

Notice of Overview and Scrutiny Board

Date: Tuesday, 16 July 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 S Moore
Cllr L Northover
Cllr Dr F Rice

Cllr K Salmon
Cllr T Trent
Cllr O Walters

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?MIId=6194>

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

8 July 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

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 13 May 2024.

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

The deadline for the submission of public questions is midday 3 clear working days before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a statement is midday the working day before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a petition is 10 working days before the meeting.

6. Recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Overview and Scrutiny Board is asked to consider the following recommendations.

From the Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1. That the Board consider the inclusion of an item on BCP Council

consultation process on its Work Plan.

Note: This recommendation came from the Committee's consideration of the Poole Park Environment Cabinet report.

From the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1. That a similar toolkit be developed for all O&S committees to reflect the relevant data and policy landscape within the remit of these committees. This to be added to the O&S Action Plan.
2. That the Data Use Toolkit be highlighted within the O&S annual report to Council.

Note: These recommendations came from the Committee's consideration of the Data Working Group Report

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

7. Financial Outturn 2023/24

15 - 68

The report presents the revenue and capital budget outturn, reserves position, dedicated schools grant outturn, housing revenue account, and results of council company and partner organisations for the financial year 2023/24.

In general terms the council's attempt to improve the financial health and sustainability of the authority have been successful with the 2023/24 drawdown on specific reserves reduced from the original budgeted amount £30m to £23m at financial outturn. At quarter three the estimated drawdown was forecast to be £27m although this was expected to improve due to the ongoing application of a freeze on expenditure and the Cabinet decision to release a previous accrual relating to the Dolphin Shopping Centre.

Services have delivered 94% of the budgeted savings of £34m, achieved through transformation, third party spend reduction, staff savings and raising additional income.

8. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update

69 - 132

This report:

- Aims to ensure the council continues to maintain a balanced 2025/26 budget forecast by considering the impact that various assumptions would have on the underlying approved position.
- Proposes a financial strategy to support the delivery of a robust and financially sustainable budget for 2025/26.
- Proposes a budget planning process and timeline for key financial reports.
- Presents the outcome of the CIPFA Financial Resilience Review undertaken in the summer/autumn of 2023 and finalised in the spring

of 2024.

- Presents a letter submitted by the Director of Finance to DLUHC and CIPFA outlining concerns regarding the impact the deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant is having on the financial sustainability of the Council. This recognises that due to the forecast £92m accumulated deficit on the 31 March 2025 the council will be technically insolvent (a situation where the deficit on the DSG is greater than the total reserves held by the council with a negative overall general fund position) when the current statutory override finishes on 31 March 2026. This letter also highlighted the difficulties the council will have in setting a legally balanced budget for 2025/26 when it has exhausted its ability to cover the cost of the DSG deficit from its temporary short term treasury management cashflow headroom.

9. Pay and Reward: Update on progress in introducing new terms and conditions of employment

133 - 138

Since the merger of the four preceding councils we have been working with the trades unions, to negotiate a new Pay and Reward package which harmonises pay across all colleagues. The report describes the consultation process conducted with the recognised trade unions, GMB and UNISON, who agreed to ballot their members on the proposed pay and reward offer. The report sets out the various communication and engagement activities undertaken to raise awareness and inform colleagues of the offer.

Two ballot processes have been undertaken and details of the ballot outcomes are provided. Further discussions are ongoing with the unions with a view to reaching an agreed way forward to implement the new arrangements.

10. Revised BCP Seafront Strategy

139 - 170

The BCP seafront is highly valued by local residents and visitors and provides a diverse range of internationally important natural habitats, geology and archaeology. It also sits at the heart of our local tourism industry and also generates significant revenue to the Council, helping to fund wider services for the community.

A review of the Seafront Strategy has been undertaken to assess progress to date and refresh priorities in light of significant organisational changes, new pressures and opportunities.

This report sets out a revised BCP Seafront Strategy, updating on the vision, key objectives, investment criteria and project delivery priorities. It builds on the original strategy adopted in April 2022, by reflecting new priorities such as the removal of barriers to community access, wellbeing, and delivering environmental net gains across biodiversity and carbon reduction. It also strengthens the focus on working with commercial operators to enable project delivery and secure external investment in infrastructure.

The Strategy provides a framework for investment over the next 20 years,

along with priorities for the short to medium term.

11. Work Plan

171 - 216

The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Board is asked to consider and identify work priorities for publication in a Work Plan.

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.