finance and Vivid Economics to better understand the value of parks and open space for nitrate absorption and carbon sequestration and encourage investment in this. |        |        |  | To be completed and updated within final months of Future Parks project.  | Understand the value natural spaces have in improving our environment |
| Develop native garden spaces within formal parks and recreation grounds  |        |        |  | Pilot Parks initiative/FPA  | Visiting parks and recreation grounds                                 |
| Create nature sanctuaries that minimise disturbance for ground nesting birds and other animals.  |        |        |  | Work to develop information and incentives with partners to encourage better practice within private spaces and gardens, such as hedgehog corridors and native amenity planting | Respect nature sanctuaries  |
| Work with partners on landscape scale wildlife conservation programmes   |        |        |  | e.g., Stour Valley, Christchurch Harbour and Poole Harbour  | Volunteer on nature projects  |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Minimise or cease the sale of single use plastics and encourage alternative materials throughout our retail operations |  |  |  | Returnable cup scheme launched in Bournemouth Park Cafes           | Avoid single-use items   |
| Apply the proximity principle to treat and/or dispose of wastes in reasonable proximity to their point of generation   |  |  |  | Contracts and development of infrastructure to be achieved by 2027 | Take your litter home with you and dispose of it in the correct bins |

| Nature & Waste – Actions already completed  |        |           |  |   |  |
|---|--------|-----------|--|---|--|
| Promote a ban on polluting activities that are harmful to nature (e.g., sky lantern and balloon releases) | Jul-20 | 18-Feb-20 |  | Restrictions approved by Council                      | Community to actively uphold the ban                           |
| Support the Environmental Innovation hub built to inform Seafront waste reduction                         |        |           |  | Advice given on waste transfer station element of Hub | Visit the Environmental Innovation Hub when open to the public |

## Council Operations – BCP Climate Action Plan

| Action  | Start  | Finish  | RAG status | Progress  | Community Action                                   |
|---|--------|---------|------------|---|--|
| Introduce a 'New Ways of Working' behaviour change programme, in conjunction with accommodation changes and technology to encourage less staff travel   |        |         |            | Covid-19 has led to faster implementation of 'New Ways of Working'  | Avoid commuting and business travel where possible |
| Carry out a review and adopt sustainable procurement strategy and guidance - including practices to reduce carbon in the supply chain, local sourcing, full life-costing, and assessment of suppliers to encourage energy and waste reduction |        |         |            | Financial Regs amended  | Try to buy sustainable products locally            |
| Assess the energy efficiency of Council buildings   | Jul-19 | Ongoing |            | Additional staff resources identified to increase capacity.   | Find out about the energy efficiency of your home  |
| Review energy project funding options   | Jul-19 | Ongoing |            | Additional staff resources identified to increase capacity.   | Find out what funding is available for residents   |
| Install energy saving measures in retained Council buildings  | Jul-19 | Ongoing |            | Salix PSDS grant obtained in 2019 to fund improvements and additional staff resources identified to increase capacity. Ongoing energy improvements funded through Salix Recycling Scheme. | Install energy efficiency measures at home         |
| Install renewable energy measures in retained Council buildings   | Jul-19 | Ongoing |            | Salix PSDS grant obtained in 2019 to fund improvements and additional staff resources identified to increase capacity. Ongoing energy improvements funded through Salix Recycling Scheme. | Install renewable energy measures at home          |

|  |         |         |  |  |   |
|--|---------|---------|--|--|---|
| Develop a Sustainable Construction Policy for corporate buildings  | Dec-21  | Mar-23  |  | Sustainable Construction Sub-Group created   | Use sustainable materials for home improvements                       |
| Develop a Sustainability Strategy for Housing including improving energy efficiency of the Council's new build programme and considerations for retrofitting existing stock                | Sept-21 | ongoing |  | The sustainability strategy for housing is part of the new overarching Council New Build Housing and Acquisition Strategy. One section covers the sustainability standard for new build on Council's own land. | Use sustainable materials for home improvements                       |
| Calculate the emissions from council owned housing, initiatives that could be installed and the potential capital cost   | Aug-21  | Ongoing |  | data gathering has commenced   | Use the WWF carbon calculator and take steps to reduce your emissions |
| Make waste reduction, reuse, and recycling improvements to buildings   | 2019    | ongoing |  | Awaiting outcome of Corporate Asset Review   | Reduce, reuse and recycle materials at home                           |
| Reduce resource use, particularly paper for printing and single-use plastic  |         |         |  | Reviewing Cannon and Konica printing contracts to exit from use of printers at the Xch civic offices and reduction of the number of MFD's require as part of the new Office Accommodation.                     | Reduce waste at home  |
| Calculate the likely increase in electricity usage expected from installing heat pumps in Council buildings and liaise with the DNO to receive a budget quotation to increase the capacity |         |         |  | To be discussed by Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Groups  |   |
| Develop a procurement strategy to deliver council climate projects   |         |         |  | To be discussed by Climate Action Cabinet Member Support Groups  |   |
| Continue to expand tele-conferencing facilities in major buildings   |         |         |  |  |   |
| Develop a policy/strategy for installing meeting room AV equipment   |         |         |  |  |   |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Explore development of an extended network of EV charging points for Council use to provide certainty of provision |  |  |  |  | Use an electric vehicle and install a home charger if possible |
| Consider a review of free workplace car parking (where currently available) for staff and elected members          |  |  |  |  | Use your car only when necessary                               |
| Draw up an internal Communication Plan   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reduce Council waste sent to landfill and increase recycling from Council buildings                                |  |  |  | Accommodation Strategy to achieve this |  |

| Council Operations – Actions already completed   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Monitor and communicate progress via a Climate Emergency Annual Report   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Endorse a Zero Carbon Workplace Charter for behaviour change   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Launch a Decision Impact Assessment tool to embed sustainability   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Conduct a review of the Council's vehicle fleet  |  |  |  | Fleet replacement strategy produced  |  |
| Implement measures to reduce staff car use   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Introduce 'New ways of Working', in conjunction with accommodation changes and technology to facilitate less staff travel and to reduce the use of consumables |  |  |  | MS Teams launched in Dec 2020 – enabled removal of IT equipment e.g. desktop phones and reduced staff travel etc<br>Multifunctional Device (MFD) contract – reducing/moving units and eliminating all non-essential printing |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Establish contract to recycle IT hardware efficiently  |  |  |  | Contract includes data on quantities of materials reused/recycled  |  |
| Reduce need for corporate mobile phones for specific members of staff – save money and resources |  |  |  | MS Teams launched in Dec 2020 – enabled removal of IT equipment e.g. desktop phones and reduced staff travel etc |  |

## Progress 2019/20 - 2020/21

77. See below the results of our proposed activities from last year's Annual Report

### BCP Council Activities

#### Waste

- Create a reusable cup scheme for the BCP Council Area to reduce waste from single-use cups - *Achieved*
- Work with BU, AUB and our business communities on innovative projects to minimise packaging - *Achieved*
- Investigate opportunities for local additional waste treatment facilities - *Achieved*

#### Staff engagement

- Launch 'Our Climate Action' SharePoint site for staff to learn about climate issues, share knowledge and develop best practice across the organisation - *Achieved*
- Recruit Climate Champions across the council to promote positive climate action and support services in reducing operational carbon emissions - *Ongoing*

#### Travel

- Undertake a fleet review to inform a new Fleet Replacement Strategy - *Achieved*
- Develop new Corporate Travel Plan alongside Accommodation Strategy - *Ongoing*

#### Buildings

- Corporate Property Group to complete its accommodation and asset review and a bid to be made to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund for assistance - *Achieved*

#### Planning and Land Use

- Creation of an Infrastructure Funding Statement to set out Council priorities for spending CIL money to be established in 2021 - *Ongoing*

#### Working Together

- Develop a strategy for engagement with major employers and stakeholders to develop and agree a science-based emission reduction pathway for the BCP Council Area *Not started – due to lack of resources*

## Governance

- Further develop the Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) so it can be incorporated in the thinking of all those making decisions within the Council - *Achieved*
- Develop cumulative impact assessment reports - *Ongoing*

## BCP Council Area Activities

78. BCP Council will work with local partners to consider the following activities for delivery from July 2020, alongside results of the public engagement. In addition to the actions identified below, ideas collated through the Climate Suggestions webpage will also be considered.

## Home Energy

- Continue to provide grant funding to residents for home energy efficiency measures through schemes such as LEAP and Green Homes Grants - *Achieved*

## Working Together

- Continue to support businesses through the Sustainable Business Leaders Group (SBLG), facilitating best-practice in sustainability and helping members achieve tangible carbon reduction and ecological net-gain through their operations *Ongoing*
- Work with stakeholders such as major employers, universities, NHS, Poole Port and Bournemouth Airport through the creation of a Climate Action Leadership Board to deliver climate and ecological projects across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole - *Not started due to lack of resources*
- Develop information/communication materials to encourage local companies to adopt sustainable business practices - *Not started due to lack of resources*
- Launch a 'Climate Conversation' on an interactive digital platform that will inform residents, businesses, and visitors of climate-related issues - *Ongoing*

## Nature

- Urban Tree Challenge Fund Planting – Stourvale, Littledown Valley, Sterte, Somerford, Hatchards Field, Bearwood - *Ongoing*
- Pilot Parks – naturalisation of areas of urban parks – Winton, Alexandra, Watermans - *Ongoing*
- Development of a Green Infrastructure Strategy - *Ongoing*
- Creation of a Stour Valley Masterplan - *Ongoing*

## Travel

- Work with partners including Public Health Dorset, More Bus, Yellow Busses, Beryl Bikes, Cycling UK, Sustrans, Bournemouth University and Arts University Bournemouth to deliver sustainable transport infrastructure improvements through the [Transforming Cities Fund](#) - *Ongoing*

## Climate Action Financing

- Develop a Community Climate Bond scheme to build public support and secure funding for carbon reduction projects which will help the BCP Council Area become carbon neutral by 2050 - *Ongoing*



## Technical Appendix

### Scope 3 Methodology

This is the second year we have gathered data and estimated the GHG emissions for our activities. We will compare our performance every year against our first year of data (the baseline) from 2019/20.

Each year our performance in terms of GHG emissions is likely to change due to a number of factors. The primary factor is a change in our we operate or the scale at which we operate. Changes may also occur due to new data availability or methodology improvements (either within the council or at a government level such as BEIS).

This year our operations have been impacted by Covid which, consequently, have had an impact on GHG emissions. Impacts of Covid on GHG emissions are detailed in each sub-section.

To calculate BCP Council Scope 3 emissions, the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Standard<sup>1</sup> has been used. This is a comprehensive global standardised framework used to measure and manage greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; it is the only internationally accepted method for companies and organisations to account for these types of emissions.

Nine out of the fifteen GHG Protocol Scope 3 categories apply to BCP Council. Two have been merged into a single category (purchased goods & services and capital goods) and then split into three groups; water, paper and other procured goods and services therefore giving a total of ten in all, which have been analysed.

To calculate the GHG emissions of an activity involves measuring either a weight, volume, distance or similar associated with the activity. This measurement is then multiplied by an emission (or conversion) factor giving the amount of GHG emissions released because of that activity.

For example, to calculate the GHG emissions associated with the purchase of water during the financial year 2020 to 2021, the volume of water used during that period is multiplied by the emission factor. In most cases we have used emission factors published by Government Departments. The resulting number expresses the GHG emissions in tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e which means the number of tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent released into the atmosphere.

CO<sub>2</sub>e is the standard unit for measuring GHG emissions. This expresses the impact of each different greenhouse gas in terms of how much CO<sub>2</sub> would create the same

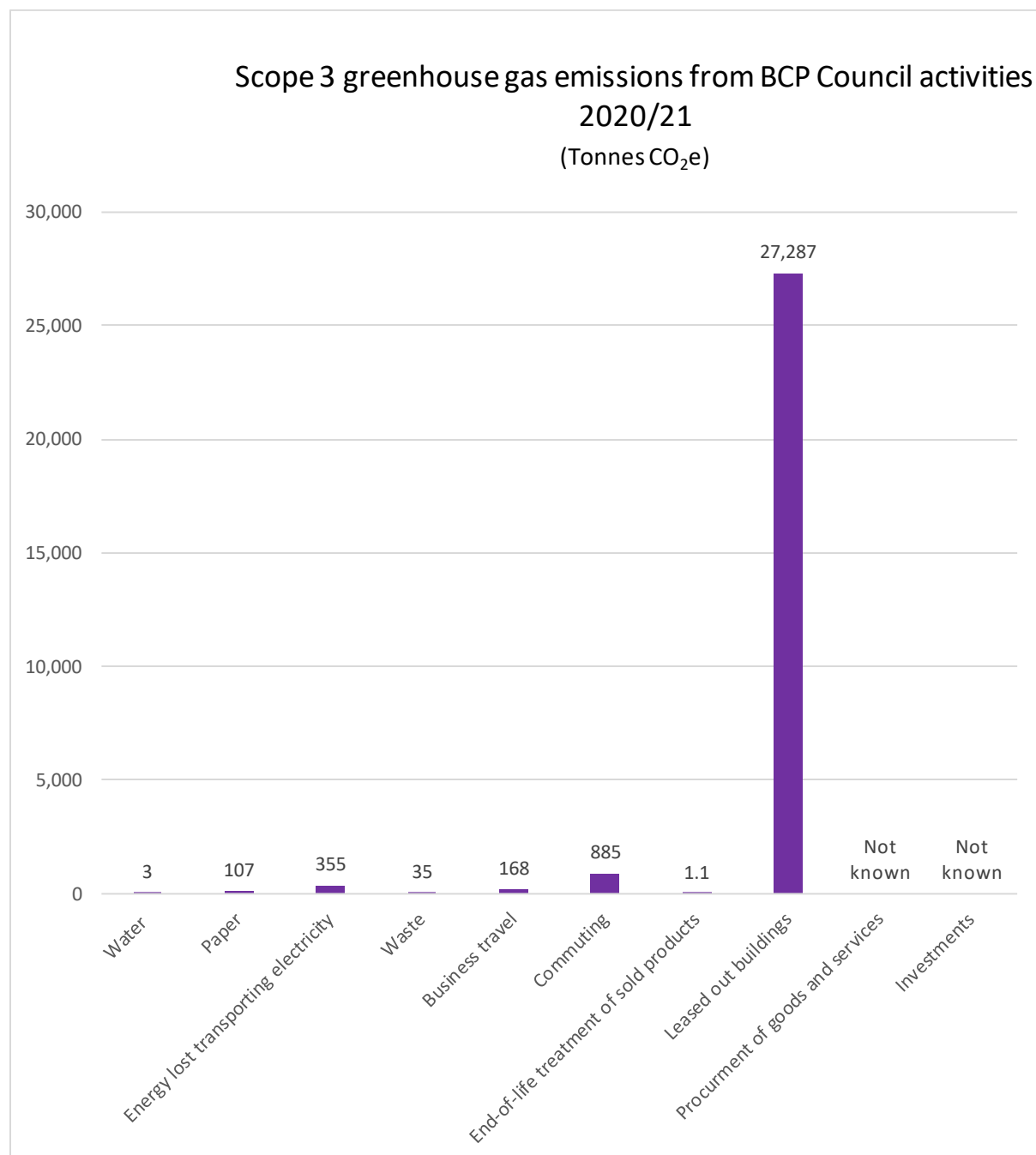
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<sup>1</sup> Greenhouse Gas Protocol, [Technical Guidance for calculating Scope 3 emissions](#), World Resources Institute and World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 2013

amount of warming. That way the impact of activities that release several different gases can be expressed as a single number.

It has not been possible to include all sources that are known to emit carbon. This is because some current Council operations do not collect the relevant data for GHG emission calculations. However, this Scope 3 assessment has identified changes that can be made to capture more useful data in the future. This will mean more accurate and complete Scope 3 GHG emissions in future reports.

This also means that some improvements we make will not show through our carbon emissions data.



| Category  | Subcategory   | Amount                   | Emission factor   | Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e | Total tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e |
|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Water   | Water supply  | 7,529m <sup>3</sup>      | 0.344             | 3                        | 3                              |
| Paper   | Copier paper  | 111 tonnes               | 919.4             | 102                      | 107                            |
|   | Paper towels  | 9.9 tonnes               | 919.4             | 5                        |                                |
| Energy lost on transmission                                 |   | 17,713,951 kWh           | 0.02005           |                          | 355                            |
| Waste   | Refuse, recycling & confidential waste paper treatment      | 380 tonnes               | 21.317<br>437.372 | 27.7                     | 35                             |
|   | Transport of recycling to Crayford depot                    | 92 tonnes<br>220km       | 0.05797           | 1.2                      |                                |
|   | Transport of confidential waste paper from BCP to UK depots | 122 tonnes<br>134 km     | 0.11944           | 0.95                     |                                |
|   | Transport of refuse to end destinations                     | 165 tonnes<br>various km | 0.05797           | 0.1                      |                                |
|   | Sewerage  | 7,153m <sup>3</sup>      | 0.708             | 5                        |                                |
| Business travel   | Car   | 607,457 miles            | 0.27584           | 168                      | 168                            |
|   | Motorbike   | 462 miles                | 0.18245           | 0.1                      |                                |
| Commuting   | Car   | 2,814,898 miles          | 0.27584           | 776                      | 885                            |
|   | Car share   | 230,242 miles            | 0.13792           | 32                       |                                |
|   | Bus   | 386,212 miles            | 0.10312           | 64                       |                                |
|   | Train   | 44,563 miles             | 0.3694            | 3                        |                                |
|   | Motorbike   | 69,226 miles             | 0.18245           | 10                       |                                |
| End of life treatment of sold products                      |   | 4.4 tonnes               | 21.317            |                          | 1.1                            |
| Leased out buildings  | Council houses and other buildings                          | 10,918 buildings         | 2.5               | 27,284                   | 27,287                         |
|   | Butane used at beach huts                                   | 984 kg                   | 2.96              | 3                        |                                |
| Procurement of goods and services (excluding water & paper) |   |                          |                   |                          | Not known                      |
| Investments   |   |                          |                   |                          | Not known                      |

## Goods and services: Water supply and paper

All goods and services procured by the Council have the potential to emit greenhouse gases. It has been possible to calculate the GHG emissions with an acceptable level of accuracy for paper and water.

| Includes:   | Excludes:   | Justification  | Accuracy   |
|---|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paper (copier and paper towels)</li><li>• Water</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Everything else</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is inaccurate to assume the GHG emissions for paper and water combined per £ spend would fairly represent the emissions from everything else the council procured</li><li>• BCP has a Sustainable Procurement Policy which addresses reducing emissions</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copier paper included is only that purchased through our main supplier</li><li>• Assumed all types of paper towel weigh 2 grams</li><li>• Where water bills did not cover the full year, estimated missing days' usage based on an average use per day over the days with data (some buildings had data for 289 to 357 days)</li></ul> |

### *Emissions factor*

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020)

Using the GHG emission figures for water and paper and making the assumption that everything else purchased as a Council has the same GHG emissions per pound spend as these two items, an estimate can be made for all our purchases. However, it has been decided not to take this route as the range of items and services we purchase is so great that the level of inaccuracy of the resulting figure would be too large.

Instead, the impact of our purchasing is acknowledged through the development of policies which aim to reduce the GHG emissions associated with buying goods and services:

## *Integration of sustainability into BCP Financial Regulations (April 2020), Part G Regulation 3b*

The commissioning officer in consultation with the SPT must ensure:

- Sustainability requirements are considered and built into the specification
- The Decision Impact Assessment form must be completed on all procurements
- A standard selection questionnaire (SQ) includes questions on environmental and qualities standards. Potential bidders must demonstrate that they can comply with these standards
- All procurements over £25,000 are to be assessed with a minimum of 10% of the quality score being allocated to sustainability and social value

### *IT Technical Strategy and Standards*

- Aim for BCP to become a 21<sup>st</sup> century technology-enabled organisation.
- Shift services to the cloud thereby reducing the power and cooling demands of on-site data centres as well as the amount of physical IT kit required.
- In July 2020 Microsoft Teams became the council's core communication and collaboration platform, thereby reducing the need for travel and telephony kit
- Companies bidding for IT tenders required to demonstrate how their solution contributes to BCP core sustainability targets
- Sets targets to reduce printing, mobile and data use
- Recycle as much as possible when decommission kit

### *Update of baseline figure*

Use of wider reaching tool this year has resulted in a more accurate figure for the amount of copier paper purchased. The baseline figure has been updated to reflect this.

### **Energy lost transporting electricity**

GHG emissions are released when energy is lost from the grid whilst getting electricity from a power plant or other electricity source to the organisation that purchased it. We have assessed these emissions for both the building use and street lighting element of our electricity consumption. The building use data is for 2020/21 but the streetlighting figure is from 2019/20 as updated information was not available. Electricity used at council provided public EV chargers is not included in this calculation.

### *Emission factor*

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020)

## Waste

This includes emissions from third-party disposal and treatment of waste generated in BCP Council owned and controlled operations. Emissions from the transportation of waste in vehicles operated by a third party (only covering travel paid for by BCP) have also been included.

The baseline year's methodology assumed all bins at each site were filled to capacity. Due to Covid, this year we have assumed a 75% reduction in the weight of waste produced as this is same reduction estimated in commuting.

GHG emissions for Scope 3 waste is estimated to be approximately 36 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e, 27.7 tonnes attributed to treatment, 2.5 tonnes to transport in third party vehicles and 5 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e from wastewater.

| Includes:   | Excludes:   | Accuracy  |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refuse</li><li>• Recycling (paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, cans)</li><li>• Confidential wastepaper</li><li>• Wastewater (sewerage)</li><li>• Transport of waste in non-council vehicles that we pay for, namely:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Confidential wastepaper from BCP to contractor depots</li><li>- Recycling from BCP to contractor depots</li><li>- Refuse from BCP depot to final disposal</li></ul></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refuse &amp; recycling from the 7 maintained schools in BCP Council Area</li><li>• Transport in council vehicles covered by Scope 1</li><li>• Contracted out waste collections other than confidential wastepaper</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BCP commercial refuse waste weights used to estimate BCP council refuse and recycling weights</li><li>• Sewerage calculated for main Civic buildings only</li></ul> |

### *Emission factor*

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020)

### *Update of baseline figure*

Last year we calculated emissions from transport of our waste beyond our financial remit. This year we have calculated transport emissions as far as our financial responsibility goes. Consequently, the revised baseline figure for waste goes as far as our financial responsibility. Onward transport of our waste from this point falls into the Scope 1 for waste transportation companies.

