

## Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall,  
Colliton Park, Dorchester on 18 March 2015.

### Present:

Robert Gould (Chairman)

Robin Cook, Toni Coombs, Peter Finney, Jill Haynes, Colin Jamieson and Rebecca Knox.

John Wilson, Chairman of the County Council, attended under Standing Order 54(1).

### Members attending:

Spencer Flower, County Councillor for Verwood and Three Legged Cross

Daryl Turner, County Councillor for Marshwood Vale

Peter Wharf, County Councillor for Egdon Heath

Steve Butler, County Councillor for Cranborne

Deborah Croney, County Councillor for Hambledon

Andrew Cattaway, County Councillor for Stour Vale

Hilary Cox, County Councillor for Winterborne

Paul Kimber, County Councillor for Portland Tophill


Trevor Jones, County Councillor for Dorchester

Officers Attending: Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Nicky Cleave (Assistant Director of Public Health), Patrick Ellis (Assistant Chief Executive), Jonathan Mair (Monitoring Officer), Matthew Piles (Head of Economy), Sara Tough (Director for Children's Services), Ali Waller (Head of Commissioning and Improvement), Jonathan Slater (Communications Team Leader) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

### For certain items, as appropriate

Debbie Catanzaro (Project Manager (self Directed Support)), Mike Garrity (Planning Policy Team Leader), Cyril Loveridge (Capital Programme Manager), Patrick Myers (Head of Business Development), Peter Scarlett (Estate and Assets Services Manager) and Andrew Shaw (Transport Policy Manager).

(Notes:(1) In accordance with Rule 16(b) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules the decisions set out in these minutes will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication date. Publication Date: **24 March 2015**.

(2) The symbol (  ) denotes that the item considered was a Key Decision and was included in the Forward Plan.

(3) These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Cabinet to be held on **8 April 2015**.)

### **Apologies for Absence**

91. Apologies for absence were received from Catherine Driscoll (Director for Adult and Community Services) and Mike Harries (Director for Environment and the Economy). Ali Waller (Head of Commissioning and Improvement) attended in place of Catherine Driscoll and Matthew Piles (Head of Economy) attended in place of Mike Harries.

### **Code of Conduct**

92. There were no declarations by members of any disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

**Minutes**

93. The minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2015 were confirmed and signed.

**Public Participation**Public Speaking

94.1 There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

94.2 There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

95. There were no petitions received in accordance with the County Council's petition scheme at this meeting.

**Draft Cabinet Forward Plan**

96.1 The Cabinet considered the Draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet and items planned to be considered in a private part of the meeting on or following the Cabinet meeting on 8 April 2015. The draft plan was published on 10 March 2015.

96.2 It was reported that the item due to be considered on 8 April 2015 in relation to school admissions would include an official response in respect of a request by St. Ives First School to convert to a Primary School.

96.3 The Leader announced that due to the recent national focus on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), and although there was confidence in the arrangements in Dorset, a report would be considered by the Cabinet on 13 May 2015 to give visibility to the vital arrangements to support young people. The Director for Children's Services also confirmed that all members had been invited to an event on 24 June 2015 in relation to CSE.

**Resolved**

97. That the Forward Plan be updated following the comments outlined in the minute above.

**Forward Together Update**

98.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Development on the progress being made through the Forward Together programme across the Council, including the County Hall Master Plan and the benefits realisation phase of the property and accommodation reviews.

98.2 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Development provided a summary of the report which had been reported to overview committees. He highlighted the success of the use of the old Library building in Dorchester as a decanting space for staff whilst improvements to County Hall were being undertaken to facilitate more staff and modernise the working environment, which would enable the disposal of redundant assets. The success to date of the formation of the Local Authority Trading Company, meeting via a Shadow Executive Board, and forthcoming appointment of management positions from July 2015, was also mentioned as a significant positive development.

