### Notice of Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday, 19 July 2023 at 6.00 pm

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

#### Membership:

Chairman:

Cllr C Rigby

### Vice Chairman:

Cllr R Herrett

Cllr C Adams Cllr J Bagwell Cllr J Clements Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson Cllr J Martin Cllr S McCormack Cllr S Moore Cllr L Northover Cllr Dr F Rice

All Members of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee 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=5626

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Claire Johnston 01202 123663 or email democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 454668 or email press.office@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpcouncil.gov.uk

GRAHAM FARRANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

11 July 2023









#### 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	Predetermination 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?	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)

#### 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. Substitute Members

To receive information on any changes in the membership of the Committee.

Note – When a member of a Committee is unable to attend a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee, the relevant Political Group Leader (or their nominated representative) may, by notice to the Monitoring Officer (or their nominated representative) prior to the meeting, appoint a substitute member from within the same Political Group. The contact details on the front of this agenda should be used for notifications.

#### 3. 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.

#### 4. Confirmation of Minutes

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2023.

#### 5. 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=15 1&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.

#### 6. Families in Bed and Breakfast/Hotels

In response to the request from the committee, for a report on family homelessness demand, focusing on those placed in to Bed and Breakfast/Hotel accommodation, this report outlines the current position.

The approach and pathways to prevention, accommodation and support are detailed and data is provided in order to demonstrate the scale of the current

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challenge.

The paper sets out the programmes currently underway to respond to the demand and examines future demand to establish additional requirements. Options currently under consideration to meet these requirements are noted. The significant challenge of homelessness demand is the top priority for the Housing service and the BCP Homelessness Partnership. The partnership is holding an away day during the period between the writing of this report and the committee meeting itself. The Homelessness Partnership will be developing a targeted action plan and an update can be provided verbally at the O&S Committee meeting on 19 July.

#### 7. Planning Reforms

Government's planning reforms are set out in Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill that is currently proceeding through the House of Lords, with publication expected in late 2023. The Council responded positively to the government consultation on the proposals in early 2023.

Whilst the Bill continues to be amended it is unclear what the implications will be for the Local Plan. Promised quick changes to the NPPF have yet to materialise and this uncertainty over national policy on housing targets and Green Belt may delay progress with the Local Plan.

One area that the emerging Local Plan can address is ensuring new development contributes to meeting the climate change target of net zero carbon by 2050. The government's Future Homes Standard is due to be implemented in 2025 and will require homes to be built to reduce carbon emissions by 75-80%.

The emerging local plan is expected to be adopted by 2025 and its timing will align with this new approach. There is also the opportunity to aspire to higher targets, a key objective of the emerging local plan is to achieve carbon neutrality ahead of 2050.

This report focuses on the main aspects of emerging policy to ensure that new building address climate change. This report includes discussion on energy efficiency, carbon reduction, water efficiency, sustainable construction and green infrastructure/urban greening.

Whilst the Council can aspire to go beyond national standards, by introducing policies and standards of its own, there must be a balance. Build costs have soared since the pandemic and housebuilding has significantly slowed with great uncertainty in the economy moving forward. Loading development costs to seek policy outcomes may deter development with implications for the number of much needed homes built. A key question is what government grants will be available to support viability issues in the development industry?

#### 8. Work Plan

The Place Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee is asked to consider and identify work priorities for its next meeting pending a wider review of its Work Plan in a dedicated workshop.

#### 9. Future Meeting Dates

Future meetings for the Committee are scheduled for:

Wednesday 11 October 2023 Wednesday 6 December 2023 Wednesday 6 March 2024

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

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# Agenda Item 4

#### BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL

-1-

#### PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 31 May 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present:-

### Cllr C Rigby – Chairman Cllr R Herrett – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr C Adams, Cllr J Clements, Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson, Cllr J Martin, Cllr S McCormack, Cllr S Moore and Cllr L Northover

#### 1. <u>Apologies</u>

Apologies were received from Councillor Julie Bagwell and Councillor Dr Felicity Rice.

#### 2. <u>Substitute Members</u>

There were no substitute members on this occasion.

#### 3. <u>Election of Chair</u>

In accordance with the Constitution Meeting Procedure Rules the Chairman of the Council presided over the meeting for this item.

Nominations were received and seconded for Councillor David d'Orton-Gibson and Councillor Chris Rigby. The proposers and seconders of the nominees addressed the Committee to give reasons as to why the nominees should be elected as Chair. Following a secret ballot it was:

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Chris Rigby be elected Chair of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Voting: 7 in favour of Councillor Chris Rigby and 2 in favour of Councillor David d'Orton-Gibson

#### 4. <u>Election of Vice-Chair</u>

The Chair of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee presided over this item and sought nominations for Vice-Chair. A nomination was received and seconded for Councillor Richard Herrett. No further nominations were received.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Richard Herrett be elected Vice-Chair of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Voting: Unanimous

#### 5. <u>Declarations of Interests</u>

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

#### 6. <u>Confirmation of Minutes</u>

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### 7. <u>Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report</u>

The Scrutiny Specialist 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, in addition when presenting the Scrutiny Specialist referred to a power point presentation a copy of which is published on the Councils website.

The Committee was advised that Overview and Scrutiny is a statutory function of all councils operating an executive model of decision making.

In relation to this the Committee was advised that in BCP Council, O&S activity is carried out by four O&S committees formed of councillors and coopted members.

In addition, the Committee was informed that there is a requirement to report on the work of O&S to Council, to ensure good visibility of the function and Council ownership of any improvements required.

The Committee was advised that the annual report contains a summary of O&S activity undertaken over 2019-23, reflections on working practices and an action plan identifying strategic improvements to the O&S function.

In relation to this the Committee was informed that all O&S Committees will receive the annual report for consideration, providing opportunity for comment prior to the supply of the final report to Council.

In discussion Members commented on:

- Welcoming the opportunity to reboot O&S in this new council term;
- Recognising the importance of culture to effective O&S;
- A desire to work more collaboratively and influence policy for the benefit of residents;
- Anticipated structural changes to O&S that would see the Place O&S Committee give greater focus to climate, environment and sustainability matters. In relation to this, the Chairman asked the committee to provide him with any comments that they may have on the future remit of the Place O&S Committee.

#### RESOLVED that: -

#### The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered and commented on the annual report and associated action plan.

Voting: Unanimous

#### 8. Forward Plan

The Scrutiny Specialist 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.

The Committee was asked to consider and identify work priorities for its next meeting pending a wider review of its Forward Plan in dedicated workshop.

The Committee discussed items for the next meeting in July and highlighted the Planning Reform and the use of B&Bs for families as priority areas for the next meeting.

In relation to this the Chair highlighted that there were still seven items on the future forward plan which had been identified in the previous municipal year, and that these items would need to be considered at the forward planning workshop in terms of whether they were to remain on the forward plan.

In addition the Committee were requested to consider appointments to the Tree Strategy Working Group to re-establish the membership for the new municipal year.

#### **RESOLVED** that: -

- (a) the O&S Committee considered and agreed the following priorities for its next meeting, for subsequent publication in a Forward Plan:
  - Planning Reforms
  - The use of B&Bs for families
- (b) Appointments be made to the Tree Strategy Working group to re-establish the membership for the new municipal year.

Voting: Unanimous

#### 9. <u>Future Meeting Dates</u>

The Committee noted the current schedule of Place O & S Committee Meetings for the 2023/24 Municipal Year as follows:

6.00pm Wednesday 19 July 20236.00pm Wednesday 11 October 20236.00pm Wednesday 6 December 20236.00pm Wednesday 28 February 2023

The meeting ended at 8.12 pm

#### <u>CHAIRMAN</u>

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# Agenda Item 6



# PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Report subject	Families in Bed and Breakfast/Hotels
Meeting date	19 July 2023
Status	Public Report
	In response to the request from the committee, for a report on family homelessness demand, focusing on those placed in to Bed and Breakfast/Hotel accommodation, this report outlines the current position.
	The approach and pathways to prevention, accommodation and support are detailed and data is provided in order to demonstrate the scale of the current challenge.
	The paper sets out the programmes currently underway to respond to the demand and examines future demand to establish additional requirements. Options currently under consideration to meet these requirements are noted.
	The significant challenge of homelessness demand is the top priority for the Housing service and the BCP Homelessness Partnership. The partnership is holding an away day during the period between the writing of this report and the committee meeting itself. The Homelessness Partnership will be developing a targeted action plan and an update can be provided verbally at the O&S Committee meeting on 19 July.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that:
	<ul> <li>i) Members note the content of the report.</li> <li>ii) Members consider how they may wish to be involved in future scrutiny.</li> </ul>
Reason for recommendations	This report is intended to raise awareness of the challenges relating to family homelessness and the direction of travel that the council and it's partners are taking to tackle this. A detailed action plan is to follow and will be approved and overseen by the Homelessness Reduction Board. This report is therefore a position statement and further developments can be reported on at future Overview and Scrutiny sessions.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Kieron Wilson – Cabinet Member for Homes & Regulation
Corporate Director	Jess Gibbons, Chief Operating Officer

Report Authors	Kelly Ansell - Director of Housing & Communities Ben Tomlin – Head of Strategic Housing & Partnerships
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For update and information

