



Meeting: County Council
 Time: 10.00 am
 Date: 9 November 2017
 Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester DT1 1XJ

Hilary Cox (Chairman)	Andrew Parry (Vice-Chairman)	Jon Andrews
Shane Bartlett	Pauline Batstone	Derek Beer
Richard Biggs	Cherry Brooks	Kevin Brookes
Ray Bryan	Steve Butler	Andy Canning
Graham Carr-Jones	Andrew Cattaway	Toni Coombs
Deborah Croney	Keith Day	Lesley Dedman
Janet Dover	Jean Dunseith	Beryl Ezzard
Tony Ferrari	Spencer Flower	Katharine Garcia
Peter Hall	David Harris	Jill Haynes
Nick Ireland	Colin Jamieson	Susan Jefferies
David Jones	Ros Kayes	Rebecca Knox
Steven Lugg	Jon Orrell	Mary Penfold
Margaret Phipps	Bill Pipe	Byron Quayle
David Shortell	Clare Sutton	William Trite
Daryl Turner	David Walsh	Peter Wharf
Kate Wheller		

Notes:

- The reports with this agenda are available at www.dorsetforyou.com/countycommittees then click on the link "minutes, agendas and reports". Reports are normally available on this website within two working days of the agenda being sent out.
- We can provide this agenda and the reports as audio tape, CD, large print, Braille, or alternative languages on request.

- **Public Participation**

Guidance on public participation at County Council meetings is available on request or at <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/374629>.

Public Speaking

Members of the public can ask questions and make statements at the meeting. The closing date for us to receive questions is 10.00am on 6 November 2017, and statements by midday the day before the meeting.

Debbie Ward
 Chief Executive

Contact: Lee Gallagher, Democratic Services Manager
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Date of Publication:
 1 November 2017

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **Code of Conduct**

Councillors are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 regarding disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Check if there is an item of business on this agenda in which the member or other relevant person has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
- Check that the interest has been notified to the Monitoring Officer (in writing) and entered in the Register (if not this must be done on the form available from the clerk within 28 days).
- Disclose the interest at the meeting (in accordance with the County Council's Code of Conduct) and in the absence of a dispensation to speak and/or vote, withdraw from any consideration of the item.

The Register of Interests is available on Dorsetforyou.com and the list of disclosable pecuniary interests is set out on the reverse of the form.

3. **Minutes**

5 - 12

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2017.

4. **Public Participation**

(a) Public Speaking

(b) Petitions

To consider a petition report in relation to 'Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport'. 13 - 18

5. **Chairman's Announcements**

To deal with correspondence, communications or other business brought forward by the Chairman.

(a) Deaths of Former Members of the Council

(b) Chairman's Announcements

6. **Leader's Announcements**

To deal with business raised by the Leader of the Council which is not otherwise be raised under any other item on the agenda. Questions from members will be invited on the issues raised by the Leader.

7. **Local Government Reorganisation in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole**

19 - 36

To consider a report by the Chief Executive.

8. **Questions from County Councillors**

The Chairman of the Council, Leader of the Council, Cabinet Members, or chairmen of appropriate committees to answer questions on any business not covered on this agenda. The closing date for the receipt of questions is 10.00am on 6 November 2017. This item is limited to 45 minutes.

Cabinet

The Chairman of the Cabinet to present and move the adoption of the following reports and to answer questions, if any, under Standing Order 19:-

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|-----|--|---------|
| 9. | Meeting on 19 July 2017 | 37 - 44 |
| 10. | Meeting on 6 September 2017 | 45 - 78 |
| | <u>Recommendation 109 – Youth Justice Plan 2017-18 (page 50)</u> | |
| 11. | Meeting on 27 September 2017 | 79 - 86 |
| 12. | Meeting on 18 October 2017 | 87 - 94 |

Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Chairmen of overview and scrutiny committees to present and move the adoption of the following reports and to answer questions, if any, under Standing Order 19:-

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------|
| 13. | People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Meeting held on 11 October 2017 | 95 - 100 |
| 14. | Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Meeting held on 12 October 2017 | 101 - 106 |
| 15. | Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Meeting held on 16 October 2017 | 107 - 118 |
| 16. | Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee - Meeting held on 4 September 2017 | 119 - 126 |
| 17. | Appointments to Committees | |

To agree any changes to the chairmanship or membership of committees, including any changes notified by Group Leaders.

Notes for Members

- A Service will be held at 10:45am at County Hall to mark Remembrance Day. The meeting will adjourn at 10:40am to enable all members to participate.
 - Coffee/tea will be available in the Members' Room before and after the meeting.
 - A lunch will be provided for councillors and officers in the Members' Room following the meeting.
 - A seminar will be held for all members in Committee Room 1 following the meeting in relation to Complaints Management.
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County Council

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester,
DT1 1XJ on Thursday, 20 July 2017.

Present:

Hilary Cox (Chairman)

Andrew Parry (Vice-Chairman)

Jon Andrews, Shane Bartlett, Pauline Batstone, Richard Biggs, Cherry Brooks, Kevin Brookes, Ray Bryan, Steve Butler, Andy Canning, Graham Carr-Jones, Andrew Cattaway, Toni Coombs, Deborah Croney, Keith Day, Janet Dover, Jean Dunseith, Beryl Ezzard, Tony Ferrari, Spencer Flower, Katharine Garcia, David Harris, Jill Haynes, Susan Jefferies, Ros Kayes, Rebecca Knox, Steven Lugg, Jon Orrell, Mary Penfold, Bill Pipe, Margaret Phipps, Byron Quayle, David Shortell, Clare Sutton, William Trite, Daryl Turner, Peter Wharf and Kate Wheller.

Officers Attending: Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Harries (Corporate Director for Environment and Economy), Sara Tough (Corporate Director for Children's, Adults and Community Services), Matthew Piles (Service Director - Economy) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

(Note: 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 County Council to be held on **Thursday, 9 November 2017.**)

Apologies for Absence

41 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Derek Beer, Nick Ireland, David Jones and David Walsh.

Code of Conduct

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

With reference to minute 47, a general interest was declared by Cllr Graham Carr-Jones as he currently received Disability Living Allowance. As this was not a disclosable pecuniary interest, Cllr Carr-Jones remained in the meeting but indicated that he would not take part in the debate and not vote.

Minutes

43 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

Public Speaking

44 There was one public question received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1) from Cllr Andrew Kerby, North Dorset District Council, to the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding in relation to the Transfer of Youth Services to the Community in 2016. The question and answer are attached to these minutes as an annexure.

There was one public statement received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2) from Ms Sally Maslin and Mr Andreas Scheffler, as residents of Weymouth in relation to the Recovery Hub at 22 Abbotsbury Rd, Weymouth. A petition was submitted as part of the statement submission. The Statement and petition are attached to these minutes as an annexure.

Noted**Petitions**

The Council considered a report by the Dorset Travel Service Manager regarding a petition 'Save our Bus Services and Save the No 18 and No 3 buses from cuts' in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Cllr Andy Canning addressed the meeting as the lead petitioner and highlighted the feedback that he had received in completing the petition which reflected that the public were fed up with austerity and ongoing cuts. He drew attention to the Government's approach to austerity and the need to make more funding available to bring austerity to an end. The impact of cuts to subsidised bus services was described, especially for those facing hardship, and that there was a huge emotional and psychological impact on people. He urged the Council to take a new approach and save the services that were being cut.

Cllr Susan Jefferies, as a local member, also outlined bus service provision in Corfe Mullen, including a service which had been saved, but only due to extensive talks between the bus company and the Borough of Poole Council.

As the Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment, Cllr Daryl Turner, summarised the current position in relation to the provision of subsidised bus services and school transport services, and explained the decision making processes and consultations undertaken throughout 2015-2017, which linked with the savings required to meet the financial pressures across the Council. It was noted that new contracts for shared services for subsidised services and schools had been awarded, and encouraged the use of community transport schemes to further develop services.

Cllr Janet Dover raised an issue as a local member in relation to the forthcoming withdrawal of the well-used No. 88 service from the Wimborne area which provided a valuable link for residents in outlying areas of Colehill and Stapehill to access Wimborne Community Hospital. She strongly urged all to be done to retain the service.

Cllr Kayes, as the Liberal Democrat Group Leader, expressed concern regarding the Council's arrangements for community transport schemes as she was aware of a potential technical issue in relation to EU procurement legislation, and a Judicial Review challenge by the Bus and Coaches Association regarding its use of section 19 permits and use of minibuses. She felt that some school contracts and proposed community transport schemes could be impossible to set up because of the issue. Cllr Kayes therefore encouraged the suspension of any further cuts pending consideration of the issues. The Corporate Director for Environment and Economy clarified that the Council was entitled to be a service operator under section 19 and he was unaware of any Judicial Review challenge. It was also mentioned that the consultants referred to by Cllr Kayes were the Council's own consultants used to develop transport schemes and contracts. It was noted that the issue would be discussed outside of the meeting.

The Chairman indicated that the matter had been through committee processes over the past two years and there were many instances of officers working with communities and operators to deliver schemes. It was noted that a written response would be sent to the petition organisers setting out the views of the Council, and to provide a fuller explanation of provision available.

Resolved

That the Council write to the petition organisers with the outcome of the meeting and to provide a fuller explanation of provision available

Reason for Decision

In order to comply with the County Council's published scheme for responding to petitions and so as to enable local people to connect with local elected decision makers.

Chairman's Announcements

- 45 The Chairman reported the following civic events since the last meeting, which included events during Armed Forces week, a community event at Blandford Camp, the National Farmers Union Open Day in Weymouth, the County Farms Estate Open Day, long service award ceremonies, and a number of citizenship ceremonies.

Leader's Announcements

- 46 The Leader of the Council reported on the following issues facing the Council, and invited questions from all members:

Cabinet

It was reported that Cllr Jill Haynes had been appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council and that Cllr Steve Butler had been appointed to the role of Cabinet Member for Safeguarding. Although it was not an executive role, the Leader also took the opportunity to welcome the recent appointment of Cllr Bill Pipe as the Chairman of the Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee.

Member Champions

The Leader explained the need for a review of the current Member Champion roles, and welcomed the participation of Group Leaders.

Grenfell Tower Disaster

Condolences were expressed to all involved in the recent Grenfell Tower fire. It was noted that various information had been shared with councillors on the extent of work being undertaken by the Council and other public sector partners to provide assurance to communities.

Health and Wellbeing Partnership Working

Attention was drawn to successful partnership working led by the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the significant work it was doing to address traditional health partnerships as well as develop new more localised Health and Wellbeing Boards. Reference was also made to the most recent Your Dorset which focussed on "feeling good in the natural outdoors". It was noted that a councillor engagement session would be held after the meeting which would expand on the areas of development.

In relation to councillor engagement sessions, a member asked whether sessions could be held at times to suit councillors who had full time employment, and if information could be summarised and sent to those not able to attend. It was clarified by the Leader that it was intended to develop the way the Council provided engagement sessions and to widen invitations to councillors from other councils. This would be done by running sessions in the day and evening. It was also indicated that the outcomes of meetings would be reported more quickly by the use of summaries of what had happened at meetings rather than having to wait several months to discuss the minutes of meetings. There was also the possibility of using technology to provide the opportunity for councillors to participate in events virtually, and to watch meetings if they were unable to attend.

Noted

Motions

47 Personal Independence Payments (PIP)

The Council considered a motion submitted by Cllr Pauline Batstone regarding Personal Independence Payments(PIP).

The Chairman explained that she would allow the motion to be debated by the Council under her discretion as the matter had already been considered by the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 January and 6 July 2017.

Cllr Batstone introduced her motion and reminded members that PIP was a financial benefit which helped people with an illness, disability mental health condition or terminal illness to cope with everyday life. This benefit had replaced the Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and anyone in receipt of DLA had now to apply for PIP and this could be refused. The change could have a significant impact on the Council's Adult Care Services.

Locally the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) contracted ATOS to undertake PIP assessments. The Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) report had been considered by the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the key findings were that: the test for PIP was more difficult than that for DLA and refusal meant that claimants lost their cars, their independence and their ability to socialise; that there were long delays in the process which led to payments being delayed; there were problems with medical assessments; claimants had to travel long distances for assessments; assessors were inadequately trained, did not listen and had an uncaring and punitive attitude; the process for mandatory reconsideration did not appear to be working effectively; additional medical evidence was being ignored; claimants were having to take their cases to tribunals which was costly in time and money; the majority of cases involving the CAB were successful with the difference between the initial assessment and the appeal judgement being significant; and the DWP were now increasing staff training but this was to improve performance in defeating appeals.

Cllr Batstone asked the Council to consider her six recommendations that the DWP:- should review the criteria for receiving the mobility element of the PIP; should ensure that there were enough trained staff to process PIP applications in a reasonable timescale; should have clearly stated service standards for all stages of the process and these adhered to; should ensure that ATOS used health care professionals who were appropriately trained; that ATOS provided sufficient assessment centres and, where necessary, undertook home visits; should review its procedure for Mandatory Reconsiderations and took more account of medical evidence provided. She asked the Council to support the motion that the Secretary of State be asked urgently to review the process to ensure improved outcomes for all residents.

Many members then spoke in support of the motion. Comments included reference to the consequences of PIP decisions not being realised; councillors' role to ensure that people's views were heard; councillors were having to become experts in the process in order to support their residents; the need for the new contract to be better managed; delays in processing applications, particularly for those with terminal illnesses, could have a profound effect on their limited life expectancy; the wording of the motion should be strengthened; increased administration and the lengthy process could be seen as a means of making fewer awards to reduce costs; the impact on claimants quality of life; that assessment centres should be more accessible; some claimants were so ill they could not cope with the assessment process; and that the CAB were supporting claimants whilst their funding was reducing.

In view of the level of concern raised, the Chairman suggested that a strongly worded letter be sent to the Secretary of State from Group Leaders and herself to sign, with copies being sent to all Dorset MPs and elected members. The matter would also be reviewed in October 2017. On being put to the vote this was agreed unanimously.

Resolved (unanimously)

1. That a strongly worded letter be sent to the Secretary of State to reflect the Council's views.
2. That the letter be signed by the Group Leaders and Chairman of the Council and be copied to Dorset MPs and elected members.
3. That the matter be followed up in October 2017.

Questions from County Councillors

- 48 There were no questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 20.

Meeting held on 7 June 201749 **Western Dorset Growth Strategy Action Plan**

In relation to minute 68, Cllr Sutton sought assurance that information she provided for the Cabinet meeting in relation to air pollution levels at Boot Hill, Weymouth, and associated monitoring had been taken account of, and had been attached to the minutes as stated. In relation to pollution and monitoring it was explained that schemes within the action plan were due to go through a prioritisation process and any further information would be gratefully received outside of the meeting. The Chairman also indicated that the information had been included in the full version of the minutes.

In relation to the wider membership of the Western Dorset Growth Strategy Members Board, it was confirmed that a meeting was scheduled to take place in the coming week to consider wider membership and member engagement.

Quarterly Asset Management Report

In relation to minute 66, clarification was sought regarding the consultation process with local members and parish councils for property disposals following concerns raised on the Monkton Park disposal. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had been consulted, but unfortunately the local member had not due to a misunderstanding over the divisional boundary. The Corporate Director for Environment and Economy apologised for the error and indicated that officers had been instructed to double check which local member needed to be engaged.

Resolved

That the report of the meeting held on 7 June 2017 be adopted.

Meeting held on 28 June 201750 **Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update**

In relation to minute 82, concern was expressed in relation to forecasted overspends, particularly in relation to social care aspects of the Council's statutory responsibilities, and the need to challenge the Government regarding local authority funding in the strongest terms possible. The Leader responded to acknowledge the serious issue and that the Cabinet was aware of increased pressure on budgets, together with increasing demands and cost. It was further explained that weekly updates were being held regarding the budget position in the high priority areas of social care. There was also frequent dialogue with MPs about issues including the need for an increase in funding nationally. Further work was needed to ensure that adequate systems were in place to deliver services to meet the needs of the most vulnerable.

Frustration was expressed by a number of councillors about the timescales to complete Traffic Regulation Orders, due to the impact of budgetary constraints. It was clarified that the advertisement costs of orders was high and this was a barrier to the speed of completion. The Corporate Director for Environment and Economy and the Monitoring Officer explained the advertising element of the orders, and that it was currently law to require authorities to advertise in local newspapers.

In respect of financial contributions to enable TROs to be dealt with sooner, it was noted that priority orders were based only on health and safety grounds and that it was possible to provide financial contributions to speed up the process of dealing with orders that had no safety issues. It was recognised that representations could be made to increase pressure on the need for alternatives, to which councillors welcomed investigations to find an alternative solution.

Cabinet Forward Plan

In relation to minute 79, and the planning of items to be considered by overview and scrutiny committees prior to Cabinet consideration, councillors were notified that a meeting between Cabinet members and Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen was due to be arranged following the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on 21 July 2017.

Corporate Plan - Draft Refresh 2017-18 and Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, May 2017

In relation to recommendation 81, reservations were expressed regarding the need for an indicator to be included in the Corporate Plan to reflect benchmarking and monitoring of air pollution and air quality, especially as deaths related to pollution were the equivalent of 10 per day nationally totalling 44,000 per year. It was clarified that the Joint Public Health Board was leading a review of air quality and monitoring across Dorset which considered factors including the climate, urban and rural impacts, and also coastal impact. Once information was understood and the direction of travel was established this area would be considered as an indicator within the Corporate Plan.

It was also explained that there were a range of indicators that were shared with public sector partners, and some were shaped by communities. It was important to use information to show the impact on Dorset's population.

Resolved

That the report of the meeting held on 28 June 2017 be adopted and recommendation 81 be approved.

Recommendation 81 - Corporate Plan - Draft Refresh 2017-18 and Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, May 2017

That the County Council be recommended to approve the draft Corporate Plan at Appendix A of the Leader's report.

Reason for Recommendation

The 2017-18 Corporate Plan provided an overarching strategic framework for monitoring progress towards good outcomes for Dorset. The outcome indicators summarised in the report provided enhanced evidence to the Cabinet, The Audit and Governance Committee and the three Overview and Scrutiny committees so that progress against the corporate plan could be monitored effectively.

People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Meeting held on 26 June 2017

51 Cllr Mary Penfold, as the Vice-Chairman, summarised the work of the Committee which included reference to Local Government Reform and the Council's Corporate Plan.

Local Government Reform

The Chief Executive introduced recommendation 30 and summarised the progress to date in relation to the formation of two joint committees as the forerunner to the potential creation of new authorities as an agreement between councils in Dorset. The County Council would be entitled to representation on both joint committees.

Questions were asked about the membership of the joint committees and particularly whether places would be allocated based on geography. It was explained by the Leader of the Council that appointments would be made outside of the meeting by Group Leaders. It was also indicated that there would be ongoing liaison with leaders of other councils in Dorset and the need to find the right spread of experience and talent. However, it was also explained that there were likely to be workstreams which other members would be able to contribute to in due course.

In relation to the importance of engagement with Town and Parish Councils, concerns were expressed that the Dorset Association of Towns and Parish Councils had a lack of sense of urgency regarding LGR, and if workstreams would be added regarding work with Town and Parish Councils there would be a series of issues to consider. The comments were noted, and it was highlighted that engagement with Town and Parish Councils needed to be as effective as possible, and there was also an important role for local members to play.

It was understood that Councils that opposed the submission to the Secretary of State to form new unitary councils were able to continue their opposition, but join the committees based on the ambition of closer cooperation and inclusiveness. East Dorset District Council and Purbeck District Council had committed to take part in the joint committees, but other councils were still to consider the report in the coming weeks.

Following a request, it was agreed that the joint committees' minutes would be presented directly to County Council to ensure transparency of each committee with members.

Special Educational Needs Budget

Cllr Kayes expressed concern about the addition of items to the Cabinet Forward Plan at short notice which meant that they could not be scrutinised by overview and scrutiny committees. She then referred to minute 32 where it had been agreed to set up a half day review of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) budget. However, within a week of this she had received a letter from a headteacher about a current consultation on SEN funding. This had not been referred to at the meeting, even though officers would have known it was planned. She asked why this had not been considered by a Committee and whether the consultation could be suspended until after the review had taken place..

It was noted that there had been conversations with the Department for Education on the higher needs block and the need to consult with schools on the SEN budget. Members were reminded by the Corporate Director for Children, Adults and Communities that this was national funding which had not increased over a number of years even though demand had. There was no intention to cut funding but it did need to be spent more wisely according to criteria. The national funding had been increased by £1.3 billion although Dorset's share was as yet unknown. She assured members that no decisions had been taken and that the matter would be referred to the People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Director indicated that she was happy to discuss this further outside the meeting.

Dorset Education Performance 2016: Self Evaluation

In relation to minute 31, Cllr Kayes reported that she had been contacted by concerned parents about the proposal to cut or alter online services for young people, particularly those with mental health issues. She was also aware of an online petition about the subject and asked for an update on the situation. The Leader explained that a review of the service was being undertaken and that the seventeen families currently using the service had been sent letters the previous day. These explained that each young person would have a personal transition plan which would provide a

better value for money service which would provide the best education for them. More information was to be sent to parents and members would receive a copy too.

Resolved (Unanimous)

That the report be adopted and Recommendation 30 be approved.

Recommendation 30 - Local Government Reform

1. That the proposal to establish two Joint Committees with other Councils across Dorset to support the development of the Future Dorset proposal for Local Government Reorganisation, aiming to deliver sustainable services across Dorset for the future be supported.

2. That the membership of the proposed Joint Committees with the County Council's seats being capped at six, irrespective of the number of councils that could join at a later date be supported.

3. That delegated authority be granted to Group Leaders to appoint councillors to the Joint Committees.

Reason for Recommendation

To enable Dorset County Council to form part of the governance arrangements that would support the progress of local government reform in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole as part of the Future Dorset Submission made to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in February 2017.

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Meeting held on 6 July 2017

52 The Chairman of the Committee introduced the minutes of the meeting and highlighted in particular consideration of emergency planning arrangements across the Council in the light of the recent Grenfell Tower disaster; the formation of the task and finish group to scrutinise road traffic collisions; planning for a domestic abuse inquiry day; and consideration of the Youth Justice Plan.

Resolved

That the report be adopted.

Appointments to Committees

53 The following changes to appointments to committees were reported at the meeting:

- Cllr Ray Bryan to serve on the Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Cllr Nick Ireland to replace Cllr Beryl Ezzard on the Children's and Adult Services Appeals Committee.

Resolved

That the changes to appointments be approved.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 12.05 pm

County Council

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	9 November 2017
Officer	Chris Hook, Dorset Travel Service Manager
Subject of Report	Procedure for Petitions – Petition entitled ‘Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport’
Executive Summary	<p>A petition has been received in accordance with the County Council’s published petitions scheme in relation the deregistration of the Service 40 which operated Monday to Saturday.</p> <p>A new Service 6 between Bridport and Beaminster has commenced and operates Monday to Friday on a commercial basis. The in house fleet is currently providing a solution from Beaminster to Yeovil financially supported by Yeovil College as Service 40.</p> <p>During the period 29 July to 21 October, a Community Bus Service CB3 operated Saturdays between Beaminster and Bridport offering 4 return trips per day. This was supported with a Community Transport Grant to Bridport and Beaminster Town Councils which has been exhausted.</p> <p>The Petition contains more than 1000 signatures and is therefore referred to the County Council to consider and respond.</p> <p>The petition has been presented and is in relation to the Medium Term Financial Plan reducing public transport subsidy by £1.5m (£500k 2016/17 and £1m 2017/18).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The petition requests that Dorset County Council maintain support for a Saturday service, serving Bridport – Beamsinter – Crewkerne – Yeovil (including the villages along the route which operated until 22 July 2017). <p>Six supported services were awarded in July 2017 with subsidy for Monday – Friday. Five of these services have Saturday included in the timetable on a commercial bases.</p>

Procedure for Petitions – Petition entitled ‘Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport’

	<p>The remaining contract with support for Saturdays (Blandford to Dorchester) ceases at the end of the year.</p>
<p>Impact Assessment:</p>	<p>Equalities Impact Assessment:</p> <p>Full EqIA and Screening completed.</p> <p>The loss of bus services can significantly impact those affected. Negative impacts have been identified for younger people, for disabled people and for older people, particularly older women, as people in these groups are more likely to use passenger transport services.</p> <p>The replacement contract for schools and public transport (Contract: DN245509) seeks to mitigate the reduction of public transport subsidy by implementing open schools routes, in-fill services and increasing community transport coverage. Dorset Travel will continue to engage with local communities and with existing community transport schemes seeking to further develop services and to prioritise those areas with unmet needs.</p> <p>The full Equality Impact Assessment is available upon request.</p> <p>Use of Evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Public & Schools Transport Review Public Consultation Response Reports – DCC August 2016; b. Public & Schools Transport Review Full EqIA – DCC Oct 2016 c. New Contract Model for Passenger Transport Business Case – the TAS Partnership Oct 2016; d. New Contract Model For Passenger Transport – Procurement Options Report – TAS Oct 2016; D e. Dorset Travel Market Engagement Event – DCC Hosted Oct 2016. f. T102 Contract for Passenger Transport Services – DCC Feb 2012. <p>Budget:</p> <p>Reduction in budget of £1m to be achieved 2017/18. This is part of the £18.3m savings required to balance the County Council’s budget in 2017/18.</p> <p>Risk Assessment:</p> <p>Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council’s approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as: Current Risk: HIGH Residual Risk LOW</p>

Procedure for Petitions – Petition entitled ‘Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport’

	Risk of not reducing public transport budget would impact on delivery of key services.
	Other Implications: Nil.
Recommendation	The County Council is invited to note the receipt of this petition and decide how to respond to it.
Reason for Recommendation	In order to comply with the County Council’s published scheme for responding to petitions and so as to enable local people to connect with local elected decision makers.
Appendices	None.
Background Papers	Dorset County Council Petitions Scheme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cabinet: 24 February 2017 – item 35 Rural Bus Services Review - Cabinet: 11 February 2017 – approval of Passenger Transport Strategy 2011-2026 - Cabinet: 11 February 2017 – Medium Term Financial Plan: Appendix 2 – Economy & Environment Savings Measures
Officer Contact	Name: Chris Hook Tel: 01305 225141 Email: c.p.hook@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Procedure for Petitions – Petition entitled ‘Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport’

1. Background to the Petition Scheme

- 1.1 The County Council’s Petitions Scheme was adopted on 29 April 2010 and came into effect on 15 June 2010. The Scheme was subsequently updated by the County Council on 21 July 2016.
- 1.2 If a petition is supported by 50 or more signatories then it will be dealt with by a small customer focussed panel. If a petition is supported by 1,000 or more signatories it will be scheduled for a debate at the next meeting of the full County Council.

