

Notice of Cabinet

Date: Wednesday, 17 July 2024 at 10.15 am

Venue: HMS Phoebe, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY



Membership:

Chairman:

Cllr V Slade

Vice Chairman:

Cllr M Earl

Cllr D Brown

Cllr R Burton

Cllr M Cox

Cllr A Hadley

Cllr J Hanna

Cllr A Martin

Cllr K Wilson

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

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

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=5901>

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

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 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

9 July 2024

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app



Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

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

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



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

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

Bias Test

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

Predetermination Test

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

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

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer
(janie.berry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

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

Objectivity

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

Accountability

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

Openness

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

Honesty & Integrity

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

Leadership

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

AGENDA

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

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence from Councillors.

2. Declarations of Interests

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

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 22 May 2024.

9 - 40

4. Public Issues

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

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

The deadline for the submission of public questions is mid-day on Thursday 12 July 2024 [mid-day 3 clear working days before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a statement is mid-day on Tuesday 16 July 2024 [mid-day the working day before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Wednesday 3 July 2024 [10 working days before the meeting].

5. Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees

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

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

6. Financial Outturn 2023/24

41 - 94

The report presents the revenue and capital budget outturn, reserves position, dedicated schools grant outturn, housing revenue account, and results of council company and partner organisations for the financial year 2023/24.

In general terms the council's attempt to improve the financial health and sustainability of the authority have been successful with the 2023/24 drawdown on specific reserves reduced from the original budgeted amount £30m to £23m at financial outturn. At quarter three the estimated drawdown was forecast to be £27m although this was expected to improve due to the ongoing application of a freeze on expenditure and the Cabinet decision to

release a previous accrual relating to the Dolphin Shopping Centre.

Services have delivered 94% of the budgeted savings of £34m, achieved through transformation, third party spend reduction, staff savings and raising additional income.

7. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update

95 - 158

This report:

- Aims to ensure the council continues to maintain a balanced 2025/26 budget forecast by considering the impact that various assumptions would have on the underlying approved position.
- Proposes a financial strategy to support the delivery of a robust and financially sustainable budget for 2025/26.
- Proposes a budget planning process and timeline for key financial reports.
- Presents the outcome of the CIPFA Financial Resilience Review undertaken in the summer/autumn of 2023 and finalised in the spring of 2024.

Presents a letter submitted by the Director of Finance to DLUHC and CIPFA outlining concerns regarding the impact the deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant is having on the financial sustainability of the Council. This recognises that due to the forecast £92m accumulated deficit on the 31 March 2025 the council will be technically insolvent (a situation where the deficit on the DSG is greater than the total reserves held by the council with a negative overall general fund position) when the current statutory override finishes on 31 March 2026. This letter also highlighted the difficulties the council will have in setting a legally balanced budget for 2025/26 when it has exhausted its ability to cover the cost of the DSG deficit from its temporary short term treasury management cashflow headroom.

8. BCP Council Productivity Plan

159 - 184

The council have produced a productivity plan in response to government requirements. It sets out recent, current and future plans to make better use of resources, including organisational and service transformation, as well as how technology and data are being used to create efficiencies. Details are also given on how productivity will be monitored as part of performance reporting.

9. Pay and Reward: Update on progress in introducing new terms and conditions of employment

185 - 190

Since the merger of the four preceding councils we have been working with the trades unions, to negotiate a new Pay and Reward package which harmonises pay across all colleagues. The report describes the consultation process conducted with the recognised trade unions, GMB and UNISON, who agreed to ballot their members on the proposed pay and reward offer. The report sets out the various communication and engagement activities undertaken to raise awareness and inform colleagues of the offer.

Two ballot processes have been undertaken and details of the ballot outcomes are provided. Further discussions are ongoing with the unions

with a view to reaching an agreed way forward to implement the new arrangements.

10. Arndale House and 1-17 Kingland Road Poole (AKA Kingland House) 191 - 404

This report seeks approval to take a surrender of the head lessee's existing head lease and regrant a long lease to facilitate the delivery of the head lessee's planning permission to demolish the existing buildings and erect a mixed-use development comprising 128 residential apartments (Use Class C3) together with nine ground floor commercial units (Former Use Classes A1, A3 or B1a, now Class E) and associated ancillary works including car and cycle parking.

The site forms part of the Town Centre Regeneration Area in the Local Plan and is earmarked by the council as one of the key opportunities to regenerate the town centre and make a step change in perceptions of the town and its overall offer.

A refurbishment alone of this tired 1960's building will not succeed in delivering this aim.

[PLEASE NOTE: Should the Cabinet wish to discuss the detail of the exempt appendices at Appendix 1-4 it will be necessary to exclude the press and public and move into Confidential (Exempt) session]

11. South Part of Beach Road Car park 405 - 492

On 27 February 2024, Council approved the principle of disposal of the South Part of Beach Road Car Park on the open market, subject to a future Cabinet resolution to appropriate the site for planning purposes, once the South Car Park is formally closed. It also confirmed support for the re-provision of the car park and the development of a business case for the modernisation and improvement of the retained car parking area, based on the use of prudential borrowing. Where any part of the land being disposed of could comprise public open space, the statutory process governing these activities requires the proposal to be publicly advertised and for any objections to be duly considered. The purpose of this report is to set out the responses received to the public notices and provide an analysis of these responses for Members consideration.

