

Notice of Council



Date: Tuesday, 24 March 2026 at 7.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY

Chairman:

Cllr L Dedman

Cllr C Adams
Cllr S Aitkenhead
Cllr H Allen
Cllr M Andrews
Cllr S Armstrong
Cllr J Bagwell
Cllr S Bartlett
Cllr J Beesley
Cllr D Brown
Cllr O Brown
Cllr R Burton
Cllr J J Butt
Cllr P Canavan
Cllr S Carr-Brown
Cllr J Challinor
Cllr A Chapmanlaw
Cllr B Chick
Cllr J Clements
Cllr E Connolly
Cllr P Cooper
Cllr M Cox
Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson
Cllr B Dove
Cllr M Dower
Cllr M Earl

Vice Chairman:

Cllr S Bull

Cllr J Edwards
Cllr G Farquhar
Cllr D Farr
Cllr A Filer
Cllr D A Flagg
Cllr M Gillett
Cllr C Goodall
Cllr A Hadley
Cllr J Hanna
Cllr R Herrett
Cllr P Hilliard
Cllr B Hitchcock
Cllr M Howell
Cllr A Keddie
Cllr M Le Poidevin
Cllr D Logan
Cllr S Mackrow
Cllr A Martin
Cllr D Martin
Cllr G Martin
Cllr J Martin
Cllr C Matthews
Cllr S McCormack
Cllr P Miles
Cllr S Moore

Cllr A-M Moriarty
Cllr B Nanovo
Cllr L Northover
Cllr E Pankhurst
Cllr R Pattinson-West
Cllr M Phipps
Cllr K Rampton
Cllr Dr F Rice
Cllr J Richardson
Cllr V Ricketts
Cllr C Rigby
Cllr K Salmon
Cllr J Salmon
Cllr P Sidaway
Cllr P Slade
Cllr T Slade
Cllr V Slade
Cllr M Tarling
Cllr T Trent
Cllr O Walters
Cllr C Weight
Cllr L Williams
Cllr K Wilson
Cllr G Wright

All Members of the Council 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 attend or view the live stream of this meeting at the following link: <https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Mid=6082>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Democratic Services on 01202 096660 or 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