2. Petition – ‘Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport’

- 2.1 The County Council received a petition organised by Mrs C Emmett. This reads as follows:
 - We, the undersigned, are asking Dorset County Council to maintain support for the Saturday bus service number 40 (Bridport – Beaminster – Crewkerne – Yeovil) to enable residents along its route to access Crewkerne Station and to carry out their business in Bridport and Yeovil (1406 signatures).
- 2.2 As this petition contains more than 1000 signatures, the Council is invited to consider it. This discussion should conclude with a decision as to how to respond to the petition. This may include one or more of the following:
 - taking the action requested in the petition
 - considering the petition at a council meeting
 - holding an inquiry into the matter
 - undertaking research into the matter
 - holding a public meeting
 - holding a consultation
 - referring the petition for consideration by the council’s audit and governance committee
 - calling a referendum
 - writing to the petition organiser setting out our views about the request in the petition.
- 2.3 Alternatively, the Council may determine a combination of the options above, or decide on another course of action as appropriate.

3. Context

- 3.1 Supported public bus services were procured under the T102 commencing in 2011. There were 72 services with an aggregate annual cost of £3.5million, which includes approximately £700,000 contribution from the mainstream school transport budget for school transport undertaken on supported public services. All contracts expired in July 2017. Supported public services account for only 9% of passenger journeys in Dorset.
- 3.2 The County Council’s legal duty for subsidised buses is to identify where public transport is needed but is not being provided and, once identified, secure appropriate services. The Council is not obliged to subsidise services and may take into account the funds that are available to them. The Council is also required by law to:

Procedure for Petitions – Petition entitled ‘Maintain the Saturday bus service from Yeovil to Bridport’

- a. Take into account the transport needs of those who are elderly or disabled;
 - b. Work with other councils concerned with public transport;
 - c. Work with other councils regarding school and social care transport, to ensure best value for money for these services; and,
 - d. Take into account the needs of the public and bus companies.
- 3.3 The Council’s legal duty for subsidised buses is to identify where passenger transport network within budgetary constraints, whilst delivering corporate outcomes and meeting the objectives of the Local Transport Plan. For the rural areas the Passenger Transport Strategy envisions a core network of high quality inter-urban routes linking the market towns, with access from surrounding villages by demand-driven community transport offers, and by integrating some school services into public provision.
- 3.4 A comprehensive consultation was undertaken from 27 May to 22 July 2016. The consultation described the need to reduce the combined budgets for mainstream school and public transport by £1.85million from 2017/18 in addition to the £500,000 in 2016/17.
- 3.5 The consultation generated 2605 responses. Respondents were asked whether they agreed with the proposed approach to focus on maintaining core bus routes that serve the most people (inter-urban services) whilst opening up school buses and supporting community transport in rural areas that may lose their bus. 54% of respondents agreed with this approach compared with 27% who did not agree.

Matthew Piles
Service Director – Economy
November 2017

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County Council

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	9 November 2017
Officer	Debbie Ward, Chief Executive
Subject of Report	Local Government Reorganisation in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole
Executive Summary	<p>In July 2017 the County Council agreed to participate in two new Joint Committees to progress the creation of the two new unitary councils proposed in the 'Future Dorset' submission for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).</p> <p>This report provides an update on the development of the Joint Committees and, as requested by County Council on 20 July 2017, appends the draft minutes of the meetings that have been held.</p> <p>The County Council initially confirmed that it was willing to discuss the future of Local Government across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole at a special meeting on 10 March 2016. Since then the County Council has considered further reports to lead this process at its meetings on 21 April 2016, 21 July 2016 and 10 November 2016. This work was shaped by member-led groups, under the auspices of the cross-party Shaping Dorset's Future programme, and culminated in the County Council agreeing to support LGR, as set out in the Future Dorset proposal, on 27 January 2017. A formal proposal was submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government a few weeks later, in February 2017.</p> <p>At the time of writing, councils are still awaiting an announcement from the Secretary of State on the proposal. DCLG officials have advised that the announcement is possible in November, so a verbal update will be provided to Council as necessary.</p>
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: An Equalities Impact Assessment was presented to Council on 20 July 2017 and can be found in the background papers.

	<p>Use of Evidence: This report has been written in light of verbal advice from DCLG officials and discussions with neighbouring councils.</p>
	<p>Budget: The Dorset Area Joint Committee agreed at its meeting on 13 October 2017 to allocate £250,000, split between partners, to resource the Dorset Area Programme. The draft minutes of this meeting are attached at Appendix 2.</p>
	<p>Risk Assessment: Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as:</p> <p>Current Risk: HIGH Residual Risk HIGH</p> <p>The risks are identified as high to reflect the ongoing delay in an announcement from Government and the reduction in time available for alternative strategies should LGR not proceed.</p>
	<p>Other Implications: LGR has implications for every aspect of local authority services. Risks are being managed through a central risk register and will form part of the delivery of the workstreams as they develop.</p>
Recommendation	<p>That the County Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the development of the Dorset Area Joint Committee and the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee; 2. Receives the draft minutes of the Dorset Area Joint Committee meetings held on 20 September and 13 October 2017; and 3. Receives the draft minutes of the Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole Joint Committee meeting held on 30 October 2017 (to follow)
Reason for Recommendation	<p>To ensure local government services are sustainable and residents, businesses and communities are supported by optimum local government arrangements</p>
Appendices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Draft minutes of the Dorset Area Joint Committee meeting 20 September 2017 2: Draft minutes of the Dorset Area Joint Committee meeting 13 October 2017 3: Draft minutes of the Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole Joint Committee meeting 30 October 2017 (to follow)

Background Papers	People & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 26 June 2017 (Item 7) Dorset County Council, 20 July 2017 (Item 11)
Officer Contact	Name: Debbie Ward Tel: 01305 224195 Email: d.ward@dorsetcc.gov.uk

1. Progress To-Date: The Dorset Area Joint Committee

- 1.1 The Dorset Area Joint Committee has held two formal meetings, on 20 September and 13 October 2017. All the papers can be found at <https://dorsetareacouncils.wordpress.com/>. A full narrative of the meetings is not repeated here, but the draft minutes are attached at Appendixes 1 and 2.
- 1.2 The County Council is represented by six members on the Joint Committee – Cllr Bartlett, Cllr Haynes, Cllr Kayes, Cllr Knox, Cllr Pipe and Cllr Quayle. The Chairman is the Leader of the County Council and the Vice-Chairman is the Leader of West Dorset District Council, Cllr Anthony Alford.
- 1.3 In addition to the formal meetings, members of the Dorset Area Joint Committee have held two informal workshops, on 14 August and 20 September 2017, to develop relations amongst members and discuss potential joint working and collaboration between councils. Informal feedback from these meetings, which were facilitated by an independent consultant, is that they were positive and helpful and will inform the work of the Committee as it develops.
- 1.4 The formal meetings have covered a range of issues including:
- Communication and engagement
 - Programme resourcing
 - Workplan
- 1.5 Details of the Committee's discussions are contained in the minutes but members may want to note that, at the meeting on 13 October, the Joint Committee agreed to create a shared budget of £250,000 for the recruitment of initial key posts to drive the work forward. Once appointed, these officers will lead the development of work with members to shape the new authority and areas of collaboration and joint working. The councils' Chief Financial Officers have been asked to agree a cost allocation model, based on previous partnership arrangements, which will identify the County Council's contribution to this cost.
- 1.6 The Dorset Area Joint Committee will meet again on 15 November and 13 December 2017.

2. The Bournemouth Christchurch Poole Joint Committee

- 2.1 The Bournemouth Christchurch Poole Joint Committee had its first formal meeting on 30 October 2017. The papers for the Joint Committee can be found at <https://bcjointcommittee.wordpress.com/>. As with the Dorset Area Joint Committee, an informal meeting was held on 5 October, which was well received.
- 2.2 The County Council is represented by two members – Cllr Croney and Cllr Jones - for the purposes of disaggregation only. The Chairman is Cllr Janet Walton, Leader of the Borough of Poole, and the Vice Chairmen are Cllr John Beesley, Leader of Bournemouth Borough Council, and Cllr David Flagg, Leader of Christchurch Borough Council.
- 2.3 At its first meeting the Joint Committee discussed a number of issues including:
- Programme governance
 - An overview of the work programme
 - Council Tax Harmonisation principles

- Communications

2.4 The Bournemouth Christchurch Poole Joint Committee will meet again on 21 November and 15 December 2017.

3. The 'Minded' Announcement and Next Steps

- 3.1 At the time of writing an announcement from Government on the Future Dorset proposal is still awaited. Government are legally obliged to respond, and officials have indicated that this is likely to happen before the end of 2017.
- 3.2 Representatives of the 'Future Dorset' councils have been in communication with MPs and the Secretary of State, and on 27 September the Leaders and Chief Executives of the six consenting councils attended a meeting with the Secretary of State to stress the need for an urgent announcement.
- 3.3 Once the initial 'minded' announcement is made, there is a minimum of a six week period for representations to be made to the Minister, either supporting or opposing his initial view. The first 'minded' announcement is followed by a final decision which, on this timeline, would be made in January 2018.
- 3.4 Once the final announcement has been made, the Structural Change Order will be laid before Parliament which creates the formal governance arrangements that will replace the Joint Committees. These will be an Implementation Executive in the Dorset area, and a Shadow Authority in the Bournemouth, Christchurch Poole area. Both joint committees have been established to reflect the likely composition of these new bodies to ensure a smooth transition. Once these new bodies are in place, they will replace the Joint Committees and provide the governance for the LGR programmes until the new councils are created on 1 April 2019.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the development of the Joint Committees and receive the draft minutes of the Committees' meetings.

Debbie Ward
Chief Executive
October 2017

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Dorset Area Joint Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at South Walks House, South Walks Road,
Dorchester, Dorset on Wednesday, 20 September 2017

Present:

Rebecca Knox (Chairman)
Shane Bartlett, Jeff Cant, Graham Carr-Jones, Hilary Cox, Spencer Flower, Matt Hall,
David Harris, Jill Haynes, Colin Huckle, Sherry Jespersen, Byron Quayle, Barry Quinn,
Gary Suttle, Alan Thacker and Simon Tong

Officer Attending: David McIntosh (Chief Executive East Dorset District and Christchurch Borough Council), Matt Prosser (Chief Executive West Dorset District, Weymouth & Portland Borough and North Dorset District Council), Debbie Ward (Chief Executive - Dorset County Council), Darran Gunter (Programme Director LGR), Stuart Caundle (Monitoring Officer), Bridget Downton (General Manager - Purbeck District Council) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager - Dorset County Council).

Election of Chairman

- 1 On considering the election of the Chairman of the Joint Committee, Cllr Graham Carr-Jones proposed Cllr Rebecca Knox, which was seconded by Cllr Jeff Cant. On being put to the vote Cllr Rebecca Knox was duly elected as the Chairman.

Resolved

That Cllr Rebecca Knox be elected as Chairman of the Joint Committee for 2017/18.

Election of Vice-Chairman

- 2 On considering the election of the Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee, Cllr Alan Thacker proposed Cllr Anthony Alford, which was seconded by Cllr Sherry Jespersen. On being put to the vote Cllr Anthony Alford was duly elected as the Vice-Chairman.

Resolved

That Cllr Anthony Alford be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee for 2017/18.

Apologies for Absence

- 3 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tony Alford (West Dorset District Council), Cllr Ros Kayes (Dorset County Council) and Cllr Bill Pipe (Dorset County Council). Cllr Alan Thacker attended for Cllr Alford, Cllr David Harris attended for Cllr Kayes, and Cllr Hilary Cox attended for Cllr Pipe.

Code of Conduct

- 4 There were no declarations by members of disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Public Participation

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

There was one public statement received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2) from the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils regarding the Dorset Area Joint Committee. The statement is attached to these minutes as an annexure.

Refining Terms of Reference of the Dorset Area Joint Committee

6 Councillors considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive of the Dorset Councils Partnership, as the Acting Monitoring Officer of the Joint Committee, on the terms of reference of the Joint Committee within the remit set by all of the six partner councils, and the quorum arrangements for future meetings.

Members considered modest refinements to reflect the nature of discussions and priority areas, which was discussed at an informal workshop on 14 August 2017.

In addition to the terms of reference, the quorum of the Joint Committee was discussed which would see 50% of the membership of the Committee plus one member (9), but consideration was given to whether all councils must be represented within the quorum. The need for the quorum to include at least one representative from each council was explained as a logical arrangement by Cllr Flower. However, some other views were shared which recognised the importance of the Committee to ensure that all members attended, and that there were named substitutes for occasions when this was not possible.

Resolved

1. That the refined terms of reference attached at appendix 1 of the Monitoring Officer's report be approved.
2. That the working practice for the purpose of the Joint Committee's quorum (Option 1 – 50% membership plus 1) be approved.

Local Government Reorganisation Submission Update

7 The Joint Committee received a verbal update on the current status of the Future Dorset proposal submitted to Government in February 2017 by the Chief Executive Sponsor of the Future Dorset Programme Board.

It was acknowledged that it was a legal duty of Government to respond to the submission, but there was no defined timescale for this to happen and councils were therefore awaiting an announcement. In addition, it was noted that the Leaders and Chief Executives in support of Future Dorset proposal were due to meet with the Secretary of State and his representatives on 27 September 2017 in Westminster. The timeline continued to be updated, and the impact of the delayed announcement was being assessed, together with Future Dorset workstreams continuing to concentrate on some areas of disaggregation and legal implications.

Noted

Outcomes from Collaborative Working Workshops

8 The Joint Committee received a verbal update from the Chairman about the outcomes of the Collaborative Working Workshops held on 14 August and 20 September 2017 attended by representatives of the Joint Committee.

Cllr Knox drew attention to the positive start to joint working by the workshops and highlighted that, in addition to the terms of reference, there were three main areas of focus identified where progress could be made early in the life of the Joint Committee, as follows:

- Shared Services
- Multi-discipline Teams
- Community Partners Engagement

In addition, it was recognised that there were other longer term, and more complex, priorities such Affordable Housing, economic development including the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership, and One Public Estate.

Together with the priority areas identified so far, it was also felt that the wider membership of partner councils should be welcomed to take part in the workstreams which would drive the priority areas, build on the spirit of collaboration, encourage participation, and would ensure that the skills of individuals were used. This could be done in a variety of ways, or could be more specific as required, depending on the subject matter and focus of a particular workstream or workshop. More consideration of the offer to the wider membership of councils would be given due consideration outside of the meeting.

It was also noted that the role of town and parish councils, including the Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils, would have an important role in contributing to workstreams. Cllr Knox confirmed that this was captured as part of the wider communications and engagement approach.

Resolved

1. That the initial and future priority areas of focus, as detailed above, be supported.
2. That the degree of involvement of the wider membership of partner councils be considered.

Proposed Methodology for Collaborative Working Across the Dorset Area Joint Committee

- 9 The Joint Committee considered a report and presentation by the Programme Director – Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) regarding the future collaborative working methodology between partner councils of the Joint Committee.

The presentation explained the new methodology which needed to be agile and scalable depending on the scale of the Joint Committee's ambition, to be able to bring together all involved in collaborations to cover all eventualities, and to incorporate existing collaboration such as the Dorset Finance Officers Group and Monitoring Officers Group.

A six stage process, as an amalgam of change management best practice was summarised. Members welcomed the good relationships so far and the start position of the Joint Committee, to move towards areas of collaboration, engagement with staff and communities, sharing of baseline information, and to understand and shape future delivery. Reference was also made to the potential for a commercial partner to assist with baselining. The steps through the development of business cases in complex areas, together with the need to assess all available options, and include stakeholders and staff, through to implementation planning and delivery were outlined.

Although there was no programme team there was some support through the Programme Director as part of his LGR role, and other commitment such as communications officers working collectively outside of their normal day jobs.

In relation to LGR it was explained that the delay of any decision, if it was to proceed, could see a focus on a transitional and transactional introduction of a new Council, and transformation of the organisation would follow due to the impact on timescale to deliver by March 2019.

With regard to the workstreams, support was given to the need to progress the first three priorities as outlined in minute 8 above.

It was suggested that although it would be part of the workstreams, the aspiration to work more innovatively should be more visible. It was agreed that this would be built into the methodology, as well as the need to draw attention to the exciting aspects of each of the priority areas.

A concern was raised about the need for good joint scrutiny of the Joint Committee and the workstreams to provide necessary checks and balances.

It was also suggested that consideration should be given to the timescaling of the individual priority areas, which would begin to build a picture of the size and scope of the workstreams, and would provide the opportunity to consider in terms of short, medium and long term realistic ambition and scaling. The Committee supported the need to look at timescales and to not impose areas that were not achievable.

Resolved

1. That the proposed programme structure and methodology be noted.
2. That direction of the Joint Committee in relation to the early establishment of workstreams to progress joint working (as outlined in paragraph 2.7 of the Programme Director's report) be approved, subject to the comments made in the minute above and in minute 8.

Communication and Engagement Strategy and Plan

- 10 The Joint Committee considered a report by the Programme Director – Local Government Reorganisation on the proposed Communication and Engagement Strategy and Plan of the Joint Committee to support the development of collaborative relationships and sharing of the future plans and delivery of the future joint working relationships.

Members welcomed the development of the strategy and plan which needed to mirror the Joint Committee's work plan and provide consistent messaging to all partners and staff with templates for communications and core briefings which would be signed off by the Chairman at the end of each meeting. The responsibility of communications teams to act as a collective body across all partner councils was supported.

In relation to digital communication, it was suggested that the increased use of Skype across partner councils could be used to enhance working outside of formal meetings and contribute to the development of digital access. It was noted that a practical system check would be useful, but this was a very small element of the wider Strategy.

Resolved

1. That the proposed methodology and approaches to the development of the communication and engagement strategy and plan be approved.
2. That the media protocols be agreed.
3. That the actions proposed in the short term communication and engagement plan be agreed.

Forward work plan for the Dorset Area Joint Committee

- 11 The Joint Committee considered a proposed Forward Work Plan of work which focused on an initial three month period in order to establish a longer term programme of work.

It was noted that a further informal workshop would be needed following the direction provided throughout the meeting. The next formal meeting was agreed as 16 October 2017 and the meeting thereafter would be confirmed shortly on 14 or 15 November 2017.

In addition to the progressive work being driven by the Joint Committee it was suggested that the work plan include high level tracking of performance delivery across partners which would help to provide assurance of 'business as usual' and would raise awareness of services provided by each partner council. It was agreed that this would be investigated and included in the work plan.

Resolved

1. That the initial Forward Work Plan of the Joint Committee be approved taking into account the priority areas highlighted throughout the meeting, and the addition of high level tracking of partner service delivery.
2. That an informal workshop be arranged for the next meeting on 16 October.
3. That the date of the next formal meeting be confirmed on 14 or 15 November 2017.
4. That high level tracking of performance delivery across partners be included in the work plan.

Meeting Duration: 12.00 pm - 1.00 pm

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STATEMENT TO THE DORSET AREA JOINT COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils, thank you for allowing us to submit this statement for your consideration.

All town and parish councils in Dorset with an electorate over 200 are members of our association. The association is a democratically elected body, with representatives appointed by each member council. It has a very good network of communication with all its 160 members and provides updates, events and training for them.

We have already made our members aware of the challenges facing all tiers of local government and the potential changes this may bring. The association has a good overview of its members' needs from large town councils to very small parish councils. We also have a very good understanding of how town and parish councils should operate and how they can add value to this important process of re-structure.

Devolution to town and parish councils will be a fundamental issue for shaping services, whatever the structure of local government for Dorset.

Our association believes it is in a unique position to be a positive voice in ensuring that our members are engaged with principal authorities not only in collaborative design of services for the many different communities in Dorset, but also in all aspects of this change process which would help build relationships and ease the implementation of changes.

We are offering to be part of your formal discussions and would be delighted to attend your committee meetings in a non-voting and advisory capacity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Parker'.

Councillor John Parker
Chairman of DAPTC Executive Committee

19 September 2017

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Dorset Area Joint Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at South Walks House, South Walks Road,
Dorchester, Dorset on Monday, 16 October 2017

Present:

Rebecca Knox (Chairman)

Anthony Alford, Shane Bartlett, Jeff Cant, Graham Carr-Jones, Spencer Flower, Matt Hall, Jill Haynes, Colin Huckle, Sherry Jespersen, Ros Kayes, Bill Pipe, Byron Quayle, Barry Quinn, Gary Suttle and Simon Tong

Officer Attending: Stuart Caundle (Monitoring Officer), Steve Mackenzie (Chief Executive), David McIntosh (Chief Executive East Dorset District and Christchurch Borough Council), Matt Prosser (Chief Executive West Dorset District, Weymouth & Portland Borough and North Dorset District Council), Debbie Ward (Chief Executive - Dorset County Council), Ceri Lewis (Communications and Public Relations Manager - Christchurch and East Dorset Councils) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager - Dorset County Council).

Code of Conduct

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

Apologies for Absence

13 No apologies for absence were received.

Minutes

14 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2017 were received.

Matters Arising

Minute 9 - Proposed Methodology for Collaborative Working Across the Dorset Area Joint Committee

A concern was expressed regarding the resolution of the item to clarify that the proposed structure and methodology was not 'approved' at the meeting. It was clarified that the proposal in the previous report was to 'consider and discuss the proposed programme structure and methodology'. It was subsequently agreed that the wording of the minute would be updated outside of the meeting and the minutes would be resubmitted to the next meeting to be signed as an accurate record.

Resolved

That the minutes be amended and resubmitted to be signed at the next meeting on 15 November 2017.

Public Participation

15 Public Speaking

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

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

Local Government Reorganisation Update

16 It was noted that the Chief Executive of Dorset Councils Partnership, as the Chief Executive Sponsor of the Future Dorset Programme Board, updated the Committee on the current status of the Future Dorset proposal during an informal workshop held

prior to the meeting of the Joint Committee.

Noted

Programme Resourcing Plan

- 17 The Joint Committee considered a report on the resourcing requirements, roles and relationships to support the work of the Joint Committee and potential Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

A range of views were expressed regarding the staff and resourcing required to deliver the ambitions of the Joint Committee. With a view to addressing the scale of workstreams, and to provide flexibility and direction on future resourcing, the Joint Committee broadly discussed the appointment of an Interim Chief Executive or equivalent, staffing arrangements, budget implications, and timing of decisions.

Views were expressed regarding the need for more detail about the resource to support the Joint Committee, together with more attention to be paid to the structure outlined at appendix two of the report. Throughout the discussion a number of members urged the Joint Committee to defer the consideration of the recommendations in the report until the next meeting when more information could be presented.

A number of views were shared which supported the need to consider the appointment of an Interim Chief Executive or equivalent with overall control of the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee also discussed the staffing structure including the role of Programme Director (which was resourced by DCC and DCP) and reporting of roles within the structure.

With regard to the budget implications of the resourcing plan and staffing, and although costs would be apportioned based on population methodology, requests were made for more detail before commitments could be made. Comments were also received regarding the need to understand associated risks, especially given that no decision had yet been reached by the Secretary of State in relation to LGR.

Further attention was drawn to the level of funding to be used to provide for staffing, and a discussion was held about the merits or otherwise of utilising in house or external staff (from the public and private sectors) to support the Joint Committee to deliver radical transformation. Views were shared about the importance of having staff with the right experience, and alternative opinions supported in-house staff being able and willing to play an active role in shaping the new arrangements. Concern about the cost of staff positions was also discussed, specifically how expensive some roles would be, whereas support was given from some members for the need to pay for the right skills.

The delay in the Secretary of State's decision was sighted as a major factor in driving the need to make progress especially if a new Council was formed from March 2019.

The priority area of consideration at this point was identified as the need to recruit Workstream Coordinators as the staff who would be leading the workstreams, but it was felt that more information was required in respect of what was manageable given that three priority workstreams had already been identified and there would be a number of others. It was questioned whether two would be enough. The need for effective recruitment was seen as key to the delivery of the workstreams, and any further delay would not see appointments made until 2018 at the earliest.

The importance of effective communications, through a Communications and Engagement Manager were highlighted, although some alternative views were also shared.

In addition to considering the recommendations within the report, it was proposed that the appointment of Workstream Coordinators be progressed at a maximum value of £250k, and a further report be presented at the next meeting of the arrangements for an Interim Chief Executive or equivalent. On being put to the vote the amended recommendations were agreed by 9 votes in favour and 7 against.

Resolved

1. That a Programme Manager and a Communication & Engagement Manager be recruited to support the work of the Joint Committee.
2. That the recruitment processes for a larger team in readiness to support any work arising from any LGR decision be commenced, and specifically that the recruitment of Workstream Coordinators, to a maximum value of £250k be agreed.
3. That a further report on the arrangements for the appointment, or otherwise, of an Interim Chief Executive or equivalent be considered at the next meeting of the Joint Committee on 15 November 2017.

Communications and Engagement Plan Update

- 18 The Communications and Public Relations Manager for Christchurch and East Dorset Councils provided an overview of Communications Strategy and Delivery Plan progress since the last meeting on 20 September 2017, which included press releases, core communications by each council to staff in various forms, and the use of twitter to increase public engagement.

The interim approach moving forward would see communications officers attending meetings on a rota basis as a partnership arrangement between all councils. The extensive work undertaken so far and the resource required in the future were acknowledged.

A need for effective and proactive communications and core briefings was welcomed, together with the need for appropriate messages about improved service delivery to be used for different audiences, especially for Town and Parish Councils. Enhancing public engagement and efforts to improve the understanding of the Joint Committee were also supported.

The joint approach of dealing with communications across all partner councils, including those councils that were not in favour of Local Government Reorganisation, was constructively challenged. Confirmation was provided that all communications officers would work in collaboration and all councils would play a full and active role.

The Joint Committee was reminded that there was an individual responsibility of all members to feed into communications and engagement work as a conduit on behalf of each partner council and for the public.

Resolved

1. The Committee thanked officers for their hard work in developing and delivering communications support to date.
2. Progress of the development and implementation of the Communication Plan was noted.

Work Programme and Forward Plan

- 19 The Joint Committee considered the work programme and forward plan for future meetings and the following items were identified:

- Council Tax Harmonisation
- Financial Disaggregation
- Electoral Boundary Review
- The process for the appointment of interim or equivalent Chief Executive and

other Statutory Posts (the arrangements for Interim Chief Executive were identified earlier in the meeting to be reported to 15 November 2017)

- Risk Management Process
- Working with Town and Parish Councils
- Working with Community and Voluntary Sector Partners

It was also reported that workshops would be held in the coming months by Dorset County Council which would be open to all district and borough members to be able to share information about services. The first would relate to the Accountable Care System and the Dorset Care Record, and a second would address Prevention at Scale. All workshops would be held in venues in the East and West of Dorset to enable members of all councils to attend and participate.

Resolved

That the work programme and forward plan be updated as outlined in the minute above.

Meeting Duration: 2.15 pm - 3.25 pm



Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester,
Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 19 July 2017.