#### Background

#### **Homelessness Reduction Board**

- The <u>Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 21-25</u> was co-produced with the BCP Homelessness Partnership and approved by Council in April 2021. The strategy and action plan is monitored by the Homelessness Reduction Board, with a range of Action Groups delivering its key objectives. The strategy focuses on the following priorities which relate to family temporary accommodation;
- Continue to focus resources into the **prevention of homelessness**
- Increased settled move on supply
- Secure the best value for money with any temporary accommodation
- 2. This paper focuses on homelessness from the perspective of families, however there are also a number of priorities relating to single people and couples which form part of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

#### The Council's Duty

- 3. As the Housing Authority, the Council is required to assess a persons homelessness under the terms of the 1996 Housing Act (amended by Homelessness Reduction Act 2017). Whilst the assessment is complex, in most cases for families and vulnerable adults, a statutory responsibility is placed upon the Council to provide an offer of a suitable home.
- 4. The key methods the Council uses to discharge this responsibility are:
  - Agreeing a return to the last previous accommodation through support and intervention
  - Identifying a suitable alternative private rented sector tenancy
  - Providing an allocation of social or supported housing
  - Providing an offer of a tenancy managed by the Councils wholly owed company, Seascape Homes & Property.
- 5. Homelessness legislation requires each housing authority to prevent homelessness where possible and where a household becomes homeless, investigate the circumstances for this including the support and housing solutions required to alleviate it. Housing and Children's services work closely together with families who are impacted by homelessness, dedicated Housing Family Outreach Workers and a Family Support and Inclusion worker ensure there is focus upon Early Help and social care needs of families who need additional support.

#### The Homelessness Prevention Duty

- 6. Families can be threatened with homelessness for a range of different reasons. The Housing Options team, working alongside other relevant partners, provide every resident threatened with homelessness with a personal housing and support plan to prevent or relieve their homelessness. Specialist support roles exist across the service to meet a range of family needs, from financial resilience support, family reconciliation and early help to direct tenancy support and landlord negotiation.
- 7. Evidence illustrates that the earlier support and interventions are provided to someone threatened with homelessness, the greater the likelihood a household will avoid becoming homeless and require interim housing support. Households are therefore encouraged to seek advice and support at the earliest opportunity.

#### Temporary Accommodation – Bed & Breakfast (B&B)

- 8. The Council uses local B&Bs and hotels to provide interim housing for families. Families who currently become homeless are offered B&B accommodation which is available in as suitable an area to their schooling, employment, support network and or childcare as possible. Due to the limited availability of suitable B&B / hotel provision in terms of cost, standard and availability, families are sometimes placed in areas which is not always their preferred location. It is extremely rare for temporary housing to be provided outside the BCP area.
- 9. Every family staying in any type of temporary accommodation has an allocated Housing Options Officer, who will investigate homelessness and coordinate and agree a Personalised Housing Plan, with a Support and Inclusion Officer also assigned to provide ongoing support across a broad range of generic support needs including enabling effective move-on planning.
- 10. The average length of stay for a family in B&B / hotels is currently 8 weeks. Every effort is made to support families to secure settled housing as soon as possible. However, where this is not possible, move-on from B&B is enabled to either self-contained property or to a shared hostel. Self-contained accommodation is prioritised for families with more children or where there are additional needs with any household member. This can relate to a physical or mental health issue, social or learning difficulty. Sensitive matches are carried out on a case by case basis, with length of time spent in B&B a key factor. Longer family stays in B&B are typically due to the limited availability of larger properties.
- 11. Of the circa 230 households currently occupying B&B/Hotel accommodation, 100 are families. Placements of families by month into interim temporary B&B/Hotels is illustrated below. There has been a 216% increase in family B&B placements in the past year, driven largely by private rental evictions, coupled with reduced supply of affordable housing for move-on. Monthly demand is illustrated in the chart below;



12. The homelessness legislation dictates that the maximum length of stay in B&B/hotel accommodation should be no longer than 6 weeks (42 days). As a result of the pressures described, the length of stay in B&B/hotels has consequently increased above this threshold for some families, affecting 40 of the 100 families currently placed. The table below shows the increase in length of stay from Q1 of 22/23 which peaked at 66.7 days in Q4;



- 13. In comparison to other Councils, BCP has an average number of households in Temporary Accommodation (TA), however a disproportionately high number in B&B / hotels. In the past year, overall homelessness enquiry demand has increased by 19% and overall TA use has increased by 23% (587 households). Despite the challenges, households where interventions have prevented homelessness has increased by 5%.
- 14. The Council has recently been selected, as one of six areas in the UK, to take part in 'Homewards', a transformative five-year, locally led programme that will aim to demonstrate that together it's possible to end homelessness making it rare, brief and unrepeated. BCP Council alongside the Homelessness Partnership will have new space, tools and relationships to show what can be achieved by working together and focusing on preventing family homelessness.

#### Other Temporary Accommodation (TA)

15. The table below illustrates the provision of self contained temporary accommodation homes in BCP. These homes are provided both on a furnished and unfurnished basis. The rent is provided at affordable rent levels.

Self Contained Homes	Number
Council Owned (General Fund) 22	
Council Owned (Housing Revenue Account)	21
Private Lease Arrangement (inc Housing	59
Association)	
Housing Association Temporary Housing	40
Total	142

- 16. Temporary Housing for families is also provided in shared hostels, where there are 43 rooms over 3 sites, where kitchens and bathroom facilities are shared. For 2022/23 the average stay in self-contained Temporary Housing was 65 weeks and 18 weeks in shared hostels.
- 17. Families stay longer in self contained temporary accommodation for different reasons. These households are generally larger and the supply and availability of settled large family homes is more limited, making move on challenging. Families become more settled in self-contained housing and are more specific about move-on requirements, compared to families who share facilities, where access to the comfort and benefits of a self contained housing changes families decisions in housing choices.

#### **Reasons for Homelessness**



18. The reasons for homelessness for families is illustrated below;

19. Increases in family placements into temporary accommodation have been driven by Private Rented Sector (PRS) evictions and increasingly limited access to the affordable PRS sector, which was previously used more frequently to relieve homelessness. The end of private rented tenancies, most commonly due to landlord sale or where the landlord intends to return to live in the property, is the primary factor in local homelessness demand. Family and friend breakdown is the secondary key cause. Homelessness demand is driven overwhelmingly by circumstances which are beyond the control of the households being impacted, with only a minority of families requiring additional support to sustain a home.

#### **National Research and Best Practice**

- 20. Efforts to improve our understanding of 'what works' locally and nationally has identified some key interventions critical to ending homelessness in a locality;
- Supported families in settled housing is critical to reducing homelessness and relieving pressures on the social care, health and criminal justice sectors.
- Financial support and advice can prevent repeat homelessness
- Programmes that support people leaving prison or hospital can reduce homelessness
- Extending support for young adults leaving social care improves outcomes
- Providing access to alternative secure accommodation is important for people leaving unsafe environments.
- Stable housing with support can work for people with long histories of homelessness
- Supporting people with their healthcare needs can help improve housing stability
- Support services need to consider individual needs to be most effective
- Training staff who work with people impacted by homelessness in Psychologically Informed Environments, Trauma Informed Care, Strength Based Practice BP
- 21. The Council provides all of the above services to varying degree, some internally, some commissioned and importantly, in partnership with statutory & the Voluntary & Community Sector. Services that prevent the need for temporary accommodation are as important, if not more important than services in place to help when someone becomes homeless.

#### Forecasting Future Demand & Throughput

- 22. Forecasting the impact of homelessness demand is challenging, however there are a number of current Government policies and socio-economic factors which are likely to generate new and or additional demand in the system this year and beyond;
- The ongoing impact of cost of living, inflation and associated household pressures impacting the stability of family / friends housing relationships, including domestic abuse.
- Rent reform uncertainty and a shrinking of the affordable Private Rented Sector market, including rising interest rates
- Additional Refugee housing demands following Afghan bridging hotel closures, Homes4Ukraine housing demand and additional Asylum Seeker application fasttrack approvals requiring housing.
- 23. 2023 has seen a stabilising of numbers in temporary accommodation despite an overall continued increase in demand. This is largely due to improvements in recruitment of a stable housing options team workforce without agency dependency and increased targeting of social lets to households in temporary accommodation. The national policy factors described above are likely to generate an ongoing 20%

increase in demand.

24. Typically, monthly throughput (exiting from Temporary Accommodation) is currently achieved through;

Move on/throughput	Projected number per month
Maintaining an increased proportion of general needs social lets	18
(over 70%) to households in temporary accommodation, via direct	
letting or emergency banding.	
Supported Housing allocations	8
Private Rented Sector using Rent Deposit and / or landlord incentive	6
Family / Friends	5
Other accommodation or return (prevention)	8
Abandonment / lost contact	8
Total	53

#### Housing Delivery Pipeline

- 25. To end the use of B&B, 230 new homes are required overall, 100 of which would be required for family demand. In addition, a net total of 120 homes per annum is required to meet an ongoing forecasted demand.
- 26. A number of developments and programmes are in place/underway as summarised below;

Temporary Accommodation Delivery Programme (all households)	Total Number of Homes 2023/24	Number of Family Homes 2023/24	Total Number of Homes 2024/25	Number of Family Homes 2024/25
Herbert Avenue development	24	24		
Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF 1)	25	25		
Local Authority Housing Fund			10	10
(LAHF 2)				
Help To Let / PRS procurement	24	30	12	12
Single Homeless Accommodation	39	0	31	0
Programme (Supported Housing)				
Additional Homelessness	12	12	24	24
Prevention				
Total Delivery Homes	124	91	77	46
Forecasted				

27. Taking account of the new homes expected through these programmes and the throughput/move on outlined at para 24, the net requirement for additional new homes to meet family homelessness demand in 2023/24 is 36 plus 50 in 2024/25. Additional homes would be required to further reduce families staying in other forms of temporary accommodation.