AIDAN DUNN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

16 March 2026

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app

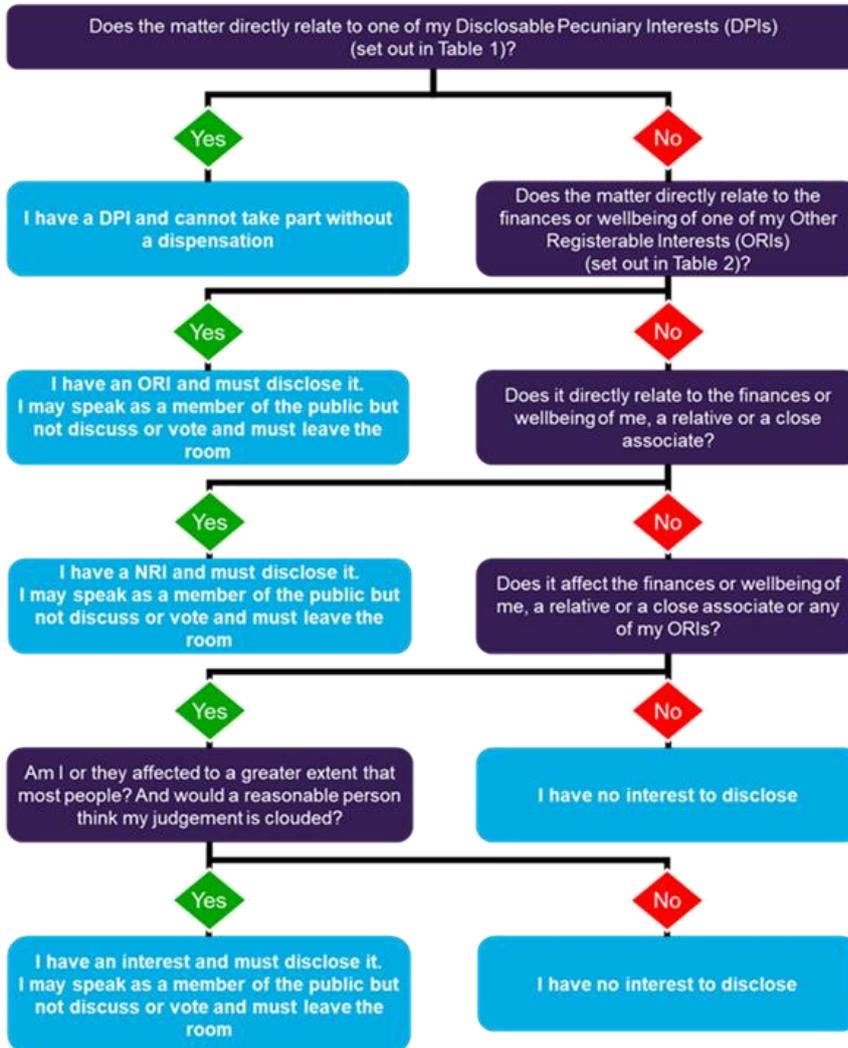


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

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

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

13 - 50

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 10 February 2026, and the Budget Meeting held on 24 February 2026.

4. Announcements and Introductions from the Chairman

To receive any announcements from the Chairman.

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 Wednesday 18 March (mid-day, 3 clear working days before the meeting).

The deadline for the submission of a statement is mid-day Monday 23 March 2026 (mid-day the working day before the meeting).

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Tuesday 10 March 2026 (10 working days before the meeting).

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Recommendations from Cabinet and Committees

6. Audit and Governance Committee 26 February 2026 - Minute No. 103 - Financial Regulations - Annual evolution for the financial year 2026/27

51 - 118

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL the adoption of the Financial Regulations as shown in Appendix A and approved by the Audit and Governance Committee. The operation go live date to be 1 April 2026.

7. Cabinet 4 March 2026 - Minute No. 141 - Children's Services Capital Strategy Report 2026-2029

119 - 134

RECOMMENDED that Council agrees the capital programme as set out in the report, including the budget allocations set against the capital funding available for the period 2026/27.

<p>8. Cabinet 4 March 2026 - Minute No. 143 - Asset Disposals</p> <p>RECOMMENDED that Council: -</p> <p>(a) note the confidential minutes and the recommendations of the Cross-Party Strategic Asset Disposal Working Group meeting held on the 12 February 2026; and</p> <p>(b) approve the disposal on an open market basis of; 12-14 Commercial Road, Queensmead Care Home and Penn Hill Car Park on such terms to be approved by the Director of Finance, acting in his capacity as Corporate Property Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance.</p> <p>[PLEASE NOTE: Should Council wish to discuss the detail of the confidential appendices at Appendix 2 or Appendix 3 the meeting will be required to move into Confidential (Exempt) Session].</p>	<p>135 - 152</p>
<p>9. Cabinet 4 March 2026 - Minute No. 152 - Our Place and Environment: Local Transport Consolidated Funding Programme 2026/27</p> <p>RECOMMENDED that: -</p> <p>(a) Cabinet recommends to Council approval of the 2026/27 Local Transport Consolidated Fund programme as set out in Appendix A and delegates delivery to the Director of Planning and Transport in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy and Portfolio Holder for Destination, Leisure & Commercial Operations;</p> <p>NOTE- resolution (b) was a resolved matter by the Cabinet</p>	<p>153 - 174</p>
<p>10. Cabinet 4 March 2026 - Minute No. 153 - Our Place and Environment: Active Travel Funding 2026/27</p> <p>RECOMMENDED that Cabinet recommends to Council delegation of the investment of the £2.96m of 2026/27 active travel funding to the Service Director for Planning & Transport in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Climate Response, Environment and Energy.</p>	<p>175 - 190</p>
<p>11. Cabinet 4 March 2026 - Minute No. 154 - Our Place and Environment: Local Area Bus Grant (LABG) 2026/27</p> <p>RECOMMENDED that: -</p> <p>(a) Cabinet recommends to Council acceptance of the £5.64m Local Authority Bus Grant funding for 2026/27 from the Department for Transport; and</p> <p>(b) Cabinet recommends to Council to Delegate delivery of the Local Authority Bus Grant funded Bus Service Improvement Plan programme set out in Appendix 2 of this report to the Service Director for Planning and Transport in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Climate Mitigation, Energy and Environment.</p>	<p>191 - 202</p>