**Noted**

### **Corporate Performance Report – Third Quarter 2014-15**

99.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Development in relation to corporate performance monitoring for the third quarter of 2014-15. The report contained analyses of the Council's progress against its corporate aims and presented the Corporate Balanced Scorecard. Overall, performance against the 51 indicators and measures in the Plan had an average 'green' (on target) rating. The percentage of indicators and measures meeting or exceeding their targets was 51%, with 54% in relation to performance indicators.

99.2 The Cabinet Member for the Economy and Growth highlighted performance in respect of economic growth, and informed members that an Economic Strategy was being prepared to provide a framework to facilitate development, which would have a particular focus on highways, broadband, mobile technology, skills and learning although this was not an exhaustive list. The Strategy would be reported to the Cabinet on 3 June 2015.

99.3 The Cabinet Member for Communities, Health and Wellbeing reported that prevention of road incidents, including those killed or seriously injured was one of the six priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Board was in the process of facilitating partnership between the appropriate agencies to be able to address the current performance figures. A workshop was also planned for 22 July 2015, and consideration by the Board in September 2015.

99.4 The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People summarised the attention being drawn to the target to reduce waiting times for children accessing primary care Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), which was due to rising demand across a number of agencies. Close monitoring would be taking place through a partnership group which included the Clinical Commissioning group and Public Health. A full review of the CAMHS service would also be undertaken and be reported to the Children's Services Overview Committee in due course.

#### **Resolved**

100.1 That the corporate performance monitoring report for the third quarter of 2014-15 be noted.

100.2 That a report on the Economic Strategy of the Council be considered at the Cabinet on 3 June 2015.

#### **Reason for Decisions**

101. To ensure members were aware of the County Council's performance against the 2014-15 Corporate Plan and Corporate Balanced Scorecard.

### **Waste Partnership - Monitoring Officer Issues**

102.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Monitoring Officer issued under Section 5A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 with respect to the unlawfulness of contract arrangements made by the Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) for vehicle hire and consultancy. It also related to insurance issues through a failure to notify the Motor Insurers Information Centre about the insurance arrangements for a number of DWP hired vehicles.

102.2 The Monitoring Officer explained that the report was considered by the DWP Joint Committee on 11 March 2015, together with another report to address the outcomes of reviews commissioned to examine different aspects of the performance of the DWP and the overspend in 2014/15. It was also highlighted that the report identified some suggested next steps and areas for further investigation. The minute of the DWP Joint Committee was circulated for information.

102.3 It was recognised that as the County Council was the host authority for the DWP it was accountable, and as such a number of recommendations were presented by the Monitoring Officer for consideration which related to management actions to address the failings across the DWP. It was clarified that the issues related to processes not being followed, rather than inadequate processes, although there had been a recent review of the contract procedure rules to ensure that this was the case.

102.4 Confirmation was provided that comments included in the report by the Director of the DWP in relation to a lack of advice received on the procurement and contract procedure rules had been investigated. Comprehensive advice was provided which included the need to have a proper operating model for the DWP and for purchasing decisions to be in line with the Council's practice, but was not acted upon.

102.5 The Cabinet regretted the need for the report and acknowledged that it was necessary to make sure proper procedures were followed and that lessons be learned as the Council hosted many partnerships.

102.6 A question was asked about whether the vehicles hired by the DWP were actually insured. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that all hired vehicles were insured through fleet management insurance, but there had been a specific unlawful action in failing to notify the Motor Insurance Information Centre. As many as 28 vehicles were not known about by insurance team, even though covered by fleet insurance.

102.7 As a result of the Cabinet's consideration of the Monitoring Officer's report, it was confirmed that the report and minute would be circulated to all members for information.

102.8 The County Councillor for Cranborne expressed his concern that the Management Board and Joint Committee for the DWP did not work properly and it was necessary to make sure the right people were in place to manage the service, and to make sure the same problems did not occur in other joint arrangements such as the Local Authority Trading Company (LATC). The Chief Executive clarified that the LATC operated a completely different structural model and was not managed under the same type of inter authority agreement.