#### **Future Options & Next Steps**

- 28. The Homelessness Reduction Board are holding an away day in July to agree priorities for the next 12 months and to appraise current strategy action plan. A deep dive and review of the approach to family homelessness is a focus of the day. The following future options will be included within that strategy discussion to support reduction in Bed & Breakfast use and reducing time spent in other TA;
- Prioritise interventions which are most effective at Preventing family homelessness. This includes improving our early help support offer to families where threat of homelessness triggers are identified and working with landlords whose tenants breach tenancy or license conditions.
- Appraise a range of different temporary and settled accommodation solutions which increase suitable and affordable homes for families. To consider interim use of existing development sites and different models of build, such as modular construction as well as extended landlord incentive schemes and leasing models.
- Complete a value for money review of existing temporary accommodation. Identifying processes and procedures which could be improved, such as how we use hostels, furnished homes for TA and provide homes for people, their pets and belongings.
- Commission 'Oracle' (homelessness lived experience group, BCP Homelessness Partnership) to engage families impacted by homelessness and experiencing temporary accommodation to provide valuable insight to inform future temporary accommodation arrangements.
- 29. The Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy and action plan to address family homelessness will be updated following this review and is currently on the Cabinet Forward Plan for the Autumn, allowing opportunity for further scrutiny and review of the arrangements once further work has been completed.

#### Summary of financial implications

- 30. The gross cost of homeless B&B provision to the Council in 2022/23 was c. £4m, with around 25% recoverable from Housing Benefit / Universal Credit. The service budget is c. £300k with net cost managed through receipt of ring fenced government grant (including legacy reserve which is exhausted in 23/24).
- 31. The current MTFP forecast for temporary accommodation (B&B) indicates a £250,000 pressure for 23/24 and £2.2m for 24/25 and the proceeding 3 years. The updated forecast pressure is expected following 22/23 outturn.
- 32. The Council receives over £4m of ringfenced related homelessness grant each year, the majority covering the cost of TA. National strategy supports the use of grant for prevention services rather than direct TA costs.
- 33. The temporary accommodation value for money review will consider the following indicators to support a local approach.
  - Use of cost and effectiveness data to take a strategic approach to stock management and procurement;

- Use of TA that is as low cost as possible;
- Use of TA that is fully fit for purpose;
- Use of TA that is as short as possible and enables people that are homeless to move on to settled accommodation as rapidly as is feasible.

#### Summary of legal implications

- 34. Statutory homelessness provisions provide that homeless families should not be placed in B&B or hotels for more than 6 weeks. The Council is at risk of Judicial Review when this occurs.
- 35. This risk is detailed on the Housing service risk register and corporate performance exception report, relating to a specific KPI.

#### Summary of human resources implications

36. There are no direct human resources implications to this report. However, it should be noted that housing staff work exceptionally hard in often very challenging circumstances, to prevent and relieve homelessness. Current caseloads are high. The resilience of staff working in the service is a priority. Whilst the current position is challenging, the performance of the staff results in countless households avoiding homelessness and being settled in to accommodation following their stay in Bed and Breakfast/Hotel.

#### Summary of sustainability impact

- 37. A sustainable development scheme of 24 new homes at Herbert Avenue, Poole will become available for homeless families in September 2023. The new homes will be a range of one, two and three-bedroom apartments, plus three accessible apartments.
- 38. These energy efficient homes are being built to Low Passivhaus standards to provide lower fuel bills and fitted with mechanical ventilation and heat recovery units (MVHR), as well as air source hot water units.

#### Summary of public health implications

- 39. People experiencing homelessness face significant health inequalities and poorer health outcomes than the rest of the population. The homeless population face barriers to accessing health and social care services including stigma and discrimination, a lack of trusted contacts, and often more rigid eligibility criteria for accessing services. This can include families staying in insecure housing settings and temporary accommodation.
- 40. Targeted approaches to support homeless families have the same standard of health and social care as those in settled housing, are required. A range of national and good practice guidance exists which emphasises the importance of understanding the specific needs of families, so health and social care professionals are able to provide them the services they require in a sensitive and flexible way.

#### Summary of equality implications

41. The Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy which underpins the approach provided to families and potential families reflects on protected characteristics and

other vulnerabilities, seeking to achieve positive outcomes for all. An Equality Impact Assessment outlines the need to ensure families with certain characteristics require additional help and support accessing the services they need, particularly when homeless.

#### Summary of risk assessment

42. Compliance with the statutory requirement to ensure families spend no more than 6 weeks in B&B is the greatest area of risk, Whilst an operational plan to reduce the number of families in B&B has been agreed with the Housing Advice and Support Team at the Department of Levelling Up Housing & Communities, the increased delivery of new homes for families impacted by homelessness remains the most viable option to alleviate current and future demand.

# Agenda Item 7

# PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



Report subject	Planning Reforms
Meeting date	19 July 2023
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	Government's planning reforms are set out in Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill that is currently proceeding through the House of Lords, with publication expected in late 2023. The Council responded positively to the government consultation on the proposals in early 2023.
	Whilst the Bill continues to be amended it is unclear what the implications will be for the Local Plan. Promised quick changes to the NPPF have yet to materialise and this uncertainty over national policy on housing targets and Green Belt may delay progress with the Local Plan.
	One area that the emerging Local Plan can address is ensuring new development contributes to meeting the climate change target of net zero carbon by 2050. The government's Future Homes Standard is due to be implemented in 2025 and will require homes to be built to reduce carbon emissions by 75-80%.
	The emerging local plan is expected to be adopted by 2025 and its timing will align with this new approach. There is also the opportunity to aspire to higher targets, a key objective of the emerging local plan is to achieve carbon neutrality ahead of 2050.
	This report focuses on the main aspects of emerging policy to ensure that new building address climate change. This report includes discussion on energy efficiency, carbon reduction, water efficiency, sustainable construction and green infrastructure/urban greening.
	Whilst the Council can aspire to go beyond national standards, by introducing policies and standards of its own, there must be a balance. Build costs have soared since the pandemic and housebuilding has significantly slowed with great uncertainty in the economy moving forward. Loading development costs to seek policy outcomes may deter development with implications for the number of much needed homes built. A key question is what government grants will be available to support viability issues in the development industry?

Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that:
	The Committee notes the report and comments.
Reason for recommendations	In 2019, the Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency recognising that habitats and species have a limit in their ability to adapt to climate change. The commitment has made a pledge to make the Council's operations carbon neutral by 2030 and the BCP area carbon neutral by 2050.
	The emerging BCP Local Plan provides the opportunity to ensure new development achieves these targets and aspires to meet them more quickly.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Vikki Slade - Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Dynamic Places
Corporate Director	Jess Gibbons, Chief Operations Officer
Report Authors	Steve Dring, Interim Planning Policy Manager
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Information

#### Background

- 1. The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Plan is being produced to set a new overarching and cohesive development strategy for the area. It will set out how much, where and what type of development will take place across the area, giving the Council control over development decisions. The Local Plan will be critical in helping to deliver the Council's emerging corporate objectives and will help raise the quality of development.
- The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DHLUC) is proposing a raft of planning reforms through the emerging Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB) 2022 that include:
  - A new quicker plan-making process seeing local plans prepared and adopted within 30 months.
  - National Development Management Policies covering issues that apply across most areas and will carry the same weight as local plans.
  - Supplementary Plans would replace supplementary planning documents (SPD) with a requirement to for the Plan to be examined;
  - Environmental Outcomes Reports to replace Environmental Impact Assessment;
  - A new Infrastructure Levy to replace CIL with the charge based on the sales values achieved by the development rather than up front assumptions;

- Replacement of the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities;
- Mandatory requirement for each authority to produce a design code for its area and which will have full weight in making decisions on development;
- Neighbourhood Priorities Statements to provide communities with a simpler way to set out the community's key priorities and preferences for their local areas.
- Moving away from 'planning by appeal', by giving more weight and certainty to up-to-date local plans by applying protections for the first five years of the plan period;
- Increase in nationally set planning fees and development of planning skills to assist with the nationwide shortage of planning professionals
- New commencement notices when development starts on site, addressing perceptions of 'land banking' and slow build out by larger developers.
- More pre-application engagement by developers with communities to identify issues that often extend the planning application process;
- Penalising developers for failing to build out schemes;
- Allowing residents on a street to bring forward proposals to extend or redevelop their properties, voted for through a referendum of residents from that street, to determine if they should be given planning permission;
- Extend the enforcement period for action from four to ten years;
- New requirements for water treatment companies to deal with phosphates in water courses that impact upon housing delivery; and
- Digital transformation of planning services.
- 3. As well as these planning reforms, the Environment Act 2021 will make it mandatory for qualifying development to demonstrate delivery of a net gain in biodiversity when it comes into force in November 2023.
- 4. The Council response to DHLUC's 58 consultation questions was agreed by Cabinet on 8 February 2023 (<u>Item 120</u>). Government has yet to publish its response to the consultation, nor make the proposed changes to the NPPF, which it had identified for Spring 2023. The LURB Act is currently being debated in the House of Lords, with many amendments tabled.
- 5. This uncertainty over national planning policy has implications for the BCP Local Plan, in particular the approach to setting a housing target in the Local Plan and the protections afforded to the Green Belt. These delays at a national level may cause a delay to the BCP Local Plan timetable, due to lack of certainty about national policy.
- 6. The BCP Local Plan will be prepared under the current local plan making process, rather than wait for the proposed 30-month system that will be introduced in 2025. The Council needs a single local plan to simplify over 300 policies into under 100 policies, provide a consistent approach rather than 3 different approaches, and to adopt an up-to-date plan with a 5 year supply of housing sites to avoid 'planning by appeal'.
- 7. Due to the lack of detail and certainty around these planning reforms, this report focusses on how the emerging BCP Local Plan can ensure new development

addresses climate change. While there are many challenges the BCP Local Plan must address, climate change is one of the most critical issues to consider. However, the LURB does not provide a clear approach for planning system to help meet net zero by 2050.