Present:

Rebecca Knox	Leader of the Council
Jill Haynes	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Care
Steve Butler	Cabinet Member for Safeguarding
Deborah Croney	Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills
Toni Ferrari	Cabinet Member for Community and Resources
Daryl Turner	Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment

Members Attending:

David Harris, County Councillor for Westham
Byron Quayle, County Councillor for Blandford Forum

Officers Attending:

Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Harries (Corporate Director for Environment and Economy), Jonathan Mair (Head of Organisational Development - Monitoring Officer), Sara Tough (Corporate Director for Children's, Adults and Community Services) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate:

Karen Andrews (Head of Business Improvement), Michael Carhart-Harris (Senior Communications Officer), Marc Eyre (Senior Assurance Manager (Governance, Risk and Special Projects)), Darran Gunter (Programme Director LGR), Paul Leivers (Assistant Director - Early Help and Community Services), Ben Print (Programme and Project Manager), Peter Scarlett (Estate and Assets Manager), Roger Sewill (Strategic Estate Management Team Manager) and Mark Taylor (Group Manager - Governance and Assurance).

(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: **Tuesday, 25 July 2017.**

(2) 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 **Wednesday, 6 September 2017.**)

Apologies for Absence

85 No apologies for absence were received.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

87 The minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

88 Public Speaking

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

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

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Cabinet Forward Plan

89 The Cabinet considered the draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet on or after the next meeting.

The extent to which the Forward Plan was used by overview and scrutiny committees to help form their own work programmes was questioned. In response it was confirmed that the Forward Plan was reported to the Chairmen of the committees on a regular basis through the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. The time horizon of the Plan was also questioned as it did not contain a long period of notice for items and did not therefore inform the committees sufficiently far in advance about forthcoming items of business, where the Cabinet would benefit from the input of the overview and scrutiny committees.

It was suggested that items should be forward planned with up to 12-18 months' notice in order to provide committees with the opportunity to develop policy and contribute towards proposals for the Cabinet to consider. Similar discussions had been held at the last two Cabinet meetings and a meeting would now be arranged between the Cabinet and Chairmen of the committees to discuss forward planning arrangements. Cllr David Harris, as the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, welcomed the opportunity to meet with the Cabinet.

It was noted that two items on the Plan which referred to Special Educational Needs had been amended prior to the meeting to reflect Cllr Deborah Croney, as the responsible Cabinet Member.

On discussing the Plan, no further items were identified at the meeting.

Resolved

That a meeting be arranged between the Cabinet and Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny committees to discuss forward planning arrangements.

Panels and Boards

90 The Cabinet received the following minutes and recommendations from Panels and Boards:

Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board - 21 June 2017

90a Cllr Rebecca Knox highlighted and welcomed the newly introduced informal second part of the Board's meetings. On this occasion it was an extremely interactive session about Prevention at Scale and the formation of locally based Health and Wellbeing Boards, and included contributions from partners outside of the Board. It was noted that the record of the informal part of the meetings would be made more comprehensive in future minutes.

Noted

Executive Advisory Panel on Pathways to Independence - 23 June 2017

90b The Cabinet considered the following recommendations from the meeting:

Recommendation 14 – Progress on ‘Making Charges Fairer’

It was recognised that the proposals would enable the Council to become more Care Act compliant. However it was noted that wording on letters was being changed to make it very clear that the default position regarding payment by direct debit. Cllr Haynes was content that the work to amend the wording was underway and would be applied shortly.

It was also confirmed that although the new Mosaic ICT system had a standard configuration, this was exactly what was needed to make a big difference to the way the service worked, and in respect of the culture of the service, it was not anticipated that there would be any issues with the introduction as the new system was very much needed and welcomed.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting be received and the following recommendations be approved:

Recommendation 9 – Appointment of Vice-Chairman

That Cllr Mary Penfold be appointed as an additional member to the Panel.

Recommendation 14 – Progress on ‘Making Charges Fairer’

That the Cabinet be asked to accept the significant progress towards prompt billing offered by the implementation of the standard configuration of Mosaic, and resume work towards the objective of billing two weeks in advance and two weeks in arrears in the autumn.

Reason for Recommendation

To help secure a sustainable approach to the County Council’s Corporate Plan aims that people in Dorset be safe, healthy, independent and prosperous.

Joint Public Health Board - 28 June 2017

90c Cllr Tony Ferrari highlighted the pleasing financial position of the Public Health Service and highlighted the continued good service provided across all areas of responsibility.

Noted**Dorset Police and Crime Panel - 29 June 2017**

90d The Chief Executive drew attention to the appointment of Mike Short as the new independent Chairman of the Dorset Police and Crime Panel, and acknowledged the four years that Cllr John Adams had undertaken the role and the valuable contribution he had made to the Panel.

Noted**Risk Management and Governance**

91 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Community and Resources in relation to the Council’s risk management arrangements.

Cllr Rebecca Knox introduced the item and explained that the item had been requested by the Cabinet to ensure oversight of the Council’s risk management arrangements, and in particular the quality and use of data in areas of risk, performance and finance. The Group Manager (Assurance and Governance) and the Senior Assurance Manager (Governance, Risk and Special Projects) provided a summary presentation to outline the Council’s risk management arrangements, including how risk was aligned to the Council’s corporate aims or the key parts of the Council’s healthy organisation model. It was highlighted that risk should never be a

barrier to change, or seen as a negative process, and should be harnessed as a tool to take advantage of opportunities and challenges. The presentation also provided insight into how risk was managed through the Forward Together Programme, the Council's risk appetite, and how plans were actively managed to mitigate risks.

The Cabinet was grateful for the presentation which had provided the assurance that had been requested, and as such the Annual Governance Statement was signed by Cllr Rebecca Knox in her capacity as Leader of the Council. In addition to the arrangements outlined in the presentation, it was suggested that Cabinet members be made aware of risks as they were raised, and received regular updates in order to proactively address and manage their areas of responsibility.

Resolved

1. That the presentation on the most significant risks, and how they are reviewed, challenged and monitored in contributing to an outcomes focussed approach be noted.
2. That Cllr Tony Ferrari, as the Cabinet Member for Community and Resources, be allocated the role of member risk champion.
3. That the reporting mechanism to keep Cabinet members apprised of new and worsening significant risks and the effectiveness of existing and proposed mitigation be supported, with the addition of increased briefing of risks for Cabinet members.

Reason for Decisions

To ensure that decision making was made on a risk informed basis to support delivery of improved outcomes for the residents of Dorset, based on an approved risk appetite.

Request for approval to re-procure and award a contract for the provision of self service (RFID) technology in libraries

92 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills regarding the contract arrangements in relation to self-service technology through kiosks in the Council's, and community managed, libraries to enable users to check books in and out, pay charges and check their account without the need for staff intervention.

Cllr Deborah Croney summarised the report and confirmed that the kiosks provided an important service to enable staff to undertake other duties and increase capacity for community activities. It was confirmed that the new arrangements would see the reduction of kiosks from 53 to 43 and to also introduce card payment facilities that warranted a card payment facility. The procurement process would look to consider an award the contract at an appropriate financial level, as outlined in the report, and if the amount was more than intended the matter would be reconsidered by the Cabinet. It was also requested that the cost of maintenance be monitored closely as part of the contract arrangements.

Resolved

1. That the contract for the re-provision of self service equipment and the subsequent support and maintenance arrangements be tendered.
2. That delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director for Children's, Adults and Community Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy , Education, Learning and Skills, following the tendering process, subject to it being within the budget figure in the report, to consider and award a contract that represents best value to the Council over the life of the contract arrangement to the preferred supplier identified through the tender evaluation process for the replacement self-service equipment and support and maintenance.
3. That the cost of maintenance be monitored closely as part of the contract arrangements.

Reasons for Decisions

1. To ensure that the County Council was operating legally.
2. To ensure compliance with Dorset County Council's Constitution and Contract Procedure Rules.
3. To provide innovative and value for money services by delivering a cost efficient and effective service for the management and delivery of the self-service kiosks.

Questions from County Councillors

93 No questions from County Councillors were received.

Exempt Business

94 **Resolved**

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 95-97 as it was likely that if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 6a and 6b of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

B3073 Junction with A338, Blackwater Interchange, Christchurch - Compulsory Purchase Order and Side Roads Order

95 The Cabinet considered an exempt report by the Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment to seek authority in principle to use a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO), if required, under the Highways Act 1980 and Acquisition of Land Act 1981, to acquire the land and rights needed for the Blackwater Interchange B3073 Christchurch Road, junction with A338 Bournemouth Spur Road in the parish of Hurn, Christchurch.

Resolved

1. That the Cabinet authorises in principle the making of a compulsory purchase order for A338/B3073 Blackwater Interchange, if negotiations are not successful, under the Highways Act 1980 and Acquisition of Land Act 1981 in respect of the land shown coloured pink on the drawing at Appendix 2 of the Cabinet Member's report – Blackwater Interchange Indicative Land Acquisition Plan.
2. That Cabinet authorises in principle the making of a Side Roads Order (SRO) under Sections 14 and 125 of the Highways Act 1980 for the Blackwater Junction scheme, as required.

Reasons for Decisions

1. The reason for seeking agreement in principle to make a CPO. If it was necessary to make a CPO officers would report to Cabinet with specific detail on the land to be included in such an order.
2. The acquisition of the land was necessary to construct the proposed improvement to the highway network at the A338/B3073 Blackwater Interchange in Christchurch.
3. The Side Roads Order (SRO) at Blackwater Junction may be required to establish the changes and diversion of the existing highway network away from the current line as required in the proposed scheme.
4. The proposed scheme formed an integral part of the Bournemouth International Growth (BIG) schemes which contributed towards delivering a network for the future to boost economic growth in the Bournemouth Airport area which meets the needs of the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (DLEP) objectives and was included in the Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 and the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan Part 1 – Core Strategy.

The Community Offer for Living and Learning

96 The Cabinet considered a joint exempt report by the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills, and the Cabinet Member for Community and Resources on the Community Offer for Living and

Learning, including progress made to date, budget position, and proposed activity within the pilot areas.

Cllr Deborah Croney provided an extensive summary of Living and Learning and the development of the offer so far which included the need to prioritise against the financial benefits (revenue and capital), asset realisation and to refine the services that could be delivered in areas, noting that each area would have different issues and circumstances. It was highlighted that extensive input and information from communities was needed in order to assess what could be delivered in the timeframes available. Cllr Croney also asked that Option 2 be amended to reword paragraph 7.3 to say "Investigate further strategic opportunities" rather than "Drive forward the strategic opportunities" as these were not yet fully defined.

The Cabinet recognised the dependency on external influences to maximise what could be developed as an offer in each area. It was felt that progressing with the pilot areas outlined in the report was appropriate, and that a Living and Learning Steering Group be formed with invitations to the relevant Cabinet members to participate.

Cllr David Harris addressed the Cabinet as the local member for Westham to highlight that although engagement was good in Weymouth this would only deliver smaller savings and there was a need to concentrate on the bigger strategic savings, with public sector partners. He highlighted a number of teams that would be difficult to relocate and free up accommodation.

Cllr Byron Quayle also highlighted similar issues as a local member for Blandford Forum and felt that there were so many areas to consider to make sure people did not lose out, such as possible relocation of some services in Blandford.

It was explained that the outcome of the Clinical Commissioning Group's Clinical Services Review would be known by 20 September 2017 and could provide a better understanding of health reconfiguration of buildings, which could benefit the development of localised Living and Learning offers.

The importance of delivery timescales was highlighted as any delay would have a negative impact on the possible savings that could be achieved. It was also suggested that the progress made so far in engaging communities needed to be kept and not to lose any momentum if possible. Cllr Croney explained the importance of the prioritisation of each opportunity through a 'desktop exercise' approach, and for this information to be included in the report to the Cabinet in September 2017.

Confirmation was given that information on public sector assets provided as part of the One Public Estate was shared with other public sector bodies across Dorset and all were informed of the asset management position across Dorset. However it was acknowledged that not all stakeholders were aware of the information and that the Steering Group should develop communications messages for key stakeholders, particularly to districts and boroughs, to better clarify what the programme was aiming to achieve, and what was happening in each area.

In addition, it was confirmed that Living and Learning remained part of the Council's Way we Work Programme, and the Corporate Director for Children, Adults and Community Services would continue to act as its strategic champion. The Cabinet felt that following the desktop prioritisation any 'quick wins' and uncontentious decisions should be able to be made at the earliest opportunity to realise savings, including local member involvement. It was agreed that delegated authority (to the Assistant Director (Early Help and Community Services) and Programme Director (Local Government Reorganisation), following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills) would be used to determine which opportunities required consideration by Cabinet prior to formal public consultation on

a case by case basis, which needed full business cases, and which could be progressed without Cabinet approval.

Resolved

1. That the progress made to date be noted.
2. That the Living and Learning programme continues to be driven as part of the Forward Together programme.
3. That option 2 (as amended in the minute above) to proceed with a targeted phased countywide rollout of the community offer for Living and Learning be supported.
4. That the prioritisation criteria (appendix 1 of the report) be approved with a view to these being applied to other local areas.
5. That the previous Cabinet approvals in 2016 for delegated authorities be amended to reflect the new Cabinet portfolios and senior officer structures.
6. That delegated authority be granted to the Assistant Director (Early Help and Community Services) and Programme Director (Local Government Reorganisation), after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills to determine which opportunities require consideration by Cabinet prior to formal public consultation on a case by case basis, which needed full business cases, and which can be progressed without Cabinet approval.
8. That a further report to be provided to the Cabinet with recommendations on priorities, potential savings and timescales in September 2017.
9. That a Living and Learning Steering Group be formed with invitations to the relevant Cabinet members to participate.

Reasons for Decisions

To reflect some of Cabinet's key objectives:

1. To lead the community planning process, both within the region and locally, and the search for best value.
2. To be the focus for forming partnerships with other public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations to address local needs.

Integrated Prevention and Support Service

- 97 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Health and Care on the development of an Integrated Prevention and Support (IPS) Service, including a review of existing contracts. A review of the Partnership of Older People Programme (POPPs) was currently underway and would inform the development of the IPS service. It was also noted that the proposal would form a significant saving in 2018-19 whilst providing a more targeted service.

Resolved

1. That the proposal for the development of the Integrated Prevention and Support Service be approved.
2. That further work on the alignment of POPPs to support the service be approved.
3. That inclusion of mental health recovery services, subject to business case approval, be agreed.

Reasons for Decisions

The development of the service would:

1. Release £782k pa cashable savings.
2. Introduce targeted support to older people regardless of tenure.
3. Increase opportunities to maximise benefits.
4. Provide evidenced based support for people with challenging behaviour to gain and maintain settled accommodation.
5. Reduce the number of people having to re-enter crisis services.
6. Improve joint agency working to support people with complex needs.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.50 am

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Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 6 September 2017.

Present:

Rebecca Knox	Leader of the Council
Jill Haynes	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Care
Steve Butler	Cabinet Member for Safeguarding
Deborah Croney	Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills
Toni Ferrari	Cabinet Member for Community and Resources
Daryl Turner	Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment

Members Attending:

Cherry Brooks, County Councillor for South Purbeck
 Hilary Cox, County Councillor for Winterborne
 Katharine Garcia, County Councillor for Portland Tophill
 David Harris, County Councillor for Westham
 Nick Ireland, County Councillor for Linden Lea
 Ros Kayes, County Councillor for Bridport
 Bill Pipe, County Councillor for Lychett Minster and Upton

Officers Attending:

Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Jonathan Mair (Head of Organisational Development - Monitoring Officer), Peter Moore (Service Director - Environment), Sara Tough (Corporate Director for Children's, Adults and Community Services) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate:

Sarah Johnstone (Communications Commissioning Manager), Jay Mercer (Education Transformation Lead), David Walsh (Economy & Enterprise Team Leader Economy) and David Webb (Service Manager - Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service).

- (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: **Tuesday, 12 September 2017.**
- (2) 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 **Wednesday, 27 September 2017.**
- (3) **RECOMMENDED** in this type denotes that a decision of County Council is required.)

Apologies for Absence

98 An apology was received from David Phillips (Director of Public Health) and Mike Harries (Corporate Director for Environment and Economy). Peter Moore (Service Director – Environment) attend the meeting For Mike Harries.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

100 The minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation101 Public Speaking

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

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

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Cabinet Forward Plan

102 The Cabinet considered the draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet on or after the next meeting.

Cabinet Members discussed the need for an item on Direction of Travel and Programme for Care and Protection to be brought forward from 15 November 2017 to 27 September 2017. The Monitoring Officer clarified that the Council's general exception rules would apply in this case, which required notification to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee chairman, as the forward plan for the meeting on 27 September 2017 had already been published.

Resolved

That the change of date for the item on 'Direction of Travel and Programme for Care and Protection' be changed from 15 November 2017 to 27 September 2017, subject to general exception rules.

Panels and Boards

103 The Cabinet received the following minutes and recommendations from Panels and Boards:

Tricuro Executive Shareholder Group - 27 June 2017

104 Cllr Ros Kayes, as a member of the Tricuro Executive Shareholder Group (ESG), addressed the meeting to ask a question regarding the operation and development of Tricuro in relation to the ability to earn income to be reinvested into the company to enable growth and profit. Cllr Jill Haynes responded by explaining that the company could operate to reinvest income, or could be used to future proof services by removing the challenges faced by the Council by the company reducing prices in the market. She acknowledged that not all partner councils have the same view of how to use the company but her personal view was that it should be used to assist in controlling costs. However, the development of the company was needed and there were many opportunities to grow in collaboration with the Clinical Commissioning Group and Health Trusts.

It was clarified that the consideration of how Tricuro operated and financial decision making was the responsibility of the ESG, and was not the for the Cabinet to consider.

Noted**Further approval for procurements over £500k**

105 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Community and Resources in relation to planned procurements during 2017/18 which were in excess of the Council's key decision threshold of £500k.

In relation to the contract framework for the provision of school meals, Cllr David Harris (Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee) highlighted that the former Audit and Scrutiny Committee had scrutinised the previous contract arrangements and was pleased to see that the new contract arrangements had taken account of the action plan and scrutiny ideas that the Committee had developed. It was noted that the next Audit and Governance Committee meeting would receive an update on progress, and a channel of reporting back to the Committee if any problems occurred in the new contract was welcomed. Cllr Croney, as a former member of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee, echoed the comments and drew attention to the huge amount of work and consultation to arrive at the new contract framework, including service improvements, support for local businesses, and cost effectiveness for schools.

Resolved

1. That the procurements and awards of contracts set out in Appendix 1 of the Cabinet Member's report be approved.
2. That delegated authority be granted to lead officers to approve further procurements set for implementation during 2017 (or as specifically noted otherwise) on terms to be agreed after consultation with the appropriate Director and Cabinet Member(s) for each arrangement.

Reason for Decisions

Cabinet was required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more. It was also good governance to provide Cabinet with a summary of all proposed procurements prior to them formally commencing. Planning procurements effectively ensured stakeholder engagement, efficient sourcing, compliance with regulations and contract procedure rules and best value for money.

Special Educational Needs and Disability - Written Statement of Action

106 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills on the Written Statement of Action in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) following a joint inspection in January 2017 by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) of Children's Services and their partners regarding support for children and young people SEND.

Cllr Ros Kayes, as the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, expressed appreciation for being involved in the SEND Improvement Board and supported the report. She asked how the monitoring of the statement of action would be undertaken and reported back to members, and also sought assurance about the staffing arrangements and capacity in the SEND team.

Cllr Deborah Croney introduced the report and explained the four main areas of improvement following the inspection, as detailed within the report. It was confirmed that the SEND Improvement Board, which worked with health partners, the voluntary sector and parent and carers designed the WSOA and set up a Strategic Working Group to identify how to deliver and measure success of the statement. A SEND Delivery Group would then deliver the actions and milestones from September 2017 to October 2018, and was scheduled to meet on 9 October 2017. The Director for Children's Services also summarised the wider governance arrangements, how the groups and Board linked with the work of partners including the Clinical Commissioning Group, and how the delivery arrangements were designed to bring partners together.

In relation to the action to increase capacity in the SEND team, it was confirmed that there had been success in making key appointments and changes to management and leadership. However, the staffing situation was not stable as there was ongoing turnover of other staff as well. Difficulty in recruitment and retention was highlighted due to the ongoing challenging market, which in turn increased agency costs.

The Cabinet acknowledged the large amount of work required and support needed from across the whole Council and recognised that as part of the monitoring arrangements for the WSOA a further report would be considered by the Cabinet on 18 October 2017.

Resolved

That the contents of the Written Statement of Action be noted and that updates on progress towards the outcomes detailed in the statement be provided to the Cabinet by report or other means as required.

Reason for Decision

It is important that Cabinet, due to the financial and reputational impacts of this area of work, remained informed on progress and achievement against the Written Statement of Action.

Quarterly Asset Management Report

107 The Cabinet considered a joint quarterly report by the Cabinet Member for Community and Resources and the Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment which provided an overview of the key issues relating to the Council's Asset Management Plan and its various asset classes of Property, Highways, ICT, Fleet and Waste.

Cllr Nick Ireland, as the local member, confirmed that he and Winterborne Farringdon Parish Council supported the proposal to retain the Monkton Park site. Cllr Ros Kayes as the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, also supported the proposal and asked if consideration of using the site for a children's home could be investigated. It was confirmed that a children's home would be considered alongside all other options to better exploit the use of the site.

With regard the transfer of Youth Centres to communities, it was noted that many had progressed well and Cabinet would continue to be updated on progress until the end of the programme. However, Cllr Jill Haynes asked for the transfer of the centre at Maiden Newton/Higher Frome Vauchurch to be progressed as a priority as the arrangements appeared to have stalled. In addition, Cllr Kayes, as a local member, drew attention to practical problems experienced by Bridport Youth Centre in relation to the payment of utility bills alongside the transfer of the centre which had amounted to £8k, and suggested that this should be handled better in the future. In addition, Cllr David Harris, as a local member, asked if STEPS youth club in Weymouth had now been transferred. Cllrs Tony Ferrari and Steve Butler indicated that they would investigate the issues raised outside of the meeting.

Cllr Cherry Brooks, as a member of the Enterprise Zone Management Board and Purbeck District Council as the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Infrastructure, raised concerns regarding the ability of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to meet the £1.3m funding contribution and the impact if it was unable to provide the funding. Confirmation was provided that the capital investment programme would be considered by the LEP Board on 27 September 2017, and confidence was expressed in being able to progress with the programme. A financial breakdown of the investments was also provided by the Chief Financial Officer, which included a summary of the associated risks and repayment through future business rates.

Whilst continuing to support the Innovation Park project Cllr Brooks also raised concern that there appeared to be a feel of reduced ambition and not focussed on the original ambition of bringing high tech, and high spec marine defence and engineering, particularly in relation to the addition of a Café to Chesil House.

Further to a concern raised in relation to the change of contracts for premium surface dressing, clarification was provided that there was unlikely to be any interruption in service and that all information was available online via Dorset Explorer. On seeking confirmation outside of the meeting with the Service Director – Highways, Cllr Daryl Turner indicated that he would share any further information outside of the meeting.

Members also discussed the impact of budgetary pressures on ICT capacity to manage and maintain operational services. Although the financial position across the Council added pressure to capacity, the importance of ICT as an enabling tool was recognised. A position statement on capacity to deliver across operation, given reduced financial allocations, would be reported in due course.

Clarification was provided to members regarding the grant funding arrangements for Children's Services, which showed a lower than expected level of capital funding. It was reported that the amount was likely to increase from December 2017 when the funding was announced by Government.

Resolved

1. That the transfer of legal title of The Dorset Yeoman at Agagia, 26th Feb. 1916 by Elizabeth Southerden Thompson, Lady Butler, to the Keep Military Museum under the terms of Arts Council England's Accreditation standard and the Museum's existing Acquisition & Disposal Policy (Paragraph 3.1.4 of the Cabinet Members' report) be approved.
2. That the retention of Monkton Park to explore options for utilisation of the site, including the potential of providing an SEMH Special School, and the re-provision of the Learning Centre on the site (Paragraph 4.1.13 of the report) be approved.
3. That the use of the County Council's general powers of competence to permit it to grant a 125 year lease of the 10 acre site comprising the former Bovington Middle School site to the Delta Education Trust for the provision of a school for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Corporate Director for Environment and Economy (Paragraph 4.3.6 of the report) and the retention of the remaining 7 acre playing field site at Bovington Park whilst further options for the site are explored (Paragraph 4.3.9 of the report) be approved.
4. That the disposal of the whole of former Bere Regis Primary School site on terms to be agreed by the Corporate Director for Environment and Economy (Paragraph 4.4.6 of the report) be approved.
5. That resources of £2,276,000 (including a 20% contingency) are made available as a loan for up to a ten year period through Forward Funding from the County Council by way of either prudential borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board or the use of credit balances (Paragraph 4.5.6 of the report) be approved.
6. That the disposal of 8 Glyde Path Road, Dorchester on terms to be agreed by the Corporate Director for Environment and Economy (Paragraph 4.6.4 of the report) be approved.
7. That upon completion of the scoping work, a new Surface Treatment Framework be procured and let (Paragraph 5.1.3 of the report).
8. That the overall revised estimates and cash flows for projects as summarised and detailed in Appendix 1 (Paragraph 9.2.2 of the report) be approved.
9. That the emerging issues detailed in this report be noted.

Reason for Decisions

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.

Recommendations from Committees

- 108 The Cabinet considered the following recommendation.

Approval of the Youth Justice Plan 2017-18

109 The Cabinet considered a recommendation from the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 6 July 2017.

Cllr Steve Butler introduced the recommendation and summarised the content of the Youth Justice Plan. He clarified that it was a statutory requirement for the Youth Justice Plan to be approved by County Council on 9 November 2017, and that the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the plan for adoption. Cabinet members and the Director for Children's Services commended the positive report and the hard work of David Webb as the Youth Offending Service Manager and his team for being continually high performing, for significant partnership working with wider visibility, and to recognise the achievements of the service.

RECOMMENDED

That the Cabinet recommend the County Council to approve the Youth Justice Plan 2017-18.

Reason for Recommendation

The draft Youth Justice Plan has been approved by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) Management Board. The plan reviewed achievements in the previous year, detailed the structure, governance and resources of the YOS, and set out the priorities for 2017-18.