102.8 One of the County Councillors for Dorchester (Trevor Jones), as the Chairman of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee, identified a potential wider area for consideration and appropriate scrutiny regarding partnerships. He highlighted that with the complexity and increased focus on partnerships it was necessary to scrutinise governance structures together to ensure there was a fit for purpose model, together with a review of the other major failures being reported in other authorities. He then added that a significant risk in the DWP was that there had not been an appropriate scrutiny arrangement to hold the partnership to account, and the Audit and Scrutiny Committee had recently recommended that the Leaders and Chief Executives Group undertake this role in advance of a formal arrangement being set up. The Cabinet agreed that it was appropriate that scrutiny arrangements were in place to ensure the decisions made were acted upon.

### **Resolved**

103.1 That the operating model for DWP and associated purchasing decisions must support the strategic waste plan.

103.2 That a management direction be issued within the DWP requiring that contract procedure rules and procurement legislation be followed for all future procurements.

103.3 That documentation relating to purchasing decisions include a note of why orders have been placed with each supplier used.

103.4 That a management direction be issued requiring that all vehicle hire orders (including extensions) be placed through the County Council's purchasing hub so that vehicle hire commitments are visible.

103.5 That all vehicles hired by the County Council and added to the Council's insurance are notified to the Motor Insurance Information Centre.

103.6 That vehicle hire as part of the unlawful direct awards identified in the Monitoring Officer's report be brought to an end at the earliest opportunity and that as part of this, a weekly report listing all such vehicles be supplied to Dorset Procurement together with a sufficiently detailed commentary demonstrating a critical service need.

103.7 That the observations made by the Director of the DWP be reviewed in the context of on-going investigations.

103.8 That scrutiny measures to ensure that all of the above decisions are followed through and acted upon are introduced and monitored by the Director for Environment and the Economy.

#### Reason for Decisions

104. So that the host authority could identify what further steps should be taken.

### Quarterly Asset Management Report

105.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member for Corporate Development and the Cabinet Member for Environment on the County Council's Asset Management Plan, which set out the strategic direction for the management of the County Council's assets. The report also sought approval to a revised Asset Management Plan to be published in April 2015, which included a principal theme to rationalise the number of properties that the County Council owned and to deliver services in a different manner to facilitate a reduction in running costs of its estate and the property maintenance backlog.

105.2 The Leader of the Council summarised the report and made particular reference to the revised Asset Management Plan which would be used as a tool to deliver an ambitious programme and key changes in property provision throughout the Council's estate. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People outlined the change in focus of school provision regarding sustainability and a new baseline design.

105.3 In relation to the disposal of Commercial House in Dorchester, it was clarified that the sale to the Dorset Islamic Trust would generate income and provided a wider community benefit. Despite concern about the disposal of the site by the Leader of the Labour Group, one of the County Councillors for Dorchester (Trevor Jones) supported the sale of the building as it would avoid on-going maintenance of a dilapidated building. It was also confirmed that with any disposal, all options were explored regarding the best outcome in terms of funding generated and community interest.

105.4 In terms of fuel procurement through an energy framework, the Cabinet Member for Environment confirmed that although the Council would seek the best deal in relation to fuels every effort was made to generate sustainable solutions through solar panels on council owned buildings which included county farms, Dorset History Centre, and soon at County Hall. The Chairman of the Council as the Member Champion for Sustainability welcomed efforts to use solar panels on all council buildings. A further report on county farms would be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 8 April 2015.

105.5 Members were updated in relation to the progress of building up a scheme for the Bridport Hub, which was originally planned to occupy the Citizens' Advice Bureau building although this was no longer feasible. The scheme was now being developed alongside the potential rebuild of Sydney Gale Care Home at the Fisherman's Arms site. It

was therefore possible that the whole project could be delayed so that greater benefits and financial efficiencies could be achieved.

105.6 In relation to highways maintenance, the Highways Team was congratulated by the Chairman of the Council, as a local member, on completing works on New Road, Parley 3-4 days ahead of schedule which would avoid access issues to local businesses and excess congestion on the main Ferndown to Bournemouth transport link.