## Business travel

Employees travelling for business purposes can claim for their travel costs if meeting the requirements of the Council's Business Travel and Subsistence Policy. The Council therefore holds a record of most journeys made for business travel (except journeys under two miles). For car and motorbike journeys mileage is recorded and for hire cars fuel purchased is recorded. Both mileage and fuel cost can be used to estimate the associated GHG emissions of the journeys. For all other forms of transport only ticket cost is recorded, and this cannot be used to calculate GHG emissions.

| Includes:  | Excludes:  | Reason for exclusion   | Accuracy   |
|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car</li> <li>• Hire car</li> <li>• Motorbike</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car journeys under 2 miles</li> <li>• Underground</li> <li>• Bicycle, walking</li> <li>• Aeroplane, train, bus, coach, ferry</li> <li>• Taxi</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not reimbursed therefore not recorded</li> <li>• Oyster card top ups only, no distance data</li> <li>• No GHG emissions</li> <li>• Only ticket cost recorded, cannot be used to determine GHG emissions</li> <li>• Only cost recorded, cannot be used to determine GHG emissions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used average car, average motorbike and unknown fuel from DEFRA 2019 conversion factors</li> <li>• Assumed hire cars were new in 2018 and used petrol<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Used average fuel price data for 2019/2020<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Assumed cost of fuel purchased for hire cars reflected distance travelled</li> </ul> |

<sup>2</sup> Department of Transport, [ENV0103: Average new car fuel consumption: Great Britain](#).

<sup>3</sup> BEIS, [Monthly: Typical/annual retail prices of petroleum products and a crude oil price index \(QEP 4.1.1 and 4.1.2\)](#), Table 4.1.1 (quarterly), 24 Sept 2020

### *Emission factor*

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020)

## **Commuting**

This includes all travel to work using modes of transport other than those owned by the council.

| Includes:  | Excludes: | Accuracy   |
|--|-----------|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Car</li><li>• Car share</li><li>• Bus</li><li>• Train</li><li>• Cycle</li><li>• Walk</li><li>• Other</li></ul> |           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Based on 2018 Bournemouth Borough Council Travel Survey, to which 556 employees responded (approximately 14% of people employed at BCP)</li><li>• Assumed 2 people in a car when car sharing</li><li>• Assumed 'other' to be 50% zero carbon travel and 50% average motorbike as per BEIS conversion factors</li><li>• Used 'average car' using 'unknown fuel' from the BEIS conversion factors</li><li>• Used average UK commuting distance from National Travel Survey<sup>4</sup></li><li>• Assumed all FTE took 20 days paid leave and 8 bank holidays and worked all other weekdays</li></ul> |

### *Emission factor*

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020)

### *Update of baseline figure*

The baseline figure has been updated to amend a small error.

## **End-of-life treatment of sold products**

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<sup>4</sup> [NTS0403:Average number of trips,miles and time spent travelling by trip purpose: England](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020), DfT, 5 August 2020



This category includes the GHG emissions from the waste disposal and treatment of products sold by BCP Council. End-of-life treatment methods include landfill, energy from waste and recycling.

| Includes:  | Excludes:  | Reason for exclusion  | Accuracy  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food packaging from BCP catering outlets</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items sold in BCP run gift shops and tourist information centres</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of lines stocked very large therefore very time consuming to weigh all the packaging and assess individual items</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extrapolated data to account for the 91% of outlets that did not respond to the survey</li> <li>Assume consumers dispose of waste responsibly</li> </ul> |

#### *Emission factor*

BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) [Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020)

## Leased out buildings

This section looks at the GHG emissions arising from energy use at buildings leased out by the council. It covers 10,918 buildings (10,200 council houses and 718 other buildings such as those leased out to local businesses).

| Includes:  | Excludes:   | Justification   | Accuracy   |
|--|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All leased out buildings</li><li>• Council housing (Bournemouth and PHP)</li><li>• Gas bottle use at rented out beach huts</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bournemouth International Airport</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Insufficient detail regarding number of buildings included in the lease</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assume all buildings have the same average EPC score as PHP (2.5 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> per house)</li><li>• Assumed all gas bottles purchased during 2020/21 were fully used</li></ul> |

### *Emissions factor*

For all leased out buildings and council housing:

It is possible to calculate GHG emissions from buildings based on floor space. Following Local Government Reorganisation, Council held data on floor space is incomplete and due to be re-measured to assure greater accuracy. Consequently, average EPC scores have been used.

For butane gas bottles:

US Energy Information Administration, [Carbon dioxide emissions coefficients](#), 02 Feb 2016

Emissions assumed to be the same per building as baseline year (2.5 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year) as EPC certificates have not required updating.

### *Update of baseline figure*

Due to council restructuring a revised and more accurate figure for the number of leased out buildings was released this year. The baseline figure has been updated to reflect this.

## Investments

The Council invests in financial and various other bodies. However, for this exercise it has not been possible to obtain comprehensive data from these organisations as to where they subsequently invest the Council's money. As a result, it has not been possible to estimate the resulting GHG emissions from BCP's investments.

The way in which funds are invested can have a significant impact on the environment. Many large banks provide financing to fossil fuel industries and projects that drive tropical deforestation. There are ranking schemes such as BankTrack<sup>5</sup> and the Coal Policy Tool<sup>6</sup> which provides detailed information on the investing policies of banks, asset managers, asset owners and re/insurers to allow investors to assess their environmental credentials.

In September 2020 Dorset County Pension Fund agreed to make the following changes which will reduce the GHG emissions associated with their investments:

- Switch 20% of their equity fund investments into a new Low Carbon Global Sustainable Fund that is aiming to cut investors carbon footprint by two thirds
- Aim to cut the carbon footprint by seven per cent a year for at least the next three years for other actively managed equity portfolios
- See if they can replace any remaining investments in the coal extraction industry with more environmentally responsible investments

The policy applied by Brunel (the Pension Fund administrator) is decarbonisation rather than divestment. This means companies can be invested in as long as they are making progress themselves regarding not investing in fossil fuels as a means of influencing fossil fuels companies to decarbonise. Targeted divestment remains an option for companies that will not engage positively<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> [Dorset County Pension Fund Annual Report 2019-20](#), Appendix 7 Climate Change Policy

## Arm's length companies

BCP has involvement in a number of arm's lengths companies:

- Tricuro
- Seascope
- BBML
- BDC

These companies are governed by a holding company. The activities of these companies have not been individually assessed for Scope 3. However, some elements will have been captured, for example, the waste collected from a number of Tricuro properties is captured within the waste figure for the Council.

## Acronyms

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| BBML              | Bournemouth Building Maintenance Limited                |
| BCP Council       | Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council             |
| BDC               | Bournemouth Development Company                         |
| BEIS              | Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy |
| CCC               | Climate Change Committee                                |
| CO <sub>2</sub> e | Carbon Dioxide Equivalent                               |
| DEFRA             | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs      |
| EPC               | Energy Performance Certificate                          |
| GHG               | Greenhouse Gas(es)                                      |
| IPCC              | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change               |
| PHP               | Poole Housing Partnership                               |

## References

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<sup>i</sup> IPCC, [Climate Change 2021, The Physical Basis, Summary for Policymakers](#), August 2021

<sup>ii</sup> CCC, [What does the IPCC report mean for the UK's climate policy?](#) August 2021

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Impact Summary

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Climate Change & Energy   | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Communities & Culture     | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Waste & Resource Use      | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Economy                   | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Health & Wellbeing        | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Learning & Skills         | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Natural Environment       | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |
| Sustainable Procurement   | <b>No positive or negative impacts identified</b> |
| Transport & Accessibility | <b>Green - Only positive impacts identified</b>   |



Major negative impacts identified



Minor negative impacts identified / unknown impacts



Only positive impacts identified



No positive or negative impacts identified

|   |  |                 |             |
|---|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Answers provided indicate that the score for the carbon footprint of the proposal is:<br><b>0.5</b> | The Carbon Footprint is banded as follows: |                 |             |
|   | 0-4  | 4.5-9.5         | 10-14       |
|   | <b>Low</b>                                 | <b>Moderate</b> | <b>High</b> |

Proposal ID: **326**

Proposal Title: **Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

Type of Proposal: **Report**

Brief description:

**Annual report on the climate mitigation and adaptation activities carried out in 2020/21. Providing data and progress update on meeting the council and area Climate and Ecological Emergency targets.**

Proposer's Name: **Roxanne King**

Proposer's Directorate: **Environment & Community**

Proposer's Service Unit: **Environment**

Estimated cost (£): **No Cost**

Ward(s) Affected (if applicable):

**All Wards**

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) supported by the proposal:

**3. Good Health and Well Being   4. Quality Education   6. Clean Water and Sanitation  
7. Affordable and Clean Energy   8. Decent Work and Economic Growth   9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure   10. Reduced Inequalities   11. Sustainable Cities and Communities   12. Responsible Consumption and Production   13. Climate Action  
14. Life Below Water   15. Life On Land   16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions  
17. Partnerships for the Goals**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Climate Change & Energy

Is the proposal likely to have any impacts (positive or negative) on addressing the causes and effects of climate change? **Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Has the proposal accounted for the potential impacts of climate change, e.g. flooding, storms or heatwaves? **Yes**
- 2) Does it assist reducing CO2 and other Green House Gas (GHG) emissions? E.g. reduction in energy or transport use, or waste produced. **Yes**
- 3) Will it increase energy efficiency (e.g. increased efficiency standards / better design / improved construction technologies / choice of materials) and/or reduce energy consumption? **Yes**
- 4) Will it increase the amount of energy obtained from renewable and low carbon sources? **Yes**

How was the overall impact of the proposal on its ability to positively address the cause and effects of climate change rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):  
**Report addresses the risks and opportunities of climate change and energy for BCP Council and the wider area. This includes an update on carbon reduction activities, flood mitigation and other action taken in 2020/21. The Climate Action Plan also outlines proposed activities to reach the 2030 and 2050 targets.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Communities & Culture

Is the proposal likely to impact (positively or negatively) on the development of safe, vibrant, inclusive and engaged communities? **Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will it help maintain and expand vibrant voluntary and community organisations? **Yes**
- 2) Will it promote a safe community environment? **Yes**
- 3) Will it promote and develop cultural activities? **Partially**

How would the overall impact of the proposal on the development of safe, vibrant, inclusive and engaged communities be rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

Reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

**The Climate Action Plan includes the promotion and support of community and voluntary organisations that work to reduce waste, care for nature, increase climate resilience and travel sustainably.**

**Achieving the Climate and Ecological Emergency targets will safeguard communities and provide opportunities for future generations to develop and explore local culture.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Waste & Resource Use

Is the proposal likely to have any impacts (positive or negative) on waste resource use or production and consumption? **Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will it prevent waste or promote the reduction, re-use, recycling or recovery of materials? **Yes**
- 2) Will it use sustainable production methods or reduce the need for resources? **Yes**
- 3) Will it manage the extraction and use of raw materials in ways that minimise depletion and cause no serious environmental damage? **Yes**
- 4) Will it help to reduce the amount of water abstracted and / or used? **Yes**

How would the overall impact of the proposal on the sustainable production and consumption of natural resources be rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

**Waste reduction and sustainable resource use is fundamental to the Climate Action work carried out by BCP Council (as detailed in the annual report). This includes promoting waste reduction measures in the council's own operations and facilitating residents, businesses and visitors to use resources efficiently.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring  
(inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**



**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Economy

Is the proposal likely to impact (positively or negatively) on the area's ability to support, maintain and grow a sustainable, diverse and thriving economy? **Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will the proposal encourage local business creation and / or growth?

**Partially**

- 2) Will the proposal enable local jobs to be created or retained?

**Partially**

- 3) Will the proposal promote sustainable business practices?

**Yes**

How would the overall impact of the proposal on it's potential to support and maintain a sustainable, diverse and thriving economy be rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps)

**Mitigating and adapting to climate change will reduce the long term financial risk to the council and safeguard our stakeholders in the local area. It also presents an opportunity to reduce running costs, develop renewable energy assets and create income streams e.g. energy generation, carbon and biodiversity credits etc.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc)

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Health & Wellbeing

Is the proposal likely to impact (positively or negatively) on the creation of a inclusive and healthy social and physical environmental for all?

**Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will the proposal contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of residents?

**Yes**

- 2) Will the proposal contribute to reducing inequalities in health between different communities or groups?

**Yes**

- 3) Will the proposal contribute to a healthier and more sustainable physical environment?

**Yes**

How would the overall impact of the proposal on the creation of a fair and healthy social and physical environmental for all be rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

**Climate change will result in heatwaves, extreme weather events, floods, disease and increased cancer risk. The measures to reduce it, as set out in the Climate Action Annual Report, will limit the dangers and those activities can also have direct positive health effects (e.g. increased fitness from cycling and better air quality from reducing car journeys). Addressing fuel and food poverty through climate action will also support more vulnerable demographics, helping to reduce inequalities.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Learning & Skills

Is the proposal likely to impact (positively or negatively) on a culture of ongoing engagement and excellence in learning and skills? **Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will it provide and/or improve opportunities for formal learning?  
**Yes**
- 2) Will it provide and/or improve community learning and development?  
**Yes**
- 3) Will it provide and/or improve opportunities for apprenticeships and other skill based learning?  
**Partially**

How would the overall impact of the proposal on the encouragement of learning and skills be rated? **Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

**Climate education is a key part of the Climate Action Plan. Helping people to understand what the issues are will encourage participation in mitigation and adaptation activities. Formal and informal training courses are now available for the public, and the council will continue to improve climate awareness and skills of staff.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Natural Environment

Is the proposal likely to impact (positively or negatively) on the protection or enhancement of local biodiversity or the access to and quality of natural environments?

**Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will it help protect and improve biodiversity i.e. habitats or species (including designated and non-designated)? **Yes**
- 2) Will it improve access to and connectivity of local green spaces whilst protecting and enhancing them? **Yes**
- 3) Will it help protect and enhance the landscape quality and character?  
**Don't know even though may be relevant**
- 4) Will it help to protect and enhance the quality of the area's air, water and land?  
**Yes**

How would the overall impact of your proposal on the protection and enhancement of natural environments be rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

**Biodiversity net gain and green/blue infrastructure improvements are key aspect of the ecological side of the emergency declaration. The 'nature & waste' section of the Climate Action Plan focusses on environmental improvements that will improve and create better opportunities for maximising ecosystem services.**

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Sustainable Procurement

Is the proposal likely to involve the procurement of goods, services or works which risk negative impact on resources (including power, water, raw material extraction), natural environment or labour markets (e.g. welfare standards)?

**No**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section): **No procurement associated with the production of this report. Procurement of goods and services associated with the delivery of the Climate Action Plan will be considered on a case-by-case basis with the support of the Council's Procurement Team.**

Has or is it intended that the Strategic Procurement team be consulted?

If the Strategic Procurement team was not consulted, then the explanation for this is:

- 1) Do the Government Buying Standards (GBS) apply to goods, services and/or works that are planned to be bought?
- 2) Has sustainable resource use (e.g. energy & water consumption, waste streams, minerals use) been considered for whole life-cycle of the product/service/work?
- 3) Has the issue of carbon reduction (e.g. energy sources, transport issues) and adaptation (e.g. resilience against extreme weather events) been considered in the supply chain?
- 4) Is the product/service/work fairly traded i.e. ensures good working conditions, social benefits e.g. Fairtrade or similar standards?
- 5) Has the lotting strategy been optimised to improve prospects for local suppliers and SMEs?
- 6) If aspects of the requirement are unsustainable then is continued improvement factored into your contract with KPIs, and will this be monitored?

How is the overall impact of your proposal on procurement which supports sustainable resource use, environmental protection and progressive labour standards been rated?

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

Details of proposed mitigation/remedial action and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Proposal Title: Climate Action Annual Report 2020/21**

## Transport & Accessibility

Is the proposal likely to have any impacts (positive or negative) on the provision of sustainable, accessible, affordable and safe transport services - improving links to jobs, schools, health and other services? **Yes**

If the answer was No, then the explanation is below (there are no answers to subsequent questions in this section):

- 1) Will it support and encourage the provision of sustainable and accessible modes of transport (including walking, cycling, bus, trains and low emission vehicles)?

**Yes**

- 2) Will it reduce the distances needed to travel to access work, leisure and other services?

**Don't know even though may be relevant**

- 3) Will it encourage affordable and safe transport options?

**Yes**

How would the overall impact of your proposal on the provision of sustainable, accessible, affordable and safe transport services be rated?

**Green - Only positive impacts identified**

The reasoning for the answer (details of impacts including evidence and knowledge gaps):

**The 'Travel & Transport' section of the Climate Action Plan focuses on improving access to and uptake of sustainable modes of transport. This includes encouraging greater provision of cycle facilities, promoting Beryl Bikes, Co-Wheels and other shared transport schemes, and supporting the delivery of clean and efficient transport infrastructure across the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area.**

**Possible negative views from stakeholders if measures are perceived to impact their use of single occupancy, fossil-fuelled vehicles.**

Details of proposed mitigation and monitoring (inc. timescales, responsible officers, related business plans etc):

**Report produced annually to provide update on progress and risks.**

# CABINET



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Report subject    | <b>Levelling Up</b>   |
| Meeting date      | 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2022   |
| Status            | Public Report   |
| Executive summary | <p>In May 2021 the Government announced it will publish a landmark Levelling Up White Paper, “articulating how bold new policy interventions will improve opportunity and boost livelihoods across the country as we recover from the pandemic. The White Paper - which will be led by the Prime Minister - will focus on challenges including improving living standards, growing the private sector and increasing and spreading opportunity”.</p> <p>In readiness for this White Paper, this Cabinet report showcases several excellent recent studies that help to explain why Levelling Up is important for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, and how it can support our current and future work. These studies also help us to have some early sight on what our Levelling Up needs and aspirations may be.</p> <p>This Cabinet report also provides a brief update on the development of the Skills Commission (a key early action to support Levelling Up) and sets out a series of proposed next steps for approval to ensure there is an agreed, evidenced based council-wide approach that is complimentary to and supports the delivery of existing council policies and strategies.</p> |
| Recommendations   | <b>It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet approves the proposed approach to Levelling Up.</b>   |

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Reason for recommendations | Levelling Up the country is one of Government's key policy aims. The council's Big Plan and Corporate Strategy speak to the same agenda. The recommendation, if approved, will enable BCP Council to better understand our needs and aspirations around Levelling Up and consider how they relate to the Corporate Strategy and other council strategies, so that we are well positioned for the publication of the Government's White Paper, and any future funding opportunities that may arise |
| Portfolio Holder(s):       | Councillor Toby Johnson - Lead Member for Levelling Up and Skills<br>Councillor Philip Broadhead - Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Development, Growth and Regeneration   |
| Corporate Director         | Adam Richens, Corporate Finance Director  |
| Report Authors             | Chris Shephard, Director of Economic Development<br>Sophie Bradfield – Principal Policy Officer   |
| Wards                      | Council-wide  |
| Classification             | For Decision  |

## Background

1. In May 2021 the Government announced the landmark Levelling Up White Paper would be published later this year,  
“articulating how bold new policy interventions will improve opportunity and boost livelihoods across the country as we recover from the pandemic.  
Despite the challenges of Covid-19, levelling up and ensuring that the whole UK can benefit from the same access to opportunities remains core to the Government's vision.  
The White Paper - which will be led by the Prime Minister - will focus on challenges including improving living standards, growing the private sector and increasing and spreading opportunity”.  
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-publish-levelling-up-white-paper>).
2. The White Paper is expected at the end of the year and early signs are that the major themes covered in it will be:
  - Economic Growth
  - Opportunity and spreading opportunity
  - Public Services and Public Service Outcomes
  - Pride in Place (which is about regeneration and local leadership/sense of community)



3. There has been plenty written about Levelling Up since this announcement, with many organisations speculating on what they think Levelling Up should be about including this from the Centre for Cities:  

“Levelling up should improve standards of living across the country: The goal of levelling up should be to narrow the divergence seen across the country in areas such as health, education and public service provision.

Levelling up should help every place to reach its productivity potential: levelling up the economy can’t mean making everywhere the same, because different places play different roles in the economy”.

However at the time of writing we still await the White Paper with full details from Government.
4. In advance of the White Paper and more specific details about the policy, there is an opportunity to think about what Levelling Up means to Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, using the list outlined in section 2 of this report, showing how Levelling Up compliments existing council strategies and policies, and to ensure the council is well placed to react to its publication. This Cabinet report showcases several excellent recent studies that help to do this and provide some early sight on what our Levelling Up needs and aspirations may be.
5. This Cabinet report also provides a brief update on the development of the Skills Commission, a key early action to support Levelling Up, and sets out a series of proposed next steps for approval to ensure there is an agreed, evidenced-based council-wide approach that is complimentary to and supports the delivery of existing council policies and strategies.

### **Evidence, Data and Research**

6. The council has a plethora of data, statistics and analysis to support an evidence-based approach to determining the challenges and opportunities we face for Levelling Up in the BCP area. We publish some of these resources online: [Statistics, data and census \(bcpcouncil.gov.uk\)](https://www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/statistics) and [Research reports \(bcpcouncil.gov.uk\)](https://www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/research-reports). Looking at some of the key reports below we have drawn out some initial high-level areas which are useful to consider.

### **Key Facts 2021 - State of BCP Report June 2021**

7. The State of BCP report (see appendix 2) is a key facts report updated annually by the research team, using data from various sources including the Office of National Statistics (ONS), data from Government departments and the councils’ own data. The report looks at characteristics of the BCP area on the following topics: population, diversity, deprivation, community and place, children and young people, economy and employment (including education and skills), housing, health and wellbeing, culture, heritage and tourism and sustainability and environment.
8. The State of BCP report helps to shape and inform partnership work, outlining the changing nature of our communities, and providing a snapshot of the data behind the bigger picture.
9. Drawing out some headings from the report relevant to the Levelling Up work, we can see BCP is an area with significant contrasts with areas among the most and least deprived in the country. 16,000 people (4% of the BCP population) live in the 10% most deprived areas in England. This increases to 45,400 people (12% of the BCP population) when we look at the number of people living in the 20% most

deprived areas. Yet in contrast, 82,800 (21% of the BCP population) live in the 20% least deprived areas in England.