Questions from County Councillors

110 No questions from County Councillors were received.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.10 am

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny

BACKGROUND
REPORT

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	6 July 2017
Officer	Sara Tough, Corporate Director for Children’s, Adults and Communities
Subject of Report	Approval of Youth Justice Plan for 2017-18
Executive Summary	Youth Offending Teams are required to publish an annual Youth Justice Plan which should be approved by the local authority for that Youth Offending Team and by the Youth Justice Board. Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service works across Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset. Approval is therefore sought from Dorset County Council, as well as from the Borough of Poole and from Bournemouth Borough Council.
Impact Assessment: <i>Please refer to the protocol for writing reports.</i>	<p>Equalities Impact Assessment:</p> <p>The Youth Justice Plan sets out how the Youth Offending Service (YOS) will develop its work with vulnerable groups. The Plan also includes information about some protected characteristics relating to the YOS’s staff and volunteers. No adverse impacts are identified for groups identified by protected characteristics.</p>
	<p>Use of Evidence:</p> <p>The Plan includes performance information relating to the YOS during 2016-17. This information is derived from the Youth Justice Board’s national data collection arrangements.</p>
	<p>Budget:</p> <p>The Youth Justice Plan includes a section setting out the resources available to the YOS. The pan-Dorset Youth Offending Service is</p>

	<p>overseen by a Partnership Board which agrees the contributions from all statutory partners for the provision of the service.</p>
	<p>Risk Assessment:</p> <p>Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk MEDIUM</p> <p>The Youth Justice Plan sets out an achievable strategy for the pan-Dorset YOS to deliver continued high levels of service. There is a potential risk relating to budget cuts; the Youth Justice Board announced extra in-year budget cuts during 2015-16, and further cuts for 2016-17. Youth Justice Board grant levels have not been reduced for 2017/18. The YOS Board has approved the YOS budget plan for 2017-18 which enables statutory functions to be delivered.</p>
	<p>Other Implications:</p>
Recommendation	<p>That Committee recommends approval of the Youth Justice Plan to the Cabinet</p>
Reason for Recommendation	<p>The draft Youth Justice Plan has been approved by the YOS Management Board. The plan reviews achievements in the previous year, details the structure, governance and resources of the Youth Offending Service, and sets out the priorities for 2017-18.</p>
Appendices	<p>The full Youth Justice Plan is attached at Appendix 1</p>
Background Papers	<p>None</p>
Officer Contact	<p>Name: David Webb Tel: 01202 453939 Email: david.webb@bournemouth.gov.uk</p>

1 Introduction

- 1.1. Youth justice services in Dorset were previously delivered by the Dorset Youth Offending Team. This service merged with the Bournemouth and Poole Youth Offending Service, which covered the Bournemouth and Poole areas, to form the 'Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service' in July 2015. Bournemouth Borough Council acts as the lead local authority.
- 1.2. Youth Offending Teams are required to publish an annual youth justice plan. The Youth Justice Board has issued guidance which stipulates what must be included in

the plan, and recommends a structure for the plan. The draft Youth Justice Plan for the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service is attached at Appendix 1.

2. Contents of the Youth Justice Plan

- 2.1. The Plan reviews performance during 2016/17 and reports on progress against last year's priorities. The YOS has continued to perform well against the 3 National Indicators (Reducing First-Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System; Reducing Re-Offending; Reducing the use of Custodial Sentences). Performance in the Dorset area has been particularly strong in reducing the number of first-time entrants into the youth justice system.
- 2.2. The priorities identified in last year's Youth Justice Plan have been achieved. Following the successful merger of the two previously separate youth offending teams in 2015, the new service implemented a new electronic case management system and a new assessment tool for young people during 2016. The YOS was inspected in September 2016, shortly after the introduction of these new systems. The inspection report was largely positive, with some recommendations about increasing the evidence and effectiveness of manager oversight on assessments, plans and reviews. During 2016/17 the YOS also took a leading role in the agreement and implementation of a pan-Dorset Protocol to Reduce the Criminalisation of Children in Care.
- 2.3. The Youth Justice Plan sets out the structure, governance and resourcing of the Youth Offending Service. The Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service is overseen by a Partnership Board comprised of senior representatives of the key partners, chaired by the Director of Children's Services for Dorset. The involvement of senior managers from the 3 local authorities and from the statutory partners (police, health and probation) enables the YOS to integrate its work with other strategic plans and priorities, including strong links to local safeguarding and public protection arrangements. Details about some of the specific operational links between the YOS and other local initiatives are summarised in the 'Partnership Arrangements' section of the Plan.
- 2.4. The Youth Justice Plan outlines the resourcing of the YOS. Local authority and other partner contributions have remained broadly the same since 2014/15, but the Youth Justice Board grant has reduced in that time from £790,000 to £594,000, while staffing costs have increased. The management of vacancies, and the deletion of some posts, has enabled a balanced budget.
- 2.5. The creation of the pan-Dorset YOS and subsequent Youth Justice Board grant reductions led to some posts being removed, though no redundancies were required. The statutory basis of youth offending teams is the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which mandates minimum staffing contributions from the YOS partners. The combined service continues to comply with these minimum staffing requirements.
- 2.6. The priorities for the coming year include the role of the YOS in local multi-agency arrangements to prevent young people entering the justice system. A national review of youth justice was undertaken in 2016, which has provided some useful ideas for local partners to consider in the way the youth justice system operates in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole, with particular reference to best practice in police custody and the youth courts. The YOS also aims to improve its collection and use of information, following last year's implementation of a new case management system and a new assessment tool.

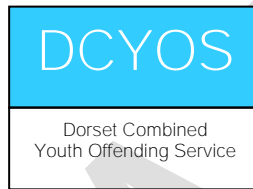
- 2.7. The YOS also has plans to continue to review and improve the quality of its work with young people, including the recruitment of a Speech and Language Therapist to join the team. The multi-disciplinary nature of the team allows us to continue to improve our workforce and to share learning and professional expertise.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. The Youth Justice Plan provides a summary of the performance, structure, governance, resources and future priorities for the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service. The full plan is attached at Appendix 1. Committee is asked to recommend approval of the Youth Justice Plan for 2017-18 to the Cabinet.

Sara Tough
Corporate Director for Children's, Adults and Communities
June 2017

DORSET COMBINED YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE



*Youth
Justice
Plan*

2017/18

Contents

Introduction	3
Service Targets.....	3
Summary of achievements	4
First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System	4
Reducing Re-Offending	5
Custodial Sentences	6
Achievements and Developments during 2016/17:.....	6
Inspection reports in 2016/17.....	8
Short Quality Screening Inspection	8
National Standards Audit.....	9
Inspection reports for local partners	9
Other HMI Probation Inspection reports	9
Structure and Governance.....	10
Management and Governance Arrangements.....	10
Linking the Youth Justice System to other Plans and Structures.....	11
Partnership Arrangements	12
Safeguarding and public protection	12
Reducing Re-Offending	12
Risk Assessment Panels	12
Harmful Sexual Behaviour.....	12
Child Sexual Exploitation.....	12
Preventing Violent Extremism	12
Safe Schools and Communities Team	13
Restorative Justice and Support for Victims	13
Operational Links between YOS and Partner Agencies	14
Resources and value for money	15
Use of the Annual Youth Justice Grant 2017/18	16
Staffing information.....	17
Risks to delivery of YOS outcome measures in 2017-18.....	19
Strategic Priorities for 2017-18	20
Approval.....	22
Appendix A – Glossary of Terms	23

DORSET COMBINED YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2017-18

Introduction

This document is the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service (YOS) for 2017/18. It sets out the key priorities and targets for the service for the next 12 months as required by the Crime & Disorder Act 1998.

The Dorset Combined YOS is a statutory partnership between Bournemouth Borough Council, the Borough of Poole, Dorset County Council, Dorset Police, National Probation Service Dorset and NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Youth Justice Strategic Plan:

- reviews achievements and developments during 2016-17
- summarises the YOS structure, governance and partnership arrangements
- outlines the resources available to the YOS, the planned use of the Youth Justice Grant and the plan for ensuring value for money
- describes the partnership's priorities
- summarises the risks to future delivery of the youth justice outcome measures
- sets out the planned actions to enable delivery of the youth justice outcome measures.

This document sets out the YOS's strategic plan. A delivery plan underpins this document.

Service Targets

The Dorset Combined YOS target for 2017/18 is to outperform regional and national averages for the three national performance indicators for youth offending which are detailed in the next section.

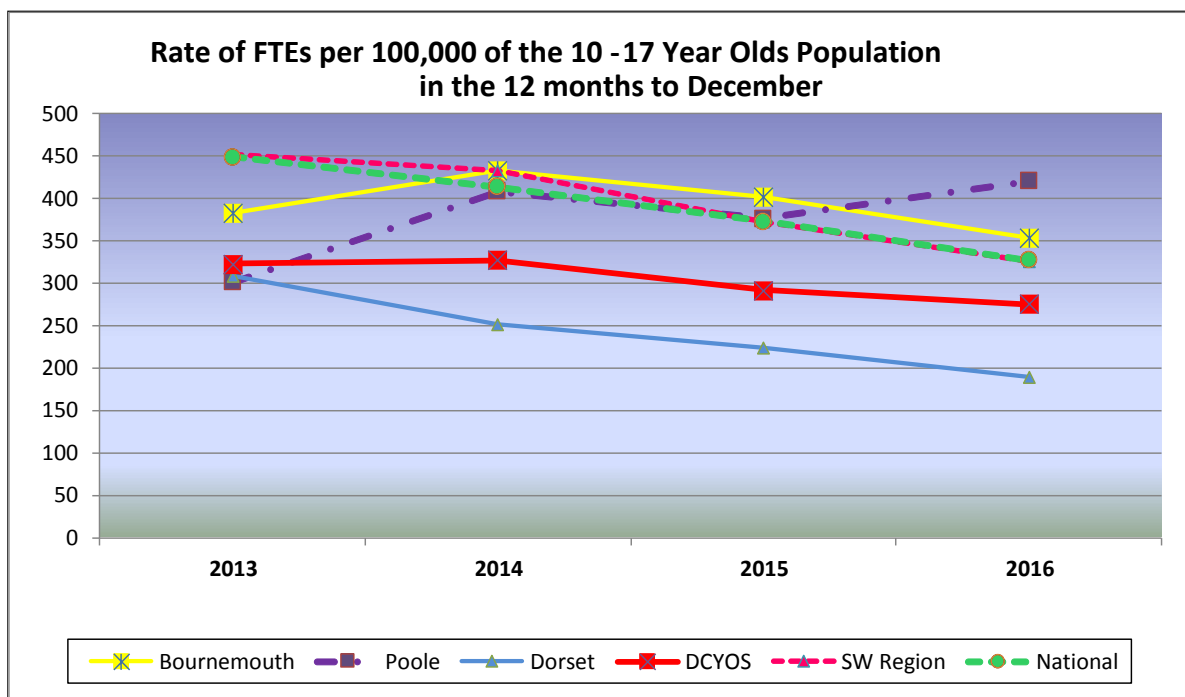
Summary of achievements

This section reports on achievements during 2016/17 by the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service. Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service was launched on 1 July 2015, through the merger of two previously separate teams – Dorset Youth Offending Team, and Bournemouth and Poole Youth Offending Service. The year 2016/17 was therefore the first full year for the new combined service.

Youth Offending Teams continue to be judged against 3 key performance indicators:

- Reducing First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System;
- Reducing Re-Offending by young people in the Youth Justice System;
- Appropriately Minimising the use of Custodial Sentences.

First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System



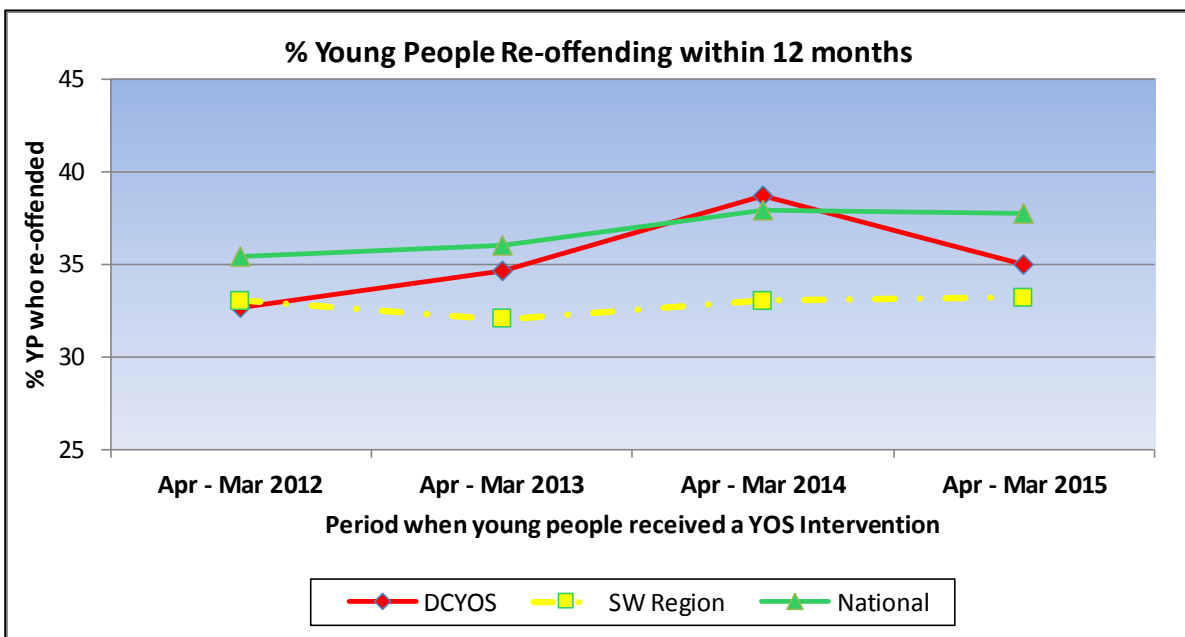
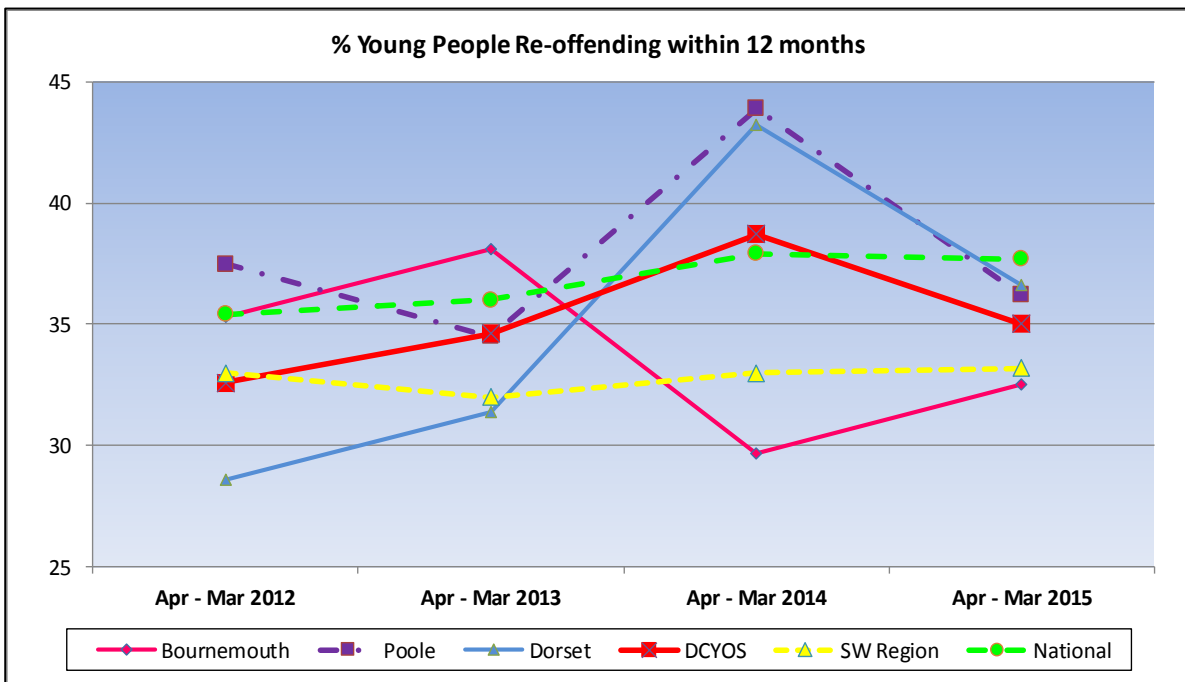
Working with its local partners, Dorset Combined YOS has continued the excellent performance of recent years to keep local young people out of the criminal justice system. The performance of Dorset Combined YOS in this area remains significantly better than the regional and national averages.

All three local authorities have developed and improved their Early Help arrangements during the past year, to help prevent young people being drawn into offending behaviour.

A coordinated, multi-agency approach has been developed across the whole area to reduce the use of justice responses for behaviour by children in care. This led to the launch in January 2017 of a 'Protocol to Reduce the Criminalisation of Children in Care'.

When a young person does commit an offence, Dorset Police work closely with Dorset Combined YOS to identify the best way to respond. Low level offending is assessed so that suitable cases can be dealt with through restorative justice approaches, avoiding the need for a formal outcome. More serious offences, or repeat offending, leads to a formal disposal and therefore to the young person entering the youth justice system.

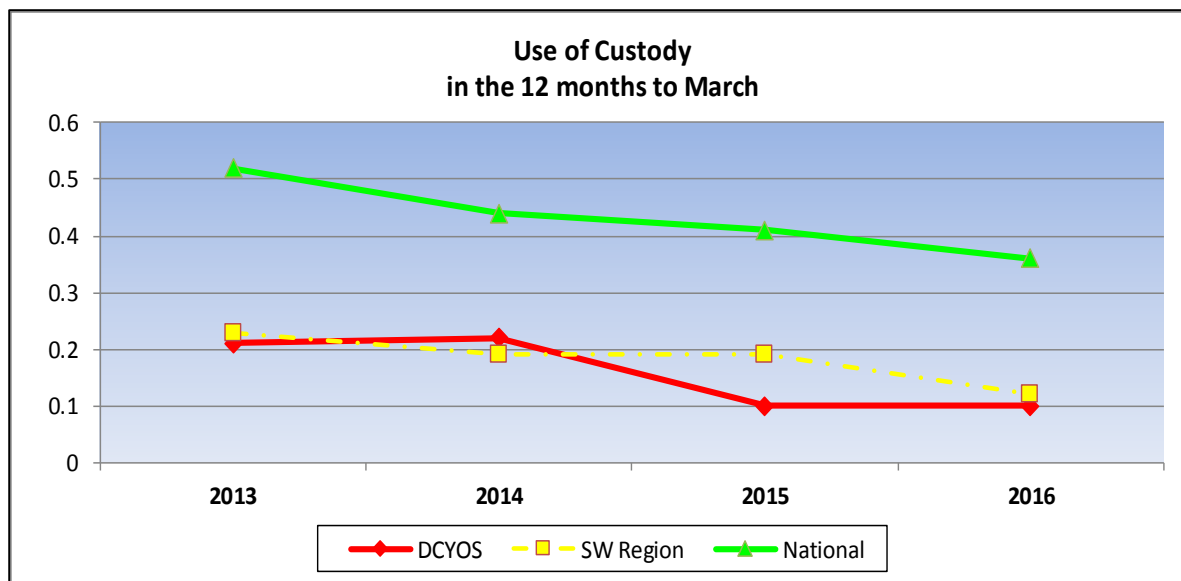
Reducing Re-Offending



The information on re-offending relates to the work of the two previous Youth Offending Teams, prior to the merger in 2015. This is because time needs to elapse to see whether young people go on to re-offend, after their contact with us.

There is a likely correlation between the reducing numbers entering the youth justice system and the increasing rate of re-offending; the YOS now works with a smaller cohort of more complex cases whose re-offending is harder to reduce. It is encouraging that the overall performance of the Dorset Combined YOS areas is better than the national average. It remains a priority to obtain more current data which can identify re-offending patterns at an earlier stage.

Custodial Sentences



Although the YOS works with some complex and risky young people, the use of custodial sentences remains low. The YOS works hard to maintain the confidence of local magistrates and judges in our ability to provide robust and demanding community sentences for those young people who may be at risk of custody. In some circumstances a custodial sentence is the appropriate response to serious or persistent offending. Each time a custodial sentence is passed, the YOS reviews the case in a team meeting to identify any learning points and to check whether any opportunities for a different outcome were missed.

Achievements and Developments during 2016/17:

Our Youth Justice Plan for 2016/17 set out our strategic priorities, which were designed to support our achievement of the three main performance measures for youth justice and to align with other local strategic priorities. A more detailed delivery plan summarised the main actions under each heading.

The 2016/17 priorities are listed below, with sub-headings followed by a summary of progress at the bottom of each section:

The YOS will take a leading role in local initiatives, including:

- Multi-agency strategy to prevent and reduce offending by children in care
- Multi-agency work to reduce the time spent by young people in police custody
- Further development of local arrangements to keep young people safe from exploitation
- Integration of work to address sexually harmful behaviour by young people
- Promotion of a Dorset Restorative Justice strategy for offences by both adults and young people.

The YOS Manager chaired a multi-agency group which devised a Protocol to Reduce the Criminalisation of Children in Care. This Protocol was launched in January 2017. Data from

January to April 2017 shows a significant reduction in police call outs to children's homes, compared to the same period in 2016.

The YOS Manager also took a leading role in multi-agency work to reduce the time spent by young people in police custody. A Protocol was negotiated and implemented which aligns with the draft national Concordat on this issue. Dorset Police have significantly reduced the number of children being arrested, and the time spent in police custody for those who are arrested. Further work is being undertaken to identify local authority accommodation for the small number of young people who are detained in police custody following charge, having been refused bail.

YOS managers and practitioners participate actively in multi-agency processes to protect children from sexual exploitation, and from other forms of exploitation.

The YOS contributed to the Restorative Justice Strategy for Dorset, led by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, which clearly identifies the expertise of the YOS in providing restorative justice for victims of offences committed by young people.

The YOS will make better use of information to improve the impact of our work:

- Transition to a new case management system for recording the team's work
- Use of information monitoring to address outcomes for minority groups
- Updating the YOS Quality Assurance arrangements and evidence of manager oversight
- Enable the YOS health workers to access relevant health recording systems for appropriate and effective information sharing
- Finalise the YOS Participation Strategy to ensure we hear and respond to the views of our service users
- The YOS will raise its profile with partner agencies and with the community

The YOS successfully implemented a new electronic case management system in May 2016, following extensive preparation work. The new system enables us to monitor information relating to specified groups, including children in care and other minority groups who may experience discrimination. Caseload information reporting allows managers to monitor the timeliness and quality of the team's work. We continue to work on improvements and refinements to our use of the case management system in order to improve the quality of our work with young people, parents and victims.

Service user feedback provides an important perspective on the quality and effectiveness of our work. During 2016 we finalised our Participation Strategy, identifying the different ways in which we gather and use the views of our service users. Up to March 2017 we were required by HMI Probation to administer an electronic feedback survey to some of the young people we worked with. Results from those surveys show high levels of satisfaction with our service.

Effective links between the YOS and our partner agencies are essential for achieving good outcomes for young people, and for victims and the wider community. In 2016 we improved our seconded health team's access to Dorset Healthcare recording systems, to enable more integrated health provision to young people. The YOS also established consistent representation and attendance at relevant multi-agency meetings across the three local authority areas. The YOS volunteer coordinator successfully recruited and trained new volunteers to add value to our work and to strengthen our community links.

The YOS will improve the quality of its practice to achieve better outcomes for children, young people, families and victims

- Implementation of the new assessment tool for young offenders, 'AssetPlus'
- Embed core elements of good practice, including Motivational Interviewing to facilitate positive change and Restorative Justice to repair harm to victims
- Develop good practice through improved workforce development
- Improving the team's knowledge and resources for young people with speech, language and communication needs
- Strengthening the team's resources for working with parents and building the team's capacity for family-based work

All Youth Offending Teams were required to implement a new assessment tool for young offenders, 'AssetPlus'. Dorset Combined YOS went live with AssetPlus on 13 June 2016, following significant staff training and preparation. AssetPlus is a more complex and time-consuming assessment process than its predecessor, requiring a lengthy process of adjustment and improvement. YOS managers and case holders attended further AssetPlus training in early 2017 which has enabled us to develop our use of AssetPlus.

The new case management system and the new assessment tool have formed a substantial part of our workforce development plans this year. We have also continued to support our practitioners' expertise in Motivational Interviewing (evidence-based approach to support behaviour change) and Restorative Justice through training events and good practice development sessions. We have also trained more staff to work with young people who exhibit harmful sexual behaviour, and we have utilised clinical advice from a specialist external service in order to build our practitioners' confidence and expertise in this area.

We had previously identified a wish to develop our team's skills and knowledge for responding to young people's speech, language and communication needs, and our capacity for family-based work. In late 2016 we submitted a successful bid to NHS England, under their 'health and justice' funding stream, for a seconded Speech and Language Therapist and for extra resources in our health team to support more family-based approaches.

Inspection reports in 2016/17 Short Quality Screening Inspection

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation carried out a 'Short Quality Screening' inspection of Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service in September 2016. The format for this inspection was scrutiny of 20 cases relating to court orders which commenced in the preceding six months. This meant the inspectors were looking at work undertaken during the period when we introduced our new case management system and the new assessment tool. The inspectors identified the following strengths and areas for improvement:

Key strengths

- The YOS was sufficiently well resourced to enable them to undertake good initial assessments and tailor interventions to the individual needs of children and young people.
- There was evidence that the YOS had good relationships with statutory partners and shared information appropriately.

- Staff found practical ways to support children and young people to achieve their objectives, such as making sure they had the necessary identification documents to allow them to apply for work.
- Most interventions contained an element of practical reparation.

Areas requiring improvement

- Case managers should review their assessments and plans, particularly as they relate to the management of risk of harm and safeguarding, as the circumstances of the children and young people develop.
- Line managers should develop a systematic quality assurance process to make sure that cases have been reviewed appropriately and any actions identified for the case manager are completed in a timely fashion.
- All cases that are assessed as presenting a medium or high risk of serious harm to others
- should have a clear risk management plan that identifies the potential triggers to escalating
- risk and the contingencies that will be put in place should they arise.

An action plan was developed in response to the inspection, overseen by the Partnership Board, to ensure that the necessary improvements were made.

National Standards Audit

Youth Offending Teams are required by the Youth Justice Board to undertake an annual audit of compliance with National Standards. The audit for 2016 was delayed to March 2017 due to the pressure on Youth Offending Teams caused by the introduction of AssetPlus. This year's audit focused on National Standards relating to bail and remand, court work, victim work and long-term custodial sentences.

The results from our National Standards audit showed that, among the cases sampled, the National Standard was either fully met, or met with recommendations, in 80% of cases. Actions have been identified to address the areas where compliance was not present in all cases.

Inspection reports for local partners

Dorset County Council received an Ofsted inspection in January 2017 for its work relating to Special Education Needs and Disabilities. The YOS participated in this inspection, attending relevant meetings with the inspection team. The published inspection report letter did not identify any areas for improvement in relation to the youth justice elements of the SEND Code of Practice.

Other HMI Probation Inspection reports

Among other reports published this year by HMI Probation were a thematic inspection report into Referral Orders, and a full joint inspection of Cambridgeshire YOT. Learning from the report into Referral Orders was reviewed at a meeting with our volunteer community panel members.

Cambridgeshire YOT was selected for inspection as an example of a successful YOT. The learning from that report was shared with the YOS Board and with the YOS team, as part of the consultation process for developing our new Youth Justice Plan for 2017/18.

Structure and Governance

Management and Governance Arrangements

The work of the Dorset Combined YOS is managed strategically by a Partnership Board. The Partnership Board consists of senior representatives of the statutory partner organisations, together with other relevant local partners.