#### Addressing Climate Change through planning policy

- 8. Effective spatial planning can help our environment increase its resilience and adaptation to climate change. As it adapts, we must take every opportunity to mitigate the impacts of new development. Our actions must be both complementary and influential if we are to achieve sustainable development and fulfil our legal duties and obligations as set out below:
  - The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires development plans to contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change;
  - The Planning and Energy Act (2008) states that policies in development plans can impose reasonable standards that exceed energy requirements of Building Regulations as long as they are not inconsistent with national policy;
  - The Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended by the Target Amendment Order 2019) requires the net UK carbon account for 2050 to be at least 100% lower than the 1990 baseline levels of CO2 for that year; and
  - The UN Paris Climate Agreement (2015) called for countries to act to address climate change and limit global temperature rise to below 2 degrees Celsius.
- 9. This legislation is supported by the NPPF which states that addressing climate change is a core land use planning principle. The NPPF states that the planning system should support transition to a low carbon economy, taking a positive and proactive approach to protect and enhance our environment through appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures to limit the impacts of climate change.
- 10. For plan-making this means promoting development in sustainable locations to reduce the need to travel, aligning growth and infrastructure provision, making effective use of land in meeting needs for homes and businesses and reducing greenhouse gas emissions through a broad range of measures such as requiring energy efficient development and increased use of renewable and low carbon energy and heat. The NPPF also refers to the 17 global goals of sustainable development (2015) which the UK have agreed to pursue to 2030, which together will enable a better and more sustainable future for all.
- 11. Building on the UK commitment, in 2019, BCP Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency recognising that habitats and species have a limit in their ability to adapt to climate change. The commitment has made a pledge to make the Council's operations carbon neutral by 2030 and the BCP area carbon neutral by 2050. This means the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced should be balanced with the same amount sequestered (captured and stored) or offset (made up for by sponsoring carbon activities elsewhere). The emerging BCP Local covers the period 2023-2038 and therefore will provide an important stepping stone in reaching these targets.
- 12. The Council has reduced its operational emissions by 22% since 2019 and is on track to meet its pledge. In the BCP area emissions have only reduced by 3% below the 2017 baseline and it will be more challenging to meet the carbon neutral target for the whole area, therefore a greater push to address that commitment needs to be made.

- 13. Recent changes to the Building Regulations Part L came into effect in 2022 requires new development (including renovations and extensions) to demonstrate 31% reduction in carbon emissions as compared with Part L (2013) emissions. In the same year, a new Approved Document Part O also came into effect to address and mitigate for overheating in residential development.
- 14. The government is committed to further improving the comfort and thermal efficiency of new development by introducing tighter carbon emissions standards through mandatory building regulations for new domestic and non-domestic buildings. From 2025, the Future Homes Standard will require CO2 emissions produced by new homes to be 75-80% lower than those built to current standards. The remaining 20-25% will come from future greening of the national grid. Homes will need to be 'zero carbon ready', with no retrofit work required to benefit from the decarbonisation of the electricity grid and the electrification of heating. Fossil fuel heating (such as gas boilers) will be banned in new homes, with an expected shift to reliance on heat pumps and heat networks.

#### Implications for the emerging BCP Local Plan

- 15. The NPPF is clear that planning policies must be positive and justified and may be aspirational but should be proportionate and deliverable. The emerging Local Plan sets the challenging draft objective to 'Achieve carbon neutrality ahead of 2050, taking action to combat the climate and ecological emergency'.
- 16. One of the most difficult challenges for the local plan are the current viability issues, with housebuilding significantly declining post pandemic (1,703 new homes in 2019/20, 832 new homes in 2020/21 and 696 new homes in 2021/22), due largely to higher build costs. Therefore, the BCP Local Plan needs to carefully consider what additional policy costs it places upon development, when competing with other policy demands for development to fund affordable housing, infrastructure and flood defences.
- 17. To help address climate change, the emerging BCP Local Plan can require new development to mitigate the impacts of climate change by:
  - Minimising the need to travel by allocating sites and directing development to locations with local services and facilities, or where they are capable of being improved, to help minimise greenhouse gas emissions and maintain air quality;
  - Being designed to maximise energy efficiency and minimise energy consumption to ensure total regulated and unregulated operational energy consumption is reduced;
  - Improving its potential to reduce its overall carbon footprint during construction by assessing the embodied energy in construction methods, transportation, plant and materials;
  - Prioritising the reuse of structures and building facades, demolition materials, recycled materials and/or locally/sustainably sourced low carbon building materials;
  - Adopting water efficiency standards to contribute to reducing consumption of operational water usage, including recycling and reuse of greywater and rainwater to alleviate water stress now and in the future;
  - Supporting the delivery of decentralised community renewable energy schemes including heat networks, district heating schemes and cogeneration technology.

- Supporting renewable energy use and low carbon energy generation in new residential development, conversions and changes of uses and in non-residential schemes;
- Encouraging appropriate infrastructure needed to support sustainable energy production for power and storage, as part of the decarbonising of the Energy grid;
- Ensuring space is provided for electric vehicle charging infrastructure for electric vehicles;
- Embracing technological and innovative advances in digitisation, connectivity, and communications to enable transition to low carbon future.
- Guiding development to areas of lowest flood risk from all sources of flooding (tidal, coastal and fluvial); and
- Use sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to manage surface water (pluvial) drainage and help reduce the risk of flooding, including groundwater flooding.
- 18. The BCP Local Plan can also require new development to adapt to the impacts of climate change and put into action measures which:
  - Reduce urban heat island effect through the use of building materials, trees, landscaping and green roofs to address potential site microclimate impacts;
  - Integrate green and blue infrastructure into the design of developments through approaches including biodiversity net gain and urban greening which will help to reduce carbon dioxide concentrations and other harmful emissions to mitigate the urban heat island effect; and
  - Ensure development addresses flood risk.

#### Carbon Reduction

- 19. The council's Climate Action Strategy (2023-2028)<sup>1</sup> states that it is currently on track to meet its 2030 operational net zero carbon reduction target, having reduced its scope 1, 2 and 3 direct emissions by 22% since 2019<sup>2</sup>. However, this only accounts for 1-2% of the BCP area-wide footprint. According to current data, released in 2022, BCP area emissions in 2020 rose by 0.7% but were still 3% below the 2017 baseline. It is therefore vital that action is taken to speed up the reduction of area wide emissions to meet the Climate and Ecological Emergency targets and government targets by 2050.
- 20. Future development will be a significant contributor to increased energy demand and increases in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within our area. Currently the two highest contributors of carbon emissions come from buildings and transport. Buildings in our area produce 56% of the total carbon emissions (excluding emissions for construction and electricity used), with 32% coming from residential development. Transport accounts for 32% of carbon emissions with 20% coming from road users.
- 21. The Council will continue to take a leading role in championing, influencing, and securing carbon reduction with its own operations and produce a corporate strategy which reflects this priority. In the meantime, the Council's Climate Action Plan sets out a range of measures to deliver carbon reduction improvements across a number of strategic themes including; people and communities, business and economy,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BCP Council Climate Action Strategy 2023-2028

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> BCP Council Climate Action Programme Action Plan 2023-2025

digital and smart places, transport and travel, water resources and flooding, energy generation and use, buildings and homes, resources and waste, environment and place.

- 22. The Council can ensure that development enhance's the natural environment and respect environmental limits so that resources are not depleted, and carbon sinks and processes are not irreversibly damaged. Sustainable growth should take place with appropriate adaptation measures to enable the environment to be resilient to climate change and mitigate the impacts of development.
- 23. The emerging BCP Local Plan will focus development on brownfield land to protect our environment, conserve and strengthen habitats and species, and promote sustainable management and use of natural assets and resources and rely less on fossil fuel reserves.