12. Cabinet 4 March 2026 - Minute No. 155 - Our Place and Environment: BCP Council Lane Rental Scheme

203 - 326

RECOMMENDED that Cabinet recommends to Council to: -

- (a) approve the submission of an application to the Secretary of State for Transport to establish and operate a Lane Rental Scheme across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole; and**
- (b) subject to Secretary of State approval, delegate the establishment and operation of a BCP Lane Rental scheme to the Service Director for Planning and Transport in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Climate Mitigation, Energy and Environment.**

13. Calendar of Meetings for 2026/27 and 2027/28

327 - 340

The Council is asked to consider and approve the schedule of meetings for the 2026/27 and 2027/28 municipal years.

14. Notices of Motions in accordance with Procedure Rule 10

Motion to Council: Protecting Enforceable SEND Support

The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor J Salmon.

Council notes:

1. That Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) currently provide the primary legal mechanism through which children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) can secure enforceable support.
2. That the Government's proposed SEND reforms set out in the White Paper Every Child Achieving and Thriving introduce Individual Support Plans (ISPs) as the primary planning mechanism for many children, while linking EHCPs more closely to nationally defined Specialist Provision Packages.
3. That ISP-based provision does not provide the same legally enforceable entitlement where support is not delivered.
4. That the proposed reforms would increase the role of schools in funding and delivering SEND support.
5. That national commentary and emerging legal challenge have raised concern that aspects of the proposed reforms may weaken existing legal rights and routes to challenge unmet need.
6. That Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council faces significant financial pressures within its High Needs SEND budget.
7. That there is concern nationally that SEND reform designed to manage system costs may weaken enforceable protections for children.
8. That rising SEND costs nationally are widely linked to increasing reliance on private and independent provision, alongside shortages of publicly provided specialist places and services.

9. That adopted, kinship and care-experienced children often experience developmental trauma which affects their educational engagement and support needs.
10. That recent changes to the Adoption and Special Guardianship Support Fund (ASGSF) have reduced access to therapeutic support for adopted and special guardianship families.
11. That leading SEND legal practitioners, including Michael Charles of Sinclairs Law, have warned of a potential shift of decision-making power away from families within emerging SEND reforms.
12. That national SEND charities and professional bodies have welcomed the ambition of reform while calling for safeguards to ensure access to statutory support is not narrowed.

Council believes:

1. That SEND reform should improve support without weakening families' ability to secure provision through enforceable rights.
2. That expanding access to support should not come at the expense of enforceable entitlement or meaningful rights of challenge.
3. That support must be driven by need rather than affordability.
4. That trauma-informed approaches are essential to supporting adopted, kinship and care-experienced children.
5. That SEND reform should be aligned with wider support systems, including access to therapeutic provision.
6. That addressing the financial sustainability of the SEND system should focus on strengthening publicly available provision and specialist capacity, rather than reducing children's access to statutory support.

Council resolves to:

1. Respond to the Government's SEND consultation in a way that supports reform only where it:
 - retains EHCPs as the primary route to legally enforceable support
 - does not reduce access to EHCPs
 - does not shift responsibility for securing provision from the local authority to schools
 - does not allow financial pressures to limit children's legal entitlement
 - does not weaken routes for families to challenge unmet need
2. Publicly state this position as part of its consultation response.
3. Confirm that any local SEND reform undertaken in connection with financial sustainability will not restrict access to statutory support.
4. Advocate for SEND reform that:
 - recognises the needs of adopted, kinship and care-experienced children
 - incorporates trauma-informed approaches
 - supports the delivery of trauma-informed practice within schools

5. Seek assurance from Government that SEND reform will be aligned with continued access to therapeutic support for adopted and special guardianship families.
6. Write to Local Members of Parliament asking them to support this position.

