

Agenda Supplement

Dorset County Council



Meeting: Cabinet
Time: 10.00 am
Date: 6 March 2019
Venue: Committee Room 1, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ

Mike Harries
Chief Executive

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| 4. Public Participation | 3 - 4 |
| To receive and answer the attached questions at the meeting. | |
| 10. Questions from County Councillors | 5 - 6 |
| To receive and answer the attached questions at the meeting. | |

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Agenda Item 4

Questions from David Redgewell, South West Transport Network/Bus Users South West to the Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment in relation to Bus Services and Rail Station Access

Questions:

We welcome the setting up of the new Dorset Council. There is a need to provide bus services between Bridport - Beaminster and Crewkerne with the service 6 (Bridport – Beaminster, operating as one journey extended to/from Yeovil) currently operating only Mondays to Fridays. The 40 service, operated by Dorset County Council (DCC) should also operate as a through service.

1. What discussion is happening between First Group subsidiaries (First Wessex and Buses of Somerset) and the council regarding bus services as some people are missing bus connections with the current timetables i.e. caused by late running?
2. What progress is being made with the X51 service (Sundays and evenings) and services to Dorchester South, Bridport, Axminster, Yeovil and Bristol?
3. What proposals are there for disabled access at Dorchester West and Wareham where currently you have to use the level crossing? There is a need for a lift and disabled toilet.
4. Are Dorset County Council going to help fund their part of the Westbury - Weymouth Community Rail Partnership railway line?

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Member Questions

Question from Cllr Nick Ireland to the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills and the Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Transport

Question:

Whilst I welcome the fact that Dorset County Council recognised that no community engagement had taken place with respect to the previous paper that was withdrawn in December, I am concerned that the recent history of such engagement has been less than successful.

For example, the recent Dorset Parent-Carer Council survey received 35% less responses in 2019 than in 2017 (and that was only a consequence of the survey's existence being advertised by a third-party at the last minute).

Can DCC commit to engaging with those community groups which are already known to them both in the evidence gathering and consultation periods, and specifically the Dorset Parents Campaign for SEND Children?

Question from Cllr Jon Andrews to the Cabinet Member for Finance in relation to Pensions Asset Investment

Question:

My question is on the audit and governance of our pensions asset investment company CBRE. How is audit and governance on CBRE carried out and what findings are available from such audits?

The reason for asking such a question is that on Monday the 4th of February I had a phone call from a business owner in Northampton. His question was around the old Maplins store in Northampton which he has been trying to acquire for the last 9-10 months to no avail. All this time and since the demise of Maplins the building has been empty and Dorset County Council own it. So that's at least 10 months income that the DCC pension has missed out on, hence my question.

CBRE manage this asset on the Council's behalf or that is what I am led to understand.

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