

Notice of Cabinet

Date: Wednesday, 4 September 2024 at 10.15 am

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



Membership:

Chairman:

Cllr M Earl

Vice Chairman:

Cllr M Cox

Cllr D Brown
Cllr R Burton
Cllr A Hadley

Cllr J Hanna
Cllr R Herrett
Cllr A Martin

Cllr S Moore
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=5902>

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

27 August 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 17 July 2024.

7 - 24

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 29 August 2024 [mid-day 3 clear working days before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a statement is mid-day on Tuesday 3 September 2024 [mid-day the working day before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Tuesday 20 August 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. Council Budget Monitoring 2024/25 at Quarter One

25 - 60

This report provides the quarter one 2024/25 projected financial outturn information for the general fund and housing revenue account (HRA). The February 2024 approved general fund budget for 2024/25 was balanced on the assumption of £38m in savings, efficiencies, and additional resources.

The quarter one budget monitoring position for 2024/25 demonstrates the ongoing financial challenges to this authority from relentless increasing demand and cost pressures. These pressures are not dissimilar to those faced by all upper tier local authorities. The council's robust financial governance and proactive management of its budget is enabling significant mitigation.

Services are expected to implement mitigation strategies to address emerging operational pressures identified within the first quarter. This is critical to maintaining the financial health and sustainability of the council as the medium-term financial plan makes no allowance for replenishing any reserves used to balance 2024/25 budget.

The expenditure on the Special Educational Needs and Disability Service (SEND), which is within the high needs budget, continues to exceed the government grant made available as part of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and reflects the rising demand for services in this area. This position has significantly worsened from the already dire position assumed in the budget for 2024/25. BCP Council has taken steps to manage this situation locally but, as a national issue, these steps are limited. Conversations for an urgent solution continue with the Department for Education (DfE) and the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government (MHCLG).

7. Risk & Insurance - Annual Review Contract Update Renewals

61 - 76

This report updates councillors on the position of the council's annual insurance contract review and the material changes and implications to the council.

[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]

8. Pay and Reward final position

77 - 86

Since the creation of BCP Council through the merger of the four preceding councils in April 2019 we have been working with the trade unions to negotiate a new Pay and Reward package which aligns pay and conditions across all colleagues.

This report sets out the final steps taken before pay outcomes are released to colleagues and the associated financial impact of finalising arrangements in anticipation of moving towards implementation should a positive ballot outcome be achieved.

9. Monitoring Progress with the Shared Vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole - Q1

87 - 104

BCP Council adopted 'A Shared Vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28' in May 2024.

The Shared Vision is the corporate strategy which sets out the Council's vision, priorities and ambitions as well as the principles which underpin the way the council works as it develops and delivers its services.

Incorporated in the Vision are a set of measures of progress for achieving the vision, priorities and ambitions.

This is the first quarterly performance monitoring report for the Vision, presenting an update on the progress measures. The intention is for the focus areas outlined in the vision to be included in the performance report at Q2.

The vision can also be monitored through a new performance dashboard which is available on the [Council's website](#) providing up-to-date real time information on the progress measures.

10.	Progress update on the 'Best Value Notice'	105 - 132
<p>The Council was issued with a 'Best Value Notice' by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) on 3 August 2023. This followed an assurance review that was commissioned in response to the Council's July 2022 request for a capitalisation direction under the Exceptional Financial Support programme. The Chief Executive also carried out an internal assurance review prior to this, with the conclusions supported by the external review.</p> <p>In response to receiving the 'Best Value Notice', an action plan was agreed by Cabinet on 6 September 2023 and has been monitored and updated regularly since.</p> <p>The 'Best Value Notice' expired on 2 August 2024. This report outlines the good progress made against the action plan.</p>		
11.	Financing Nature	133 - 140
<p>This report sets out the opportunity available to BCP Council following the recent introduction of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) planning policy, set out under the Environment Act 2021 and implemented through BCP Council's forthcoming Local Plan.</p> <p>BNG policy requires development sites to deliver a biodiversity net gain of at least 10%. This presents an opportunity to enhance BCP Council owned green spaces for people and wildlife, funded by a sustainable revenue stream and business model, established through the property developer market. Establishing a mechanism for selling offsite BNG units will also ensure the Council can meet its own BNG obligations that might arise to develop its own land.</p> <p>Access to nature for people and local communities is essential to their health and wellbeing. Increasing investment in BCP's natural environment will support peoples' access to high-quality green space and help to mitigate against the local effects of global climate breakdown.</p> <p>Creating a mechanism for financing nature could help deliver BCP Council's environmental objectives, aligned with the Corporate Strategy, and enable equitable access to nature for our communities.</p>		
12.	Hurn Neighbourhood Plan	141 - 248
<p>Neighbourhood Planning gives local people the opportunity to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. BCP Council as the Local Planning Authority has a legal duty to support and advise town/parish councils and neighbourhood forums through the process to prepare neighbourhood plans, following statutory legislation, regulations and procedure.</p> <p>The Hurn Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, which is at an advanced stage having been through independent examination. The examiner's report (dated 9 August 2024) has concluded that subject to modifications, it meets basic conditions and legal requirements, and can now proceed to referendum.</p> <p>Cabinet is asked to accept the findings of the examiner including his recommended modifications; approve the Local Planning Authority's</p>		

decision statement; and approve the modified Neighbourhood Plan for referendum.

If at referendum there is a majority vote (50% plus 1) in favour of the neighbourhood plan, then the neighbourhood plan will come back to Council to become a 'Made' plan for the Hurn Neighbourhood area and form part of the statutory development plan.

13. Commissioning & Procurement Transformation Update

249 - 272

The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with an update on the commissioning and procurement centre of expertise, including the outcome of a review into the future of the combined commissioning & procurement functions.

The report also highlights a major change in October 2024 with the introduction of new procurement legislation that will influence much of what the Council purchases.

In addition, the report seeks approval for the BCP Council Procurement and Contract Management Strategy 2024 - 2029, setting out the approach the council will take in all significant procurement activity.

14. 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.

15. Cabinet Forward Plan

To Follow

To consider the latest version of the Cabinet Forward Plan as published on the 3 September 2024 for approval.

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