Membership:

- Dorset County Council (current chair)
- Borough of Poole (current vice-chair)
- Bournemouth Borough Council
- Dorset Police
- Dorset Local Delivery Unit Cluster, National Probation Service
- NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group
- Public Health Dorset
- Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust
- Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal service
- Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ansbury (Connexions Provider)

The membership of the YOS Partnership Board enables the work of the Dorset Combined YOS to be integrated into strategic planning for relevant issues such as Safeguarding, Public Protection, Criminal Justice, Health & Well-Being, and the Children and Young People's Plans. The YOS Manager sits on both the local Safeguarding Children's Boards, the Dorset Criminal Justice Board and on the local MAPPA Strategic Management Board.

The Partnership Board oversees the development of the Youth Justice Plan, ensuring its links with other local plans.

The YOS Manager reports quarterly to the Partnership Board on progress against agreed performance targets, leading to clear plans for performance improvement. The Board also requests information in response to specific developments and agendas, and monitors the YOS's compliance with data reporting requirements and grant conditions.

Representation by senior leaders from the key partners enables the YOS Manager to resolve any difficulties in multi-agency working at a senior level, and supports effective links at managerial and operational levels.

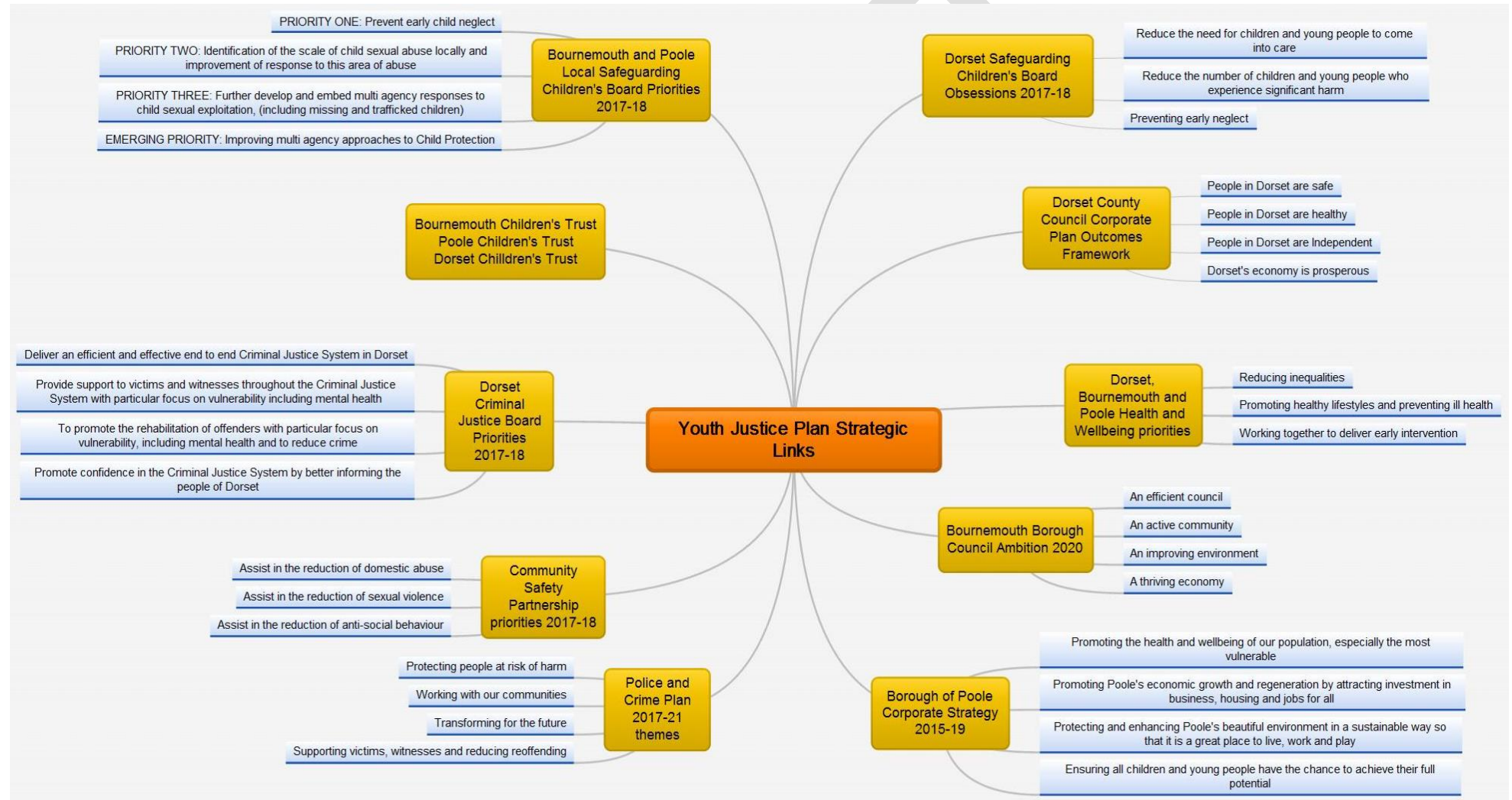
The YOS is party to local multi-agency agreements for information sharing, for safeguarding and for the escalation of concerns.

The Partnership Board also oversees activities by partner agencies which contribute to the key youth justice outcomes, particularly in respect of the prevention of offending.

In 2016/17 the Partnership Board was identified as the appropriate body to provide oversight and governance for the new multi-agency protocols in respect of the criminalisation of children in care and the detention of young people in police custody. The YOS Manager chairs multi-agency operational groups for each protocol and reports on progress to the YOS Partnership Board.

Linking the Youth Justice System to other Plans and Structures

The YOS is a statutory partnership working with children and young people in the criminal justice system and the community safety arena. The YOS is “hosted” by Bournemouth Borough Council, where it sits in the Children and Young People’s Service. We work within the context of several other key strategic partnerships. The map below gives an overview of the direct and indirect linkages.



Partnership Arrangements

The previous section outlined the strategic links between the YOS and the other strategic groups and partnerships. Similar links exist at operational levels, enabling the YOS to integrate its work with young people and families with the work done by partners such as children's social care across the 3 local authorities and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services across Dorset.

Safeguarding and public protection

As well as participating in Child Protection Conferences and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) meetings in respect of specific individuals and families, YOS managers also attend MARAC meetings, local Community Safety Partnership operational meetings, local complex needs panel meetings and meetings in respect of early help and Troubled Families activities in the 3 local authorities.

Reducing Re-Offending

The YOS Manager chairs the pan-Dorset Reducing Reoffending Strategy Group, reporting to the Dorset Community Safety and Criminal Justice Board. Although the group's main focus is on adult offenders, attention is also paid to the youth perspective, particularly for those young people about to transition to adult services, and for the children of adult offenders.

Risk Assessment Panels

The YOS instigates a Risk Assessment Panel process for young people under YOS supervision who have been identified as being at high risk of causing serious harm to others, or of experiencing significant harm themselves. These meetings are attended by workers and managers from the other agencies who are working with the young person. The aim is to agree the risk assessment and devise, implement and review plans to reduce the risks posed by and to the young person.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

The YOS works with the three local authorities, and with the Police, to agree the best way to respond to young people who have committed harmful sexual behaviour. Some of these young people are also known to the local authority social care service so it is important that we coordinate our work and, where possible, take a joint approach. The YOS and the local authorities use recognised assessment and intervention approaches for young people who commit harmful sexual behaviour.

Child Sexual Exploitation

Young people known to the YOS can also be at risk of child sexual exploitation (CSE). The YOS Manager is a member of the pan-Dorset CSE and Missing Persons sub-group of the two Local Safeguarding Children's Boards. A YOS Team Manager has lead responsibility for the team's operational work on CSE, supported by a designated Youth Justice Officer in our Dorchester office. The YOS participates in local multi-agency information sharing arrangements and meetings to identify and protect children at risk of sexual exploitation.

Preventing Violent Extremism

All relevant YOS staff have received training in raising awareness of 'Prevent'. A YOS Team Manager has lead responsibility for this area of work and attends the pan-Dorset

Prevent Group to ensure that our work is aligned with local initiatives. The YOS has sight of the local assessment of extremism risks. The seconded YOS police officers act as a link to local police processes for sharing intelligence in respect of possible violent extremism.

Young people convicted of extremism related offences will be managed robustly in line with the YOS Risk Policy, with appropriate referral to the local MAPPA process and clear risk management plans, including paired working arrangements and support from the seconded YOS police officers.

Safe Schools and Communities Team

The Safe Schools and Communities Team (SSCT) is a partnership between Dorset Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Dorset Combined YOS. The SSCT plays an important role in preventing offending by young people across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole. The team provide education, awareness and advice to students, schools and parents. The work of the team is reported to the YOS Partnership Board as an important element of the YOS Partnership's work to prevent youth offending. The SSCT is particularly effective at supporting schools to manage incidents without the need for a criminal outcome, and at supporting internet safety for young people across the Dorset area.

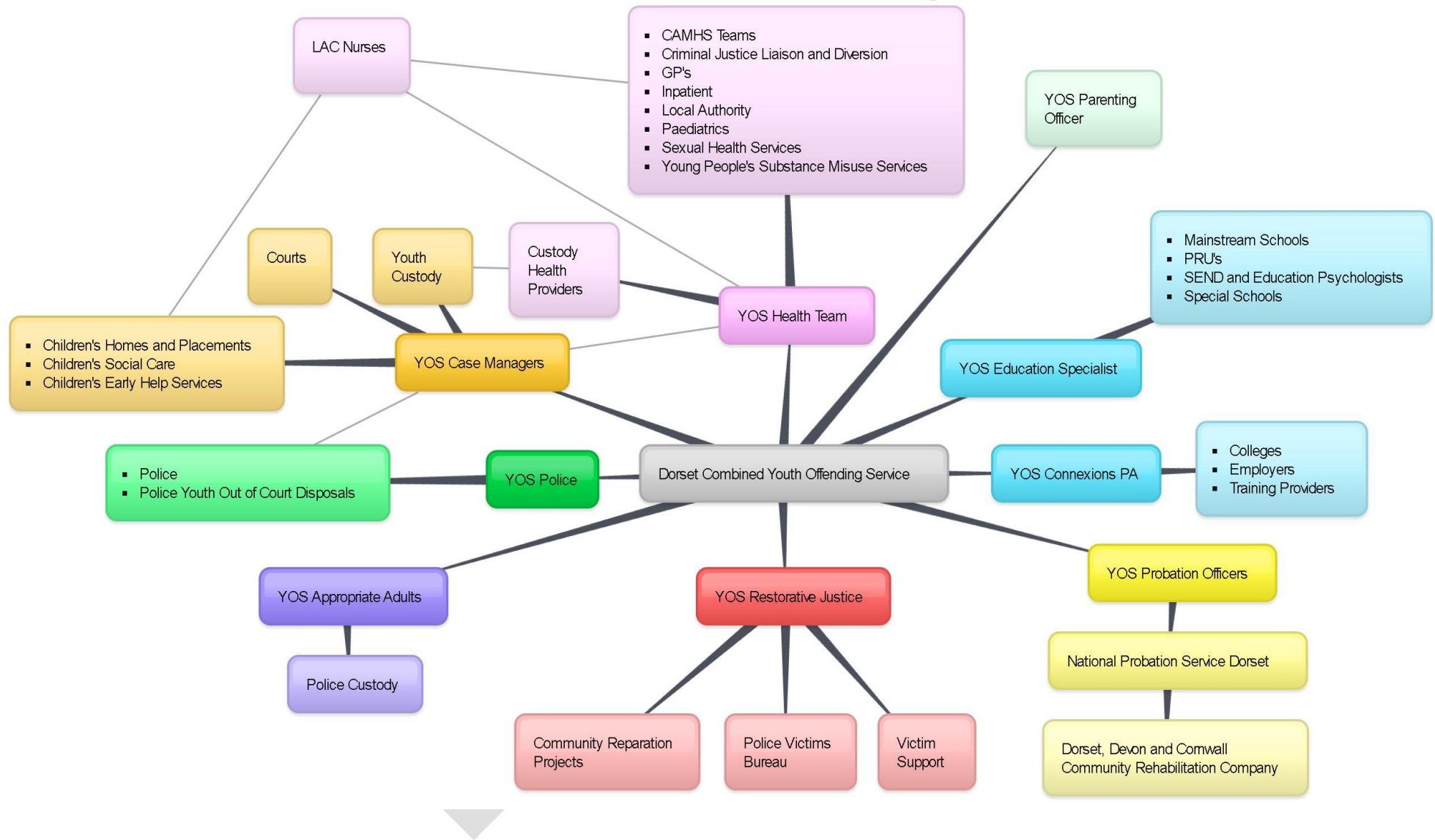
Restorative Justice and Support for Victims

The YOS Victim Liaison Officers provide Restorative Justice activities and support for victims of offences committed by young people. The YOS also links with other agencies through the Victims and Witnesses Sub-Group of the Dorset Criminal Justice Board. The YOS plays an important part in delivering the Police and Crime Commissioner's Restorative Justice Strategy for Dorset, taking the lead on offences committed by young people and supporting the development of good practice with other Restorative Justice providers.

In addition to the team's involvement in these different partnership groups, there is ongoing daily interaction with other local services. These links are illustrated on the following page:

Operational Links between YOS and Partner Agencies

Page 68



Resources and value for money

The YOS is funded by the statutory partners, by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and a grant from the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. Local authority staff are employed by Bournemouth Borough Council. Other staff are seconded from Dorset Police, the National Probation Service Dorset and Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust. Revenue contributions and the YJB Grant form a Partnership budget.

Statutory partners have maintained funding levels for 2015-16 but the Youth Justice Board grant has been cut by 7.6%. The integration of the two previous teams into the new Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service has enabled some efficiencies and reductions to be made. The YJB grant will be used solely for the delivery of youth justice services.

Partner Agency	17/18 Revenue excluding recharges	Movement 14/15 to 17/18	Staff
Dorset County Council	£531,900	£0	1 Nurse (substance misuse) and 0.3 FTE Psychologist
Bournemouth Borough Council	£257,100	£0	
Poole Borough Council	£244,000	-£13,030	
Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset	£75,301	-£78,149	2.0 FTE Police Officers. Funding reduction from 14/15 to 15/16 reflects funding of SSCT directly by the OPCC to the Police, no longer via the YOS
Dorset Probation Trust	£10,000	£6,826	2 FTE Probation Officers (reduction from 2.6 FTE up to March 2015, with adjusted funding contribution, after national review)
Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group	£22,487	£0	2.8 FTE Nurses
Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust		£0	
Youth Justice Board Good Practice Grant	£594,304	-£196,110	

Use of the Annual Youth Justice Grant 2017/18

The annual Youth Justice Board grant to Youth Offending Teams is provided for 'the delivery of youth justice services'. A number of conditions are attached to the grant. The YOS Partnership Board receives quarterly finance reports from the senior accountant in Bournemouth Borough Council who oversees the YOS budget. These reports enable the Board to be satisfied that YOS resources are being used for their intended purpose and achieving value for money. This reporting mechanism also enables the Board to be assured that the YOS complies with the YJB Conditions of Grant.

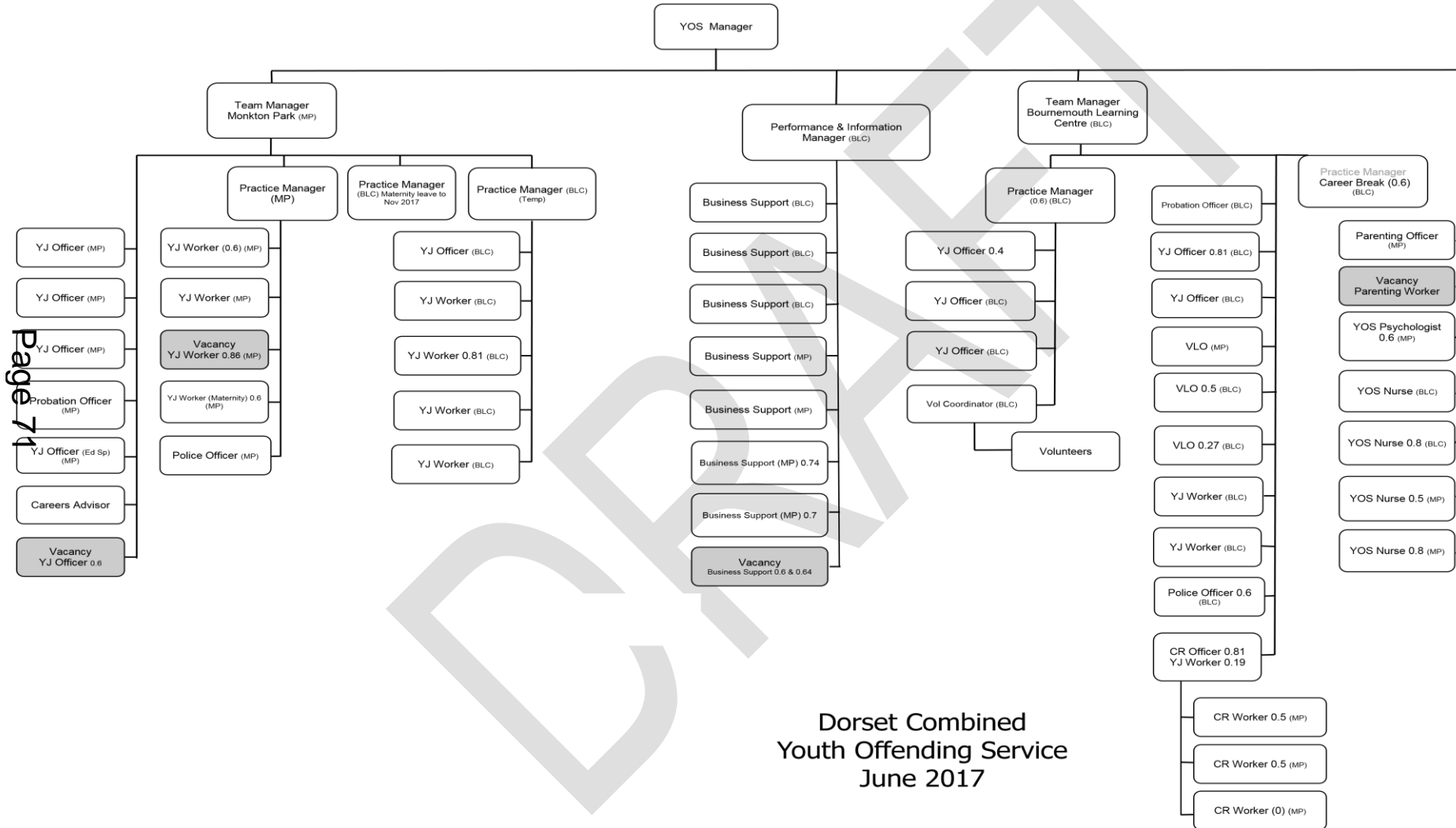
The following table sets out how the YOS uses the Youth Justice Board grant for the delivery of youth justice services:

Activity	Cost
Staff training	£10,000
ETE staff	£106,000
ICT licences and maintenance	£29,000
Interpreter Fees	£2,000
Victim/reparation staff	£113,000
Psychologist	£18,000
Towards cost of Youth Justice staff	£316,304
Total	£594,304

Staffing information

This chart shows the YOS structure in June 2017. The YOS meets the minimum staffing requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service - YOS Structure



Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service June 2017

The table below shows the number of staff and volunteers in the service, by gender and ethnicity.

YOS Staff

	Male	Female
White British	13	37
White Irish	1	0
White Other	0	2

**YOS
Volunteers**

	Male	Female
White British	8	16
White and Black Caribbean	0	1

23 staff members and 8 volunteers have been trained as Restorative Justice Conference facilitators.

Risks to delivery of YOS outcome measures in 2017-18

The main outcome measures for the YOS still relate to the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time, the rate of re-offending by those young people who have committed proven offences, and the use of custodial sentences. The YOS also has a priority to keep the public and young people safe from harm.

Particular risks which have been identified include:

- Uncertainty and possible disruption following the recent national review into youth justice arrangements (published in December 2016). Although the government has rejected the proposals to remove the legislative framework for youth offending teams and the ring-fence on the youth justice grant, other recommendations are being considered as part of a follow-up review. The YOS Partnership remains committed to the recently formed pan-Dorset Youth Offending Service as being the best way to deliver youth justice activities across the pan-Dorset area.
- Local authority boundaries and structures in the Dorset area are being reviewed but all parties remain committed to a pan-Dorset Youth Offending Service
- Reduction in resources due to spending constraints, leading to prioritisation of statutory work and negative impact on work to prevent offending and to build resilience
- Access to suitable education, training or employment provision for young people with complex needs and risks
- Lack of alternative local authority accommodation leading to young people being detained overnight in police custody when they have been refused bail
- Inconsistent responses to teenagers who behave abusively or violently towards their parents/carers, leading to new entrants to the justice system
- Although the overall rate for first time entrants into the youth justice system is good, there are local variations which show higher rates in Poole and Bournemouth than in Dorset. All three local authorities are served by the same police force and the same youth offending service. More work is needed to identify the reasons for these local variations.

These risks have been considered when formulating the YOS Partnership's Strategic Priorities for 2017-18, which are outlined on the following pages.

Strategic Priorities for 2017-18

The strategic priorities for the Dorset Combined YOS align with:

- our 3 main performance indicators
- the strategic priorities of other local partnerships (such as the Safeguarding Children's Boards, Community Safety Partnerships and the Criminal Justice Board)
- relevant local initiatives to reduce offending, protect the public and safeguard young people
- areas identified for YOS improvement.

The following priority areas will be supported by a more detailed action plan used by the YOS team.

Develop the local strategy for preventing young people entering the justice system

- Monitor and improve the effectiveness of the pan-Dorset Protocol to Reduce the Criminalisation of Children in Care
- Lead a multi-agency pan-Dorset group to develop a coordinated, strategic response to adolescent parental violence and abuse
- Work with colleagues in Early Help services across the three local authorities to coordinate prevention and step-down activities with young people
- Work with Dorset Police to develop an integrated Prevention strategy, exploring the opportunities to apply the Adverse Childhood Experiences model
- Work with Dorset Police and local authority Early Help partners to increase the options for diversion from the justice system
- Analyse first time entrant characteristics to target future interventions, particularly for disadvantaged groups

Use the national review of youth justice to improve the way our local youth justice system works

- Work with local partners from the police, local authorities and health to reduce the time spent by young people in police custody
- Develop the YOS role in providing Appropriate Adults for young people being interviewed by police under 'Voluntary Attendance'
- Support the provision of liaison and diversion health services to young people being interviewed by police under 'Voluntary Attendance'
- Work with local authority and police partners to establish a system for transferring young people to local authority accommodation when they have been charged with an offence, refused bail and are awaiting their court appearance
- Work with other court professionals to understand how young people and parents experience the court process and seek improvements where appropriate

Make better use of information to improve the effectiveness of our work:

- Develop information reporting from the case management system to improve the targeting and effectiveness of the team's work

- Use of information monitoring to identify any disproportionate impacts on minority groups
- Develop quality assurance processes for specialist aspects of the team's work, eg health, ETE, parenting, victim work
- Improve reporting to team and Board on quality and impact of team's work
- Ensure quality assurance processes includes service user perspectives
- Develop ability for early identification of trends in re-offending and first time entrants
- Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of different YOS interventions

Improve the quality of our practice to achieve better outcomes for children, young people and families

- Test out new ways of working with young people, parents and education colleagues in order to improve young people's engagement with education, training and employment
- Work with Dorset CCG, Dorset HealthCare and NHS England to recruit a Speech and Language Therapist for the YOS
- Develop the team's capacity and skills in working with parents and whole family approaches
- Increase the team's access to evidence-based resources for working with young people to change their behaviour
- Improve the consistency and quality of our Intensive Surveillance and Supervision programmes for higher risk young people
- Identify and overcome any obstacles to information sharing with partner agencies so as to ensure integrated and effective joint working

Improve the skills and development opportunities for our workforce

- Devise and implement a YOS Workforce Development and Career Progression policy and procedure
- Use seconded staff to develop the skills and knowledge of their YOS colleagues
- Develop the capacity and skills of the YOS health team to work with the effects of trauma
- Develop the team's core elements of good practice, including Motivational Interviewing to facilitate positive change and Restorative Justice to repair harm to victims
- Report to YOS Board on workforce development and its impact on practice and outcomes

Approval

Signatures of Board Chair and YOS Manager

Sara Tough

Director of Children's Services (Chair)

Dorset County Council

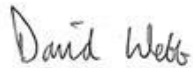


Signed: _____ Date: 21 June 2017

David Webb

Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service Manager

Bournemouth Borough Council



Signed: _____ Date: 21 June 2017

NB This Plan is awaiting approval from Bournemouth Borough Council, the Borough of Poole and Dorset County Council.

Appendix A – Glossary of Terms

AssetPlus	Nationally Accredited Assessment Tool
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
ETE	Education Training and Employment
FTE	First Time Entrant into the Youth Justice System
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent (as applied to posts)
ISS	Intensive Supervision and Surveillance
IT	Information Technology
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children's Board
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
O OCD	Out Of Court Disposals
PCC	Police & Crime Commissioner
RJ	Restorative Justice
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
SSCT	Safe Schools and Communities Team
VLO	Victim Liaison Officer
YJ	Youth Justice
YJB	Youth Justice Board
YOS/YOT	Youth Offending Service/Team
YRD	Youth Restorative Disposal
YRO	Youth Rehabilitation Order

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Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester,
Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 27 September 2017.

Present:

Rebecca Knox	Leader of the Council
Jill Haynes	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Care
Steve Butler	Cabinet Member for Safeguarding
Deborah Croney	Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills
Toni Ferrari	Cabinet Member for Community and Resources
Daryl Turner	Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment

Members Attending:

Ray Bryan, County Councillor for Moors
Katharine Garcia, County Councillor for Portland Tophill
David Harris, County Councillor for Westham
Andrew Parry, Vice Chairman of the County Council
Byron Quayle, County Councillor for Blandford

Officers Attending:

Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Harries (Corporate Director for Environment and Economy), Jonathan Mair (Head of Organisational Development - Monitoring Officer), Sara Tough (Corporate Director for Children's, Adults and Community Services) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate:

Sarah Baker (Group Finance Manager), Michael Carhart-Harris (Senior Communications Officer), Kim Harris (Care Service Manager (Interim) Care & Support), Paul Leivers (Assistant Director - Early Help and Community Services), Patrick Myers (Assistant Director - Design and Development), Jay Mercer (Education Transformation Lead), Ben Print (Programme and Project Manager), Claire Shiels (Commissioning and Procurement Manager, Children's Services), Tim Wells (Senior Manager - Prevention and Partnerships) and Roger Sewill (Strategic Estate Management Team 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: **Tuesday, 3 October 2017.**
- (2) 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 **Wednesday, 18 October 2017.**)

Apologies for Absence

111 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Hilary Cox and Peter Wharf. Cllr Andrew Parry attended the meeting for Cllr Hilary Cox.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

- 113 The minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Matters ArisingMin 107 – Quarterly Asset Management Report

The Director for Environment and Economy updated the Cabinet on the consideration of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) regarding additional funding for the Dorset Innovation Park. It was noted that the LEP had agreed to fund £1m which had left a budget gap of £300k.