10. Wages are slightly below national average, yet house prices are higher than the national average creating an affordability issue. Average house prices in the BCP area have increased significantly in the last ten years. The average house price in the BCP area was £302,719 in the 12 months to March 2021; this is higher than the average price regionally and nationally. The relative affordability of property has decreased between 2010 and 2020. Median house prices increased at a higher rate than the median wage, which has led to less affordable housing. BCP also has a large private rental sector and the median prices of one, two- and three-bedroom properties are consistently higher than that of the South West or England. Around 22% of households rent privately.
11. The level of qualifications varies across the BCP area. Education, skills, and training is one of the domains included in the English Indices of Deprivation (2019). This domain measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population and is the most prevalent form of deprivation across all three towns in BCP. Yet we are also home to three universities, with over 21,500 students registered in BCP in 2019/20.

#### **Covid Impact Evidence April 2021**

12. This BCP Council research report (see appendix 3) looks at the evidence of the impacts across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) based on our corporate priorities: Sustainable Environment, Dynamic Places, Brighter Futures, Connected Communities, Fulfilled Lives, Modern Accessible, Accountable Council.
13. It's recognised that the huge impact of the pandemic has changed the structure of the economy and will have a lasting change on the way we live both locally, nationally, and internationally. However not all the impacts and changes brought about by Covid-19 were negative. Technological and medical advances have helped both in terms of protecting us from the virus and enabled us to carry on working. The pandemic also encouraged communities to work together to support those needing help.
14. The report recognises there is a risk that the pandemic will permanently increase health and other inequalities due to the disproportionate impact on certain groups.
15. Locally there is evidence of a likely increase in families experiencing financial pressure, due to an increase in households on universal credit who have dependent children. Between January 2020 and November 2020, the number has increased by nearly 60% to 10,700 households.
16. The pandemic has also had a significant impact on children and young people in many ways due to the impact it has had on teaching in schools, colleges, and universities. Young people have also been disproportionately impacted in their post-school lives as both the availability of apprenticeships and jobs were depleted at the start of the pandemic. Furthermore, many young people are more likely to be employed in the sectors more vulnerable to Covid-19. Nearly 46% of those aged 16 to 24 are employed in the distribution, hotel and restaurant sector compared with 24% of all in employment aged 16 and over.

#### **COVID-19 impact on children and young people May 2021**

17. This BCP Council research briefing (see appendix 4) highlights the key impacts of Covid-19 on children and their families, and suggests where our focus for recovery should lie, based on a review of national and local evidence available to date. The

following key areas of need for children and young people are highlighted based on current evidence and five broad areas of focus are suggested for recovery:

- a. Our response should directly address the growing inequalities through identifying and targeting support to the children, families and young people disproportionately affected.
- b. We must work with partners and our communities to support young people and families meet their basic needs, through effectively targeted family support and early help.
- c. We should prioritise on-going support for children's emotional health and wellbeing.
- d. We should provide an enabling environment within our schools, where children feel supported to re-engage and address learning gaps, especially for children with SEND and other vulnerabilities.
- e. There should be a focus on preventing harm and exploitation given the increase in the incidence of domestic abuse & other safeguarding issues, and the complexity of cases entering the care system.

### **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) JSNA Summary May 2021**

18. Dorset's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is used to support BCP Council's and Dorset Council's Health & Wellbeing Boards to identify key issues and develop their Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies in response to these. The data in this summary (see appendix 5) provides insight into the trends and patterns we are seeing in our local area.
19. In the BCP area, current life expectancy at birth is 83.7 years for females and 80.5 years for men. Healthy life expectancy is better than the England rate for both sexes and this has generally been improving. However, there are some areas where our populations health could be better. This report looks at key indicators where we are falling below England average, health inequalities and wider determinants of health.
20. Deprivation and Inequality Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019, by decile BCP has a mix of high and low deprivation areas. Some areas, such as Sandbanks, Canford Cliffs, Christchurch and Broadstone fall within the least deprived areas nationally. In contrast, there are communities experiencing some of the highest levels of deprivation in Turlin Moor, Alderney, Turbary Common and West Howe, Boscombe and Somerford. Deprivation is strongly linked with many health outcomes, and we see inequalities in life expectancy across the BCP area – There is just under 10 years difference in life expectancy for females (West Highcliffe -87.5 years and Boscombe West - 77.9 years).

### **Health inequalities in BCP**

21. BCP Council research into health inequalities has provided some further insights.
22. The relationship between unemployment and health status is clear at ward level for BCP. Wards where levels of unemployment are significantly above the BCP average also have the lowest life expectancy. Areas with the highest unemployment rates are significantly more likely to include residents that have no or few qualifications, people with disabilities and mental ill-health, those with caring responsibilities, lone parents, some ethnic minorities, older workers and particularly young people.

23. There are risks associated with being unemployed at a young age. A report by Public Health England links spending time NEET (not in education, employment or training) to ongoing unemployment, low wages, and poor physical and mental health. The percentage of young people NEET and whose activities are unknown is higher in BCP than it is nationally. In BCP 3.8% of 16-17-year-olds are NEET, compared with 3% nationally, and the activities of 3.7% are unknown, compared with 2% nationally.
24. There is a social gradient to people's health, and the length of time people live is closely related to the extent of disadvantage and deprivation they experience. Levels of deprivation play a significant role in health inequalities. Deprivation is a measure that assesses areas based on how they fare on multiple fields, including income, employment, quality of environment, health, education, and housing.
25. BCP is an area of significant disparity with neighbouring areas among the most and least deprived within England. According to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD 2019) 45,400 people (12% of the population) in BCP live in areas that are among the most deprived 20% nationally, including 8,900 0-16 year olds and 6,200 over 65s. 9 of 233 areas (Lower Layer Super Output Areas - LSOAs) in BCP fall within the most deprived 10% nationally, 17 LSOAs are in the 11-20% most deprived areas. 56 LSOAs in BCP fall within the least deprived 20% nationally. 82,800 people (21% of the population) live in these areas, including 12,700 0-16 year olds and 26,000 over 65s.

#### **The Future of Urban Centres report – Key and Core Cities**

26. Supporting these findings at a local level, on the national stage the council has been involved in another piece of research, this time commissioned by the Key Cities and Core Cities networks earlier this year, to consider "the future of urban areas". The full report by Metro Dynamics can be seen here: <https://www.keycities.co.uk/future-urban-centres-online-evidence-base>. This report is an excellent read, however even more insightful is the dashboard showing key indices for each city or city-region in the network. This can be accessed via the same link and is shown in Figure 1. By choosing a city from the map shown, it brings up a dashboard of different measures that are useful for looking at a place on a page. These can also be compared against other cities in the network. For example, the demographics of the population in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole can be compared with that of Newcastle or Leeds or Plymouth. This is data drawn from national sources such as the Office for National Statistics and displayed in a way that is easy to digest (Figure 2).
27. This evidence supports the information provided in the earlier paragraphs in that it highlights areas of strength but also areas that we may wish to consider further if considered through a Levelling Up perspective.

Figure 1: Key Cities and Core Cities: The Future of Urban Centres



Figure 2: Data for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole



## Levelling Up: making the case for investment in the Central South – Southern Policy Centre

28. Alongside these excellent pieces of work, The Southern Policy Centre, an independent think-tank (established in 2014 as the only independent think tank and policy forum for central southern England), undertook its own research on the subject. This took in a broader geographical scope, that of the Central South, which

includes Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. In advance of the White Paper, and perhaps to inform it, The Southern Policy Centre then published their report in July this year “Levelling Up: making the case for investment in the Central South” (appendix 1). This report

“challenged that perception of uniform prosperity across the central South, highlighting inequalities along the urban coastal strip from Poole to Portsmouth, including the Isle of Wight. We showed that the specific and long-term disadvantages faced by some people in our area are similar to experiences of people in the Midlands and the North who are widely talked about as having been ‘left behind.’”

29. Key findings of the report showed

“that parts of Bournemouth, Gosport, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton faced the same challenges as urban areas in the Midlands and North, with life expectancy, levels of skills and income all below the national average”.

It goes on to say that:

“The following tables show a comparison of key economic, educational and other indicators in the central South and comparators from the Midlands and North of England. All face common challenges, notably:

- Poverty and deprivation, with more than 25% % of LSOAs (Lower Layer Super Output Areas have an average population of 1500 people or 650 households) in the top 3 deciles of deprivation with worse than GB average child poverty rates and lower than average life expectancy
- Education and skills (educational attainment at GCSE and A levels, no qualifications, NVQ 1- 4)
- Economy, employment and income (employment rate, average income, housing affordability ratio)
- Social Mobility (overall index)”

These tables can be viewed on pages 18, 19 and 20 of the report in Appendix 1.

30. Whilst there is an incredible amount of evidence here, further work is required to review how existing and future council strategies and policies can contribute to the Levelling Up agenda. It is recommended that Cabinet supports the development of further detailed work across the council, that will also review and work to the contents of the White Paper when it is published, and that can be presented back to Cabinet at the appropriate time in the future.

### **A National Framework**

31. To assist with the complexities of this subject, and to help provide some architecture to assessing progress and success, we can turn to the Levelling Up Goals (<https://www.levellingupgoals.org/>). The introduction on the website states

“Through the Social Mobility Pledge, a coalition of businesses, NHS Trusts, Councils and universities committed to driving levelling up on the ground, and with civil society and cross party MPs, we have produced the leading architecture for truly purpose-led organisations. We call them the Levelling Up Goals.

This Purpose architecture is setting the standard on the social aspect of ESG, being adopted by organisations including Amazon, UK Power Networks, bp, Sodexo, Pennon Group, Adecco, the BBC, Direct Line Group, Cisco, Shoosmiths, NHS Trusts and 15 UK Universities amongst others.

The Goals are chaired by Rt Hon Justine Greening, the UK's former Secretary of State for International Development. In Parliament the Goals are chaired by Robbie Moore MP, Member of Parliament for Keighley and Ilkley in West Yorkshire.

The Levelling Up Goals are the first major piece of work from the Purpose Coalition, which is made up of leading private and public sector leaders, with the aim of creating a framework for the S in ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance), to map best practice, report outcomes, track progress and ensure a maximum and measurable impact on their staff, customers and the communities they serve”.

32. They have been inspired by the UN Sustainable Development Goals and include goals such as Strong Foundations in Early Years, Building Homes and Sustainable Communities and Good Health and Wellbeing.
33. There is an opportunity to commission an Impact Report via the consultancy, to look at how the Levelling Up Goals could be integrated into our work. This would work together with our own detailed work proposed at 29 and would be a time bound piece of work that will produce some recommendations, funded via existing budgets. We will then cross reference these with the White Paper or vice versa depending on when it is published, to inform our future direction.

#### **Current work that supports Levelling Up**

34. There is work across the council that supports the aims of Levelling Up. Several projects already in operation in Economic Development and Communities demonstrate where there are already steps being taken to invest in levelling up. Examples include:
  - the Bournemouth Town Deal which has secured £21m for investment into regenerating Boscombe
  - the creation of the urban regeneration company FuturePlaces to accelerate development schemes on council owned sites following a stewardship approach that puts people and communities at its heart
  - the associated Economic Development and Communities Strategies and their delivery, amongst others
  - and the creation of a Skills Commission in partnership with Dorset Council and others, which will undertake a review into the Dorset skills landscape – with a particular consideration of the National Skills White Paper, and the levelling up agenda, producing a report that lays out a potential skills journey and opportunities/needs based on 10, 20 and 30-years trajectories. The appointment of the lead for this piece of work is critical, and work is being finalised to secure the right person at the time of writing.

#### **Proposed Approach**

35. It is clear from the extensive evidence outlined here that there are some clear themes coming through around where we could focus our efforts in relation to Levelling Up. However, this is a large and complex subject which requires a



degree of governance and co-ordination if we are to grasp the opportunities both for our communities and in terms of potential resources from Government.

36. This Government policy could provide much needed funding and support to help us deliver on the Corporate Strategy and Big Plan which crosses many, if not all, service areas.
37. Cabinet is therefore asked to approve the following approach, that may change in order and scale depending on when the White Paper is published:
- Form an appropriate officer working group from existing resources to develop a work plan and progress, working closely with the Lead Member
  - Consider how this work could be reported to existing governance arrangements/committees
  - Review White Paper when published
  - Further internal work to consider how existing and/or future strategies, plans and policies can contribute to Levelling Up
  - Commission Levelling Up Goals impact report
  - Continue to form and progress Skills Commission
  - Hold Member Seminar to discuss and agree areas of focus
  - Present a more detailed report to a future Cabinet meeting once the above work has been progressed
  - Develop evidence base and business cases for future Government funding

### **Options Appraisal**

38. To either:
- a) support the recommendation and continue to develop work that will enable the council and its residents to benefit from this key Government policy and associated investment
  - b) Not support the recommendation, and potentially miss out on future Government investment to support our vision, and key policies and strategies

### **Summary of financial implications**

39. Funding required for this work are expected to come from existing budgets and therefore have no impact on the MTFP.

### **Summary of legal implications**

40. There are no legal implications associated with this report.

### **Summary of human resources implications**

41. There are no additional direct human resource implications because of this work. It is likely that, to help achieve the proposed approach, appropriately skilled Council officers who have this work as part of their usual business will be required to contribute some time and expertise. It will be in the interest of all services to collaborate as this could result in attracting Government funding for their projects.



The level of this requirement will become clearer upon publication of the White Paper.

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

42. This report has no direct carbon reduction impact, however, the aspirations around Levelling Up are to ensure positive sustainable development inspired by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Summary of public health implications**

43. Improving health outcomes and quality of life is a key part of Levelling Up and will continue to be at the heart of the work on this agenda.

### **Summary of equality implications**

44. At this stage there are no equality implications of this report, however equality of opportunity is a clear statement of intent from the future Government policy and our response to it.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

45. This is deemed to be a low risk.

### **Background papers**

None

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: [Levelling Up: Making the Case for Investment in the Central South](#)

Appendix 2: [Key Facts 2021 - State of BCP Report June 2021](#)

Appendix 3: [Covid Impact Evidence April 2021](#)

Appendix 4: [COVID-19 impact on children and young people May 2021](#)

Appendix 5: [Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole \(BCP\) JSNA Summary May 2021](#)

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**SOUTHERN POLICY CENTRE**

**Levelling up:  
making the case for investment  
in the central South**

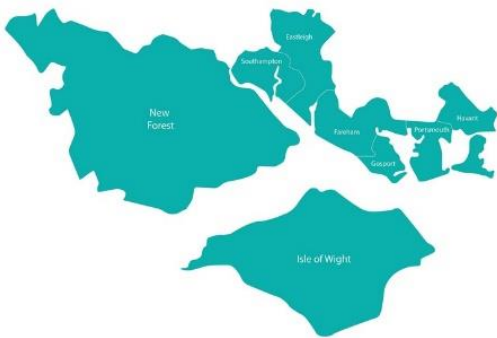
**Suki Sitaram**

**June 2021**

# Levelling up: making the case for investment in the central South<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In this report we define the central South as including the local authority areas of region: Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole, East Dorset, Southampton, New Forest, Eastleigh, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, Fareham, Gosport and Havant

## Executive summary

The central tenet of the ‘levelling up’ agenda focuses on the Midlands and the North<sup>2</sup>, giving the perception that there is a difference in the level of need and requirement for support between these regions and the supposedly more affluent South East. However, this assumes that all areas within an “affluent” region provide similar life chances to their residents. This paper explores whether the affluence associated with the South East is uniform across the region and whether the characteristics of disadvantage for residents in the central South suggest some may experience poorer life chances, similar to those in selected areas of the Midlands and North. It seeks to investigate the extent to which the perception of the “affluent South East” is true, or whether it is, in places, also in need of ‘levelling up’. The paper defines central South as the area within the South East that is covered by Solent LEP along with Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

The paper makes comparisons at three area levels and the key points from this initial high level research seek to provoke discussion and act as a springboard for further work in specific areas:

- The aggregation of all parts of the region as lying within the “affluent South East” mask significant differences WITHIN that region, masking localities whose performance is more akin to other less affluent regions (e.g. wider areas of Southampton and

Portsmouth; Isle of Wight) as well as WITHIN localities (e.g. areas of deprivation), in ways that are experienced by constituents in their daily lives.

- Initial comparisons have been done of the central South (as identified in this paper - comprising a few areas within the South East and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole) with selected areas of the Midlands and the North, which are most often and most strongly associated with the ‘levelling up’ agenda. These comparisons indicate that even at this more aggregate level, parts of the Midlands and North do not appear to be as different from parts of the central South as the ‘levelling up’ agenda would suggest they are. Further, many residents face similar disadvantages and poorer outcomes in parts of each region, evidenced by lower educational achievement, skills, wages and life expectancy.
- Based on this initial research, it could be argued that the worst circumstances of all are those of residents living in deprived neighbourhoods within affluent areas as they have less access to opportunities to improve their lives and they can often receive the least attention when their need is greatest. Using data on social mobility in constituencies as a basis, the paper examines the impact of disadvantage on those smaller pockets of deprivation.

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<sup>2</sup> The selected areas are within the remit of following Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP): D2N2 LEP, Stoke and Staffordshire

LEP, Cheshire and Warrington LEP, Solent LEP and Dorset LEP (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole).

The solutions put forward by the Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) include long term policies and investment in transport and Research & Development (R&D) in areas outside London, boosting existing place-based funding programmes and focusing on the importance of local government in levelling up by resourcing a broader devolution strategy. The latter will require action at a national level, acting on one of the conclusions<sup>3</sup> by the Institute of Fiscal Studies - “The Chancellor should pay particular attention to the important role local governments will play in ‘levelling up’ - potentially as a part of a broader devolution strategy - and ensure that this is backed up with adequate funding, both for investment and for running costs.” Although this was in the context of the 2020 Spending Review, it is still relevant now.

Any case for the need for areas in the central South to ‘level up’ should consider improving the following outcomes: educational and skills equality, income equality, access to affordable housing, health inequalities and social mobility. In addition to Government investment, to succeed responses must be driven locally and jointly by local government, health, businesses, employers and educational establishments. Given the data shows

relatively poor educational attainment and qualifications and higher housing affordability ratios in some areas of the central South, the most important solutions could be developed and delivered through:

- Strong local leadership and partnerships across public sector, businesses and educational establishments, supported by Government funding beyond capital

investment, to design long term programmes that help people to enhance their economic opportunities by acquiring the necessary education, skills and qualifications to achieve better

**“Any case for the need for areas in the central South to ‘level up’ should consider improving the following outcomes: educational and skills equality; income equality, health inequalities access to affordable housing and social mobility.”**

paid jobs and improve their social mobility.

- Deeper understanding of the inequalities within regions and communities, addressing the causes of disadvantage (poverty, deprivation, education, skills, health, housing and jobs) and for a greater emphasis on quality, affordable homes, skills and good jobs, as well as vibrant town and city centres.
- Place specific solutions, based on evidence which informs a deep understanding of what the barriers are, and therefore, how best to address them. They must include design and delivery of projects to improve access to affordable housing.

<sup>3</sup> Key Finding 10, IFS Green Budget 2020: Chapter 7, Levelling up: where and how? Alex Davenport and Ben Zaranko

- Facilitation by the Social Mobility Commission, taking up their offer to work with local and regional leaders and employers to think through the avenues through which the right opportunities can be provided to boost social mobility.

Further research areas could include:

**Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole:** Ranks very weak or weak in five out of six Future Growth Potential strength indicators and low average weekly workplace earnings; is more vulnerable to short term impacts of exposure to COVID-19.

**Southampton:** While business start-up rate is high, it is accompanied by a very high business churn rate, highlighting the need to provide more support to new businesses so that they can grow and flourish; below average rank for educational attainment measures for children and young people eligible on Free School Meals; poor outcomes on a number of health and life expectancy indicators.

**Portsmouth:** Portsmouth is in the highest group for both indices relating to levelling up and vulnerability to short term impact of COVID-19 exposure.

**Isle of Wight:** Ranks high in the Levelling Up index and is vulnerable to the short term impacts of exposure to COVID-19; nearly one in three residents are living in the neighbourhoods in the top 3 deprivation decile neighbourhoods.

**Gosport:** Is in the highest group relating to levelling up; pupils on Free School Meals have worse than national average outcomes for educational attainment from primary stage to A

levels, performing either worse or same as the comparator in this paper - Bolsover.

**Havant:** This is the one area to perform below average in all the SMI index measures, providing an opportunity to explore holistic solutions.

**New Forest:** If we can agree that education plays a critical role in social mobility, then pupils on Free School Meals in New Forest East face considerable barriers in building a good life, as per the definition of social mobility. While pupils in New Forest West do better than national average till KS4, it will be important to explore the reasons for the drop in performance at A Levels to below national average.

## Introduction

This paper aims to provoke discussion on whether some areas in the central South can make a case for investment in 'levelling up' by exploring similarities and differences between this region and selected areas already identified as targets for such action. It may also offer a foundation for further research to make a case for long term investments that lead to a more educated, skilled and healthy workforce, who in turn can contribute to and benefit from the economic growth of the places they live in. It does not seek to prescribe solutions or interventions. We have tried to use available data to reflect on the strong similarities between the central South and selected areas in the Midlands and North, where the Government has spoken of the need to 'level up'. The research on which this paper is based is detailed in Appendix 1.

The paper defines central South as the area within the South East that is covered by Solent LEP along with Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Initial comparisons have been done with selected areas of the Midlands and the North, which are most often and most strongly associated with the 'levelling up' agenda. These indicate that even at this more aggregate level, the two regions do not appear to be as different as the 'levelling up' agenda would suggest they are.

