

# Cabinet DECISION RECORD

## Tuesday, 10 December 2024

(PUBLICATION DATE – 13 December 2024)



Agenda Item No	Decision Status	Matter Considered	Decision
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### Part A – Items considered in public

<b>A6</b>	Status: Recommendations Approved  Call-in to apply: No  Open	Council Budget Monitoring 2024/25 at Quarter Two	<b>RESOLVED that Cabinet: -</b>  <b>(a) Note the budget monitoring position for quarter two 2024/25.</b>  <b>(b) Request Corporate Directors to implement mitigation strategies to reduce their budget pressures alongside tightening their implementation of the expenditure controls in place.</b>  Voting: Unanimous Portfolio Holder: Finance <u>Reason</u>  To comply with accounting codes of practice and best practice which requires councils to regularly monitor the annual budget position and take any action to support the sustainability of the council's financial position.
<b>A7</b>	Status: Recommendations Approved  Call-in to apply: No	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update	<b>RESOLVED that Cabinet: -</b>  <b>(a) Acknowledges the ongoing progress being made to maintain a balanced budget position for 2025/26 and MTFP.</b>  <b>(b) Endorses the latest position regarding the developing 2025/26 Budget and MTFP position.</b>  <b>(c) Approve the continuation of the current Local Council Tax Support</b>

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	Open		<p><b>Scheme (LCTSS) into 2025/26.</b></p> <p><b>(d) Request Portfolio Holders, Corporate Directors and Budget Holders bring forward the necessary additional savings, efficiencies and additional income proposals to enable the 2025/26 Budget to be balanced.</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p> <p>Portfolio Holder: Finance</p> <p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>To comply with accounting codes of practice and best practice which requires councils to have a rolling multi-year medium term financial plan.</p> <p>To provide Cabinet with the latest high-level overview of the development of the 2025/26 Budget and 3-year medium-term financial plan with reference to the ongoing conversation with DfE, MHCLG and CIPFA regarding the difficulties presented by the accumulating DSG deficit.</p>
<b>A8</b>	<p>Status: Recommendations Approved</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	Housing and Property Compliance Update (Housing Revenue Account)	<p><b>RESOLVED that: -</b></p> <p><b>(a) Cabinet noted the compliance information provided which details how the council is performing against statutory building compliance relating to its council housing;</b></p> <p><b>(b) Cabinet agreed to continue to receive annual performance reporting on Compliance, Complaints Performance and Service Improvement; and</b></p> <p><b>(c) Cabinet agreed that the recommendations into the review of the Housing Ombudsman Case are overseen by the BCP Homes Advisory Board and a further update provided to Cabinet.</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p> <p>Portfolio Holder: Housing and Regulatory Services</p>

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			<p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>The council, as a landlord, has many legal obligations it must satisfy to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its tenants and leaseholders. It must also adhere to the regulatory standards as set out by the Regulator of Social Housing, particularly the Safety and Quality Standard.</p> <p>Councillors should also have oversight and assurance of compliance against the legal and regulatory requirements that are placed upon it through this annual report to Cabinet.</p>
<b>A9</b>	<p>Status: Recommendations Approved</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	<p>Assessing the serious cashflow issue caused by ever-increasing demand and cost outstripping High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant government funding.</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED that Cabinet: -</b></p> <p>(a) <b>Noted the actions taken to date to seek government advice, support, and guidance as to how the Council can set a legally balanced budget for 2025/26.</b></p> <p>(b) <b>Noted the work undertaken by Children's Services to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the SEND service to manage demand and cost.</b></p> <p>(c) <b>Agreed that the Leader should write again to the Deputy Prime Minister requesting an urgent meeting and a solution to the cashflow challenge that the Council faces.</b></p> <p>(d) <b>Agreed that the Chief Executive and Director of Finance should write formally to the Permanent Secretary, MHCLG, drawing her specific attention to the cashflow challenge and potential solutions.</b></p> <p>(e) <b>Request officers to bring forward details of which of the options listed in section 28 of the report will need to be enacted to ensure the Council can set a legally balanced budget for 2025/26.</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p>

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			<p>Portfolio Holder: Finance</p> <p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>To ensure that Cabinet are kept abreast of a potential existential threat to the financial viability and sustainability of the council.</p>
<b>A10</b>	<p>Status: Recommendations Approved</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	Pay and Reward progress update	<p><b>RESOLVED that: -</b></p> <p><b>(a) Cabinet noted the trade union ballot outcome; and</b></p> <p><b>(b) Cabinet approve option 2 of the proposed process flowchart (Appendix 1) and the commencement of collective consultation under s188 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 ('TULRCA'), which is a statutory obligation where an employer is proposing to dismiss 20 or more employees</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p> <p>Portfolio Holder: Transformation and Resources</p> <p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>BCP Council has sought to reach a collective agreement with its recognised trade unions since February 2023 but currently such an agreement has not been achieved. BCP Council therefore now seeks to commence collective consultation under s188 to progress its proposals.</p> <p>Councillor Richard Herrett declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the meeting for the discussion and voting thereon.</p> <p>Councillor David Brown joined the meeting at 11.45am part way through the debate on this item and therefore did not participate in the vote.</p>