[PLEASE NOTE: Should the Cabinet wish to discuss the detail of the exempt appendix at Appendix 2 it will be necessary to exclude the press and public and move into Confidential (Exempt) session]

12. Revised BCP Seafront Strategy 493 - 524

The BCP seafront is highly valued by residents and visitors and provides a diverse range of internationally important natural habitats, geology and archaeology. It also sits at the heart of our local tourism industry and generates significant revenue to the Council, helping to fund wider services for the community.

A review of the Seafront Strategy has been undertaken to assess progress to date and refresh priorities in light of significant organisational changes, new pressures and opportunities.

This report sets out a revised BCP Seafront Strategy, updating the vision,

key objectives, investment criteria and delivery priorities. It builds on the original strategy adopted in April 2022, by reflecting new priorities such as the removal of barriers to community access, wellbeing, and delivering environmental net gains across biodiversity and carbon reduction. It also strengthens the focus on working with commercial operators to enable regeneration and secure external investment in infrastructure.

The Strategy provides a framework for investment over the next 20 years, along with priorities for the short to medium term.

13. BCP Urban Forest Strategy

525 - 610

The 2050 Urban Forest Strategy for BCP provides a vision, key guiding principles, and priorities for action so that residents, visitors and businesses in our conurbation get the most from trees both now and in the future.

Few coastal conurbations can boast a treescape as diverse, extensive, and spectacular as BCP's. In light of the quality of this resource, the production of an up-to-date strategy focused on trees and woodlands was one of the key action points identified in the adopted Green Infrastructure Strategy.

The strategy replaces legacy documents previously used in each of the individual former authorities and offers an up-to-date road map that will be part of the draft Local Plan. This will sit alongside the Green Infrastructure Strategy, Climate Action plan, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and forthcoming Urban Greening design guide and Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

14. Core Gigabit Fibre Network

611 - 620

In November 2021, Council approved a £5.87m allocation from Futures Fund (Public Works Loan Board - PWLB - borrowing) to install a 70.5km long core gigabit-fibre network asset, enabling savings, social and economic benefit, and a net surplus income for the Council over a fifty year period.

Due to changes in financial circumstances, the scope of the project was revised in August 2023 to £3.35m to deliver 21.6km of fibre network. Phase 1 has involved already installing some ducting during programmed highway works. Phase 2 requires the majority of capital investment. Before Phase 2 begins, this paper draws attention to further significant changes that have occurred since Council approved the project funding and provides options with a recommendation to stop the project

15. Adult Social Care Transformation Business Case

621 - 692

Adult Social Care (ASC) services locally and nationally have faced significant challenges in recent years, with an ageing population, increased demand for support and more complex needs. As a result, the Council is holding significant risk in relation to its ability to deliver statutory responsibilities within the available budget, to adults and their families who require support.

The nature of these challenges means that long term, sustainable change is needed to ensure that BCP Council's ASC services are modern, preventative, fit for the future and affordable.

This report sets out the ASC Transformation Business Case for Cabinet's consideration and recommendation to Council. It includes plans to establish the Fulfilled Lives Programme comprising four priority projects, with a proposed investment of £2.9m which will lead to improved outcomes for adults who draw on support within the BCP Council area.

It is anticipated that the one-off investment will lead to recurring savings of approximately £3.5m.

16. Adult Social Care Charging Policy Additions

693 - 756

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council have recently been the subject of a legal challenge around the content of its Adult Social Care (ASC) Charging Policy, as have other local authorities.

In addition to this, ASC has received a recommendation from the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) to make an inclusion in the Charging Policy, following a complaint.

Therefore, changes and improvements have been made to the Policy, which are set out in this report alongside the reasons and implications.

17. Children's Safeguarding Partnership Review

757 - 762

A review of the Pan-Dorset arrangements for the delivery of the Safeguarding Children's Partnership has been considered by the statutory partners: Dorset Police, NHS Dorset and both local authorities (LAs) involved in the Pan-Dorset arrangements, BCP Children's Services and Dorset Children's Services. The review recommends that the partnership arrangements be delivered separately for each LA. This report will therefore set out the recommendation made by the partners who have been given the delegated authority to conduct the statutory duties for their organisation.

18. Youth Justice Plan 2024/2025

763 - 824

To present the Youth Justice Plan for 2024/25. There is a statutory requirement to publish an annual Youth Justice Plan which must provide specified information about the local provision of youth justice services. This report summarises the Youth Justice Plan for 2024/25, with a copy of the Plan appended. The Youth Justice Plan needs to be approved by the full Council.

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

Verbal
Report

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

20. Cabinet Forward Plan

To Follow

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