The Government has prioritised tackling geographic inequalities and its commitment to the 'levelling up' agenda is reflected in the March 2020 Budget, which sought to deliver 'an ambitious programme of investment in communities across the country, many of whom feel left behind'.<sup>4</sup> The Government's National Infrastructure Strategy is supported by the 2021/22 Spending Review and the next phase of the Government's capital investment in infrastructure (£100 billion) to kickstart growth and support hundreds of thousands of jobs. The programmes of investment include:

- **Stronger Towns Fund**<sup>5</sup> (£3.6 billion) to invest in 101<sup>6</sup> towns to increase economic growth with a focus on regeneration, improved transport, better broadband connectivity, skills and culture
- **Future High Streets Fund**<sup>7</sup> (£830 million) to be invested in 72 areas across England to fund new local projects such as improvements to transport infrastructure, new homes and the transformation of underused spaces

- **Levelling Up Fund**<sup>8</sup> (£4 billion) to level up and strengthen communities
- **National Home Building Fund**<sup>9</sup> (£7.1 billion) to build more affordable, sustainable and beautiful homes across England
- **The March 2021 Budget included:**
  - Community Renewal Fund (£220 million) to pilot programmes and new approaches and will invest in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment
  - Community Ownership Fund (£150 million) to help ensure that communities can support and continue benefiting from the local facilities, community assets and amenities most important to them
  - Eight new English Freeports, including Solent

## What is 'levelling up'?

There is no clear definition of 'levelling up' but in announcing its investment programmes, the Government recognised that some of the most prosperous regions have pockets of deprivation and neighbourhoods that have not fully benefited from the success of their wider regional economy (i.e. 'left behind'). Some common themes have emerged in the criteria published for the programmes:

- The Stronger Towns Fund uses a needs-based formula to select areas for funding was based on a combination of productivity, income, skills, deprivation metrics and

<sup>4</sup> IFS Green Budget 2020: Chapter 7 - Levelling up: where and how? October 2020, page 235

<sup>5</sup> Announced in September 2019

<sup>6</sup> Described as 100 or 101 towns

<sup>7</sup> Started in 2018 and this further announcement was in December 2020

<sup>8</sup> 2021/22 Spending Review, November 2020

<sup>9</sup> 2021/22 Spending Review, November 2020



proportion of the population living in towns

- The Community Renewal Fund identifies 100 priority places on the basis of an index of economic resilience which measures productivity, household income, unemployment, skills and population density
- More recently, the announcement of 100 places for the Levelling Up Fund is based on the following indicators to measure the need for levelling up: economic recovery and growth (productivity, 16+ unemployment rate, skills), improved connectivity (average journey times to employment by car, public transport or bike) and regeneration (commercial and dwelling rates)

The inevitable significant negative impact of COVID-19 on individuals, businesses and areas is not fully considered in this paper as detailed data and analysis is not available yet. Initial work from the Institute of Fiscal Studies<sup>10</sup> on measuring 'left behind' areas which also considers the short term impact of COVID-19 has been included.

### **'Levelling up' - which areas?**

There are no details on specific places and communities considered as 'left-behind' and which therefore need levelling up. It is, in part a political agenda, targeted at investing in the so-called 'Red Wall' seats which fell to the Conservatives in the 2019 General Election. A further indication of the Government's analysis regarding areas

that need 'levelling up' may lie in the areas that have been included in its funding programmes as well as in its statement "to ensure that Government policies that have the most impact on levelling-up are created by those living in communities outside of London and the South East, the Treasury will set up its Northern headquarters next year"<sup>11</sup>. More recently, the Railways White Paper published by the Department of Transport indicates its intentions to equalise spend: "Investment will be prioritised in areas that have seen less spending in the past, to level up the whole country".<sup>12</sup>

The areas we selected for comparison (see below) therefore, feature in the following **categories** (central South area are indicated in italics):

- **Parliamentary seat switched from Labour to Conservative:** Derby North, Bolsover, Stoke-on-Trent Central and North, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe and Nantwich, Warrington South
- **Received an allocation from the Future High Streets Fund:** Derby City Centre, Nottingham City Centre, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe and *Portsmouth*
- **Received an allocation from the Stronger Towns Fund:** Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe, Warrington and *Bournemouth*
- **Identified in the list for the Communities Renewal Fund:** Derbyshire Dales, Nottingham, Bassetlaw, Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-Under-Lyme
- **Identified in the list for the Levelling Up Fund Priority 1:** Derby, Derbyshire Dales, Bassetlaw,

<sup>10</sup> Levelling up – where and how? Chapter 7, published in October 2020

<sup>11</sup> Spending Review 2021-22 published 25 November 2020

<sup>12</sup> Great British Railways: The Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail, page 26

Nottingham, Erewash, Stoke-on-Trent and *Gosport*

- **Identified in the list for the Levelling Up Fund Priority 2:** Bolsover, Broxtowe, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Warrington, *Havant, Portsmouth, Southampton, Eastleigh and the Isle of Wight*
- **Identified in the list for the Levelling Up Fund Priority 3:** Stafford, *Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, New Forest*

Prominent in the list of areas selected for 'levelling up' funding<sup>13</sup> are

constituencies which turned from Labour to Conservative includes towns and cities in the Midlands and the North. This emphasis of the Red/Blue Wall areas is not always supported by data which in turn is increasingly raising concerns about the application of criteria for the allocation of 'levelling up' funding. Such concerns are pertinent to areas in central South whose residents experience similar levels of poverty, deprivation and skills disadvantage to those in areas that will benefit from funding programmes.

However, it could be argued that as the Government recognises that it is people and communities (not geographical areas) who feel left behind, 'levelling up' may be more complex than a North/South divide based on deficits in

past investment when compared to London and the South East. This point is emphasised by the Social Mobility Commission which states that "The chances of someone from a disadvantaged background getting on in life is closely linked to where they grow up and choose to make a life for

themselves. It has been commonplace in recent decades to think of this geographical divide in terms of a north/south divide. The Social Mobility Index paints a more complex picture than that".<sup>14</sup>

**"The chances of someone from a disadvantaged background getting on in life is closely linked to where they grow up and choose to make a life for themselves."**

## Freeports

The Government conducted a consultation process in 2020 on its proposals to have the first Freeport opening for business in 2021. Freeports are usually located around shipping ports, or airports and are designed to attract major domestic and international investment. The ambition is for them to be the hubs of enterprise which will allow places to carry out business inside a country's land border but where different customs rules apply. The UK had seven freeports between 1984 and 2012, including Southampton. In selecting areas to be designated as Freeports, consideration was given to how a freeport could bring economic opportunities to poorer regions and 'level up' the country as well as the impact of COVID-19 on local areas and ensuring freeports are "spread fairly" across England. Solent is one of

<sup>13</sup> Portsmouth is included in the Future Streets Fund and Bournemouth in the Stronger Towns Fund

<sup>14</sup> 2017 Social Commission Report

England's eight new Freeports announced as part of the March 2021 Budget and the Government has confirmed that Freeports will benefit from:

- streamlined planning processes to aid brownfield redevelopment
- a package of tax reliefs to help drive jobs, growth and innovation
- simplified customs procedures and duty suspensions on goods

### Choosing areas for comparison in the central South, Midlands and the North

To compare places in the central South with those which might be within scope for 'levelling up' the latter were selected on the basis of the categories described above; details of the methodology and the factors on which the choice of areas was based is attached at Appendix 2. The paper details three different levels of comparisons based on similar

populations<sup>15</sup> and using, as much as possible, the latest data available: Primary Urban Area (PUA): defined by Centre for Cities as the "built-up" area of a large city or town, rather than individual local authority districts, providing a consistent measure to compare concentrations of economic activity across the UK, distinct from city region or combined authority geographies.

- Local Authority area: based on local authority administrative boundaries
- Constituency area: based on Parliamentary Constituencies (at the 2019 election)

### Differences within the South East region

Regions, like everything else, can be stereotyped as prosperous (or otherwise) but this often overlooks the point that there may be significant

**Table 1: Selected areas for comparison**

| Regions   | Central South: population of 1,322,983  | Midlands and North: population of 1,320,114  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Primary Urban Area</b><br>(PUAs) as defined by the Centre for Cities | <u>Bournemouth</u> (includes Christchurch, Poole and East Dorset)<br><u>Portsmouth</u> (includes Fareham, Gosport, Havant)<br><u>Southampton</u> (includes Eastleigh) | <u>Derby</u><br><u>Nottingham</u> (includes Broxtowe, Erewash, Gedling)<br><u>Stoke on Trent</u> (includes Newcastle-Under-Lyme) |
| <b>Local Authority Area</b><br>Based on Nomis and Constituency data     | Southampton (252,500)   | Derby (257,300)  |
|   | Portsmouth (214,905)  | Warrington (209,547)   |
| <b>Constituency Area</b><br>Based Constituency data                     | Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (395,331)   | Stoke On Trent, Newcastle-Under-Lyme (256,400 + 129,490= 385,390)  |
|   | Havant (125,813)  | Newcastle-Under-Lyme (129,490)   |
|   | Gosport (85,283)  | Bolsover (79,530)  |
|   | Isle of Wight (141,538)   | Crewe and Nantwich (110,828)   |
|   | New Forest (179,753)  | Derbyshire Dales and Burton (187,589)  |

<sup>15</sup> Population for PUAs: Centre for Cities and for IoW and New Forest from Nomis.

numbers of people who are unable to access the opportunities offered by the region's prosperity as a result of their own experiences of deprivation, poverty and disadvantage. The problems of stereotyping the South as being prosperous may mask their situation and also the impact of more recent economic issues for some areas. A report from the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) argues that "the inequalities *within* regions are larger than inequalities *between* regions. This is especially true in the South of England. Between-region inequalities in earnings and household incomes after housing costs have in fact narrowed slightly since the early 2000s".<sup>16</sup>

with other PUAs in the South East, the central South does not perform as well. With the exception of Brighton which features in 4 measures, the PUAs within the central South region occupy the worst ranking for the measures (marked in red), indicating that the experiences for people who live in the central South are not the same as those of other places in the South East. Interestingly the comparison in Appendix 3 shows that Southampton and Portsmouth have slightly lower life expectancies than in the South East, Hampshire and Surrey. The central South could perhaps be considered as a lower tier within the wider South East region for these purposes.

Table 2 shows that when compared

**Table 2:** *Comparison between central South and selected PUAs within the SE region*  
(Note: The red shading indicates the worst performing 2 PUAs)

|   | Nat Avg | BCP     | So'ton  | P'mth   |  | Reading | Slough  | B & H   |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Employment rate 2018  | 75.5    | 78.9    | 76.9    | 75.8    |  | 79.7    | 73.7    | 76      |
| % Working age population with no formal qualifications 2019 | 7.9     | 5.3     | 6.7     | 7.1     |  | 6.4     | 7.2     | 3.3     |
| NVQ4+ 2019  | 40.2    | 39.4    | 39.4    | 34.6    |  | 51.00   | 40.30   | 55.3    |
| GDP per worker 2018   | £67,354 | £60,187 | £71,760 | £61,453 |  | £83,801 | £99,988 | £65,994 |
| Avg weekly workplace earnings 2019                          | £528    | £482    | £515    | £503    |  | £624    | £600    | £479    |
| Business start-up rates % 2019                              | 58.42   | 53.0    | 78.61   | 49.9    |  | 66.24   | 79.58   | 87.7    |
| Business Churn rate % 2019                                  | 1.82    | 1.27    | 7.35    | 2.95    |  | 1.45    | 4.17    | 4.77    |
| Pupils achieving 9-4 grades in M & E GCSE % 2019            | 64.89   | 70.54   | 64.37   | 58.42   |  | 69.22   | 73.69   | 68.71   |
| Housing affordability ratio 2020                            | 10      | 12.43   | 9.21    | 9.93    |  | 11.56   | 11      | 14.1    |
| No of days poor air quality                                 |         | 50      | 34      | 31      |  | 31      | 25      | 16      |

<sup>16</sup> IFS Green Budget 2020: Chapter 7 - Levelling up: where and how?

## Comparing the central South with urban areas in the North and Midlands

### Similarities and differences in PUAs between central South and selected comparators

A thriving local economy with 'growth potential' is reflected in economic indicators<sup>17</sup> such as business start-up and business churn rates, GDP per worker, average weekly workplace, employment rate and graduate retention rate. While the journey of developing a skilled workforce starts

with achievement in GCSE grades and further qualifications, the ability to attract and retain skilled people to the area also depends on factors such as housing affordability and a healthy population and environment. Table 3 shows a comparison between the PUAs in the 2 selected regions. Comparison of the economic indicators show similar performance, e.g. GDP per worker in the PUAs are in the range of £57,043 - £61,453 (except Southampton which is £71,760); graduate retention rates are broadly similar in that they average 18 - 22%, with the exception of Stoke (30%). While the average weekly workplace

**Table 3: Comparison of PUAs in the Midlands and central South** (best in the group in green and the worst in red)

| Primary Urban Areas →                            | BCP     | Stoke   |  | So'ton  | Derby   |  | P'mth   | Nott'm  |
|--|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|
| Indicators ↓                                     |         |         |  |         |         |  |         |         |
| Employment rate 2018                             | 78.9    | 71.6    |  | 76.9    | 73      |  | 75.8    | 71.2    |
| % Working age popu with no formal quals 2019     | 5.3     | 10.7    |  | 6.7     | 9.4     |  | 7.1     | 7.5     |
| NVQ4+ 2019                                       | 39.4    | 27.4    |  | 39.4    | 33.3    |  | 34.6    | 36.30   |
| GDP per worker 2018                              | £60,187 | £61,359 |  | £71,760 | £57,043 |  | £61,453 | £58,064 |
| Avg weekly workplace earnings 2019               | £482    | £472    |  | £515    | £639    |  | £503    | £477    |
| Business start-up rates % 2019                   | 53.0    | 35.64   |  | 78.61   | 44.89   |  | 49.9    | 40.21   |
| Business Churn rate % 2019                       | 1.27    | 1.47    |  | 7.4     | 1.71    |  | 2.95    | 0.83    |
| Pupils achieving 9-4 grades in M & E GCSE % 2019 | 70.54   | 57.75   |  | 64.4    | 59.33   |  | 58.4    | 59.7    |
| Housing affordability ratio 2020                 | 12      | 5       |  | 9       | 6       |  | 10      | 7       |
| No of days poor air quality                      | 50      | 26      |  | 34      | 21      |  | 31      | 23      |

<sup>17</sup> Centre for Cities and Catapult – Identifying growth centres across the UK

earnings are slightly higher in central South (£499 - £542) and in Derby (£619), compared to the other areas in the North and Midlands (£449 - £497), they are offset by the housing affordability ratios in central South which are between 1.5 to 2 times higher. This could be significant as it would reduce the disposable income and the chances of home ownership. While the business start-up rates for are higher in the central South, so are the business churn rates, raising a question about support for translating entrepreneurship into sustainable businesses.

In 2020, Connected Places Catapult commissioned a report (Identifying potential growth centres across Great Britain - Connected Places Catapult, 2020) in collaboration with the Centre for Cities to analyse the characteristics that define the country's top performing innovation economies and to consider places that have the strongest potential

to become engines of our future economy. This was in the context of the Government's ambitions to 'level up' and "to understand where and how public investment should be focussed in order to deliver the desired improvements in regional productivity and prosperity". The report looks at the strongest potential to join London, Oxford and Cambridge as engines of places outside of this group which have Britain's future economy. The potential to become a growth centre is based on six different indicators. These indicators combine a range of measures across the various factors associated with innovation. Together, they capture a city's relative strength across: the basic economic conditions, the R&D innovation capacities and the ability to transform innovative activities into outputs". For simplification, the values for each indicator (save for overall rank) were categorized into "very strong", "strong", "weak" or "very weak". Analysing future growth potential, it is

**Table 4: Comparison of growth potential**

| Strengths → |            |             |            |                       |                     |                      |                |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| PUs ↓       | Rank in    | Patent      | Trademarks | University innovation | Business innovation | Skills and spillover | Infrastructure |
| Derby       | Top 10%    | Very strong | Very weak  | Strong                | Strong              | Strong               | Very Strong    |
| Southampton | Top 30%    | Very weak   | Weak       | Very strong           | Very strong         | Strong               | Strong         |
| Portsmouth  | Top 50%    | Weak        | Very weak  | Weak                  | Strong              | Strong               | Strong         |
| Bournemouth | Top 50%    | Very weak   | Strong     | Weak                  | Weak                | Weak                 | Weak           |
| Warrington  | Top 50%    | Very weak   | Strong     | Very weak             | Weak                | Strong               | Weak           |
| Nottingham  | Bottom 50% | Weak        | Weak       | Strong                | Very weak           | Strong               | Weak           |
| Stoke       | Bottom 50% | Weak        | Very weak  | Strong                | Very weak           | Weak                 | Strong         |

not surprising that with the exception of Derby which ranks in the top 10%, the central South areas are in the top 50% whilst the selected areas in the Midlands and North are in the bottom 50%. Therefore, residents in the central South region can certainly expect to be economically better off. However, there are some significant differences within the central South, e.g. Bournemouth rates as weak or very weak across 5 of the 6 future growth potential indicators, raising the need for further research to understand the causes and the potential solutions. So while the central South region is generally more prosperous and better placed for continued economic growth and innovation, it still poses the question whether the economic success, prosperity and potential of the central South translates in such a way that all its residents can and do benefit from this.

**“...while the central South region is generally more prosperous and better placed for continued economic growth and innovation, it still poses the question whether the economic success, prosperity and potential of the central South translates in such a way that all its residents can and do benefit from this.”**

## Levelling Up Index

The IFS has also developed a Levelling Up Index<sup>18</sup> using quintiles to assess how left behind different areas are and the vulnerability to short term impact of exposure to COVID-19. This shows that the local authority areas of Portsmouth

and the Isle of Wight are the worst off in the selected comparator group as they are in the top quintile for left-behind index as well as exposure to COVID-19. These differences within the region led to exploring comparisons of the life experiences of people in the central South region and the experiences of people living the Midlands and North

which are considered to need ‘levelling up’. To understand this better, comparisons have been drawn on the causes of disadvantage at two levels: a local authority area and constituency area.

## Causes of disadvantage: comparing local authority areas and constituency areas

As stated earlier, the Government’s investment programmes recognise

that in some of the most prosperous regions, smaller areas and neighbourhoods have been ‘left-behind’ as they have not fully benefited from the success of their wider regional economies. This then is the starting point for outlining the similarities between specific areas and neighbourhoods in the central South and selected areas within the Midlands and North. In the tables that follow, comparisons for deprivation, poverty and health have been made on the basis of local authority areas and

<sup>18</sup> Levelling up – where and how? Chapter 7, published in October 2020



**Table 5: Comparison of the impact of exposure to COVID-19 and left-behind index ranking**

*Key: Red indicates greatest impact*

| Local Authority areas | Levelling Up Index                         |  |   | *Key for quintile rating (3 <sup>rd</sup> column in Table 5):   |
|-----------------------|--|--|---|---|
|                       | Left behind quintile (1: most left behind) | Vulnerability to ST impact of exposure to C19 (1: most vulnerable) | Quintile rating for left behind and COVID-19 exposure * |   |
| BCP                   | 4  | 1  | 1   | 0 is top quintile on neither index;<br><br>1 is top quintile only for exposure to COVID-19;<br><br>2 is top quintile only for left-behind index;<br><br>3 is top quintile on both |
| Stoke-on-Trent        | 1  | 3  | 2   |   |
| Southampton           | 3  | 4  | 0   |   |
| Derby                 | 2  | 3  | 0   |   |
| Portsmouth            | 1  | 1  | 3   |   |
| Warrington            | 4  | 5  | 0   |   |
| Isle of Wight         | 1  | 1  | 3   |   |
| Derbyshire Dales      | 3  | 1  | 1   |   |
| Gosport               | 1  | 4  | 2   |   |
| Bolsover              | 1  | 3  | 2   |   |
| Havant                | 2  | 2  | 0   |   |
| Newcastle-Under-Lyme  | 1  | 2  | 2   |   |

education, skills, employment, income and Social Mobility, comparison has constituency areas, sometimes aggregating it for a local authority area.

As there seems to be no agreed definition for the term 'levelling up', for the purposes of this paper and the comparisons within it, the potential causes for disadvantage and their relationship to place based economic benefits have been used. They are based on the common theses emerging in the criteria for funding programmes, as mentioned earlier:

- i. Deprivation and poverty (rank of deprivation, % of LSOAs in the top 3 deciles of deprivation, child poverty rates)

- ii. Health inequality and life expectancy
- iii. Education and skills (educational attainment at GCSE and A levels, no qualifications, NVQ 1-4)
- iv. Employment and Income (employment rate, average income, housing affordability ratio)
- v. Social Mobility (indicators for the progress made by disadvantaged children from early years and educational attainment to employment and housing affordability).



**Table 6: Comparison of deprivation and child poverty (Cheshire East for Crewe and Nantwich)**

|                           | IMD Rank (1 is most deprived, 317 least deprived)<br>IMD ranking up to 100 in bold |             |           |                                     |                          | % in top 3 deprivation deciles (2019)<br>25% and over in bold | Child poverty rates <sup>19</sup><br>2018/19 GB rate 18.4%)<br>Above GB average in bold |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
|                           | Overall rank   | Income rank | Emp rank  | Education, Skills and Training rank | Health & disability rank |   |   |
| Nottingham                | <b>10</b>  | <b>21</b>   | <b>51</b> | <b>14</b>                           | <b>14</b>                | <b>70</b>   | <b>26</b>   |
| BCP                       | 166  | 142         | 141       | 164                                 | 140                      | 19  | 12  |
| Stoke-on-Trent            | <b>15</b>  | <b>25</b>   | <b>19</b> | <b>5</b>                            | <b>8</b>                 | <b>62</b>   | <b>31</b>   |
|                           |  |             |           |                                     |                          |   |   |
| Southampton <sup>20</sup> | <b>55</b>  | 104         | 149       | <b>90</b>                           | <b>56</b>                | <b>45</b>   | <b>22</b>   |
| Derby                     | <b>90</b>  | <b>75</b>   | <b>78</b> | <b>69</b>                           | <b>60</b>                | <b>44</b>   | <b>23</b>   |
|                           |  |             |           |                                     |                          |   |   |
| Portsmouth                | <b>57</b>  | 107         | 155       | <b>79</b>                           | <b>90</b>                | <b>35</b>   | <b>20</b>   |
| Warrington                | 175  | 179         | 148       | 205                                 | 92                       | <b>28</b>   | 15  |
|                           |  |             |           |                                     |                          |   |   |
| Isle of Wight             | <b>80</b>  | <b>65</b>   | <b>44</b> | <b>61</b>                           | 114                      | <b>32</b>   | <b>20</b>   |
| Crewe and Nantwich*       | 228  | 240         | 210       | 256                                 | 169                      | 15  | 17  |
|                           |  |             |           |                                     |                          |   |   |
| New Forest                | 241  | 243         | 219       | 222                                 | 249                      | 6   | 13  |
| Derbyshire Dales          | 265  | 271         | 251       | 257                                 | 237                      | 2   | 13  |
|                           |  |             |           |                                     |                          |   |   |
| Gosport                   | 130  | 154         | 147       | <b>47</b>                           | 118                      | <b>28</b>   | 15  |
| Bolsover                  | <b>58</b>  | <b>57</b>   | <b>28</b> | <b>11</b>                           | <b>35</b>                | <b>40</b>   | 18  |
|                           |  |             |           |                                     |                          |   |   |
| Havant                    | 133  | 118         | 109       | <b>67</b>                           | 123                      | <b>35</b>   | <b>19</b>   |
| Newcastle-Under-Lyme      | 150  | 165         | 115       | 131                                 | <b>80</b>                | 24  | 17  |

#### i) Deprivation and poverty

A comparison of the percentage of residents living in the top three deprivation deciles (2019) shows<sup>21</sup> that while Nottingham and Stoke-on-Trent have significantly higher percentages of their population living in deprived neighbourhoods, deprivation levels are

similar for the other areas being compared. They are in a broadly similar range in that a quarter to over a third of their residents experience the negative impacts of deprivation. Child poverty rates in Southampton, Portsmouth, Havant and the Isle of Wight are also comparable to Nottingham South,

<sup>19</sup> Relative child poverty rate. % of 0-15 year olds living in households with income below 60% of median; Income measured before housing costs are accounted for. The poverty figures are classified as experimental official statistics and were published by HMRC and DWP for the first time in March 2020. Source: House of Commons Library, rounded figures are combined average for constituencies.

