

# Notice of Cabinet



Date: Wednesday, 8 February 2023 at 10.15 am

Venue: Committee Room, First Floor, BCP Civic Centre Annex, St Stephen's Rd, Bournemouth BH2 6LL

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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 J Kelly

Cllr K Rampton

Cllr M White

### Lead Members

Cllr H Allen

Cllr S Baron

Cllr N Brooks

Cllr J J Butt

Cllr L Fear

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?MId=5356>

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

31 January 2023



Available online and  
on the Mod.gov app

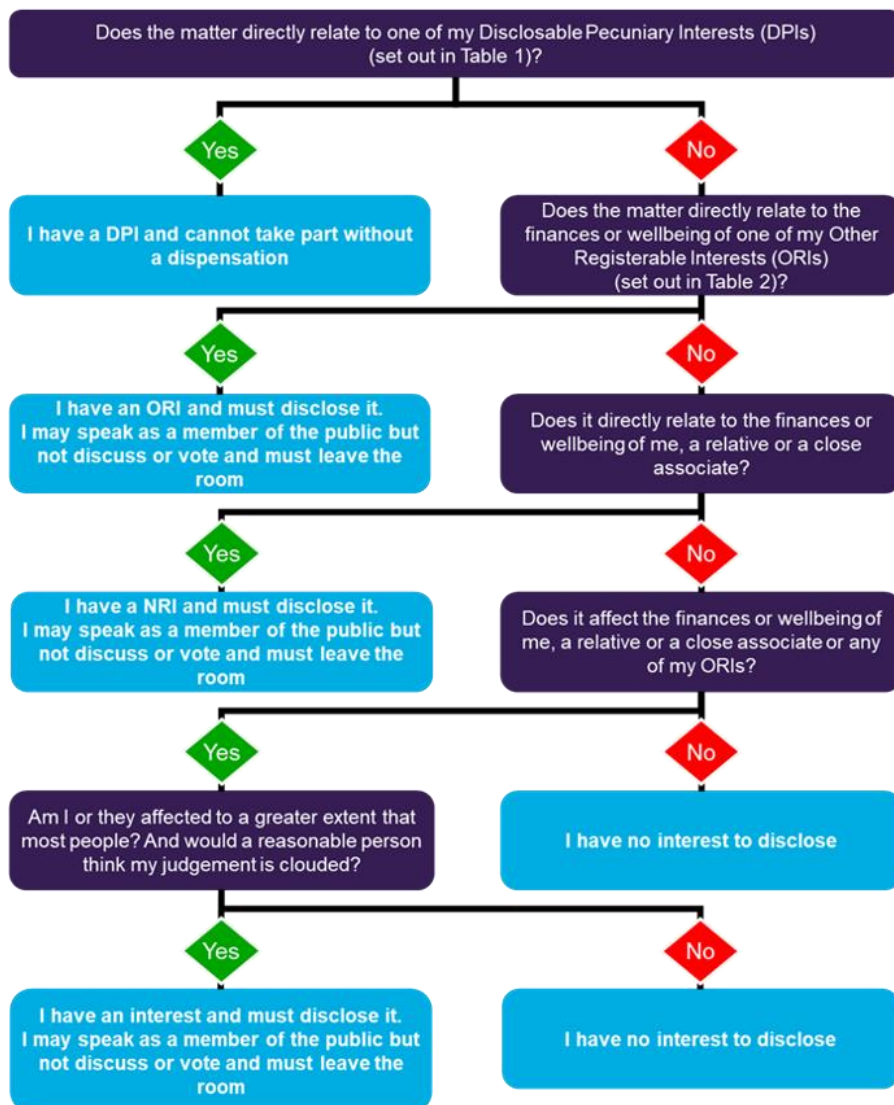


## Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

### 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 11 January 2023.

7 - 12

## 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 Committees

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

## 6. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Setting 2023/24

13 - 60

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a separate account within the council's budgets that ring-fences the income and expenditure associated with the council's homes.

It sets out the proposals regarding the rents, service charges and other charges to tenants and leaseholders. Arrangements for increasing rents and service charges are separate to arrangements for increasing fees elsewhere in the council and are set out in law and regulation. The report also sets out plans for expenditure on services to residents, repairs and improvements to homes and provision of new homes.

There are significant challenges facing the HRA including the cost-of-living crisis, higher inflation impacting on costs, building safety commitments, increased regulation and the need to ensure that homes are energy efficient.

In July 2022 the management of the council's homes in Poole was brought in-house. A new housing management service, BCP Homes, has been created to oversee the management of the council's HRA stock.

The proposals for the delivery of services are set out in the HRA Delivery Plan which supports the council's corporate strategy.

With inflation high, the government has set a cap of 7 per cent on rent increases that prevents rents rising in line with inflation as would normally be expected from April 2023/24. There are exceptions for sheltered housing or on re-lets where the normal inflationary increase is allowed. However, a 7 per cent increase will also be applied to sheltered housing.

Although significant increases for some service charges such as heating and electric charges are unavoidable, measures have been put in place to limit the increase in these charges.

## **7. Mainstream Schools and Early Years Funding Formulae 2023/24**

61 - 74

The council receives the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to fund the separate early years and mainstream schools funding formulae. The contents of each formula are highly regulated by the Department for Education (DfE). Consultations have been undertaken with each sector, with the School's Forum considering the outcomes on 16 January 2022 and making recommendations to the council.

The early years formula (for ages 2, 3 and 4) funds private, voluntary, and independent settings with a small number of nursery classes in mainstream schools and academies. The DSG funding rates have increased by 5.2% overall for 2023/24.