#### Sustainable construction

- 24. The Planning and Energy Act 2008 allows for development plan policies to impose higher energy performance standards beyond building regulations. For residential development, this can be up to the equivalent of 20% above building regulations. There are no restrictions on setting performance targets for non-residential development. The provisions of the Act also allow for plan policies to impose reasonable requirements for a proportion of energy used in development to come from renewable sources. When setting local level requirements, this must be done in a way that is consistent with the government's zero carbon ambitions, viability and in accordance with the outcomes of the housing standards review which includes water efficiency and space standards.
- 25. In 2022 we consulted on the BCP Local Plan Issues and Options. We asked whether new developments should either comply with national building regulations (Part L) or go beyond building regulations (Part L). The respondents were supportive of both options (46% supported option 1, and 85% supported option 2). Most respondents indicated that they would support a higher local energy efficiency standard for all new development. There were further specific comments and suggestions setting out the reasons for preferred Option 2. These included the need for a bigger focus on reducing environmental impact and carbon emissions, the positive impact of energy efficient homes on helping to alleviate fuel poverty. Supporters of option 2 felt that the council should encourage best practice for new buildings, including Passivhaus principles, and ensuring new development uses renewable energy and uses heat networks.
- 26. The Council is building affordable housing to Passivhaus standard and this should set the standard for all housing. It should be noted the Council receives government housing grant to help deliver affordable housing.
- 27. To make homes net zero ready to include solar voltaics, grey water recycling and heat pumps (air source or ground source) to replace traditional gas boilers increases build costs by £6,000 per flat and £9,000 per house.
- 28. Developers are concerned about the viability impact of going beyond building regulations on the delivery of other priorities including affordable housing and infrastructure. They point to that fact that higher energy efficiency will be achieved anyway through implementation of the 2025 Future Homes Standard.
- 29. The Future Homes Standard will come into effect through the Building Regulations in 2025, around the same time as the Local Plan is adopted and becomes Council

policy. The BCP Local Plan will support these changes to the Building Regulations but could go further. For example, the development industry argue that these new government standards will not address finer details of heat loss including thermal bridging, airtightness, ventilation or promote increased use of renewable or low carbon energy as part of the design.

- 30. Due to the limited scope of building regulations to control greenhouse gas emissions during the construction phases or during the whole life cycle of the building, it is important to include policies which recognise methodologies that comply with a holistic approach to environmental assessment including action to reduce carbon associated with materials, construction, transportation and operational periods.
- 31. Through the emerging BCP Local Plan we can require that applicants seeking planning permission demonstrate how the proposed new homes and non-residential buildings include application of the energy hierarchy, through the submission of an Energy Statement which identifies that:
  - The orientation and design of the development uses passive design features to minimise the need for artificial light, heating and cooling, taking design approaches that will minimise solar gain in summer months and maximise solar gain in winter months;
  - The layout of the development maximises opportunities for use of common walls to limit winter heat loss;
  - The design and construction method and materials achieve an energy efficient building, taking a fabric first approach including (but not limited to):
    - Excellent continuous insulation levels to minimise heat loss;
    - No thermal bridging walls floors and roofs are well insulated with no gaps;
    - Triple glazed windows and doors to ensure low thermal conductivity;
    - Airtight construction to ensure no uncontrolled airflow between internal and external environment; and
    - Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery systems to recover heat from used air and transfer it to fresh air coming in.
  - In addition to ensuring low carbon design approaches are taken as part of the energy hierarchy, proposals must address operational heating demand and energy consumption from both regulated and unregulated energy; and
  - Where the development can link a proportion of its energy demand from on-site renewable sources, this opportunity is comprehensively explored and demonstrated.
- 32. We can also require non-residential buildings to contribute towards the Council's net zero target by meeting Very Good or Excellent BREEAM ratings.
- 33. We should set out in policy that we support innovative approaches to address the fabric first approach within the energy hierarchy to new residential and non-residential development proposals. This could include exploring the methodology set out in Passivhaus principles.
- 34. For historic buildings we can encourage the sensitive retrofitting of energy efficiency measures and the appropriate use of micro-renewables, provided they safeguard the special characteristics of the heritage assets for the future.

#### Water Efficiency

- 35. Climate change is impacting on water supply, both within the natural environment and to water supplies to the public. With regards specifically to public water supply, there is a need to make water supplies more sustainable, efficient and more drought-resilient, due to population growth and the associated increase in development. The abstraction, treatment and subsequent disposal of water requires both water resources and energy. Increasing the water efficiency of new dwellings will help to ensure better water quality, and conserve water resources whilst allowing for growth.
- 36. Further, additional increases in water demand of major non-residential development could place significant impacts on existing infrastructure and water resources. Until Building Regulations are amended to reflect the need for increased water efficiency for all types of development, it is necessary to ensure sustainable water usage is implemented through policy.
- 37. Since the Environment Agency's last report on Water Stressed Areas in 2013, an updated report has been released for 2021, which now includes South West Water (Bournemouth) as an area which is seriously water stressed. This is based on where water resources are being, or are likely to be, exploited to a point which may result in pressure on the environment or water supplies now and in the future. In the event that an area is classed as seriously water stressed, it is possible for the Local Planning Authority to use this evidence as significant weight for applying the need for the reduced water usage of 110 litres per person per day on new residential developments.
- 38. As set out in Government guidance, the Council has the option to impose additional technical requirements on exceeding the minimum water efficiency standard required as part of Building Regulations. Under current Building Regulations, a new build property is required to meet a water efficiency standard of no more than 125 litres per person per day as a minimum. However, there is a further option for a lower usage of 110 litres per person per day to be met, if conditioned through a planning permission.
- 39. Through the emerging BCP Local Plan we can require the design of all new residential and non-residential buildings to maximise and incorporate water efficiency and consumption measures, which should include (but are not limited to) rainwater/greywater recycling, green roofs, low flow taps and showers, low flush toilets, rain gardens and water butts in the construction of new buildings.
- 40. For residential buildings we can implement the optional requirement set through the Building Regulations Requirement G2: Water Efficiency of no more than 110 litres per person per day (or any future updates to the requirement).
- 41. We can also require major non-residential development to incorporate sustainable water usage principles that do not exceed 40-50 litres per day per person.

#### Renewable/Low Carbon Energy

- 42. Through the emerging BCP Local Plan we can require all development to comply with the following energy hierarchy:
  - (i) Reduce overall energy demand ('be lean')
  - (ii) Maximise energy efficiency ('be clean')

- (iii) Use renewable energy sources to meet its energy needs ('be green')
- 43. We can encourage the use of nature-based solutions including tree planting to enhance climate resilience by supporting natural carbon capture and improving opportunities for increasing biodiversity. Increasing tree canopy cover is an important part of the Council's emerging Tree Strategy.
- 44. The emerging BCP Local Plan can require new buildings, including conversions and change of use should incorporate a proportion of energy use from on-site renewable energy sources. Poole Local Plan (2018) policy requires the following and this approach could be applied across the area:
  - a minimum of 10% on site renewable energy for proposals of 1-10 homes (net) or under 1,000sqm (net) commercial floorspace; and
  - a minimum of 20% on site renewable energy for proposals of 11 or more homes or over 1,000sqm commercial floorspace.
- 45. Requesting the submission of an Energy Statement will be essential. The statement should consider all types of renewable energy utilised on site and demonstrate that the preferred option is suitable for the location and does not cause harm to residential amenity by virtue of noise, vibration, overshadowing or other emissions.

#### Green Infrastructure

- 46. The Natural Environment is important both in terms of its contribution to biodiversity but also to our health and well-being. The UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world and it is essential we look after existing habitats. The challenge in an urban environment like the BCP area is to secure increases in biodiversity, urban greening, tree cover and food growing to boost local food supply.
- 47. Natural England's new Green Infrastructure Framework standards (below) align with several emerging policies within the BCP Local Plan:
  - Urban Nature Recovery Standard aims to boost nature recovery, create and restore rich wildlife habitats and build resilience to climate change. Incorporating nature-based solutions, including trees and wildflowers, into the design of towns and cities will increase carbon capture, prevent flooding and reduce temperatures during heatwaves.
  - Urban Greening Factor for England This planning tool improves the provision of green infrastructure and increases the level of greening in urban environments. The standard is set at 0.4 for residential development, which means there is a target in place for approximately 40% of residential developments to have green and blue spaces, green roofs or green walls. When adopted by a local planning authority it provides clarity about the quantity and quality of green infrastructure required to secure planning approval in a major new development.
  - Urban Tree Canopy Cover Standard promotes an increase in tree canopy cover in urban environments to capture carbon and mitigate flood risk as they absorb excess water during flooding incidents. The standard sets out that major residential and commercial development should be designed to meet locally agreed targets.
  - Accessible Greenspace Standards promote access to good quality green and blue space within 15 minutes' walk from home.
  - Green Infrastructure Strategy Local Authorities should develop Delivery Plans to support the creation and enhancement of new and existing greenspaces.