Subject to a proposal being included in the next Quarterly Asset Management Report, the Cabinet expressed no objections in principle to the increase of the County Council's loan facility to be extended to cover the unfunded £300k in order to ensure appropriate investment in the Innovation Park by fully funding the initial phase of the implementation plan.

Public Participation114 Public Speaking

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

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

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Cabinet Forward Plan

- 115 The Cabinet considered the draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet on or after the next meeting.

A question was asked about the need for a standing item for the Cabinet Forward Plan in respect of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). Cllr Rebecca Knox clarified that the Dorset Area Joint Committee would be responsible for the consideration of LGR related matters, of which public minutes were produced, and if any decisions were required by the local authorities represented on the Joint Committee they would be considered by the County Council. It was also noted that a number of scrutiny committees would also be interested in considering LGR related issues.

Noted**Panels and Boards**

- 116 The Cabinet received the following minutes and recommendations from Panels and Boards:

Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee - 12 September 2017

- 116a Cllr Turner introduced the minutes and highlighted that concern had been expressed at the meeting about the formation of a Strategic Waste Partnership Board (Minute 52) which did not include Dorset County Council representation, which was proposed and lost at the Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee meeting.

The Chief Executive explained that the Board would include representation from the Dorset Waste Partnership Joint Committee, would not have any delegated authority to make decisions. As such any decisions would be reported back to the Joint Committee for determination.

Noted**Fostering Modernisation Plan**

117 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding regarding a Modernisation Plan to meet the needs of all children in care locally, including foster care provision.

Cllr Steve Butler outlined of the duty of the Council to commission foster care through an internal fostering service and the use of Independent Foster Care Agencies (IFAs). A review had been undertaken which had identified areas of improvement in respect of some quality standards and the recruitment, retention, assessment and approval of foster carers. There was also a priority to reduce the number of IFAs used, which were very expensive and often provided placements out of County.

A question was asked about the 8 month average time taken to approve foster carers, to which it was explained that social workers had mixed caseloads, numerous assessments, provided support for foster carers, and had to respond to emergencies. The new arrangements would seek to reduce the time taken and improve the experience of aspiring foster carers.

The Cabinet explored the changes to the budget position and anticipated improvements in service delivery, and it was suggested that there needed to be a measurable way to monitor performance, including recruitment and retention, in the implementation phase of the new arrangements as well as on going monitoring. Officers confirmed that ongoing performance monitoring would feature in the new 3 year recruitment and retention strategies, which also included annual plans of action, and aligned with national measures and benchmarks. Changes would take effect from October 2017 and positive results were anticipated by Christmas 2017.

In terms of the recruitment target of additional foster carers, officers confirmed that that the figure of 90 per year was a 'best guess', but this would only be achieved through effective engagement and communications. With regard to the recruitment and development of foster carers, it was appreciated that there was an imperative to ensure that applicants were treated as positively and sensitively as possible in a supportive way and to undertake assessments in a reasonable timeframe. The new 'skills based' scheme would also develop existing foster carers through a training and development plan.

It was agreed that further information would be shared in due course, particularly in relation to recruitment and development of foster carers, and for a report to be submitted to the Cabinet in April 2018.

Resolved

1. That the plan for the modernising of the fostering service be approved.
2. That the investment of £363k in 2018/19, £1,238k in 2019/20 and £1,324k on an ongoing basis be approved.
3. That an additional one-off investment of £110k in 2017/18 to support transformation be approved.
4. That within the next update of the Medium Term Financial Plan additional funding of £3.2m be approved to address the base budget issues as set out in the Cabinet Members' report.
5. That an update report be submitted to the Cabinet in April 2018 including recruitment and development of foster carers.

Reasons for Decisions

Without the additional investment then there would be no significant change, and the overspend on the budget would continue. The proposed investment would lead to a strong focus upon delivering an effective, efficient service which would improve

sufficiency of placements at pace. It would lead to clear leadership of the service reducing the use of independent fostering agency placements and improve the overall outcomes for children and young people.

Update Forward Together for Children: Family Partnership Zones and Care and Protection

118 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding on the changes in care and protection in the overall context of the Forward Together for Children Programme through Family Partnership Zones (FPZs). Members were provided with an overview of the five year plan which reviewed care and protection since 2015 and concentrated on a whole system approach to prevention and early intervention to drive improvements in services and achieve better outcomes.

A question was asked about the alignment of FPZs with GP localities in accordance with the health and wellbeing priorities. It was noted that the FPZ boundaries aligned with educational pyramids which was critical to school engagement, but consideration of how to best link with other boundaries would be a priority, and a report would be considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board at its next meeting in November 2017. It was also suggested that the report be considered by the People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the Accountability Alliance for Children and Young People.

The Cabinet welcomed the opportunity to see what the changes meant to those affected and the wider locality impact of the FPZs, together with the communications and marketing plan to support outcomes on the ground. It was also requested that there should be more visibility of the FPZ achievements in the public domain and to all members, and how FPZs linked with Prevention at Scale. It was confirmed that officers would consider outside of the meeting the outcome and reporting measures, including monitoring and reporting back of performance, to an appropriate body.

Resolved

1. That the direction of travel described in the report be supported.
2. That reports be considered on care and protection by the Health and Wellbeing Board, People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Accountability Alliance for Children and Young People.

Reason for Decision

The report set out the progress that had been made over the past 12 months in the Children's Directorate. This had been about delivering an improved level of effectiveness through an outcomes focused approach that was seeking to deliver long term qualitative improvements on the lives of families within budget.

Delivering Dorset's Sustainability and Transformation Plan: Wave 1 Accountable Care System

119 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Health and Care regarding the Wave 1 Accountable Care System (ACS), which would underpin delivery of Dorset's Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) 2017-19.

Cllr Jill Haynes reported that NHS England produced a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that must be agreed by the Accountable Care System (ACS) NHS partners, of which local government was also asked to be a signatory. The MoU supported the NHS' creation of ACSs, with Dorset being identified as one of the first to become a full ACS. The key areas of the MoU, and specific risks and issues for the County Council were summarised including governance, development of the role of the Systems Partnership Board (SPB), capital funding of £100m, and the challenges to perform given a short timescale.

A question was asked about the ambition to provide urgent treatment centres from

8am-8pm 7 days per week. It was clarified that this was an ambition of CCG's Review. Treatment Centres maybe attached to community hospitals or main hospitals. It was not a proposal that all GPs surgeries would be open for these hours, but that there would be a community hub for each area.

It was reported that the delegated authority in respect of the future decision making of the SPB, as the overall strategic board, would develop and grow. The Cabinet supported the need for substitution arrangements and the organisation of the board to be considered appropriately.

In addition, it was noted that reference to the Systems Leader Board in the report were incorrect and should refer to the Systems Partnership Board.

Resolved

That the Memorandum of Understanding attached at Appendix 1 of the Cabinet Members' report be approved.

Reason for Decision

To drive delivery of the STP.

The Community Offer for Living and Learning

120 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Community and Resources regarding priorities, potential savings and timescales for the Community Offer for Living and Learning following the Cabinet meeting held on 19 July 2017.

Cllr Deborah Croney introduced the report and explained that the substantial reconfiguration of services, and changes to focus on supporting service users in communities, could result in closures of buildings but there were no plans to close any services as part of the Living and Learning offer. She also summarised the significant engagement undertaken in communities and with partners to have conversations about service redesign and it was now necessary to gain revised methodology endorsement from the pilot work already undertaken. It was also reported that the revenue savings target of £475k was unlikely to be met within the current timeframe of the Way we Work Programme.

The Cabinet welcomed the report and the ongoing engagement with partners, including health so that work aligned with the Sustainability and Transformation Plan and the Clinical Services Review.

Cllr David Harris, as a local member for the Weymouth pilot area, reported that engagement had been very well received and the sharing of information between partners and the community had been very positive. Although the engagement started with a no particular result in mind, which meant that there was a slow start in developing the offer, it was valued as this showed that there was no predetermined direction and the offer would be fully shaped by partners and the community.

A written statement was submitted by Cllr Ros Kayes as the local member for Bridport, in relation to concerns in respect of the development of Living and Learning offers. She raised concerns regarding the pace of change, the involvement of communities being able to develop the offer, that the approach should not follow the same model as the one used to change youth centre provision, that redundant buildings should be considered as hubs, that staff needed to work with local members, and that decisions should be made on community need. The Leader of the Council provided assurance on the points raised that the involvement of communities and their needs was integral to the development of offers, which had its own distinct methodology, that the use of buildings would include flexibility and long term consideration as to their use, and that local members would be vital to the success of

each offer. The statement was passed to Cllr Deborah Croney to liaise with Cllr Kayes outside of the meeting as necessary.

Resolved

1. That delegated authority for the sequencing outlined for the proposed Living and Learning implementation in para 2.1 of the Cabinet Members' report be granted to the Chief Financial Officer after consultation with the Cabinet Members for Economic Growth, Education, Learning and Skills and Community and Resources.
2. That service delivery models of relevant services (such as Libraries) be defined in addition to the existing work being undertaken by the 0-5 Family Partnership Zone Review, with further recommendations being provided for Cabinet consideration in due course.
3. That a revised co-production methodology designed to accelerate delivery of Living and Learning be agreed.

Reason for Decisions

1. To reflect some of the Cabinet's key objectives
 - (i) To lead the community planning process, both within the region and locally, and the search for best value
 - (ii) To be the focus for forming partnerships with other public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations to address local needs.
2. Living and Learning would also enable DCC's Corporate Plan to be delivered. The key role was in putting into practice the Council's vision of working together for a strong and successful Dorset. The Corporate Plan showed what the county council was doing to meet the continuing challenges of the economic climate while ensuring that Dorset residents received the services they needed the most. The Living and Learning offer in each area was expected to contribute to the DCC's outcomes framework's four outcomes, of Safe, Healthy, Independent and Prosperous.

Questions from County Councillors

121 No questions from County Councillors were received.

Exempt Business

122 **Resolved**

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 95-97 as it was likely that if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

Residential Homes - Children's Services

123 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding on the provision of children's homes in Dorset to enable improvement and planning within the Residential Estate following recent Ofsted Regulatory Inspections. It was explained that the item was added to the agenda as an urgent item by the Leader of the Council due to the timescales required for a decision as a result of the recent Ofsted inspections.

Members discussed the report in detail and considered the recommendations outlined in the report, together with the potential review of residential care for looked after children based on the future capacity and needs of individual children and young people, and the service.

Resolved

That the recommendation at paragraph 4.1 of the Cabinet Members' report be approved, with the addition of a review to be undertaken on future needs and capacity.

Reasons for Decision

As outlined in the Cabinet Members' report.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.45 am

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Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 18 October 2017.

Present:

Rebecca Knox	Leader of the Council
Jill Haynes	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Care
Steve Butler	Cabinet Member for Safeguarding
Deborah Croney	Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills
Toni Ferrari	Cabinet Member for Community and Resources
Daryl Turner	Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment
Peter Wharf	Cabinet Member for Workforce

Members Attending:

Hilary Cox, as Chairman of the County Council
 Ros Kayes, County Councillor for Bridport
 David Shortell, County Councillor for Moors

Officers Attending:

Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Harries (Corporate Director for Environment and Economy), Nicholas Jarman (Interim Director - Children's Services), Jonathan Mair (Head of Organisational Development - Monitoring Officer), Michael Carhart-Harris (Senior Communications Officer) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate:

Trevor Badley (Principal Planning Officer - DCC), Ed Denham (School Admissions Manager) and Patrick Myers (Assistant Director - Design and Development).

- (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: **Tuesday, 24 October 2017.**
- (2) 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 **Wednesday, 15 November 2017.**)

Apologies for Absence

124 No apologies for absence were received.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

126 The minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

127 Public Speaking

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

There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing

Order 21(2).

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Cabinet Forward Plan

128 The Cabinet considered the draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet on or after the next meeting. The following items were added or amended:

- Local Government Reorganisation - 15 November 2017
- Bridport Hub – to be renamed to 'Provision in Bridport' and be moved from 15 November to 6 December 2017
- A350 and C13 Report – 6 December 2017

Nick Jarman, Interim Director for Children's Services, was welcomed to his first Cabinet meeting. It was noted that items in relation to Children's Services would be added to the Plan over next couple of weeks.

Noted

Panels and Boards

129 The Cabinet received the following minutes and recommendations from Panels and Boards:

Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services - 5 September 2017

129a The Cabinet considered recommendations from the Executive Advisory Panel and the following areas were discussed.

Recommendation 14 - Transforming Youth Services in Dorset

The good news story of the youth service transformation was welcomed by the Cabinet. A summary about the finances detailed within the minute was provided, which clarified that the 'start up' contribution for youth centres of £1000 would be provided to 20 clubs from the available transformation fund of £200k which was formed following budget savings of £2.2m. Reference to '£200k savings' in the minute actually referred to the transformation fund and would be amended accordingly outside of the meeting.

Recommendation 15 - Home to School Transport Policy

Attention was drawn to the suggested formation of a group to consider the home to school transport policy. That group would be the Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services and not a separate group. A correction to the minutes would be made outside of the meeting.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meetings held on 5 September and 2 October 2017 be received, and the recommendations below be approved.

Recommendation 14 - Transforming Youth Services in Dorset

That a sum of £1000 should be made available to each youth service provider applicant to be used to start up their particular project and access low token items, with it being left to officers to commission and scope how this would be done.

Recommendation 15 - Home to School Transport Policy

That the Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services give further consideration to how the Home to School Transport Provision Policy might be

best applied, so as to understand the issues at hand and assist in consolidating the strategic direction being taken.

Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services - 2 October 2017

129b **Noted**

Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board - 13 September 2017

129c The operating model for the Health and Wellbeing Board was highlighted as a best practice model across the South West. It included an informal interactive element to its meetings which allowed for a wide range of people and partners to attend and participate in the work of the Board. The meetings enabled the 'on the ground' working to move at pace. A request was made for more detail to be reported in the minutes regarding the informal sessions and it was confirmed that this issue had been raised with officers. The Monitoring Officer advised that consideration would be given to the information that could be included in the future without altering the informal nature of that part of the meeting.

The Board's very good Better Care Fund Submission was welcomed as well as recent development of mini Health and Wellbeing Boards being cited as best practice.

Noted

Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, October 2017

130 **Resolved**

That consideration of the report be postponed and considered at a future meeting.

Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update

131 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Community and Resources on the national and local issues impacting on the County Council's finances, the development of the three-year Medium Term Financial plan (MTFP) from 2018/19 to 2020/21, and financial performance of the Council.

A summary of the financial position was provided by Cllr Ferrari, which included the current forecasted year end overspend of £6.061m, and a description of the pressures facing the services which were likely to come back within budget by the end of the financial year. However, the ongoing pressures within Children's Services regarding Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) transport, high cost placements, and contracted foster care placements were discussed. Efforts to reduce the overspends in each area were examined. The use of reserves and other techniques would be used to address the overspend and to balance the overall budget.

The impact of increased inflation on care providers, and increasing pressure on demand in relation to adult care, specifically about 'sleeping nights', were identified as increasing risks to the council's budget. Clarification was provided about the additional funding received in the Government's social care precept which was designed to contribute towards additional care costs and the national living wage. However, there was a risk in 2019/20 following the front loading of the precept of 3% in 2017/18 and 3% 2018/19 which would mean there would be no increase in 2019/20.

The impact of inflation over time was explained in terms of increases following the EU Referendum, and the national position by the Bank of England. Although the value of currency had been affected and inflation had increased it was likely that inflation would decrease in the coming months.

Clarification was sought on the recent closure of a small number of care homes and whether this related to inflation changes. The closures were due to a complex mixture of circumstances which included recruitment and buildings. The national picture showed that there were not enough people in the industry and not enough care homes, but it was confirmed that Dorset was doing everything possible to offer the right provision.

The role of the Forward Together Board was highlighted and that continued efforts to address savings would be reviewed by the Board. Additional ideas for further savings would also be welcomed from members.

Resolved

1. That the Directors' latest estimates included in the forecast of outturn for the current year and the operational reasons causing us to diverge from the balanced budget agreed by Council in February 2017 be noted.
2. That the latest projections for the current MTFP and budget round including the level and adequacy of reserves and balances on the general fund be noted.
3. That the latest, savings expectations from the Forward Together programme be noted.
4. That all councillors be encouraged to put forward any other issues to be taken into account in the development of the MTFP and budget.
4. That the risks associated with and impacting upon the financial performance for the current and future financial years be acknowledged.

Reason for Decisions

To enable work to continue on refining and managing the County Council's budget plan for 2018/19 and the overall three-year MTFP period.

Contingency Application for Special Educational Needs and Disability Improvement Plan

- 132 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills regarding a request for contingency funding for a three year improvement drive in order to address the significant resource issues currently within the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Services for children and young people.

A detailed summary of the work to bring about improvements in the transfer of SEND statements to Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and future provision of the service was provided by Cllr Deborah Croney. Rapid and significant improvements were anticipated within 12 months with the appropriate resources. Governance arrangements including representation from the Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group, partners, parents and other professionals were shared together with a summary of the work and intense focus of the SEND Delivery Group in monitoring performance and outcomes to meet targets. The Group would continue to robustly scrutinise performance in accordance with improvements detailed within the Council's Written Statement of Action following a recent Ofsted Inspection.

Cllr Ros Kayes, in her role as a member of the SEND Improvement Board, asked questions about the transfer assessment and independent advocacy. She also explored why the current monitoring of the service had not foreseen the issues that were being experienced. In relation to advocacy, this would be the responsibility of the Participation Development Manager to provide advocacy services and ensure responses to feedback from parents about the system.

Work would be undertaken to understand how performance had suffered as a result of policy changes to transfer from statements to EHCPs, but it was broadly due to an unprecedented increase in demand by 134% at the same time as the policy changes

came into force. The sustainability of future service delivery was seen as a priority to ensure that the complexities of the service were considered in order to secure a high quality service in future, rebuild confidence and improve communication and engagement. The Interim Director for Children's Services clarified the measures being taken to scientifically monitor and assess performance as a priority to achieve results with the completion of 13 transfers per week until the end of March 2018.

Cabinet were advised that The SEND Delivery Group will be meeting monthly to review and ensure the progress of improvement. A update report was sought to ensure that targets were being met and to track performance. The report would be submitted to the Cabinet on 17 January 2018. However, this would be brought forward if there were any performance concerns before January 2018.

The improvement in performance following the publication of the report was outlined including the reduction of statements transferred to EHCP from 528 to 487. The number of completed transfers had therefore increased from 483 to 524 which indicated that performance was due to meet the target completion rate of 700 by the end of October, and the overall target by the end of March 2018.

Resolved

1. That the Cabinet Member's report be noted,
2. That the additional staff capacity required to address the complex issues outlined in the report be agreed.
3. That the necessary contingency funds detailed within the report to turn the situation around be agreed.

Reason for Decisions

The issues raised in the Ofsted/CQC SEND Local Area inspection report could not be resolved without significant additional funding. The consequences of not meeting demand effectively would impact upon significant numbers of young Dorset residents and would damage the reputation of the Council significantly.

Special Educational Needs Transport Clause

- 133 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) transport to be included in the periodic consultation document on Home to School Transport.

A detailed explanation of the policy development through the Executive Advisory Panel on Forward Together for Children's Services was provided which sought to modify the arrangements for users to clarify the Council's travel assistance policy eligibility and distance criteria. A preference for a phased change in the distance criteria for post 16 free transport from 5 miles to 4 in 2018/19 and then further consideration to 3 miles from 2019/20 was highlighted as an area for consideration by the EAP. The change to reduce to 3 miles was estimated to cost an additional £40-70k, although attention was drawn to the budget pressure on SEN transport by the Chief Financial Officer which was already forecasted to overspend.

The clauses within the report were explained as being part of the wider home to school transport policy consultation for 2018/19 which would be brought to the Cabinet for consideration in January 2018.

Assurance was sought about the wider school admissions consultation, as context of how the SEND element formed part of the wider policies including travel assistance and about the financial impact of the changes over time.

The clauses were constructively challenged, which resulted in a request for further consideration of the link with the wider consultation, and a need for a phase approach

to the changes to be financially evidenced. A decision was required before the next meeting and as such it was necessary to consider delegated authority to enable the decision to be made. A suggestion was also made that the wider consultation should be considered by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to Cabinet consideration if possible.

Resolved

That delegated authority be granted to the Director for Children's Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills, to agree changes to SEND transport clauses to form part of the Council's Home to School Transport Policy consultation.

Reason for Decision

The clauses clarified the council's position on SEND transport and would enable progress to be made in providing an efficient and economically sustainable model.

Change of Chairmanship

At this point the Chairman left the meeting and Cllr Haynes took the Chair as Vice Chairman.

Publication, consultation and submission to the Secretary of State of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan and Waste Plan with associated amendment of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme Milestones

134 On considering a report by the Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment the Cabinet was informed of the consideration of the report by the Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16 October 2017 and recommendations from the meeting, which were circulated prior to the meeting.

The cost of the Secretary of State's public examination by an independent inspector was raised. Members were advised that the cost and remit of the inspection could vary widely depending on what was chosen to be considered in the examination and was unknown at this point.

Progress of the plans was welcomed, given the many years to arrive at the submission stage. The steps for site inclusion in the plans was discussed, and although all of the proposed sites were accepted for inclusion, the Cabinet acknowledged that some sites raised concerns with the public. Moving forward to the consultation, the importance of councillors being impartial was highlighted to not predetermine any outcomes. The Cabinet welcomed the positive consultation.

Resolved

1. That the publication of the Waste Plan and Mineral Sites Plan be agreed, subject to any amendments arising from the three Authorities, as the most up-to-date expressions of policy on behalf of the Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities, to be followed by an eight week consultation, anticipated to begin in early December 2017.
2. That the comments made to the additional consultation on waste site options in Blandford and Purbeck (2017) and officer responses/recommendations (refer to Appendix A of the report) be noted and acknowledged.
3. That the published version of the plans be submitted to the Secretary of State, alongside any representations that are received on the plans, following the consultation, to begin the examination process;
4. That officers be authorised to make minor amendments, factual updates and editorial changes to both plans prior to submission and during the examination.
5. That delegated authority be granted to the Service Director for Economy, after consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, to agree any main (non-minor) modifications arising during the plan's examination and to consult upon these in accordance with the Local Plan Regulations.
6. That delegated authority be granted to the Strategy Director for Economy, after

consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, to confirm the Local Development Scheme milestones to take account of any changes needed to reflect programming arrangements.

7. That the SWTAB's 'Residual Waste Management in the South West' as a useful evidence base that supports the duty to co-operate.

Reasons for Decisions

1. To progress the preparation of local plans in the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme; and,

2. To support the Corporate Plan focus of enabling economic growth, in particular:

a. Work together with our partners to plan for business growth and maximise funding and investment.

b. Work in partnership to ensure the good management of our natural and historic environment.

c. Promote waste reduction, increase recycling rates and manage residual waste effectively.

Questions from County Councillors

135 No questions from County Councillors were received.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.15 am

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People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 11 October 2017.

Present:

David Walsh (Chairman),
Graham Carr-Jones, Andrew Parry, Mary Penfold, Byron Quayle, Clare Sutton and William Trite.

Members Attending

Deborah Croney (Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills)
Daryl Turner (Cabinet Portfolio Holder for the Natural and Built Environment).

Officer Attending: Helen Coombes (Transformation Programme Lead for the Adult and Community Forward Together Programme), Steve Hedges (Group Finance Manager), Mark Taylor (Group Manager - Governance and Assurance) and Helen Whitby (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

For certain items, as appropriate

John Alexander (Senior Assurance Manager - Performance), Matthew Piles (Service Director - Economy) and David Walsh (Economy & Enterprise Team Leader Economy).

(Notes: 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 People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Wednesday, 10 January 2018**.)

Apologies for Absence

42 Apologies for absence were received from Derek Beer, Katharine Garcia and Ros Kayes.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

44 The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Progress on Matters Raised at Previous Meetings

45 The Committee considered a report by the Transformation Programme Lead for Adult and Community Forward Together Programme which updated members on progress with items considered at the last meeting.

The Chairman referred to the duplication of items with those on the Progress on Work Programme report later on the agenda. The only item which did not appear later was that of the Dorset Syrian Refugee Programme where a follow up report was expected, but no date had been set for this.

Following discussion it was agreed that officers be asked to provide a brief update on the current situation by email so that members could decide whether any further action was needed.

Resolved

That officers provide a brief update on the current situation by email so that members could decide whether any further action was needed.

Public Participation

46 **Public Speaking**

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

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

Progress on Work Programme

47 The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director for Children, Adults and Communities which provided an update on progress against the review/scrutiny areas that they had previously identified as being required. The progress update included whether the scope was fully developed and, where applicable, views from officers about timings of reviews to be undertaken.

The Committee considered each scrutiny area individually as follows:-

Dorset Education Performance 2016

It had previously been agreed that an inquiry day be held but no date had been set for this. Members noted that performance figures for 2017 were now available and the suggested half day review with stakeholders would provide an opportunity for a discussion on how performance could be improved. It was agreed that other members should be given the opportunity to take part in the review.

Resolved

1. That a half day review be undertaken before Christmas with stakeholders to discuss how performance could be improved.
2. That the Chairman, as Lead Member, and the Assistant Director - Prevention and Partnerships, as Lead Officer, would progress the inquiry day.
3. That other members be given the opportunity to take part in the review.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Budget

It was noted that the Schools Forum would be considering a report on the budget on 20 October 2017. The Chairman reported that he and the Vice-Chairman were members of a group convened by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills to look at SEN delivery. In order not to duplicate effort, he suggested that this matter be referred to this Group with he and the vice-Chairman reporting back on progress.

Resolved

That this item be referred to the Group on SEND delivery.

Workforce Capacity

It was reported that work was ongoing across Children's and Adult and Community Services. The Lead Officers would provide an update on progress and key findings in the New Year.

Resolved

That an update be provided in the New Year.

Community Transport

At the recent member scrutiny training it had become evident that a number of Committees had expressed an interest in scrutinising aspects of community transport and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board was tasked to ensure that there

was no duplication. Lead Members had recently met with Lead Officers when it was agreed that an Inquiry Day would be held in February 2018 and a list of invitees drawn up. All members would be invited to take part.

Noted

Mental Health

The Vice-Chairman reported that the workshop scheduled to have taken place on 10 October 2017 had been cancelled as it clashed with another event. This would now take place in November 2017 and would involve the Clinical Commissioning Group, key professional staff and service users. A scoping document had been provided for members following publication of the agenda.