Motion to Full Council: Bio Diversity Loss

The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor J Salmon.

This Council notes:

1. That January 2026 the UK Government has published the national security assessment Global biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security, which concludes with high confidence that ecosystem degradation already threatens UK security and prosperity and is likely to intensify to 2050 and beyond.
2. That the report identifies cascading risks including food and water insecurity, flooding and extreme weather, pandemic risk, supply chain disruption, economic instability, migration pressures, and social instability.
3. That the report explicitly states that nature is a foundation of national security and that the loss of ecosystems threatens the systems that provide food, clean water, climate stability, and economic resilience.
4. That the UK imports a substantial proportion of its food and is not currently self-sufficient, leaving communities exposed to global shocks, price spikes and supply disruption.
5. That many of these risks are already visible in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole through flooding, overheating, loss of green space, biodiversity decline, rising food insecurity, and pressure on local infrastructure and public services.

This Council believes:

1. That the Government's own national security assessment represents a material and urgent change in the risk environment for local authorities.
2. That biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation are not abstract environmental concerns but emerging threats to community safety, economic stability, public health, and food security.
3. That protecting and restoring nature must be treated as essential resilience infrastructure, on a par with flood defences, housing, transport and public health planning.
4. That failure to act now will increase long-term financial pressures on local government through higher costs linked to flooding, overheating, food insecurity, health inequality, and emergency response.

This Council resolves to:

A. Direct action by the Leader and Cabinet

1. That the Leader of the Council instructs Cabinet to undertake an urgent cross-portfolio review of the adequacy of existing Council

strategies in light of the national security risks identified, including:

- Development Plan Documents and planning policy
 - Flood and coastal risk management
 - The Local Transport Plan and air quality strategy
 - Public health and food resilience planning
 - Biodiversity, green infrastructure and nature recovery strategies
 - Climate adaptation and overheating risk
 - Community resilience and civil contingencies
2. That Cabinet instructs officers to prepare a consolidated risk and resilience report identifying:
 - Key local vulnerabilities
 - Strategic gaps in current policy
 - Practical actions to strengthen long-term resilience
 - Implications for future investment priorities
 3. That this review explicitly considers whether biodiversity and ecosystem decline should be recognised as a core strategic risk category alongside climate change, financial pressures and demographic change.

B. Strengthen democratic scrutiny

1. Request that the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees examine:
 - The local impacts of ecosystem decline
 - Risks to food security, public health and infrastructure
 - The adequacy of current mitigation and adaptation measuresand provide recommendations to Cabinet.

C. Strengthen corporate risk governance

1. That the Audit and Governance Committee is requested to consider how ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss should be incorporated into the Council's corporate risk management framework and long-term resilience planning.

D. Reporting back to Full Council

1. That Cabinet reports back to Full Council within six months with:
 - A clear assessment of local exposure to ecosystem-related risks
 - Proposed changes to policy, strategy or investment priorities
 - Any implications for the Key Policy Framework or Budgetary Framework

E. A clear challenge to Government

1. That the Leader writes on behalf of the Council to:
 - The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
 - The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
 - The Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
 - All Members of Parliament representing Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

setting out the Council's concern that the national security implications of biodiversity loss require urgent national leadership

and requesting:

- (a) Clear national guidance for local authorities on incorporating ecosystem risk into planning, resilience and infrastructure decision-making;
- (b) Long-term, ring-fenced funding for climate adaptation, nature restoration and community resilience, rather than short-term competitive bidding pots;
- (c) A national strategy for food system resilience that recognises the UK's dependence on imports and the growing risks posed by global ecological instability;
- (d) Stronger national planning policy direction enabling councils to prioritise long-term environmental resilience over short-term speculative development pressures;
- (e) Cross-government recognition that biodiversity protection is not solely an environmental issue but a matter of economic security, public health and national resilience.