105.7 It was clarified that regarding transport issues in relation to Dinah's Hollow, an update report would be presented for consideration by the Cabinet on 13 May 2015.

#### **Resolved**

106.1 That the adoption of the Asset Management Plan 2015-2018 (para 2.4 of the Cabinet Members' report) be approved.

106.2 That withdrawing Commercial House from the option agreement to be granted to Dorset Development Partnership and selling the building at market value to the Dorchester Islamic Trust and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Director of Environment and the Economy (para 4.1.1 of the report) be approved.

106.3 That the proposal supported by DCC Procurement to continue using the energy framework contracts established by LASER for the period 2016-2020 (para 4.1.2 of the report) be approved.

106.4 That the delegation of authority to decide on the preferred in-contract purchasing option to the Director for Environment and the Economy and the Chief Financial Officer (para 4.1.2 of the report) be approved.

106.5 That the overall revised estimates and cash flows for projects as summarised and detailed in appendices 1 and 2 (para 9.2 of the report) be approved.

106.6 That the emerging issues for each asset class be noted.

#### **Reason for Decisions**

107. A well-managed Council would ensure that the best use was made of its assets in terms of optimising service benefit, minimising environmental impact and maximising financial return.

### **Dorset's North-South highway infrastructure (A350/C13 and A37/A354)**

108.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Environment in relation to highway infrastructure on A350/C13 and A37/A354 as part of the Pan-Dorset Local Transport Plan 2011-2026, which was part of the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership's (DLEP) Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) through the Local Transport Board. The role of the Local Transport Board was to decide which investments should be prioritised; to review and approval business cases; and to ensure effective delivery of the programme and value for money.

108.2 The Cabinet Member for Environment explained that the SEP identified that there were inadequate transport linkages in the north and to the west of Dorset, and that economic activity was adversely affected by poor connections. Both A350/C13 and A37/A354 routes were considered to be unsatisfactory for HGVs and heavier and larger 'Euro freighters'. Members acknowledged that the closure of the C13 at Dinah's Hollow, Melbury Abbas had increased the pressure on the transport network and had an adverse effect on businesses and communities. It was therefore necessary to revisit the economic growth and planning issues by commissioning an economic assessment which would be completed by 27 March 2015.

108.3 The County Councillor for Hambledon addressed the meeting as a local member to express support for the beginning of a significant opportunity to drive improvements in the transport network, especially on the A350 as a feeder road to the A303

which was recognised as a priority for investment and upgrading by Government. She explained that it was a strategic route which would benefit from economic uplift as a result of increased housing especially in Gillingham, Shaftesbury and Poole. She felt that there were four distinct projects to be completed, and that the economic assessment was paramount to being able to access Government investment, together with high quality local evidence. A request was made for the Cabinet to seek assistance through the DLEP and to build the best case to access funding. Cabinet agreed to the suggestion.

108.4 The County Councillor for Winterborne, as a local member, expressed a need to focus on transport links with wider Poole, in addition to the port which was due to expand dramatically, as transport corridor for commuters and tourism. She summarised the historic inadequacy of the A350, especially in areas such as Spetisbury where areas were dangerous. Support for the economic assessment was given, but members were urged to concentrate on a medium term solution for the whole of the A350 strategic route although there were immediate problems north of Blandford. Support was also voiced for linkage with the LEP to access funding. She then urged the Cabinet to look at proactive, visionary and innovative solutions where possible.

108.5 The County Councillor for Stour Valley expressed support for the development of transport links and raised awareness, as a local member, of the need for partnership working with neighbouring authorities, especially in relation to the importance of the north-south link with areas as far as the M5 and Bristol. Assurance was provided that joint working with other council was taking place to achieve the best outcomes for Dorset.

108.6 The Cabinet Member for Environment welcomed the constructive comments and reassured members that all points raised would be considered.

