

Notice of Cabinet

Date: Wednesday, 2 October 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=5903>

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

24 September 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 4 September 2024.

9 - 18

4. Public Issues

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

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

The deadline for the submission of public questions is mid-day on Thursday 26 September 2024 [mid-day 3 clear working days before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a statement is mid-day on Tuesday 1 October 2024 [mid-day the working day before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Tuesday 17 September 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. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update

19 - 52

This report:

- Aims to ensure the council continues to maintain a balanced 2025/26 budget forecast by considering the impact that changes to the previous assumptions will have on the underlying approved position and taking mitigating action where necessary.
- Present an update on the 22 May 2024 letter submitted by the Director of Finance to Department Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and Department for Education (DfE) outlining concerns regarding the impact the deficit on the Dedicated Schools

Grant (DSG) is having on the financial sustainability of the Council.

- Provides details of the council's responses to the government's consultation supporting the 30 October 2024 national Budget.

7. Poole Civic Centre

53 - 72

This report presents a proposal to dispose of Poole Civic Centre.

Local taxpayers have covered over £2.5m in operating costs for this asset since April 2019. A value which is increasing by circa £19,000 per month. If sold the expectation is that the private sector would bring forward a housing and hotel development proposal in line with the BCP Local Plan categorisation for the site. The Grade II listing of the main building and the local listing of the annexe building would protect characteristics of the buildings.

The proposal to disposal of Poole Civic Centre was considered by the cross-party strategic asset disposal working group on the 20 September 2024. The draft minutes of this meeting are presented as a confidential appendix to this report (Appendix C). The approved recommendation of the working group was as follows.

- a) *If Cabinet is so minded to dispose of the site, that it does so by way of an open process, marketing the site on the open market for a 2-3 month period of time;*

Cabinet is provided with a detailed report of bids received to support them in their decision making which includes social, environmental and financial benefits."

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

8. Town Centre Improvement Fund

73 - 92

In February 2024, Council approved the one-off in year funding allocation of £358,000, the Town Centre Improvement Fund, to improve Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole town centres. Funds were divided among the three town centres as defined in the current Local Plans based on the population of their respective towns. The aim of the fund is to generate proposals that will deliver long term benefits rather than a one-off boost to the local economy, and/or to seed fund new ideas that empower partners to unlock new opportunities.

This report informs Cabinet about the application and scoring process, provides summaries of the proposals and recommends approval for those projects that were successful.

9. Bournemouth Air Festival

93 - 124

This report provides an update on the work carried out to invite proposals from external organisations to support and fund an Air Festival and recommends a way forward in relation to the future delivery of the Air Festival.

10.	Christchurch Bay and Harbour Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy	125 - 508
	<p>The Strategy has been developed in collaboration with New Forest District Council and the Environment Agency, and involved extensive engagement and consultation with communities, key stakeholders, and officers and members of both councils, including four rounds of engagement to shape development of the strategy and a 3-month public consultation between June-August 2023.</p> <p>The strategy recommends where and when potential defence schemes can be implemented to mitigate the coastal flood and erosion risks to over 3,800 properties over the next 100 years.</p> <p>However, the strategy identifies a significant funding challenge to deliver these future defences as only a proportion of the total costs are eligible to access national FCERM Grant in Aid funding. Whilst adopting the strategy does not bind BCP Council to any additional financial commitments at this time, it does require BCP Council to develop a funding strategy. When any schemes to implement the strategy are developed in future years, any request for financial contribution from BCP Council will be brought to cabinet as required.</p> <p>If required funding contributions are not achieved, then the strategy will be to provide a minimum amount of intervention by maintaining existing defences using Council revenue budgets (as occurs currently) for a period of time, but that maintenance will eventually cease. This will mean development and regeneration in at risk areas around Christchurch will not be able to occur due to the increased level of flood and/or coastal change risk this will present.</p>	
11.	Community Governance Review of BCP Council area	509 - 518
	<p>A community governance review examines the governance arrangements of unparished areas and existing parishes within the area defined for review seeking to ensure that the arrangements are reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area. This report proposes that in this case the area under review should include the whole of the BCP Council area.</p> <p>In undertaking the Review, BCP Council will comply with the requirements of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and other relevant legislation, and have regard to Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in accordance with section 100(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in March 2010.</p>	
12.	Council Owned Companies Shareholder Governance Review	519 - 566
	<p>This report sets out the action taken following the reports to Audit & Governance Committee on 11 January 2024, and to Cabinet on 10 January 2024, advising on the lessons learnt from a governance perspective following the closure of the Council's Urban Regeneration Company – BCP Future Places. These reports recommended changes designed to provide a clearer understanding of the respective roles, decision-making</p>	

arrangements and improved accountability for council owned companies.