- 48. The Local Plan is bringing policies forward to address the Urban Greening Factor, increased tree canopy cover standard, Biodiversity Net Gain and support implementing the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy. The Council is currently preparing an urban greening design guide, a tree strategy and a Biodiversity Net Gain strategy. These strategies will provide important evidence to support the emerging local plan polices.
- 49. Furthermore, the government's 25 Year Environmental Plan, enacted by the Environment Act 2021, identifies the need for a Nature Recovery Network which will set out a national network of wildlife rich places across England to include already designated sites for nature conservation and identify opportunities for enhancement to existing wildlife sites and opportunities to create new sites to provide wildlife rich habitats, corridors and stepping stones. The improvements for biodiversity will also provide benefits in terms of improving landscapes, providing natural solutions to counter climate change, reduce carbon and flood risk and improve health and well-being through better opportunities to connect with nature.
- 50. A Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is being worked on in collaboration with Dorset Council that will identify existing habitats for protection and opportunities for enhancement and the addition of further sites to provide good links to the existing ecological network. The LNRS will identify the priority habitats and locations to maximise opportunities for nature recovery.
- 51. From November 2023 the Environment Act will require mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain for all qualifying new development. From a review of past planning permissions this will only account for 18% of planning applications in the BCP area. Therefore, emerging local plan proposes to go further and require all new development to demonstrate how it will make a positive contribution to biodiversity. The Council's Biodiversity Net Gain Guidance note will be published shortly to support this emerging policy and the government launch of mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain in late 2023.
- 52. 21% of the conurbation is covered by trees. This is significantly higher than the average tree cover (14%) for urban local authorities in England and is probably one of the highest levels of tree canopy cover found in an English urban coastal location. Canopy cover though does vary from 7.9% (Poole Town) to 40.1% (Canford Cliffs). Whilst the Council is increasing tree cover on its own land, the pressure from development is leading to a decline in canopy cover across privately owned land and needs addressing to halt this decline.
- 53. The Council's emerging Trees and Woodland Strategy will help to address the reduction in tree canopy with the BCP area. Through the Local Plan we can seek to protect and even increase canopy cover on sites for multiple benefits. To do this we can require applicants to submit a Tree Canopy Cover Assessment with planning applications.

#### Summary

54. In summary, the emerging Local Plan includes a suite of new policy measures to help address climate change that go beyond current planning reforms. Whilst these policies focus on specific planning applications for new development, the Council will also need to invest in ensuring infrastructure is resilient and adaptable to climate change. A focus on urban greening can help address surface water flood risk, but wider infrastructure projects will be needed to protect the area from coastal erosion and coastal and fluvial flood risk.

55. The challenge for the local plan is ensuring that higher policy costs do not make development unviable or unattractive to developers. The Council must secure CIL and Section 106 from development to adapt infrastructure such as flood defences to protect new development and existing communities. With competing demands placed upon the tight profit margins of new development to fund sustainable homes and essential infrastructure to address climate change, can government help with grant to support development?

#### **Options Appraisal**

56. There are no options presented.

#### Summary of financial implications

- 57. Tougher policies on climate change will add to construction costs but can be balanced against the cheaper operating costs from less heat loss. This applies to both private and Council built buildings.
- 58. The costs of making homes net zero ready is estimated to be £6k-£9k more expensive than current build costs. That excludes the additional potential costs of Biodiversity net gain, urban greening, renewable energy, etc., highlighted above. As discussed current build costs are already causing viability problems and a slow down in homes being built.
- 59. A slow down in house building and commercial development will limit income from new homes bonus, council tax and business rates.

#### Summary of legal implications

60. There are no legal implications.

#### Summary of human resources implications

61. There are no human resource implications.

#### Summary of sustainability impact

62. There are significant benefits of preparing a Local Plan that includes policies to help address climate change.

#### Summary of public health implications

63. Increasing the tree canopy, access to open space and biodiversity net gain will have significant public benefits to health.

#### Summary of equality implications

64. There are no equality implications.

#### Summary of risk assessment

65. The additional policy costs placed upon developers must be factored into viability assessment. Loading additional costs may make development less viable and overall see a reduction in homes built with resulting affordability issues.

#### **Background papers**

None

### Appendices

None

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# Agenda Item 8

### PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



Report subject	Work Plan
Meeting date	19 July 2023
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	The Place Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee is asked to consider and identify work priorities for its next meeting pending a wider review of its Work Plan in a dedicated workshop.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that:
	the O&S Committee consider and agree any priorities for its next meeting, for subsequent publication in a Work Plan.
Reason for recommendations	The Council's Constitution requires all Overview and Scrutiny Committees to set out proposed work in a Work Plan which will be published with each agenda

Portfolio Holder(s):	N/A – O&S is a non-executive function
Corporate Director	Graham Farrant, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Lindsay Marshall, Overview and Scrutiny Specialist
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Decision

#### Background

- All Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees are required by the Constitution to consider work priorities and set these out in a Forward Plan. When approved, this should be published with each agenda. It is good practice for the Forward Plan to be kept under regular review by the Committee, and in this report members are asked to discuss and agree work priorities for the next meeting to allow sufficient time for report preparation as appropriate.
- 2. Forward planning workshops were planned to take place for all O&S Committees between the first and second meetings of the committee meeting cycle. At time of writing, a workshop has taken place for the Children's Services O&S Committee, with others pending, owing to availability of officer resource. Committee members are therefore advised that minimal Forward Plan review is required at this stage and a more in-depth review, to plan work for the whole municipal year, may take place at the workshops.
- 3. Priorities already identified by the Place O&S Committee are contained within the current version of the Forward Plan at Appendix B to this report.
- 4. For guidance, the following documents are appended to this report:
  - Appendix A -Terms of Reference for all O&S Committees
  - Appendix B Current Place O&S Committee Forward Plan
  - Appendix C Request for consideration of an issue by Overview and Scrutiny
  - Appendix D Current Cabinet Forward Plan

#### O&S Committees updated terms of reference

- Following the establishment of new Cabinet Portfolios in June 2023 the detailed remits of the O&S Committees were outdated and have now been reviewed to clearly reflect the alignment between each Committee and the reporting Portfolio Holders. Figure 1 within Appendix A - 'Terms of Reference for all O&S Committees' outlines this update.
- 6. Changes to the remit of O&S Committees must be agreed by Council. Updates made at this stage have therefore been made on a housekeeping only basis, with no major changes across committees. Two minor changes, to reflect clearer lines of accountability are suggested as follows:
  - Bereavement & Coroner moves from Place O&S to Corporate & Community O&S – better fit owing to community focus

 Car Parking moves from Place O&S to Corporate & Community O&S – better fit for Portfolio Holder line of accountability

Subject to any comments by O&S Committees on these minor changes, Councillors are asked to note these updates and work to these updated arrangements.

7. Pending any further review of the remits of O&S Committees by Council, this structure will provide the working arrangements for O&S Committees and be formalised at a future Council meeting.

#### BCP Constitution and process for agreeing Forward Plan items

- 8. The Constitution requires that the Forward Plan of O&S Committees shall consist of work aligned to the principles of the function. The BCP Council O&S function is based upon six principles:
  - Contributes to sound decision making in a timely way by holding decision makers to account as a 'critical friend';
  - A member led and owned function seeks to continuously improve through self-reflection and development;
  - Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard and reflected in the Council's decision-making process;
  - Engages in decision making and policy development at an appropriate time to be able to have influence;
  - Contributes to and reflects the vision and priorities of the Council;
  - Agility able to respond to changing and emerging priorities at the right time with flexible working methods.
- The O&S Committee may take suggestions from a variety of sources to form its Forward Plan. This may include suggestions from members of the public, officers of the Council, Portfolio Holders, the Cabinet and Council, members of the O&S Committee, and other Councillors who are not on the Committee.
- 10. The Constitution requires that all suggestions for O&S work will be accompanied by detail outlining the background to the issue suggested, the proposed method of undertaking the work and likely timescale associated, and the anticipated outcome and value to be added by the work proposed. No item of work shall join the Forward Plan of the O&S Committee without an assessment of this information.
- 11. Any Councillor may request that an item of business be considered by an O&S Committee. Members are asked to complete a form outlining the request, which is appended to this report at Appendix C. The same process will apply to requests for scrutiny from members of the public.
- A copy of the most recent Cabinet Forward Plan will be supplied to O&S Committees at each meeting for reference. The latest version was published on 27 June 2023 and is supplied as Appendix D to this report.

#### Resources to support O&S work

13. The Constitution requires that the O&S Committees take into account the resources available to support their proposals for O&S work. This includes

consideration of Councillor availability, Officer time and financial resources. Careful and regular assessment of resources will ensure that there is appropriate resource available to support work across the whole O&S function, and that any work established can be carried out in sufficient depth and completed in a timely way to enable effective outcomes.

- 14. It is good practice for O&S Committees to agree a maximum of two substantive agenda items per meeting. This will provide sufficient time for Committees to take a 'deep dive' approach to scrutiny work, which is likely to provide more valuable outcomes. A large amount of agenda items can lead to a 'light touch' approach to all items of business, and also limit the officer and Councillor resource available to plan for effective scrutiny of selected items.
- 15. O&S Committees are advised to carefully select their working methods to ensure that O&S resource is maximised. A variety of methods are available for O&S Committees to undertake work and are not limited to the receipt of reports at Committee meetings. These may include:
  - Working Groups;
  - Sub-Committees;
  - Tak and finish groups;
  - Inquiry Days;
  - Rapporteurs (scrutiny member champions);
  - Consideration of information outside of meetings including report circulation/ briefing workshops/ briefing notes.

Further detail on O&S working methods are set out in the Constitution and in Appendix A – Terms of Reference for O&S Committees.

16. Bodies commissioned by an O&S Committee (such as Sub-Committees or Working Groups) may have conferred upon them the power to act on behalf of the parent body in considering issues within the remit of the parent body and making recommendations directly to Portfolio Holders, Cabinet, Council or other bodies or people within the Council or externally as appropriate.

#### **Options Appraisal**

- 17. The Committee is asked to agree work priorities for the next meeting, taking account of the supporting documents provided. This will ensure member ownership of the Committee Forward Plan by newly elected members to the Committee, and that reports can be prepared in a timely way, as appropriate.
- 18. Should the Committee not agree priorities for its next meeting, reports may not be able to be prepared in a timely way and best use of the meeting resource may not be made.