Members noted that the workshop would also take into account the review of Children and Adults Mental Health Services by the Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee and members' views about children's mental health and access to services and service provision.

Noted

Delayed Transfers of Care

It was suggested that in March 2018 the Committee be provided with information on performance over the winter months so the Committee could decide whether any further scrutiny was needed.

With regard to the Clinical Services Review announced by the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group and whether this would place an additional burden on the Adult Social Care Budget, the Transformation Programme Lead for Adult and Community Forward Together Programme explained that any capacity lost in acute or community hospitals in the longer term would need to be matched by increased investment in adult social care. Discussions with local NHS providers about future funding arrangements were due to start in November 2017.

Resolved

That a report on Delayed Transfers of Care be provided in March 2018.

Race and Hate Crime

The Lead Member and Lead Officer had completed a scoping report and an inquiry day was expected to be held early in the New Year.

The Committee were reminded that following the Brexit referendum an increase in race and hate crime had been experienced both nationally and locally and this had prompted the review. The Committee had not received any recent information on incidents although it seemed that the surge had not continued. When the prioritisation model was applied it indicated that the review was of a lower priority and the Committee considered whether it should therefore proceed. Given that it was not known how far arrangements for the half day review had progressed, officers were asked to provide recent information on incidents and how far arrangements for the review had progressed before the Committee confirmed whether the review should proceed.

Members were also reminded that part of the original concern about race and hate crime were incidents involving those with disabilities. However, they noted that this aspect was dealt with by the Safeguarding Boards and the Community Safety Partnership.

Resolved

That officers provide recent information on race and hate crime incidents and

progress with arrangements for the review so that a decision could be taken as to whether the review should proceed.

Social Isolation

The Chairman reported that a schedule of meetings had been arranged to progress the review.

Noted

A concern was expressed that with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees now have a cross-cutting responsibility there was a danger of duplication. The Chairman reminded members that it was the role of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to ensure that this did not happen.

Work Programme

48 The Committee considered a report by the Transformation Programme Lead for Adult and Community Forward Together Programme which detailed the updated work programme for 2017-18 and were asked to request additional items through the Chairman.

The Chairman suggested that, as homelessness appeared to be on the increase, a review be undertaken. This was agreed. Councillor Clare Sutton would be Lead Member and officers were asked to send her relevant data so that she and the Strategic Commissioning Manager could complete the scoping report. Councillors Tritte and Walsh would also be involved. Members noted that a count of homeless people was to be undertaken in November 2017 and that better data would be available after this date.

The Committee considered items previously identified for potential review and concluded:-

- Housing - was being progress through the Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee and this item could be deleted from the Work Programme
- Adoption and Fostering - that this be re-considered in six months' time when recent changes had bedded in
- Elderly Care - the review of the cost and quality of care had addressed this and this item could be deleted from the Work Programme.

Resolved

That the Work Programme be amended to reflect the above changes and those contained in minute 47.

Implications of Brexit for Dorset County Council

49 The Committee considered a report by the Service Director - Economy which set out how Brexit was likely to affect the Council and proposed how the Council should dedicate its resources to planning, preparing for, and shaping future policy.

The Service Director - Economy explained that the report would also be considered by the Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16 October 2017. It sought members' views on the allocation of resources in preparation for Brexit in order to minimise risk and maximise opportunities for the Council to further corporate aims and shared objectives. It suggested that a Brexit Advisory Group be established to progress this and that such a Group should include member involvement.

The Economy and Enterprise Team Leader then briefly outlined scoping work undertaken, Lead Officers identified for the various elements and highlighted the need to focus effort on opportunities to influence outcomes from the Dorset perspective. He also informed the Committee that the Council had representation on a national

working group looking at the implications of Brexit.

The Committee discussed the report and in particular non-UK citizens working in the UK, the possibility of the future workforce coming from commonwealth countries, the need for a consistent approach to be taken across the whole County and, as the whole country had the same issues and required the same answers, a plea for no duplication of effort. Members supported the establishment of a Brexit Advisory Group which included member representation. They also asked that Cllr Andrew Parry be appointed to the Group. In order to take this matter forward and to reduce duplication, the Committee referred this matter to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to progress.

Resolved

1. That this matter be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to progress.
2. That the establishment of a Brexit Advisory Group be supported.
3. That its membership include elected members.
4. That Cllr Andrew Parry be appointed to sit on the Group.

Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, October 2017

50 The Committee considered a report by the Transformation Programme Lead for Adult and Community Forward Together Programme which was the first monitoring report against the new Corporate Plan. It included Performance measures by which the County Council could measure the contribution and impact of its own services and activities on the Corporate Plan's four outcomes and risk management information.

The Senior Assurance Manager presented the report highlighting that it now included an analysis of the Council's contribution towards Corporate Plan outcomes and measured the impact on services and activities. He then gave a detailed presentation as a means of illustrating this. He explained that more detailed information was now available to support scrutiny work and asked members to contact him if there were any areas they believed to be priorities for further development. Value for money information would be provided for the January 2018 meeting.

The Transformation Programme Lead for Adult and Community Forward Together Programme welcomed members challenging identified performance measures particularly where activities were being undertaken but no impact being made. She asked that members provide feedback by 30 October 2017 so that work could start on information for the next meeting.

Members found the report both interesting and helpful and welcomed the opportunity to comment.

Resolved

That members send comments on the report and its content to the Senior Assurance Manager by 30 October 2017..

Questions from County Councillors

51 No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.35 am

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Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset,
DT1 1XJ on Thursday, 12 October 2017

Present:

Pauline Batstone (Chairman)
Toni Coombs, Kevin Brookes, Beryl Ezzard, Steven Lugg and Bill Pipe

Members Attending

Deborah Croney, Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Education, Skills and Learning.

Officer Attending: John Alexander (Senior Assurance Manager - Performance), Sarah Baker (Group Finance Manager), Nicholas Jarman (Interim Director - Children's Services), Cathy Lewis (Communications Officer (Internal)), Patrick Myers (Assistant Director - Design and Development), Simon Parker (County Emergency Planning Officer), Michael Potter (Project Engineer), Mark Taylor (Group Manager - Governance and Assurance), Jonathan Wade (Acting Assistant Director for Care and Protection), Sally Wernick (Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Quality - Adults) and Fiona King (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

(Note: 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 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on: **Thursday, 18 January 2018**).

Apologies for Absence

37 Apologies for absence were received from Katharine Garcia and Lesley Dedman.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

39 The minutes from the meeting held on 6 July 2017 were agreed and signed.

Public Participation

40 Public Speaking

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

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

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Update on the Inquiry Day in respect of Domestic Abuse

41 The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Quality - Adults updated members on the progress with the arrangements for the Inquiry Day in respect of Domestic Abuse which would be held on Tuesday 17 October 2017. All of the invitations had now been sent out and a good response to date had been received.

It was explained that the purpose of the day was to identify key lines of enquiry

around domestic abuse and explore them. Although the County Council had no strategic responsibility for domestic abuse this would be an opportunity for members to hear first-hand from a range of people, partners and providers. There would be opportunities for members to ask questions about important issues and decide on their next steps.

The Chairman felt the day would be looking at 4 main areas of abuse, partner abuse, children being abused by carers, parent abuse and elderly abuse. This would be a day on which to begin to explore these areas further.

The Group Manager for Governance and Assurance added that this was active scrutiny and domestic abuse was a key topic contained in the Corporate plan.

One member highlighted that domestic abuse was not an isolated issue but one that needed to be looked at holistically. Early intervention and multi-agency support was important in this area.

Noted

Update from the Task and Finish Group on Road Traffic Collisions

42 The Task and Finish Group had met and had agreed to review and update the existing Road Casualty Reduction Plan. The Group had highlighted several new interventions which would be investigated. The aim was not to duplicate documents but to identify new opportunities for new interventions, if possible, and to try to make it easier for members of the public to understand. It was anticipated that there would be a review of all the rural routes across the Authority to provide an objective comparison of all routes to assess where the need was greatest. Road signage would also be reviewed.

They had also recently met with Cabinet member for Natural and Built Environment in order for him to be aware of the work going on.

Cllr Steven Lugg, a member of the Task and Finish Group, emphasised that they had to be realistic about what would make a difference in terms of casualties and people killed.

Noted

Emergency Planning Update

43 The County Emergency Planning Manager advised members of the work around member engagement and how this could be improved in times of emergency. He had met with Cllrs Lugg and Brookes and had agreed to offer members the opportunity to have a tour of the Emergency Planning building and receive a short briefing from the officers on their roles and work, following meetings of future overview and scrutiny committee meetings. There would also be an opportunity to offer specialist briefing sessions as required. It was anticipated to create a rolling programme of regular introductory briefs to build on members' knowledge and understanding of emergency planning. The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Quality – Adults requested that reference to the Trauma Response Service also be included in the briefings

Cllr Kevin Brookes had been looking at the service from the elected member angle and had found that there were well thought out processes in place for the Leader and Chief Executive but it was a bit patchy at other elected member level. He expressed concern that Senior Officers might not be aware of who their relevant cabinet member was and continued to investigate further. He suggested that a skills audit of members be carried to ensure they had the requisite skills.

Cllr Steven Lugg felt there was a need to not be parochial around this and to ensure that all three levels of members (Town, District and County) were involved to ensure that everyone knew what to do in an emergency situation.

One member highlighted the support of the Communications Team in relation to emergency situations as they can happen anywhere at any time.

The County Emergency Planning Officer added that he would welcome a call from any member if they felt they needed a briefing on a particular area.

The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding and Quality – Adults drew members' attention to the Trauma Centre in respect of modern slavery where a co-ordinated response could be given if required.

Resolved

1. That a rolling programme of member briefings be arranged following the next round of Overview and Scrutiny meetings in January 2018.
2. That updates from the County Emergency Planning Officer be presented to the Committee when required.

Special Educational Needs and Disability - Written Statement of Action

44 The Assistant Director for Design and Development updated members on the weaknesses that were highlighted during a Local Area Inspection by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission that had led to the Written Statement of Action being produced.

Dorset was now working on a Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) Strategy and the first meeting of the SEND Delivery Group had recently taken place.

Members were also updated on the progress with Educational Health Plans (EHCPs) and noted that the increase in demand for these Plans had had a direct impact on the ability of casework officers to complete the assessments and plans with the 20 week statutory timescale. Current figures for September 2017 showed that only 6% of new EHCPs were meeting this deadline and as new requests showed no sign of reducing in number, the timelines for finalising further EHCPs was also at risk of not meeting the statutory timescales, on 1 March 2015, there were 1472 EHCPs and this rose to 1597 by March 2016. By March 2017 there were 1832 and at the end of September 2017 there were 1948. Current data predicted a similar trajectory for 2017/18.

Following a question from a member about whether the achievement of 50% of new plans being done by October had been achieved, it was advised that the situation had improved but undertook to circulate this data outside of the meeting.

The impact of this change in legislation affected not just Dorset but nationally and as a result there were now 13 authorities that had written statements of action as they had also not been able to meet the demand.

Members were reminded of the difficulty of recruiting to staff vacancies and made reference to a recent conference that had taken place which highlighted capacity issues. The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Education, Learning and Skills added that both herself and the Leader had written to all Dorset MPs highlighting the increase in demand and finding issues around education needs. She was due to meet with Oliver Letwin shortly to discuss this further. Members felt it would be helpful if they could have sight of the Dorset MP letters to keep them in the picture.

Following a question from a member about the turnaround period for each EHCP, the Assistant Director for Design and Development advised that there was a lot of

attention being given to this work and undertook to provide this granular information outside of the meeting.

Noted

Ofsted updates - Children's Homes and Dorchester Learning Centre

45 Members received an update on the action plan in respect of the latest Ofsted findings with regards to Dorset County Council's Children's Homes. The Group Manager for Governance and Assurance highlighted that members needed to be assured that the safeguarding actions in the action plan had been identified and confident that there were actions in place to drive forward the improvements. The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Education, Learning and Skills advised members that at the recent Cabinet meeting members took specific details of the young people, where they went, their transition and progression to ensure that each one was safely transferred.

Members were also updated on the Dorchester Learning Centre which included information on the detailed development plan which had started from the previous Ofsted inspection targets and current priorities e.g. improving leadership and management; attainments and progress of pupils; assessment, tracking and achievement. It was noted that the action points from the advisory visit last year had now been met. The new Head Teacher had engaged with induction and Head Teacher briefings. The last general safeguarding update was favourable and also signposted the effectiveness of the new Head.

Noted

Outcomes Focussed Monitoring Report, October 2017

46 The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director for Children's and Adult and Community Services which was the first monitoring report against the new Corporate Plan. It included Performance measures by which the County Council could measure the contribution and impact of its own services and activities on the Corporate Plan's four outcomes and risk management information.

The Senior Assurance Manager highlighted that the report included an analysis of the Council's contribution towards Corporate Plan outcomes and measured the impact on services and activities. He then gave a detailed presentation as a means of illustrating this. He explained that more detailed information was now available to support scrutiny work and asked members to contact him if there were any areas they believed to be priorities for further development. Value for money information would be provided for the January 2018 meeting.

Members highlighted and discussed the number of killed or seriously injured on Dorset's roads indicator and the number of Looked After Children.

Following a discussion on permanence measures for children, the Acting Assistant Director for Care and Protection undertook to provide members with information relating to the number of children placed with relatives within their family network.

In respect of Looked After Children the Interim Director for Children's Services highlighted the importance of early intervention with families showing signs of distress to prevent a child becoming looked after. He also highlighted the importance of manageable caseloads and attracting good quality social workers in this regard.

One member suggested that if managing caseloads was so critical it should perhaps be one of the performance measures included in the report. She also made reference to the 'grow your own' joint work with Bournemouth University in respect of Social

Workers and asked for a report back to this Committee on the progress of this work.

In response to a question about high caseloads and the need to achieve savings, the Interim Director for Children's Services made reference to opportunities to try to improving commissioning arrangements and to reducing third party payments.

The Senior Assurance Manager welcomed any comments and feedback from members by 30 October 2017 in readiness for the next report in January 2018.

Resolved

That a report on the joint work with Bournemouth University on social workers be prepared for the meeting on 18 January 2018.

Work Programme

47 The Committee considered its work programme and gave consideration to the inclusion of a number of items which had been discussed earlier in the meeting:-

- Update from the Task and Finish Group on road traffic casualties at an appropriate time
- A report on the joint work with Bournemouth University in relation to social workers
- Further work on Population indicators in respect of the Outcomes Focussed Monitoring Report

The Chairman suggested that there might well be workstreams arising from the Domestic Abuse Inquiry Day.

Resolved

That the Committee's Work Programme be updated accordingly.

Questions from County Councillors

48 No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.40 am

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Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park,
Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Monday, 16 October 2017

Present:

Councillor Ray Bryan (Chairman)
Councillor Cherry Brooks (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Jon Andrews, Andy Canning, Jean Dunseith, Peter Hall, Jon Orrell, Margaret Phipps
and David Shortell.

Officer Attending: Mike Harries (Director for Environment and the Economy), Matthew Piles (Service Director – Economy), Andrew Martin (Service Director – Highways and Emergency Planning), Peter Moore (Service Director – Environment), Richard Pascoe (Head of ICT and Customer Services), Mark Taylor (Group Manager - Governance and Assurance), Andy Smith (Assistant Head of Finance), David Walsh (Economy and Enterprise Team Leader), John Alexander (Senior Assurance Manager), Peter Bartlett (Project Manager), Colin Wood (Communications Officer), Mike Garrity (County Planning Minerals and Waste Team Leader), David Trotter (Senior Assurance Officer) and David Northover (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

Public Speaker

Len Mann – local resident, minute 38.

Note: 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 **Wednesday, 24 January 2018.**)

Election of Chairman

29 **Resolved**
That Councillor Ray Bryan be elected Chairman of the Committee for the year 2017/18.

Apologies for Absence

30 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Spencer Flower. Apologies were also received from Councillor Daryl Turner, Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment for his absence.

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes

32 The minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2017 were confirmed and signed.

The notes of the Learning and Skills Focus Group meeting held on 29 June 2017 were received, with the actions and outcomes proposed to be put into practice, as necessary, endorsed.

The Service Director – Economy updated the Committee about what progress had been made since the meeting. He had met with Luke Rake - Principal at Kingston Maurward College - and other educational providers and business leaders in discussing where there was considered to be gaps in skills and learning and what

could be done to address this. Particular issues were raised about what availability there was to meet the needs of level 1/2/3 skill sets – particularly as a result of Brexit - and how this might be addressed. The Committee recognised that this skills shortage would have a direct bearing on the care, tourism and agricultural industries in particular and it was for all three tiers of Councils in Dorset to work in partnership to address this. The Committee asked that the Schools Forum and work based learning providers might also play their part in any future discussions as their input was much valued.

Public Participation

33 There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with standing order 21(1)

There was one public statement received at the meeting – from Len Mann – in respect of minute 38 - in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Terms of Reference

34 The Committee noted their Terms of Reference and what these entailed.

Putting the Committee into Context - Prosperous

35 With the aid of a visual presentation, the purpose and aims of the Committee were set in context by lead officers: namely the Director for Environment and the Economy; the Service Director – Economy; the Service Director – Environment; the Service Director Highways and Emergency Planning and the Head of ICT and Customer Services.

The way in which the Committee was designed to operate, what economic growth entailed and the issues for focus were drawn to the attention of the Committee. Officers provided an understanding of the purpose of the Committee and making sense of the part it played in meeting the aims of the Corporate Plan and the means by which this might be achieved. An explanation of the State of Dorset Economy, the role of the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership and the relationship these had with the Committee was also outlined. How the four Corporate Outcomes: safe; healthy; independent; prosperous - would benefit from a sustainable and prosperous economy was readily acknowledged.

Opportunities and challenges facing Dorset were outlined and the part productivity; employment rates; learning and skills; housing; infrastructure and the role that the environment played in all this was explained. The principle of an Economic Growth Strategy and the benefit this would bring was explained and members recognised the part the Committee had to play in making this a success.

The part that the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership played in influencing and enabling economic growth was drawn to the Committee's attention. The success in achieving the Dorset Innovation Park (Enterprise Zone) at Winfrith Newburgh and the investment made in it was noted, as well as the importance of the Western Dorset Growth Corridor and what benefits this brought.

The importance of digital infrastructure and its availability in order to access opportunities was seen to be essential in economic growth being successful and every effort was being made to facilitate the provision of Superfast Broadband throughout the County, which was demonstrated by the County Council's continued commitment towards this. It was acknowledged that universal provision of Superfast Broadband was critical to the future economic prosperity of Dorset.

Officers explained that in enabling economic growth, consideration should be given to the part employment; housing; skills; infrastructure and the environment played and the relationship between these. Whilst sophisticated technological business played a critical part in how economic growth might be achieved, there was a need to

recognise the importance of what part other, more traditional, sectors played in this across the County, with the likes of tourism; the rural sector, and natural resource exploration, extraction and production all playing their significant part in benefitting the economy. The viability of these would ensure that rural development was maintained, with investment being made to benefit the rural sector alongside other sectors of the economy.

The Committee recognised the part that the County Council was able to play in facilitating and enabling economic growth in partnership with the private sector, this being integral to what success could be achieved. There was an acknowledgment that businesses needed to expand as well as being encouraged to locate to Dorset for prosperity to be achieved. Given the various means by which the County Council could play its part in facilitating economic growth across the County, there were seen to be significant opportunities for Dorset to achieve its aim of stimulating a more prosperous economy.

How the Highways and Emergency Planning Service operated and how its Service priorities supported economic activity were explained to the Committee. Maintenance of the County's physical infrastructure was a key element in being able to effectively contribute towards improving economic growth. The successful implementation of Strategic Partnerships between other local authorities and key stakeholders played a significant part in this. The development of the Working Together Highways Initiative with Town and Parish Council's had proven to be beneficial to what could be achieved on the ground.

How the Environment Service was able to contribute to Dorset in terms of delivering a healthy environment for Dorset, for all to access, and in key prevention activities, was acknowledged and what was being done to achieve this outlined. Access to the coast and countryside was seen to be fundamental to the health and wellbeing of all residents and visitors to the county and in benefitting the rural and coastal economy.

The role of digital infrastructure was also outlined, with greater detail being provided under minute 36.

The Chairman thanked officers for their presentation and invited members to submit any observations they had on what they had seen and heard direct to officers for their consideration.

Noted

Access to Infrastructure - Physical, Technological and Digital

36 Mobile Coverage

The Committee considered a report by the Head of ICT and Customer Services on the extent of mobile coverage in Dorset and what the County Council was doing to play their part in ensuring improvements were made to this. It was considered that sustained efforts should be made with mobile network operators, on a more regular and elevated basis, to assist them in their ability to improve 4G connectivity across the county.

It was acknowledged that as mobile digital communications were now an integral part of everyday life and essential for social integration and economic prosperity, there was a need for coverage to be as accessible as it could be. Good coverage was also essential to be able to address social and rural isolation and on health and safety grounds.

Officers explained what both 4G and 5G entailed and had to offer. The difference between the two technologies was explained - including their density of coverage; their speeds; and how each system could be readily applied. Whilst the

challenges associated with the coverage of a rural county were recognised, there were alternative arrangements available which could be applied in certain circumstances to enhance coverage.

The prospect of using the County Council's assets on which mobile infrastructure could be sited was acknowledged and would be pursued wherever practicable.

The Committee acknowledged that good 4G coverage was essential to enable public sector transformation to take place and how this could be applied in the delivery of services. Furthermore, satisfactory 4G coverage was essential in supporting key economic sectors grow and was particularly significant in the agricultural, advanced engineering and tourism sectors which would be directly enhanced with improved 4G coverage.

In ensuring that Dorset was seen to be a desirable business destination - where business could be done wherever necessary - it was seen to be essential that coverage was as good as it possibly could be. The Committee were pleased to learn what the County Council was doing to improve coverage and enhance its quality and that its commitment to improving coverage, with the development of its Mobile Project - with identified objectives, outputs and outcomes - going a long way towards achieving this.

Resolved

That having seen how improvements to mobile coverage were being delivered and what outcomes were being achieved, and having reviewed the sections set out in Section 5 of the report, the Committee were satisfied with what was currently being done.

Reason for Decision

To better understand mobile data coverage (4G) in Dorset and influence commercial plans for improved coverage of both 4G and, in time, 5G mobile data services.

Progress on Superfast Broadband

Arising from a commitment made at the Committee meeting on 25 January 2017- to update members on progress being made - with the aid of a visual presentation, the Committee took the opportunity to understand what progress was being made in implementing the County Councils' Digital Infrastructure Strategy, what this entailed, how it was applied and the progress being made in making connectivity improvements. The Committee was informed that the Strategy was designed to set out the overall vision and approach to transform Dorset into a digital economy in order to fully realise strategic benefits of economic growth, digital inclusion, transformation of public services and opportunities for individuals and communities across Dorset.

The Head of ICT and Customer Services outlined progress being made in the delivery of the Superfast Broadband Programme and what this entailed. This included what Superfast Dorset had already been able to achieve; what might be able to be achieved and, critically, what was being done to extend coverage to hard to reach communities which had limited, little or no reception. The Committee's attention was drawn to the practicalities and technicalities of delivering the project and what was being done to improve accessibility to it. The Superfast Dorset project aimed to deliver the most appropriate Superfast Broadband solution practicable, maximising benefits in a cost effective manner across the business and domestic community where it was not deemed to be otherwise commercially viable. It was considered that the Strategy provided a basis for the successful delivery of superfast broadband.

The presentation included reference to the speed and coverage of broadband, and the opportunities for Mobile 4G/5G to play a part in this, as well as the funding and contractual arrangements in place and emerging national policy objectives. How

communities could be encouraged to contribute towards the means of initiating schemes to meet their particular needs via the Community Fibre Partnership arrangements and through the demand led, Superfast Dorset Community Broadband Fund available to them was described. Community lead schemes were a critical means of addressing particular local broadband provision issues which might not otherwise be able to be achieved. Critical to the success of the Programme was take up. Much thought was being given to how this might be best encouraged. It was hoped that once the benefits were seen, then take up would escalate markedly. It was seen to be in the interests of all that this happened.

Members were informed what Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) was able to achieve in comparison to Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) and how the relationship between the cabinet and the premises determined what broadband speeds were available to an individual property. The technologies associated with this, including Ultrafast, were explained briefly and how these were being applied and delivered and what practicalities there were. Innovations in technologies to improve how broadband could be delivered were constantly evolving.

The Committee had the opportunity to assess the progress being made and how improvements could continue to be made for accessibility to broadband. It was considered that the benefits to Dorset from this could well lead to the generation of significant economic and social prosperity. The Committee recognised that delivering the Superfast Broadband initiative was integral to the delivery of services in a more direct, flexible and accessible way.

Members were optimistic that the technical provision contained within the 'green cabinets' could have the scope and capacity to deliver the most advanced technologies that were available, if at all possible. They also considered that greater emphasis should be placed on connectivity to residential properties, rather than to commercial premises, given the benefits which could be derived by the individual from doing this. There was also a request that the availability of provision be made equitably across the County and, as the further work progressed, those benefits would be seen.

The Committee acknowledged how important digital connectivity was considered to be for the prosperity of Dorset and having the means to access it was considered to be essential. Giving all residents the same opportunity to access it was an obligation the Council was determined to fulfil and all was being done to achieve this.

Whilst appreciating the principle of the Strategy and what it was designed to achieve, the Committee considered that there was now the need to identify more readily how outcomes could be delivered and by whatever means was possible and practical. Of particular importance to the Committee was to know how improvements might continue to be delivered, with a specific view to identifying solutions to meet the needs of those currently having limited, little or no broadband services/speeds and to understand what was being done to achieve this.

Members appreciated the commitment being made to try to identify a means by which Superfast Broadband provision might be made more readily accessible to all communities within Dorset and how this was anticipated to be delivered. Members thanked officers for their presentation and, in now having a better understanding of what the issues were and what was being done to address them, were pleased to see what progress was being made.

Members' and Stakeholders ICT Toolkit

The Head of ICT and Customer services explained what the Members' and Stakeholders' ICT toolkit entailed and how it could be applied. It was designed to provide the means of explaining to communities how to get the best out of Superfast

Broadband, what options there were for access to it and how to go about getting it. In having this, the means of better informing the public about what options they had, what benefits these brought and how best to go about it could be achieved.

The Committee welcomed this development and were pleased to see it being put into practice. Members recognised that the way people were living and working was changing rapidly and the application of this toolkit would go a long way to helping them achieve all that they could. The Chairman was keen to see Skype better utilised generally in council business and meetings, where this was practicable.

Noted

Implications of Brexit for Dorset County Council

37 The Committee considered a report by the Service Director – Economy on the implications of Brexit for the County Council in terms of policy and funding challenges and opportunities which would occur as a result of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union. How Brexit was likely to affect the Council, and what arrangements were being put in place to address this was detailed in the report and expanded upon by the Service Director.

