

Report subject	<b>Corporate Flag Flying Policy</b>
Meeting date	23 June 2021
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	The report seeks approval of a Corporate Flag Flying Policy, attached at Appendix 1, which consolidates the three policies from the legacy Councils and takes account of current national guidance.
Recommendations	<p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <p><b>(a) the draft Corporate Flag Flying Policy as attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.</b></p> <p><b>(b) the proposed arrangements for the Charter Trustees for Bournemouth and Poole be noted acknowledging that it is a matter for each of the Charter Trustees to determine their own arrangements for flag flying and marking events during the mayoral year.</b></p>
Reason for recommendations	To consolidate the flag flying policies from the legacy Councils into a corporate flag flying policy and ensure compliance with national guidance where appropriate and to determine any local arrangements.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Drew Mellor, Leader of the Council
Corporate Director	Graham Farrant, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Karen Tompkins, Deputy Head of Democratic Services
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	Decision

## Background

1. The legacy Councils of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole all operated flag flying Policies. It is necessary to consolidate these policies to provide guidance for a consistent approach in respect of flying flags in the BCP Council area.

2. Attached at Appendix 1 to the report is the draft policy for consideration.

### **Charter Trustees for Bournemouth and Poole**

3. The Charter Trustees for Bournemouth and Poole are now separate entities and have the ability to determine arrangements for flying appropriate flags for events during the Mayoral year. The proposed arrangements are set out in Appendix B to the draft policy and will be subject to consideration by each of the Charter Trustees at future meetings.

### **Options Appraisal**

4. It is necessary to consolidate the legacy Councils' flag flying policies. The draft policy provides an opportunity to apply consistent standards across the civic locations in marking both national and local events.

### **Summary of financial implications**

5. It is not expected that the policy will create any additional financial implications. It should be noted that the policy makes reference to requests from local organisations to fly specific flags for other events and the Council may wish to seek any associated costs from the relevant organisation if such requests are approved.

### **Summary of legal implications**

6. The Council must ensure compliance with all relevant legislation when flying flags. In addition, guidance is issued by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport when marking national events.

### **Summary of human resources implications**

7. There are no human resources implications associated with this report.

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

8. There are no sustainability implications associated with this report.

### **Summary of public health implications**

9. There are no public health implications associated with this report.

### **Summary of equality implications**

10. The policy is relevant to everyone who lives, works or visits the area. It is acknowledged that different people do have different needs, but this policy is not about changing delivery, it is about the Council using flags, appropriately, to commemorate or celebrate events.
11. The policy makes reference to a number of events that are marked by the Council during the Municipal Year. It is acknowledged that this is not an exhaustive list and therefore it is proposed that authority is delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman to determine and identify other national and local events that should be marked by the Council.
12. An Equality Impact Assessment Conversation Screening Tool has been completed. The summary from the screening highlights that it is recognised that the Council will not have a flag for every commemoration event or celebration, but it will use a range

of other means or communication channels to recognise, celebrate and remember events across the diversity calendar. This will be set out in an equality & diversity communication plan.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

13. There are no risk implications associated with this report.

### **Background papers**

Published works

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – BCP Council Corporate Flag Flying Policy