#### Summary of financial implications

19. There are no direct financial implications associated with this report. The Committee should note that when establishing a Forward Plan, the Constitution requires that account be taken of the resources available to support proposals for O&S work. Advice on maximising the resource available to O&S Committees is set out in paragraphs 13 to 16 above.
#### Summary of legal implications

20. The Council's Constitution requires all O&S Committees to set out proposed work in a Forward Plan which will be published with each agenda. The recommendation proposed in this report will fulfil this requirement.

#### Summary of human resources implications

21. There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

#### Summary of sustainability impact

22. There are no sustainability resources implications arising from this report.

#### Summary of public health implications

23. There are no public health implications arising from this report.

#### Summary of equality implications

24. There are no equality implications arising from this report. Any member of the public may make suggestions for Overview and Scrutiny work. Further detail on this process is included within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.

#### Summary of risk assessment

25. There is a risk of challenge to the Council if the Constitutional requirement to establish and publish a Forward Plan is not met.

#### **Background papers**

None

#### Appendices

Appendix A – Overview and Scrutiny Committees Terms of Reference

- Appendix B Current Place O&S Committee Forward Plan
- Appendix C Request for consideration of an issue by Overview and Scrutiny
- Appendix D Current Cabinet Forward Plan

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### **BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL**

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES TERMS OF REFERENCE

Overview and Scrutiny is a statutory role fulfilled by Councillors who are not members of the Cabinet in an authority operating a Leader and Cabinet model. The role of the overview and scrutiny committees is to help develop policy, to carry out reviews of Council and other local services, and to hold decision makers to account.

### PRINCIPLES OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Overview and Scrutiny function is based upon six principles:

1. Contributes to sound decision making in a timely way by holding decision makers to account as a 'critical friend'.

2. A member led and owned function – seeks to continuously improve through self-reflection and development.

3. Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard and reflected in the Council's decision-making process.

4. Engages in decision making and policy development at an appropriate time to be able to have influence.

5. Contributes to and reflects the vision and priorities of the Council.

6. Agile – able to respond to changing and emerging priorities at the right time with flexible working methods.

### MEETINGS

There are four Overview and Scrutiny Committees at BCP Council. Each Committee meets 5 times during the municipal year:

- Corporate and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The date and time of meetings will be set by full Council and may only be changed by the Chairman of the relevant Committee in consultation with the Monitoring Officer. Members will adhere to the agreed principles of the Council's Code of Conduct. Decisions shall be taken by consensus. Where it is not possible to reach consensus, a decision will be reached by a simple majority of those present at the meeting. Where there are equal votes the Chair of the meeting will have the casting vote.

### MEMBERSHIP

The Overview and Scrutiny Committees are appointed by full Council, and each has 11 members. No member of the Cabinet may be a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, or any group established by the Committees. Lead Members of the Cabinet may not be a member of Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee may not be a member of any Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The quorum of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees shall be one third of the total membership (excluding voting and non-voting co-optees).

No member may be involved in scrutinising a decision in which they been directly involved. If a member is unable to attend a meeting their Group may arrange for a substitute to attend in their place in accordance with the procedures as set out in the Council's Constitution.

Members of the public can be invited to attend and contribute to meetings as required, to provide insight to a matter under discussion. This may include but is not limited to subject experts with relevant specialist knowledge or expertise, representatives of stakeholder groups or service users. Members of the public will not have voting rights.

**Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee** - The Committee must statutorily include two church and two parent governor representatives as voting members (on matters related to education) in addition to Councillor members. Parent governor membership shall extend to a maximum period of four years and no less than two years. The Committee may also co-opt one representative from the Academy Trusts within the local authority area, to attend meetings and vote on matters relating to education.

The Committee may also co-opt two representatives of The Youth Parliament and, although they will not be entitled to vote, will ensure that their significant contribution to the work of the Committee is recognised and valued.

### FUNCTIONS OF THE O&S COMMITTEES

Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is of equal status and has responsibility for:

- Scrutinising decisions of the Cabinet, offering advice or making recommendations, considering decisions that have been called-in,
- Offering any views or advice to the Cabinet or Council in relation to any matter referred to the Committee for consideration;

- General policy reviews, and making recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet to assist in the development of future policies and strategies;
- Assisting the Council in the development of the Budget and Policy Framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- Monitoring the implementation of decisions to examine their effect and outcomes;
- Referring to full Council, the Cabinet or appropriate Committee/Sub-Committee any matter which, following scrutiny a Committee determines should be brought to the attention of the Council, Cabinet or other appropriate Committee;
- Preparation, review and monitoring of a work programme;
- Maintaining oversight of the training needs of the Committee.
- Establishing such commissioned work as appropriate after taking into account the availability of resources, the work programme and the matter under review;

### Figure 1 below provides an outline of the responsibilities of each Committee.

The remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees is based on the division of Portfolio Holder responsibilities. Portfolio Holders may report to more than one Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Portfolio Holder responsibilities are changeable and from time to time it may be necessary to modify the designation of functions across the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Plus Statutory Crime and Disorder Scrutiny

Figure 1 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee Structure, July 2023.

### COMMISSIONED WORK

In addition to Committee meetings, the Overview and Scrutiny Committees may commission work to be undertaken as it considers necessary after taking into account the availability of resources, the work programme and the matter under review.

Each Committee is limited to two commissions at a time to ensure availability of resources.

a) Working Groups – a small group of Councillors and Officers gathered to consider a specific issue and report back to a full Committee, or make recommendations to Cabinet or Council within a limited timescale. Working Groups usually meet once or twice, and are often non-public;

b) Sub-Committees – a group of Councillors delegated a specific aspect of the main Committee's work for ongoing, in-depth monitoring. May be time limited or be required as a long-standing Committee. Sub-Committees are often well suited to considering performance-based matters that require scrutiny oversight. Sub-Committees usually meet in public;

c) Task and finish groups – a small group of Councillors tasked with investigating a particular issue and making recommendations on this issue, with the aim of influencing wider Council policy. The area of investigation will be carefully scoped and will culminate in a final report, usually with recommendations to Cabinet or Council. Task and finish groups may work over the course of a number of months and take account of a wide variety of evidence, which can be resource intensive. For this reason, the number of these groups must be carefully prioritised by scrutiny members to ensure the work can progress at an appropriate pace for the final outcome to have influence;

d) Inquiry Days – with a similar purpose to task and finish groups, inquiry days seek to understand and make recommendations on an issue by talking to a wide range of stakeholders and considering evidence relating to that issue, within one or two days. Inquiry days have similarities to the work of Government Select Committees. Inquiry days are highly resource intensive but can lead to swift, meaningful outcomes and recommendations that can make a difference to Council policy; and

e) Rapporteurs or scrutiny member champions - individual Councillors or pairs of Councillors tasked with investigating or maintaining oversight of a particular issue and reporting back to the main Committee on its findings. A main Committee can use these reports to facilitate its work prioritisation. Rapporteurs will undertake informal work to understand an issue – such as discussions with Officers and Portfolio Holders, research and data analysis. Rapporteur work enables scrutiny members to collectively stay informed of a wide range of Council activity. This approach to the provision of information to scrutiny members also avoids valuable Committee time being taken up with briefings in favour of more outcome-based scrutiny taking place at Committee.

These terms of reference should be read in conjunction with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules outlined in Part 4C of the Council's Constitution.

## Work Plan – BCP Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The following work plan items are suggested as early priorities to the Place O&S Committee by the Chair and Vice Chair, following consultation with officers. Updated: 11.07.23

	Subject and background	Anticipated benefits and value to be added by O&S engagement	How will the scrutiny be done?	Lead Officer/Portfolio Holder	Report Information
Meet	ting Date: Wednesday 19 July 20	)23			
1.	Families in Bed and Breakfast/Hotels To consider a report which provides information on the current position regarding family homelessness demand, focusing on those placed in to Bed & Breakfast/ Hotel accommodation	To enable the Committee to consider the current situation and demands and how this is being addressed by BCP and whether any further scrutiny is required.	Committee Report	PH – Housing and regulatory Services	Item requested by the Committee at its meeting on 31 May 2023
2.	Planning Reforms To consider a report which provides an update on the latest situation and a focus on the main aspects of emerging policy, discussion on energy efficiency & carbon reduction.	To enable the Committee to have oversight of the issues surrounding the emerging local plan and to scrutinise the report and comment as appropriate	Committee report	Leader of the Council and PH Dynamic Places	Item requested by the Committee at its meeting on 31 May 2023
DATI	E to be allocated				
1.	Strategic Transport Plan	To enable the Committee to consider any proposals before consultation	Committee – Briefing note	PH – Dynamic Places	Contact Democratic Services for further information. Deferred from

	Subject and background	Anticipated benefits and value to be added by O&S engagement	How will the scrutiny be done?	Lead Officer/Portfolio Holder	Report Information	
	To consider an update on progress and timescales for the Strategic Transport Plan.				November meeting following a delay in government announcements	
2.	Flooding and FCERM To consider a report providing an annual update on this issue	To enable the Committee to maintain oversight of this issue and target scrutiny as required.	Committee Report or information only paper	PH – Climate response, Environment and Energy	Contact Democratic Services for further information.	
3.	Play Strategy To consider the Council's play strategy once developed.	To enable the committee to maintain an oversight of this issue and contribute as appropriate.	Committee report	PH – Climate response, Environment and Energy	Update requested by the Committee at its meeting in May 2022.	
	missioned Work	tee (for example task and fini	sh groups and wor	king groups) is listed	below:	
Note	<ul> <li>to provide sufficient resource</li> <li>nissioned work can commence</li> </ul>	e for effective scrutiny, no mo	re than 2 items of o			
	Tree Strategy Working Group	To ensure that there is an overview on this issue and	Task and Finish Group	PH – Climate response,	A new group has now been constituted with a changed	
4.	To consider and feed into the developing Tree Strategy for BCP	member engagement as the strategy develops		Environment and Energy	membership following the election and is due to begin meeting.	
•	ate Items ollowing items of information h					

The following items of information have been requested as updates to the Committee.