<sup>20</sup> Child poverty in Romsey and Southampton West is 11.8%

<sup>21</sup> Percentages have been rounded

**Table 7:** Life expectancy 2017-19, Red shows worse than England average and Green shows better than England average

|   | England Average | Southampton | Derby |  | Portsmouth | Warrington |  | BCP  | Stoke-on-Trent |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-------|--|------------|------------|--|------|----------------|
| Life expectancy in years @ birth Male   | 79.8            | 78.5        | 78.6  |  | 78.4       | 79.0       |  | 80.5 | 76.5           |
| Life expectancy in years @ birth Female | 83.4            | 82.5        | 82.1  |  | 81.9       | 82.8       |  | 83.7 | 80.2           |
| Life expectancy in years @ age 65 M     | 19.0            | 18.2        | 18.3  |  | 17.9       | 18.3       |  | 19.6 | 17.3           |
| Life expectancy in years @ age 65 F     | 21.3            | 20.7        | 20.6  |  | 20.3       | 20.7       |  | 21.7 | 19.3           |

Derby North, Newcastle-Under-Lyme.

## ii) Health

Within the South East region, children born in Southampton and Portsmouth have lower life expectancies<sup>22</sup> at birth, by 2-4 years when compared to England, Hampshire and Surrey. Interestingly, they have more in common with Derby, Warrington and Stoke-on-Trent. With the exception of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, all other areas compared are in the lowest quintile for life expectancy, lower than the England averages and showing significant similarities, irrespective of whether they are in the central South, Midlands or the North.

## iii) Education and skills

Educational attainment at school and Further Education (FE) are similar or worse for areas in the central South, e.g. Derby, Southampton, Warrington and Portsmouth have between 59-76%

pupils achieving the GCSE average attainment 8 scores and percentage of pupils achieving AAB at A levels are 0-4% for Portsmouth, 3-7% for Southampton, 0-9% for Warrington and 14-19% for Derby. Similarly, in Havant, Gosport, Newcastle under Lyme and Bolsover between 41-44% of pupils achieve the GCSE average attainment 8 scores, but at A levels, Gosport and Havant seem to do better, although more work needs to be done to understand the reasons as in Gosport, one of the 2 schools offering A levels has no pupils achieving AAB, similar to that of the whole of Bolsover. The areas are comparable for NVQ+ qualifications - Bolsover (19%), Gosport (21%), Newcastle-Under-Lyme (30%), Havant (37%), Portsmouth and Derby (33%), Southampton (38%) and Warrington (41%). In all these areas, irrespective of the region, between only 1 and 2 in every 5 residents achieve this qualification.

<sup>22</sup> Public Health England 2018/19 data

#### iv) Employment and income

Employment rates are higher in the central South - all areas are within the 70-80% range, with the areas in the percentages for Midlands and North all below 73%. The average workplace earnings also show a similar range for all the areas (£448 - £515), with the exception of Derby (£619). Despite being located in the prosperous South, Bournemouth's average earnings of £482 are amongst the lowest in this comparator group.

#### v) Social Mobility

The Social Mobility Commission (SMC) describes social mobility as "ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to build a good life for themselves regardless of their family background". Its report<sup>23</sup> concluded that there is no direct correlation between the affluence of an area and its ability to sustain high levels of social mobility, with some affluent areas being among the worst for offering good education and employment opportunities to their most disadvantaged residents. It also makes the point that the biggest divide in terms of social mobility is between London (and commuter belt areas around it but not the whole South East) and the rest of the country. To change this requires 'levelling up' through ongoing investment in education, employment and housing.

The Commission developed the Social

Mobility Index (SMI) as a prism using 16 indicators that are associated with the chances of someone from a disadvantaged background experiencing upward social mobility. The Index assesses which parts of the country have the best and worst social mobility outcomes in relation to the education, employability and housing prospects, including the translation of

differences in educational attainment into preparation of young people for the labour market, employment opportunities and housing affordability. The emphasis on education and its role in achieving better paid jobs is critical - the findings in another

report<sup>24</sup> from the SMC found was that in areas of high social mobility, educational achievement accounts for almost all the earnings difference between individuals from deprived and affluent families.

The comparison between the two regions can be done through assessing the performance of disadvantaged children, young people and adults in the two regions, based on the definitions used by the Social Mobility Commission. The comparisons have been drawn only on the basis of constituencies because this gives a better picture of the hidden disadvantage for some residents

**"...within the apparently prosperous central South, children and young people on FSM (free school meals) are consistently disadvantaged through their education and skills journey..."**

<sup>23</sup> 2017 Social Commission Report, Government press release published on 28 November 2018

<sup>24</sup> Differences in opportunities across England, September 2020

growing up and living in the prosperous South Coast which blight their life chances dramatically. Their situation is camouflaged by the wider economic performance, growth and prosperity of the region. As with all other data, the health warning is that definitions for attainment are different depending on the data sources. The greatest similarities are in the Social Mobility Index (SMI) which shows that in all these areas, the most consistent underperformance is in:

- Average attainment 8 score for pupils eligible for children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)
- Percentage of young people eligible for FSM that are in education, employment or training (positive destination) after completing KS4
- Percentage of young people eligible for FSM at age 15 achieving 2 or more A-levels or equivalent qualifications by the age of 19
- Average earnings- median weekly salary of employees who live in the local area (full-time and part-time)
- Percentage of families with dependent children who are owner occupiers (incl. shared & full ownership)

The tables set out in Appendix 4 clearly show that within the apparently prosperous central South, children and young people on FSM are consistently disadvantaged through their education and skills journey, leaving them ill prepared to take advantage of the economic opportunities in the region. It also shows that people who face disadvantage in the central South have more in common with people in selected areas of the Midlands and the North than in other parts of the South. While it shows that the highest priority for action is in Havant, the other constituencies are not far behind,

including the New Forest East, Gosport Bournemouth and Christchurch.

### **Comparison of social mobility in constituencies within the selected regions**

Comparing the Social Mobility Index for constituencies presents some interesting points that will need further research. Most strikingly, in all the selected constituencies social mobility is a significant issue with educational attainment and average earning proving to be consistent barriers. The similarity in the experiences of people facing the effects of deprivation and disadvantage shows that they have a lot in common with people who face similar barriers in the selected areas of the Midlands and the North. The comparisons have been done on the basis of PUA for BCP and Stoke (they have similar size populations when taken as PUAs) and constituency areas for the others.

#### **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole compared with Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-Under-Lyme:**

Despite the relative prosperity, the experiences of people who face disadvantage in BCP is comparable to those in the selected areas in the Midlands and the North. The low average earnings combined with the higher costs of housing, will no doubt leave some residents in BCP with less disposable incomes.

**Southampton and Derby:** While social mobility in the 2 constituencies in Derby is clearly worse than average in all aspects except for average wages in Derby North and housing affordability, the constituencies which include Southampton are very much comparable when educational attainment and average earnings are compared, showing the striking

similarities between the experiences of disadvantaged people in both cities (and the wider area covering Romsey).

**Portsmouth and Warrington:** Warrington was chosen as a comparator with Portsmouth for two reasons: a) it has a similar population size and b) it is located just north of the other areas chosen as comparators in this paper. While the similarities are obvious, Warrington South in particular does better on a number of key indicators from secondary school onwards. It will certainly be worth understanding how educational attainment improved after GCSEs.

**Gosport, Havant, IoW, New Forest, Bolsover, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Derbyshire Dales**

**and Burton:** In these selected constituencies, the one area to do below average in all the SMI index measures is Havant and as education plays a critical role in social mobility, pupils on Free School Meals, even in parts of the New Forest, face considerable barriers in building a good life, as per the definition of social mobility.

### Summary of the comparisons

The following tables show a comparison of key economic, educational and other indicators in the central South and comparators from the Midlands and

North of England. All face common challenges, notably:

- Poverty and deprivation, with more than 25% % of LSOAs (Lower Layer Super Output Areas have an average population of 1500 people or 650 households) in the top 3 deciles of deprivation with worse than GB average child poverty rates and lower than average life expectancy
- Education and skills (educational attainment at GCSE and A levels, no qualifications, NVQ 1-4)
- Economy, employment and income (employment rate, average income, housing affordability ratio)
- Social Mobility (overall index)

The comparisons made so far show greater similarities between the selected

areas and act as a trigger for discussion and further work on whether and where a case can be made for 'levelling up' in the central South. The economic and social challenges, in comparison to national averages (except air quality) or ranking in the top quintile, are shared by the selected areas in the north and south as summarised in the tables in Appendix 4. These tables illustrate where each area sits on the basis of comparison with England, showing that on many of the measures used here for 'levelling up', areas in central South are on par with the Midlands and the North and therefore they too need investment to 'level up'.

**“The comparisons made so far show greater similarities between the selected areas and act as a trigger for discussion and further work on whether and where a case can be made for ‘levelling up’ in the central South.”**

**Key:**

- In Tables 8, 10 and 11, the red dots show that for that indicator, the area is worse than national average and the green dot shows it is better than national average.
- Yellow boxes show no significant difference from national average
- Grey boxes mean sample size was too small
- Information is not available for full comparison of the Isle of Wight

**PUAs: Table 8:**

|             | Emp rate | GDP/worker | Work Place earnings | Busi start-ups 2019 | Business Churn rate % 2019 | GCSE 9-4 grades in M&E | % with NVQ4 & above | No formal quals | Housing affordability ratio | Air quality |
|-------------|----------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| BCP         | •        | •          | •                   | •                   | •                          | •                      |                     | •               | •                           | •           |
| Stoke       | •        | •          | •                   | •                   | •                          | •                      | •                   | •               | •                           | •           |
|             |          |            |                     |                     |                            |                        |                     |                 |                             |             |
| Southampton | •        | •          | •                   | •                   | •                          |                        |                     | •               | •                           | •           |
| Derby       | •        | •          | •                   | •                   | •                          | •                      | •                   | •               | •                           | •           |
|             |          |            |                     |                     |                            |                        |                     |                 |                             |             |
| Portsmouth  |          | •          | •                   | •                   | •                          | •                      | •                   | •               |                             | •           |
| Nottingham  | •        | •          | •                   | •                   | •                          | •                      | •                   |                 | •                           | •           |

**Local Authority Areas**

**Table 9: Economy, jobs and levelling up**

Key: The red dot in the last 3 columns shows inclusion in the top quintile and the green shading shows that they are not particularly affected by COVID19 and/ or have not been identified as an area that had been 'left-behind'.

|                      | % economically active | % with NVQ4 and above | No formal quals | % Claimant count for out of work benefits Jan 2021 | Job density 2019 | Levelling up index rating - in top quintile | Covid-19 short term impact - in top quintile | Levelling up - in top quintile |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--|------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| BCP                  | •                     |                       | •               |  | •                |   | •  |                                |
| Nottingham           | •                     | •                     | •               | •  | •                | •   |  |                                |
|                      |                       |                       |                 |  |                  |   |  |                                |
| Southampton          |                       | •                     |                 |  | •                |   |  |                                |
| Derby                | •                     | •                     | •               | •  | •                |   |  |                                |
|                      |                       |                       |                 |  |                  |   |  |                                |
| Portsmouth           | •                     | •                     | •               |  |                  | •   | •  | •                              |
| Warrington           | •                     | •                     | •               | •  | •                |   |  |                                |
|                      |                       |                       |                 |  |                  |   |  |                                |
| Gosport              | •                     | •                     | •               | •  | •                | •   |  |                                |
| Bolsover             | •                     | •                     | N/A             | •  | •                | •   |  |                                |
|                      |                       |                       |                 |  |                  |   |  |                                |
| Havant               |                       | •                     | •               | •  | •                |   |  |                                |
| Newcastle-under-Lyme | •                     | •                     | N/A             | •  | •                | •   |  |                                |

**Table 10:** *Deprivation, poverty and health; in column 1: green shading shows less than 30%*

|                      | 30% or over live in the top 3 deciles | Life expectancy in years at birth (M) | Life expectancy in years at birth (F) | Life expectancy in years at age 65 (M) | Life expectancy in years at age 65 (F) | % Children u16 in absolute low income families 2018/19 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| BCP                  |                                       | ●                                     |                                       | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Nottingham           | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Southampton          | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Derby                | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Portsmouth           | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Warrington           |                                       | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Gosport              |                                       |                                       |                                       |  |  | ●  |
| Bolsover             | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | Not available  |
| Havant               | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                     | ●                                      | ●                                      | ●  |
| Newcastle-Under-Lyme |                                       |                                       |                                       |  |  | Not available  |

### Constituency areas – challenges in the central South region only

**Table 11:** *deprivation, poverty, educational attainment, social mobility and housing affordability*

| Constituencies               | Deprivation <10% LSOAs in highly deprived | Child poverty <20% | GCSE Attainment 8 rates below national average | % of pupils achieving AAB below national average | Social mobility - overall index (over 350) | Housing affordability Ratio (7.7 or above) |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Southampton Itchen           | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  |  |
| Southampton Test             | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  |  |
| Romsey and Southampton North | ●   | ●                  | ●  |  | ●  | ●  |
| Portsmouth North             | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  |  |
| Portsmouth South             | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  |  |
| Bournemouth East             | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| Bournemouth West             | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| Christchurch                 | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| Poole                        | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| Mid Dorset & N P             | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| Isle of Wight                | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  |  |
| New Forest East              | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| New Forest West              | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |
| Gosport                      | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  |  |
| Havant                       | ●   | ●                  | ●  | ●  | ●  | ●  |

## Key characteristics of each part of the central South

In the case of **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole**, while as a PUA, this area performs well against economic, educational and health measures, there are key challenges at all 3 levels:

- It ranks very weak or weak in five out of six Future Growth Potential strength indicators
- Average weekly workplace earnings are low at £482 (similar to Stoke and Nottingham)
- Air quality - worst ranking amongst the comparators
- Housing affordability ratio is high
- It is more vulnerable to short term impacts of exposure to COVID-19
- Nearly one in five residents (18.9%) live in a neighbourhood in the top three deprivation deciles
- At a constituency level, in Bournemouth West (with a social mobility index of 381), the percentage of young people who achieved AAB in 2019 was zero!

**Southampton** as a PUA compares well against Derby on economic performance (business start-ups, GDP per worker, employment rate) and as a city, the IFS assessment is that the city will be less affected by the impact of COVID-19 in the short term. However, there are significant issues to address:

- Despite its apparent economic success, median earnings in Southampton Itchen and Southampton Test are lower than the England average
- The difference between weekly earning of place of residence and place of work is £71.50 per week, which means that commuters in to the city enjoy an income almost 13% higher than residents

- While business start-up rate is high, it is accompanied by a very high business churn rate (7.35%), highlighting the need to provide support to new businesses so that they can grow and flourish
- Nearly half of the residents (45.2%) live in a neighbourhood in the top three deprivation deciles
- One in two pupils (55%) did not achieve the GCSE average attainment 8 score for England
- Only 3% (Southampton Itchen) to 7% (Southampton Test) of pupils achieved AAB in their A Levels in 2019; this was 14% for pupils in Southampton North and Romsey
- One in five children in Southampton Itchen and Southampton Test constituencies are growing up in poverty
- Southampton Test has a high ranking for social mobility (373)
- All three constituencies are in the below average rank for educational attainment measures for children and young people eligible for Free School Meals (secondary school attainment, positive destination after KS4, A Levels or equivalent). It is not a surprise therefore that they also experience below average earnings and in the case of Southampton Itchen and Southampton Test constituencies, home ownership
- Health: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 years is below the England average and nearly exactly the same as that for Derby

**Portsmouth**: faces challenges on many fronts, both as a PUA and as a city.

- At an economic level, as a PUA, it has a lower than the England average of business start-ups, higher business churn rate, lower GDP per worker and lower average



workplace earnings. This is now accompanied by Portsmouth and Gosport being in the highest group for indices relating to levelling up and vulnerability to short term impact of COVID-19 exposure as well as in the top quintile for being impacted by being considered to be 'left-behind' and being affected by COVID-19

- Job density is very low in some parts, compared with the England average of .88 (Gosport .52, Havant .69)
- One in three residents live in a neighbourhood in the top 3 deciles (Portsmouth 35.2%, Gosport 28.3% and Havant 34.6%)
- The difference in wages between the workplace and residence is £89, meaning commuters earn on average 16.3% more weekly
- The GCSE attainment is lower than the England average across the board (Portsmouth, Gosport and Havant)
- At a constituency level, in Portsmouth South (with a social mobility index of 381), the percentage of young people who achieved AAB in 2019 was zero!
- The major areas all rank very high in the Social Mobility Index (Portsmouth North -466, Portsmouth South -496, Gosport -504 and Havant -437)
- Havant was the only area in the comparator groups to rank below average in the main measures for social mobility
- Health: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 years is below the England average and similar to that for Warrington

#### **Isle of Wight**

- Ranks high in the Levelling Up

index and is vulnerable to the short term impacts of exposure to COVID-19

- Does worse than national averages for median earnings and house affordability ratio
- Nearly one in three residents are living in the neighbourhoods in the top 3 deprivation deciles

#### **Gosport**

- Ranks 130 for IMD overall and ranks 47 (1:most deprived) for IMD relating to Education, Skills and Training
- Has nearly a third of its residents (28%) living in the top 3 deprivation deciles
- Pupils on Free School Meals have worse than national average outcomes for educational attainment from primary stage to A levels, performing either worse or same as the comparator in this paper - Bolsover

#### **Havant**

- Ranks 133 for IMD overall and ranks 67 (1:most deprived) for IMD relating to Education, Skills and Training
- Has more than a third of its residents (35%) living in the top 3 deprivation deciles
- This is the one area to perform below average in all the SMI index measures, providing an opportunity to explore holistic solutions

#### **New Forest**

- Pupils on Free School Meals in New Forest East face considerable barriers in building a good life, as per the definition of social mobility. While pupils in New Forest West do better than national average till KS4, it will be important to explore

the reasons for the drop in performance at A Levels to below national average

‘prosperous’ South and should not be ignored when identifying priority places for ‘levelling up’ investment programmes.

## Conclusions

*“Levelling up has become shorthand for big infrastructure and connectivity investments, but it’s clear that making it a reality for the public will take investment in local places, jobs and homes. The levelling up agenda needs to be reset around hyper-local targeted investment and building community resilience.” Karen Finlayson, Regional Lead for Government, PWC*

**“The causes of disadvantage have been here for decades and therefore, addressing them effectively will require long term, well-funded and sustained programmes.”**

between residents and commuters and the Social Mobility Index rating show, those who are disadvantaged need long term programmes to help them get the right skills for accessing the well paid jobs created and sustained by strong economies.

### The analysis of data in this paper demonstrates that:

- We cannot treat all areas in the South East as being homogenous in nature, particularly when it comes to prosperity and the distribution of the benefits of such prosperity on all residents. The areas within central South identified in this paper are consistently below our South East comparators on most measures.
- While the areas in the central South perform better on some measures when compared to the areas in the Midlands and the North, they have more in common when the impact of poverty, deprivation, poor educational attainment and low social mobility is concerned - being poorer on some measures and equal on others. This means they cannot be deemed to be part of the

Investing in big infrastructure alone is not the solution to addressing the challenges faced by the central South areas. As the wage differentials

This will have to be through sustained investment in joined up programmes that bring together education, health, business and apprenticeships to create and sustain pathways which help local people to develop the education and skills, be healthy and improve their productivity, supported by investment in affordable housing. These investment programmes will have to be targeted and tailored to meet the needs of whole areas (Havant and the Isle of Wight), specific neighbourhoods in cities and children and young people on free school meals in places like the New Forest and constituencies such as Christchurch.

These programmes require Government investment but to succeed they must be driven locally and jointly by local government, health, businesses, employers and educational establishments.

They require:

- A shared understanding that the causes of disadvantage (poverty, deprivation, education, skills, health, housing and jobs) outlined in this paper are not region specific to the Midlands and North. These priorities for 'levelling up' are described in a report by PWC<sup>25</sup> as "while much of the focus of levelling up has been on road, rail and innovative technology, our research shows the public's concerns are closer to home and that social divisions have grown during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our polling reveals a consistent call for a greater emphasis on quality, affordable homes, skills and good jobs, as well as vibrant town and city centres. If levelling up is to succeed, it needs to go deeper than the North-South divide and address the inequalities within regions and communities. Critically, the agenda needs to better respond to the public's concerns".

The causes of disadvantage have been here for decades and therefore, addressing them effectively will require long term, well-funded and sustained programmes. The IFS Levelling up report<sup>26</sup> says "The UK's regional inequalities are deep-rooted and complex: even well-designed policies could take years or even decades to have meaningful effects. 'Levelling up' will need to be a long-term, multifaceted agenda if it is to

succeed where other governments have failed in the past".