108.7 Members of the Cabinet expressed support for the economic assessment and the aspirations of local members to focus on the wider transport network as far as possible in addition to the A350. Areas for development would include working with neighbouring authorities on moving strategic road links forward, building on the significant transport investment in Weymouth and Portland via the A354/A37 to Yeovil and working with the Highways Agency on improvements within their remit such as dualling.

#### **Resolved**

109.1 That the economic and social context for better north-south connectivity in Dorset be recognised.

109.2 That the decision to commission an economic assessment in respect of the A350 corridor be ratified.

109.3 That the scope of the economic assessment beyond the A350 corridor, in particular to include the A354/A37 Portland Port to Yeovil corridor be approved.

#### **Reason for Decisions**

110. A number of significant external events have resulted in the need to review some of the underlying economic factors considered previously during LTP3 preparation and the LEP's SEP. To ensure these were properly addressed, evidence in the form of a current economic assessment was required to enable the LTP/SEP to be refreshed and/or bids to Government to be prepared.

### **Navitus Bay Wind Park – Section 106 Obligation**

111.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth regarding the Council's response to the Examination into the proposed Navitus Bay Wind Park consultation as a statutory consultee and interested party. The report also highlighted progress in negotiating the terms of a section 106 obligation to provide mitigation and compensatory measures if the Secretary of State granted consent.

111.2 The Cabinet was informed that the negotiations were without prejudice to the Council's in principle objection to the scheme but aimed to reduce the impact of the scheme as far as possible, if consent by the Secretary of State was received.

111.3 The Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth outlined the scope of the proposed measures proposed for the section 106 obligations which included financial contributions to provide landscape improvements, biodiversity compensation, supply chain engagement, workforce training and measures to promote tourism. He also explained the process by which funding would be allocated via a liaison group comprising members from all affected councils.

111.4 The Leader of the Labour Group welcomed the report and asked for clarification in relation to steps to provide lower energy costs to residents in Dorset including pensioners. The Cabinet Member for Environment outlined the steps being taken in relation to becoming an energy supplier, as demonstrated in Cheshire.

### **Resolved**

112.1 That delegated authority be granted to enter the section 106 obligations in relation to supply chain engagement, workforce training, biodiversity compensation and landscape improvements.

112.2 That the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth and the Director for Environment and the Economy be consulted in relation to the approval of the strategies to be approved for each type of obligation.

112.3 That delegated authority be granted in respect of decisions on the application of funding under the section 106 obligations, including those that would otherwise be key decisions to the Director for Environment and the Economy, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth.

### **Reason for Decisions**

113. To secure measures which would reduce the impact of the scheme on Dorset in the event that the Secretary of State grants consent.

## **Partial Review of the Purbeck Local Plan – Issues and Options Consultation**

114.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth in relation to a consultation by Purbeck District Council in relation to a partial review of its Local Plan Part 1 which ended on 13 March 2015.

114.2 The Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth informed members that the response related to specific issues for the minerals, waste, education and highways services but was primarily of a technical nature and did not seek to influence the overall strategy of the review. An officer holding response had been sent to Purbeck District Council following Cabinet and local member consultation. The County Councillor for Egdon Heath, as the Chairman of the Partial Review Group of Purbeck District Council, welcomed the response and indicated that the Council would be informed of progress accordingly.

114.3 The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People asked a question in relation to the process for calculating the development contributions regarding educational provision, to which it was clarified by the Planning Policy Team Leader that the response was drawing attention to the need for an education based contribution based on each development, and that this would need to be considered for each development based on size and scale. It was noted that the potential impact would need to be reported to the Modernising Schools Programme Board in due course to ensure that there was appropriate awareness of the impact of developments in Purbeck.



**Resolved**

115. That the holding response made to Purbeck District Council on the Partial Review of the Local Plan – Issues and Options Consultation be agreed.

**Reason for Decision**

116. To ensure that the interests of the County Council as set out in the Corporate Plan (in particular the aim to enable economic growth) were reflected in the Partial Review of the Purbeck Local Plan.