The mainstream schools formula (for reception to year 11) is applicable equally for maintained schools and academies. Funding for the for 2023/24 formula has increased by 2.4% from a combination of higher funding values, data changes and rising pupil numbers. There is an additional grant for mainstream schools with national allocation criteria worth a further 3.5%. There is surplus funding, estimated at only £0.185m, in the DSG schools block available to transfer to high needs. A higher level of transfer was proposed to the Schools Forum to be funded by capping the per pupil increases in school allocations, but this was not supported.

## **8. Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24**

75 - 342

To set out for Cabinet consideration and recommendation to Council the proposed 2023/24 budget and council tax based on.

- Increasing Council Tax by 2.99% in 2023/24 in line with the government's annual basic threshold.
- Collecting the full additional 2% Adult Social Care (ASC) precept in 2023/24.
- The implementation of £32.9m of savings and efficiencies from 1 April 2023 onwards (List 1).
- The implementation of £2.2m of additional savings and efficiencies from 1 July 2023 onwards (List 2).

## **9. Transforming Cities Fund End of Year Report**

343 - 486

To inform Cabinet of progress to date regarding the Department for Transport (DfT) based Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) award

To inform Cabinet of the DfT Year End Report for 2021/22 submitted in April 2022.

## **10. BCP FuturePlaces Ltd - Outline Business Case for Chapel Lane**

487 - 586

BCP FuturePlaces Ltd, ("FuturePlaces") a wholly owned Urban Regeneration Company (URC) was set up with the fundamental purpose to drive "Place Making", regeneration, and property market transformation both across key sites owned by the Council and the wider area to support the aspirations set out in the Council's Big Plan.

The FuturePlaces business plan approved by Cabinet in June 2022 lists the key sites the company has been tasked with progressing the regeneration of including part of the Chapel Lane Car Park.

This report sets out the outline business case (OBC) and highlights that FuturePlaces' recommended use for this site is that it is retained and developed out by the Council as a build to rent mixed-use residential scheme comprising ground floor commercial space and up to 27 new homes.

This option meets the Council's strategic objectives and delivers against the Big Plan: Rejuvenate Poole and Act at Scale by delivering new homes for local people and providing new ground floor commercial space to support the regeneration and revival of Poole Town Centre and High Street by securing additional flexible contemporary space to support employment.

Whilst the OBC considers the overall viability of the recommended option based on high level assumptions, the FBC will confirm the exact design, time, cost, and quality expectations as well as the proposed delivery pathway and overall affordability. It is only at FBC stage that firm consideration can be given as to whether it is still best to progress with the redevelopment proposal and the necessary commitment and funding approvals sought from the Council.

It is anticipated that upon completion of the scheme the new homes will be let by the Council's wholly owned company Seascope Homes and Property Ltd.

Cabinet is required to review the options outlined in the OBC and consider if the recommended option is the most appropriate and affordable in order to approve the progression of the regeneration of this site in accordance with the recommended use identified and progress with the preparation of an FBC.

## **11. Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: Reforms to National Planning Policy and Implications for the emerging Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Plan**

587 - 608

Government is currently consulting on changes to national planning policy to incentivise the preparation of local plans as the means to deliver more homes to meet its national targets. Government is aware that local plans delayed by contentious issues such as housing targets and allocations within the Green Belt are delaying plan making and resulting in less homes being built.

The implications for the emerging Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Plan are significant. The proposals strengthen the Council's position in demonstrating that the government's standard methodology figure of 2,800 homes per year is not achievable. The proposed changes to national policy suggest that a lower housing target can be found sound at examination, where local constraints and circumstances are considered. This allows the Council to prepare a draft plan without having to release Green Belt for housing development or plan for densities out of character with the current built environment.

In accordance with the Local Development Scheme the intention remains to publish a draft local plan in Autumn 2023, test it through examination and adopt it in late 2024.

There is new emphasis too on place making and protecting the character of places. An up-to-date local plan will provide greater protections to residential areas at risk from speculative high density flatted development as the Council will not be required to demonstrate a five-year land supply.

**12. Options to support the health of those facing homelessness**

609 - 616

The Cost-of-Living Crisis means that for many the risk of homelessness is increasing, the most vulnerable in our society are balancing heating vs food vs rental payments. The most devastating outcome is for those that lose their homes to end up sleeping rough. These individuals often have complex needs sometimes leading to entrenched negative behaviours and health issues.

At this time of crisis BCP Council wants to ensure we are supporting the most in need in our communities. We know that homeless individuals find it easier to work with and trust voluntary sector organisations. As a Council we want to enable our communities to do more to support those that are homeless.

This report sets out options for Cabinet to consider in order to increase the level of funding available to support homelessness charities in the BCP area. The aim of this funding is to increase the support those facing homelessness receive with a particular focus on health.

These options require a £50,000 annual revenue grant for 5 years and a one-off Capital grant of £250,000. The grants will be outcome based and the recipients would need to demonstrate each year that their work directly reduces the number of people rough sleeping in the BCP area and the health issues they experience.

**13. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)**

617 - 634

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK Government's Levelling Up agenda. BCP Council has been allocated nearly £4.2m for the 'main' UKSPF, and a further £1.7m for the Multiply programme.

On 5 December 2022 the Government approved the BCP Council Investment Plan (IP). Now that the IP has been approved, this report seeks Cabinet approval to formally accept the funding and deliver the 17 proposed interventions of the UKSPF.

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

The Chief Executive to report on any decisions taken under urgency provisions in accordance with the Constitution.

**15. Cabinet Forward Plan**

To Follow

To consider the latest version of the Cabinet Forward Plan for approval.

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.