

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL
CABINET

Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 June 2025 at 10.15 am

Present:-

Cllr M Earl – Chairman

Cllr M Cox – Vice-Chairman (Present virtually)

Present: Cllr D Brown, Cllr R Burton, Cllr J Hanna, Cllr R Herrett, Cllr A Martin, Cllr S Moore and Cllr K Wilson

Also in attendance: Cllr S Bartlett, Cllr P Canavan (Chair of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee), Cllr G Farquhar and Cllr B Nanovo

Also in attendance virtually: Cllr S Carr-Brown (Chair of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee), Cllr C Rigby (Chair of the Environment and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee) and Cllr K Salmon (Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board)

Apologies: Cllr A Hadley

12. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

13. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2025 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

14. Public Issues

Cabinet was advised that there had been no petitions, questions or statements submitted by members of the public on this occasion.

15. Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, Councillor Kate Salmon addressed the Cabinet advising that the following recommendation in relation to access to leisure had been agreed by the Committee for submission to Cabinet for consideration: -

Overview and Scrutiny Board – 9 June 2025 - Agenda Item 9 – Leisure Services Presentation and Discussion (non- Cabinet item)

The Overview and Scrutiny Board recommended that Cabinet be urged to put in place an "Access to Leisure" scheme across the whole BCP area as soon as possible, recognising that people in Poole have lost this facility and with particular emphasis on ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities.

The Leader thanked the Chair of the Board for their recommendation and in relation to this advised that the recommendation would be taken away and brought back to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for a formal response.

RESOLVED that following consideration a formal response be provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Board within the two month requirements.

16. Bournemouth Air Festival

The Portfolio Holder for Destination, Leisure and Commercial Operations presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was advised that the report provided an update on the feasibility of providing an agreement with a potential operator for 2026 onwards in relation to the Bournemouth Air Festival along with an update on the position of potential for sponsorship for 2026 onwards.

In relation to this Cabinet was informed that following the work undertaken and discussions that have taken place, the paper recommended to stop any further work on delivery of an Air Festival whilst recognising the process in place for new events to come forward in the future.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, Councillor Kate Salmon addressed the Cabinet advising that the Board at their recent meeting had thoroughly debated this item in detail and that whilst not a unanimous decision the Committee had supported Option4 and agreed the following recommendation that: -

the Overview and Scrutiny Board agreed with the recommendation that Cabinet agrees to Option 4 as set out in the report, which acknowledges the ongoing process for new events to come forward and stops any further work on an Air Festival for 2026 onwards.

Cabinet members spoke on the report in particular highlighting the increased costs associated with the festival.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agreed to Option 4, which acknowledged the ongoing process for new events to come forward and stops any further work on an Air Festival for 2026 onwards.

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Destination, Leisure and Commercial Operations

Reasons

To enable staff resources to be refocused on working with external commercial and community events to support achieving the corporate strategy of working closely with partners, removing barriers and empowering others, having explored all options and acknowledging the council's current and future financial position.

17. Corporate Performance Report - / End of Year

The Leader of the Council presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was advised that BCP Council adopted 'A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28' in May 2024, and that the shared vision is the corporate strategy which sets out the council's vision, priorities and ambitions as well as the principles which underpin the way the council works as it develops and delivers its services.

Cabinet was informed that incorporated in the vision is a set of measures of progress for achieving the vision, priorities and ambitions, and that this was the fourth quarterly performance monitoring report, presenting an update on the progress measures.

In relation to this Cabinet was advised that the council's delivery against its priorities and ambitions can also be monitored through a [performance dashboard](#) which is available on the council's website providing up-to-date real time information on the progress measures.

The Chair of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee addressed the Cabinet advising that whilst the exception report within the Corporate Performance Report associated with health and adult social care hadn't been considered by the Committee that the Committee were looking at fulfilled lives at every meeting.

Cabinet members spoke in support of the report highlighting good news stories across the service areas.

RESOLVED that Cabinet: -

- (a) Considered the quarter four/ end of year performance; and**
- (b) Noted that work continues to expand the data available on the interactive performance dashboard**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Leader of the Council

Reasons

Our shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole sets out the priorities and ambitions against which the council's performance will be judged, and as such is a vital component of the council's performance management framework.

An understanding of performance against targets, goals and objectives helps the council to assess and manage service delivery and identify emerging business risks.

18. Bournemouth Development Company - Winter Gardens project

The Leader of the Council presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was advised that Bournemouth Development Company (BDC) is a joint venture between Muse and BCP Council, established to unlock housing supply and attract private sector investment into the conurbation.

Further to this Cabinet was informed that the regeneration of Bournemouth Town Centre is a key priority to revitalise the retail and housing offer for residents and reimagine underutilised sites, and that the Winter Gardens site had been identified, for many years, as a priority regeneration project to deliver corporate strategic objectives.

Cabinet was informed that this report sought approval for the new BDC Partnership Business Plan which is required to set out the agreed priorities and confirm how sites will be taken forward through the Bournemouth Development Company, and that this will confirm the extension to the Site Option Execution Date for Winter Gardens to September 2028, which was approved in principle by Cabinet in March, subject to the production of a new Partnership Business Plan.