Motion to Full Council: Regulating Short-Term Lets to Protect Housing, Communities and the Visitor Economy in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor S Armstrong.

This Council Notes:

- The rapid growth of short-term lets across the BCP area, including platforms such as Airbnb, which account for over 2,272 active listings in Bournemouth and more than 2,328 across the wider BCP area as of late 2025.
- Tourism is essential to the BCP economy, contributing over £1.3 billion annually and supporting thousands of jobs.
- The area continues to face acute housing pressures, with rising rents, high house prices, and a 20% increase in homelessness applications since 2021, demonstrating the need to protect long-term housing supply.
- The Government has committed to a national registration scheme and a new Use Class C5 for short-term lets, but these powers are not yet in force.

This Council Believes:

- Immediate action is required to respond to the community, housing and economic impacts of short-term lets.
- Short-term lets, including those advertised on platforms such as Airbnb, must be better managed to protect residential neighbourhoods, housing availability, and the sustainability of the regulated hospitality sector.
- That short term lets, if appropriately regulated can make a positive contribution to the local tourism economy.
- That short term lets should not be a means to circumvent either the council tax, or business rates system.

- Collaboration across the tourism industry, rental market, town councils, neighbourhood forums and local communities is essential to finding balanced and workable solutions.

This Council Resolves To:

1. Examine how existing powers could be used to allow immediate enforcement.
 - Using environmental health, planning enforcement, anti-social behaviour tools and licensing where applicable, the Council will examine how to strengthen monitoring and enforcement against nuisance, anti-social behaviour, and statutory breaches linked to short-term lets, including those advertised via Airbnb and similar platforms.
 - Then using those powers where appropriate to better manage the impact of short-term lettings.
2. Enhance Local Understanding and Data
 - Improve the Council's ability to identify and map short-term lets using publicly available data from platforms such as Airbnb, to support evidence-based decision-making.
 - Work with stakeholders in the hospitality sector and rental market to gather insights on local impacts, pressures and opportunities.
3. Support communities impacted by short term lets
 - Work with communities to identify areas experiencing high concentrations of short-term lets and prioritise targeted enforcement if available.
 - Ensure and promote clear reporting routes for residents affected by nuisance or unmanaged short-term letting.
4. Prepare for Forthcoming National Regulation
 - Begin internal preparations for delivering the national short-term let registration scheme once activated.
 - Investigate whether properties exceeding 90 nights create a material change of use.
 - Write to Ministers and local MPs urging the early introduction of Use Class C5 into the national planning framework to strengthen local control and further request that BCP Council be considered for inclusion in any government-led pilot -schemes.
 - Invite MPs, sector partners and ministers to a roundtable to discuss the local impact of short-term lets and create solutions.
 - As part of overall work on short term lets as through the motion, gather data that would support an Article 4 direction in the future.
5. Promote Responsible Hosting and Sustainable Tourism
 - Encourage best-practice standards for short-term let hosts, including clear guest guidance, effective waste management, complaint handling and environmentally responsible operation.
 - Work with the hospitality sector, rental market partners and business improvement districts to ensure fair competition and support a sustainable year-round visitor economy.

- Recognise that properly regulated short-term lets can support tourism without undermining residential areas or the hospitality sector.
- Ensure the Council uses all existing legal and regulatory powers available to support the balanced and sustainable use of homes.
- Ask the Leader to write to the Minister for Local Government requesting to be part of a trial for the local registration, management and regulation of short-term lettings, with appropriate funding mechanisms.
- Ask that the Leader to invite MP's, stakeholders and the appropriate government minister to a round table discussion, so that government can understand the issue in more depth and how that is affecting residents and businesses in the BCP area and identify solutions.

15. Questions from Councillors

The deadline for questions to be submitted to the Monitoring Officer is Monday 16 March 2026.

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

To consider any urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Constitution.

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.