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<b>A11</b>	<p>Status: Recommend Forward to Council</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	BCP Council Plan for Play	<p><b>RESOLVED that: -</b></p> <p><b>(a) The strategy is formally adopted, comprised of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Plan for Play</b></li> <li><b>ii. Design guide</b></li> <li><b>iii. Improvement Plan</b></li> <li><b>iv. Evidence base and appendices;</b></li> </ul> <p><b>(b) The Consultation plan for phase one of the Improvement Plan is approved to ensure it is developed with our communities and partners;</b></p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED that Council: -</b></p> <p><b>(c) The allocation of £548,047 of capital funds from various planning obligations and reserves to the Improvement Plan;</b></p> <p><b>(d) The allocation of £3,390,609 from Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy to the Improvement Plan; and</b></p> <p><b>(e) Both (c) and (d) are subject to receiving the subsequent endorsement of the Director of Finance based on the availability of the necessary cash.</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p> <p>Portfolio Holders: Environment Communities and Partnerships</p> <p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>Supports the Corporate Strategy in improving our environment and play spaces, making a difference for people and communities.</p> <p>Supports the aims and principles of the Green Infrastructure Strategy.</p> <p>Provides an opportunity to invest in new play spaces, modernise our provision and</p>
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			<p>enable future generations to have access to exciting, challenging and contemporary play equipment, fit for future generations.</p> <p>Supports service improvement in managing our ageing play stock, supports pressures on revenue budgets. The Plan for Play and suite of strategic documents will provide a sounds base for any future investment and funding bids, internally or externally with community partners and funders.</p> <p>The strategy is required to be able to prioritise improvements and any financial investment, ensuring those areas that need improved spaces the most have first consideration, moving away from an ad hoc, scatter-gun approach to repairs and funding.</p> <p>Supports Public Health commitments as set out in Dorset's physical activity strategy, 'A Movement for Movement' and a range of health and well-being drivers seeking to reduce inpatient admissions related to physical and mental health conditions that can be mitigated by time in green space and being more active.</p> <p>Works to create accessible and inclusive spaces supported by the Equalities Impact assessment.</p> <p>Supports Planning Policy and the forthcoming Local plan.</p>
A12	<p>Status: Recommendations Approved</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	BCP Council Libraries – Update on Library Strategy Development	<p><b>RESOLVED that Cabinet: -</b></p> <p><b>(a) notes the content of the report and outcomes of the Public Consultation;</b></p> <p><b>(b) notes and comments on the planned tranches of work to define the service offer and the options appraisal process regarding buildings; and</b></p> <p><b>(c) approves the timescale of no later than end of May 2025 for presenting the key elements of the future library strategy</b></p>

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			<p>Voting: Unanimous</p> <p>Portfolio Holder: Customer, Communications and Culture</p> <p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress made on developing the BCP Library Strategy and to seek endorsement around the key recommendations and next steps.</p>
<b>A13</b>	<p>Status: Item Deferred</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	East Cliff and Springbourne Neighbourhood Plan	<p><b>RESOLVED that the item be deferred.</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p>
<b>A16</b>	<p>Status: For Determination</p> <p>Call-in to apply: No</p> <p>Open</p>	Travel Plan Monitoring Fees	<p><b>RESOLVED that Cabinet: -</b></p> <p>(a) approves the harmonisation of travel plan monitoring fees for new developments requiring planning permission across all of BCP, commencing with those registered complete from 1 April 2025</p> <p>(b) approves the introduction of annual increases tied to RPI on 31 March annually, adjusted to the nearest £5</p> <p>(c) approves that at the point of implementation of the harmonised Travel Plan Monitoring Fees, the existing Poole Travel Plans Supplementary Planning Guidance Document (2003) be withdrawn</p> <p>(d) approves the delegation to the Director of Planning &amp; Transport the</p>

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			<p><b>ability to undertake minor alterations to scheme band criteria in accordance with operational requirements and best practice</b></p> <p><b>(e) approves the delegation to the Director of Planning &amp; Transport the ability to extend the monitoring time period in accordance with operational requirements and best practice.</b></p> <p>Voting: Unanimous</p> <p>Portfolio Holder: Climate Response, Environment and Energy</p> <p><u>Reason</u></p> <p>To allow the harmonisation of travel plan fees across BCP to occur, and to ensure the agreed fee level remains in line with inflation</p>
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