- Strong local leadership and partnerships across public sector, businesses and educational establishments, supported by Government funding beyond capital investment. As the SMC report<sup>27</sup> says, "their local knowledge and know-how will be needed to inform bespoke interventions that work in their localities to address the worst inequalities". It also highlights the opportunity for local leaders to work with businesses to invest in upskilling and play a brokering role - matching people to employment and learning opportunities.
- The solutions need to be place specific, based on evidence which informs a deep understanding of what the barriers are, and therefore, how best to address them.
- Affordable housing is a priority, as illustrated in the PWC survey, where "74% agree that the quality and affordability of housing is an important factor in the area they live and 70% agree a focus on housing would be the most effective in levelling up the country and reducing inequality".
- The PWC research also highlights that the "public holds local government as primarily responsible for their local high streets and town centres (37%) followed by businesses (25%). It is critical that local authorities and businesses rethink how they respond to shortfalls in footfall and the growing decline in store occupants and work

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<sup>25</sup> Explore our Rethinking on levelling up polling, PWC Future of Government research programme

<sup>26</sup> Levelling up – where and how? Chapter 7, published in October 2020

<sup>27</sup> The long shadow of deprivation: differences in opportunities across England, September 2020, Social Mobility Commission

together to create places where people want to live, work and play”.

- Take up the offer of the Social Mobility Commission to work with local and regional leaders and employers to think through the avenues through which the right opportunities can be provided to boost social mobility.
- Ensuring the designation of the Solent as a Freeport results in the kind of investment and regeneration that helps the most disadvantaged communities to benefit.

**Suki Sitaram**  
**June 2021**

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## Appendix 1: Terms and Definitions

| Paper Ref    | Term/ Indicator                            | Definition   | Source  |
|--------------|--|--|---|
|              | Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)       | LEPs are partnerships between local authorities and businesses. They decide what the priorities should be for investment in roads, buildings and facilities in the area. There are 39 LEPs in England.   | Department of Business, Innovation and Skills               |
|              | Primary Urban Areas (PUAs)                 | The “built-up” area of a large city or town, rather than individual local authority districts, providing a consistent measure to compare concentrations of economic activity across the UK, distinct from city region or combined authority geographies.   | Centre for Cities   |
| Tables 2 & 3 | GCSE 9-4 grades in M & E % 2019            | The proportion of pupils achieving grades in Maths and English at GCSE   | Centre for Cities   |
|              | Working age popu NVQ+ % in 2019            | The proportion of the working age population with NVQ4 (degree level qualifications) and higher.   |   |
|              | Working age popu no formal quals % in 2019 | The proportion of the working age population with no formal qualifications.  |   |
|              | GDP/ worker 2018                           | The Gross Domestic Product, relative to the number of jobs in the city   |   |
|              | Emp rate % 2018                            | The percentage of people employed in that city as a proportion of the total working age population. It measures how well functioning a labour market is, by capturing the demand for workers amongst employers.  |   |
|              | Average workplace weekly earnings 2019     | The average weekly wage of workers in current prices.  |   |
|              | Business Start-up rate 2019                | The number of new businesses started in that city, per 10,000 people.  |   |
|              | Business churn rate 2019                   | The difference between business start-ups and business closures as a percentage of the total number of businesses in the city.   |   |
|              | Housing affordability ratio 2020           | The average cost of a house compared to the average wages paid to a worker in a year   |   |
|              | No of days poor air quality 2019           | Number of days the maximum modelled Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI) was equal to or above 4. On this scale, 1 is low pollution and 10 is very high pollution.   |   |
| Table 4      | Patent                                     | Patents per 10,000 population  | Centre for Cities, Identifying growth centres across the UK |
|              | Trademarks                                 | Trademarks per 10,000 population   |   |
|              | Business innovation                        | Covers: business births per 10,000 population; business churn rate - the difference between start-ups and business closures as a percentage of total business stock; private employment in science and technology (%). - this measure is the share of private-sector employees in a city, engaged in STEM and related activities |   |
|              | Skills and spillover                       | Covers: Density of jobs (workers per hectare Number of workers with NVQ4+ qualification living in city plus hinterland)  |   |
|              | Infrastructure                             | Covers:  |   |

| Paper Ref                            | Term/ Indicator  | Definition   | Source                      |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
|                                      |  | Urban connectivity (connectivity within places) and inter urban connectivity (connectivity between places), calculated using the average of travel times between each point in the place and its centre, weighted by demand (population or employment) at each point.<br>How well connected a place is digitally<br>High quality office space as a share of office space in the city centre (%)  |                             |
| Table 5<br>Left-behind Index ranking | Left behind quintile (1: most left behind)                         |  |                             |
|                                      | Vulnerability to ST impact of exposure to C19 (1: most vulnerable) |  |                             |
|                                      | Quintile rating for left behind and COVID-19 exposure *            | *Key for quintile rating:<br>0 is top quintile on neither index;<br>1 is top quintile only for exposure to COVID-19;<br>2 is top quintile only for left-behind index;<br>3 is top quintile on both   |                             |
| Table 6                              | Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (IMD)                           | 1: most deprived<br>Comparing small areas across England, identifying the most deprived small areas, exploring the domains (or types) of deprivation, comparing larger administrative areas e.g. local authorities and looking at changes in relative deprivation between iterations (i.e. changes in ranks)<br><br>There are 7 domains of deprivation, which combine to create the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD2019): Income (22.5%), Employment (22.5%), Education (13.5%), Health (13.5%), Crime (9.3%), Barriers to housing and services (9.3%), and Living Environment (9.3%) | MHCLG                       |
|                                      | IMD overall rank   | Ranking of local authority areas or smaller areas (Lower Super Output Areas) 1: most deprived  |                             |
|                                      | IMD income rank  | Measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income (22.5%)  |                             |
|                                      | IMD Employment rank  | Measures the proportion of the working age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market (22.5%)   |                             |
|                                      | IMD Education, Skills and Training rank                            | Measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population (13.5%)   |                             |
|                                      | IMD Health and disability rank                                     | Measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health (13.5%)  |                             |
|                                      | Top 3 deprivation deciles 2019                                     | Deprivation deciles have been constructed using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) scores at lower super output area (LSOA) level where possible, and if not at district and unitary (UA) authority level or county and UA authority level. LSOAs are small geographic areas produced by the ONS to enable reporting of small area statistics   | Public Health England (PHE) |

| Paper Ref | Term/ Indicator                                    | Definition   | Source          |
|-----------|--|--|-----------------|
|           |  | in England and Wales. There are 32,844 LSOAs in England, each having a population of approximately 1,500. To create LSOA deprivation deciles for use in chart presentation and also in the calculation of the slope and relative index of inequality measures, LSOAs within England were ranked from most to least deprived and then organised into ten categories with approximately equal numbers of LSOAs in each. Since the total number of LSOAs in England is not exactly divisible by ten, the 'extra' LSOAs were allocated to deprivation deciles using a systematic method. To create district and UA or county and UA deprivation deciles these local authorities were ranked from most to least deprived within England and then organised into ten categories with approximately equal numbers of local authorities in each<br><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-profile-for-england-2018/methods-data-and-definitions#deprivation-deciles">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-profile-for-england-2018/methods-data-and-definitions#deprivation-deciles</a> |                 |
|           | Child poverty rates                                | Percentage of 0-15 year olds living in households with income below 60% of the median. Income is measured before housing costs are accounted for.<br><a href="https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-dashboard/">https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-dashboard/</a>   | Commons Library |
| Table 7   | Life expectancy in years at birth (M&F)            |  | PHE             |
|           | Life expectancy in years at age 65 (M&F)           |  |                 |
| Table 9   | % economically active                              | People who are either in employment or unemployed.   | ONS - Nomis     |
|           | % with NVQ4 and above                              | e.g. HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent.   |                 |
|           | No formal qualifications                           | No formal qualifications held.   |                 |
|           | % Claimant count for out of work benefits Jan 2021 | the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed. The measure of the number of people receiving Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed is still being developed by the Department for Work and Pensions. Consequently this component of the total Claimant Count does not yet correctly reflect the target population of unemployed claimants and is subject to revisions. For this reason the Claimant Count is currently designated as Experimental Statistics.   |                 |
|           | Job density 2019                                   | The level of jobs per resident aged 16-64. For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident aged 16-64. The total number of jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employee jobs, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces. The number of residents aged 16-64 figures used to calculate jobs densities are based on the relevant mid-year population estimates.   |                 |

| Paper Ref  | Term/ Indicator  | Definition   | Source  |
|------------|--|--|---|
| Table 10   | % Children u16 in absolute low income families 2018/19 |  | PHE   |
| Table 11   | GCSE Attainment 8 rates below national average         | Attainment 8 is an average score based on a pupil's best 8 grades in a group of GCSEs. England average - 46.9 (2019)<br><a href="https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-dashboard/">https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-dashboard/</a>  | House of Commons Library and Social Mobility Commission |
|            | % of pupils achieving AAB below national average       | The proportion of A-Level students achieving AAB at A-Level in at least 2 facilitating subjects  |   |
|            | Social mobility - overall index (over 350)             | The SMIC (Social Mobility Index by Constituency) provides local level estimates for 533 Westminster Parliamentary constituencies in England. It is based on the indicators and methodology used in the social mobility index by local authorities published by the Social Mobility Commission. The SMIC provides constituency level comparisons and rankings of 14 variables representing four life stages from early years to adulthood. <b>"What are the differences between different local areas in the chances that a child from a disadvantaged socioeconomic background has of doing well as an adult?"</b> ( <a href="#">State of the Nation 2017: Social Mobility in Great Britain</a> )<br><br><a href="https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-data-social-mobility-index/#compare_constituencies">https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-data-social-mobility-index/#compare_constituencies</a> |   |
|            | Housing affordability Ratio (7 or above)               | Comparison if the average house price with the average salary of residents. The lower the ration, the more affordable the area is.   |   |
| Appendix 2 | SMI index Early Years Attainment                       | % of children eligible for FSM achieving a 'good level of development' at the end of Early Years Foundation Stage  | Social Mobility Commission and Commons Library          |
|            | SMI index Primary School Attainment                    | % of children eligible for FSM achieving at least the expected level in reading, writing and maths at the end of Key Stage 2   |   |
|            | SMI index Secondary School Attainment                  | Average attainment 8 score for pupils eligible for FSM   |   |
|            | SMI index Positive destination after KS4               | % of young people eligible for FSM that are in education, employment or training (positive destination) after completing KS4   |   |
|            | SMI index A-levels or equivalent by age 19             | % of young people eligible for FSM at age 15 achieving 2 or more A-levels or equivalent qualifications by the age of 19  |   |
|            | SMI index Average earnings                             | Median weekly salary of employees who live in the local area (Full-time and part-time)   |   |
|            | SMI index Housing affordability                        | Average house prices compared to median annualised weekly salary of employees who live in the local area   |   |
|            | SMI index Home ownership                               | % of families with dependent children who are owner occupiers (incl. shared & full ownership)  |   |
|            |  |  |   |



## Appendix 2: Research

**The main sources that have informed this paper are:**

- Identifying potential growth centres, 2020, Centre for Cities and Connected Places Catapult
- Measuring Levelling Up, February 2020, by Centre for Cities
- The long shadow of deprivation: differences in opportunities across England, September 2020, Social Mobility Commission
- State of the Nation 2017: Social Mobility in Great Britain by the Social Mobility Commission
- Painting the towns blue - Demography, economy and living standards in the political geographies emerging from the 2019 General Election, February 2020, The Resolution Foundation
- Left behind? Understanding communities on the edge, September 2019 by Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI)
- Explore our Rethinking on levelling up polling, PWC Future of Government research programme

### **Selection of areas in the Midlands and the North for comparison**

The choice of comparator areas in the Midlands and North was made on the basis of:

- Similar size populations within a broad region in the Midlands and North (Warrington was the closest to Portsmouth in population size)
- Established benchmarking groups where possible (e.g. for Children's Services, the DoE's tool identifies the following as closest demographic neighbours: Portsmouth, Southampton, Bournemouth, Christchurch and

Poole in the South and Derby and Stoke-on Trent in the Midlands)

- The economic performance and potential of the cities, towns and regions
- Whether they turned from Labour to Conservative in the 2019 General Elections, and therefore are anecdotally identified as Red/Blue wall areas (Derby North, Bolsover, Broxtowe, Stoke-on-Trent Central and North, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe and Nantwich, Warrington South)
- Whether they have been/ likely to be allocated funding through various levelling up funding programmes
  - Future High Streets Fund: Derby City Centre, Nottingham City Centre, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe and *Portsmouth*
  - Stronger Towns Fund: Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe, Warrington and *Bournemouth*
  - Communities Renewal Fund: Derbyshire Dales, Nottingham, Bassetlaw, Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-Under-Lyme
  - Levelling Up Fund Priority 1: Derby, Derbyshire Dales, Bassetlaw, Nottingham, Erewash, Stoke-on-Trent and *Gosport*
  - Identified in the list for the Levelling Up Fund Priority 2: Bolsover, Broxtowe, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Warrington, *Havant*, *Portsmouth*, *Southampton*, *Eastleigh* and the *Isle of Wight*

- Identified in the list for the Levelling Up Fund Priority 3: Stafford, *Bournemouth*,
  - *Christchurch and Poole, New Forest*
- In the case of the New Forest and Isle of Wight, in addition to the above, areas with similar rural characteristics have been selected (Crewe And Nantwich and Derbyshire Dales)

## Appendix 3: Health

### Life expectancies in Southampton and Portsmouth compared neighbouring areas, region and England (2017-2019)

<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/public-health-outcomes-framework/data#page/0/gid/1000049/pat/6/par/E12000002/ati/102/are/E06000008/iid/90366/age/1/sex/1/cid/4/page-options/ovw-do-0>

|             | Life expectancy<br>in years @ birth<br>Male | Life expectancy<br>in years @ birth<br>Female | Life expectancy<br>in years @ age<br>65 Male | Life expectancy<br>in years @ age<br>65 Female |
|-------------|---|---|--|--|
| England     | 79.8  | 83.4  | 19.0   | 21.3   |
| South East  | 80.8  | 84.3  | 19.6   | 22   |
| Hampshire   | 81.4  | 84.7  | 20.0   | 22.3   |
| Surrey      | 82.1  | 85.3  | 20.3   | 22.6   |
| Southampton | 78.5  | 82.5  | 18.2   | 20.7   |
| Portsmouth  | 78.4  | 81.9  | 17.9   | 20.3   |

## Appendix 4: Social Mobility Index comparison

Note: Boxes in red show below average performance - SMIC variable values compare mean (average value of the whole sample) and maximum values (maximum value achieved in the whole sample).

### Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole compared with Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-Under-Lyme

Key: BE: Bournemouth East; BW: Bournemouth West; C: Christchurch; ND&P: North Dorset and Poole;

NuL: Newcastle-Under-Lyme; SoT C: Stoke-on-Trent Central; SoT N: Stoke-on-Trent North; SoT S: Stoke-on-Trent South

| SM Index %                       | <u>Avg</u> | <u>Max</u> | BE   | BW   | C    | Poole | ND&P |  | NuL  | SoT C | SoT N | SoT S |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------|------|------|-------|------|--|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Early Years Attainment           | 53         | 71         | 57   | 54   | 57   | 54    | 56   |  | 56   | 52    | 55    | 59    |
| Primary School Attainment        | 39         | 62         | 41   | 36   | 25   | 36    | 30   |  | 37   | 35    | 35    | 35    |
| Secondary School Attainment      | 39         | 54         | 46   | 43   | 36   | 46    | 43   |  | 35   | 36    | 36    | 38    |
| Positive destination after KS4   | 88         | 95         | 88   | 81   | 92   | 88    | 92   |  | 91   | 86    | 91    | 89    |
| A-levels or equivalent by age 19 | 34         | 65         | 26   | 30   | 33   | 32    | 37   |  | 35   | 25    | 26    | 24    |
| Average earnings                 | £443       | £750       | £421 | £393 | £413 | £429  | £408 |  | £415 | £387  | £369  | £393  |
| Housing affordability            | 8          | 31         | 8    | 9    | 11   | 9     | 10   |  | 6    | 4     | 4     | 5     |
| Home ownership                   | 65         | 87         | 61   | 60   | 72   | 65    | 75   |  | 69   | 59    | 62    | 66    |

## Southampton and Derby

| SM Index % (except average earnings) | <u>Avg</u> | <u>Max</u> | Soton Itchen | Soton Test | Romsey & Soton N |  | Derby North | Derby South |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------------|--|-------------|-------------|
| Early Years Attainment               | 53         | 71         | 60           | 52         | 66               |  | 52          | 48          |
| Primary School Attainment            | 39         | 62         | 48           | 41         | 35               |  | 30          | 36          |
| Secondary School Attainment          | 39         | 54         | 35           | 38         | 37               |  | 37          | 30          |
| Positive destination after KS4       | 88         | 95         | 86           | 85         | 89               |  | 87          | 83          |
| A-levels or equivalent by age 19     | 34         | 65         | 28           | 26         | 31               |  | 25          | 26          |
| Average earnings                     | £443       | £750       | £410         | £402       | £472             |  | £458        | £393        |
| Housing affordability                | 8          | 31         | 7            | 7          | 9                |  | 5           | 5           |
| Home ownership                       | 65         | 87         | 55           | 50         | 70               |  | 62          | 56          |

## Portsmouth and Warrington

| SMI Index %                      | <u>Avg</u> | <u>Max</u> | Portsmouth North | Portsmouth South |  | Warrington North | Warrington South |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Early Years Attainment           | 53         | 71         | 58               | 60               |  | 50               | 52               |
| Primary School Attainment        | 39         | 62         | 35               | 37               |  | 42               | 25               |
| Secondary School Attainment      | 39         | 54         | 34               | 42               |  | 35               | 36               |
| Positive destination after KS4   | 88         | 95         | 81               | 83               |  | 88               | 92               |
| A-levels or equivalent by age 19 | 34         | 65         | 22               | 26               |  | 26               | 34               |
| Average earnings                 | £443       | £750       | £419             | £443             |  | £428             | £496             |
| Housing affordability            | 8          | 31         | 7                | 7                |  | 5                | 6                |
| Home ownership                   | 65         | 87         | 64               | 46               |  | 67               | 79               |

In the selected constituencies below, the one area to do below average in all the SMI index measures is Havant and if we can agree that education plays a critical role in social mobility, then pupils on free school meals even in parts of the New Forest face considerable barriers in building a good life, as per the definition of social mobility.

**Gosport, Havant, IoW, New Forest, Bolsover, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Derbyshire Dales and Burton**

Key: NuL: Newcastle-Under-Lyme; IoW: Isle of Wight; C&N: Crewe and Nantwich; NFE: New Forest East; NFW: New Forest West; DD: Derbyshire Dales and Bur: Burton

| SMI Index %                      | Avg  | Max  | Gosport | Bolsover | Havant | NUL  | IoW  | C&N  | NFE  | NFW  | DD   | Bur  |
|----------------------------------|------|------|---------|----------|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Early Years Attainment           | 53   | 71   | 57      | 54       | 47     | 56   | 57   | 46   | 59   | 58   | 55   | 57   |
| Primary School Attainment        | 39   | 62   | 32      | 43       | 38     | 37   | 37   | 29   | 40   | 39   | 37   | 35   |
| Secondary School Attainment      | 39   | 54   | 34      | 36       | 36     | 35   | 33   | 36   | 34   | 39   | 39   | 36   |
| Positive destination after KS4   | 88   | 95   | 84      | 86       | 86     | 91   | 89   | 83   | 82   | 93   | 92   | 93   |
| A-levels or equivalent by age 19 | 34   | 65   | 26      | 26       | 23     | 35   | 26   | 24   | 27   | 29   | 25   | 26   |
| Average earnings                 | £443 | £750 | £448    | £361     | £407   | £415 | £386 | £394 | £427 | £404 | £442 | £386 |
| Housing affordability            | 8    | 31   | 6       | 5        | 9      | 6    | 7    | 5    | 9    | 11   | 7    | 6    |
| Home ownership                   | 65   | 87   | 63      | 67       | 61     | 69   | 64   | 70   | 71   | 68   | 74   | 68   |



### About Southern Policy Centre

Southern Policy Centre was established in 2014 as the independent think-tank for the region of central southern England. We focus broadly on the area from Dorset to West Sussex and the Isle of Wight to Oxfordshire.

The region is often not recognised by central government and SPC exists to try and redress this by providing a politically neutral, constructively critical space for discussion on issues that affect the region.

SPC specialises in improving public policy making by conducting research into the social challenges facing society and we have established a strong reputation for leading public debate and setting the agenda across a wide range of regional issues.

 @polycysouth and @ODIHampshire

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## CABINET



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Report subject             | <b>Coastal Business Improvement District (BID)</b>   |
| Meeting date               | 12 January 2022  |
| Status                     | Public Report  |
| Executive summary          | <p>Bournemouth Coastal Business Improvement District (BID) is preparing to undertake a ballot for its third term from 2 March 2022 – 30 March 2022. The result of the ballot will be announced on 31 March 2022.</p> <p>If successful, the 5-year BID Term will run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the Council to support Coastal Town Centre BID for the third term.</p>  |
| Recommendations            | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <p><b>Cabinet agree BCP Council's support of the Coastal Business Improvement District (BID); and agree:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i) To endorse the BID proposal that will be submitted to BCP Council by the BID.</b></li> <li><b>ii) To authorise the Director of Economic Development to complete the ballot papers on behalf of the Council in favour of the BID proposal.</b></li> <li><b>iii) To authorise the Head of Legal Services to complete any necessary legal agreements required for the operation of the BID Levy, Ballot and service arrangements and any other necessary matters for the proposed BID in consultation with the appropriate officers.</b></li> </ul> |
| Reason for recommendations | <p>BCP Council is fully supportive of BIDs and the significant benefits and investment that they bring. The Coastal BID proposal will help deliver the Council's strategic aims and objectives including the Dynamic Places objectives in the Corporate Plan. It has a strong track record of supporting businesses along the seafront and in its Trading Districts and supporting innovative new projects. It is therefore recommended that BCP Council supports the Coastal BID for its third 5-year term.</p>   |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Philip Broadhead; Portfolio Holder for Development, Growth and Regeneration   |
| Corporate Director   | Adam Richens; Chief Finance Officer and Director of Finance  |
| Report Authors       | Adrian Trevett, Head of Economic Development<br>Liz Orme, Economic Development Officer   |
| Wards                | Boscombe East & Pokesdown; Boscombe West; Bournemouth Central; East Cliff & Springbourne; East Southbourne & Tuckton; West Southbourne; Westbourne & West Cliff; |
| Classification       | For Decision   |

## Background

1. Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are business led partnerships, created through a ballot process to deliver additional improvements and services for local businesses. BIDs have a defined geographical area in which a levy is charged on all business rate payers in addition to their business rates bill. The funding is ringfenced to provide additional improvements and services identified by the businesses. BIDs are typically run as not for profit companies and are controlled by the businesses that fund them.
2. For a BID to be successful it needs to meet the two criteria of achieving a majority (over 50%) of eligible businesses voting yes (each hereditament has one vote, irrespective of size), and also for all of those voting in favour to represent a majority of the total rateable value of all businesses voting. If these two criteria are met, then the levy becomes mandatory across all eligible businesses in the area.
3. BCP Council fully supports the existing BIDs in the BCP region – Poole BID and the newly created Christchurch BID. It has supported Bournemouth Coastal and Town Centre BIDs in their first and second terms, both of which are undertaking the ballot process in the same timeframe, with the third term commencing on 1 July 2022 if successful.

