

Notice of Overview and Scrutiny Board

Date: Monday, 23 September 2024 at 6.00 pm

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



Membership:

Chairman:

Cllr S Bartlett

Vice Chairman:

Cllr S Aitkenhead

Cllr P Broadhead

Cllr J Beesley

Cllr L Dedman

Cllr C Goodall

Cllr S Mackrow

Cllr L Northover

Cllr Dr F Rice

Cllr K Salmon

Cllr T Trent

Cllr O Walters

Cllr C Weight

All Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board 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=5947>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Claire Johnston 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

13 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. 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

7 - 14

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 27 August 2024.

a) O&S Board Action Sheet

15 - 16

To consider an Action Tracker for the Board – this will be updated and brought to the attention of the Board at each meeting to consider outstanding actions.

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

The deadline for the submission of public questions is mid-day on Tuesday 17 September 2024 [mid-day 3 clear working days before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a statement is mid-day on Friday 20 September 2024 [mid-day the working day before the meeting].

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Friday 6 September 2024 [10 working days before the meeting].

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

6. Call-in of Decision - Pay and Reward Final Position

17 - 34

The Board is asked to review and scrutinise the decision of the Cabinet taken on 4 September 2024 in relation to the item of business relating to 'Pay and Reward Final Position', following the receipt of a valid call-in request from the pre-requisite number of councillors.

In accordance with the Constitution, the Board must determine whether or not to offer any advice in relation to the decision. If advice is offered, Cabinet will be required to reconsider the decision in light of the advice but is not obliged to follow it.

7. Response to Government Pro Forma on Devolution

Letters have been received from Rt Hon Angela Rayner, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, setting out the government's wish to put in place devolution arrangements for the whole of England. The council has also received a pro forma from Government with a request to complete and return it by the end of September, indicating our preferences for a devolution deal to cover the BCP area. As work on this is ongoing an update will be brought to the Board at the meeting for consideration and comment.

8. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update

35 - 68

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.

9. Directorate Budget Presentations

The Overview and Scrutiny Board will receive Budget Awareness presentations as part of the enhanced scrutiny engagement for the 2025/26 budget. The presentations will cover budget, pressures, assumed savings for those areas within the remit of the Board. The Board will have the opportunity to ask questions around the budget and is also asked to consider how it wishes to engage further with the development of the 2025/26 budget.

10. O&S Budget working group - scoping report	69 - 78
<p>The O&S Board/ Committee is asked to confirm the establishment of a budget working group, including membership and key lines of enquiry, to undertake detailed scrutiny work to contribute to the developing 2025/26 council budget during September – November 2024.</p>	
11. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report	79 - 168
<p>This is the annual report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer on Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) activity within BCP Council. 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 activity and any improvements required.</p> <p>The annual report contains a summary and analysis of O&S activity during 2023-24, reflections on working practices and an action plan identifying strategic improvements to the O&S function.</p> <p>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.</p>	
12. Work Plan	169 - 214
<p>The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Board is asked to consider and identify work priorities for publication in a Work Plan.</p>	

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.