	Subject and background	Anticipated benefits and value to be added by O&S engagement	How will the scrutiny be done?	Lead Officer/Portfolio Holder	Report Information							
	The Committee may wish to receive these in an alternative to format to Committee updates (e.g. by emailed briefing note outside of the Committee) to reserve capacity in Committee meetings for items of value-added scrutiny.											
5.	Flooding and FCERM To consider a report providing an annual update on this issue. Place O&S is the statutory body to consider.	To enable the Committee to maintain oversight of this issue and target scrutiny as required.	Committee Report or information only paper	PH – Climate response, Environment and Energy	Contact Democratic Services for further information.							
6.	Local Plan To consider the future plans and current progress on this issue.	To enable the committee to maintain an oversight of this issue and contribute as appropriate.	Committee Report or Information only paper	PH – Dynamic Places	It would be appropriate for the Committee to receive ongoing updates on this issue as it progresses.							
Annua	al Reports											
7.	<b>Climate Plan</b> Annual report – to consider the Council's work in response to the Climate Emergency	To enable the Committee to monitor this issue and target scrutiny as required.	Committee Report	PH – Dynamic Places / PH – Climate response, Environment and Energy								

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### Request for consideration of an issue by Overview and Scrutiny

#### Guidance on the use of this form:

This form is for use by councillors and members of the public who want to request that an item joins an Overview and Scrutiny agenda. Any issue may be suggested, provided it affects the BCP area or the inhabitants of the area in some way. Scrutiny of the issue can only be requested once in a 12 month period.

The form may also be used for the reporting of a referral item to Overview and Scrutiny by another body of the council, such as Cabinet or Council.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee receiving the request will make an assessment of the issue using the detail provided in this form and determine whether to add it to its forward plan of work.

They may take a variety of steps to progress the issue, including requesting more information on it from officers of the council, asking for a member of the overview and scrutiny committee to 'champion' the issue and report back, or establishing a small working group of councillors to look at the issue in more detail.

If the Committee does not agree to progress the issue it will set out reasons for this and they will be provided to the person submitting this form.

More information can be found at Part 4.C of the BCP Council Constitution <u>https://democracy.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=151&Info</u> <u>=1&bcr=1</u>

Please complete all sections as fully as possible

1. Issue requested for scrutiny

2. Desired outcome resulting from Overview and Scrutiny engagement, including the value to be added to the Council, the BCP area or its inhabitants.

3. Background to the issue

4. Proposed method of scrutiny - (for example, a committee report or a working group investigation)

5. Key dates and anticipated timescale for the scrutiny work

6. Notes/ additional guidance

Document last reviewed - January 2022

Contact - <u>democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</u>

# CABINET FORWARD PLAN - 1 JULY 2023 TO 31 OCTOBER 2023

(PUBLICATION DATE - 27 June 202323)



BCP Council

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
End of Year Corporate Performance Report 2022/23	To provide an update on progress delivering the actions set out in the Corporate Strategy and Delivery Plans	No	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	All Wards			Vicky Edmonds	Open
Beach Road Car Park (part Of) C	An Outline Business Case produced by FuturePlaces was approved by Cabinet in March 2023. This report provides additional options for consideration.	Yes	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023 Council 12 Sep 2023	Canford Cliffs	Ward Councillors		Irene Ferns, Sarah Good, Julian McLaughlin	Open
Outcome of the Government's Assurance Review	To consider the outcome of the Government's Assurances Review	No	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	All Wards			Graham Farrant	Open

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Future Options - Bournemouth Air Festival	To make a decision on the future of Bournemouth Air Festival beyond 2023	Yes	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	All Wards			Jon Weaver	Open
Stour Valley Bark Bartnership and Strategy	To inform on progress of the Stour Valley Park programme as it progresses to a delivery phase and to agree the creation of new governance agreements with core partners.	No	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	Bearwood & Merley; Christchurch Town; Commons; East Southbourne & Tuckton; Kinson; Littledown & Iford; Mudeford, Stanpit & West Highcliffe; Muscliff & Strouden Park; Redhill & Northbourne; West Southbourne			Martin Whitchurch	Open

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Protecting our Coastal and Open Spaces	to consider recommendations for PSPO following public consultation	No	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	All Wards			Nananka Randle	Open
Children's Cervices Pansformation Pogramme	Seeking Cabinet agreement to go ahead with the Children's transformation programme	No	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	All Wards			Emma Regenhardt	Open
Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) cover report	To consider requests for approval to advertise TROs.	Yes	Cabinet 26 Jul 2023	All Wards			Julian McLaughlin Richard Pincroft	

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Subsidised Bus Services Review	To consider subsidised bus service reductions required to remain within available budgets.	Yes	Cabinet 6 Sep 2023	All Wards			John McVey	Open
Consultation on the draft Cournemouth, Christchurch And Poole Local Plan	To seek agreement to publish the draft (Pre submission) version of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Plan for consultation prior to the submission of the plan for examination.	Yes	Cabinet 6 Sep 2023 Council 12 Sep 2023	All Wards			Steve Dring, Sam Fox	Open
Poole Crematorium - Implementation Plan	To finalise the Poole Crematorium Implementation plan and agree financial resourcing	Yes	Cabinet 6 Sep 2023	All Wards	Cabinet, Corporate Management Board, Future Infrastructure Programme Board,Accounta ncy		Andy McDonald	Open
Implementation	Implementation plan and agree financial		о Зер 2023		Management Board, Future Infrastructure Programme Board,Accounta			

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Sandbanks Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan	Following a formal public examination and independent examiner's report whether any proposed modification to the draft Neighbourhood Plan should be accepted;	No	Cabinet 27 Sep 2023	Canford Cliffs			Rebecca Landman	Open
age								
Housing Strategy - Annual Summary Review		No	Cabinet 25 Oct 2023				Kerry-Marie Ruff	

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Christchurch Bay and Harbour FCERM Strategy	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (BCP) and New Forest District Council (NFDC) are working together with the Environment Agency to produce a new strategy to protect coastal communities from tidal flooding and erosion risk. It will guide how the frontage from Hengistbury Head to Hurst Spit, encompassing Christchurch Harbour, will be sustainably managed for the next 100 years.	No	Cabinet 25 Oct 2023	Town; East Southbourn	Landowners, BCP residents, businesses, organisations, BCP services	Several levels of public enegagement and consultation throughout the development of the Strategy between 2021 and 2023.	Catherine Corbin, Alan Frampton, Matt Hosey	Open

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Housing and Property Compliance Update (Housing Revenue Account)	To provide an update on meeting legal requirements to ensure that council properties are safe to occupy.	No	Cabinet 22 Nov 2023	All Wards			Simon Percival	Open
Account (HRA) Budget Setting 2024/25	To seek Cabinet approval for the proposed expenditure on council properties within the HRA	No	Cabinet 7 Feb 2024 Council 20 Feb 2024	All Wards			Seamus Doran	Open
Street Naming and Numbering Policy	To secure Cabinet approval for a single BCP policy relating to street naming and numbering decisions.	No	Cabinet Date to be confirmed	All Wards			Matti Raudsepp	Open

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Library Strategy	To produce a library strategy across all BCP libraries and the development of libraries as neighbourhood hubs.	No	Cabinet Date to be confirmed					Open
Bournemouth Development Company LLP Business Plan	To seek approval for the Bournemouth Development Company Business Plan, extend some contractual "Option Execution Dates" in relation to specific sites and provide an update in relation to the independent Local Partnerships Review.	No	Cabinet Date to be confirmed	Bournemout h Central			Sarah Longthorpe	Open
Children's Services Early Help Offer	Summary of findings and recommendations from an ongoing review of our current Early Help services	No	Cabinet Date to be confirmed	All Wards			Zafer Yilkan	Open

What is the subject?	What is the purpose of the issue?	Is this a Key Decision?	Decision Maker and Due Date	Wards	Who are the key stakeholders to be consulted before the decision is made?	What is the consultation process and period	Officer writing the report	Is the report likely to be considered in private (i.e., it contains confidential or exempt information)?
Pay & Reward - New Terms and Conditions of Employment Page 56	To seek approval for the Council's new terms and conditions of employment, including new pay and grading arrangements.	No	Cabinet Date to be confirmed		Proposals have been developed through a process of collective bargaining with recognised Trade Unions. CMB, directorate leadership teams and employees have also been consulted at various stages during the project and informed the development of proposals		Lucy Eldred, Jon Burrows	Fully exempt
Poole Regeneration Update	To update Cabinet and the public on projects and activities in Poole Town Centre	No	Cabinet Date to be confirmed	Poole Town	relevant stakeholders to the Poole Regeneration Programme		Chris Shephard	Open