In response to the recommendations from both Audit & Governance Committee and Cabinet this report now sets out the detailed governance framework proposed by BCP Council via the establishment of the Shareholder Advisory Board and the Shareholder Operations Board together with supporting Guidance for Councillors and Officers appointed to Outside Bodies.

A further report providing an update following a review of the existing Council owned companies on their effectiveness will be presented to a future meeting of Cabinet.

It is also noted that in line with the governance framework initially approved by Audit & Governance Committee and Cabinet in January 2024, BCP Councillors currently appointed to council owned companies will be removed and replaced with Officer appointments. Further details about these arrangements will be detailed in a further report to Cabinet.

13. Hawkwood Road Community Centre – Towns Fund Masterplan

567 - 616

On April 18, 2024, a resolution to grant full planning permission (subject to the s106/Unilateral undertaking being issued in October) was made for the development of 68 residential flats, a GP surgery and pocket park, and a new pedestrian boulevard activated by 4 retail kiosks and a community Centre, the entirety of which, is called Hawkwood Road and will be delivered in two stages.

The new pedestrian boulevard, four kiosks and Community Centre forming part of the site, are the focus of this report.

The report is to approve the expenditure of funding for the full build and fit out of the Community Centre. This forms a significant part of the Boscombe Towns Fund masterplan which seeks to regenerate this area of Bournemouth. All projects associated with the are to be delivered by March 2026.

Whilst amendments to the masterplan are currently being considered, the Community Centre remains as outlined in the granted planning approval.

The creation of the pedestrian boulevard between Christchurch Road and Hawkwood Road will accommodate the four retail kiosks and associated seating. This is made possible by the demolition of the former W H Smith building which was purchased on 24 June 2024.

This part of the project is being fully funded by the Boscombe Towns fund Grant.

14. Constitution Hill Road, Poole, Dorset, BH14 0QA

617 - 630

The Constitution Hill Housing project is proposing to deliver c98 new residential homes to the Poole area.

The project is currently proposed as, c98 homes made up of 76 Social Rent, 10 Temporary Accommodation and 12 Specialist Accommodation.

Due to the increased build costs impacting the construction sector, the Council has revised its funding strategy required to support the increased budget. The revised funding strategy detail is included within paragraphs 12

to 18 (and appendix 1) of this report.

Previous approvals were to the value of £430k (Officer Decision Record). This report requests a further £995k to secure planning approval and demolition of the seven existing buildings (a total spend of £1.425m, requiring Council approval). The full business case for the new build budget will be presented to Council at later date.

15. High Needs Schools Grant Expenditure Forecast

631 - 646

This paper responds to the agreed action in the quarter one budget monitoring report for 2024/25 for the Corporate Director for Children's Services to bring forward to October Cabinet a detailed report on the High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) expenditure forecast and available mitigation measures. This report also to seek Council approval for any additional resources over the approved budget.

A refreshed forecast is for an overspend of £16.5m, which is £0.6m more than indicated in the quarter 1 budget monitoring report. This forecast also means the Council is predicting to spend £44.5m more in 2024/25 than the grant made available by the government.

This new forecast includes the cost of all new plans agreed as at July 2024 with a revised profile of projected assessment volume based on the current rate which is driven by local education settings and parents and carers.

The BCP Local Area SEND system has significantly changed for the better over the last academic year. This follows the creation of a new SEND Improvement Plan developed to meet the Local Authority's DfE Statutory Direction Notice to Improve. The improvement work which has taken place over the last 10 months has now addressed all historic backlogs and improved the servicing of new assessments and Education Care and Health Plans into the system. This improvement work has adversely increased the overspend within the High Needs Block budget.

To note that the local authority proportion of children with EHCP is still below the national average and may therefore increase further impacting on the DSG overspend.

16. Pan Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2023/2024

647 - 708

Statutory guidance Working Together (2023) requires safeguarding partners to jointly report on partnership safeguarding activity they have undertaken in a 12-month period. The report should focus on multi-agency priorities, learning, impact, evidence and improvement and must be published by the end of September of each year.

The Pan Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership (PDSCP) is responsible for delivering the Lead Safeguarding Partners multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for children and young people.

Lead Safeguarding Partners must ensure there are arrangements for effective independent scrutiny in place for their local area.

PDSCP's quality assurance and scrutiny framework include presentation of its annual report to the BCP/Dorset scrutiny committees and cabinets as part of its independent scrutiny arrangement.

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

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

18. Cabinet Forward Plan

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

To Follow

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.