**➤ Better Together Programme and Better Care Fund Section 75 Agreements**

117.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and the Director for Adult and Community Services which set out detail on progress being made with the Better Together Programme and how the Better Care Fund (BCF) Section 75 Agreements had been developed and what they were designed to achieve.

117.2 Members were provided with the minute of the Adult and Community Services Overview Committee meeting held on 16 March 2015 which had considered and supported the report. It was also noted that the Better Together Programme would continue to be reported as a standing item to the Health and Wellbeing Board for appropriate monitoring and scrutiny.

**Resolved**

118.1 That the Better Care Fund financial summary of the Section 75 agreements, as set out in Appendix 2 of the joint report, be accepted.

118.2 That delegated authority be granted to the Director for Adult and Community Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, to enter into pooled budget agreements under Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 on best terms achievable with NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole.

**Reasons for Decisions**

119. The Better Together Programme and Better Care Fund aimed to secure:

- improved health and social care outcomes for local residents;
- an improved and more integrated approach for the delivery of adult health and social care locally; and
- a sustainable approach across the partnership to addressing future needs of the local population.

**Questions from Members of the Council**

120. No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20.

**Exempt Business****Exclusion of the Public****Resolved**

121. That in accordance with Section 100 A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting in relation to the business specified in minutes 122-127 because it was likely that if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

**➤ Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne – Position Statement (Paragraph 5)**

122.1 The Cabinet considered a joint exempt report by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Development and the Cabinet Member for Environment in relation to the Queen

Elizabeth's School, Wimborne. The report contained exempt information in accordance with paragraph 5, in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

122.2 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Development summarised the report and indicated that the steps outlined in the report would lead to the determination of the future in respect of any claims. The Cabinet acknowledged Counsel's opinion on the options to progress any claims and asked that information in relation to costs and risk be reported in detail to the Cabinet on 3 June 2015 in order to finalise the position regarding the progression of any claims.

#### **Resolved**

123.1 That the steps set out in the Cabinet Members' report be agreed.

123.2 That an update on progress be received at the Cabinet meeting on 3 June 2015.

#### **Reason for Decisions**

124. Approval of the recommendations would enable the Cabinet to make an informed decision at a later meeting about how best to proceed.

### **Contract for the provision of Independent Advocacy: New safeguarding responsibilities under The Care Act (2014) (Paragraph 3)**

125.1 The Cabinet considered an exempt report by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care regarding the statutory duty to provide advocacy services under the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) (2005) and new advocacy responsibilities under the Care Act 2014. The report contained exempt information in accordance with paragraph 3, relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

125.2 The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care summarised the requirements for the provision of Independent Mental Capacity Advocates (IMCAs) and a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) paid representative service. The obligations under the MCA were currently being met by a pan Dorset contractual agreement which had been in place since 1 April 2011 and was due to expire on 30 September 2015. She also outlined the new advocacy responsibilities under the Care Act 2014 relating to supporting individuals as part of safeguarding investigations to be brought into the contract for MCA advocacy and that a pan Dorset tendering process would be carried out.

125.3 Members were informed of the cost proportion of the contract on an annual basis in relation to each authority based on population and actual numbers of people using the contract from each area.

#### **Resolved**

126.1 That Dorset County Council enters into a formal contract for independent advocacy services that would meet the legislative requirements for advocacy in the Mental Capacity Act relating to IMCA and DOLS paid representatives; and include the new safeguarding responsibilities set out in the Care Act.

126.2 That the Council continue as the lead commissioner on behalf of Poole and Bournemouth local authorities for a pan Dorset tender.

#### **Reasons for Decisions**

127.1 A contract for independent advocacy was required to meet the Council's statutory obligations under the Mental Capacity Act and Care Act.

127.2 The lead commissioning arrangements were in line with the 'Better Together' ethos and would provide economies of scale across the three authorities.

127.3 The service contributed to the County Council's focus on health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

Meeting Duration: 10:00am – 12:15pm