## Bournemouth Coastal Business Improvement District (BID)

4. The Bournemouth Coastal BID was established in 2012 and was renewed again by businesses in 2017. The current term of the BID will come to the end of its second five year term in June 2022. The BID currently works with over 600 businesses and the BID levy raises over £500,000 each year to deliver the projects businesses have voted for. The BID also raises substantial additional income to support the BID Levy.
5. The BID is a business run by and working alongside a range of other partners. The Board of Directors, drawn from local business representatives who work on a voluntary basis, have striven over the last 5 years to deliver the Business Plan projects.



6. The services and projects provided and delivered to date by Bournemouth Coastal BID resulted from an extensive consultation process in 2017 with local businesses. This focused upon the success of projects delivered by the BID in its first term after initially being voted in 2012.
7. Bournemouth Coastal BID aims to raise the profile of the Bournemouth area as a year-round destination. This is done by highlighting the uniqueness and variety of the individual trading districts and supporting business in doing so. The strategic objectives are to:
  - Increase the number of people visiting Bournemouth and persuade them to stay longer
  - Encourage people to explore the unique coastal districts
  - Improve and develop a distinctive experience in all locations within the Coastal BID area
  - Encourage the growth and development of businesses
  - Attract more spend and new investment into the coastal districts
8. The BID engages with its member businesses with regular newsletters, e-mails and meetings and all the Company activities are detailed on the dedicated website [www.coastalbid.co.uk](http://www.coastalbid.co.uk) (which is currently undergoing an upgrade).

## **BID Proposal**

9. The BID's second term will finish in June 2022. It is preparing for a ballot on 30 March 2022 to seek a further 5-year term (to 2027) which will start on 1 July 2022.
10. Key Dates:
  - Ballot papers issued – Wednesday 2 March 2022
  - Ballot end - Wednesday 30 March 2022
  - Ballot Decision – Thursday 31 March 2022
  - New term – Friday 1 July 2022
11. Following consultation, the BID area will include some revisions for the third term. These are that the following sectors will now be exempt:
  - Car Sales, Showrooms & Repairs
  - Clubs & Societies
  - Community Centres
  - Education (Schools)
  - Health & Medical
  - Industrial
  - Storage
  - Warehouses
  - Workshops

12. The following exemptions will continue to apply:
- Organisations with a rateable value below £12,000
  - Non-retail charities, with no paid staff, trading income, arm or facilities
  - Entirely, not-for-profit, subscription and volunteer-based organisations.
13. The following geographical areas are to be removed from the BID area but can join voluntarily if they choose:
- Hengistbury Head & Tuckton
  - A small part of Westbourne
14. The revisions and exemptions will remove the following BCP Council hereditaments: 28 Wick Lane, Tuckton; the Hungry Hiker Café and Education Centre at Hengistbury Head; Alum Chine car park; Corpus Christi RC Primary School, Boscombe; Dorset Police Community Hub, Boscombe; Southcote Road Waste Depot; and Russell-Cotes Museum stores.
15. The area of the Bournemouth Coastal BID is outlined on the Maps in **Appendix 1** and will also be included in the Business Plan.
16. If successful for its third term the BID levy will be 1.75% of the business' rateable value (RV) across all sectors except for Offices which will be charged 1%. A minimum levy of £250 will apply per hereditament. Due to the revisions outlined above the total number of hereditaments will be reduced from 677 to 548. Projected BID Levy income is £480,000 per annum, totalling £2.4m of investment over the five-year BID term.

### **Delivery Arrangements**

17. Bournemouth Coastal BID will continue to operate with the same governance arrangements. It will be the body responsible for the delivery of the BID services and it will employ staff as appropriate to implement the BID Board's programme on a day-to-day basis. It will enter into an operating agreement with BCP Council covering the arrangements for the collection of the BID Levy and the operation of the BID Levy account.
18. The BID is run by the Bournemouth Coastal BID Ltd which is a private company limited by guarantee. It has a voluntary Board of Directors comprising of BID levy payers and other key stakeholders representing the BID area sectorally and geographically. It is governed by its Articles of Association and it publishes annual accounts and holds an Annual General Meeting.

### **BID Process and Ballot Arrangements**

19. The process and ballot arrangements will be held and conducted in accordance with The Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004 as amended. The

ballot will be a postal ballot of all businesses in the BID area liable to pay the BID Levy. It will be conducted on behalf of the BID by Electoral Reform Services Ltd.

20. The 28 day ballot period will be from 2 March 2022 to 30 March 2022. All eligible businesses in the BID area entitled to vote will be notified of the ballot arrangements and will be sent the ballot papers. Proxy voting can be arranged for those that require it.

## Business Plan

21. The 'Stronger Together' document setting out the achievements of the BID and requesting feedback for the new term has been sent to all eligible businesses and is available online. This includes a survey which was reinforced with face-to-face and online engagement until the end of November 2021.
22. On the basis of the consultation responses it is likely that the following services will be provided. All of the services which the BID provides will be over and above these baselines and BID funding will not be used to replace any existing Local Authority services.
23. The BID will provide services across the whole BID area as well as specifically for districts. These districts are: West Cliff, East Cliff, Westbourne, Boscombe, Southbourne, Pokesdown Pier Approach & Seafront.

| Project Areas                  | Proposed activity   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Distinctive Destination</b> | Christmas Tree Wonderland   |
|                                | Install Christmas and other seasonal illuminations throughout our areas   |
|                                | Calendar of Annual Events Attracting over 100,000   |
|                                | Supporting Bournemouth Emerging Arts Fringe   |
|                                | Easter Promotions   |
|                                | New Revamped Website  |
|                                | New Branding for the Destination  |
|                                | Working in partnership with BCP Council to produce tourism brochures for use by visitors to hotels and to our areas |
|                                | Supporting existing and emerging festivals and events in our districts with focus on year round arrangements        |
|                                | Work in partnership with BCP and BAHA   |

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
|                              | to develop overarching marketing campaigns for the whole destination   |
|                              | Produce wayfinding maps for hotels and their visitors  |
|                              | Work in partnership with BCP Council to maximise opportunities to assist in creating a city destination by 2026  |
|                              | Work with Boscombe Towns Fund to revitalise Boscombe and futureproof the area  |
| <b>Safer Day &amp; Night</b> | Community Safety Accreditation Scheme with Dedicated Officers to Reduce Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour  |
|                              | Provide additional security tailored to businesses needs as and when these are identified  |
|                              | DISC Scheme to Reduce Business Crime   |
| <b>Enhanced Environment</b>  | Floral & Planting Displays Across the Districts  |
|                              | Deep Cleansing of Selected Districts   |
|                              | Improve Environment Through Installations such as Murals, Flags and Lighting   |
|                              | Use of NEW “Green Machine” to assist with maintaining our floral displays, graffiti cleaning and helping recycle food waste from our businesses to compost for food banks in Boscombe. |
| <b>Better Business</b>       | Training & Support for Hospitality Businesses with BAHA  |
|                              | Support Business Events Bournemouth, in particular to attract new business and encouraging use of technology to operate in a smarter and more efficient way                            |
|                              | Supporting ‘Great British High St’ and ‘Small Business Saturday’   |
|                              | Attract Additional Income to Support BID Work Through Sponsorship & Grants   |
|                              | Supporting and encouraging local business and traders associations   |
|                              | Post COVID support and recovery work   |

## Options Appraisal

24. Option 1:  
Council fully supports the Bournemouth Coastal BID ballot. Combined with the existing BIDs, they bring significant benefits and investment to the BCP region.
25. Option 2:  
If support is not offered for Bournemouth Coastal BID there could be reputational damage to the Council (whilst supporting the other BIDs). If the BID is not voted in for a third term there would be a loss of over £480,000 of investment into the Coastal area and trading districts. This would be very harmful to the town centre and seafront economy, and particularly impactful on the trading districts, and would be contrary to the aims and objectives of BCP Council Strategy.

## Summary of financial implications

26. If successful for the third term, BCP Council Business Rates team will continue to undertake the task of billing the levy to all businesses, and then pass the funding across to the BID Company. This is at no cost to the Council as the costs of undertaking this role (£49,397 over the 5 year term) will be funded from the levy collection sum, invoiced to the BID company.
27. There is one financial implication for the Council. The Council are a landowner for 27 liable hereditaments in the BID boundary (see **Appendix 2**). As such, the Council will be liable for £34,566.88 per year (£172,834.40 over 5 years) if the ballot is successful. In accordance with the current BID billing arrangements, the service units that own the liable hereditaments are responsible for paying their levy.
28. The ballot will run by CIVICA at a cost of £3,150. The cost of the ballot is paid for by the BID.

## Summary of legal implications

29. Bournemouth Coastal BID as a company, is limited by guarantee. Bournemouth Coastal BID is run by a Board of Directors, all of whom represent businesses from the private sector or organisations paying the BID levy. Members of the BID elect their Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for the delivery of projects, ensuring that they are delivered on time, in budget and to the highest standards possible.
30. An Operating Agreement has been drafted by the BCP Council that outlines the terms of the relationship between the BID company and the billing authority.
31. Baseline Agreements have been drawn up with relevant Service Unit Heads covering: CCTV and CSAS; Civil Enforcement; Events; Highways Maintenance and Street Cleansing; Parking Management; Parks and Gardens; Regulatory Services; and Seafront Operations and Toilets. The Baseline Agreements determine the current commitments of the Council in the BID area to ensure that there is no

duplication of activities from the BID funds. Legislation states that BID activity is not to replace services provided by the local authority.

#### **Summary of human resources implications**

32. There are no human resources implications.

#### **Summary of sustainability impact**

33. Bournemouth Coastal BID supports businesses and employment in the town centre. A thriving and vibrant town centre has sustainability benefits as the town centre is well served by public transport.

34. A Decision Impact Assessment has been undertaken with no negative impacts identified.

#### **Summary of public health implications**

35. There are no public health implications.

#### **Summary of equality implications**

36. The BID would make a positive contribution to the town centre. It would continue to improve the vitality and viability of the town centre thereby creating (and retaining) employment opportunities. It would also fund safety measures to make the town centre a safer and more welcoming environment.

28. An Equalities Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and is included at Appendix 3. It was positively reviewed by the EIA Panel and given a good Amber rating.

#### **Summary of risk assessment**

37. The financial risks have been identified above. There would be a reputational risk if the Council do not support a third term for Bournemouth Coastal BID ballot (whilst supporting other BIDs).

#### **Background papers**

Bournemouth Coastal BID website [www.coastalbid.co.uk](http://www.coastalbid.co.uk)

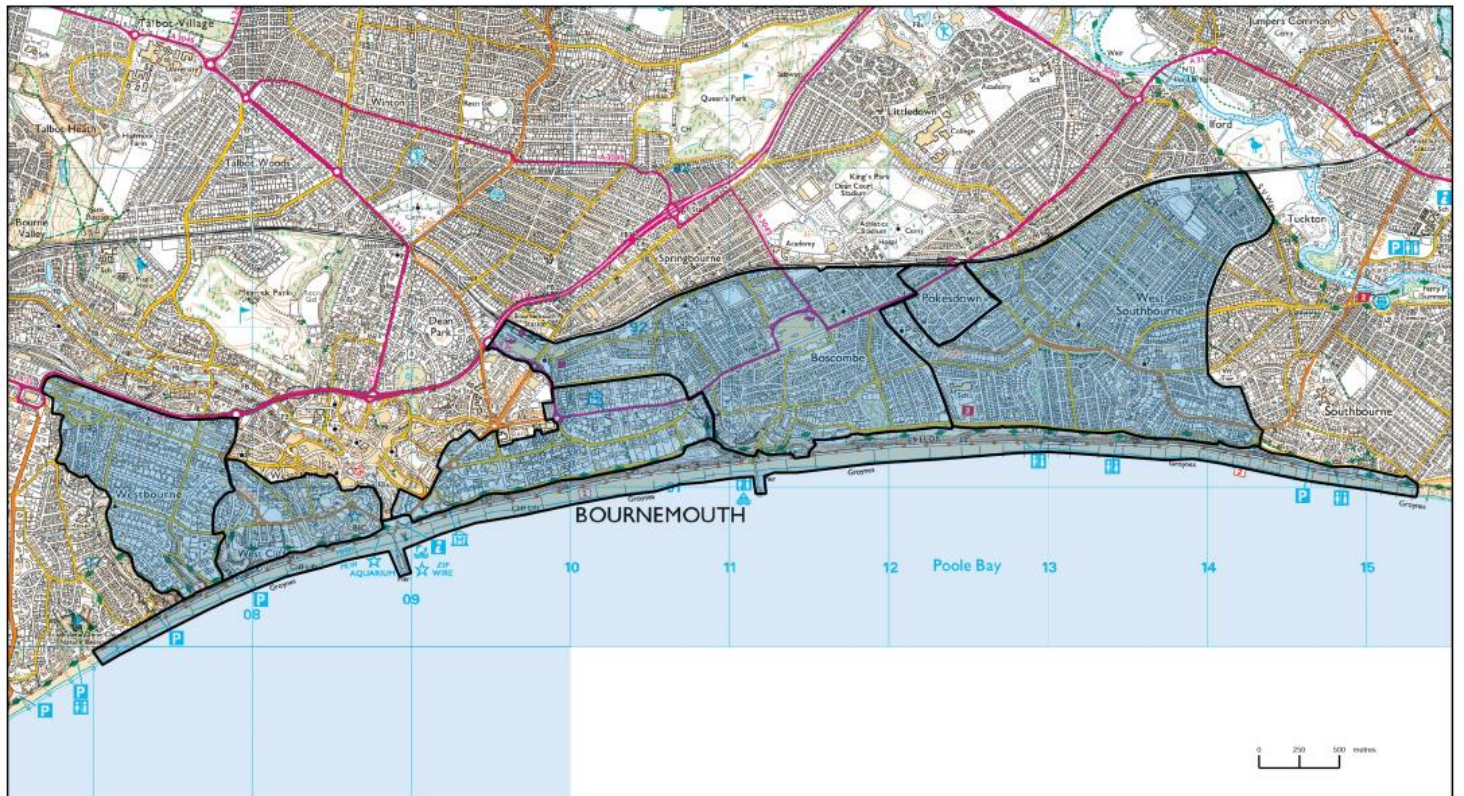
Draft Business Plan (Exempt under Category 3 personal information or business affairs)

#### **Appendices**

**Appendix 1** – Bournemouth Coastal BID Area

**Appendix 2** - Council owned sites

**Appendix 3** – Coastal BID Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)



**Coastal**  
Business Improvement Districts

Scale: 1:32000 @ A4  
Date: 01 December 2021  
Creator: GIS Team

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OS 100019829 BCP Council



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## Appendix 2 - Council owned sites

| BCP COUNCIL | SITE NAME                    | ROAD NAME                         | BOURNEMOUTH |
|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park                     | 3-5 Alumhurst Road                | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park & Premises          | Pier Approach<br>Baths, Bath Road | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park Durley Chine        | Durley Chine Road                 | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Eden Glen Car Park           | Exeter Crescent                   | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park                     | Hawkwood Road                     | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park                     | Landseer Road                     | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park                     | Milburn Road                      | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park                     | Queens Road                       | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Overstrand Car Park          | Sea Road                          | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | 41 Woodside Road             | Woodside Road                     | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | 8-12 Bath Road               | Bath Road                         | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Car Park                     | Beacon Road                       | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Site of Winter Gardens       | Exeter Road                       | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Site for Various Attractions | Pier Approach                     | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Bournemouth Corporation      | Foreshore Undertakings            | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Smugglers Cove               | Pier Approach                     | BOURNEMOUTH |

|             |                                |                                       |             |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| BCP COUNCIL | Westbourne Public Library      | Alum Chine Road                       | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Southbourne Library            | Seabourne Road                        | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Boscombe Library               | Heathcote Road                        | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Café & Mini Golf Course        | Boscombe Gardens<br>Christchurch Road | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Bournemouth Pier               | Pier Approach                         | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Boscombe Pedestrian Area       | Christchurch Road                     | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Bournemouth Travel Interchange | Holdenhurst Road                      | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | 1 Priory Road                  | Priory Road                           | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Prom Diner                     | Undercliff Drive                      | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Manor Steps                    | Manor Steps                           | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Russell-Cotes Arts & Museums   | Russell Cotes Road                    | BOURNEMOUTH |

## Equality Impact Assessment: Conversation Screening Tool

[Use this form to prompt an EIA conversation and capture the discussion. This completed form or if needed, a full EIA report (form 3) will be published as part of the decision-making process *\*Please delete prompts before publishing\**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>What is being reviewed?</b>           | Bournemouth Coastal Business Improvement District (BID) Ballot   |
| <b>What changes are being made?</b>      | <p>Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are business led partnerships which are created through a ballot process to deliver additional services to local businesses.</p> <p>A BID is a defined area in which a levy is charged on all business rate payers in addition to the business rates bill. This levy is used to develop projects which will benefit businesses in the local area. A BID is an independent company and not part of BCP Council, although the two work closely together.</p> <p>Bournemouth Coastal Business Improvement District (BID) area covers part of Bournemouth town centre, the seafront and surrounding trading districts including Westbourne, Boscombe and Southbourne. No operational changes are being made. It is preparing to undertake a renewal ballot for its third term from 2 March 2022 – 30 March 2022. The result of the ballot will be announced on 31 March 2022. A report is being taken to Cabinet to seek approval for the Council to support Bournemouth Coastal BID for the third term.</p> <p>BCP Council is fully supportive of BIDs and the significant benefits and investment that they bring. The Bournemouth Coastal BID proposal will help deliver the Council's strategic aims and objectives including the Dynamic Places objectives in the Corporate Plan. It has a strong track record of supporting businesses in the town centre and supporting innovative new projects. The Cabinet report recommends that BCP Council supports the Bournemouth Town Centre BID for its third 5-year term, which if successful will run from will run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027.</p> |
| <b>Service Unit:</b>                     | Development Services   |
| <b>Participants in the conversation:</b> | <p>Chris Shephard – Director, Development Services<br/>         Adrian Trevett – Economic Development Manager<br/>         Liz Orme - Economic Development Officer<br/>         Paula Sales – Economic Development Officer<br/>         Hannah Porter – Economic Development Officer</p> <p>In addition, as part of the consultation process for the new Business Plan, the BID has engaged with all levy paying businesses in the BID area.</p>   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Conversation date/s:</b>  | September – November 2021  |
| <b>Do you know your current or potential client base? Who are the key stakeholders?</b>  | BCP Council<br>Bournemouth town and district centre BID levy paying businesses<br>BID Business networking<br>Bournemouth Chamber of Trade and Commerce<br>R <sup>3</sup> Retail Hospitality and Leisure Group<br>BCP Residents   |
| <b>Do different groups have different needs or experiences?</b>  | The work of Coastal BID is committed to responding to the needs of different groups, including those with protected characteristics. The nature of town and district centres is that they are a central and accessible hub for all cultures and communities. The intention would be that new projects or work outlined in the Business Plan to be undertaken by the BID over the next 5 year term in the town and district centres will take a positive and proactive view towards all visitors and residents, including, for example, the elderly, children and young people; those with physical and mental disabilities; people from different ethnic groups; people with different religions or beliefs; and people with different socio-economic status.  |
| <b>Will this change affect any service users?</b>  | The continuation of the work of the BID for another 5 year term will only have a positive impact on service users, as detailed above.<br><br>The intention would be that any new projects in the town and district centres undertaken by the BID take a positive and proactive view towards making them accessible to all.   |
| <b>[If the answer to any of the questions above is 'don't know' then you need to gather more evidence. The best way to do this is to use forms 2 and 3. <i>*Please delete prompts before publishing</i>]</b> |  |
| <b>What are the benefits or positive impacts of the change on current or potential users?</b>  | The nature of town and district centres and the objectives of the BID Business Plan will mean that there are inherent benefits for all who use the high streets, which are multifunctional community hubs, aiming to be welcoming, attractive and useable for all groups. Examples of the positive works and services, which benefit the groups identified above, and are provided by the BID include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging social responsibility and engagement through a calendar of free annual events and support for Bournemouth Emerging Arts Fringe</li> <li>• Improving accessibility through wayfinding maps and marketing material to help improve access around the area and encourage all residents and visitors to visit</li> <li>• Introduction of a DISC security scheme for businesses and to improve the feeling of safety and security for all of those using the high streets</li> <li>• Improving and enhancing the local environment with planting, deep cleaning and painting of street furniture, murals, signposting and additional lighting</li> <li>• Support for local businesses and liaison with local trade and community groups, which in turn will improve local employment opportunities</li> </ul> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>What are the negative impacts of the change on current or potential users?</b>                            | None currently known. When developing the projects from the Business Plan, the BID will consider any potential negative impacts although none are anticipated.  |
| <b>Will the change affect employees?</b>   | There will be no effect on employees as a result of this Strategy.  |
| <b>Will the change affect the wider community?</b>   | Yes, positively for the reasons outlined above.   |
| <b>What mitigating actions are planned or already in place for those negatively affected by this change?</b> | If negative impacts are predicted, these will be picked up as part of the development and implementation of the projects outlined in the BID Business Plan.   |
| <b>Summary of Equality Implications:</b>   | The nature of the town centre and the work of the Coastal BID will help create a more inclusive and vibrant economy that will benefit all members of our community. Town and district centres are accessible, multifunctional community hubs, and the current and future projects undertaken by the BID will offer further advantage and opportunities to create positive and proactive experiences for town centre users across all groups. These will include a calendar of events, wayfinding and marketing activity, improved security, environmental enhancements and business and employment support. |

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# CABINET



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Report subject             | <b>Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID)</b>   |
| Meeting date               | 12 January 2022  |
| Status                     | Public Report  |
| Executive summary          | <p>Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) is preparing to undertake a renewal ballot for its third term from 2 March 2022 – 30 March 2022. The result of the ballot will be announced on 31 March 2022.</p> <p>If successful, the 5-year BID Term will run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the Council to support Bournemouth Town Centre BID for the third term.</p>  |
| Recommendations            | <p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <p><b>Cabinet agree BCP Council's support of the Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID); and agree:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i) To endorse the BID proposal that will be submitted to BCP Council by the BID.</b></li> <li><b>ii) To authorise the Director of Economic Development to complete the ballot papers on behalf of the Council in favour of the BID proposal.</b></li> <li><b>iii) To authorise the Head of Legal Services to complete any necessary legal agreements required for the operation of the BID Levy, Ballot and service arrangements and any other necessary matters for the proposed BID in consultation with the appropriate officers.</b></li> </ul> |
| Reason for recommendations | <p>BCP Council is fully supportive of BIDs and the significant benefits and investment that they bring. The Bournemouth Town Centre BID proposal will help deliver the Council's strategic aims and objectives including the Dynamic Places objective in the Corporate Plan. It has a strong track record of supporting businesses in the town centre and supporting innovative new projects. It is therefore recommended that BCP Council supports the Bournemouth Town Centre BID for its third 5-year term.</p>   |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Philip Broadhead; Portfolio Holder for Development, Growth and Regeneration |
| Corporate Director   | Adam Richens; Chief Finance Officer and Director of Finance                            |
| Report Authors       | Adrian Trevett, Head of Economic Development<br>Liz Orme, Economic Development Officer |
| Wards                | Bournemouth Central; Westbourne & West Cliff;  |
| Classification       | For Decision   |

## Background

1. Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are business led partnerships, created through a ballot process to deliver additional improvements and services for local businesses. BIDs have a defined geographical area in which a levy is charged on all business rate payers in addition to their business rates bill. The funding is ringfenced to provide additional improvements and services identified by the businesses. BIDs are typically run as not for profit companies and are controlled by the businesses that fund them.
2. For a BID to be successful it needs to meet the two criteria of achieving a majority (over 50%) of eligible businesses voting yes (each hereditament has one vote, irrespective of size), and also for all of those voting in favour to represent a majority of the total rateable value of all businesses voting. If these two criteria are met, then the levy becomes mandatory across all eligible businesses in the area.
3. BCP Council fully supports the existing BIDs in the BCP region – Poole BID and the newly created Christchurch BID. It has supported Bournemouth Coastal and Town Centre BIDs in their first and second terms, both of which are undertaking the ballot process in the same timeframe, with the third term commencing on 1 July 2022 if successful.

## Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID)

4. The Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) was established in July 2012 following a successful ballot in April 2012. The second term ballot was held in May 2017 and was again successful. In the past 10 years the BID has continued to be a key player in supporting businesses in Bournemouth town centre. The BID team has worked on delivering key BID objectives to make improvements to the town centre and drive footfall to support town centre businesses. Examples include:
  - Delivering key events (including Christmas and seasonal events) designed to encourage spend within town centre businesses.
  - Improving safety and security (including the highly valued Town Centre Ranger team).



- Encouraging the growth and development of businesses through forums, seminars and training courses.
  - Providing additional cleaning with their town centre litter picking and cleansing operative, supply of additional bins.
  - Providing additional support to businesses through Covid-19 (including signposting to relevant grants, sanitisation stations, social distancing stickers and window vinyls).
5. The BID engages with its member businesses through regular newsletters, e-mails and meetings. All of the Company activities and projects are detailed on their website which has a dedicated Levy Payers Area [www.towncentrebids.co.uk](http://www.towncentrebids.co.uk)

### **BID Proposal**

6. The BID's second term will finish in June 2022. The BID is preparing for a renewal ballot on 30 March 2022 to seek a further 5-year term (up to 2027) which will start on 1 July 2022.
7. Key Dates:
- Ballot papers issued – Wednesday 2 March 2022
  - Ballot end - Wednesday 30 March 2022
  - Ballot Decision – Thursday 31 March 2022
  - New term – Friday 1 July 2022
8. The BID Area boundary follows the same geography as the previous two terms. It covers the vast majority of the town centre and shares a boundary in some places with Bournemouth Coastal BID (see Map at **Appendix 1**).
9. The rate of the levy is 1.5% of the business' rateable value (RV) for all eligible businesses and 1% for the office sector. This is the same level as the previous two terms.
10. There will be an exemption level of £12,000, meaning that businesses with a rateable value below this will not be included within the formal ballot and do not pay the levy. All Non-Domestic Ratepayers over £12,000 within the proposed boundary would be liable to pay the BID levy, with the exception of non-retail and non-commercial charities.
11. The number of eligible hereditaments in the defined area is 704. The sum expected to be raised from the levy is £651.2k per annum for a period of 5 years, totalling £3.26m of investment into the town centre over the full term. This figure does not include any additional sponsorship or match funding that the BID would inevitably secure.

## Delivery Arrangements

12. Bournemouth Town Centre BID will continue to operate with the same governance arrangements. It will be the body responsible for the delivery of the BID services and it will employ staff as appropriate to implement the BID Board's programme on a day-to-day basis. It will enter into an operating agreement with BCP Council covering the arrangements for the collection of the BID Levy and the operation of the BID Levy account.
13. The BID is run by Town Centre BID Ltd which is a private company limited by guarantee. It has a voluntary Board of Directors comprising of BID levy payers and other key stakeholders representing the BID area. It is governed by its Articles of Association and it publishes annual accounts and holds an Annual General Meeting.

## BID Process and Ballot Arrangements

14. The process and ballot arrangements will be held and conducted in accordance with The Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004 as amended. The ballot will be a postal ballot of all businesses in the BID area liable to pay the BID Levy. It will be conducted on behalf of the BID by Civica Electoral Reform Services Ltd.
15. The 28 day ballot period will run from 2 March 2022 to 30 March 2022. All eligible businesses in the BID area entitled to vote will be notified of the ballot arrangements and will be sent the ballot papers. Proxy voting can be arranged for those that require it.

## Business Plan

16. The BID has produced a draft Business Plan for 2022-2027 which outlines the areas that it will seek to address including:

| Project Areas | Proposed activity  |
|---------------|--|
| Safe & Secure | Continuation of the team of Town Centre Rangers. This 7 day a week operation supports the work of the Police and Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) in helping to make the Town Centre an attractive place to live, work and visit.  |
|               | Creation of a new Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP), building on the good work already undertaken by the existing Bournemouth Business Reducing Crime (BBRC). This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Board consisting of representatives from Dorset Police, PCC, BCP, St Mungos, National and Local Retailers and the BID.</li><li>• Introduction of the DISC reporting system.</li></ul> |

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
|                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased number and use of Shopwatch radio system.</li> <li>Significantly improved reporting of crime improved partnership working with the aim of deterring retail crime and ASB activity in the area.</li> </ul> |
|                                     | Working with the Night Time Economy group to bring together the two sections of the economy under the BCRP.  |
| <b>Appearance &amp; Environment</b> | Continuation of provision of Clean and Green operative to supplement the work of BCP operatives in litter picking, cleaning and detritus removal in the Town Centre.   |
|                                     | Creation of a rapid response Graffiti Removal team supporting commercial property owners and levy payers in the removal of graffiti from Town Centre businesses.   |
|                                     | The provision of floral hanging baskets throughout the BID area to enhance and improve the environment.  |
|                                     | Working with BCP and levy payers on improved window vinyls for empty shops to better the visual aspect of the town centre.   |
|                                     | Work in conjunction with BCP on the delivery of the Cleaner, Greener, Safer Strategy through street audits, joint deep cleaning projects and place improvement projects, for example Westover Road and Lansdowne.  |
| <b>Marketing &amp; Promotions</b>   | Improved signage within the Town Centre and Beach/Gardens to help raise awareness of retail and leisure offerings within the town centre.  |
|                                     | Working closely in support of the Purple Flag programme to help sustain Bournemouth Town Centre it's continuation of status.   |
|                                     | Continuation of the Town Centre Gift Card Scheme which locks real spend into Town Centre Businesses.   |
|                                     | Promotion of Bournemouth town centre as a leisure and shopping destination, primarily to people withing a 45 min drive time, thus enhancing the work of DMB and Coastal BID.   |
|                                     | Individual support to levy paying businesses through social media presence and campaigns across all the major social   |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
|                         | networks driving awareness and specific offers.  |
|                         | Use of local and regional media organisations to promote activity within the Town Centre.  |
| <b>Events</b>           | Continuation of support for Christmas Tree Wonderland.   |
|                         | Improved offering for Christmas in areas of the Town Centre outside of The Square and Lower Gardens.                                       |
|                         | Creation of trail events to drive impacts to levy paying businesses e.g. Coffee, Cocktail & Ale Trails.                                    |
|                         | The creation and support of further major impact events in the areas of culture and art, food and fashion.                                 |
|                         | Creating links with national events that bring benefit to the Town Centre e.g. Great British High Street and Small Business Saturday.      |
| <b>Business Support</b> | Continuation of Peer to Peer and Customer Experience programmes to support businesses (particularly independents) on business improvement. |
|                         | Business Liaison Officer role to maintain flow of information and support to levy paying businesses.                                       |
|                         | Monthly discussion forums to identify and ascertain key issues/opportunities.  |
|                         | Working closely with BCP Council's Economic Development Team to jointly address issues raised.   |
|                         | Supporting BCP Council's High Streets and District Centres Strategy.   |

17. The BID Business Plan will be launched on 13 January 2022. It will also be available on the BID website [www.towncentrebid.co.uk](http://www.towncentrebid.co.uk)

### Options Appraisal

18. Option 1:  
The Council fully supports the renewal of Bournemouth Town Centre BID.  
Combined with the existing BIDs, they bring significant benefits and investment to the BCP region.

19. Option 2:  
If support is not offered for the renewal of the Bournemouth Town Centre BID there could be reputational damage to the Council (whilst supporting the other BIDs). If the BID is not voted in for a third term there would be a loss of over £650,000 of investment into the Town Centre BID area per annum. This would be very harmful to the town centre, and would be contrary to the aims and objectives of BCP Council Strategy.

### **Summary of financial implications**

20. If successful for the third term, BCP Council Business Rates team will continue to undertake the task of billing the levy to all businesses, and then pass the funding across to the BID Company. This is at no cost to the Council as the costs of undertaking this role (£63,459 over the 5 year term) will be funded from the levy collection sum, invoiced to the BID company.
21. There is one financial implication for the Council. The Council are a landowner for 15 liable hereditaments in the BID boundary (see **Appendix 2**). As such, the Council are liable for £31,387.50 per year (£156,937.50 over 5 years) if the ballot is successful. In accordance with the current BID billing arrangements, the service units that own the liable hereditaments are responsible for paying their levy.
22. The ballot will run by CIVICA at a cost of £3,800. The cost of the ballot is paid for by the BID.

### **Summary of legal implications**

23. Bournemouth Town Centre BID as a company, is limited by guarantee.
24. Bournemouth Town Centre BID is run by a Board of Directors, all of whom represent businesses from the private sector or organisations paying the BID levy. Members of the BID elect their Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for the delivery of projects, ensuring that they are delivered on time, in budget and to the highest standards possible.
25. An Operating Agreement has been drafted by the BCP Council that outlines the terms of the relationship between the BID company and the billing authority.
26. Baseline Agreements have been drawn up with relevant Service Unit Heads covering: CCTV and CSAS; Civil Enforcement; Events; Highways Maintenance and Street Cleansing; Parking Management; Parks and Gardens; and Regulatory Services. The Baseline Agreements determine the current commitments of the Council in the BID area to ensure that there is no duplication of activities from the BID funds. Legislation states that BID activity is not to replace services provided by the local authority.

### **Summary of human resources implications**

24. There are no human resources implications.

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

25. Bournemouth Town Centre BID supports businesses and employment in the town centre. A thriving and vibrant town centre has sustainability benefits as the town centre is well served by public transport.
26. A Decision Impact Assessment has been undertaken with no negative impacts identified.

### **Summary of public health implications**

27. There are no public health implications.

### **Summary of equality implications**

28. The BID would make a positive contribution to the town centre. It would continue to improve the vitality and viability of the town centre thereby creating (and retaining) employment opportunities. It would also fund safety measures to make the town centre a safer and more welcoming environment.
29. An Equalities Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and is included at Appendix 3. It was positively reviewed by the EIA Panel and given a good Amber rating.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

30. The financial risks have been identified above. There would be a reputational risk if the Council do not support a third term for Bournemouth Town Centre BID renewal ballot (whilst supporting other BIDs).

### **Background papers**

Bournemouth Town Centre BID website – [www.towncentrebids.co.uk](http://www.towncentrebids.co.uk)

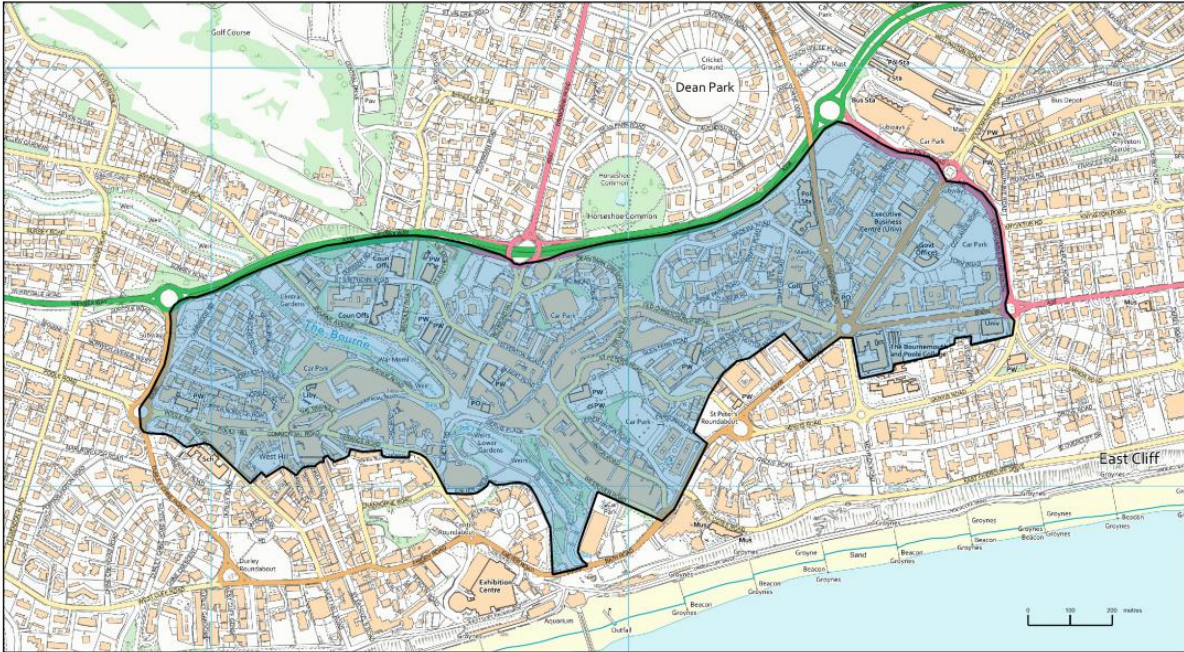
Draft Business Plan (Exempt under Category 3 personal information or business affairs due to press embargo until 13 January 2022)

### **Appendices**

**Appendix 1** – Bournemouth Town Centre BID Area

**Appendix 2** - Council owned sites

**Appendix 3** - Bournemouth Town Centre BID Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)



**Bournemouth (Town)**  
Business Improvement District



Scale: 1:10000 @ A4  
Date: 01 December 2021  
Creator: GIS Team

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OS 100019829 BCP Council



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**Appendix 2 - Council owned sites**

| <b>BCP COUNCIL</b> | <b>SITE NAME</b>               | <b>ROAD NAME</b>  | <b>BOURNEMOUTH</b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| BCP COUNCIL        | Car Park                       | Avenue Road       | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Town Hall                      | Bourne Avenue     | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Town Hall Annexe               | St Stephens Road  | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Car Park                       | Richmond Gardens  | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Glen Fern Car Park             | St Peters Road    | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Car Park                       | St Stephens Way   | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Central Car Park               | Upper Hinton Road | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Car Park                       | West Hill         | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Bournemouth Tennis Centre      | Upper Gardens     | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | Richmond Hill Car Park         | Wimborne Road     | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | 7-15 York Road & Adjacent Land | Cotlands Road     | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | The Bournemouth Library        | The Triangle      | BOURNEMOUTH        |
| BCP COUNCIL        | York Road West Car Park        | York Road         | BOURNEMOUTH        |

|             |                       |                |             |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| BCP COUNCIL | Multi-Storey Car Park | Madeira Road   | BOURNEMOUTH |
| BCP COUNCIL | Berry Court Car Park  | St Peters Road | BOURNEMOUTH |

## Equality Impact Assessment: Conversation Screening Tool

[Use this form to prompt an EIA conversation and capture the discussion. This completed form or if needed, a full EIA report (form 3) will be published as part of the decision-making process *\*Please delete prompts before publishing\**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>What is being reviewed?</b>           | Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) Renewal Ballot   |
| <b>What changes are being made?</b>      | <p>Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are business led partnerships which are created through a ballot process to deliver additional services to local businesses.</p> <p>A BID is a defined area in which a levy is charged on all business rate payers in addition to the business rates bill. This levy is used to develop projects which will benefit businesses in the local area. A BID is an independent company and not part of BCP Council, although the two work closely together.</p> <p>The Bournemouth Town Centre BID area covers the majority of the town centre. No operational changes are being made. Bournemouth Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) is preparing to undertake a renewal ballot for its third term from 2 March 2022 – 30 March 2022. The result of the ballot will be announced on 31 March 2022. A report is being taken to Cabinet to seek approval for the Council to support Bournemouth Town Centre BID for the third term.</p> <p>BCP Council is fully supportive of BIDs and the significant benefits and investment that they bring. The Bournemouth Town Centre BID proposal will help deliver the Council's strategic aims and objectives including the Dynamic Places objectives in the Corporate Plan. It has a strong track record of supporting businesses in the town centre and supporting innovative new projects. The Cabinet report recommends that BCP Council supports the Bournemouth Town Centre BID for its third 5-year term, which if successful will run from will run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027.</p> |
| <b>Service Unit:</b>                     | Development Services   |
| <b>Participants in the conversation:</b> | <p>Chris Shephard – Director, Development Services<br/>           Adrian Trevett – Economic Development Manager<br/>           Liz Orme - Economic Development Officer<br/>           Paula Sales – Economic Development Officer<br/>           Hannah Porter – Economic Development Officer</p> <p>In addition, as part of the consultation process for the new Business Plan, the BID has engaged with all levy paying businesses in the BID area.</p>   |

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| <b>Conversation date/s:</b>  | September – November 2021   |
| <b>Do you know your current or potential client base? Who are the key stakeholders?</b>  | BCP Council<br>Town Centre BID levy paying businesses<br>BID Business networking<br>Bournemouth Chamber of Trade and Commerce<br>R <sup>3</sup> Retail Hospitality and Leisure Group<br>BCP Residents   |
| <b>Do different groups have different needs or experiences?</b>  | The work of Town Centre BID is committed to responding to the needs of different groups, including those with protected characteristics. The nature of town centres is that they are a central and accessible hub for all cultures and communities. The intention would be that new projects or work outlined in the Business Plan to be undertaken by the BID over the next 5 year term in the town centre will take a positive and proactive view towards all visitors and residents, including, for example, the elderly, children and young people; those with physical and mental disabilities; people from different ethnic groups; people with different religions or beliefs; and people with different socio-economic status.  |
| <b>Will this change affect any service users?</b>  | The continuation of the work of the BID for another 5 year term will only have a positive impact on service users, as detailed above.<br><br>The intention would be that any new projects in the town centre undertaken by the BID take a positive and proactive view towards making them accessible to all.  |
| <b>[If the answer to any of the questions above is ‘don’t know’ then you need to gather more evidence. The best way to do this is to use forms 2 and 3. <i>*Please delete prompts before publishing*</i></b> |   |
| <b>What are the benefits or positive impacts of the change on current or potential users?</b>  | The nature of town centres and the objectives of the BID Business Plan will mean that there will be inherent benefits for all town centre users, aiming to be welcoming, attractive and useable for all groups. Examples of the positive works and services, which benefit the groups identified above, and are provided by the BID include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuation of the team of Town Centre Rangers and creation of a new Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP) to support the work of the Police in helping to make the town centre a safe and attractive place to live, work and visit.</li> <li>• Improving and enhancing the local environment, working in conjunction with BCP Council on the delivery of the Cleaner, Greener, Safer Strategy through street audits, joint deep cleaning projects and place improvement projects, for example Westover Road and Lansdowne.</li> <li>• Encouraging social responsibility and engagement through a calendar of free events such as trails and arts and culture events plus support for Christmas Tree Wonderland</li> </ul> |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving accessibility and wayfinding through improved signage within the town centre and Beach/Gardens to encourage all residents and visitors to visit</li> <li>• Support for local businesses and liaison with local trade and community groups, which in turn will improve local employment opportunities</li> </ul>   |
| <b>What are the negative impacts of the change on current or potential users?</b>                            | None currently known. When developing the projects from the Business Plan, the BID will consider any potential negative impacts although none are anticipated.   |
| <b>Will the change affect employees?</b>   | There will be no effect on employees as a result of this Strategy.   |
| <b>Will the change affect the wider community?</b>   | Yes, positively for the reasons outlined above.  |
| <b>What mitigating actions are planned or already in place for those negatively affected by this change?</b> | If negative impacts are predicted, these will be picked up as part of the development and implementation of the projects outlined in the BID Business Plan.  |
| <b>Summary of Equality Implications:</b>   | The nature of the town centre and the work of the Town Centre BID will help create a more inclusive and vibrant economy that will benefit all members of our community. Town centres are accessible, multifunctional community hubs, and the current and future projects undertaken by the BID will offer further advantage and opportunities to create positive and proactive experiences for town centre users across all groups. These will include a calendar of events, wayfinding and marketing activity, improved security, environmental enhancements and business and employment support. |

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