In relation to this Cabinet was further advised that the paper sets out the next steps for the Winter Gardens project to deliver circa 500 homes through the redevelopment of the existing surface car park and acquired land.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, Councillor Kate Salmon addressed the Cabinet advising that the Board at their recent meeting had thoroughly debated this item in detail and agreed the following recommendations that: -

1. *The Overview and Scrutiny Board supported the following recommendations to Cabinet:*
 - (a) *Cabinet approves the BDC Partnership Business Plan for 2025 – 2030.*
 - (b) *Cabinet confirms the extension of the Site Option Execution Date to September 2028, allowing Muse as the Private Sector Partner in the BDC to fund the first stage of work on the new Winter Gardens scheme, resulting in a new Site Development Plan.*
 - (c) *Cabinet approves proceeding on the understanding that public parking will not be included in a new scheme design.*
2. *The Overview and Scrutiny Board would welcome the development of the Town Centre Vision for Bournemouth and requested to scrutinise the regeneration visions for the 3 Towns in the BCP Area as these are redeveloped.*

The Leader thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Board for their recommendations and support of the report.

Councillor Stephen Bartlett addressed the Cabinet providing background in relation to the site and urging Cabinet to not agree to the extension but to take stock and analyse whether further consideration should be given allowing the market to take the risk. In relation to this Councillor Bartlett requested the decision, whilst not required to, be taken to Council.

Councillor Patrick Canavan addressed Cabinet and expressed his support for taking the item to Council.

Cabinet spoke in support of the report highlighting the need to deliver the site and housing.

The Leader informed that there was no commitment of funds at this stage, and that when the site development plan comes forward in December that that is the time that the paper should go to Council for discussion, and that this report provided certainty for the council's private sector partner.

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) Cabinet approves the BDC Partnership Business Plan for 2025 – 2030.**
- (b) Cabinet confirms the extension of the Site Option Execution Date to September 2028, allowing Muse as the Private Sector Partner in the BDC to fund the first stage of work on the new Winter Gardens scheme, resulting in a new Site Development Plan.**
- (c) Cabinet approves proceeding on the understanding that public parking will not be included in a new scheme design.**

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holder: Leader of the Council

Reasons

To contribute to the Council's Corporate Strategy, specifically helping to revitalise high streets and regenerate key sites to create new opportunities and to provide good quality homes that are accessible, sustainable and affordable for all.

The draft Local Plan includes an allocation of 400 new homes in the Bournemouth Arc area. This project offers the potential to make a significant contribution to exceed this target.

The Council has reserved the right for Cabinet to approve Site Development Plans (SDP) and further approvals are necessary to vary terms.

19. Our Place and Environment: Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) – Pokesdown and Southbourne

The Portfolio Holder for Destination, Leisure and Commercial Operations presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'D' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was advised that the report considered the outcome of public consultation on proposed alterations to parking and restrictions along Seabourne Road (and adjoining streets), Southbourne Grove and Southbourne Road aimed at improving journey times and reliability for buses and general traffic whilst balancing the needs of residents and businesses.

Further to this Cabinet was informed that the report recommended full consideration of the consultation outputs and implementation of the measures proposed.

Councillor George Farquhar addressed the Cabinet advising that he had been involved in the consultation and thanked officers whose engagement had been invaluable. Further to this Councillor Farquhar expressed the need for parking enforcement along the route, and requested that the bus company be able to record and report enforcement issues. In addition Councillor Farquhar requested that the bus company be encouraged to install benches to encourage older people to travel and the reinstatement of litter bins.

Cabinet members spoke in support of the report and of the proactiveness of MoreBus.

The Portfolio Holder in summing up advised that he would speak to the bus company with regards to the bins and the benches and that he would ask enforcement to pick up the areas raised by Councillor Farquhar.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approved that the scheme (as per Appendix A) is delivered as proposed.

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holders: Climate Response, Environment and Energy

Destination, Leisure and Commercial Operations

Reasons

Feedback from the public consultation was fully considered. It is recommended that the scheme is delivered as proposed.

The recommended scheme shall:

- improve reliability for bus passengers
- reduce overall journey times for all road users
- reduce congestion and emissions
- improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians
- safeguard limited wait parking for local businesses whilst balancing the needs of local residents

20. Our Place and Environment: Safer Roads Fund – 20mph Boscombe and Pokesdown (S107)

The Destination, Leisure and Commercial Operations presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'E' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Cabinet was advised that as part of a national programme, the Council was allocated £1.89m of Safer Roads Fund (SRF) grant by the Department for Transport (DfT) for road safety improvements along the A35 between Iford roundabout and St Pauls roundabout in Bournemouth.

Cabinet was informed that the recommendation is aligned with the emerging new Corporate Strategy and the Council Climate Action Strategy

2023 to 2028 and considered the outcome of the public consultation on the 20mph proposals in Boscombe and Pokesdown.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approved that the 20mph scheme is implemented as proposed.

Voting: Unanimous

Portfolio Holders: Climate Response, Environment and Energy

Destination, Leisure and Commercial Operations

Reasons

- (a) Feedback from the public consultation was fully considered. It is recommended that the scheme is delivered as proposed.
- (b) The Department for Transport (DfT) awarded the council £1,890,00 to make safety improvements along the A35 corridor as per the Safer Roads Fund bid proposal for round 3 funding.
- (c) The investment of the SRF funding is aligned with the Council's Corporate Strategy and the Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan.

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

Cabinet was advised that no urgent decisions had been taken in accordance with the Constitution since the last meeting of the Cabinet.

22. Cabinet Forward Plan

The Leader advised that the latest Cabinet Forward Plan had been published on the Council's website.

The meeting ended at 12.05 pm

CHAIRMAN