The Committee were provided with an understanding of what was being done by the Council in preparation for Brexit and what had been identified as areas of concern and interest. The risk to business interests; employment considerations; wage pressure; and financial pressure on health and care were seen to be of critical importance and it was considered that these should be addressed as a priority.

The way in which Brexit was likely to affect the fundamental practices of the United Kingdom was readily acknowledged and how the County Council was able to address those issues that directly affected it was of critical importance and not to be underestimated. To ensure that services continued to be delivered as efficiently and effectively as they could be for economic prosperity to be assured, proposals were being drawn up for how to best address this, so that the Brexit process and what it entailed was as successful as it could be.

Given that legislation and regulations, economy, trade, public services, employment, education and the environment would all be fundamentally affected by Brexit, skilful management of the process would be needed to ensure that the outcome was beneficial to the United Kingdom and in its best interests. The Committee recognised that those qualities applied to the County Council as well, which had an important part to play in ensuring that Dorset's best interests were met. The Committee were conscious that there were obviously limitations to what the County Council could influence but, where there was scope for this to be done, every effort should be made to ensure the Authority was in the best shape that it could be to be able to continue to bring success to Dorset.

Whilst some Councils and businesses elsewhere were awaiting greater certainty about how Brexit would materialise before committing resources to respond, it was considered that it would be in Dorset's best interests to be as proactive as it could be in readiness for the opportunities and challenges which lay ahead.

Given this, the Committee were now being asked to endorse the formation of a Brexit Advisory Group so that the County Council could be as adaptable, flexible and receptive as it might be. This Group was designed to act as a means of optimising the opportunities and addressing those challenges to be faced. The People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11 October 2017 had considered this to be the right approach and the Committee thought likewise. Having the means to facilitate and enable Dorset's businesses and residents in the choices they were able to make about Brexit would go a long way to Dorset remaining

successful, during and after this process.

The Committee recognised the considerable challenges which lay ahead, despite the uncertainty over the detail at this stage, and recognised that the County Council needed to be ready to be as adaptable and responsive as it could be to meet those challenges face on and to be able to benefit from the anticipated opportunities which would undoubtedly also arise.

Accordingly the Service Director - Economy was now being asked to develop the proposed scope and Terms of Reference for consideration by the Group at its first meeting; membership of which should comprise relevant members and officers.

Resolved

That the scope, actions, and governance arrangements being proposed in preparation for Brexit be endorsed and the part the County Council could play in influencing the process and outcomes acknowledged.

Reason for Decision

In supporting delivery of the Council's Corporate Outcome priorities, as expressed in the relevant policies, strategies, and plans.

Pre submission draft Mineral Sites and Waste Sites Plans

38 The Committee considered a report by the Service Director – Economy to recommend that Cabinet agree to the publication, consultation and submission - to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government - of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan and Waste Plan, together with the necessary associated amendment of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme milestones. This agreement would form part of the overall agreement necessary from all three constituent authorities. The plans had been progressed in accordance with the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme which set out key stages of plan preparation so that stakeholders were aware of when these were likely to occur.

In addition, the report sought Cabinet's endorsement of a key evidence document - Residual Waste Management in the South West - which provided evidence of engagement by between Waste Planning Authorities across the South West in accordance with the statutory duty to cooperate.

As part of the recommendation, agreement was also being sought for authority to be delegated to officers to be able to make modifications throughout the Plans' examination process so that it was able to be managed as effectively and practicably as possible.

With the aid of a visual presentation, the Committee were informed about the processes necessary for the development and delivery of both Plans and what these entailed, in that:-

- **The Waste Plan** would establish the vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the development of waste management facilities in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole up until 2033, including specific sites.
- **The Mineral Sites Plan** would identify specific sites and areas for mineral development needed to deliver the adopted Minerals Strategy which was adopted in May 2014.

What waste management facilities were proposed and why these were necessary was explained in detail by officers, including where these were to be situated; what needs these would meet and how this would be done. Similarly, proposals for the extraction of minerals – aggregates, clays and building stone - was detailed for members understanding, including what the process entailed; the means by which it would be achieved; the need for the minerals; where the sites were; how and why they had been chosen; and why there was a need for a 'landbank' of minerals to be

maintained; and how the winning and working of minerals could be best managed.

Subject to the agreement of Cabinet and the relevant committees for Bournemouth and Poole, it was anticipated that consultation would begin during early December 2017 and last for a minimum of eight weeks. How the consultation would be conducted and the arrangements for this was explained by officers and detailed in their report.

The Committee heard from Mr Len Mann who expressed concern at the inclusion of a particular site, at Gallows Gore (PK-21) identified within the Minerals Plan for future extraction. He considered that this would adversely impact the visual amenity of the area, given that it was within the Dorset AONB, could adversely affect the quality of the water supply in the adjoining reservoirs and would undoubtedly be detrimental to the amenity of the properties in the vicinity of the proposed site.

Whilst he recognised the need for Purbeck Stone extraction, he considered that, in these circumstances, re-consideration should be given what adverse impact this would have on the local properties and potentially blighting the prospects of their future value, especially given that, in his view, what was able to be extracted was limited in scope. Accordingly he asked that consideration be given to the removal of PK-21 from the Draft Plan.

The Chairman thanked Mr Mann for his observations and ensured that these would be made known to the Cabinet.

Members were then provided with the an opportunity to ask questions of the officer's presentation, to which clarification was provided in respect of certain points raised. Officers clarified what relationship there was between these two plans and district local plans and what bearing these had on each other. Likewise, the means by which minerals were transported from source was raised and how this could be better managed with the improved use of rail infrastructure, where practicable. Members recognised the benefits of this, especially given the limitations of the highway network in the face of ever increasing transportation needs and hoped that this could be encouraged if at all possible.

The Committee acknowledged what both plans were designed to achieve: in meeting the mineral and waste needs within Dorset and in providing an equitable means of doing this. Having taken into account the officer's report and presentation, what they had heard at the meeting and having had an opportunity to assess the Plans before them and comment on these as they considered necessary, the Committee considered that a recommendation should be made to Cabinet on the basis of the proposals set out in the Service Director's report - and in taking into account the views raised at the meeting - so as to ensure that minerals and waste could be planned and managed in a deliverable and sustainable way for the long term.

Recommended

That the Cabinet be asked to:

1. agree to the publication of the Waste Plan and Mineral Sites Plan, subject to any amendments arising from the three Authorities, as the most up-to-date expressions of policy on behalf of the Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities, to be followed by an eight week consultation, anticipated to begin in early December 2017;
2. note and acknowledge the comments made to the additional consultation on waste site options in Blandford and Purbeck (2017) and officer responses/recommendations (referred to in Appendix A of the Service Director's report);
3. agree that the published version of the plans can be submitted to the Secretary of State, alongside any representations that are received on the plans, following the consultation, to begin the examination process;
4. authorise officers to make minor amendments, factual updates and editorial changes to both plans prior to submission and during the examination;
5. delegate authority to the Service Director for Economy, after consultation with

the lead Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, to agree any main (non-minor) modifications arising during the plan's examination and to consult upon these in accordance with the Local Plan Regulations;

6. delegate authority to the Service Director for Economy, after consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, to confirm the Local Development Scheme milestones to take account of any changes needed to reflect programming arrangements; and,

7. endorse the South West Technical Advisory Board's 'Residual Waste Management in the South West' as a useful evidence base that supports the duty to co-operate.

Reason for Recommendations

To progress the preparation of local plans in the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme; and,

To support the Corporate Plan focus of enabling economic growth, in particular:

- work together with our partners to plan for business growth and maximise funding and investment
- work in partnership to ensure the good management of our natural and historic environment promote waste reduction, increase recycling rates and manage residual waste effectively.

Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report - October 2017

39 With the aid of a visual presentation, the Committee considered the Outcomes Focused Monitoring report for the Corporate Plan 2017-18 and how the four Corporate Outcomes were designed to be met. As with previous monitoring reports the report included objective and measurable population indicators to measure the progress being made towards outcomes so that these could be better understood, evaluated and influenced. Measures to evaluate how well a programme or service was doing was critical in the understanding of how successful it was.

The Performance Monitoring report now included performance measures designed to better analyse the County Council's own contribution towards the four outcomes, along with an analysis of relevant risks from the Corporate Risk Register. What the County Council did played a significant part in meeting those outcomes. The Committee were asked to scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided and decide if it was comfortable with the trends being shown. It was important that performance monitoring not only demonstrated what was being done and how it was being done, but why it was being done. It was important to understand what part the County Council was able to play in influencing the outcomes and to what extent.

The Committee asked a series of questions about the report's detail and officers clarified the issues raised. Members were largely pleased to see what positive progress was being made, how this was being monitored and by what means issues were being addressed. For the County Council to be able to have an impact on the progress being made to achieve the desired outcomes there was a need to be doing the right things and this was recognised by members. This would, in turn contribute towards improvements in economic growth and enhanced prosperity.

The Committee was also pleased to be given the opportunity to evaluate if the right things were being measured so that the right outcomes could be delivered. Officers welcomed any views members had on this.

Resolved

That the content of the report and what it was designed to achieve be noted, with any further views being made known direct to officers for their consideration.

Reason for Decision

The 2017-18 Corporate Plan provided an overarching strategic framework for monitoring progress towards good outcomes for Dorset. The Overview and Scrutiny

committees provide corporate governance and performance monitoring arrangements so that progress against the corporate plan can be monitored effectively.

Work Programme

- 40 The opportunity was taken to assess the Work Programme and decide what needed to be considered and scrutinised by Committee in the upcoming months. Members noted what was being proposed for consideration at their January 2018 meeting and would contact officers direct with any views of their own of what further topics they felt needed consideration.

Noted

Questions

- 41 No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Exempt Business

Resolved

- 42 That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the business specified in minute 43 because it was likely that if members of the public were present there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing that information.

Finance Report

- 43 The Committee considered a joint report by the Director for Environment and the Economy and the Chief Financial Officer on the proposed revenue budget savings within the Environment and Economy Directorate for 2018/19, in providing an initial list of proposed 'Forward Together' savings to be required, which was estimated to be around £1.5m.

Consideration was given to options to achieve the required level of savings and the means by which this might be done, with a summary of this included at Appendix 1 of the report. Members were able to explore the options in more detail in discussion with the Service Directors.

The Committee recognised that whilst significant savings needed to be made, there was a disparity between the level of funding available and that which was necessary to be able to fulfil the delivery of services. Members were conscious that, wherever practicable, standards of service delivery should be maintained and that, in order for this to be achieved, thought should be given as to how additional funding might be able to be generated. Officers confirmed that every effort was being made to optimise how income generation could be enhanced. This was already significantly contributing towards how services were able to be maintained and the Committee were assured that efforts would be maintained for this to be enhanced wherever practicable.

Suggestions were made about the working practices and technologies the Directorate might embrace to ensure that these were as efficient as they could be.

The Committee considered that, in their view, the critical issue of inadequate funding provision from Central Government needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency, as this remained wholly insufficient to be able to satisfactorily deliver the services Dorset residents' required. Whilst it was understood that a new funding formula was currently being developed to address a more equitable funding allocation, the Committee maintained that Dorset MP's had a responsibility to ensure that Dorset had sufficient funding to fulfil all its obligations and that they should be asked to play their part in securing this. The suggestion was made at an invitation should be extended to all Dorset MP's to attend a future meeting to discuss this issue at first

hand with members.

Resolved

1. That the initial list of proposed savings for the Environment and Economy Directorate for 2018/19 be acknowledged and noted.
2. That the savings and income generation ideas raised at the meeting be taken into account in the development of the 2018/19 Environment and Economy budget;
3. That the risks associated with the achievement of savings and the impact on service delivery be understood.
4. That consideration be given to inviting Dorset's MP's to a future meeting to discuss at first hand funding issues with members.

Reason for Decisions

To enable work to continue on refining and managing the County Council's Budget Plan for 2018/19 and the overall three year MTFP period.

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

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Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park,
Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Monday, 4 September 2017

Present:

Bill Pipe (Chairman)

Alison Reed, Bill Batty-Smith, Graham Carr-Jones, Ros Kayes, Nick Ireland, Steven Lugg,
David Jones, Peter Shorland and Peter Oggelsby

Officer Attending: Ann Harris (Health Partnerships Officer) and Liz Eaton (Democratic Services Officer).

Others in attendance:

Alan Betts (Deputy Director Transformation and Delivery, NHS Dorset CCG)

Margaret Guy (Healthwatch Dorset)

Dr Rob Payne (Head of Primary Care, NHS Dorset CCG)

Christian Winter (Dorset Health Care University NHS Foundation Trust)

(Notes: 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 **Monday, 13 November 2017.**)

Apologies for Absence

26 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ray Bryan (Dorset County Council), Cllr Tim Morris (Purbeck District Council) and Helen Coombes (Transformation Programme Lead for the Adult and Community Forward Together Programme).

Code of Conduct

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

Cllr Ros Kayes informed the Committee that she was employed as a mental health professional. As this was not a disclosable pecuniary interest she remained in the meeting and took part in the debate.

Cllr Alison Reed informed the Committee that she was employed as a community nurse. As this was not a disclosable pecuniary interest she remained in the meeting and took part in the debate.

Minutes

28 The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Public Participation

29 Public Speaking

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

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

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County

Joint Health Scrutiny Committee on Clinical Services Review and Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review - Update

- 30 The Committee considered an update by the Transformation Programme Lead for the Adult and Community Forward Together Programme on the Joint Committee which had been convened to scrutinise the NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group's Clinical Services Review and the Mental Health Acute Care Pathway Review.

Members were informed that the Joint Committee had met on 3 August 2017 and received representations from Opinion Research Services (ORS) and the CCG. A letter had been sent to the CCG in response to the findings from the Clinical Services Review and Mental Health Acute Pathway Review consultations. Both were attached to the report at Appendix 1 and 2 respectively. It was noted that a Governing Body meeting would be held on 6 September 2017 to undertake further deliberations and at that meeting the letter from the Joint Committee would be considered. The CCG's special Governing Body meeting would be held on 20 September 2017, at which decisions would be made regarding the proposed changes to services.

The minutes of the CCG Governing Body meeting on 20 September 2017 would be circulated to members and a copy provided to the next meeting of the Committee on 13 November 2017.

Resolved

1. That the Committee noted the report.
2. That the minutes of the CCG Board meeting to be held on 20 September 2017 be circulated to the next meeting of Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee on 13 November 2017.

NHS Dorset CCG Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) Update

- 31 The Committee considered a report by the Lead Director Dorset ACS/STP, Director of Transformation, NHS Dorset CCG which updated the Committee on the status and progress of the Dorset Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). It highlighted the key work streams of the plan, the governance of the oversight and progress so far with implementation of the plan. There were five enabling portfolios within the plan all progressing at different pace across the system:

- One Acute Network
- Integrated Community and Primary Care Services
- Prevention at Scale
- Digitally Transformed Dorset
- Leading and Working Differently

Dr Steve Killen had been appointed as Programme Director to plan and organise One Acute Network. The Committee were informed the CCG were waiting for deliberations as to what decision would be made on 20 September 2017 before progressing further.

The Integrated Community and Primary Care Services Programme currently included work with the council's planning and estates teams regarding community hubs, increasing the depth of work that had already taken place. A decision on mental health services would be announced the same time as the Clinical Services Review.

There were four main project areas within Prevention at Scale:

- Starting well
- Living well
- Ageing well

- Healthy places

With regard to Digitally Transformed Dorset there were approximately 20/30 projects the biggest of which was the Dorset Care Record shared system. Collating the data and inputting the information on to the system was approximately 2 months behind schedule, although it was hoped this backlog would be recovered. The Committee were informed this was not a technical or design problem it related to the volume of work and manpower available. The NHS digital teams were hoping to develop a single shared IT service across Dorset. It was hoped the roll-out of the Dorset Care Record Shared System would be later in 2017.

The Community Services Programme had been modelled so that it would be better, if timetabled properly, for the system to have a full caseload of patients all day. With regard to the digital system and safeguards for older people, the system would not be reliant on one digital system. Age UK carried out a piece of work, nationally, on how different age cohorts would use technology and how to prepare them for the use of technology, which officers felt it might be helpful to read.

Members commented that retired people between the ages of 55 and 65 were competent with digital media, whereas older people often were not. Dorset's population was such that a high percentage were aged 60+ and concern was raised regarding this group of people and how the CCG would ensure sure they would not fall through the net and that safeguards needed to be in place for older residents.

In relation to delivering reductions in the number of out-patient appointments, concern was raised as to how members of the public were to get to Dorchester if there was no transport and, if cutting costs in travelling time for consultations was the motivation, was that clinically led or monetary led.

Officers responded that out-patient appointments would bring everyone together in one area. This would be clinically based with better community hubs, which should be more holistic for people in outlying areas.

One member considered the delivery through local GP practices working in collaboration was an aspiration, as there was a shortage of GP's. He was sceptical about how Prevention at Scale would realistically and efficiently work.

Officers agreed that it would take time for initiatives to make a real difference, and noted that the Public Health team had changed the way they were working and now had dedicated programmes which would be rolled out in the future.

It was noted that with regard to Prevention at Scale the Live Well Dorset website was very useful, but it would take a long time for people to change their culture.

Officers explained Prevention at Scale was about taking the right care and best practice to other areas.

One member enquired what was being planned to ensure the general health checks for over 50's were universally accessible across the whole of Dorset. It was confirmed that Public Health Dorset were encouraging every general practice to identify patients and call them in for health checks.

Officers mentioned the Accountable Care System (ACS) in Dorset had been selected as one of 8 pilot Accountable Care Systems and it was hoped to achieve better planned services across the population. At present all partner services had been asked to sign up to a memorandum of understanding to work towards the aims, in return for which Dorset would be given greater freedom to develop local plans.

One member mentioned research in the USA from the journal Health Policy Law 2015 where the roll-out of Obama-Care had frightening results linked to the bundling of contracts and a lack of penalisation for failure. This had led to higher costs. Concerns were raised that the NHS would go down a similar route and she asked whether the CCG or a private company would be expected to run the Accountable Care Organisation (ACO) in Dorset in the future.

Officers responded that there were not very many ACO models that existed across the country and in Dorset it was about a group of people working together as an ACS. Members asked for confirmation that there was no proposal for the ACS to become an ACO. Officers confirmed that was the case.

Reference was made to a recent survey which had revealed that several ACO's had been awarding payments to GP practices for not referring patients to hospitals.

Members asked what safeguards would be put in place so that the more expensive patients were not refused treatment as they would not want to see cancer patients, for example, unable to receive new treatments as they were too expensive. Although there would come a time when the NHS could not afford all treatments, at present specific hospitals had money ring-fenced for specialist treatment.

Officers noted that they were working with clinical leads to manage needs and demands to give the most effective outcome to patients. Some referral patterns were higher than others and some GP referrals were lower. The CCG challenged those where necessary.

One member enquired as to what the implications would be for rural practices, for example in Puddletown and Crossways. Would the public have to travel to Dorchester GP's.

Officers confirmed the national direction was looking at models of care and how best to deliver them to the public. Primary Care was a population health model where GP practices would work together. The NHS supported the approach of what services could be improved and what services would work together well. There was no intention to close practices, it was about how they met the population need.

Mention was made of the use of acronyms within the reports and it was noted that in future an index be provided with each report to explain the meaning of acronyms used.

Noted

Primary Care Update

32 The Committee considered a report by the Head of Primary Care, NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group on Primary Care Update.

The Committee were updated on the key areas of the report and it was confirmed there was a clear strategy supporting general practice and maintaining services within Dorset Primary Care to ensure they were integrated. There were now 90 practices across Dorset, some of which were looking at how surgeries would share back-office systems, whilst others were looking at merging with another practice. Officers had regular dialogue with practices regarding the right care and how they could learn from other practices to see what areas were working well and what was not working so well. They were also looking at the different ways of delivering care into the community. The CCG had been exploring joint working with hospitals and how to enable 24 hour access across Dorset. Meetings had taken place between hospitals and GPs to look at how patients currently access NHS care and what improvements could be made. Some patients used A&E departments as they could not obtain GP

appointments, even though GP access in Dorset was considered one of the best in the country. Data had been taken from both national and local surveys on access and the hard to reach groups. This information had informed the national GP Forward View programme (GPFV) and in October 2017 engagement events would be held in Dorset to contribute to local planning. The CCG continued to look at workforce planning, working with universities around primary care needs and how recruitment and retention of staff could be supported. Investment in infrastructure and estates also continued.

The Chairman referred to paragraph 2.4 of the report and asked where the rest of Somerset, and Devon sat within the Local Medical Committees (LMC). Officers responded that historically there had always been a Wessex Group with a strong national network and southern network. It was recognised that patients should be able to access services and not be restricted by county boundaries.

The Committee queried how residents faced with the possibility of surgeries closing would access transport to and from their new surgery when public transport was not available. Some thought was needed to be given to the way services were provided to ensure these people did not fall outside of the loop as it was no good suggesting changing surgery when there was no regular bus service. It was reported that the voluntary transport co-ordinators did not have enough volunteers and were overburdened and that voluntary transport could not be relied upon to fill the gap if there was no suitable public transport. Vulnerable people in rural areas could be disadvantaged if they had to pay for taxi fares that might cost in excess of £40. In Bridport the community were trying to establish a community bus service to transport people from villages to hospital but this would need support from the CCG.

The Committee asked for an explanation of what Project 1 and Project 2 entailed. Officers explained they were looking at access and solution needs as a whole system integrated with the design of systems and hubs to include transport, whether voluntary or funded. With regard to Project 1 and Project 2 there had been the opportunity to bid for national funding, Dorset had put bids together to the value of £50m and had received £10m. This was not just bidding for premises but also technology in delivering care systems. Capital was required to buy both hardware and software to support good work around telecare and using technology in people's homes.

The Vice-Chairman recognised the importance of delivery of care and joining up of services but had seen a reduction in the number of community nurses. She felt that surgeries directly employing community nurses was a better model as it enabled them to undertake the role of a district nurse too enabling better communication with housebound patients.

Officers considered it essential to have an integrated community and primary care service fully integrated into general practice teams, but noted that some surgeries preferred not to employ community nurses directly and that it might be better for Dorset HealthCare to be the employer, with the practice managing the nurses.

One member mentioned that merging practices might be beneficial as some practices might close as they could not attract new doctors but the key point was that it wasn't the practice that was important it was the surgery as it was a point of contact for members of the public. Services had to be accessible, especially in rural areas. With regard to services being provided at Christchurch Hospital the infrastructure was such that it could take up to an hour to get from one side of Christchurch to another. A key point to remember was that if surgeries and practices were merged a point of delivery where members of the public could access must be kept in place.

Officers commented that transport had been highlighted and the whole system would

look at transport and determine where the flow of patients were coming from and going to.

The Chairman asked if the Outline Business Case for the New-build replacement for Wareham Health Centre was linked to the re-siting of Wareham School fields. Officers responded that they were looking at the future of health care delivery and were keen to support a surgery with key provision by trying to manage both.

The Committee enquired as to how the CCG would be looking at east Dorset as there were certain times during the day when Bournemouth Hospital was inaccessible due to traffic congestion. It was asked if hubs would be provided in the local area if St Leonards Hospital closed. It was noted that consultation with the public should take place before any changes were implemented, although that had not been the case with the closure of two wards at Christchurch Hospital.

Officers confirmed hubs would be provided in the east across Poole, Bournemouth and Christchurch. The clinical services review had been carried out and the CCG would be working with GP's in Bournemouth and Poole looking at transport. Nothing would close until there was a plan in place for patients to receive NHS service and their interests would be protected.

It was agreed that a report on ambulance services should be considered at a future meeting of the Committee, to look at availability and usage. An inquiry day on emergency and non-emergency transport would be held and the CCG could inform the Committee of proposals with regard to transport and the data regarding journeys taken and how they would match with the clinical services review. It was also agreed that the day would be held mid-December 2017 or early January 2018.

Officers confirmed there was a detailed report on the ambulance service which would be circulated to the Committee outside of the meeting.

Resolved

1. That the Committee agreed recommendation 5.1 of the report.
2. That a report on ambulance services be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee followed by an inquiry day on health related transport to which the CCG, and other key stakeholder be invited to attend.
3. That the Deputy Director Transformation and Delivery, NHS Dorset CCG send an email a link to the Health Partnerships Officer, Adult and Community Services on the detailed ambulance services report to enable her to circulate to members of the Committee.

Forward Plan

- 33 The Committee considered a report by the Transformation Programme Lead for the Adult and Community Forward Plan.

With regard to the workshop being held in conjunction with the LGA on the 27 September 2017 officers informed the Committee of the acceptances received from County Councillors to date. A detailed agenda had not been set but the role of the Committee and scope would be considered and Councillor Ann Hartley from Shropshire had been invited to attend the workshop.

Resolved

That the Forward Plan be noted.

Briefings for Information/Noting

- 34 The Committee considered a Briefings for Information/note by the Transformation Programme Lead for the Adult and Community Services Forward Together Programme.

The Impact: Healthwatch Dorset Annual Report 2016-17

Margaret Guy from Healthwatch Dorset briefly outlined the work they had carried out with the CCG around CSR and the report Healthwatch had produced regarding the public consultation. She also noted the investigation into people making NHS complaints: all trusts had participated except Poole Hospital. The Trusts had responded positively to recommendations, particularly Bournemouth Hospital. An investigation into activities provided at care homes had been carried out with 8 homes, looking at how people retained their sense of self. The “Be Yourself: Everybody Else is Taken” project which raised young people’s mental health issues was supported by AFC Bournemouth, and the related App was launched at the Vitality Stadium. Easy reading guides to making a complaint had also been produced. During the current financial year Healthwatch Dorset were looking at Primary Care services and how easy it was to make an appointment and register with a GP practice. The findings of the survey had gone to the Primary Care Commissioning Committee at the CCG. The Be Yourself Project was continuing and a report had been sent to all 3 local authorities. In terms of social care Healthwatch Dorset would be investigating access to health services such as GPs, dentists and opticians for care home residents and were carrying out a survey in conjunction with Bournemouth University around older male carers (over 85). They were continuing to work with the CCG on the STP. Future work would include looking at waiting times for social care assessments, as they had heard a number of concerns regarding this issue.

Chairman thanked Margaret Guy for her update.

The Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2016/17

The Health Partnerships Officer, Adult and Community Services updated the Committee on Appendix 2 Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2016/17 which was shared on an annual basis with other committees and three councils partnership.

The Pan-Dorset Sexual Health Services

The Committee received an oral update from the Health Partnerships Officer, Adult and Community Services on future changes to the delivery of pan-Dorset Sexual Health Services and informed the Committee a report went to the Joint Public Health Board in June 2017. Work was being undertaken with providers, (Dorset HealthCare, Bournemouth and Weymouth Hospitals) looking at providing a more community based service with enhanced on-line access and a lead provider. The Health Partnerships Officer mentioned that if there were any substantial changes to services a report would be submitted to this Committee and Joint Committee as this was a pan-Dorset service.

Questions from County Councillors

35 No questions were received by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 12.06 pm

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